

# Progress in Colombia country in 2021

Data as of: 8 May 2024

OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_1.1

Institutions, legal frameworks, and policies to advance women's right to participate in decision making at national and local levels are reformed/adopted and implemented.

The result had a significant advance during the year 2021. Even though the Constitutional Court did not pronounce itself regarding the implementation of the approved Colombian Electoral Code -which include 2 two high-impact measures for the guarantee of the exercise of the political rights of women-advances have been made to advance women's political participation. This, through the parity showcased in the lists of both national and territorial public corporations for the upcoming elections, the institutional approach to cases of violence against women in politics, and through the requirement of parity lists of candidates for the victims and civil society organizations that are interested in having 1 of the 16 seats created by the Legislative Act for the Special Temporary Districts of Peace after the elections of March 2022. The first elections for Municipal Youth Councils – a mechanism to promote the participation of young people between 14 and 28 years old in the decision-making spaces of municipalities in Colombia established by Law 1885 of 2018—also required parity lists. Lastly, this year the National Electoral Council (NEC) issued regulations to promote greater political participation of women, like the Resolution No. 8947 that address the prevention of cases of gender-based violence and aims to guarantee the right to vote in conditions of equality between men and women. UN Women contributed to these advances through its alliance with the NEC, particularly by providing direct technical assistance within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding in order to implement the normative measures on parity, the prevention and care of Violence Against Women victims in Politics and strengthen gender equality within this institution. The role of UN Women was recognized by the president of the National Electoral Council in social media (https://twitter.com/i/status/1472240509339021315). UN Women has worked in partnership with the National Congress, Women's Caucus, electoral bodies, the Presidential Advisor for Women Equality (CPEM) and 15 cooperation entities -including UNDP-to implement a Multi-stakeholder Strategy with the aim of promoting political parity and favoring the agenda of gender in the electoral and public management agenda in the pre-electoral context of the country. In 2021, this strategy adhered new actors, particularly the main media outlets in the country, that are committed to providing electoral coverage with a gender focus and monitoring the parity formation of the lists of candidacies. The incorporation of media outlets has contributed to a favorable opinion regarding the participation of women in politics that is expected to be reflected in an increase of women's participation in the National Elections of March 2022.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_1.3

Gender statistics are available, accessible and analyzed to timely inform policy-making, advocacy and accountability regarding gender equality and women's empowerment.

In 2021, UN Women –in partnership with the National Administrative Department of Statistics (DANE) and the Presidential Advisor for Women Equality (CPEM)—contributed to the utilization of gender statistics through the provision of technical assistance and knowledge products to inform the public policy production cycle, especially two key policies: 1. First, the formulation process of the National Care Policy where the gender approach implies considerations related to closing gaps in women's economic empowerment, particularly

in the analysis of supply and demand structure of care services, the incorporation of the Duran scale to predict the burden of care to 2050 and the policy diagnosis from statistical evidence and models 2. The Gender Atlas Geovisor as a tool that allows a deeper analysis of the geospatial distribution of gender inequalities and achieve a better understanding of local inequalities in the country, as well as the structure and use of data under a geospatial logic. This, with an especial focus on the dimension of Women Economic Empowerment, as a tool for statistics dissemination and visualization. Also in 2021, UN Women –through the Women Count Program—supported the strengthening and consolidation of the Colombian Women Observatory (National), and of four (4) territorial gender observatories:, i) the Gender Observatory at Nariño Department, ii) Women Affairs Observatory at Cauca Department, iii) Women and Gender Affairs Observatory at Antioquia Department and iv) Gender Information and knowledge System at the city of Medellín. In November 25th, the Governorate Office of the Meta released, with support of UN Women, the gender profile of the department and signed the Decree to create the gender observatory in this department. Photos of the event are available on:

https://twitter.com/ONUMujeresCol/status/1464015973405671429?s=20 https://twitter.com/ONUMujeresCol/status/1464268837147316260?s=20

