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CITIZEN SECURITY DIALOGUES

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Improving security and justice service provision and enhancing the safety and security of communities and social leaders.

OVERVIEW

The Citizen Security Dialogues activity builds trust between communities and justice and security service providers. It leverages the United States Institute of Peace (USIP)'s Justice and Security Dialogue Methodology, develops pilots to improve communication and relationships, and addresses community-level priorities around community security and safety. Improved dialogue between stakeholders enables security and justice providers to adapt their services so they are more responsive and accountable to communities. The Citizen Security Dialogues activity is implemented in six departments, Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, Chocó, Nariño, and Norte de Santander, and it runs from September 2020 to September 2022.

COMPONENTS

CONDUCTING COMMUNITY CHARACTERIZATION STUDIES

Citizen Security Dialogues conducts qualitative studies to identify the root causes of mistrust between communities and security and justice providers.

SURVEYING PUBLIC PERCEPTIONS

Citizen Security Dialogues conducts monthly surveys with the same group of 50 community leaders in each municipality. These surveys focus on capturing community trust in security and justice providers, and community perceptions of rural safety.

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY

Citizen Security Dialogues uses targeted capacity-building workshops to strengthen skills around rule of law, peacebuilding and dialogue, and prepares stakeholders for dialogue.

ADAPTING LOCAL SECURITY SERVICE PROVISION

Citizen Security Dialogues assists justice and security providers to adapt their strategies, so they better reflect community concerns and expectations.

FACILITATING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUES

Citizen Security Dialogues organizes dialogues for community leaders to interact directly with security and justice providers. These dialogues help transform relationships between actors and earn trust.

INNOVATING CITIZEN SECURITY PUBLIC POLICIES

Citizen Security Dialogues encourages the use of new approaches and models for national security policies using lessons learned. The activity also infuses new thinking into municipal plans to address rural insecurity.

EXPECTED RESULTS

- Increase security and justice provider awareness of evolving community perceptions and priorities;
- Adapt security and justice service provision strategies and approaches based on public concerns and priorities;
- Promote awareness about the need for an inclusive approach in the development of citizen security safety and justice policies in rural and conflict affected territories; and
- Strengthen community leaders and security and justice providers' capacities to organize and participate in multi-stakeholder dialogues.