

Context

According to Government IDP registration figures, the decades-long armed conflict has forcibly displaced more than 6 million people as well as over 400,000 Colombians, who sought international protection in neighbouring countries. The complexity of forced displacement in Colombia has required varied protection and humanitarian assistance responses to facilitate solutions, especially for those in protracted displacement and the communities that host them. UNHCR and UNDP, with the support and commitment of the Government at local, regional and national levels, are carrying out the TSI programme in locations where institutional and community conditions are favourable to bring about transition from dependency to self-reliance and development. In this respect, different solutions are being pursued, including local (urban) integration, rural relocation and return processes.

The 2011 Law on Victims and Land Restitution offers a unique opportunity to implement solutions that are part of the National Development Plan. Local elections in the third quarter of this year will also allow the pursuit of solutions at municipal levels and include these processes within Local Development Plans. Meanwhile, the Government continues negotiations with the FARC that were started in 2012 and is in exploratory talks with the ELN.



Total funds raised: USD 12.2 million (2012 - 2016)

Donors: Canada, Korea, Sweden, Spain, United States and the Colombian Government



Fondsin Allians, Trade and Development Canada / Affaires Étrangères, Commerce et Développement Canada



GOBIERNO DE COLOMBIA



Key expenditures to date

Land and Housing Initiatives

Approx. 16%

Governance (institutional strength.)

Approx. 12%

Basic Public Services

Approx. 25%

Community Strengthening

Approx. 21%

Local Economic Development

Approx. 18%

Protection of victims and their rights

Approx. 8%

TIMELINE

Planning

2011 - 2013 (Completed)

Implementation

2013 - 2015

M&E

Ongoing

- Baseline studies conducted
- 17 communities selected for implementation
- TSI local leadership communities functioning in all localities
- MOUs signed with local authorities
- Comprehensive and participatory action plans finalized at community level
- Baselines and targets updated according to community specific action plans.

- Different phases of implementation in TSI communities: Phase I (5 communities) starting June 2012, Phase II (5) starting October 2012, Phase 3 (7) starting June 2013
- 3 solutions scenarios implemented: Return (3 communities), relocation (5), local urban integration (9)
- Implementation of activities ongoing in all communities, related to the three strategic lines of interventions
- 9 land legalization studies conducted and processes implemented

- M&E system finalized and agreed upon in December 2013
- TSI core set of indicators agreed upon between UNDP-UNHCR; guiding overall implementation
- M&E system and tools implemented (M&E operational manual, progress scales, reporting forms)
- Profiling exercise carried out in 2014 (household interviews and focus groups in 9 communities) to update baselines and measure impact indicators. 2 participatory assessments conducted
- Mid-term evaluation carried out, in coordination with SIDA and Canadian Cooperation)
- Documentation exercises of lessons learnt ongoing, including production of TSI best practices video



Key challenges ahead

- The ongoing **conflict** in different parts of the country and a complex situation with regard to urban crime and violence continue to affect the security situation and sustainability of solutions.
- **Property rights:** land and housing. The non-legalization of land on which IDPs reside is one of the main factors preventing progress toward solutions in urban and rural settlements. It affects investment by local authorities in basic services and access to adequate housing.
- **The change of local governments** as of January 2016. 2015 will be a key year for promotion of TSI and solutions processes in general and renew the commitment of newly elected officials to ensure inclusion of solutions-oriented programmes in local development plans.
- Formulation of a more **comprehensive local development strategy** and strengthening alliances with development actors to implement sustainable income generating programmes.
- Since the TSI Pilot in Colombia will conclude in first semester of 2016, the definition of **exit strategies** and **liaison plans** with national and local institutions in each community is particularly important. The incorporation of TSI locations in the Government Return and Relocation Plans are a priority.
- Documentation of **lessons learnt and public policy** recommendations. The recent profiling exercises should contribute to ongoing development of public policy influenced by community-based evidence.

TSI goals and objectives

Developed in consultation with the national authorities, the joint UNHCR-UNDP programme **aims to:**

- 1) Support affected communities and local authorities to provide effective solutions for IDPs, and
- 2) Coordinate with national authorities and promote a comprehensive policy on solutions, based on lessons learnt in areas of return, relocation and local integration.

The programme proposes three **lines of work:**

-Improvement of daily living conditions: land, housing, access to basic services and local economic development.

-Organisational / institutional strengthening: community strengthening and local governance.

-Protection of victims and their rights: protection of security, integrity, liberty and dignity as well as the rights of victims (truth, justice and rights to reparation).