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_2.1

Women's sustainable livelihoods enhanced by gender-responsive policies, services and access and control over means of production and resources

In 2021, UN Women advanced towards this result by supporting the National Planning Department (DNP) to conclude the formulation of the National Care Policy, the generation of technical inputs with CISOE to analyze in detail the impact of Covid-19 on care, and the guidelines to advance in micro-simulations of the care model general equilibrium including this economic sector. Advances have also been made in Nariño, where the models are being supported with the design and implementation of a georeferenced data viewer for the Public Care Policy decision-making at the local level. High-level technical support has been initiated for Cali, Pasto, Medellin, Antioquia and Villavicencio to strengthen their actions regarding the care agenda. On the other hand, the STEAM agenda continued to be promoted through the podcast "AquíHablamosTodas", that looks forward to increasing the cultural positioning of these areas on the national agenda (https://aquihablamostodas.com/). Likewise, the implementation of a prototype of technological innovation for monitoring and sales of cultivating women through the RetoLab strategy named "Women cultivating the field" was developed. Finally, technical assistance and articulation with the private sector have been contributed within the framework of the WEPs, a community that increased to 65 companies committed to gender equality and women's rights.

### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_3.1

Women and girls who experience violence are empowered to use available, accessible and quality essential services and recover from violence

The result had a significant advance during the year 2021. Among the results, it should be mentioned the strengthening of public institutions at national and local levels, the production and dissemination of knowledge products on gender-based violence (GBV), and the strengthening of initiatives led by civil society. UN Women contributed to the strengthening of the Women Free of Violence Strategy of the Presidential Council for Equality for Women (CPEM) through technical assistance in three areas: 1. the implementation of the "Coordinating Mechanism for Comprehensive Approach to Violence for Reasons of Sex and Gender" (Coordinating Mechanism) at the national and territorial level. At the territorial level, UN Women also contributed to the implementation of the "Coordinating Mechanism" in two departments and eight municipalities (Antioquia, Medellin, Meta, Villavicencio, Acacias, Granada, Mesetas, Puerto Lopez, Uribe

and Puerto Gaitán). In Meta, the "Coordinating Mechanism" was adopted through Decree 282, for which UN Women offered technical assistance. UNW also contributed to the adoption of the local model More justice, less barriers, by departmental institutions in Antioquia for the training of officials and application in operational processes that improve the quality of service by reducing barriers to access to justice. Likewise, it contributed to the Institutional Strengthening of the Comprehensive Protection Strategy for victims of GBV "Purple Team" of the Women's Secretariats of Popayán and Cauca, and the strengthening of the Tables for the Eradication of Violence Against Women (VCM) of Mesetas and Granada and supported the construction of the Public Policy for the Women of Mesetas, which was approved by the Council of that municipality. 2. Supporting the implementation of the Prevention, Attention and Protecion Measures for women victims of violence established by Law 1257 of 2008 in the 32 departments of the country. 3. Monitoring cases of women at risk of femicide in Meta, Villavicencio, Antioquia, Medellin and Cauca. It contributed to the strengthening of the Attorney General's Office and the National Institute of Legal Medicine (INML) through the development of a proposal to harmonize the femicide risk assessment scales of these two entities. Likewise, it offered technical assistance to the INML for the preparation of the "Guidelines for the elaboration of safety plans for women assessed by the femicide risk identification protocol" and logistical support for the elaboration of MASATUGO, a publication that systematizes information from the administrative records of that entity regarding VAW in Colombia in the five-year period 2015-2019. UN Women contributed to the strengthening of 5 cities of the Safe Cities Program (Medellin, Bogotá, Cali, Popayan, Villavicencio) for the design and implementation of the Work Plan and the creation of Technical Advisory Committees. In addition, in three of these cities (Cali, Medellin, Bogotá) UN Women promoted the tables and/or committees of existing universities. Regarding civil society, in 2021 UN Women contributed to the strengthening of the advocacy and oversight agendas for the prevention of GBV and the strengthening of the institutional response of the EICOS Women's Platform and the Yo Puedo Women's Movement, made up of 26 Women's Organizations from the department of Meta. UN Women continued to contribute to the strengthening of the Comunitar organization for the implementation of the Educational Strategy for the prevention of GBV and co-responsible masculinities through the Tsiunas video game. In 2021, the strategy reached 9 educational institutions in Caldono, Timbio, Patia and Popayan. Likewise, UN Women continued to contribute to the Campaign "Our house is a safe place with THEM", developed by the National Women's Network. Similarly, UN Women maintained an alliance with the National Association of Advertisers (ANDA) to update and disseminate the "Responsible Advertising Footprint" tool, which is used by advertisers associated with that guild to measure their commitment to sustainability. In total, UNW contributed to the visibility and prevention of GBV through the generation of 11 knowledge products on the subject, including the final evaluation of the multi-year program to prevent and eradicate GBV funded by USAID that highlight the results achieved.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_3.2

