ANNUAL REPORT 2016

COLOMBIA
HUMANITARIAN FUND
OCHA Colombia thanks the following donor countries: Spain, Sweden and Switzerland for their support and contributions to the Colombia Humanitarian Fund in 2016.

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FOREWORD BY THE HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR

The signature of a final peace accord between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP guerrillas in November 2016 brings unique opportunities to progressively overcome humanitarian needs created by the conflict, opening a path for the implementation of sustainable solutions. For this reason, the international humanitarian community has supported and will continue to support peace efforts by the Colombian people, convinced that peace is the sole possible path to end the suffering of victims, solve humanitarian needs and advance decidedly in a development agenda.

While a peace accord between the Government and FARC-EP is a fundamental step to put an end to armed violence, other sources of violence persist and continue to be responsible for humanitarian impacts. Forced displacements, threats and homicides against social leaders and Human Rights defenders, gender-based sexual violence, the use and recruitment of children and adolescents, restrictions on movement and social control of communities, continue to be areas of concern for the Humanitarian Country Team.

The situation of social leaders and Human Rights defenders is of special concern. On 30 November, the Office of the High Commissioner of the United Nations for Human Rights verified 52 homicides and 35 attempts against Human Rights defenders. The social control imposed by armed actors other than the FARC-EP, limitations on daily activities and restrictions on access of basic goods and services for the population is a permanent source of fear for communities in some regions. For example, according to OCHA more than 170 thousand children suffered temporary limitations on education access in 2016 during armed strike decreed by the ELN guerrillas and the organized armed group Autodefensas Gaitanistas de Colombia (“Clan del Golfo”).

The regions most affected by conflict faced important development challenges as well. This situation has been exacerbated in some regions where the same communities are vulnerable both to violence and natural disasters. In this context, the Colombia Humanitarian Fund has a strategic role in ensuring that critical gaps are covered and that the humanitarian community can continue to assist critical humanitarian needs, ensuring the protection of the civilian population as a first step towards sustainable peace.

The Humanitarian Country Team, with the support and facilitation of OCHA, has been strengthening its links with development and peace actors in order to ensure more integral interventions in territories that ensure solid bases for peacebuilding and sustainable development. Towards this end, the Humanitarian Response Plan formulated by the Humanitarian Country Team for 2016 and 2017 includes a more systematic component of durable solutions.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has contributed to the objectives of the Humanitarian Country Team, allowing for opportunite assistance in the principal emergencies, focusing its response on the most vulnerable regions and populations. In this sense, the Fund contributes to the efficiency of the humanitarian response, directing finances towards critical humanitarian needs, identified through an inclusive and participatory process that includes national actors. All Fund projects have been consulted on with the local and national authorities, the humanitarian community and ethnic-territorial authorities.

In a context of a reduction of humanitarian financing for Colombia, the Colombia Humanitarian Fund represents a strategic source of financing, which also contributes to build the capacity of national NGOs. Of the 2.1 million dollars assigned by the Fund in 2016, 44 per cent was implemented by national NGOs. The generous contributions of Sweden, Spain and Switzerland have been fundamental to provide assistance to nearly 13,000 people affected by chronic or prolonged emergencies in areas with difficult access and a low state presence.

The efforts of donors, the Fund Advisory Board, the Review Committee, national and international NGOs, UN Agencies, OCHA and the State have been key to ensure that the Colombia Humanitarian Fund is an even more efficient humanitarian mechanism. In 2017, I trust that the Colombia Humanitarian Fund can continue to be an important support to carry out the humanitarian imperative, relieving the suffering of the most affected people, at the same time that we strengthen coordination, ensure the maximum resources possible and build solid bases for development and peacebuilding.

Martin Santiago
Humanitarian and Resident Coordinator
## Contributions by Donor (en US$)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Donor</th>
<th>Amount</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>555K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>477K</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>310K</td>
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</tbody>
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Total received funds: **$1.3 M**

## Timeline of Allocations 2016

- **April**: Standard Allocation 4 projects
- **May**: Reserve Allocation 1 project
- **June**: Reserve Allocation 1 project
- **July**: Standard Allocation 4 projects
- **August**: Standard Allocation 4 projects
- **September**: Reserve Allocation 1 project
- **October**: Reserve Allocation 1 project
- **November**: Reserve Allocation 1 project
- **December**: Reserve Allocation 1 project

## Total Allocated

- **National NGO**
  - Total Projects: 5
  - Amount Allocated: **$949,491**

- **International NGO**
  - Total Projects: 7
  - Amount Allocated: **$1,173,815**

Total allocated: **$2.1 M** (US$)

*Total amount allocated higher than the total contributions received due to carry-over 2015.

## Projects Approved

- **ACH**: $130,000
- **World Vision International**: $120,000
- **NRC**: $130,000
- **FLM**: $150,000
- **NRG**: $241,349
- **DIAKONE**: $287,491
- **PLAN**: $180,250
- **HALU**: $249,994
- **SDPS**: $159,865
- **ACH**: $115,000
- **CID**: $109,995

## Conventions

- National Capital
- Departmental Capital

### Sudden Emergency
- Conventions: National Capital, Departmental Capital

### Chronic Emergency
- Conventions: National Capital, Departmental Capital

## Total Beneficiaries Reached

- Male: 2,001
- Female: 1,405
- Children: 1,978
- Girls: 1,247

During 2016, the Fund provided humanitarian assistance in the departments of Arauca, Chocó, La Guajira, Guaviare, Meta, Narino, Norte de Santander, Putumayo, and Valle del Cauca.
HUMANITARIAN CONTEXT

The year 2016 was positive in humanitarian terms. The Government of Colombia and FARC-EP guerrillas signed a peace agreement that allowed putting an end to more than 50 years of armed conflict. The unilateral ceasefire and de-escalation measures contributed to significantly reduce violence against the civilian population. In March, the Government of Colombia and ELN guerrillas publicly announced their interest in advancing in a negotiation process, which it is hoped will contribute to further reduce humanitarian impact by this group.

Nonetheless, in 2016 humanitarian emergencies continued. Although at lower numbers, there were mass displacements, homicides, kidnappings, and victims of antipersonnel mines. There was an increase in the number of people affected by movement limitations and restrictions of access on goods and services; an increase in threats against social leaders, Human Rights defenders, teachers, public officials and civilians in general.

Activities of armed actors such as the ELN, the EPL and post-demobilization armed groups (PDAGs) exacerbated the humanitarian situation, with serious adverse effects on civilian Humanitarian financing shortfalls are expected to continue in 2017, which could have an impact on our capacity to be present in the field and to reach the one million most vulnerable people that the Humanitarian Country Team identified as its target population in its Response Plan 2017.