In 2014, the TSI Technical Committee was officially created by the Government at national and Local levels, allowing for improved coordination and implementation of TSI as well as increased ownership by local and national authorities.

Currently, joint M&E processes are being analysed to ensure lessons learnt and best practices are helping communities overcome obstacles in achieve solutions.

A comprehensive profiling exercise took place in 2014 to measure impact indicators in 12 TSI locations.

Improving quality of life

Overall progress



Community land legalization processes (ownership) / neighborhood legalization initiated

Base: 0 **Target:** 7 **Status:** 14 (200%)



Communities with programmes on access to / improvement of housing agreed and budgeted in local policy plans

Base: 0 **Target:** 4 **Status:** 5 (125%)



Communities with programmes on access to / improvement of water and basic sanitation systems agreed and budgeted in local policy plans

Base: 0 **Target:** 10 **Status:** 4 (40%)



Communities with economic development strategies agreed and budgeted in local policy plans

Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 11 (65%)

Key activities

- 15 communities benefiting from technical support & advocacy on land property legalization (including 9 in urban local integration processes); 2 communities (Manuela Beltrán and Hacienda el Puerto) have achieved formal land legalization; others demonstrated partial though important progress
- 1,430 households benefited from improved access to public services
- Approximately 1,500 families benefited from economic or income generating activities

Strengthening organizations and institutions

Overall progress



Communities with effective dialogue between them and authorities (i.e. support / action committees, Transitional Justice Committees)

Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 17 (100%)



Communities with TSI projects integrated in local public policy plans, with specific budget allocated

Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 15 (88%)



The local authority has public policy plans to assist victims of displacement and formulated in a participatory manner

Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 8 (47%)


Key activities


- 16 of 17 TSI communities started process to be included in Return and Relocation Plans of the Victims Unit; this enables further linkages between plans and gradual hand-over to corresponding authorities
- 41 community organizations created / strengthened (including youth groups, women networks, etc.)
- 5 communities have implemented community information initiatives
- 27 local institutions technically assisted to work on sustainable solutions for IDPs and implementation of solutions-oriented programmes


Protecting victims and their rights

Overall progress



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Communities with protection plans strengthened
Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 15 (88%)
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Specific institutional initiatives to promote enjoyment of rights to truth, justice and reparation of victims of armed planned and implemented
Base: 0 **Target:** 34 **Status:** 26 (76%)
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Communities benefiting from programmes for enjoyment of rights to truth, justice and reparation for victims of armed conflict
Base: 0 **Target:** 17 **Status:** 15 (88%)



Key activities

- 1,000 IDPs benefited from specific protection activities, including legal and psycho-social assistance and documentation brigades
- 1,233 persons benefited from specific activities and training on IDP rights, truth, justice and reparation issues
- Protection strategies developed and mainstreamed in each TSI location.



PROFILING EXERCISE



As part of the overall M&E system, UNHCR undertook a profiling exercise in the second semester of 2014. The aim was to: 1) measure progress in prioritized areas coinciding with three strategic lines of intervention of the programme; and 2) harmonize and update baseline data, demographic information and socio-economic data in the different TSI locations. This was done since the TSI programme started in different phases due to availability of funds and baselines could not be harmonized at the outset. The exercise was also necessary for reporting on progress and impact as well as for systemisation of the overall TSI programme. The profiling exercise was undertaken in 12 of the 17 locations. Information was gathered at different levels, using different data collection methods: at household level, at community level and among institutions and entities actively involved in TSI implementation or participating in local leadership committees. The following data collection methods were used:

Household interviews: These were based on structured questionnaires; data collection was done using mobile devices. Universities and other partners assisted with data collection.

Focus group discussions with institutions: Both with local implementation committees existing in each location and protection agencies to gather information on protection concerns and establish mechanisms and develop responses.

Participatory assessment with community members: Existing assessments were updated and discussions held to identify protection risks and craft possible interventions using an AGD approach.

Main demographic results of the profiling exercise

Beneficiaries per type of solution and based on profiling exercise

	Urban integration	%	Relocation	%	Return	%
Number of Beneficiaries	29,715	77%	1,808	5%	7,178	18%
Number of Families	7,605	78%	412	4%	1,759	18%
Total IDPs	19,355	69%	1,624	6%	7,160	25%

- The total number of TSI beneficiaries is close to **40,000 persons**, equivalent to approximately **10,000 families**.
- The 9 communities involved in **local (urban) integration** are **77%** of total TSI beneficiaries. This confirms importance of solutions work in urban integration contexts, especially as nearly 50% of all IDPs are in large urban areas.
- **Rural relocation** (5 communities) processes represent **5%** of overall beneficiaries.
- **Return** processes (3 communities) represent **18%** of overall beneficiaries.

