

## **Colombia monthly newsletter - November 2018**

### **INFORMATION FROM THE NATION**

#### **The Government launches The National Mental Health Policy**

*“As a result of the intersectoral consensus and as a public health priority to build equity in the country, the minister for Health and Social Protection Juan Pablo Uribe Restrepo presented the new National Mental Health Policy, which seeks to promote mental health as an individual, familial and collective right”.* The legal resolution 4884 of 2018 is available on the following link:

[https://www.minsalud.gov.co/Normatividad\\_Nuevo/Forms/DispForm.aspx?ID=5385](https://www.minsalud.gov.co/Normatividad_Nuevo/Forms/DispForm.aspx?ID=5385)

#### **FARC’s ex-combatants’ affiliation to the health system**

*Source: The Ministry of Health and Social Protection*

In November 2018, the effective affiliation of 12.404 FARC ex-combatants to the Health System was achieved – that is, coverage of 94% in 521 municipalities. Furthermore, the Ministry of Health participated in the pedagogical processes among the reincorporated and in decision-making bodies such as the board of health in CNR – The National Council of Reincorporation. Currently, 6% of the reincorporated remain to be affiliated. As such, in coordination with the Agency for Reincorporation and Normalisation (ARN) users are actively sought with coverage increasing weekly.

From March of 2017 to November 2018, health care has been provided to ex-combatants and particularly to rural communities in the Territorial Spaces for Training and Reincorporation (ETCR). The costs of this care come down to \$5.416.000.000 for 7 months. Furthermore, a process of physical rehabilitation of over 100 persons with disabilities was initiated with resources from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and support from not-for-profit organisations.

## **Health for Peace**

*Source: The Ministry of Health and Social Protection*

Within the framework of the phase 1 of the Project “Health for Peace – Strengthening Communities”, financed by the UN Post-Conflict Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Colombia, 1021 professionals along with 727 rural community leaders were trained in primary health care in the municipalities with Territorial Spaces for Training and Reincorporation (ETCR). Provisions for local hospitals were also made: 25 kits for post-exposure to sexual violence, 50 anti-shock suits, 5.000 devices for family planning /contraception, 28.000 doses of micronutrients, and 7000 antiparasitics.

Furthermore, 52 health professionals in these municipalities were trained in the management of the Guide of Interventions for Behavioural and Mental Disorders, MhGAP, achieving health care for 1832 cases in local hospitals. 45 community leaders were also coined as Public Health Technicians, in alliance with SENA, and were then hired by local hospitals who, together with 27 nurses, achieved basic health care for 12.849 persons through outpatient treatment in these communities, including continued care of pregnant women in rural areas.

Another 12.134 persons also received technical assistance to manage programmes and services with the local health authorities, and 10.767 persons in the community were trained in physical and mental health care.

## **INFORMATION FROM THE TERRITORIAL ENTITIES**

### **Psychosocial attention to victims of the armed conflict in the Cauca department**

*Source: Cauca Departmental Secretariat of Health*

Throughout 2018, activities for psychosocial care were implemented for 1243 victims of the conflict, assembling the Nation’s and the department of Cauca’s resources within the framework of PAPSIVI. This was done in the municipalities of Toribo, Villa Rica, Caloto, Silvia, Inzá, Argelia, López de Micay and Santander de Quilichao, with psychosocial teams constituted by psychologists and psychosocial health promoters. For general information on PAPSIVI, please go to the following link: [https://www.minsalud.gov.co/proteccionsocial/Paginas/Victimas\\_PAPSIVI.aspx](https://www.minsalud.gov.co/proteccionsocial/Paginas/Victimas_PAPSIVI.aspx)

Additionally, the Departmental Secretariat of Health took on the challenge of implementing the Protocol for Health Care with Psychosocial Focus for victims of the armed conflict (available on: <https://www.minsalud.gov.co/sites/rid/Lists/BibliotecaDigital/RIDE/DE/PS/Protocolo-de-atencion-integral-en-salud-papsivi.pdf>). In order to achieve this, with the support of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, the International Organisation for Migration (OIM) and the Indigenous Association for Cauca conducted a training process with 24 health professionals from three prioritised municipalities: El Bordo, Cajibío and Santander de Quilichao. The trained professionals replicated the training in their institutions to facilitate the incorporation of the Protocol, having in the mind the ethical and cultural diversity in the area. During 2019, the Cauca Departmental Secretariat of Health will technically assist these three prioritized municipalities with follow-up of the Action Plan for the implementation of the Protocol.

