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VICTIMS PARTICIPATION AND COLLECTIVE REPARATION (VPCR)

Supporting Colombian conflict victims' rights to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition.

OVERVIEW

The Victims Participation and Collective Reparation Program (VPCR) advocates for armed conflict victims' rights to truth, justice, reparation and non-repetition. VPCR facilitates victims' participation in Peace Agreement implementation and strengthens victims' organizations' capacities to influence, monitor, and evaluate the System of Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-repetition. The activity also works with victims' communities and the Government of Colombia (GOC) to develop laws and regulations that guarantee victims' rights. VPCR works in 17 municipalities and runs from July 2014-January 2024.

Nearly nine million Colombians were victims of Colombia's 52-year conflict between the GOC and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC). The 2016 Peace Agreement between the GOC and FARC prioritized these victims' needs as part of the post-conflict peace building strategy. VPCR's work with victims supports the implementation of the Peace Agreement and is key to national peacebuilding.

PHOTO BY CODHES

COMPONENTS

SUPPORTING THE VICTIMS' LAW

VPCRP helps municipal and departmental government actors understand and implement the Victims Law, the 2016 Peace Agreement and other victims related policies.

STRENGTHENING VICTIMS' ORGANIZATIONS

VPCRP provides technical support to victims' organizations so that they can better advocate for victims' needs and rights, and encourages victims' participation in public decision making.

IMPLEMENTING THE PEACE AGREEMENT

VPCRP advocates for the development and strengthening of victims' legal processes and jurisprudence. The activity also helps implement the Peace Agreement by guaranteeing victims' rights.

RESULTS

- Helped 440 community leaders develop self-protection plans;
- Fostered dialogue between civil society organizations and the GOC;
- Generated guidelines to advance 35 collective subject reparation cases;
- Encouraged the inclusion of a victims' chapter in the 12 municipal development plans;
- Supported five victims' hearings before the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights;
- Advocated for victims' rights inclusion in the development and implementation the 2016 Peace Agreement;
- Encouraged community organizations to help monitor the implementation of Colombia's Victims Public Policy;
- Trained 460 community leaders in strategic planning and 507 community leaders in the design of productive projects;
- Prepared 11 reports, informed by victims' own experiences, that were then delivered to the Truth Commission;
- Strengthened 146 civil society organizations' capacities to execute resources, develop projects, and scale-up knowledge;
- Disseminated information about attacks against social leaders and called for community solidarity through the *Lidera La Vida* campaign; and
- Carried out 151 advocacy actions before the Colombian Congress, the Constitutional Court and international bodies about the development and implementation of the Victims Law and its reform.