According to OCHA’s monitoring, in 2016 more than 2.8 million people suffered movement limitations and restrictions on access to basic goods and services for reasons linked to the armed violence. This is principally due to armed strikes decreed by the Autodefensas Gaitanistas de Colombia/Clan del Golfo, and by the ELN guerrillas affecting more than 2.5 million people in terms of mobility and access. Nearly 170,000 minors saw their access to education restricted by armed violence events in Arauca, Antioquia, Norte de Santander, Nariño and Cauca departments.

According to official figures, between 2015 and 2016, a total of 221,346 people were forcibly displaced as a result of the conflict and armed violence. Some 52 per cent of these populations were women and 45 per cent were minors under 18. The post-demobilization armed groups – PDAGs, unidentified armed groups and other groups different from the guerrillas were responsible for 55 per cent of all displacement.

OCHA’s monitoring found that the number of victims of mass displacement was reduced by 19 per cent between 2015 and 2016. Nonetheless, while FARC-EP participation in these events fell from 15 per cent in 2015 to practically zero in 2016, the participation of ELN, PDAGs and even the EPL increased as compared to 2016. At the same time, it should be noted that armed confrontations were the principal cause of mass displacement in 2016. The following departments concentrated 98 per cent of mass displacement victims: Chocó, Norte de Santander, Nariño, Antioquia, Córdoba and Risaralda. Indigenous and afro-colombian communities continue to be the populations most affected by these events, representing 75 per cent of all mass displacement victims according to OCHA’s monitoring.

More than half (57 per cent) of all attacks against the civilian population reported by OCHA in 2016 corresponded to threats (individual/collective). This would indicate a change in violence dynamics, which is increasingly subtle, through the tactics of intimidation and social control. According to OCHA’s monitoring, these events rose by 31 per cent in 2016, as compared to 2015.

Generally speaking, homicides on DDHH increased, threats were directed against Human Rights defenders, social leaders, teachers, students, public officials, journalists, and the general civilian population, via pamphlets and messages. Unknown actors continue to be the principle perpetrators of these threats, representing 45 per cent of cases, followed by PDAGs with 34 per cent, and ELN with 15 per cent.
ALLOCATION OVERVIEW
FUND ALLOCATION STRATEGY

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has contributed to ensure that the humanitarian response focused on prioritized needs through joint planning and an inclusive decision-making process. The Fund promoted a strategic and pertinent response through the harmonization of the Humanitarian Programming Cycle (HPC) and Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP). The projects financed by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund responded to the strategic objectives stipulated in the HRP 2016, namely: (i) provide an effective, integral and complementary inter-sectoral response to save lives; (ii) reinforce the protection of the rights of the most vulnerable populations; and (iii) increase the capacities of institutions and the resilience of at-risk communities.

The HRP identified a total of 5.8 million people in need in 2016, out of which 1.4 million were targeted for assistance by the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) with a focus on the most vulnerable populations in particular children, women and female-headed households, who fail to receive immediate humanitarian assistance, as well as indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations living in isolated rural areas affected by conflict and/or natural disasters. People affected by forced displacement, disasters, sexual crimes, antipersonnel mines and other attacks on civilians were also targeted, alongside host communities and people with restricted access to basic social services.

The 12 projects approved by the Fund in 2016 responded to chronic and sudden emergencies in some of the 225 municipalities identified by the HRP as having the highest gaps in the response and needs. All projects were articulated with cluster objectives defined in the HRP. The Colombia Humanitarian Fund aided a total of 12,769 people included in the target population of the HRP: internally-displaced people (over the past three years); mine victims (last three years); disaster-affected; victims of sexual crimes (last three years); civilian victims of other attacks; host communities; access-restricted.

Additionally, in Colombia, Local Coordination Teams in the field ensure coordinated humanitarian needs assessments at field-level. Project proposals are submitted and reviewed by a Review Board (cluster leads or co-leads), Advisory Board (Donors, one International NGO, and one national NGO, one UN Agency and three government agencies: APC, UARIV and UNGRD). The final decision is made by the Humanitarian Coordinator in consultation with the Advisory Board. The review process is inclusive, participative and efficient.

RATIONALE INFORMATION ON THE DIFFERENT ALLOCATION ROUNDS

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund operates through two separate funding modalities, the Standard Allocation which is conducted twice a year in line with HRP and the Reserve Allocation which can be activated any time during the year when a sudden emergency happens.

Standard Allocation

Two Standard Allocations were conducted in April and in September. They were aligned with HRP priorities and strategic objectives, prioritizing the following population groups: IDPs, Mine victims, Disaster affected, Victims of sex crimes, Civilian victims of and Host communities. An estimated 8% of those to be attended IDPs, 49% are host communities, 28% are affected by natural disasters, and 15% comprise other vulnerable groups, including victims of mine and sexual violence. Prioritized for delivery were one-parent, mostly women-led families who have not received timely humanitarian aid as well as indigenous and Afro-colombian populations living in isolated rural areas affected by conflict and/or natural disasters. Within these seven groups, priority was given to the protection of women, boys, girls, adolescents, youths, the elderly and the disabled.
The Standard Allocations focused on the following three HRP Strategic Objectives:

1. Save lives through an effective, multi-sector, complementary and integral response. Complement and support the State’s response in identified gap areas through a Human Rights, protection and differentiated response approach including gender; and improved humanitarian needs and risk analysis of populations affected by armed violence and/or natural disasters.

2. Strengthen the protection of the rights of the most vulnerable populations. Implement concrete protection responses at the local and national level, guided by analysis and the visualization of needs, risks as well as opportunities for different population groups.

3. Increase institutional capacity and the resilience of at-risk communities. Deliver basic goods and services and support livelihood recovery. Identify and respond to vulnerability factors to strengthen self-reliance and protection, early recovery and sustainable solutions, while ensuring equitable participation.

The Clusters priorities in the Standard Allocations were: Education in Emergencies, Early Recovery, Protection, Food Security and Nutrition, Wash, Health and Shelter.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund had a total of S$1.2 million available to allocate in the first Standard Allocation and a total of $800,000 for the second Standard Allocation. Funding requests were for over $2 million for each Standard Allocation exceeding the available resources. Thus, the role of the Review Board, the Advisory Board and the Humanitarian Coordinator was fundamental not only in the review but also in the prioritization and selection process.