## **PRESS MONITORING**

### **The peace agreement**

- 51% of the commitments, which focused on gender, defined in the peace agreement with FARC, have not been implemented. There were 130 commitments defined in the peace agreement with the FARC, which involved a gender perspective, however only five have been fully implemented. The Kroc Institute identified that of the 578 provisions found in the agreement, 130 of them focus on gender issues. According to the analysis, 51% of these commitments have not started, 38% are minimally implemented, 7% have reached an intermediate level of implementation and only 4% of the commitments (five provisions) have been fully implemented.<sup>1</sup>
- After the denunciation of the attack against Fancy Urrego, member of the national leadership of the FARC party, 26 congressmen made a call to protect the member of the

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<sup>1</sup> <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/el-51-de-los-compromisos-con-enfoque-de-genero-del-acuerdo-de-paz-no-han-iniciado>

FARC and avoid more genocides. With the same motive, FARC requests a meeting with the president, Ivan Duque, so that *“él pueda conocer de primera mano estos hechos y adoptar medidas conducentes a detener este plan criminal, y priorizar, por parte de la Fiscalía, la captura de quienes lo están dirigiendo y ejecutando”*.<sup>2</sup>

- Five were injured after ELN guerrillas attacked buses and trucks near Curumaní. The ministry of defense confirmed the attacks as well as an explosion on the same road. According to El Tiempo, this attack makes 79 pipeline attacks this year. An October press released a message from ELN saying *“This government keeps the negotiations on ice while it intensifies large-scale military operations in all its territories and pursues a media war with ‘fake news’ against us”*.<sup>3</sup>
- ELN freed a son of the former governor of Arauca after the payment of a ransom.<sup>4</sup>
- JEP opened Case 005, which seeks to investigate and punish those responsible for human right crimes committed by members of the FARC and Fuerza Pública in the north of Cauca, throughout the armed conflict. This means that the JEP will focus the crimes committed between January 1, 1993 and December 1, 2016.<sup>5</sup>
- Ivan Duque has decided that Vicente Torrijos Rivera will be the new director of the Centro Nacional de Memoria Histórica (CNMH).<sup>6</sup>
- A refuge for social leaders has been closed in the south of Bogotá. Corporación Claretiana has provided a home for social leaders who have been threatened or the relatives of those murdered for the past 20 years. The refuge closed because they ran out of money for the lease.<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz/bancada-alternativa-pide-seguridad-para-miembros-del-partido-farc-290876>

<sup>3</sup> <https://colombiareports.com/five-wounded-as-eln-attacks-vehicles-and-pipeline/>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz/eln-libero-a-jose-leonardo-ataya-hijo-del-exgobernador-de-arauca-292912>

<sup>5</sup> <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/jep/crimenes-de-farc-y-fuerza-publica-en-norte-del-cauca-el-caso-005-de-la-jep>

<sup>6</sup> <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/la-encrucijada-de-vicente-torrijos-quien-sera-el-nuevo-director-del-cnmh>

<sup>7</sup> <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/el-refugio-para-lideres-que-cerro-sus-puertas>

- So far, only 13% of victims of the armed conflict has been compensated. 87% of the victims have not been compensated and there are approximately three million victims missing in the Programa de Atención Psicosocial del Ministerio de Salud.<sup>8</sup>
- Since the signing of the peace agreement, 84 ex-guerrillas have been murdered. The most recent killings occurred in Meta and Nariño, where they carried out the reincorporation process.<sup>9</sup>

