



Self-care session with Victims Psychosocial and Comprehensive Health Program (PAPSIVI) teams in La Guajira emphasizing personal, spiritual, and relational care through the cultural reflections of Indigenous Wayuu representatives. VISP supports self-care sessions in 10 departments and 32 municipalities. See page 2 for more information.

VICTIMS INSTITUTIONAL STRENGTHENING PROGRAM (VISP)

Provides accompaniment and technical support for the Government of Colombia's (GoC) policies, systems, and institutions at the national, departmental, and municipal levels, to strengthen capacities and build necessary competencies for the timely and effective execution and implementation of the Victims Law.

MONTHLY HIGHLIGHTS

This report provides monthly institutional and Victims Law achievements supported by VISP at the national and local levels.

WHAT WAS DONE THIS MONTH?

COMPREHENSIVE VICTIMS REPARATIONS

THEATER PIECE "ON THE ROUTE" SHARES PATH TO ACCESS RIGHTS WITH 1,825 VICTIMS

-VISP and the Victims Unit's Reparations School launched an interactive play to **teach victims about their rights** and the different stages of the Comprehensive Route for attention and reparation.

-To date, "On the Route" has been presented in 11 municipalities Florencia, La Montañita, Cartagena del Chairá, Turbo, Necoclí, Bogotá, Tumaco, Carmen de Bolívar, San Jacinto, Cartagena, and Medellín with a total of **1,825 victims of the armed conflict and 68 public servants** who work with victims. Through September a total of 36 presentations will be given in 18 municipalities.

WORKSHOPS GUIDE VICTIMS ON HOW TO INVEST FINANCIAL COMPENSATIONS

-As part of the Victims Unit's Companion Program's efforts at the regional level, VISP supported **workshops on investment with victims** who recently received financial compensations.

-Workshops were held on new and improved **housing and productive projects** in Nariño with 240 victims, and on **financial education and planning** in Bolívar with 140 victims, including female victims of sexual violence, in Magdalena with 77 victims, and in Chocó with 101 victims. Workshops were also recently held in Córdoba and Sucre, and additional sessions will be held in coming months.

-With this support, VISP and the Victims Unit assure victims' ability to plan their long-term finances.

MONITORING THE VICTIMS LAW'S IMPLEMENTATION

ALL 32 PRIORITIZED MUNICIPALITIES REPORT TO THE VICTIMS MONITORING SYSTEM "RUSISCT"

-The Ministry of the Interior and VISP provided 124 training sessions with municipal victims' liaisons to help local authorities comply with their responsibility to **monitor and report progress in the Victims Law's implementation** to the RUSISCT system.

-VISP also provided **technical support** to increase RUSISCT's functionality in areas with limited internet, produce geographic reports, provide real-time support, and optimize search functions.

-Following this support, 32 municipalities submitted reports on advances in the Victims Law's implementation during the first half of 2015, compared to only 15 that reported in 2012.

INCLUSION FOR PEOPLE AND VICTIMS WITH DISABILITIES

"REGISTER, RECOGNIZE YOUR ABILITIES TO MAKE THEM OPPORTUNITIES. DISABILITY IS A MATTER FOR EVERYONE!"

-VISP, the Ministry of Health, and the Victims Unit developed a **communications strategy to foster the registration of disabilities** (which are significantly under-reported in Colombia), eliminate stigmas, and promote inclusive treatment of people with disabilities.

-The strategy is being launched in 10 departments and 32 municipalities with public servants and people and victims with disabilities, and is being socialized alongside the course "Transforming Imaginaries: Disability in Colombia," developed by VISP and the Universidad Nacional de Colombia, to teach public servants about creating, implementing, and monitoring **public policies for disabilities**.

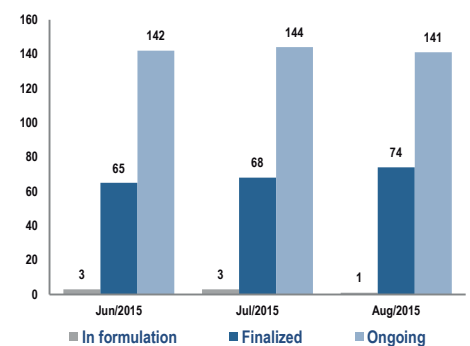
-Volunteer teams have been formed in Quibdó, Apartadó, Pasto, and Popayán to support the dissemination of the strategy.