Four projects were approved in the April for a total of $893,000 and six projects were approved in September for a total of $799,000 in the second. The average approval time including disbursement of funds, was 38 working days. This reflects compliance with a commitment by the Fund in its target to reduce the average approval period to 50 days or less, as stipulated in the annual report of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund 2015.

Reserve Allocation

It was activated twice in 2016: first in July, a project was approved to respond to a sudden emergency in the Chocó department due to the mass displacement of the indigenous (Wounaan and Embera) communities. Then in November, a project was approved to respond to the sudden emergency caused by the floods in Chocó to assist mostly Afro-Colombian population who were affected. Both projects were implemented by national NGOs. On average, the allocation process took 23 working days including disbursement of funds.

COMPLEMENTARITY

“The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has significantly contributed to complement humanitarian assistance and response interventions by civil society, both national and international NGO’s, which has allowed response to critical protection situations in geographical areas and with highly vulnerable population prioritized by the HRP”. Protection Cluster

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund promotes complementarity by ensuring that funded projects are implemented in coordination with humanitarian partners and state authorities at both local and national level, to guarantee an effective and efficient humanitarian response and maximize resources.

All projects coordinated their response and implementation of activities with local and national authorities, UN Agencies and other humanitarian actors with presence in the field. The constant communication between the government and the implementing partners have guaranteed a better coordination and impact in the response to the humanitarian needs identified. For example, a National NGO, Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo, indicated that the connection with the Risk and Disaster Management Committee has provided support for the creation of School Risk Management Plans, and in the prevention and attention to situations due to the rainy season that can adversely affect communities. Additionally, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) indicated that the relationship and coordination with Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) has been important for their project, since MSF has been an ally to NRC in providing emergency psychosocial support...
and has contributed to the identification of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) cases in the project financed by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund.

Colombia did not receive funding through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) in 2016. Nonetheless, two of the twelve projects funded by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund in 2016 provided humanitarian relief in areas where CERF had previously provided funding, thereby complementing the earlier CERF-supported intervention. For example, the Colombia Humanitarian Fund built water supply systems and promotes hygiene complementing prior CERF interventions.

The emergency funds provided by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund contribute to enhance complementarity between local government and territorial ethnic authorities, in order to manage and give sustainability to actions implemented in the field”. Fundación Plan

CROSS-CUTTING ISSUES: GENDER AND PROTECTION

Gender-based approach:
The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has contributed to promote gender equality and prevent and respond to gender-based violence in conflicts and natural disasters affecting the country. In Colombia, the IASC gender marker has been consistently applied to all Fund projects, and since 2014, it is obligatory for all projects to comply with marker 2A and 2B to receive financing approval. In 2016, OCHA received a GenCap advisor who has supported strengthening the use of the gender marker, thus improving the quality of analysis for projects and providing the necessary technical support to organizations requesting it. An orientation note was prepared to include in all humanitarian funding training with Local Coordination Teams, the gender advisor participated in all technical group meetings and inspection teams; this function was also supported by UNWomen and UNFPA to guarantee sustainability. There was also an effort to improve humanitarian evaluations required for funding requests. The GenCap advisor has worked together with OCHA’s team to implement a toolkit for gender inclusion in MIRA, which has improved the quality of collected information on context, something reflected in most projects presented through the end of 2016 using these tools.

Protection mainstreaming:
The Protection Cluster considered that while at the time of preparation of the HRP 2016 the Colombian State advanced in dialogues for peace with the FARC-EP, there were still challenges and protection gaps for communities facing threats and attacks on civilians which resulted in continuing forced displacement and other serious Human Rights violations.

Considering the absence of CERF funding in 2016 and the slow prioritization of development projects due to the expected signature of a peace accord, the Colombia Humanitarian Fund has significantly contributed to complement the funding of civil-society organizations, both national and international, to respond to critical protection situations in municipalities prioritized in the HRP and especially for vulnerable populations. Protection has been the second most funded sector over the past two standard allocations in 2016; of the nine organizations receiving funds, seven were members of the Protection Cluster.
The Colombia Humanitarian Fund allocated US$2.1 million in 2016. Colombia received a total of $72 million, corresponding to 53 per cent of HRP 2016 requirements ($136.3 million). The Fund contributed 3 per cent of HRP Funding in 2016.

With respect to the funding requirement of the HRP, the allocation of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund by cluster represents:
- Shelter: 6%
- Education in emergencies: 2%
- Protection: 1%
- Early Recovery: 1%
- Health: 2%
- SAN: 1%
- WASH: 4%

First Standard Allocation (1-29 April): OCHA received a total of 10 project proposals for a total of $2.4 million. Only 4 projects were approved for a total of $893,413.

Second Standard Allocation (26 August to 26 September), OCHA received a total of 12 project proposals for a total of $2.2 million. Only 6 projects were approved for a total of $799,000.

Reserve Allocation: was activated and approved 1 project for $249,000 in July. In November, another project was approved for a total of $180,000. Both projects assisted sudden emergencies in Chocó.

Total Allocations: $2,123,305
Total projects: 12
FUND PERFORMANCE

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund is guided by five specific principles that underpin their functioning (inclusion, flexibility, timeliness, efficiency, and accountability and risk management) and three expected results, namely:

Outcome 1:
“Improve the effectiveness of the humanitarian response by directing funding towards priority humanitarian needs. Priority needs are identified through an inclusive and participatory process, which includes national actors”.

The Humanitarian Country Team agreed on a Humanitarian Response Plan based upon the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO). The geographic prioritization of the HNO in 2016 considered sectoral needs identified by each Cluster, the analysis carried out by the LCTs on the most affected municipalities in their respective regions and the results of MIRA evaluations. The sectoral and geographic priorities of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund were aligned with the HRP through two principle purposes: providing integral humanitarian assistance and focusing assistance on the most vulnerable populations, particularly indigenous and Afro-Colombians living in areas with difficult access.

Additionally, all projects formulated and approved by the Fund were based upon MIRA evaluations.

The Fund allocated 45 per cent of resources to national NGOs; this allocation guaranteed an appropriate response given the experience of these organizations at the local level and their proximity and trust with assisted communities. One national NGO, Plan Foundation, represented the national NGOs and participated actively in the Fund Advisory Board in 2016.

Outcome 2:
“Strengthen the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC), while leveraging his/her humanitarian coordination role”.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has strengthened the leadership of the Humanitarian Coordinator through the efficient, strategic and appropriate allocation of resources in 2016, assisting geographic areas with the greatest percentage of gaps and vulnerable population affected by sudden and chronic emergencies due to natural disasters and/or armed conflict. The Fund promoted linkages between humanitarian actors and state authorities to provide a coordinated and appropriate response to humanitarian needs in line with the Humanitarian Response Plan for the country. The Fund has positioned itself as a source of financing for national organizations, thus strengthening local capacities and guaranteeing a transition process through adequate knowledge. In addition, the Fund has contributed to fill gaps in humanitarian response, which has empowered the Coordinator in his humanitarian role and in his commitment to assist the most vulnerable populations through an efficient, timely, flexible and inclusive response.

Outcome 3:
“Mobilize resources and support coordination in support of the Humanitarian planning framework”.

12 projects approved by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund in 2016 respond to the cluster, geographic and population prioritization identified in the HRP 2016. The funding target for the HRP was $136.3 million. The achieved total was $71.9
The Colombian Humanitarian Fund allocated $2.1 million, which represents 3 per cent of HRP financing in the country. All projects approved through both Reserve and Standard Allocations were implemented in areas with the largest gaps in response and humanitarian needs.

The allocation was strategic, timely and inclusive; implementing partners connected with local authorities, humanitarian actors and other donors to complement the humanitarian response supported by OCHA. For example, in Putumayo the Fund allocated resources to implement WASH activities, while COSUDE allocated resources to implement Food Security and Nutrition activities. This coordination and complementarity guaranteed the greatest possible impact in for the population in need of humanitarian assistance.

Principle 1: Inclusiveness

In 2016, the Colombia Humanitarian Fund increased the number of national NGOs which access Fund resources and implement projects in response to prioritized humanitarian needs as identified in the HRP. Of the twelve projects approved in 2016, five of those were allotted to national NGOs ($949,491) and eight to international NGOs ($1,173,815). In this sense, funding provided to national NGOs was 45 per cent, as compared to just 17 per cent in 2014. This increase reflects the effort by OCHA to train potential partners in the first months of the year – a total of seven workshops were held by the Humanitarian Financing Unit in the field on programmatic and financing guidelines for the Fund, modalities for allocation and the Grant Management System (GMS) – in which there was active participation by UN Agencies, national and international NGOs.

The Fund has a total of 46 national and international NGOs assessed with technical expertise in WASH, food security and nutrition, health, early recovery, protection, shelter and education in emergencies. Additionally, the organizations have expertise in community work and in the identified geographic areas with the greatest humanitarian needs and gaps for response.

All projects approved in 2016 have a gender-based and age-based focus; projects targeting indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities included appropriate ethnic-based focus considering ancestral beliefs in communities, to ensure a do-no-harm approach.
The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has encouraged different national and international NGOs to participate in coordination spaces at the local and international levels and to become involved in Humanitarian Country Team processes. In the Advisory Board, Fundación Plan has represented national NGOs and Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe, International NGOs. The active participation by these organizations in meetings and in the strategic review process of projects by their representatives was key to guarantee a voice to these organizations in all the strategic and operational processes of the Fund for 2016.

"The Colombia Humanitarian Fund promoted actions that supported the transformation of the reality of populations in conditions of non-protection and vulnerability, affected by the rainy season and armed conflict, while at the same time attending to populations with special protection needs, such as women, indigenous people and Afro-Colombians". Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo, National NGO

"The possibility that national NGOs can access these resources represents a value added in the fund in line with the conclusions of the World Humanitarian Summit, permitting these organizations to not only provide timely humanitarian assistance, but also contributing to the strengthening their capacities through the adoption of quality standards and international protocols, which reinforces them thanks to their connection and communication channels with different working groups, clusters and coordination teams in the field as part of the humanitarian architecture". Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

Principle 2: Flexibility

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund is a flexible source of financing that adapts to identify humanitarian needs in the framework of the HRP and HNO, also respond to those non-foreseen emergencies that require rapid and strategic assistance. In this sense, the Fund in 2016 assisted to a total of twelve emergencies, nine of which were caused by armed conflict and three by natural disasters through two financing modalities, Standard Allocations and Reserve Allocations.

In 2016, the Fund financed 10 chronic emergency response projects through two standard allocations. At the same time, the Fund could respond rapidly to two sudden emergencies that emerged in July and November Reserve Allocations.

"The Fund has activated rapidly and efficiently both Reserve Allocations to respond to sudden emergencies and during Standard Allocations for chronic and prolonged emergencies, simplifying administrative processes, making them much more agile and transparent in administrative terms, and monitoring the allocation of resources for the most affected populations in Colombia". Education in Emergencies Cluster

"The flexibility of the fund in sudden emergency situations is extremely invaluable, taking into account restrictions and difficulties that occur for the responsible State institutions in emergency response, even more so for hard to reach zones". Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe

Principle 3: Timeliness

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has provided a timely and rapid response to sudden and chronic emergencies caused by natural disasters and/or armed conflict. During 2016, the Fund took on average 23 working from the time a proposal was received to the disbursement of funds for sudden emergencies through the Reserve Allocation. Additionally, the Fund
responded in an average of 38 working days from project proposal to disbursement through Standard Allocations for chronic emergencies. For the sudden emergency response, OCHA activated the Reserve Allocation twice when sudden emergencies happened. The Review Board and the Advisory Board participated actively in the review of projects and in the reviewing process, technical and strategic work was much faster for the Reserve Allocation to respond promptly to sudden emergencies.

Moreover, a total of seven workshops were carried out on the Grant Management System (GMS) and programmatic and financial guidelines for the first semester of 2016 in several regions of the country and four workshops with implementing partners and the auditing firm on the MOU and financing guidelines for the Fund, these workshops contributed to improve the review processes of the Fund. The Fund improved considerably in approval timings in 2016.

**Principle 4: Efficiency**

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund is administered by the Humanitarian Financing Unit and has been supported by different OCHA CO (Coordination, Information, Administration and Analysis). The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has provided an efficient, opportune and rapid response through standard allocations for assisting chronic emergencies and through reserve allocations for sudden or unforeseen emergencies in 2016.

The Funds’ Allocation Strategies are addressing needs on the Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and on the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) Response Plan (HRP), which identifies humanitarian strategic priorities: geographic, population and cluster. The identification process is inclusive and coordinated, given that in this process there is participation by different humanitarian actors in the country, at both the national and local levels.

The Grant Management System (GMS) has facilitated all review, approval, disbursal and monitoring procedures for Fund projects; guaranteeing at the same time transparency and agility in each of the project cycle processes and the involvement of all levels of Fund governance and notifying constantly and permanently all implementing partners on requirements and project status.

The Fund considerably improved times for approval as compared to earlier years, reaching an average of 23 working days for sudden emergencies. Additionally, from the second semester of 2016, all Fund processes, allocations, contributions, and project summaries are visible with real-time information available on GMS through Business Intelligence (see information available on https://gms.unocha.org/content/cbpf-contributions).

