

COLOMBIA



UNHCR

2014-2015
GLOBAL APPEAL



UNHCR's planned presence | 2014

Number of offices	11
Total personnel	171
International staff	18
National staff	84
JPOs	3
UN Volunteers	14
Others	52

Overview

Working environment

- The Government of Colombia continues to pursue a peace dialogue with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), a process which aims at finding a negotiated solution to end internal conflict. However, despite positive reactions to the dialogue, in some parts of the country, clashes between the army and FARC have intensified, causing additional forced displacement. There are also indications that the peace process itself may lead to increased risks for some sectors of the population, for example local leaders and candidates for local elections in affected communities.
- Forced internal displacement in Colombia continues to be a matter of serious concern. According to official figures of March 2013, over 4.7 million people were internally displaced. This figure takes into account new regulations under the Law on Victims and Land Restitution (Victims Law) of 2011. However, it does not yet take into account the Constitutional Court's decision of June 2013 to review all previous decisions

that did not include cases of displacement caused by violence perpetrated by some armed groups following demobilization. As displacement caused by these groups was not officially recognized previously, this revision will result in an increase in figures reported and UNHCR anticipates that at the end of 2013 the number will reach over 5.2 million people.

- According to reports by UNHCR field offices, between January and June 2013 there were 61 large group (50 individuals or more) displacements in the country. Up until April, only six of these group displacements were registered by the Government's Victims' Unit, affecting 3,685 families.
- Despite the Government's efforts to improve its response to forced displacement and implement the Victims Law, widespread insecurity and violence including the forced recruitment of children and youth, sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV), threats, disappearances and

murders continue to occur in many regions. The growth of displacement in urban areas and continued conflict in remote rural areas that are difficult to access for UNHCR and its partners, highlight the need for the continuation of prevention and protection programmes at national and local levels.

- UNHCR is working with the authorities and communities to promote sustainable solutions, especially local integration, as more than half the number of registered internally displaced people (IDPs) reside in cities and are unable or unwilling to return to their communities of origin. The UNHCR-UNDP Transitional Solutions Initiative (TSI) project is targeting 17

communities, prioritizing local integration, relocation and returnee processes.

- In 2014, the Government will continue to assist IDP populations with housing subsidies, health services, education, and humanitarian aid, and further strengthen the legal and administrative framework to implement the Law on Victims and Land Restitution.

People of concern

The majority of people of concern planned for in 2014 are IDPs. Colombia also hosts 230 refugees and 150 asylum-seekers. Most live in urban centres and originate from Cuba, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Nicaragua, Somalia and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. During the first half of 2013, 49 people applied to the Government for asylum, and a similar trend is expected in 2014.

Planning figures

Type of population	Origin	Dec 2013		Dec 2014		Dec 2015	
		Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR	Total in country	Of whom assisted by UNHCR
Refugees	Various	230	90	260	70	270	80
Asylum-seekers	Various	150	100	120	120	120	120
Returnee arrivals during year (ex-refugees)	Colombia	100	100	150	150	200	200
Internally displaced	Colombia	5,200,000	400,000	5,740,000	425,000	5,840,000	410,000
Total		5,200,480	400,290	5,740,530	425,340	5,840,590	410,400

| Response |

Needs and strategies

The Office's key strategic priorities in Colombia continue to be the prevention of displacement, the protection of displaced populations and the search for solutions. The main causes of displacement are linked to confrontations involving illegal armed groups and the armed forces, the presence of land mines, and threats to communities related to territorial control.

The Office's strategies will be implemented through cross-cutting projects covering land protection and restitution; community-based protection and engagement with populations, with an emphasis on Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities; registration; legal aid; and the protection of children and youth.

UNHCR will continue providing technical assistance to national and local authorities and promote self-reliance projects among communities. The Office will ensure that protection gaps for specific communities or groups with special needs remain a key area of attention.

UNHCR will pursue its strategy to prevent forced displacement by: ensuring protection-by-presence in remote areas affected by ongoing conflict; expanding humanitarian space through implementation of the community-based protection strategy

and practical protection projects (PPPs); and strengthening early warning systems and conducting protection risks analysis.

