UNICEF Colombia
Mid-Year Situation Report
Date: July 2013

Highlights
- Over 200,000 casualties due to conflict between 1958 and 2012.
- Government-revised figures estimate approximately 5.2 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) from 1985 to 2013. It is estimated that 40% are children and adolescents.
- The continued use of children by non-state armed groups continued throughout 2012 according to the UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1612 on Children and Armed Conflict.
- The use of landmines continues to be a major factor of restriction on access to health, education and food. The impact is particularly acute among children.
- More than 264,000 people affected by natural disasters, primarily floods, windstorm and landslides during the first semester of 2013.

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The long running armed conflict in Colombia continues to cause forced displacement, land mine contamination, sexual violence and the recruitment of children and adolescents by armed groups. Propensity of the country for natural disasters combines with armed violence events contribute to create double vulnerability for much of the population.

According to an extensive research published in July 2013 by the Centro Nacional de Memoria Histórica it is estimated that there were over 200,000 casualties in Colombia’s armed conflict between 1958 and 2012, with over 80 per cent of these victims were civilians. The report relies on statistics and victims’ testimony to document the activities of all parties to the conflict, including paramilitaries, guerrillas and the Armed Forces. This approach reveals a host of important statistics that allow the conflict in Colombia to be compared to other situations around the globe.
In order to provide a vision of the more recent impact of the conflict, in the following table are a series of key statistics over the past years according to OCHA’s monitoring between 2008 and 2012.

![Number of Victims in Conflict per year 2008 - 2012](image)

Although encouraging, peace talks between the Government and FARC-EP guerrillas have not brought meaningful improvements for Colombia's conflict-affected civilians. During the first semester of 2013, aside from a brief FARC-EP ceasefire in January, the conflict continued steady in the first half of the year, with the measured impact on civilians roughly the same as during the first half of 2012. The actors behind the events causing humanitarian needs have shifted somewhat – particularly with the expanding operations of post-demobilization armed groups (PDAGs) and ELN guerrillas – but the overall humanitarian impact remains largely unchanged.

The Mechanism for Reporting and Monitoring (MRM) established in Colombia under the UNSCR 1612 from 2005 have monitored the persistence of 6 grave violations against children in the armed conflict: i) Killing and maiming; ii) use and recruitment; iii) attacks on schools and hospitals; iv) kidnapping; v) sexual violence and vi) denial of humanitarian access. Given the strong impact of forced displacement on children
in Colombia (children represents at least 40% of the people internally displaced), this violation is also observed (informally) by the MRM.

Colombian government has revised figures on the IDPs. These new figures adjust the total number of people to 5,244,761 for the full 1985 - 2013 period. In 2012 alone, the Victims’ Registry now estimates that 127,714 were internally displaced. An estimated 40% of the displaced population are children. For 2013, OCHA’s figures record 33 per cent of IDPs as Afro-Colombian and 36 per cent as indigenous. Official figures record these two groups as making up just 9 and 3 per cent of the overall population.

The Presidential Programme on Mine Action (PAICMA) reports that 181 people were victims of landmines and unexploded ordnances incidents (63 civilians, including 28 children) from January to May 2013. This represents a 27 per cent decrease from the same period in 2012. These figures are still being updated and are likely to increase. FARC-EP and ELN guerrillas were historically the most frequent users of Anti-personal Mines (APM), but recent reports indicate that Post-Demobilization Armed Groups (PDAGs) are using mines to protect coca crops and illegal mining operations, particularly in north-west and along the Pacific coast.

The Governmental Institution responsible for natural disasters response (UNGRD –Unidad Nacional de Gestión de Riesgo de Desastres) reported that 264,241 people were affected by natural disasters, primarily floods, windstorm or landslides, during the first semester of 2013. In Putumayo along the Ecuador border, a red alert remained in effect through the end of July due to heavy rainfall throughout the month. A departmental catastrophe was declared as a result. Floods affected around 63,000 people in 12 of 13 municipalities in the department. Nearly 200 homes were destroyed and many more damaged, with affected people seeking refuge in shelters, many of which fail to meet minimum standards. A lack of access to the area made needs evaluation and census missions impossible to carry out properly for several weeks.

The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) received the positive news that a Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) allocation for Underfunded Emergencies was granted to Colombia for approximately US$3.5 million. Clusters prioritized urgent needs in Food Security and Nutrition, WASH, Protection and Health, with targeted regions, primarily on the Pacific coast. UNICEF CO, as member of the HCT, leader and member of the Wash, Education, Food Security and Nutrition and Protection clusters, is preparing a proposal for the Humanitarian Coordinator in August.

