



EU & COLOMBIA

Key partners for peace

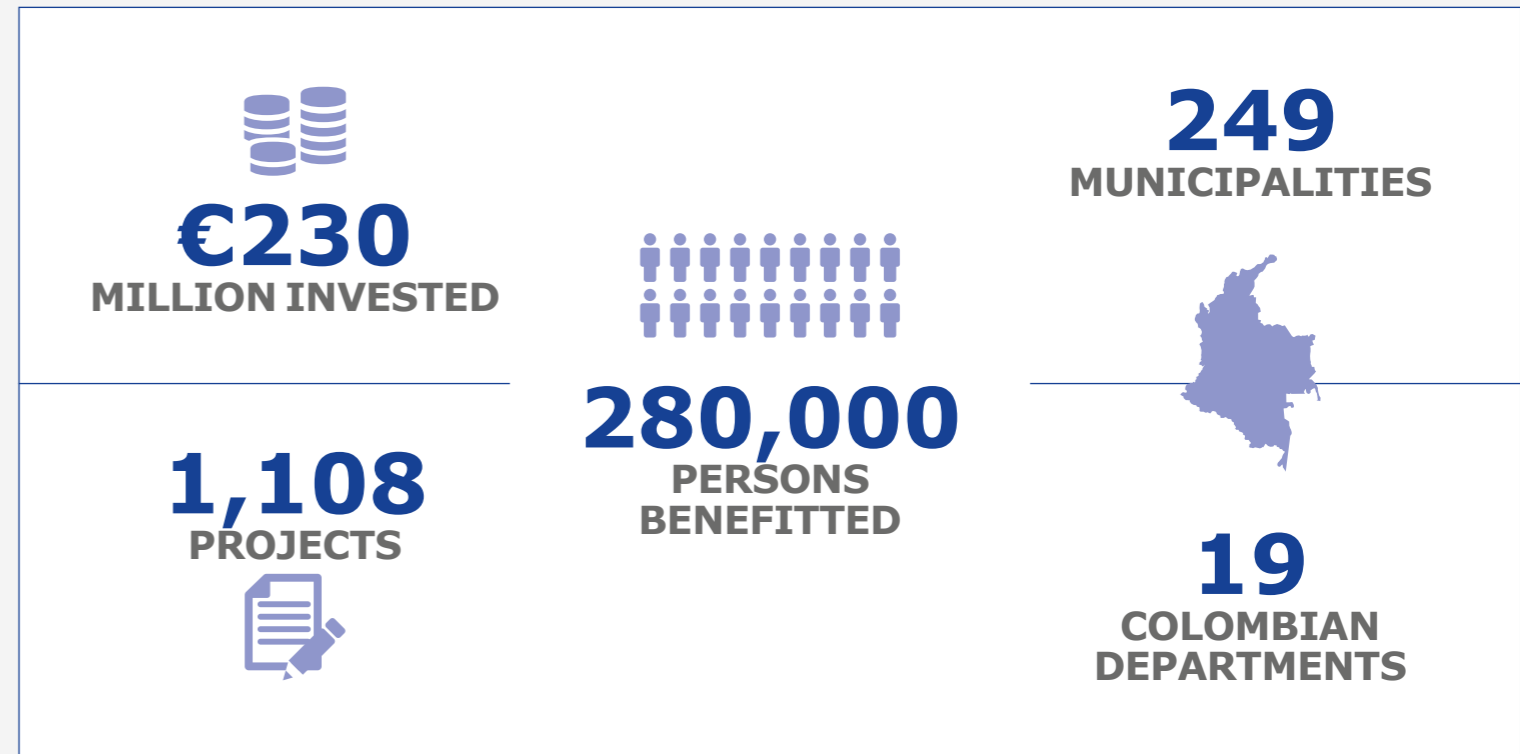


20 years EU contribution to peace building in Colombia

Support to the peacebuilding efforts has been a central feature in EU-Colombia relations over the last decades.

Large part of the EU's financial assistance to Colombia has been devoted to helping address some of the root causes of the internal conflict as well as some of its consequences. An emblematic example was the **Peace Laboratories** which ran for ten years (2002 – 2012), continued by **Regional Development Peace and Stability** programme and **New Peace Territories** project which concluded in 2017.