# Favorable social norms, attitudes and behaviors are promoted at community and individual levels to prevent VAW

In 2021, UN Women made significant advances towards the transformation of social norms, attitudes, and behaviors to prevent Violence Against Women (VAW). This year, the Third Measurement of the Study on Social and Institutional Tolerance to VAW was published, shared with public officials as a sensibilization strategy(https://colombia.unwomen.org/es/biblioteca/publicaciones/2021/tercer-estudio-sobretolerancia-social-e-institucional-de-las-violencias-contras-las-mujeres#view), and presented in events that showcased its results to more than 600 participants (including women organizations). Five regional events (Cauca, Meta Antioquia, Nariño and Caribbean Coast) were also included in the communication strategy, that achieved 14 press notes in virtual and physical media outlets. These advances were made due to UNW alliances with CPEM and USAID, that facilitated the elaboration of the Measurement and its divulgation. Regarding the UNETE campaign to end VAW, in 2021 UN Women contributed to the sensibilization and rejection of VAW through the development of a commemoration strategy that included a digital component, events in different regions of the country, and the establishment of alliances with the UNCT and

external allies. These alliances allowed the orange illumination of 11 building in 7 cities, and the development of several activities (forums, marches, care and services fairs, publication launches, inter-institutional committees, among others) at national and local level, including 5 departments (Medellín, Popayán, Villavicencio, Quibdó, Pastó), their capital cities and other 5 cities in the Caribbean region (Maicao, Santa Marta, Riohacha, Barranquilla and Cartagena).Results achieved are also highlighted in the final evaluation of the multi-year program to prevent and eradicate GBV funded by USAID.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_4.1

Women, Peace and Security commitments and accountability frameworks adopted and implemented in conflict and post-conflict situations.

