



### 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.

On December 10, the CNMH with USAID support launched the historical memory report "Eradicate differences: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Colombia's armed conflict," on the affectations suffered by LGBT victims in the conflict. The launching event included a dialogue on the process and photo exhibit. Photo: Rommel Rojas Rubio.

## WHAT WAS DONE THIS MONTH?

### HISTORICAL MEMORY AND INCLUSIVE APPROACHES

#### LGBT HISTORICAL MEMORY REPORT

- Supported the National Center for Historical Memory (CNMH) to produce the historical memory report "Eradicate differences: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Colombia's armed conflict," on affectations suffered by LGBT victims in the conflict.
- The report is the result of an over 22-month participatory process with LGBT victims in four departments, and describes and analyzes the multiple ways in which LGBT populations have suffered given their sexual orientation and gender identity, recognizing the continuum of violence against them and its intensification with the conflict.
- It also narrates the social mobilization processes that LGBT victims have led, as well as some individual and collective resistance strategies they have developed.
- The report is available here: <http://bit.ly/11QLzxl>.

### BUILDING HISTORICAL MEMORY IN THE REGIONS

#### "LA PIEDRA DE SAN LORENZO": HISTORICAL MEMORY INITIATIVE IN EL DECIO, SAMANIEGO

- With the CNMH, VISP supported the rural community of El Decio (Samaniego, Nariño) to create a memory space around "La Piedra de San Lorenzo," a place where women gather to remember relatives who have died because of the conflict.
- The process included a sculpture, a community kiosk, a stone path and signals detailing the memory path to the stone.
- The renovations were officially handed over on December 2 with the participation of victims representatives, civil servants, and community members.

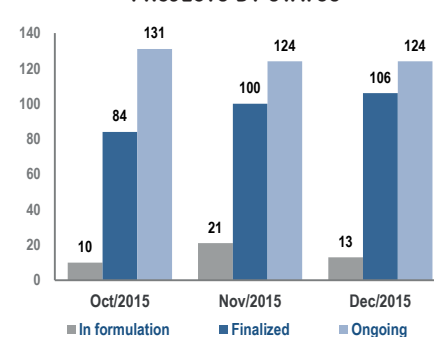
### HIGH-END REHABILITATION SERVICES IN REGIONS AFFECTED BY THE CONFLICT

#### REHABILITATION UNIT INAUGURATED IN APARTADÓ

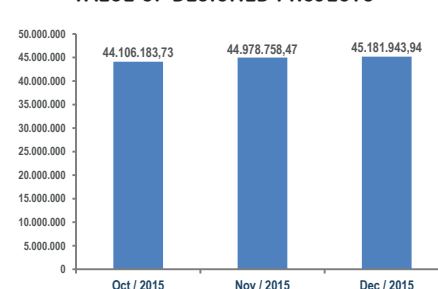
- Through a joint initiative with the Ministry of Health and Mayor's Offices, VISP is strengthening the public health system through the creation of top-notch rehabilitation services in municipalities that have been most affected by the conflict, including Apartadó (Antioquia), Cartagena (in two hospitals) and Quibdó (Chocó).
- This strengthening process includes cutting-edge technological equipment for various therapies, as well as areas to simulate daily life and workplace activities.
- The first of four rehabilitation units, which will provide attention services to 2,000 individuals per year, was inaugurated on December 17 in Apartadó.

## VISP STATISTICS

### PROJECTS BY STATUS



### VALUE OF DESIGNED PROJECTS



## GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

## IMPROVING PSYCHOSOCIAL ATTENTION FOR VICTIMS CONTINUED TRAINING AND CARE PROGRAM STRENGTHENS PSYCHOSOCIAL ATTENTION SKILLS



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FOR MIGRATION

- Since 2013 VISP has developed a continued training and care program to strengthen government institutions' psychosocial attention skills at the national and regional levels.
- In 2015, 904 public servants from ten departments and numerous institutions, including the Ministry of Health, the Victims Unit, the National Center for Historical Memory, and the Public Ministry, participated.
- The program provides technical accompaniment for regional teams that directly attend to victims and workshops, focal groups and audiovisual and written materials to promote self-care and staff care. In 2016, the program will consolidate its impact by transferring knowledge, tools, and materials developed in the last two years to government entities.