BI registers information on the Colombia Humanitarian Fund since 2014 to present. For example, it indicates that in the past three years, there were 36 projects financed through 38 implementing partners and that there was S$8 million allocated. In 2016, there was S$2.1 million allocated to 12 projects and nine implementing partners.

“The efficiency in the allocation of funds has allowed for rapid advance in activities for the region both of La Guajira and Putumayo, once the emergency situation was identified and prioritized.” Action Against Hunger

**Principle 5: Accountability and risk management**

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has a governance structure that intervenes in different Fund processes for monitoring and review of projects. OCHA guarantees, in addition, that all instances have constant and fluid communication.

Within the framework, the accountability processes in OCHA in 2016 published a total of four reports and infographics on the Fund, which were shared with all stakeholders, donors, implementing partners, the Advisory Board, the Review Board and were also published in OCHA internet site (Salahumanitaria.co); OCHA has received positive feedback on these products by stakeholders.

All projects funded by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund had accountability to affected populations process. The Humanitarian Financing Unit carries out interim and final field monitoring. All projects are audited by Moore Stephens.
Colombia Humanitarian Fund project monitoring and follow-up is a high priority for OCHA Colombia. In 2016, there were a total of 21 monitoring missions by OCHA Colombia Humanitarian Financing Unit, and in some cases, some cluster members participated in these missions, such as Protection, Food Security and Nutrition and WASH. OCHA Colombia Humanitarian Financing Unit gave followed up all of the recommendations registered in the monitoring reports with the goal of supporting implementing partners, monitoring performance and safeguarding the efficiency of projects.

DONOR CONTRIBUTIONS
The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has been supported by Spain, Sweden and Norway since its inception in the country. Over the past three years, Switzerland has contributed to the Fund on average with $300 thousand, providing two contributions in 2015 given its good management and administration.

Spain is the principal donor to the Colombia Humanitarian Fund since its inception; its contributions date from 2010 and have constant and permanent. Norway for its part has not assigned further funding since 2014.

In 2016, the contributions of Switzerland and Sweden entered the fund in the first semester. With resources from Sweden and the carry-over from 2015, the Fund could allot up to $893,413 in the first Standard Allocation of financing, and activate the Reserve allocation to assist a sudden emergency with a project valued at $249,995. The contributions of Switzerland and Spain – allotted in October – guaranteed the Fund financing for 6 projects in the second Standard Allocation of financing for a total of $799,648 and the attention of another sudden emergency through Reserve allocations in November for a total of $180,250.
In 2016, OCHA modified the date for the second round, to guarantee approval and disbursal at the latest in November. Thus, the Fund implemented 87 per cent of available resources for projects. The 13 per cent remaining in the framework of amounts destined for PSC, auditing and an additional $60 thousand.

Despite reductions in humanitarian financing in Colombia, donors have manifested their interest to support the Colombia Humanitarian Fund throughout 2017. Throughout the years the Fund has become a source of rapid and flexible financing for chronic and sudden emergencies for all partners as well as a source of rapid financing to cover the main identified humanitarian needs as identified by the Humanitarian Response Plan. Therefore, it is important to mention that the fund will be closing in 2018 and until then, OCHA urges any new contributions to be received by September 2017.

ANNEXES

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BY CLUSTER

Food Security and Nutrition Cluster

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<th>Total Amount Allocated</th>
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<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
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<td></td>
<td>1,882 (Served through Standard Allocations) 755 (Served through the Reserve Allocations)</td>
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<td>Geographical Zones</td>
<td>La Guajira, Nariño y Chocó</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Partners</td>
<td>ACF, PLAN, SDPS, HALU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Emergencies</td>
<td>2 projects to respond to sudden emergencies and 2 to chronic emergencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has been a determining factor to achieve 3 of the 7 priority areas for the Food Security and Nutrition Cluster, through the process of allocation, review and monitoring of approved projects, as well the revision and updates of the Fund Local Operational Manual every year.

The Cluster, with the support of the Fund, managed to mobilize US$240 thousand for humanitarian response to sudden and chronic emergencies. The Cluster managed to intervene in Choco with Fund resources, the percentage of acute malnutrition in children under five and nutritional deficiencies for children and pregnant and nursing mothers, after a mass displacement in April 2016, through its partner Fundación Halú. Also in Choco, it was possible to increase access to a varied basket of food for the populations affected by conflict and natural disaster, and rehabilitate, maintain and/or protect agricultural livelihoods and productive assets for populations affected by conflict and natural disasters.

The Fund approved two additional projects:

1. Action against Hunger to provide health and nutrition and rapid response for safe water and hygiene promotion to indigenous Wayuu communities affected by El Nino in Maicao municipality, La Guajira.
2. Caritas Colombia in Pasto, Nariño, provided humanitarian response through Protection, Food Security, and WASH to population affected by internal armed conflict.

The Cluster visited a project financed by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund, supporting the production of food for families participating in the project, through the implementation of household gardens. It was possible to provide technical support to the field team, which was a successful experience, as they managed to improve project implementation and knowledge exchange, since a local partner had
a strong knowledge of soils in the Amazon region and crop techniques in home gardens.

Finally, it should be highlighted that the exchange of humanitarian information which occurred during the Standard Allocations for the Humanitarian Fund, are a key source for information and strategic Cluster and partner planning.

Water, Sanitation and Hygiene

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Amount Allocated</th>
<th>$636,583</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
<td>3,768</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2,850 (Served through Standard Allocations) 918 (Served through the Reserve Allocations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical Zones</td>
<td>La Guajira, Nariño, Chocó, Guaviare, Putumayo y Valle del Cauca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Partners</td>
<td>ACF, PLAN, SDPS, HALU, DKH, WV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Emergencies</td>
<td>2 projects to respond to sudden emergencies and 6 to chronic emergencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund managed to assist to seven Cluster priorities through eight projects in 2016. In this sense, there was an equitable administration of elements for distribution and water storage; there was rehabilitation and/or improvements to supply systems; there was water quality analysis and monitoring in all projects; there were improved and newly built sanitary installations for community and schools; and at the same time, there were strategies developed for key hygiene practices with an ethnic-based and gender-based focus that contemplated the delivery of family and school hygiene kits.

The Cluster actively supported the project review processes through the Review Board and worked in an articulated manner with other sectors to guarantee an integral and opportune response to the humanitarian needs identified in each proposal. The Cluster is an active member of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund Review Board.

