





September 2024



PBF Investments in



 **TOTAL APPROVED:** \$60.1 M

 **CURRENTLY ACTIVE:** \$11.4 M

Focusing on

-  Economic recovery & youth empowerment
-  Social and economic reintegration
-  Transitional justice
-  Innovative financing

Partners



HALO Trust Fund, Norwegian People's Aid, Campaña Colombiana contra Minas, Pastoral Caritas Colombia, CEPDIPO, Truth Commission, Sisma Mujer, Acumen, IC Fundación, Bancóldex, Corpocampo, Wegrou, Mercy Corps, Incofin, Supra café, Fundación Mi Sangre, FLIP, Christian Aid

PEACEBUILDING CHALLENGES

In November 2016, the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) signed a Final Peace Agreement, bringing an end to the 53-year conflict. The agreement addressed the root causes of the conflict, including limited access to land and historical development gaps, including between urban and rural areas. In the same year, the UN Security Council established the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, mandated to verify the implementation of the Peace Agreement. Since then, the implementation of the provisions of the 2016 Final Peace Accord has centered UN support for national peace strategies in Colombia. Despite significant progress, challenges remain in sustainably reintegrating former combatants, advancing transitional justice, promoting the participation of women and youth, amplifying the voices of vulnerable groups and addressing the root causes of the conflict.

PEACEBUILDING FUND IN ACTION

The PBF has been investing in Colombia since January 2014, when the first project was approved to support communications for peace. In 2017, following a request from the Government, the UN declared Colombia eligible to access funds through the PBF's Peacebuilding and Recovery Facility (PRF). In 2023, this eligibility was renewed for an additional five years, with the PBF asked to continue supporting the acceleration of the 2016 Final Peace Agreement's implementation, the new peace dialogues and the implementation of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security.

With PBF funding, the UN System in Colombia has supported efforts to meet the commitments of the Peace Agreement around issues of reintegration of former combatants, territorial peace initiatives in prioritized regions, transitional justice, and innovative financing for peace.

In addition to the PRF funds channeled through the UN Multi- Donor Fund for Peace in Colombia, since 2018, the PBF has supported the implementation of 14 joint projects submitted by UN entities as well as Colombian and international civil society organizations under its competitive Gender and Youth Promotion initiative. The PBF has also supported dialogues between the Government and the ELN.

PBF support in Colombia focuses on the following areas:

- ▶ **Economic recovery and youth empowerment:** Comprehensive stabilization interventions in territories affected by armed conflict, aimed at promoting economic recovery and reducing the risk of a resurgence of violence, particularly among historically vulnerable populations, with a focus on addressing the needs of youth.
- ▶ **Social and economic reintegration:** Reintegration interventions designed to sever the link between politics and violence by supporting the transformation of a former guerrilla group into a democratic political actor, alongside the design and implementation of social and economic reintegration programmes, particularly in underserved urban and ethnic communities.
- ▶ **Transitional justice:** Efforts to accelerate the establishment and operation of the Comprehensive System for Truth, Justice, Reparations and Non-Recurrence, and providing durable solutions for victims of forced displacement.
- ▶ **Innovative financing:** Development of public-private partnerships in areas targeted by the Peace Agreement.

■ PEACEBUILDING FUND IMPACT

The 2016 'Respira Paz' campaign reached more than 32,000 people and helped increase awareness of the peace process. Another PBF project facilitated collective reparations for more than 15,600 people, including 7850 women. Due to the project's impact and effective management, the Ministry of Labor pledged more than \$2.1 million for the implementation of collective reparation measures, especially those related to the agricultural sector for the economic sustainability of these communities.

The project "Reincorporation of ex-combatants through humanitarian demining for peacebuilding" has supported the reincorporation of 117 former combatants through the development of the humanitarian demining organization (Humanicemos DH). This initiative contributed to the liberation of land and the development and maintenance of peace in the region. In 2022, the PBF supported a project focused on strengthening care capacities and opportunities for women in the reintegration process.

In response to the Secretary-General's call to explore innovative financing solutions for peacebuilding, in 2019 the Fund supported seven private sector investments in conflict-affected territories through blended finance mechanisms. An initial PBF investment of \$2.1 million leveraged private resources at a ratio of 1:6. A second project, with an investment of \$3 million was approved in late 2021 to contribute to sustainable peacebuilding and to prevent new socio-environmental conflicts, through increased green investments and business in conflict-affected territories prioritized in the Peace Agreement.

The PBF supported the Truth Commission (CEV) throughout its nearly four-year mandate, including its establishment, the drafting and dissemination of its Final Report. The CEV provided a platform for over 28,580 victims, including 9,063 from diverse ethnic groups, to share their testimonies, ensuring their dignity and promoting the principle of non-repetition. The Fund also supported the Special Transitional Electoral Districts for Peace, a mechanism designed to ensure the effective political representation of victims in Congress.

Through the Gender Promotion Initiative 2.0, the PBF is supporting civil society organizations led by women and/or LGBTQI+ that represent survivors of sexual violence (SV) and gender-based violence (GBV) during the conflict. These organizations will represent victims in the Special Jurisdiction for Peace (JEP). Additionally, PBF support will enhance JEP's capacity to investigate these cases and integrate a gender perspective into its judicial decisions.

■ WORKING ACROSS PILLARS

PBF support aligns with the national priorities identified by the Government of Colombia and is implemented by 11 UN agencies and 18 Civil Society Organizations, in close coordination with the priorities of the UN Verification Mission. Since 2017, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) has convened four meetings to discuss the peace process in Colombia with participation from government and civil society representatives.

■ CATALYTIC EFFECT

The PBF is one of the first and largest contributors to the UN Multi-Donor Trust Fund for Peace in Colombia, which has now mobilized more than \$223 million for the implementation of the Peace Agreement. The Fund's activities in Colombia support the Colombia Trust Fund under the leadership of national authorities.