To improve the protection of displaced populations, UNHCR will contribute to the strengthening of public policies, including on land restitution, and provide technical assistance to national and local authorities responsible for protection and provision of reparation for victims. The Office will also strengthen registration, legal aid and follow-up in large-group displacement situations and encourage the development of local contingency plans and emergency response. Risk analysis by national authorities will be supported and collective protection measures developed for communities at risk, including their leaders.

UNHCR's search for sustainable solutions will focus on: consolidating the TSI project in 17 prioritized communities, through the identification of lessons learned and best practices to aid in the development of public policy on solutions at the national level; and promoting the transition from forced displacement to people regaining their full rights as citizens.

With regard to refugees and asylum-seekers, UNHCR's overall goal will be to help the Government develop laws and policies which are consistent with international protection standards and promote access for people of concern to durable solutions based on their specific needs.

Main objectives and targets for 2014

The following matrix contains examples of some of the main activities planned in 2014. Using a selection of objectives from UNHCR's programme plans for the 2014-2015 biennium, it is designed to illustrate:

- what – under the global needs assessment planning and prioritization process – has been planned (**Planned activities**) for particular groups of people of concern (**People of concern**);
- the identified needs that can be covered if full and flexible funding is made available (**2014 comprehensive target**); and
- the needs that may not be met if funding falls short of the ExCom-approved budget (**Potential gap**). The estimation of a potential gap is based on the country operation's own assessment of the likely impact of a global funding shortfall. Calculations are based on various criteria, including the particular context, strategic priorities and

experience of resource availability for the respective area of activity in previous years.

Activities under objectives on child protection (including best interest determination), education and prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are core areas which are given priority in the allocation of funding (**priority area**). In order to ensure the necessary flexibility in the allocation of funds, UNHCR relies on unrestricted contributions from its donors.

It should be understood that in some cases, targets for activities or delivery of services may not be reached for reasons other than a funding shortfall, e.g. lack of access to people of concern, cases not reported, changing circumstances, security problems, insufficient capacity to implement all programmes planned, etc. In the Global Report 2014, an explanation of why any target may not have been reached will be provided.

PLANNED ACTIVITIES	PEOPLE OF CONCERN	2014 COMPREHENSIVE TARGET	POTENTIAL GAP
Favourable protection environment			
Law and policy developed or strengthened			
UNHCR will provide technical assistance to national and local authorities in developing and implementing public policies aimed at providing protection and solutions for IDPs and refugees.			
Number of instances of expert and technical advice provided	Internally displaced people (IDPs)	200	20
Number of advocacy interventions made	Refugees and asylum-seekers	10	6
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Civil registration and civil status documentation strengthened			
In 2014, UNHCR will distribute documentation to a targeted population of IDPs and refugees. Having formal documentation will allow them to receive further State protection, including humanitarian assistance.			
Number of people of concern assisted with civil status registration or documentation	IDPs	130,000	0 gap
Percentage of children under 12 months old who have been issued birth certificates by the authorities	Refugees and asylum-seekers	100%	0 gap
Security from violence and exploitation			
Protection from effects of armed conflict strengthened			
UNHCR will implement its strategy of protection-by-presence in communities at high risk of displacement by promoting an improved institutional presence and therefore mitigating the impact of armed conflict on vulnerable populations, including indigenous and Afro-descendant communities.			
Number of monitoring missions conducted and recorded	IDPs	1,200	300
Risk of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) is reduced and quality of response improved			
UNHCR will support the Ministry of Health with the registration of SGBV incidents and enhance its capacity to provide effective protection to SGBV survivors, including legal and medical assistance as well as psycho-social support.			
Extent to which known SGBV survivors receive appropriate support	IDPs	70%	priority area
	Refugees and asylum-seekers	74%	priority area

Protection of children strengthened

In 2014, UNHCR will implement initiatives for the protection of children and young people, including advocacy at national and local levels (for best interest determination and protection measures in urgent cases), community-based interventions for self-protection, and the creation of protective environments as measures to lower risks and prevent violations, including forced recruitment.

Number of adolescents participating in targeted programmes	IDPs	8,000	priority area
Percentage of unaccompanied and separated children for whom a best interest process has been initiated or completed	Refugees and asylum-seekers	100%	priority area

Community empowerment and self-reliance

Community mobilization strengthened and expanded

To provide effective prevention and protection, UNHCR will implement a community-based protection strategy aimed at enhancing the capacities of communities and local authorities. This will ensure that public policies for the protection of collective and individual rights are designed and implemented in a participatory manner.

