

SUMMARY

Humanitarian Response Plan for Community Priorities 2024-2025

Colombia

Credits: Municipality of Nóvita in Chocó, Colombia. Woman in psicola project. Photo by © FAO - Diana Samacá.

HUMANITARIAN PROGRAMME CYCLE 2024 - 2025
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PEOPLE IN NEED POPULATION TARGET RPCP FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS IN USD\$

8.3M **1.7M** **332M**

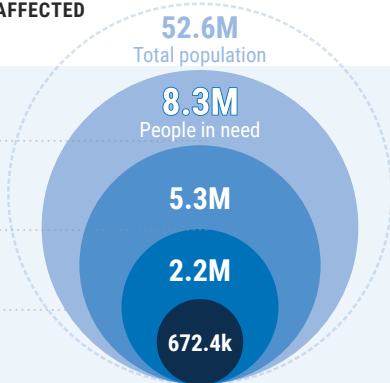
TOTAL POPULATION, AFFECTED AND IN NEED

People in need (PiN)

In severe need

In acute need

In critical need



PEOPLE IN NEED DISAGGREGATED DATA

Women
4.184.408

Men
4.122.720

Elderly
1.132.949

Girls
1.219.045

Boys
1.274.312

People with disabilities
243.838

REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS*

Women
1.915.425

Girls
905.051

Men
1.493.454

Boys
942.880



In 2023, the Government of Colombia made significant progress in enhancing the living conditions of populations facing multiple vulnerabilities, while also striving to mitigate and reduce violence across the country. Nevertheless, Colombia persists in confronting enduring humanitarian challenges caused by conflict and climate change-induced disasters, which have a significant impact on communities.

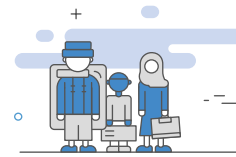
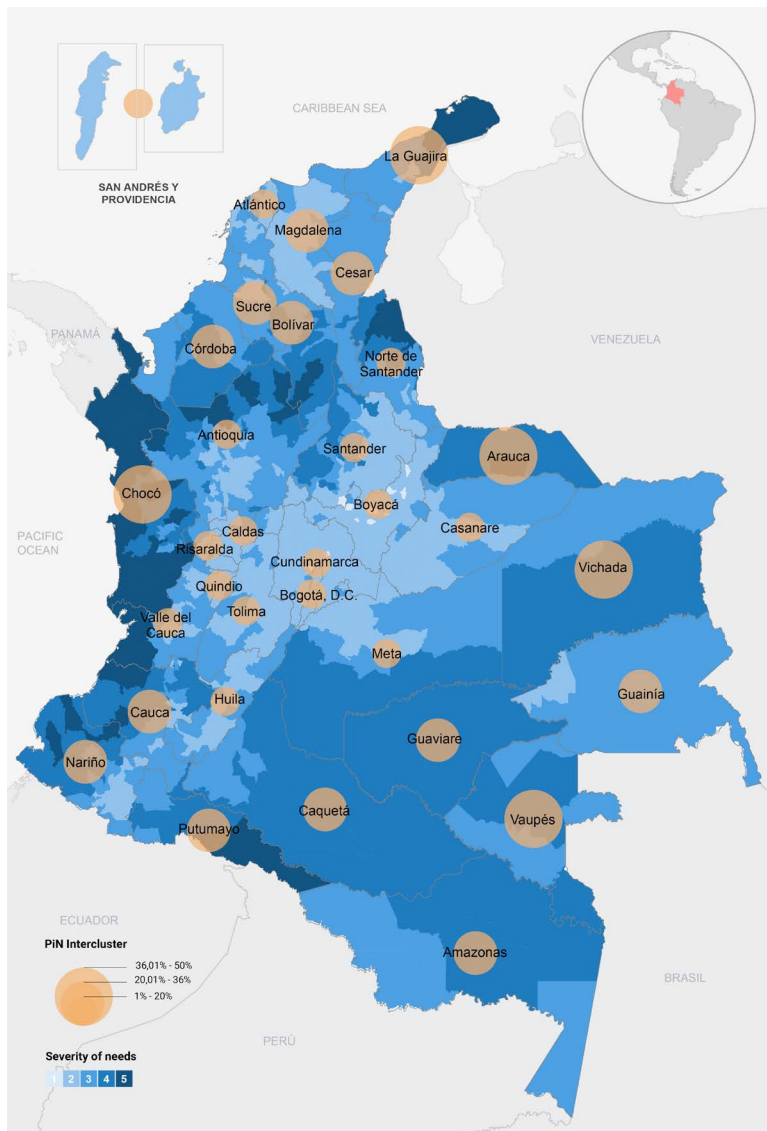
Following the comprehensive analysis of community priorities and humanitarian needs conducted within the framework of the Humanitarian Programme Cycle, the Humanitarian Country Team estimates that approximately 8.3 million people will face humanitarian needs in Colombia in 2024. Given this context of multifaceted challenges, there is an imperative for better-coordinated efforts from all responders, along with more integrated interventions that engage humanitarian, development and peace actors through the nexus approach. In light of this, the HCT proposes a biannual response strategy for 2024-2025. This strategy seeks to identify and strengthen capacities at the community level to respond to emergencies, while also proposing sustainable solutions that will gradually reduce the communities' dependence on humanitarian assistance, aligning with the objectives of the [Flagship initiative](#).