In 2021, UN Women continued providing support to the implementation of the commitments contained in Resolution 1325 through the implementation of the Peace Agreement and gender mechanisms incorporated through these state entities. Particularly, UN Women contributed to the significant progress in the appropriation of the commitments and legal frameworks of the Women, Peace & Security agenda by the three components of the Integral System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-Repetition (SIVJRNR) the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the Truth Commission, and the Search Unit for Disappeared Persons. The increased appropriation of the legal frameworks of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda were also evidenced in the Ombudsman's Office (Early Warning System, delegate for Women and Gender), the Ministry of the Interior, the Protection Unit and the National Commission for Security Guarantees, (https://colombia.unwomen.org/es/biblioteca/publicaciones/2021/experiencias-alrededor-de-laconstruccion-del-modelo-territorial). The This, through the implementation of a comprehensive territorial risk mitigation strategy for Human Rights Defenders, protection for them and their associative network from a preventive perspective, and the enhancement of the response capacity of the Ombudsman's Office as the national human rights entity. As such, UN Women supported the development of 4 gender risk monitoring and documentation systems with a territorial approach, and 6 emergency and rapid response funds that have benefited 499 people. Likewise, Un Women supported the Ombudsman's Office in consolidation a strategy to identify and warn of individual and collective risks of defenders for the construction of 4 Defender Reports in Chocó, Cauca, Nariño and Antioquia with the participation of 670 women and 137 organizations, while advocating before instances as the National Protection Unit, and carried out support for the territorialization of the Comprehensive Guarantees Program, and advanced in the technical strengthening of civil servants and in the development of mental health policies within the entity. Within this framework, 3,819 women leaders and defenders in 71 municipalities of the departments of Antioquia, Cauca, Chocó and Nariño, have self-protection and collective protection strategies in place for the defense of human rights. UN Women -under a rapid response approach and reinforced protection to safeguard the security of women and young leaders—supported 5 women's organizations with the activation of response support (SRR) for the mitigation of security risks in the context of social protest, in alliance with the Urgent Action Fund. It was developed in the cities of Bogotá, Barranquilla, Buenaventura, and Santander de Quilichao. This, amidst the context of social protest that occurred in 2021. UN Women developed processes for the exchange of experiences, products, and high impact actions like the exchanges among women organizations and networks from Colombia and Brazil, initiatives like the Mesoamerican Initiative for Women Defenders and the Urgent Action Fund, that have inspiring protection strategies that translate into strengthening tools for defenders. UN Women also supported communities of practice that promote the creation and dissemination of de-stigmatizing communication campaigns and the recovery of knowledge that put the worldviews of ancestral peoples at the center as strategies to safeguard life and the protection of the territory. In 2021, and for the fourth consecutive year, UN Women commemorated the International Day of Human Rights Defenders with participation of more than 500 people, including leaders, state and government entities, the diplomatic corps and international cooperation. This, in close alliance with media. UN Women also produced knowledge documents such as the Document of International Standards to Judge Sexual Violence in Transition Contexts (https://www.un.org/sexualviolenceinconflict/wpcontent/uploads/2021/05/report/estandares-internacionales-para-juzgar-la-violencia-sexual-en-el-marco-de-los-conflictos-armados/estandares\_internacionales250521.pdf), a proposal to approach sanctions in the JEP from a gender perspective, and the book "Voices of Brave Women" in alliance with the Campaign No Es Hora De Callar to make visible the violence experienced by women journalists (https://www.eltiempo.com/justicia/servicios/libro-voces-de-mujeres-periodistas-valientes-611369). In coordination with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Verification Mission, UN Women provided technical support to spaces for the consolidation and implementation of regulatory frameworks related to prevention and protection of violence, such as the National Commission for Security Guarantees and the National Unit of Protection in the Risk Assessment Committee. UN Women also provided recommendation of mechanisms to address the specific needs of women and the Comprehensive Program of Guarantees for Women Leaders and Defenders.

## OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_4.2

Peace talks, recovery, conflict resolution and peace building planning processes and transitional justice processes include provisions on women's rights, participation and protection.

The result had a significant advance during the year . In 2021, a documentary on Women and Peacebuilding in Colombia was developed in commemoration of the 20th anniversary of Resolution 135 in alliance with Sweden and the Truth Commission, acting as a pedagogical contribution to other peace processes in the world and as a communicative piece for the dissemination of the participation of women in the construction of peace in Colombia. Among the advances on the implementation of the Resolution 135, it is important to highlight the strengthening of the the Special Unit for Women as a mechanism for follow-up, promotion and monitoring of the implementation of the gender approach of the Peace Agreement, unprecedented at a global level. Thanks to the technical and financial support of UN Women, the Unit was able to carry out the electoral process for the new cohort through a participatory and democratic process in which 37 Assemblies along the 32 departments of the country were involved. Six hundred fifty-two (652) women and 545 women's organizations participated in person in the aforementioned process. UN Women also supported the formulation and implementation of the strategy for gender mainstreaming within the Territory Renewal Agency -ART as the governing entity for the implementation of the Development Programs with a Territorial Approach – PDETs. This, through (8) technical tools that will be issued through Resolution; and with a pilot partnership in improvement co-financed by the Ministry of Agriculture, governorates, mayors, the private sector and UN Women in the departments of Nariño and Arauca. UN Women also sensitized 160 officials of the ARN at the territorial level in reincorporation and gender. Also, 100 women in reincorporation benefited from the different care actions in various departments of the country, impacting 300 more people from their family nuclei, and from the support to productive projects lead by excombatant women.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-COL\_D\_4.3