### General news

- According to the Colombian Migration agency, more than one million Venezuelans entered Colombia during 2018.<sup>10</sup>

### Mental health

- In Colombia, the main causes of infant death are preventable issues during pregnancy: congenital malformations, chromosomal abnormalities and deformities. Law 1438 of 2011, decrees that every Colombian need social security and it endeavors to ensure that every pregnant woman has the right to receive medical attention at any health center. However, not all the necessary tests are applied to detect the aforementioned conditions.<sup>11</sup>

### Cauca

- Indigenous groups of Cauca gave the ‘hour zero’ for an indefinite mobilization in the department, which could result in the blockade of the highway ‘Panamericana’. They publicised the decision via Twitter. *“Acin declaramos el 23 de noviembre como hora cero de movilización indefinida contra las políticas regresivas del actual gobierno. Nos*

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<sup>8</sup> <https://colombia2020.elespectador.com/pais/asi-se-esta-reestructurando-la-atencion-las-victimas-del-conflicto>

<sup>9</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/politica/proceso-de-paz/exguerrilleros-han-sido-asesinados-desde-la-firma-del-acuerdo-de-paz-con-farc-297316>

<sup>10</sup> <https://colombiareports.com/more-than-one-million-venezuelans-entered-colombia-in-2018-foreign-ministry/>

<sup>11</sup> <https://www.elespectador.com/noticias/salud/el-malformado-sistema-de-salud-en-colombia-articulo-823369>

*movilizaremos junto al pueblo colombiano, por la defensa de la vida digna y el territorio”.*<sup>12</sup>

- The ‘Cumbre de Cauca’ was an event lead by the governor of Cauca. The purpose of the event was to create a dialog for people in the region and strengthen advances in management and implementation of the peace process and advance the construction of Cauca with less conflict and the cohesion that is required for a path of coexistence and integral development.<sup>13</sup>
- Cauca is one of the departments that has suffered most due to the ferocity of the armed conflict. Due to this the number of victims is greater compared to other territories. Eight municipalities of northern Cauca were prioritized by the Justicia Especial para la Paz.<sup>14</sup>

## **Meta**

- In three days, three violent acts have occurred involving the murder of two citizens in the rural area of La Macarena, the victims included the president of the community board of Getsemaní, Hector Fabio Almario. The same day, in the village of San Juan de Losada, a homicide was recorded of a 19-year-old man. The day after, in the area of Playa Rica near the Territorial Area of Training and Reincorporation (ETCR) for ex-combatants of the Farc, an explosive device was thrown at the facilities of the police serve, which fortunately caused no injuries.<sup>15</sup>
- Two dissidents of the Farc have been imprisoned for the murder of the leader of the Patriotic Union, Jefferson Andrés Arévalo Robayo, and the rape of his partner. The murder occurred between the 21th and 23th of August. The motives of the murder are related to the existence of a ‘guaca’ (an indigenous burial in which gold was found. In this case it will refer to a place that contains something with a high value), of which Jefferson Arévalo would know

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<sup>12</sup> <https://periodicovirtual.com/indigenas-del-cauca/?fbclid=IwAR3FaAI5mtm-nR3IGJ-FkI8WEtQwXC9IIQ0flCfpDOMCWgqANmUIWk3dgZg>

<sup>13</sup> <http://elnuevoliberal.com/cumbre-de-cauca-en-el-macizo-espacio-de-articulacion-en-la-construccion-de-region/>

<sup>14</sup> <http://elnuevoliberal.com/ocho-municipios-del-norte-del-cauca-priorizados-por-la-justicia-especial-para-la-paz/>

<sup>15</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/colombia/otras-ciudades/asesinato-de-lider-en-la-macarena-292804>

the location, which would belong to alias John 40, financier and head of the Farc dissidents, who committed crimes in the South of Meta.<sup>16</sup>