The new [Humanitarian Response Plan for Community Priorities](#) will direct the HCT's complementary response towards addressing the needs of 1.7 million of the most vulnerable populations, including children, adolescents, women, and ethnic communities. To meet this goal, a financial requirement of USD\$332 million has been identified. This plan will adopt various response modalities, including Immediate Emergency Response, Monitoring and Protection, Prevention, Preparedness and Early Action, and Integration with Peace and Development initiatives. By enhancing the nexus approach (bringing together humanitarian, peace, development and climate change efforts) particularly at the territorial level. This plan aims to establish more effective linkages between humanitarian responses and sustainable, long-term solutions.

*Refugees and migrants from Venezuela, Colombian returnees, and their host communities

For more information, please refer to the [full document](#)

MAP 1. Population in need and severity of humanitarian needs



The findings regarding the population in need and areas of heightened severity result from the utilization of the new [JIAF 2.0](#) tools. These tools employ a combination of quantitative data analysis and qualitative insights gathered through "expert judgment", which is informed by inputs gathered during regional workshops conducted by 15 Local and Humanitarian Teams. These workshops involve active participation from partners and communities at both local and national level, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the humanitarian landscape.



For more information
[Humanitarian Action, Colombia](#)

COLOMBIA

Woman of the community in the framework of the 'Health with a community approach' sessions.
 Photo: Pan American Health Organization, PAHO.



What is the context in Colombia?

As mentioned earlier, despite governmental advances, Colombia is still affected by emergencies and humanitarian challenges that have a significant impact on communities. The following are the factors that characterize the Colombian context.

Armed conflict and security factors: In Colombia, the presence of seven non-international armed conflicts significantly contributes to emergencies and humanitarian needs.

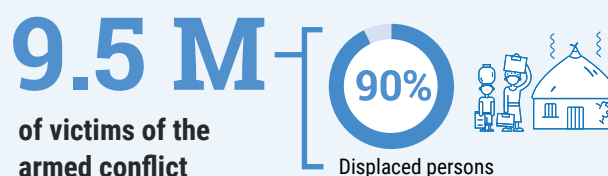
The reconfiguration of Non-State Armed Groups (NSAGs) has intensified the security situation and protection risks for communities in Colombia. In recent years, several NSAGs have expanded their presence, particularly in rural areas of 534 municipalities where 8.4 million people live.

Humanitarian access is affected by the dynamics of the conflict in Colombia. In 2023, there was a 69% increase in humanitarian access events compared to 2022 resulting in thousands of people being unable to receive life-saving humanitarian assistance due to these challenges.