## RECOGNIZING BEST GOVERNORS AND MAYORS BEST GOVERNORS AND MAYORS AND RECONCILIATION AWARD WINNERS ANNOUNCED

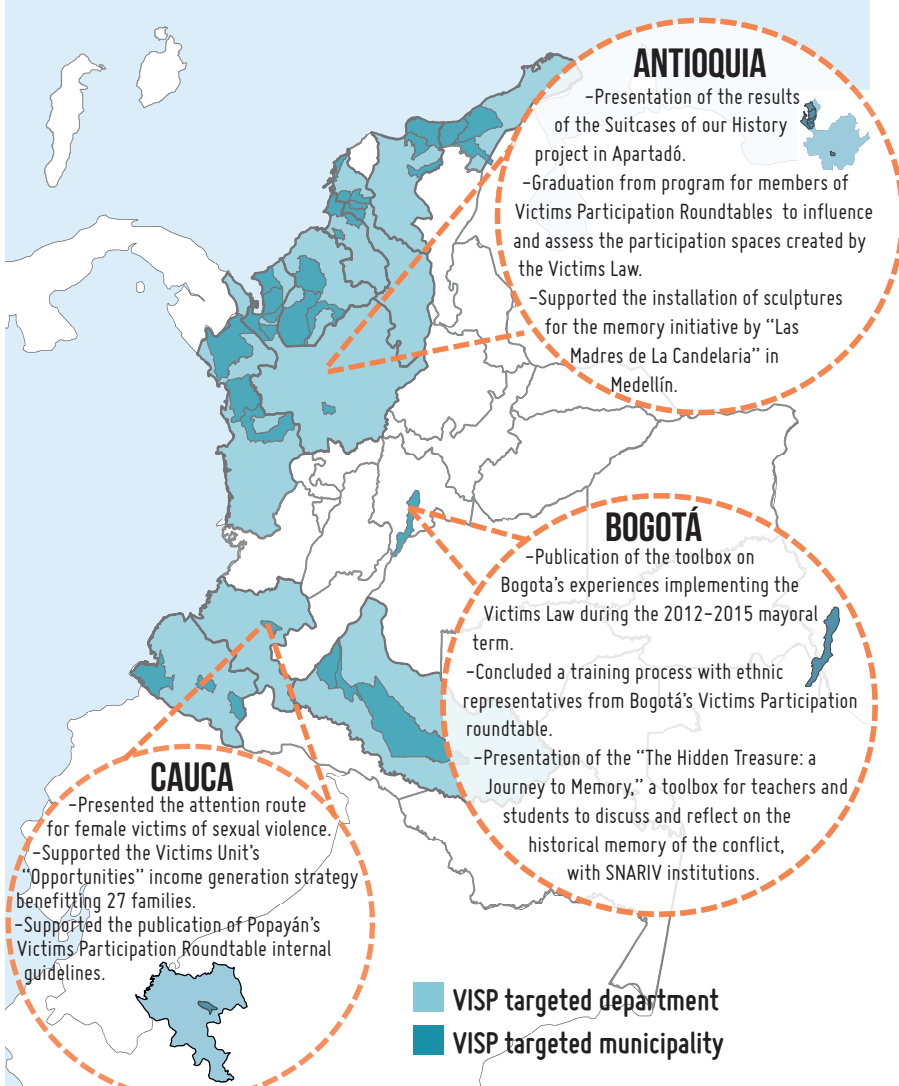
- On December 2, the presentation and award ceremony of the Colombia Líder award for best governors and mayors and the recognition for best reconciliation and social inclusion governors and mayors was held in Bogotá.
- Governor of Meta Alan Jara and Cali Mayor Rodrigo Guerrero Velasco won the award for best reconciliation governor and capital city mayor, respectively.
- This recognition seeks increase the visibility of initiatives to promote reconciliation, victims' rights, and peace-building in the regions. Workshops with new mayors and governors taking office in January will be held in 2016, and the recognition for best mayors and governors in implementing the Victims Law in VISP's prioritized municipalities will also be handed out.

## AN OVERVIEW OF SEXUAL VIOLENCE IN COLOMBIA'S CONFLICT ZONES

### THE RETURN TO EL SALADO

- In August 2015, over 100 female victims of sexual violence participated in a symbolic walk from El Carmen to El Salado (Bolívar), an area wracked by sexual violence for over 15 years in the armed conflict. This return is portrayed by the short film "The Return to El Salado," which seeks to increase the visibility of sexual violence suffered by women and girls in zones affected by the internal armed conflict, and presented in Bogotá on December 16.
- The film is part of the project "The Laws of Silence" that narrates the lives of journalist, victim, and activist against GBV Jineth Bedoya and other female victims of sexual violence, the access barriers they face, and the challenges for institutions to appropriately provide them with attention services.
- The trailer of the project, supported by the European Union, UN Women, USAID and IOM, is available here: <http://thelawsofsilence.org>.

## HIGHLIGHTED REGIONAL ADVANCES



## HIGHLIGHTED INSTITUTIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL ADVANCES

### INSTITUCIONAL CAPACITIES



Supported the pardon encounter with FARC and the community of Bojayá.

Presentation of the Victims Unit's transmedia strategy that seeks to engage private sector partners to support collective reparation processes.

Continuous support for the Victims Unit's profiling strategy in prioritized municipalities.

### INDIVIDUAL CAPABILITIES



Supported the National Seminar on Experiences in Psychosocial Attention to Victims of the Armed Conflict, in the framework of the Victims.

Continued training and care program to strengthen government institutions' psychosocial attention skills; 904 public servants from ten departments participated in 2015.

## DISCOVER VISP ADVANCES ONLINE:

- USAID Cooperation Knowledge Fair Report: <http://bit.ly/1PBfK3g>.
- "Victims Dignity": toolbox on Bogotá's experience implementing the Victims Law: <http://bit.ly/1ZMIMZA>
- Eradicate differences: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender People in Colombia's armed conflict: <http://bit.ly/1IQLzxl>.
- What are satisfaction measures? (video): <http://bit.ly/209BVVC>.
- Doors to memory: commemoration of International Day of the Disappeared in Popayán (video): <http://bit.ly/10AFcWF>



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