The actions in WASH contributed to save lives and guarantee access to water apt for human consumption, in installation adequate for basic sanitation and the promotion of key hygiene practices for women, men and children affected by conflict and natural disasters, in disperse rural areas, complementing state response.

Shelters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Amount Allocated</th>
<th>$295,425</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
<td>751</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>246 (Served through Standard Allocations) 505 (Served through the Reserve Allocations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical Zones</td>
<td>Chocó y Meta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Partners</td>
<td>NRC y PLAN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Emergencies</td>
<td>1 project to respond to sudden emergencies and 1 to chronic emergencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund is a strategic source of financing in Colombia. In 2016, the Cluster benefited from the financing of two projects for a total amount of $295,423 in Meta and Choco departments. Through Fund resources, a critical situation was assisted where Jiw indigenous families in Puerto Concordia municipality, Meta and also afro-columbia population affected by flooding in the Pacific region, Choco, in November 2016. In this sense, assistance was provided to population identified in the Cluster response plan which at the same time was in the HRP 2016.

The Fund projects supported temporary shelters, rehabilitation and improvements in the identification of infrastructure intervention
needs through participatory diagnostics in mass displacements or disasters; the temporary shelters were built considering differential and gender focus and consulted with the communities.

### Early Recovery

| Total Amount Allocated | $90,000 |
| Number of Projects | 1 |
| Total Beneficiaries | 653 (Served through Standard Allocations) |
| Geographical Zones | Arauca |
| Implementing Partners | FLM |
| Type of Emergencies | 1 project to respond to chronic emergencies |

The early recovery focus was transversal for all proposals funded by the Colombia Humanitarian Fund in 2016. In articulation with the cluster, implementing partners of the twelve projects favored strategies for institutional appropriation and community resilience, ensuring interventions based upon a Human Rights-based focus, guaranteeing the efficacy, pertinence and sustainability of actions through integral interventions which ensure the right to a dignified life and the strengthening of capacities to prevent, manage and transform conflicts without recurring to the use of violence.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund allocated, through Lutheran World Federation, a Cluster partner, a percentage of 60 per cent of the approved project budget in 2016 ($90 thousand), to cluster-priority activities, for example, reactivation of local markets and promotion of community productive assets through strategies for the cash-based transfer and the recovery of livelihoods and business recovery.

In this sense, through the Colombia Humanitarian Fund, there was support for the recovery and protection of livelihoods in communities affected by natural disasters and armed conflict identified in the HRP and the Cluster response plan for early recovery in 2016.

### Health

| Total Amount Allocated | $249,757 |
| Number of Projects | 2 |
| Total Beneficiaries | 1,717 |
| Geographical Zones | Chocó and Valle del Cauca |
| Implementing Partners | HALU |
| Type of Emergencies | 1 project to respond to sudden emergencies and 1 to chronic emergencies |

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund assisted seven activities prioritized by this cluster in 2016. It helped in healthcare; it carried out actions for health promotion and prevention of illnesses; it delivered basic inputs for health assistance; it carried out training and created routes for access to healthcare services; it carried out training in the areas of preparation and response and in topics prioritized for health; and finally, it delivered response inputs.

Health actions contributed to increase access to integral healthcare assistance in the population affected by humanitarian crises, contributing with the exercise of the right to healthcare in vulnerable communities and strengthening institutional capacities and communications for health response.

### Protection

| Total Amount Allocated | $393,758 |
| Number of Projects | 5 |
UNHCR, as Protection cluster lead, has participated in the entire review and selection process for projects from the Colombia Humanitarian Fund with the goal of guaranteeing the integration of protection in projects receiving funding. For example, in all projects presented, the criteria of projects prioritized by the cluster was inclusion and participation of beneficiaries in the design and planning of proposals and the complementarity with local institutions to ensure sustainability and coherence with protection risk analysis.

In addition, the cluster has been involved in project monitoring related to protection as well as WASH and FSN, to support the incorporation of Protection mainstreaming during project implementation. The protection cluster has shared advice to organizations on implementation of activities in the prevention of sexual and reproductive violence and protection of children in humanitarian action. The cluster shared elements for protection in the framework of a MIRA needs evaluation to evaluate the protection situation and guarantee the principle of “do no harm” in all interventions.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund assisted through five projects, activities prioritized by the cluster for 2016. Supporting actions in protective environments and trained in mine action, SGBV and prevention of forced recruitment; they remitted protection routes for assistance; they implemented protection actions with communities affected by conflict; and they implemented durable solution processes in a participatory manner with a Human Rights-based focus.

**Education in Emergencies**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Amount Allocated</th>
<th>$216,998</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of Projects</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Beneficiaries</td>
<td>1,204 (Served through Standard Allocations)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geographical Zones</td>
<td>Norte de Santander, Guaviare and Putumayo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementing Partners</td>
<td>CID, NRC y WV</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of Emergencies</td>
<td>1 project to respond to sudden emergencies and 1 to chronic emergencies</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Education in emergency projects have contributed significantly to reach the objectives proposed by the Cluster in the HRP, and especially in the purpose of positioning the country with a school focus as a protective environment and education in emergency response as a sector that saves and protects lives of children and adolescents.

The Colombia Humanitarian Fund has rapidly and efficiently responded to both sudden emergencies and chronic and prolonged emergencies, simplifying administrative processes, making them much more agile and transparent and monitoring the application of resources among the most affected populations in Colombia.

The Fund, assisted through three projects to four activities prioritized by the Education in Emergencies cluster in 2016. In this sense, it provided educational elements and school feeding; it carried out pedagogical workshops and teacher and children workshops on risk identification, understanding rights and mine risk education, prevention of recruitment, and response to SGBV and protection mechanisms.
## PROJECTS FUNDED

