

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

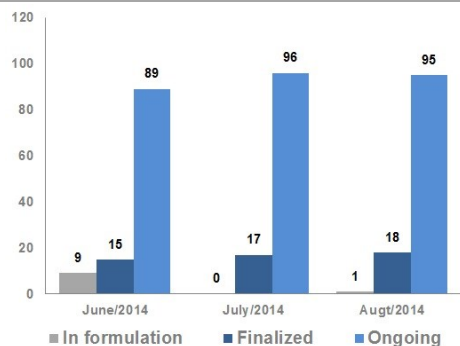
This report provides monthly institutional (Victims Unit, Ministry of Health, National Historical Memory Center and Mayor/Governor's Offices) and Victims Law achievements.

Corresponding VISP activities that have contributed to these achievements are included below each achievement.

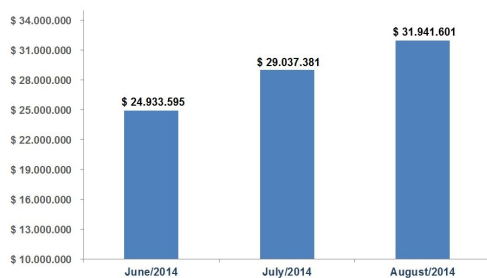
VISP STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

Select GOC Institutions, Policies and Systems at the National and sub national levels operationalized for effective implementation of the Victims Law.

VISP projects by status and month



Monthly cumulative project budget allocation in USD



R1. Improved GOC Strategic Management for Victims Law

Victims' participation roundtables' projects receive funding

- With USAID support, 100% of the departments and 56% of the municipalities prioritized by the Victims Institutional Strengthening Program (VISP) received funding for projects designed by their Victims Participation Roundtables
- On August 13, the Victims Unit announced that a total of 126 projects will receive funding, 27 in VISP prioritized regions, 19 of which were designed with VISP support
- The projects, funded by the Victims Unit, allow Victims Participation Roundtables to implement strategies to strengthen victims' participation and organization, disseminate and assess the implementation of the Victims Law and include diversity mainstreaming in victims' attention and reparation services
- VISP supported the design of the Bank Project to strengthen victims' participation through the creation of guidelines and documents to fund projects for victims that are presented by Victims Participation Roundtables
- In coming months, VISP will work to improve projects that did not receive funding, help them seek other sources of funding and begin structuring the financing mechanism for future projects

R2. Improved GOC Rehabilitation Services that Strengthen Victims Capacity to improve their wellbeing

Workshop with relatives of victims of disappearance

- As part of the commemorations of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances, supported a workshop with relatives of victims of enforced disappearance
- VISP currently supports the Attorney General's Office and the Victims Unit to develop strategies to support psychosocial accompaniment for relatives of victims of forced displacement in the process to return human remains

VISP Monthly Highlights 16 - August 2014

Guide to incorporate the psychosocial approach launched

- On August 11th, the document "Elements to incorporate a psychosocial approach in attention, assistance and reparation to victims", which was constructed jointly by the Victims Unit and VISP, was officially launched
- This guide provides conceptual and practical tools to the Victims Unit's psychosocial professionals and assistance liaisons, according to the psychosocial approach and "Do no harm" principles, thereby improving their ability to provide dignified attention to victims
- The document presents conceptual elements on the psychosocial approach, guides to include in victims' attention and reparation services and practical recommendations depending on victimizing act, assistance measure and following diversity mainstreaming; a tool box with practical examples, as well as a glossary of basic terms, is also included
- The document is available online: bit.ly/1sVxxvr

R3. Transitional Justice Processes Advanced

Collective reparation knowledge exchange

- Supported the event "Dialogue and knowledge on Collective Reparation, experiences for peace building", a three day meeting to assess and discuss advances, best practices, challenges, difficulties and possible solutions to Collective Reparation plans
- The meeting united 241 representative cases of collective reparation throughout the country, including female organizations, national cases, ethnic groups, and others, to present results and share experiences and knowledge
- 21 ethnic collectives presented their request to the Ombudsperson's Office and will start their Collective Reparation Process
- The book "Voices and Perspectives on Collective Reparation", produced with VISP support, was also launched during the encounter, presenting stories and photos on Collective Reparation processes around the country

"Basta Ya!" Academic course began

- On August 23, the university course based on the CNMH report "Basta Ya! Colombia: memories of war and dignity" began at the Universidad Nacional in Bogotá, the largest and most important public university in the country
- Students from multiple universities around the country will participate in the 14 session course, which is led by experts who completed the research for the report and supported by VISP
- Eventually the CNMH hopes to replicate the course in other universities throughout the country
- Online contents of the course are available: bit.ly/1lv8Bc8

R4. Select GOC Institutions and Systems Accommodate the Specific Needs of Ethnic

Concluded the emotional recovery process with female victims in Chocó

- The emotional recovery process with 40 female victims concluded in Chocó
- The process sought to connect female victims of the conflict with different artistic outlets, allowing them to represent impacts and damages suffered
- Through games, sounds, images, theater, art, literature and dialogue, women recognize the impact of the conflict and channel it through artistic expressions
- Participants will receive training in the following months to replicate their experience with female victims in Riosucio and Bojayá (Chocó)

Quote



"It is very important that our pain is recognized and understood. Through this process I have recovered my family", expressed **Argelia Caraballo**, a victim of the conflict who participates in the Victims Unit's emotional recovery strategy, during the presentation of the guide to incorporate the psychosocial approach in victims attention and reparation services