In this framework a total of €230 million (€160 million by the EU) has been invested in 1,108 projects in the areas of economic and regional development, human rights and democratic governance. These projects have benefitted 280,000 persons in 249 municipalities and 19 Colombian Departments (states) and served to give voice to the civil society in the territories on matters concerning their economic development, re-establishing individual's dignity and generating hope and rooted in communities.



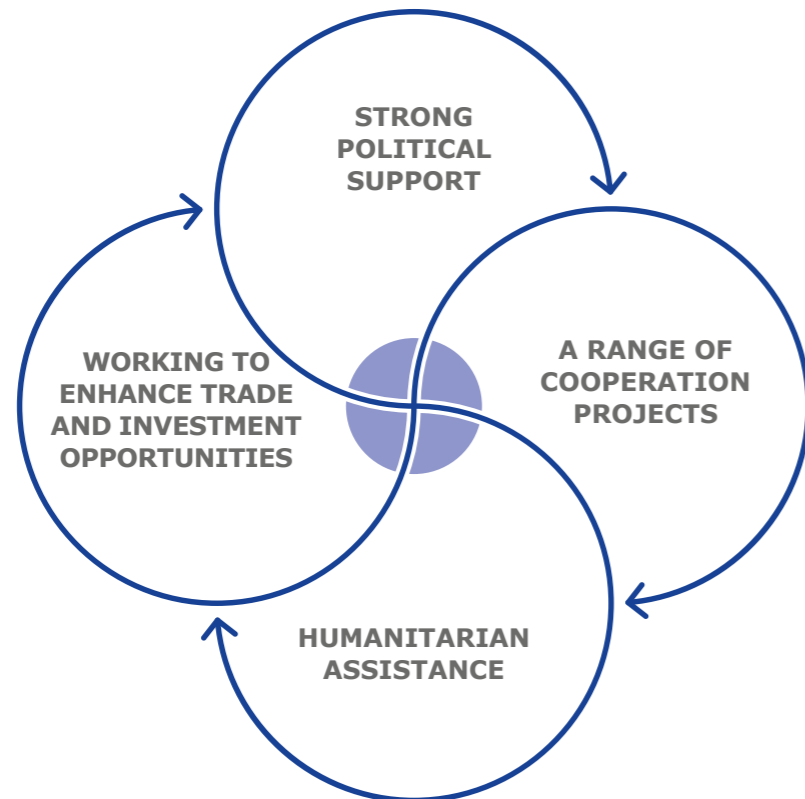
The EU support to the Peace process with FARC

From the beginning of the negotiations between FARC and the Colombian Government that led to the signature of the Peace Agreement in November 2016, the EU committed itself to support this process both politically and through financial cooperation.

The EU itself is a peace project which was born from the horrors of two world wars. Stability in Europe has clearly illustrated that no country or region operates in a vacuum and that solidarity and support are vital to help build peace and cultivate reconciliation. This is why the **preservation of peace, prevention of conflict and strengthening of international**

security is established in the EU treaties. Colombia also plays the role as a natural partner of the EU, due to its stable democracy and its leadership in Latin America. As in other countries, the EU strives to support Colombia in its peace efforts, using all its tools: **diplomacy, international cooperation and development, humanitarian aid and civilian protection and investment and trade**. One of the aims of the EU Global Strategy on Foreign and Security Policy is to intensify efforts on this comprehensive approach.

Colombia is very much an example of how the EU works to achieve peace, combining its **4 main external relations pillars:**



In November 2015 the EU High Representative Federica Mogherini appointed former Deputy Prime Minister of Ireland, Tánaiste and Foreign Minister, Eamon Gilmore, as the EU's Special Envoy for the peace process in Colombia. (Picture and quote by EG in the brochure). Mr. Gilmore's vast experience on the Irish peace process has served to put its knowledge and the lessons learnt in their own peace process at the disposal of Colombia.

SE Gilmore visits Colombia regularly to bolster EU political support to the implementation of the peace agreement and meets with victims, human rights defenders, government, opposition, FARC, civil society and media, all over the country. High Representative Mogherini has also visited Colombia as well as the President of the European Parliament and several EP delegations. In January 2016 the EP passed a resolution supporting the Colombian peace process, understanding that peace issues are a prominent feature in the EU-Colombia annual High Level Political Dialogue which covers the full range of bilateral

relations, including issues such as environment, climate change, education, culture, science and technology.

The Peace Agreement in Colombia defined the European Union as a supporting actor in 3 areas:

- Comprehensive Rural Development reform
- Reincorporation of FARC members into civilian life
- Establishment of a Special Investigation Unit in the Prosecutor General's Office

The EU has actively engaged with the Colombians and other international actors offering expertise, know-how and best international practices in these areas.

EU support to the peace process in Colombia combines:

- **Support to national public policies through budget support operations.** A current portfolio of more than € 100 million, channeled into the national budget to contribute to national programmes carried out by the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development and the Ministry of Trade and Industry fostering the economic development of rural Colombia.

“ Every Peace Process relies on international support, especially when it gets difficult. The EU stands with Colombia, every day as the country seeks to build peace and to end all violence ”



Eamon Gilmore
EU Special Envoy to the Colombian Peace Process

- **Rapid response programmes** upon Colombian demand through the EU instrument for stability and peace. Actions include:

Support for humanitarian demining, including the demining pilot project between the FARC and armed forces in Orejón and St. Helena;

Access to justice at local level;

Reintegration of minors from the FARC and other armed groups;

Peace education for the armed forces (particularly in relation to both the FARC and ELN bilateral ceasefires);

- The **EU Trust Fund for peace in Colombia**, endowed with € 96 million which combines contributions of the EU and of 19 Member States.

The EU Trust Fund for Colombia

At the 2015 EU-CELAC Summit, the EU and its Member States confirmed at the highest level their willingness to **set up a European Trust Fund in support of the peace process in Colombia**. The Trust Fund was officially launched in December 2016, shortly after the signature of the Peace Agreement between the Colombian Government and FARC-EP, in presence of the EU High Representative Federica Mogherini, Commissioner Mimica and Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos.

The **EU Trust Fund is a joint European effort to consolidate**

peace and promote sustainable local development in Colombia. 19 Member States are contributing to the EU Fund, raising a total financial envelope of EUR 96 million over 4 years that allow a coherent and efficient EU response to the country's post-conflict needs. The EU Trust Fund interventions supports development of rural conflict-affected areas, contribute to reinforcing the presence of the State in those areas and support economic and social reincorporation of former combatants.

By the end of April 2018, projects totaling +/- € 33 million EUR are ongoing¹.



Ongoing EU Trust Fund projects (end of April 2018)

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¹Updated information can be found at the EUTF website https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sites/devco/files/proyectos-eutf-20180417_en.pdf



EU

1 Strengthening of integrated intervention mechanisms in marginalised rural areas of Colombia



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

Mesetas, San Juan de Arama, Vistahermosa, Puerto Rico, Nuqui, Bahía Solano, Juradó, Inza, Paez, Totoró, Bolívar, Roldanillo, Unión, Toro, Argelia, El Dovio, Trujillo.



This project promotes sustainable rural development in 17 municipalities in 4 departments in Colombia, benefiting directly 20,000 families, more than 50 grassroots organisations, 3,000 fishermen and approximately 80 producer organisations.

Considering the specificity of these territories, the project focuses on the local economic development,

recovering the traditional productions systems, guaranteeing food sovereignty and generating income allowing the purchase of goods or basic services. Similarly the project seeks to strengthen agricultural and non-agricultural productive chains through logistic centres for collection and transformation, as well as the trading of products in the local, national and international markets.



Implementing partners:

Instituto SINCHI, IIAP, Invalle, Asoc. Cabildos Nasa Cha Cha.



“ Thanks to the support of the European Union, we are consolidating a milk production association, which is the sustenance for our territory and our families. This has allowed me and my family to remain in the countryside, and not be displaced in cities, the key to peace is closer to the ground ”

Arnobio Ramírez

Farmer and founder of Asoganabol, leading association of the dairy sector in the region.



Advances:

- **6,000 families in 13 municipalities are engaged with the project** and co-operating on the re-activation of the local economies.
- Through fair trade agreements, under the project **260 coffee growers in Cauca have obtained a 15% increase on their income** for certified organic coffee; production commercialized through the scheme reached 56 tons in 2018.
- **800 farms in Choco with complementary diversified**

- production** through poultry and pork farming in addition to their usual crops.
- **Laboratory equipment for milk testing** and quality assurance provided in Meta, **benefitting 850 milk producers.**
- **Launch of a pilot land formalisation process** in Vista Hermosa (Meta) with the support of the Dutch Cadaster, whose methodology should offer a faster and cheaper land titling process to be replicated elsewhere.
- **Export of 2 tons of coffee beans** to Germany and Australia.



“ With the European Union Fund for Peace we are already exporting coffee, we sent 2 tons in April 2018 to Germany and Australia, who will not only receive a special aroma, quality and origin coffee, but also a whole country’s hope for peace ”

Naval Achicué

Indigenous Nasa, community leader and coffee producer.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 11.000.000



 **Netherlands / ICCO**

Ethnic-territorial and small-scale farmer organizations are strengthened as central agents in peacebuilding and territorial transformation



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

Villa Garzón, Puerto Asís, Valle del Güamuez, Orito, Colón, Sibundoy, San Francisco, Santiago, Los Andes, Barbacoas, Tumaco, Ricaurte, Cumbitara, Policarpa, Linares, Samaniego.



This action aims to improve economic conditions for small-scale producers, as a way to reconstruct the country social-economic fabric and increase the State presence in this region. It focusses on three main areas: (i) the promotion of small-scale participation in key value chains (coffee, cacao, panela, chontaduro, plantain, banana, avocado and other fruit trees), (ii) facilitating the participation of indigenous and small-scale farmers in local territorial planning and (iii) promoting a peace culture, peaceful conflict resolution and nonviolent social communication.

The innovative aspect of this action is the creation of a co-investment fund "Truvalu

Fund", which will support fair and inclusive agri-food SMEs in emerging markets, through "blended financing" and technical assistance facilities. The Fund participates as a co-entrepreneur in promising small and growing SMEs, boosting them to scalable businesses. The approach includes Business Development Support oriented towards these emerging enterprises in order to improve their operational process, marketing and sales, financial administration, human resource management, ICT and communications. Boosting SMEs activity will contribute to create jobs and offers the opportunity to develop economic activities benefiting rural population in the Departments of Nariño and Putumayo.

The action will support the National Platform for Rural Women, which embraces around 800 grassroots organizations and brings "women's voice" in national and regional scenarios, making visible women's proposals on issues related to land tenure, access to productive assets, women's participation, and environment.

Within the third component of the project, related to the promotion of a culture for peace, the action builds on ICCO experience with

"MANQ'A School of Gastronomy", offering opportunities for youth, leading to employment and higher income. Manq'a brings together producers, food processors and consumers, and trains young chefs, using local and organic ingredients.

ICCO will provide professional knowledge in gastronomy, tourism and hospitality to youth, allowing access to better work and activating their own entrepreneurship in these focal sectors.


TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 3.660.000



Italy / CISP

3

Peace: The only hope for Economic and Social Development – PUEDES



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

Puerto Asis, Puerto Caicedo, Orito, Valle del Guamuez and Puerto Leguizamo.



The project pursues empowering local communities and strengthening local governance capacity for sustainable local development of 5 targeted municipalities of the Putumayo Department, specially affected by the internal armed conflict in Colombia. Local communities in five municipalities will have the opportunity to participate in social public policies, in the improvement of the territorial planning through the adoption of Rural Development with a Territorial Focus Approach (DRET), and in the development

of at least one chain of strategic value in these municipalities with the contribution of private sector actors, national and international, that will facilitate access to markets of the local "veredal" products. Additionally, a Cultural-Artistic District for Peace targeting youth will be established in each Municipality. The project is especially sensitive to women and youth needs and participation. It targets more than 8,000 people, and benefits over 120,000, including FARC ex-combatants in the region.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 2.700.000



ECHO / FAO

4

Actions for economic and social stabilization in the municipality of Puerto Guzman – Putumayo



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

Puerto Guzmán.



The project seeks to address serious protection problems faced by civilian population in the municipality of Puerto Guzmán, in the Department of Putumayo, due to the prolonged internal armed conflict and the continued absence of national government institutions in the area, historically occupied by the FARC.

Through an Integral Rural Development response with a resilience approach, it pretends to provide solutions to main deficiencies in health and education infrastructure, as well as in the delivery of services, low diversity in food production, deficient alternative income sources and decent employment, increased

levels of deforestation, and planting of illicit crops. Main outcomes are: communities with water, basic sanitation and health services improved; a functional justice system in the target communities; community groups technically strengthened in different topics and with social recognition; families with access to diversified food and communities to functional income-generation strategies.

The implementation will benefit 13,125 persons approximately. Overall, it will focus both at community and institutional level, and aims at improving the communities' perception of the presence of the National Government in their territories.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 2.000.000



Corpomanigua / FAO

5

YOUNG AMAZONIA: Amazon corridors for peace lead by youth



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

San José, El Retorno, Calamar, San Vicente del Caguán, Puerto Rico and Cartagena del Chairá.



The “Young Amazonia” Project is located in the middle Caguán River basin (department of Caquetá), and the upper Guaviare River and lower Guayabero River. These basins make up three strategic biological corridors for the conservation of biodiversity in the Amazon, and therefore the Colombian Government protects them. However, these territories have historically suffered marginalisation and neglect. And they have faced an intense spoliation due to settlement processes, extensive livestock farming and illegal economies (coca crops, illegal mining, animal trafficking).

“Young Amazonia” aims to move from “strategic war corridors” to

“corridors of life”. To this end, the project proposes:

- Innovative and inclusive sustainable green businesses that preserve the Amazonia and stop deforestation (3,600 hectares of protected forest, 20% of them in the environmental services market), to promote legal businesses and stabilize the agricultural frontier.
- Increasing of local capacities for young people on areas such as digital literacy, culture and sports.
- Improvement of public assets for socio-economic inclusion and social welfare (improved urban environments, access to solar power, small water infrastructure), and improved production and tourism infrastructure.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 4.300.000



Germany / Caritas

6

Political and Economic Territorial Empowerment with a Focus on Rural Women (“Tejedoras de vida” of Putumayo)



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):

Puerto Asís, Valle del Guamuez, San Miguel, Puerto Guzmán, Puerto Caicedo, Orito and Mocoa.



Three thousand women in Putumayo under the alliance “Tejedoras de vida” and their families will benefit from the action. They are part of women’s organisations, including “cocalero” women and victims of gender based violence and gender based sexual violence;

The project aims to contribute to the political and economic territorial empowerment of Putumayo Department with a focus on rural women, particularly in relation to Item 1 of the Agreement: “Towards a New Colombian countryside: Integral Rural Reform”.

It will provide women’s organizations the opportunity to strengthen their rights and establish social and institutional cohesion in a peacebuilding scenario. Families will improve their economic and social situation with initiatives to be financed through women’s organisations (productive, organizational, microfinancing). Local and regional governments participate in the promotion of sustainable, legal and competitive local economies with a gender focus.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 5.500.000



Portugal / Instituto Marquês de Valle Flôr (IMVF)

7

Sustainable Caquetá territories for peace



Geographical area of intervention (municipalities):
El Paujil and La Montañita.



The objective of this project is to contribute to the consolidation of a stable and lasting peace in Colombia by strengthening socio-economic and environmental development of post-conflict Amazonian territories.

The Project presents impacts at two levels. On the one hand, early or short-term impacts for the communities to experience immediate post-conflict benefits. Rapid actions related to food security, construction/adaptation of public goods under community

schemes, modernization of established crops (cocoa and associated crops) and social support are envisaged. On the other hand, medium and long-term impacts, which seek the sustainability of the process beyond the external financing period (income generation and substitution of illicit activity/production), including actions associated with the transformation and commercialization, national and international, of the Amazonian fine flavor cocoa and associated products.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 3.150.000



EU / El Espectador

8

Pedagogy and Communication for Peace



Geographical area of intervention:
National remit.



The project focuses on information and communication as crucial elements for a pedagogy for peace built from and with the regions, their leaders, authorities and media.

It is based on three strategic lines:

- I) Training and Pedagogy:** Improving knowledge, experience and capabilities of community journalists in charge of the media located in prioritized regions.
- II) Content production:** Improving the capacity of

media and broadcasters to build stories and news with the participation of the communities, and interact between the various informational scenarios.

III) Communication for Political Advocacy and Social Mobilization: Promoting opportunities for local, regional and national discussion and dialogue, disseminating news and informing on the regions' realities vis-à-vis the peacebuilding.



EU Trust Fund for Colombia

TOTAL EUTF CONTRIBUTION: € 1.150.000



https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/eu-trust-fund-colombia_en