Number of participatory assessments conducted	IDPs	15	3
Number of community self-management structures strengthened	IDPs	26	6

Peaceful coexistence with local communities promoted

In 2014, the Office will implement local integration, relocation and return projects in 17 prioritized communities to improve living-conditions and promote peaceful coexistence between IDPs and host communities.

Number of projects benefitting local and displaced communities implemented	IDPs	24	12
Number of local community members benefitting from projects	IDPs	20,000	5,000

Durable solutions

Comprehensive solutions strategy developed, strengthened or updated

UNHCR will share good practices, lessons learned and recommendations with the Colombian Government to further enhance its technical capacity to develop a comprehensive solutions strategy and revise existing policies supporting solutions for IDPs.

Extent to which comprehensive solutions strategy is implemented and monitored	IDPs	75%	5%
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Potential for integration realized

As most IDPs are concentrated in urban centres and have expressed their desire to integrate locally, UNHCR will identify any potential protection risks. The Office will also address issues involving the legalization of land where IDP communities have settled and promote access to basic services, including adequate housing.

Likewise, UNHCR will advocate for the effective integration of refugees in urban areas of the country.

Percentage of people of concern opting for local integration who have locally integrated	IDPs	25%	5%
	Refugees and asylum-seekers	75%	2%

Leadership, coordination and partnerships

Coordination and partnerships strengthened

UNHCR will continue to co-lead the protection cluster to ensure a coordinated response to protection problems and risks for IDPs. The Office will also strengthen and develop new strategic partnerships, including with development actors.

Number of actors regularly participating in UNHCR coordination meetings	IDPs	25	5
Number of cooperation partnerships established and effectively implemented	IDPs	55	5

| Implementation |

Partners

Implementing partners

Government agencies:

Agency for International Cooperation, Attorney-General's Office, Colombian Institute for Family Welfare, Colombian Institute for Rural Development, Constitutional Court, Controller's Office, Department for Social Prosperity, High Presidential Counsellor's Office, Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Interior, Ombudsman's Office, President's Office, Procurator-General's Office, Special Administrative Unit for Land Restitution, Special Administrative Unit for Victims' Assistance and Reparation, Vice-Regional Government and Mayors' offices

NGOs:

Action Contre la Faim, Consultoría para los Derechos Humanos y el Desplazamiento, Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo, Corporación Opción Legal, Corporación para la Investigación y el Desarrollo de la Democracia, Corporación Retoños, Fundación Compartir, Organización Nacional Indígena de Colombia, Secretariado Nacional de la Pastoral Social, Servicio Jesuíta para Refugiados

Others:

Universidad de los Andes, Universidad Externado, Universidad Javeriana

Operational partners

NGOs:

International Relief & Development, Médecins sans Frontières, Norwegian Refugee Council, Peace Brigades International, Plan International, Save the Children Fund

Others:

FAO, ICRC, IOM, OAS Mission to Support the Peace Process in Colombia, OCHA, OHCHR, Oxfam, Pan-American Health Organization/WHO, UN Women, UNDP, UNDSS, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNODC, WFP

Coordination

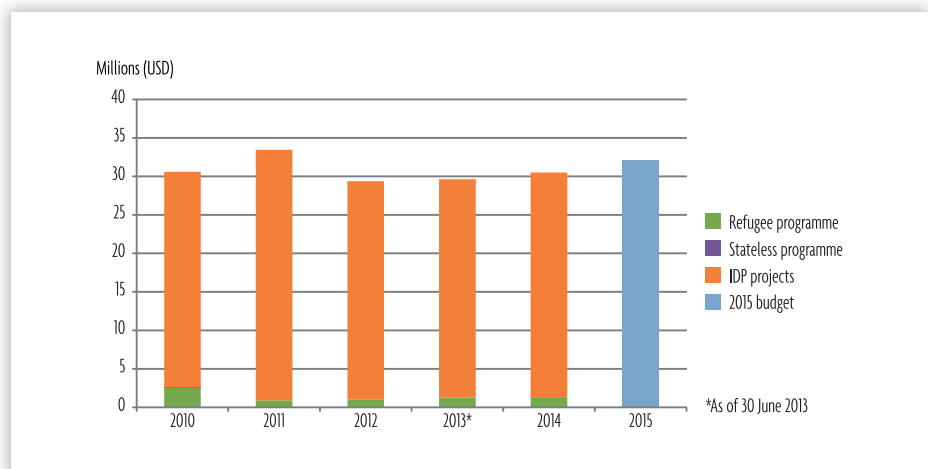
UNHCR will maintain a close working relationship with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Presidential Programme for Social Prosperity through the Special Administrative Unit for Victims Assistance, Reparation and Land Restitution, as well as with the National Protection Unit. The Office has also established partnerships with line ministries, in particular the Ministries of Agriculture and Interior, the Colombian Institute for Family Welfare, the Vice-President's Office, local administrations and community-based organizations. UNHCR continues to support the National Controller's Office in ensuring official accountability for the provision of effective assistance in addressing the needs of IDPs.