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PROJECT TITLE</th>
<th>AMOUNT (USD)</th>
<th>ORGANIZATION</th>
<th>DEPARTMENTS</th>
<th>GENDER MARKER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong> Transitional Family Lodgings for the Indigenous Population Jiw from Resguardo La Sal, Puerto Concordia Municipality, Meta Department.</td>
<td><strong>241,349</strong></td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council</td>
<td>Meta</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong> Forging Peace Territories.</td>
<td><strong>287,464</strong></td>
<td>Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe</td>
<td>Guaviare</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>3</strong> Improved access to safe water for men, women and children affected by the hydrocarbon spill in Puerto Asís - La Alea municipality, Putumayo department.</td>
<td><strong>115,000</strong></td>
<td>Action Against Hunger Foundation</td>
<td>Putumayo</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong> Improvement of access to health care and safe water for the victims or those at risk of displacement due to internal armed conflict in priority communities in the municipality of Buenaventura in the department of Valle del Cauca.</td>
<td><strong>249,598</strong></td>
<td>Fundación Halú Bienestar Humano</td>
<td>Valle del Cauca</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>5</strong> Emergency care with WASH, health and SAN actions to the Wounaan and Embera indigenous population due to armed conflict in the San Juan Coast and Bajo Baudó, Chocó.</td>
<td><strong>250,000</strong></td>
<td>Fundación Halú Bienestar Humano</td>
<td>Chocó</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong> Health care and nutrition and rapid response in safe water and hygiene promotion in Wayuu communities affected by El Niño in the municipality of Maicao, department of Guajira.</td>
<td><strong>130,000</strong></td>
<td>Action Against Hunger Foundation</td>
<td>La Guajira</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>7</strong> The School, a Protection Scenario</td>
<td><strong>110,000</strong></td>
<td>Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo</td>
<td>Putumayo</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong> More resilient communities in informal settlements in Arauquita</td>
<td><strong>150,000</strong></td>
<td>Lutheran World Federation</td>
<td>Arauca</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>9</strong> Promotion of school and community protection spaces in rural areas affected by the armed conflict</td>
<td><strong>130,000</strong></td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council</td>
<td>Norte de Santander</td>
<td>2b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong> Humanitarian Response through Protection, Food Security, Water and Basic Sanitation to people affected by the internal armed conflict in ZVTN in the municipality of Policarpa department of Nariño.</td>
<td><strong>160,000</strong></td>
<td>Secretariado Diocesano de Pastoral Social</td>
<td>Nariño</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>11</strong> Contribute to guaranteeing the right to education of children and adolescents in emergency situations affected by the armed conflict in the municipality of Fonseca, La Guajira.</td>
<td><strong>120,000</strong></td>
<td>World Vision International</td>
<td>La Guajira</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong> Supporting life-saving activities for 300 families in Dipurdú in Middle San Juan in the face of the flood emergency.</td>
<td><strong>180,000</strong></td>
<td>Fundación Plan</td>
<td>Chocó</td>
<td>2a</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## GLOSSARY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Acronym</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ACF</td>
<td>Action Against Hunger Foundation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UNHCR</td>
<td>The office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APC</td>
<td>Presidential Agency for International Cooperation of Colombia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BACRIM</td>
<td>Criminal bands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBPF</td>
<td>Country-based pooled funds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CERF</td>
<td>Central Emergency Response Fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HC</td>
<td>Humanitarian Coordinator</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CICR</td>
<td>Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CID</td>
<td>Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICRC</td>
<td>International Committee of the Red Cross</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CPDH</td>
<td>Permanent Committee for the Defense of Human Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COSUDE</td>
<td>The Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DRC</td>
<td>Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DKH</td>
<td>Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EHP</td>
<td>Country Humanitarian Team</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ECHO</td>
<td>European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELN</td>
<td>Ejército Nacional de Liberación</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPL</td>
<td>Ejército Popular de Liberación</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FARC-EP</td>
<td>Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia- Ejército del Pueblo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FCS</td>
<td>Funding Coordination Section</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LWF</td>
<td>Lutheran World Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAPD</td>
<td>Armed Groups Post Demobilization</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GMS</td>
<td>Grant Management System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HNO</td>
<td>Humanitarian Needs Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HPC</td>
<td>Humanitarian Programme Cycle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HRP</td>
<td>Humanitarian Response Plan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICBF</td>
<td>Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MIRA</td>
<td>Multisectoral Initial Rapid assessment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NNAJ</td>
<td>Niños, Niñas, Adolescentes y Jóvenes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NRC</td>
<td>Norwegian Refugee Council</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUCCESS STORIES. Stores from the Field

Lutheran World Federation (NGO International) - Implementing partner of the Colombian Humanitarian Fund project in the department of Arauca

Building Capacity in Informal Shelters in Arauca/ Border with Venezuela

Omaira, a community leader, remembers the first times that she heard at night the gunfire or attacks with explosives against the military base. She stated that, “I screamed like a crazy person because the noise was so loud and because earth fell on the roofs of the houses. Children also reacted badly and sometimes stopped sleeping because they were nervous.” Now when this happens it seems normal and people have become accustomed.

In the settlements, these and other problems mix together, there are Colombian families that returned from Venezuela, some are mixed, with some Venezuelan family members. Today there are also people who have arrived from Venezuela due to the difficult political and economic situation on the other side of the border. Although there are predominately people who displaced from rural areas of the department or from the Colombian Caribbean coast.

In Arauquita there are another 7 informal settlements and it is calculated that 35 per cent of the inhabitants of the municipal seat live in these conditions. Additionally, per the Government of Arauca, in March 2016, there exist 53 settlements, from September 2016 these grew by 38 per cent 78 plots of land have squatters now in total. In some cases, these settlements are more densely populated than the municipal seats. In this sense, the health conditions are worsening due to the high population density on small plots of land that lack the infrastructure necessary to house these families.

For her part, Alba Hernandez, who arrived with her baby just a few months ago and her boyfriend, live in a small tent and says, “it was the rainy season when we came, we went into the water and the mosquitos ate us alive at night.” After 14 months, she recognizes that the neighborhood has changed a lot, “we’ve gotten electricity and water, although it’s very hot in the house with the plastic building material.” Alba has also changed, she’s now almost 19 and she’s expecting a new baby.

The Lutheran World Federation visited these settlements for the first time last August as part of a joint effort by international organizations working in Arauca in the Local Coordination Team, and they started the project, “More resilient communities in informal settlements in Arauquita” with funding from the Colombia Humanitarian Fund, where for a 6 month period the organization has worked to strengthen the capacity of the communities to face adverse situations and create associative processes that allow for autonomous income generation.

As far as the work of LWF, Rosa and Alexis, representatives of El Bosque neighborhood, commented that, “we’ve found a support, they’ve understood us and they’re professionals that can advise us.

Fundación Halú (NGO National) - Implementing partner of two projects of the Colombian Humanitarian Fund in the departments of Chocó and Valle del Cauca in 2016

Cocalito Wounaan Indigenous Community

After having left the community of Coquitas, this Wounaan indigenous community, which had resettled 17 years ago along the Bonguito river near the San Juan river, now has a total of 80 inhabitants living in 13 homes built out of wood, straw and other materials from the surrounding area.

Over the past several years, the community has been affected by the presence of many armed actors involved in the internal armed conflict that

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1 Project titled: “Most resilient communities in informal settlements in Arauquita”.