Environmental and seasonal factors (climatic seasons): In addition, both anthropogenic disasters and those exacerbated by climate change contribute to humanitarian emergencies in Colombia. Over the past three years (2021 to 2023), the National Disaster Risk Management Unit (UNGRD) reported that 1.6 million people were affected by the La Niña phenomenon, while the HCT estimates that, in the short and medium term, at least [9.3 million people](#) will be exposed to the impact of the El Niño phenomenon. Among these people, 2.9 million are at high risk of losing their livelihoods due to drought, crops and livestock loss.

Migration Factors: Colombia hosts approximately 2.9 million refugees and migrants, who navigate through border areas and departments affected by conflict dynamics and disasters, often facing a double or triple impact. Furthermore, mixed movements into and through Colombia represent another important factor contributing to humanitarian needs. In 2023 alone, more than 530,000 people (including 100,000 children) crossed through the Darien, exposing them to heightened protection risks exacerbated by the presence of NSAGs.

Since 1985, the Victim's Unit registered over



Since the signing of the 2016 Peace Agreement

1.4 M people have been forcibly confined or displaced because of the armed conflict.

[For more information, please refer to the full document](#)

At least

72% of the emergencies caused by disasters take place in municipalities affected by armed conflict. These municipalities are also:

Classified in category



5 and 6

or basic municipalities with limited fiscal resources.

These cause **compound emergencies and increase the humanitarian needs** of the affected population.

[For more information, please refer to the full document](#)

Socioeconomic Factors: At the socioeconomic level, inequality and unemployment in Colombia deepen precariousness and poverty conditions, particularly in conflicts and disaster-affected areas. Approximately 3.2 million people lack access to drinking water, with 78% of the country's municipalities experiencing very low or low level of real access to health services. Additionally, 30% of the population in both populated and dispersed rural centers report unmet basic needs.

In Colombia, what are prioritizing the communities ?

Communities tell us they want security, life and peace of mind.

“ Nothing can improve, we won't achieve better health, better nutrition, better education, if there is no peace, if the weapons don't fall silent, if we cannot live without fear,” is the message often expressed by the communities.



8.4M

people live under the presence, influence and/or control of NSAGs

Parents have expressed their concern about the difficulties for their children to study.

“ We all prioritize our children's education. We know it's their future. We know it's the only chance they'll have to break free from the grip of violence.”



35%

of the population in school age (6 -17 years old) does not go into school¹

By the end of 2022 and the beginning of 2023



400k

girls, boys, and adolescents dropped out of school².

Resilience and hope are the main characteristics of the communities affected by the conflict who tell us that they want "A little piece of land and to be allowed to farm".

“ We want to return to our territories, but we fear going back because armed groups are always present. We fear returning because there are also landmines.”

Communities tell us that their food rations have decreased significantly in contexts of conflict and disaster emergencies. In this context, the affected people have said.

“ We can't even fish anymore because the good fish come out at night here, and since we can't go out at night, we can't even eat fish. We take the bread out of our mouths so the children can eat, but there are days when we don't even taste a bite.”



13M people (25% of the country's population) are **moderately and severely food insecure**³



TUTUNENDO/CHOCÓ, COLOMBIA

Woman of Tutunendo (Chocó). Tutunendo is a host community for displaced people.

Photo by: Johana Botia, OCHA Colombia, 2023.

¹ Report-79-Rural-Education-in-Colombia (*Informe-79-Educación-rural-en-Colombia-(F)oct.pdf_javeriana.edu.co*)

² School dropout rates increased in Colombia in 2023: a worrying situation (*La deserción escolar en Colombia aumentó en el 2023: panorama preocupante, radionacional.co*)

³ WFP, 2023. Food Security Evaluation for the Colombian population 2022. (*Evaluación de Seguridad alimentaria para población colombiana 2022*).