**Key Information**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Start of humanitarian response:</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Affected Population</td>
<td>488,448</td>
<td>234,455</td>
<td>253,993</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Affected (Under 18)</td>
<td>177,455</td>
<td>85,178</td>
<td>92,276</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children Under Five</td>
<td>35,487</td>
<td>17,034</td>
<td>18,453</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Children 6 to 23 months</td>
<td>10,645</td>
<td>5,110</td>
<td>5,535</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pregnant women</td>
<td>6,103</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Add any additional context specific data</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Humanitarian leadership and coordination

The considerable efforts made by the government to provide humanitarian assistance are well acknowledged by the international community. As per official statistics for assistance through June 2013, the government has provided US$136 million in assistance to victims of violence during the year. OCHA is working to identify the sectors to which assistance is directed in order to improve complementarity between international and national assistance.

UNICEF has directed its actions to strengthening local and national capacities of government entities responsible for disaster risk reduction, preparedness and response given that recent flooding, windstorms and landslides took place almost in the same regions in recent years.

The protection and response to children demobilized should move forward and look for a balance between two components: i) Institutional: strengthen the capacities of key institutions within the National Family Welfare System and the National Victims System to guarantee the adequate protection and response for demobilized children, assuring the fulfillment of their human rights and preventing their recruitment by other illegal armed groups. ii) A comprehensive action plan for the demobilization and reintegration should be drafted to guarantee a multispectral response with a case by case perspective.

UNICEF Programme response

Nutrition

**Results Status**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated #/% coverage</th>
<th>UNICEF Target</th>
<th>Cumulative results (#)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td># of acutely malnourished children provided with therapeutic and supplementary food.</td>
<td>1,500</td>
<td>320 (21%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td># children under 5 years; pregnant and lactating women provided with micronutrient supplementation.</td>
<td>52,500</td>
<td>8,580 (16%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF Supported partners contributing to above UNICEF Results: National NGOs: Pastoral Social de Guapi (Pacific Coast); Pastoral Social Mocoa (Putumayo – Ecuador Border); Fundaeduvida (Guajira – Atlantic Coast); UN Agencies: OCHA, FAO, WFP; Government Institutions: National Institute of Family Welfare; Local authorities; Indígenas Organizations and people: Wayuu, Embera, Inga, Kofane, Kamentsa, and Awa

**Analysis of Results**

The higher risk of acute malnutrition and anaemia for vulnerable children and women cannot be overcome through humanitarian aid alone. It is crucial to strengthen national capacities and mobilize further technical and financial support for longer-term projects that will tackle the underlying structural causes of food insecurity and malnutrition. In accordance with this purpose, UNICEF developed a strategy of advocacy and technical support for strengthening capacities of National Institute of Family Welfare – ICBF to implement the community based management of acute malnutrition. This protocol has been approved and is in process of implementation in 17 out of 32 departments of the country.
Health

Results Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated #/% coverage</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Cumulative results ( #)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• # of children, pregnant and lactating women affected by emergencies in rural areas that have access to primary healthcare services</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>23,900 (44%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF Supported partners contributing to above UNICEF Results: NGO: Pastoral de la Primera Infancia (Putumayo, Choco, Caucá); Corporación Caminar (Choco); Fundaeduvida (Guajira); UN Agencies: PAHO; Local Governments and indigenous organizations of prioritized municipalities affected by emergencies.

Analysis of Results

Most of vulnerable children and women that receive community based health care live in rural areas where the access to institutional services is very difficult. UNICEF and its partners developed the communicational and training material culturally adapted for indigenous and Afro- Colombian community volunteers: “Seres de Cuidado Educational Kit” and Nutrition in Emergencies Kit.

WASH

Results Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated #/% coverage</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
<th>Sector / Cluster</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• # persons affected by internal displacement and natural disasters provided with safe water and sanitation facilities per agreed standards.</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,475 (42%)</td>
<td>195,486 (56%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• # emergency-affected persons benefiting from hygiene and sanitation promotion in schools and communities.</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8,475 (42%)</td>
<td>195,486 (56%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UNICEF Supported partners contributing to above UNICEF Results: NGOs: Pastoral Social Mocoa (Putumayo), Save the Children (Choco), Fundaeduvida (Guajira), FUCAI (Guajira)

Analysis of Results

UNICEF, as cluster WASH lead, has been promoting a comprehensive approach of emergency response in WASH sector. Therefore actions (reported in the table above) are usually solutions that benefit schools and households in rural communities through improved water supply and proper management of excreta and solid waste systems.

Child Protection

Results Status

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated #/% coverage</th>
<th>UNICEF</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>•# children provided with protecting spaces where they can learn, play and receive psychosocial support</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3,829 (38%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>•# children benefiting from strengthened mechanisms to</td>
<td>80,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>45,441 (57%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Analysis of Results
Children and adolescents are highly affected by the direct consequences of the armed conflict. UNICEF CO has supported the Colombian Family Welfare Institute (ICBF) in designing new guidelines for the protection programme for children demobilized from non-State armed groups.