Gender equality commitments adopted and implemented in humanitarian action which includes disaster risk reduction and preparedness, response and early recovery

In partnership with the WPHF, UN Women advanced in this result by supporting the strengthening of capacities in gender and humanitarian action of 16 Civil Society Organizations and 2,554 women. This, by qualifying their role in the response and using tools for their participation and incidence in the incorporation of gender equality. Specifically, 4 documents were prepared to support the incidence of CSOs in relation to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on women and girls and to provide recommendations to national and

local entities to mitigate the impacts of this crisis; 6,118 humanitarian aid and biosafety kits were delivered to 1,607 women according to ethnic-territorial conditions; and 693 productive enterprises (individual and collective) led by women were supported with technical and managerial assistance aimed at mitigating the effects of the pandemic. UN Women also responded to the Venezuelan migration crisis, allowing 921 women (818 Venezuelans and 137 Colombians) in 6 municipalities of the Colombian Caribbean coast to receive health care and attention of their GBV cases through virtual mobile units. Also, 100 women from Nariño and 53 on the Caribbean coast in economic crisis due to COVID-19 received support with food kits for 3 months and 1,000 hygiene kits were delivered. Institutional capacities for the care of GBV in the migrant population were strengthened through the training of 67 public servants on the Caribbean coast and Nariño, as well as the creation of different communication pieces that reached at least 15,000 people, and were designed and implemented 2 chatbots (Riohacha and Barranquilla) to guide Colombian and Venezuelan women on issues such as health, GBV and migration; 508 Colombian and Venezuelan women created a network through community Dialogues in 2 cities on the coast and 2 in Nariño, and carried out 7 community advocacy actions on the Caribbean coast and Nariño; socioeconomic integration was favored by carrying out a diagnosis of the productive, commercial and employability vocation of 615 women from the Caribbean coast and 98 from Nariño. In addition, 12 enterprises on the Caribbean coast and 14 in Nariño were strengthened. Finally, advice was provided for access to the Temporary Protection Statute and support was provided for 7 pre-registration and/or biometric registration sessions on the Caribbean coast and Nariño that benefited 873 people. In 2021, UNW women -in alliance with CERF-strengthened 2 coalitions of women's organizations and 2 institutional gender mechanisms in the Departments of Chocó and Nariño in their humanitarian response capacities with a gender and differential approach, including the delivery of Resilience kits for 533 women in situations of greater vulnerability (heads of household, LGTBIQ +, with disabilities, indigenous people, Afro-descendants, etc.) in contexts of forced displacement and environmental disasters. In accordance with its coordination mandate, UN Women Colombia has a fundamental role in strengthening the gender approach in the response of the humanitarian architecture and the migratory situation through its co-leadership in the Area of Responsibility and the GBV Subsector, where they participate 34 partners linked to the EHP and/or the Interagency Group on Mixed Migratory Flows (GIFMM) linked to the R4V; the inclusion of the gender approach was supported through the use of the Gender with age marker (GAM) in the R4V; and the gender approach was included in the planning of the humanitarian response (HNO and HRP 2022) as well as in that linked to the population from Venezuela (RMRP 2022). In addition, UN Women has the co-leadership of the United Nations Task Force for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, promoting the approval and dissemination of the inter-agency Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for this type of case, in addition to supporting the strengthening of capabilities in this regard, in different regions of the country.