Available in <https://reliefweb.int/report/colombia/resumen-ejecutivo-evaluacion-de-seguridad-alimentaria-para-poblacion-colombiana-2024>

To be able to be in the middle of the emergency under a decent roof with access to food and water. This is why people's complaints are recurrent:

“The accommodations, when there are any, are always very uncomfortable... There is no privacy, girls, women, and men are mixed together, and there is fear that something might happen... and when we return, the houses, the farms, the land, everything is taken over by armed groups.”

Beyond the conflict the impacts of events aggravated by climate change are becoming increasingly visible.

“We feel a lot of fear to cultivate rice, which is our largest source of income, because if it rains too much, it floods, and if there is a drought, it doesn't grow either. Nowadays, out of the 50 tons we used to produce, now only one comes out, and we lose a lot of effort.”

“When we are in the territory, we do our best to collect water and even boil it, but during displacement or confinement, we have to rely on rainwater, and there is no time to treat it, so we drink it as it is.”

Communities tell us they want peace of mind.

“For us, security means being able to walk through the territory without fear, enjoying the landscapes, listening to the birds' songs, and not the bursts of gunfire. Our young people are committing suicide because they prefer to die rather than go to war.”

Different groups of indigenous and Afro-descendant communities have mentioned that some members of their community decide to take their own lives in the face of conflict, recruitment and sexual violence.

Approximately

5.8M

people have health-related needs

due to barriers to access to this right.

Mainly in municipalities with high geographic dispersion.



3.8M

people face needs and housing due to humanitarian emergencies



In addition, at least

4.5M

people face Water, Sanitation and Hygiene needs due to barriers in access to service and quality.

Especially in Antioquia, La Guajira, Córdoba, Nariño, Cauca, Chocó, Bolívar and Magdalena.



RIOSUCIO/CHOCÓ, COLOMBIA

Emberá communities strengthening their food production with sustainable and climate-resilient practices.

Photo by: Servando Cuesta, FAO.

And which vulnerable population groups are most affected?

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has identified various groups in vulnerable situations that are disproportionately affected by the dynamics of the armed conflict and the impacts of disasters. The following outlines the specific impacts on each of these groups:

Groups impacted by factors of violence, conflict and disasters:



Displaced persons, confined persons, and host communities. These groups face constant risks in violent scenarios, significantly impacting their humanitarian needs.



Population under the influence of NSAGs. They experience impacts affecting their security, well-being and access to services, especially due to the daily protection risks they encounter.



Population affected and at risk by disasters. People affected by often lose their homes and livelihoods, hindering their access to basic goods and services.

In Colombia there are more than 8.5M

of people forcibly displaced as a result of the conflict.

At least 8.4M

of people live in territories in which there is the presence of a NSAGs.

By 2024, it is estimated that more than 2.9M

people are at high risk of being affected by the El Niño phenomenon.

Most vulnerable groups affected by violence, conflict and disasters:



Ethnic communities (Afro-Colombian and indigenous). These communities are exposed to the loss of their ancestral territory and social fabric due to the actions of the NSAGs. Climate change and variability combined with inadequate attention in the dispersed territories they inhabit, further increase their humanitarian needs.

23% (1.9M) of the people with humanitarian needs in Colombia belong to indigenous and Afro-Colombian peoples.

1M

Afro-Colombian People

903.7k

Indigenous People



Children and adolescents. They are at risk of recruitment, use and utilization, sexual and gender-based violence, displacement and confinement, they are also victims of explosive devices. During disasters, schools are often used as shelters, leading to indefinite suspensions of academic activities.

30% of the people in need are children and adolescents between 0 and 17 years of age.

Approximately

2.5M

children and adolescents are in need of humanitarian attention.



Women. In conflict areas, they are exposed to gender violence, sexual violence, displacement and confinement. In disaster contexts, they assume caregiving roles for their families and communities.

50% of people with humanitarian needs in humanitarian needs in Colombia are women



Elderly people. They are particularly vulnerable in armed conflict situations and other disaster-related emergencies due to mobility challenges. In disaster situations, they face increased risks of diseases contraction due to the deteriorating living conditions following climatic or anthropogenic events.

More than one million (13%)

elderly people live with humanitarian needs.



People with disabilities. The physical and access barriers faced by persons with disabilities are exacerbated during conflict and disaster emergencies.

According to the HCT, it is estimated that approximately 3% of the people in need of humanitarian assistance in Colombia have some type of cognitive or physical disability.

Response strategy 2024-2025

PEOPLE IN NEED	PEOPLE TARGET	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS	NUMBER OF PROJECTS	OPERATIVE PARTNERS	TOTAL PARTNERS HTC
8.3M	1.7M	332M	199	52	147

The Humanitarian Country Team in Colombia advocates for transformative change in humanitarian response within the framework of the flagship initiative. They focus their actions on biannual programming aimed at addressing and supporting the priorities, initiatives, and aspirations of communities affected by humanitarian crises associated with armed conflict and disasters.

Communities will be at the center of our actions, and we will be respectful of their customs and practices, adapting our response to their priorities. We will strengthen their capacities in the search for sustainability through direct engagement with communities as key actors in the transformation of their own environments.

In this sense, the Humanitarian Response Plan for Community Priorities (PRPC in Spanish) 2024-2025 proposes based results strategic objectives, with communities at the center of our actions.

“ Let's get on the same boat and build together to have a greater impact.”

Community leader in Catatumbo region



LA MONTAÑITA/CAQUETÁ, COLOMBIA

Workshop on Mine Risk Education
Photo by: UNMAS and Humanicemos, 2023.



Strategic Objective 1

By 2025, the HCT implemented preventive measures, anticipatory actions, preparedness and differentiated response to vital needs and rights to **at least 50% of the total massive emergencies identified** by prospective risk scenarios based on **inclusive consultation processes with communities**.



Strategic Objective 2

By 2025, the HCT **strengthened the coping and resilience capacities** of communities and institutions in a differentiated manner **by at least 20%**, reducing the need for humanitarian assistance and **paving the way for the development of sustainable actions** in the medium and long term.

Response approach

Promote predictive analysis and anticipatory action based on the community knowledge and customs to promote preventive and mitigation actions.

Improve and adjust the response considering the community priorities and initiatives through the strengthening of multisectoral coordination.

Accompany the communities and local authorities through the strengthening of capacities by making them participants and key actors of their own solutions, improving resilience, and minimizing the dependence on humanitarian assistance.

Results-based multi-sectoral response strategy and prioritization

Intervention type 1: Immediate response to emergencies.

Immediate response in category 6 rural areas experiencing recurrent or prolonged emergencies due to armed conflict, disasters, situations of double or triple affectation, including areas with new emergencies.

Intervention type 2: Monitoring and protection.

Monitoring and improvement of community protection mechanisms in areas without recurrent emergencies, but with risks associated to the intensification of the humanitarian crisis.

Intervention type 3: Prevention and Anticipatory Action.

Strengthening of institutional and community capacities in analytical prediction and anticipatory and preventive response by the Estate in areas affected by recurrent disasters, new emergencies related to climate variability, areas affected by El Niño, La Niña phenomenon and armed conflict.

Intervention type 4: Articulation with peace and development.