-In-print and digital materials and citizen mobilization activities were developed for the campaign (see page 2 "Discover VISP Advances").

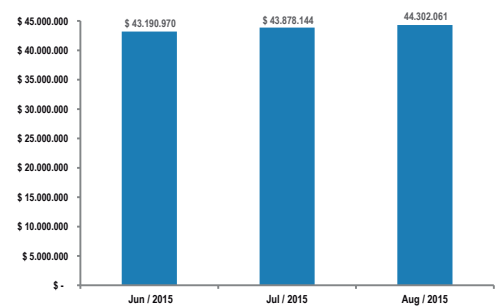
GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

VISP STATISTICS

PROJECTS BY STATUS



VALUE OF DESIGNED PROJECTS



PROMOTING PSYCHOSOCIAL REHABILITATION

VISP TRAINING STRATEGY QUALIFIES OVER 1,700 PUBLIC SERVANTS FROM GOVERNMENT ENTITIES AROUND THE COUNTRY

-During August, 50 workshops on **self-care, staff care, peer supervision, and psychosocial support** led by VISP's national and regional training teams were held in Bogotá, Caquetá, Bolívar, Nariño, Magdalena, Cauca, Chocó, Sucre, La Guajira, Córdoba, and Antioquia.

-**1,732 public servants from multiple GoC entities participated**, including municipal and departmental health secretaries, the National Center for Historical Memory, the Victims Unit's Validation and Registration Team, Victims Attention Points, the Public Ministry, the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, the Ombudsperson's Office, and Victims Psychosocial and Comprehensive Health Program (PAPSIVI) teams.

-These workshops, which VISP's Rehabilitation Team carries out every month, increase public servants' ability to work with victims of the conflict and **promote and institutionalize care policies.**

SUPPORTING FEMALE VICTIMS

VICTIMS OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE SYMBOLICALLY WALK TO EL SALADO, BOLÍVAR

-VISP and the Victims Unit supported a symbolic walk from El Carmen to El Salado, Bolívar, an area racked by sexual violence for over 15 years in the armed conflict, with approximately 200 female victims of sexual violence to **take a stand against gender based violence** and reclaim territories. The walk was accompanied by the "It's Not Time to be Silent" campaign; VISP will support another in La Guajira.

-The walk was part of VISP's support for national mobilization strategies against sexual violence, which target the municipality El Carmen de Bolívar.

LESSONS ON PEACE

OPEN COURSE "PARTICIPAZ" TEACHES ABOUT THE VICTIMS LAW AND PEACE

-The Victims Unit, USAID, and VISP launched the diploma program "Public policies for victims and peace-building," which offers tools on the Victims Law, and institutional services to victims, public servants, and citizens in general.