The protection cluster, which includes 21 organizations in Colombia, continues to be led by UNHCR and NRC. UNHCR is an active member of the UN Country Team and participates in inter-agency coordination. UNHCR and UNDP are working together on the TSI project, and alliances have been formed and will be strengthened with national, regional and local authorities as well as with NGOs and development actors that will be engaged in the TSI project.

| Financial information |

Over the last several years, UNHCR's operation in Colombia has continued to receive support from the international community. However, this support has fluctuated, reflecting the global financial crisis and the multiplication of humanitarian crises elsewhere, which in turn have affected UNHCR's ability to optimize its activities in the country. During this time, additional funding was obtained from development sources for the Transitional Solutions Initiative (TSI), and in 2014, the operation will continue to seek development funding for this project. The financial requirements for the operation in Colombia in 2014 are set at USD 30.5 million.

Budgets for Colombia | 2010–2015



2014 budget for Colombia | USD

Budget breakdown	PILLAR 1 Refugee programme	PILLAR 4 IDP projects	Total
2013 revised budget (as of 30 June 2013)	1,250,050	28,388,581	29,638,631
Favourable protection environment			
International and regional instruments	55,554	0	55,554
Law and policy	31,605	1,356,716	1,388,321
Administrative institutions and practice	31,605	895,102	926,707
Access to legal assistance and remedies	0	1,634,107	1,634,107
Access to territory and <i>refoulement</i> risk reduced	207,585	0	207,585
Public attitude towards people of concern	0	858,876	858,876
Subtotal	326,349	4,744,801	5,071,150
Fair protection processes and documentation			
Registration and profiling	23,949	0	23,949
Status determination procedures	172,194	645,259	817,452
Civil registration and status documentation	23,949	450,036	473,985
Subtotal	220,091	1,095,295	1,315,386
Security from violence and exploitation			
Protection from effects of armed conflict	0	8,361,570	8,361,570
Prevention and response to SGBV	126,421	2,157,535	2,283,955
Protection of children	23,949	508,992	532,941
Subtotal	150,369	11,028,097	11,178,466
Basic needs and essential services			
Health	28,409	0	28,409
Basic and domestic items	163,737	0	163,737
Services for people with specific needs	39,984	0	39,984
Education	75,757	0	75,757
Subtotal	307,887	0	307,887
Community empowerment and self-reliance			
Community mobilization	0	2,103,650	2,103,650
Coexistence with local communities	0	533,424	533,424
Self-reliance and livelihood activities	108,735	0	108,735
Subtotal	108,735	2,637,075	2,745,810
Durable solutions			
Comprehensive solutions strategy	0	3,189,052	3,189,052
Voluntary return	177,420	309,173	486,593
Reintegration	0	1,627,408	1,627,408
Integration	31,605	393,356	424,961
Subtotal	209,025	5,518,989	5,728,014
Leadership, coordination and partnerships			
Coordination and partnerships	0	1,942,561	1,942,561
Donor relations and resource mobilization	0	860,345	860,345
Subtotal	0	2,802,906	2,802,906
Logistics and operations support			
Logistics and supply	0	587,259	587,259
Operations management, coordination and support	0	763,121	763,121
Subtotal	0	1,350,381	1,350,381
2014 total budget	1,322,458	29,177,542	30,500,000