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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 information sharing, and addresses community-level concerns and priorities around security. 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, including Antioquia, Caquetá, Cauca, 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 representative community leaders in each municipality. These surveys focus on capturing community trust in security and justice providers, and community perceptions of rural security.

### **BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY**

Citizen Security Dialogues uses targeted capacity-building workshops to identify the challenges of providing security and justice in areas previously controlled by armed groups 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.

### **ESTABLISHING MULTI-STAKEHOLDER DIALOGUES**

Citizen Security Dialogues organizes dialogues for community leaders to interact directly with security and justice providers.

### **IMPROVING PUBLIC POLICIES**

Citizen Security Dialogues harnesses lessons learned to update national security policies and 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;
- Encourage diverse stakeholder participation in the development of government security and justice policies; and
- Strengthen community leaders and security and justice providers' capacities to organize and participate in multi-stakeholder dialogues.