## **Tolima**

- During the visit of the Comisión de Paz del Congreso, there was an act of forgiveness between the governor of Tolima, Óscar Barreto Quiroga, and the representative of the FARC party, Ómar de Jesús Restrepo. The request for forgiveness from the representative of the FARC party comes after an attack that occurred in 2009 against the governor. At this time, the authorities attributed to the FARC, eight attempts against the life of the Governor.<sup>17</sup>
- The Assembly of Tolima and SuperSalud had a meeting with the purpose of discussing the health issues in Tolima.<sup>18</sup>

## **Bolívar**

- As a contribution to the project ‘Participación de la Sociedad Civil en la Estabilización de territorios Afectados por el Conflicto Armado’, the community of the neighborhood El Edén in the municipality of San Juan Nepomuceno, presented a new peace initiative called ‘Comunidad de El Edén sin riesgo’. The initiative involves local and regional authorities together with the community and social organizations in the area, to promote territorial transformation and generate adequate conditions for the construction of peace.<sup>19</sup>
- The new manager of the ESE Centro de Salud Giovanni Cristini, Renny Barandica Manotas, committed to comply with the Minsalud standards.<sup>20</sup>

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<sup>16</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/colombia/carcel-a-responsables-de-asesinato-de-lider-la-up-en-meta-296006>

<sup>17</sup> <http://www.elnuevodia.com.co/nuevodia/tolima/regional/423913-gobernador-y-representante-de-las-farc-pasaron-la-pagina>

<sup>18</sup> <http://www.elnuevodia.com.co/nuevodia/tolima/regional/424579-asamblea-y-supersalud-se-reunen-a-esta-hora-para-tratar-todos-los-temas-de-sa>

<sup>19</sup> <http://www.eluniversal.com.co/regional/bolivar/comunidad-lanza-iniciativa-de-paz-en-san-juan-nepomuceno-291149>

<sup>20</sup> <http://www.eluniversal.com.co/regional/bolivar/gerente-se-compromete-cumplir-con-los-estandares-de-minsalud-291148>

- Some villagers in San Juan have expressed their fear about the presence of illegal armed groups in the area. *“Nos estaban llamando para amenazarnos y extorsionarnos, haciéndose pasar por grupos de guerrilla y paramilitares, y nos pedían cosas imposibles”*. The mayor and authorities denied the presence of illegal armed groups in San Juan.<sup>21</sup>
- Three months ago, the framework agreement between the Government of Bolívar and the Unidad Nacional de Atención y Reparación de Víctimas was signed. The resources were guaranteed for the construction of two regional centers for victim assistance, one for Cartagena and the other in El Carmen de Bolívar. It was denounced by Deyder Henríquez Matos, a member of the departmental victims' committee, that the victims feel cheated and they have asked for more commitment from the national authorities and the departmental government.<sup>22</sup>

## **Putumayo**

- A man was killed, during a performance by the singer, Giovanni Ayala. The victim was a 36-year old man from Tolima, who received nine bullet wounds.<sup>23</sup>
- 7 people were captured from a network dedicated to the illegal extraction of crude in Putumayo. Between 2017 and this year, Ecopetrol has reported stolen in Putumayo. The stolen crude oil is equivalent to 1,739 barrels, about 73,038 gallons, which went to 'La Constru', the largest network of drug traffickers in Putumayo, which has the control of more than 30,000 hectares of coca in the region.

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<sup>21</sup> <http://www.eluniversal.com.co/regional/bolivar/autoridades-desmienten-la-presencia-de-grupos-armados-ilegales-en-san-juan-291193>

<sup>22</sup> <http://www.eluniversal.com.co/regional/victimas-denuncian-incumplimientos-de-acuerdos-DE251423>

<sup>23</sup> <https://www.eltiempo.com/colombia/otras-ciudades/en-concierto-de-giovanny-ayala-en-putumayo-asesinan-a-un-hombre-290076>