

PROPAZ II

Consolidating peace in Colombia

Where and how we work

After more than 50 years of violent conflict between the Colombian government and the guerrilla organization FARC (*Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia*, Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia), a peace agreement was finally signed after long negotiations. The Colombian peace process therefore impressively shows that even decades of conflict can be resolved through diplomacy and constructive dialogue.

However, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented enormous challenges to the implementation of the peace agreement. The complex implementation of the agreement is proceeding steadily but slowly, not least because of political disagreement over the concrete implementation. In addition, new armed groups have emerged in recent years trying to take control of lucrative illegal industries (including cocaine trafficking and gold mining). This leads to an increase in violence against civil society activists, former FARC guerrilla fighters and human rights defenders.

But there are also positive developments. For example, new institutions of transitional justice were created within the framework of the peace agreement. These are to address the injustices committed, return the stolen land and condemn the perpetrators. Among them are the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the Truth Commission and the Search Unit for Missing Persons. These institutions aim to shed light on the injustice and to secure peace in the society in the long term. They have recently been able to consolidate and work more closely together to guarantee and respect the rights of the more than 9 million victims of the armed conflict.

On behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH is strengthening the recognition of victims' rights in the context of the implementation of this historic peace agreement with the Programme "Consolidating Peace in Colombia - ProPaz II".



Photo: @GIZ. Strategic Operative Meeting. Florencia, Caquetá. 2021

With our work, we make a sustainable contribution to the implementation of Goal 5 (Gender Equality) and 16 (Peace, Justice and strong Institutions) of the 2030 Agenda, as well as to UN Security Council Resolution 1325/2000 on the participation of women in peace, security and crisis management.

Commissioned by:	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
German contribution	Up to 10.000.000 euros
Political counterpart	Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia (APC).
Implementing counterpart	Among others: Presidential Advisory Office for Stabilization and Consolidation, Agency for the Renewal of Land (ART), Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP), Truth Commission (CEV), Search Unit for Missing Persons (UBPD), Unit for the Comprehensive Attention and Reparation of Victims (UARIV), Land Restitution Unit (URT), government of Meta, Caquetá and Norte de Santander, social organizations and educational institutions at the regional, local and national levels.
Project areas:	Norte de Santander, Meta, Caquetá
Duration:	February 2021 – January 2024.

How we do it

The overall objective of the ProPaz II programme is to strengthen the protection, promotion and guarantee of the rights of the victims of the conflict. ProPaz II builds on the experience of the programme "ProPaz I - Support for Peace Building in Colombia" (2015-2021) and is based on the development and focus of already



Photo: @GIZ. Strategic Operative Meeting. Cúcuta, Norte de Santander. 2021

proven approaches to strengthening and protecting victims' rights. Particular attention is paid to the promotion of women and a precise consideration of the needs of the respective target groups.

The following fields are implemented together with our partners:

1. Participation of victims in truth, justice and reparation processes:

We contribute to improve the conditions for victims' participation in the processes of truth, justice and reparation, for example by providing psychosocial support, taking into account the needs of ethnic communities.

2. Inter-institutional articulation and coordination:

We support the improvement of interinstitutional coordination to implement measures for truth, justice and reparation. The Integral System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition (SIVJRNR) and the National System for Comprehensive Reparation of Victims (SNARIV) shall work more closely together to improve the protection and promotion of victims' rights.

3. Innovative dialogue in the context of collective experiences of victims:

We work with our partners at the national and regional levels to jointly offer innovation and collective experiences on truth, justice and reparation. To this end, various dialogue and exchange formats are systemized into intercultural and interethnic dialogue.

What we have achieved so far

- 15,157 victims were advised on access to the institutions of the SNARIV and SIVJRNR. The capacities of 111 social organizations to participate in transitional justice processes have been strengthened. With the support of the programme, more than 30 reports have been prepared for the Special Jurisdiction for Peace. The reports provide information on cases of sexual violence, forced displacement, land expropriation, anti-personnel mines and the impact of the violent conflict on victims of LGBTIQ+ communities, Afro-Colombians, indigenous peoples, small farmers and members of left-wing parties.
- Dialogue between the UARIV and ethnic communities has been strengthened to ensure effective participation of victims in collective reparation processes. This accompaniment benefits 4,134 victims belonging to the Bari ethnic communities in the Department of Norte de Santander and the Jaéini Diona in the Department of Caquetá.
- 51 social organizations, as well as formal and informal educational institutions, have used innovative and/or digital pedagogical approaches to truth, justice and reparation for victims.
- In the departments of Caquetá and Norte de Santander, coordination mechanisms have been established with the participation of civil society. The institutions of the Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition System and the National System for Comprehensive Reparation of Victims now coordinate more effectively in the field of the search for missing persons.



Photo @GIZ. Forum Theater in the context of the Roundtable for the Exchange of Experiences of relatives of missing persons. Villavicencio, Meta. 2021

Published by: Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH
Registered offices Bonn and Eschborn, Germany

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Version

January 2022

Photo credits Damarix Pabón

Text: Damarix Pabón /Victor Solano /Jessica
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GIZ is responsible for the content of this publication.

Commissioned by: Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation
and Development (BMZ) of Germany

In cooperation with: Presidential Agency for International
Cooperation (APC) Colombia