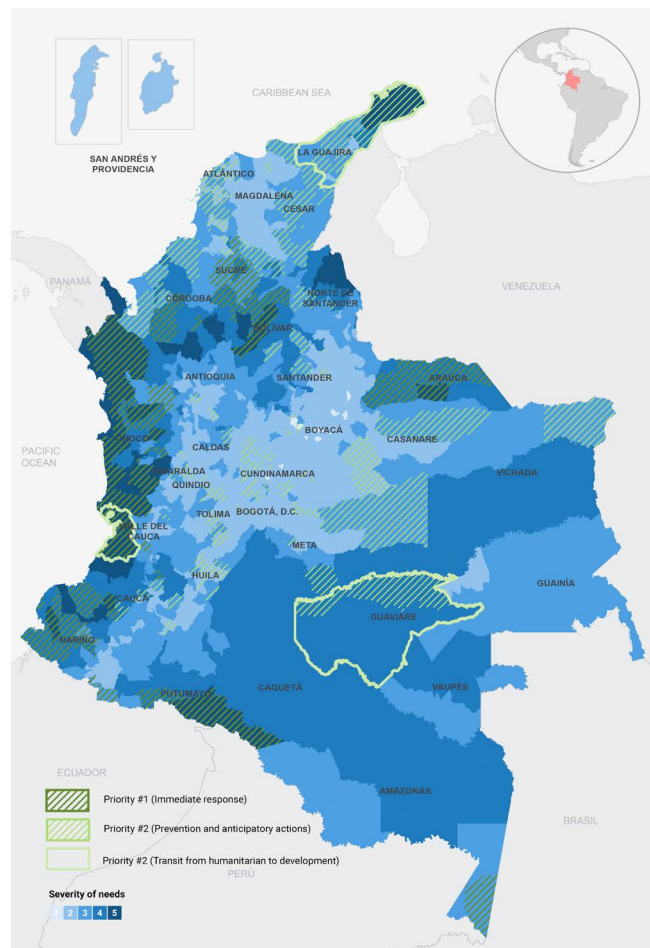
Implementation of Flagship pilots where there is a greater focus on the articulation between humanitarian, peace, development, and climate change, with the aim of generating structural solutions that allow evidence of medium and long-term impacts on the communities, linking them in all phases of the planning, implementation, and monitoring process.



“ Thanks to the construction work carried out, we now have suitable bathrooms which were previously lacking. The roof was damaged, allowing water to seep in and wetting the area. This construction project benefits both the school and the community, as some individuals do not have access to bathrooms and rely on this facility.”

Anderson Cortés. Teacher, Educational Center at Pianulpi Headquarters, Piguambí Palangala Indigenous Reserve, Tumaco, Nariño. Photo by Consorcio Mire+

MAP 2. Types of response and their geographic location



RESPONSE BY CLUSTER	PEOPLE IN NEED	TARGET POPULATION	FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS (USD\$)
Protection (total)	5.2M	1.3M	\$123.6M
AdR Child Protection	2M	238k	\$12.3M
AdR Gender Based Violence (GBV)	3M	338k	\$18.7M
AdR Action Against Mines	607k	124k	\$29.6M
Health	5.8M	784k	\$48.6M
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH)	4.5M	295k	\$10.8M
Education in Emergencies	3.5M	181k	\$16.1M
Shelter	3.8M	199k	\$9.5M
Early recovery	5.4M	94k	\$34.5M
Food security and nutrition	7.3M	865k	\$80.6M

How to contribute to the plan?

Contribute to the Humanitarian Response Plan for Community Priorities

Colombia's PRPC is developed in-country, based on a robust analysis of response contexts and the engagement with national and international humanitarian partners; The direct financial contributions to accredited aid agencies are one of the most valuable and effective forms of response in emergency situations.

<https://fts.unocha.org/plans/1181/flows>

Contribute through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF)

The CERF provides rapid start-up funding for life saving actions at the start of emergencies and for underfunded essential humanitarian operations in prolonged emergencies. The CERF, administered by OCHA, receives contributions from various donors, mainly governments, but also private companies, foundations, charities, and

individuals, which are combined into a single fund. These funds are used for emergencies anywhere in the world. For 2023, Colombia had the support of the CERF for the implementation of humanitarian emergency response projects, fulfilling the needs and dynamics presented throughout 2022 and 2023 condensed in this document.

cerf.un.org

Record and monitor your contributions

OCHA administers the Financial Tracking Service (FTS), which records all reported humanitarian contributions (cash, in-kind, multilateral, and bilateral) to emergencies. Its purpose is to give donors credit and visibility for their generosity, show the full amount of funding, and expose gaps in humanitarian plans. Report yours to FTS, either by email to: fts@un.org or via the online contribution report form:

fts.unocha.org