2 Two projects, namely: (i) “Improving access to health care and safe water for the population victim or at risk of displacement due to the internal armed conflict, in priority communities of the municipality of Buenaventura in the department of Valle del Cauca”; (ii) “Emergency care with WASH, health and SAN actions to the indigenous population Wounaan and Embera due to armed conflict in San Juan and Bajo Baudó, Chocó”.
dominates this region, affecting the community not only in its subsistence, affecting their movements and fishing and agriculture, but also their access and guarantee to the right to life, dignity, health and their own livelihoods connected to their ethnic diversity.

While the community must overcome barriers to their security, economy and geographic barriers to access basic healthcare, Fundación Halú support humanitarian response that saves lives and facilitates access to preventive care, first level aid, oral healthcare and psychosocial support.

The community today is strengthened by the presence of humanitarian aid organizations, such as Fundación Halú, that respect their culture, and contributes to build community leadership permitting the appropriation of processes. Today the community of Cocalito is an example of resistance, tenacity, autonomy, resilience and with the right accompaniment it has the capacity to provide innovative responses to its difficulties with an ethnic-based and inclusive focus including a gender-based and community-based focus.

Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe (NGO International) - Implementing partner of a project of the Colombian Humanitarian Fund in the department of Guaviare in 2016 (Representative of International NGOs of the Advisory Board in 2016)

The resources of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund are an opportunity for national and international humanitarian organizations to provide response and contribute in the reduction of needs and gaps in communities and families affected by the armed conflict and natural disasters in the country, considering the constant reduction in sources of financing for these types of actions. The flexibility of the fund in situations of sudden emergencies is high invaluable, considering restrictions and difficulties presented by State institutions responsible for the response to emergencies, even more so in areas with difficult access.

In chronic emergency contexts, the resources of the Colombia Humanitarian Fund have allowed assistance to forgotten communities in different locations around Colombia, which despite not being recent victims of the armed conflict, continue to be affected by the impact of armed violence and different barriers for the effective enjoyment of rights and access to essential services.

In addition to the above, the possibility that national NGOs can access these resources represents a value added of the fund in line with the conclusions of the World Humanitarian Summit, allowing these organizations not only to provide opportune assistance, but also to contribute to the strengthening of their capacities through the adoption of quality standards and international protocols, which reinforces thanks to the articulation and communication channels created with different working groups, clusters and coordination teams on the field in the framework of humanitarian architecture.

Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo, CID (National NGO) - Implementing partner of a project of the Colombian Humanitarian Fund in the department of Putumayo in 2016

Through the Colombian Humanitarian Fund, there are actions carried out that allow to contribute to the transformation of the reality of populations in conditions of non-protection and vulnerability who suffer from natural disasters due to the rainy season and armed conflict, at the same time considered populations in need of special protection, such as we know, indigenous and afro-colombians; it thus is satisfying to observe and experiment as an alliance with different non-governmental organizations. These projects seek to contribute to improve the quality of life of these populations, improving their welfare and social development and to provide a response to emergencies that are accentuated by social, cultural, political, geographic and economic conditions present in the territories prioritized in Puerto Leguízamo, Putumayo.

From the perspective of Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo, it is important to mention that starting with the contribution from the Fund day by day there is work to build and implement innovative strategies, linked to the mission to transform and provide social development to favor victims and vulnerable populations, in the search for a response to emerging needs and to create dignified living conditions. In this sense, the CID represents an opportunity to transform realities, through actions to strengthen individual capacities that transcend to the collective, thus fomenting alliances and support network that can guarantee adequate co-existence and provide the country specific approach.

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3 Project titled: “Forging Peace Territories”.

4 Project titled: “The school, a protection scenario”
Secretariado Diocesano de Pastoral Social (National NGO) - Implementing partner of a Colombia Humanitarian Fund project in the department of Nariño in 2016

The Fund has been of great importance for Caritas Colombia since it has helped to give specific response to the chronic emergency situations that occur in the area. The project from the Colombia Humanitarian Fund is strategic. Particularly the FSN, WASH and Protection clusters allowed us to provide to the community of Policarpa much needed humanitarian assistance. Thanks to the project, it was possible to conform the first water board that will be leading decision-making of WAS activities in the community.

Norwegian Refugee Council (International NGO) - Implementing partner of two Colombian Humanitarian Fund projects in the departments of Norte de Santander and Meta in 2016

In the vision of efficiency and value-added for the Fund, it should be mentioned that the Fund allows a quick response to specific identified needs prioritized by the community. In addition, it promotes complementarity and alliances that create a great impact on communities.

The resources of the Colombia Fund allow providing durable solutions to the need for housing for the Jiw community living in Cano La Sal Reservation, to improve dignity of living conditions in the return process after displacement. The building of homes served to mobilize community participation and to link the identification of other needs by the population group with decision-making on housing for women, generally excluded from these spaces by men.

Fundación PLAN (National NGO) - Implementing partner of Colombian Humanitarian Fund project in the department of Chocó in 2016 National NGO Representative in the Advisory Board in 2016

The use of Colombia Humanitarian Fun allowed us to aid at least 1,240 people, particularly Afro-colombians, inhabitants in Dipurdú del Guacimo in Choco, who were affected by the flooding of the San Juan river. We provided meaningful and integral humanitarian response, re-establishing in the first instance their right to life, of those affected when they lost their basic livelihoods, assets and water sources.

In this sense, the delivery of: food kits, nutritional supplements given to pregnant and nursing mothers in Dipurdú; training in health feeding practices and hygiene habits; delivery of elements to obtain safe water for consumption; constituted a great contribution in the transformation of the situation of these communities.

At the same time, psychosocial support as a fundamental strategy to recover self-esteem, confidence and the family and community life project; combining efforts to prevent domestic violence and gender-based violence which has affected families, especially children and teens, youths and adults, contributing to create protective environments and raise awareness around the need to change current conditions to reduce the vulnerability to natural disasters.

Additionally, these emergency funds contribute to connect local government and the territorial ethnic authorities to manage and make sustainable actions carried out in the field.

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5 Project titled: “Humanitarian Response through Protection, Food Security, Water and Basic Sanitation to people affected by the internal armed conflict in ZVTN in the municipality of Policarpa Department of Nariño”.

6 Two projects, namely: (i) Promotion of school and community protection spaces in rural areas affected by the armed conflict; (ii) Transitional Family Lodgings for the Indigenous Population Jiw from Resguardo La Sal, Puerto Concordia Municipality, and Meta Department.

7 Project titled: “Supporting life-saving activities for 300 families in Dipurdú in Middle San Juan in the face of the flood emergency”. 