- **73%** of the beneficiaries are **IDPs**; **27%** represents **host community** members.
- **85%** of the IDPs in TSI have been in this situation for **more than 5 years** (protracted displacement situation).
- **75%** have been forcibly displaced **once**, while **20%** has been displaced **twice** and **5%** **three times or more**.
- **48%** of all beneficiaries are **men** and **52%** **women**.
- **52%** of all beneficiaries are **minors**, 18 years or under.
- **Elderly** (60 years and more) represent between **1%** and **5%** of all beneficiaries (depending on the location).

San José de Canelos (Embera Chami indigenous community) Florencia (Caquetá Department)

Context: The Embera Chami indigenous community is composed by 47 families (172 people), displaced from its traditional territory (resguardo) known as Honduras.

Overall achievements:

- Community conditions improved, enabling settlement of families who before were living in extremely poor and overcrowded conditions in a marginal urban neighbourhood of Florencia.
- A community centre known as a “Tambo” was built for traditional cultural activities to help the group preserve their heritage, strengthen the community and provide traditional education, etc.
- The ethnic education system was strengthened through improvements to the school, as well as technical support for the educational programme.
- This indigenous organization was strengthened and their traditional government system reinforced. Interaction and dialogue between the Embera community and local authorities / entities was promoted.
- Construction of dwellings in accordance with their cultural traditions.
- Coordination between local institutions on implementation of the Victims Law has not only directly benefited the community, but also paved the way for implementation of other relocation processes in Caquetá Department.

Edén Cartagena (Awá indigenous community), Ricaurte (Nariño Department)

Context: Ricaurte Municipality is located on the border of Colombia’s Nariño Department and Ecuador. Its strategic geo-political location on the Pacific Coast with a mountain range and the border, has resulted in the strong presence of illegal armed groups and ongoing violations of individual and collective rights of the population. The mainly rural population, in particular the indigenous Awá, who represent 70% of the municipality’s population, are the main affected group. The project benefits 133 families, representing 566 people, most of whom are displaced.

Overall achievements:

- There is an institutional work plan with the Mayor’s Office to strengthen institutions in revising and adjusting public policies for victims and support inter-institutional coordination in prevention, protection and reparation issues.
- Coordination between UN agencies (FAO, WFP, UNDP) and NGOs carried out to implement activities on livelihoods, income generation and food security.
- The community has made progress in adopting the action plan and strengthened its ability to manage participatory assessments using an AGD approach.
- The community will build 50 dwellings, which were previously agreed upon by community members.
- A water pipeline and sewage system for the community was built, co-funded by the Mayor’s Office and UNHCR.

La Gaitana (Nasa Páez indigenous community), Florencia (Caquetá Department)

Context: The Nasa Páez were displaced from Puerto Rico Municipality in Caquetá in 2010 because of threats, the presence of land mines and assassination of the mayor / elder of the community. At present, the community resides in Sebastopol, Florencia Municipality, in overcrowded premises that belong to the national civil defense agency. The community is composed of 14 families / 63 persons. With the help of the Colombian Institute for Rural Development (INCODER), families will be relocated to a rural area to allow for the reintegration of indigenous families, respecting their traditional culture and customs. The relocation is currently underway.

Overall achievements:

- The relocation plan has been designed using an AGD approach and with the active participation of the community; advocacy for the relocation process was done with concerned public institutions to carry out the relocation.
- An assessment of livelihood capacities and opportunities was carried out to consolidate the organization and distribution of communal territory and the establishment of productive and economic security projects.

Las Delicias and El Rodeo (peasant-farmer population), Puerto Lopez (Meta Department)

Context: Las Delicias and El Rodeo are located in the Puerto Lopez Municipality in Meta Department. At the end of 2005 the displaced population, consisting of 128 families / 556 beneficiaries, was allocated a common territory with joint ownership. The socio-economic context is complex, with the presence of extraction companies, armed actors and the absence of state institutions in the region. This situation constitutes a challenge for public policies to support the relocation process.

Overall achievements:

- The local community organization (Junta de Acción Comunal) has led the improvement of electric lighting in Las Delicias, which has improved the quality of life for the entire community, including by reducing protection risks.
- The community of Las Delicias reorganized the land working group (Mesa de Tierras) to enhance dialogue with government institutions, support the distribution of individual land plots and improve access to basic services and housing.
- The design of a community training school for local development and management was completed.