UNICEF works in prevention of violence through multiple activities and programmes that are developed directly with children: Skills for Life, Retorno a la Alegría (Return to Happiness) and Golombia (the game for peace). Mine-Risk Education (MRE) is also being implemented in areas with high vulnerability because of the presence of landmines, unexploded ordnance (UXOs) and improvised explosive devices (IEDs).

Education
Results Status

Analysis of Results
The increase in systematic threats, extortion schemes, poor infrastructure and hiring delays are keeping teachers out of class, depriving nearly 25,000 students of most of the 2013 school year.

UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education in strengthening the local Secretaries of Education with contingency plans to ensure that children affected by armed conflict and natural disasters have access to schools.

UNICEF has also supports the school campaign as protected spaces and the design of a communication strategy to report the situation of students in conflict zones.

Supply and Logistics

Key issues:
- Identification of suppliers is required for emergency response in the frame of the Core Commitments for Children in Humanitarian Action with special emphasis on Education in Emergencies and WASH in Emergencies because of the leadership role of UNICEF and the challenges in these sectors in rural areas recurrently affected by natural disasters and armed conflict.
- The creation and maintenance long-term agreements with service providers at national and local level for the provision of transport and freight services is needed.

**Security**

The overall security in the country is still framed by the internal armed conflict and the actions of illegal armed groups to control strategic territories. The peace conversations with FARC do not have reduced the security incidents and causalities in the armed activity, as can be seen in the following exhibit.

**MAIN TRENDS OF VIOLENCE, AS PER UNDSS REPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>01 JULY – 30 JULY</th>
<th>PREVIOUS PERIOD</th>
<th>CHANGE</th>
<th>TOTAL 2013</th>
<th>TREND</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Armed activity</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>546</td>
<td>Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IED - UXO</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>28%</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>Increases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>APM</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>-66.67%</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>Stable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Movement restrictions</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>-70%</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>Increases</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td><strong>86</strong></td>
<td><strong>94</strong></td>
<td><strong>-9.3%</strong></td>
<td><strong>976</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Security level areas defined by UNDSS:

**Substantial:**
Department of Chocó (Pacific coast)
17 municipalities of the Pacific coast
9 municipalities of Catatumbo region (north east)
20 municipalities of south east region

**Moderate:**
Department of Norte de Santander (except Catatumbo)
Department of Arauca
Department of La Guajira
Department of Antioquia (Andean region)
Department of Huila (Andean region)
Department of Cundinamarca – included Bogotá (Andean region)
Department of Boyacá (Andean region)
Department of Tolima (Andean region)
Department of Santander (Andean region)
Department of Casanare (East region)
Department of Meta (East region)
Department of Guaviare (East region)
Department of Caquetá (Amazonia region)
Department of Putumayo (Amazonia region)
16 municipalities of the border with Venezuela
34 municipalities of Montes de María region (West Atlantic coast)
9 municipalities of Low Cauca region

**Low:**
Department of Atlántico
Department of Magdalena
47 municipalities of Atlantic region
Caribbean islands region
Department of Risaralda (Central region)
Department of Caldas (Central region)
Department of Quindio (Central region)

Funding

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Appeal Sector</th>
<th>Requirements</th>
<th>Funds received*</th>
<th>Funding gap</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$</td>
<td>$</td>
<td>%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nutrition</td>
<td>450,000</td>
<td>133,039</td>
<td>316,961</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Health</td>
<td>350,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>350,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WASH</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>59,480</td>
<td>1,440,520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Child Protection</td>
<td>1,500,000</td>
<td>257,300</td>
<td>1,242,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cluster Coordination</td>
<td>200,000</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>200,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>5,000,000</td>
<td>449,819</td>
<td>4,550,181</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* ‘Funds received’ does not include pledges.

** In the case of child protection we have being covered issues of child protection in emergencies (prevention of child recruitment, MRE, etc.) with regular programme resources. Lack of funding is found in the areas of Protection and Mine Action.

UNICEF wishes to express gratitude to all public and private sector donors for the contributions and pledges received, which have made the current response possible. UNICEF would especially like to thank National Committees and donors who have contributed ‘non-earmarked’ funding. ‘Non-earmarked’ funding gives UNICEF essential flexibility to direct resources and ensure the delivery of life-saving supplies and interventions to where they are needed most – especially in the form of longer-term and predictable funding and in strengthening preparedness and resilience. Continued donor support is critical to continue scaling up the response.

For further information, please contact:

Viviana Limpias
Deputy Representative
Bogotá
Colombia
Telephone: (057) 3120090
Facsimile: (057) 3210620
E-mail: vilmiap@unicef.org

Maria del Pilar Rodriguez
Nutrition and Health Officer
Bogotá
Colombia
Telephone (057) 3120090
Facsimile: (057) 3210620
E-mail: mprodriguez@unicef.org