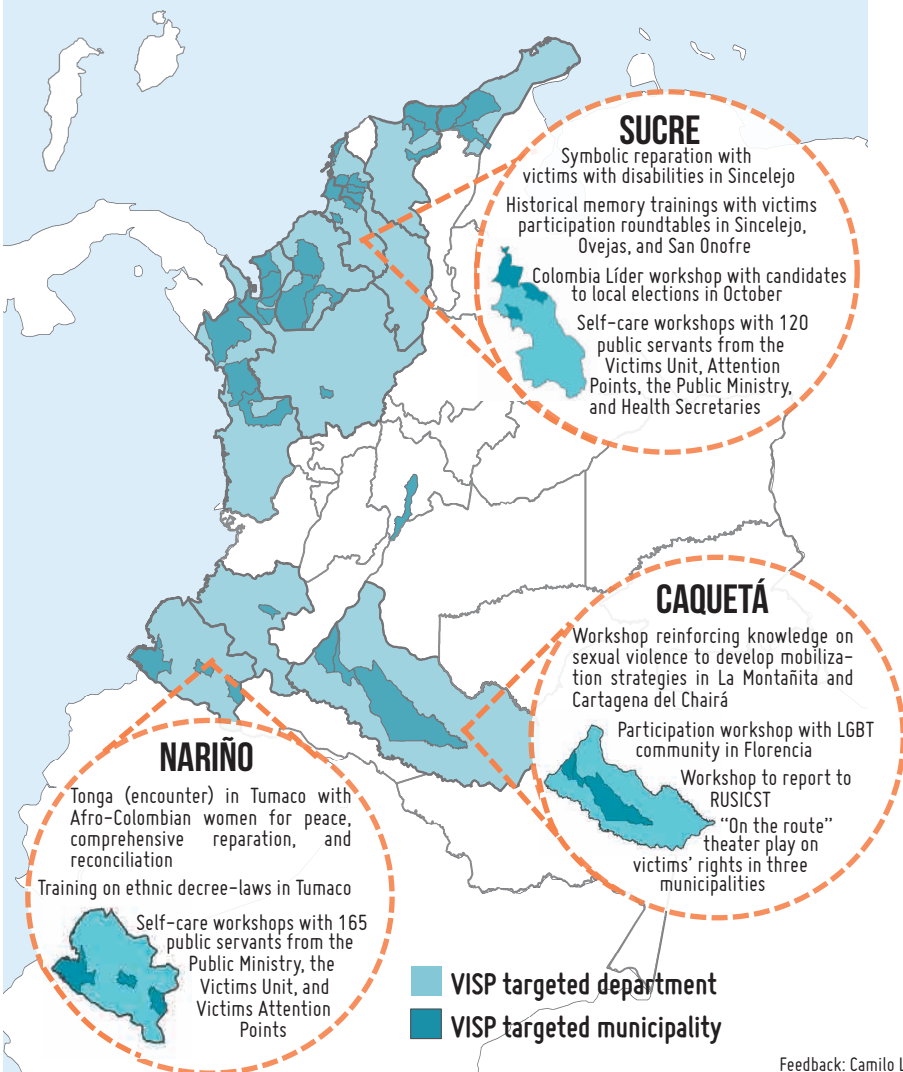
-The course can be taken on the website www.participaz.com, which includes 18 TV episodes, radio programs, and chapters, or in-person, as it is currently being carried out with Victims Participation Roundtable members from Popayán, Pasto, Sincelejo, and Riohacha.

HISTORICAL MEMORY AND DIFFERENTIAL APPROACHES

DEVELOPING MEMORY PLACES

-VISP and the National Center for Historical Memory (CNMH) supported the indigenous community of El Decio in Samaniego, led by the women's "Mingueras of Peace Association," to begin recovering a memory location that will be called San Lorenzo's Stone by holding a "minga" (community encounter) in which participants shared experiences and agreed upon responsibilities to move forward. San Lorenzo's Stone will reflect events that took place during the armed conflict and symbols of regional indigenous culture.

HIGHLIGHTED REGIONAL ADVANCES



HIGHLIGHTED INSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL ADVANCES

INSTITUCIONAL CAPACITIES



Human Rights Archive toolkit presented in Santa Marta and Paths to Memory toolkit presented in Popayán.

Technical assistance to complete the RUSISCT monitoring report.

INDIVIDUAL CAPABILITIES



Trainings to disseminate ethnic law-decrees with public servants and communities in Chocó, Magdalena, Caquetá, and Nariño, and with Afro-Colombian representatives in Bogotá.

Working sessions with La Guajira's Governor's Office, AFRODES, and Afro-Colombian women from Riohacha to recognize sexual violence.

32 women from VISP municipalities trained on human rights and gender in diploma program.

DISCOVER VISP ADVANCES ONLINE:

Guide for community leaders: being an influential and inclusive leader:

<http://bit.ly/1EmJ5zm>

Guide for public servants: inclusive services for people with disabilities:

<http://bit.ly/1MQECWK>

Video for the disability campaign: "Register!"

<http://bit.ly/1iMjNfQ>



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