Collective reparation, fulfilling the rights of victims and transforming their lives
“We do not want to relive the conflict. Our hope is that victims are empowered. The non-repetition of the conflict is predicated on the realization of these rights. That is why I am pleased with the delivery of this measure that restores one of our rights.”

Marta Robles de la Mesa
Leader in Sucre
In Colombia, the intersection of the peace process with the implementation of the 2030 Agenda highlights the interdependency of peace and sustainable development. The end of a 50-year armed conflict represents a historic opportunity to address the root causes of the conflict and close development gaps, putting the fulfillment of victims’ rights at the center of that process. The SDGs are an opportunity to adopt sustainable development holistically as the best way to sustain peace and achieve human development.
The Victims Law (1448 of 2011) establishes the Collective Reparation Programme with the aim of recognizing and dignifying social and political organizations, groups and communities that have suffered collective violations of their rights. It seeks psychosocial recovery, citizen inclusion, the reconstruction of the social fabric, the return of trust in the State, as well as strengthening the Social Rule of Law. The national Unit for Comprehensive Care and Reparation for Victims -UARIV- oversees reparations, taking into account a holistic inter institutional approach and coordination, the effective participation of the victims in the reparation process and the acknowledgement of damages inflicted to the communities, among others.

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Reparation implies facilitating a dialogue between institutions and civil society with the aim of strengthening the political, citizen and management capacities of the subjects of collective reparation, contributing to reconciliation.

To that end, the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund – PBF-, whose purpose is to supports activities, actions, programmes and organizations that seek to contribute to the construction of lasting peace in countries that put an end to conflict, provides financial support to the strengthening of the Rule of Law in Colombia through a project to Support the Programme of Collective Reparations.

Thus the PBF and the United Nations Multi-partner Trust Fund for the Post-Conflict – MPTF-, in coordination with the Presidential High Council for the Post-conflict, FAO and UNDP, support the project, which responds in part to the mandate of collective reparation that the UARIV leads, prioritizing the implementation of 26 subjects of collective reparation, i.e. communities affected by the conflict, whose integral plans are translated into the implementation of 118 measures of reparation, located in 26 districts of 12 departments of the country.
“These youth gatherings are some of the actions that enable us to connect, to learn how to overcome challenges and write a new chapter of hope, in which the victims are the human rights’ holders”.

Maria Victoria Suaza
District of Apartadó, Antioquia
The project "Support to the Collective Reparations Programme" aims to strengthen the trust of the victims in the State by supporting the implementation of measures included in their collective reparation plans in 26 post-conflict areas.

To implement the project, in coordination with the UARIV, UNDP’s Transitional Justice Programme established four strategic results:

- Strengthen the spaces and initiatives of citizen participation and social inclusion in the subjects of prioritized reparation.
- Improve the conditions for the provision of education services, psychosocial care, sports and culture to the collective subjects as part of the reparation process.
- Strengthen the livelihoods of the subjects of collective reparation through productive initiatives of a community nature.
- Strengthen gender equity in the implementation of collective reparation plans.
How does the project work?

The project is carried out through the Promotion Committees that were established in the Comprehensive Plan of Collective Reparations – PIRC-, designed and built by the UARIV with the communities that organized themselves to become subjects of collective reparation.

These Committees are spaces for social participation made up of delegates from the community, local, regional and national governments, as well as unions and associations, among other sectors, with the support of international cooperation, for making decisions related to the development of actions to be executed through the PIRC. The project enabled a permanent dialogue with 26 Promotion Committees and implemented 118 measures of reparation.
“I am dedicated to raising prayers for the dead of our community. I go to their homes and funerals and pray. The supplies given today such as rosaries, bibles and candles are extremely valuable for the community. They contribute to ensuring that the benefits of our ancestral knowledge reach all the members of the community”.

Emma Churio
Prayer leader in Guachoche, Cesar
The project implemented 118 measures of reparation corresponding to 26 communities affected by the conflict, subjects of collective reparation, in 26 districts of 12 departments of the country.
What do collective reparations mean for victims?

Collective reparations mean dignifying and restituting the rights of victims affected by the armed conflict, with a community approach. The communities that benefit from the project recognize that the work carried out strengthens trust in the State through the establishment of new spaces for citizen and community dialogue that facilitate scenarios of reconciliation and peacebuilding.

The support of the United Nations System, through the project Support to the Collective Reparation Programme, implemented by UNDP and FAO, has reached directly, as of September 2018, 41,459 people among children, youth and adults, and more than 711,492 indirectly, for a total of 752,951 individuals.

Some of the most important results achieved during the last two years are:
Based on collective reparation, **118 participatory community development measures** have been implemented, contributing to build trust in state institutions, restore the social fabric and build peace. The processes were built on the effective participation of children, youth, women and men, and on the effective coordination with local institutions and partners.

**6 communities were repaired** through sport supplies to promote a culture of peace and coexistence.

**33 productive projects** have been designed with the respective communities, including a workplan with the Promotion Committees and with family agriculture organizations.

**3.500 children and youth** have today better school infrastructure, contributing to their right to education.
All 26 collective reparation subjects (communities) have incorporated and mainstreamed gender equality in the measures implemented.

16 civil works for the improvement of community infrastructure were implemented, including the respective design, studies and sanitation of the properties.

4 video productions served as reparation measures contributing to healing processes through language and communications.

Women victims of sexual violence received psychosocial attention through 4 collective reparation measures and enforced 4 measures of positive discrimination in favor of gender equality.
13 communities have participated in sexual, reproductive rights and health educational workshops, contributing to prevent violence and teenage pregnancies.

15 youth clubs (that bring together 4,500 youth), public force and community members have participated in workshops on new masculinities, reaching 834 individuals.
We designed collective reparation agreements with the Victims Unit which is reflected today in the community: sports, including football and athletics are our strengths. We have been developing these with the support of UNDP.

Algernon Quiroz Churio
Guacoche, Cesar
The collective reparation measures implemented respond to a public policy -Victim’s Law 1448 of 2011-, and particularly to the guarantee of the right to integral reparation. To sustain peace, the project to Support the Collective Reparations Programme also works towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals:
Materializing the Sustaining Peace

Peacebuilding
- Collective Reparation of victims
- Quality Education
- Human Rights Training
- Sexual, Reproductive and Health Awareness
- Agriculture Entrepreneurship
- Youth Empowerment

Development
- 2030 Agenda: leaving no one behind
- 1 No Poverty
- 3 Good Health and Well-being
- 4 Quality Education
- 5 Gender Equality
- 6 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 8 Decent Work and Economic Growth
- 16 Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions
- 16 No Poverty
“It has been a very binding and dynamic process with the community, with the collective victims. Today we can see that all this process becomes a reality”.

Dario Pineda,
District of Pueblo Rico
Risaralda
Support to the Collective Reparations Programme for Victims of the Conflict in Colombia:

Implemented by:

With the financial support of: