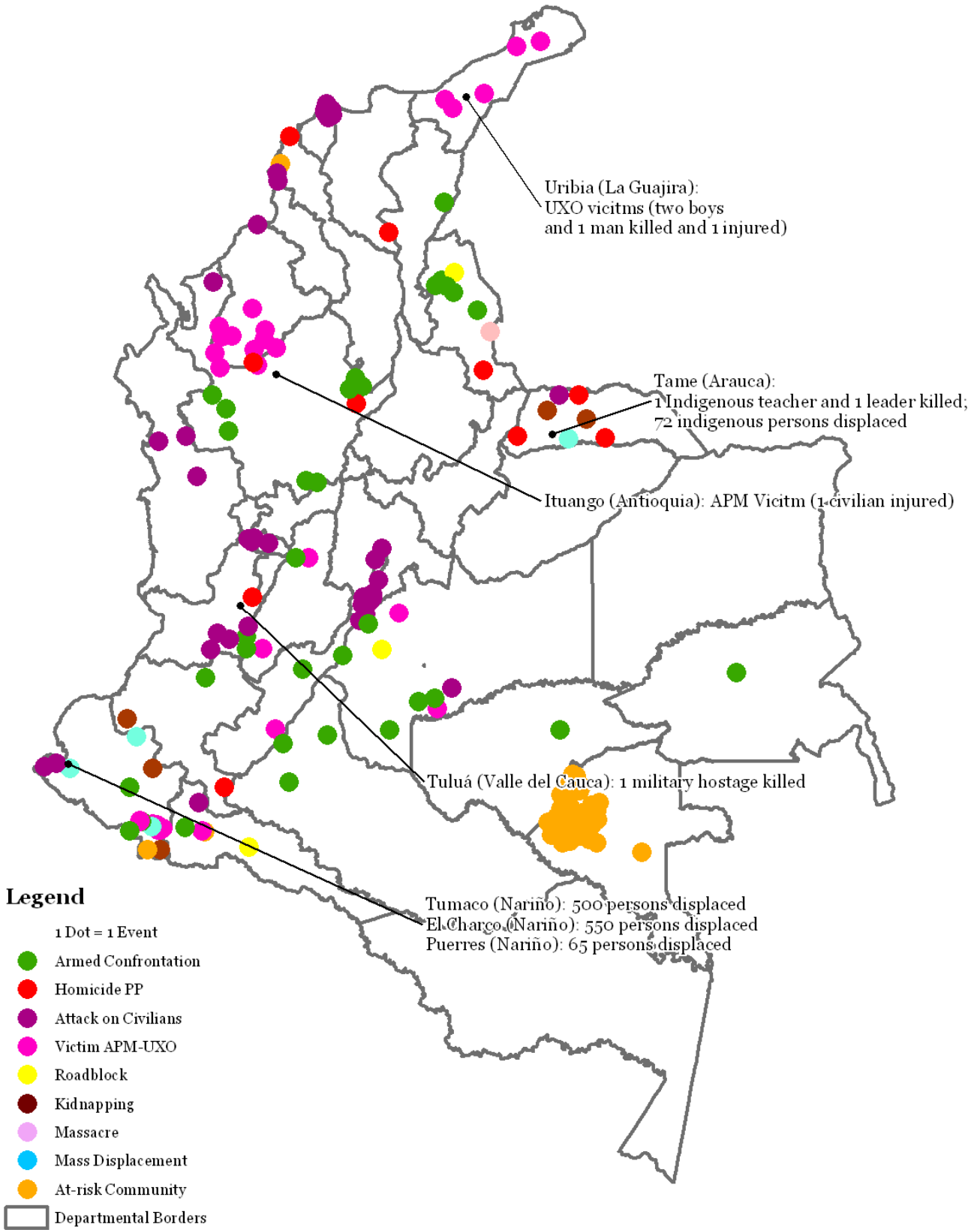


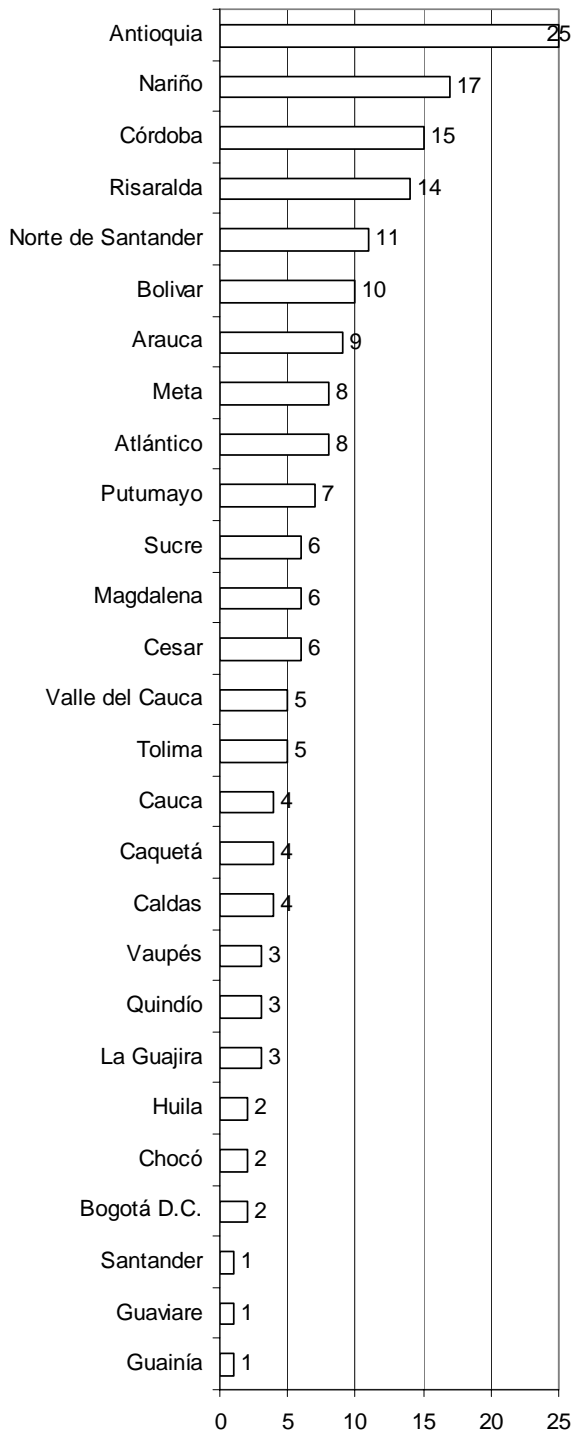
# WEEKLY HUMANITARIAN REPORT

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COLOMBIA



Events per department



## Displacements rise in Nariño

Three displacements were reported in Nariño during the period under review. More than 4,000 people have been forced to displace in the department in the course of 2009

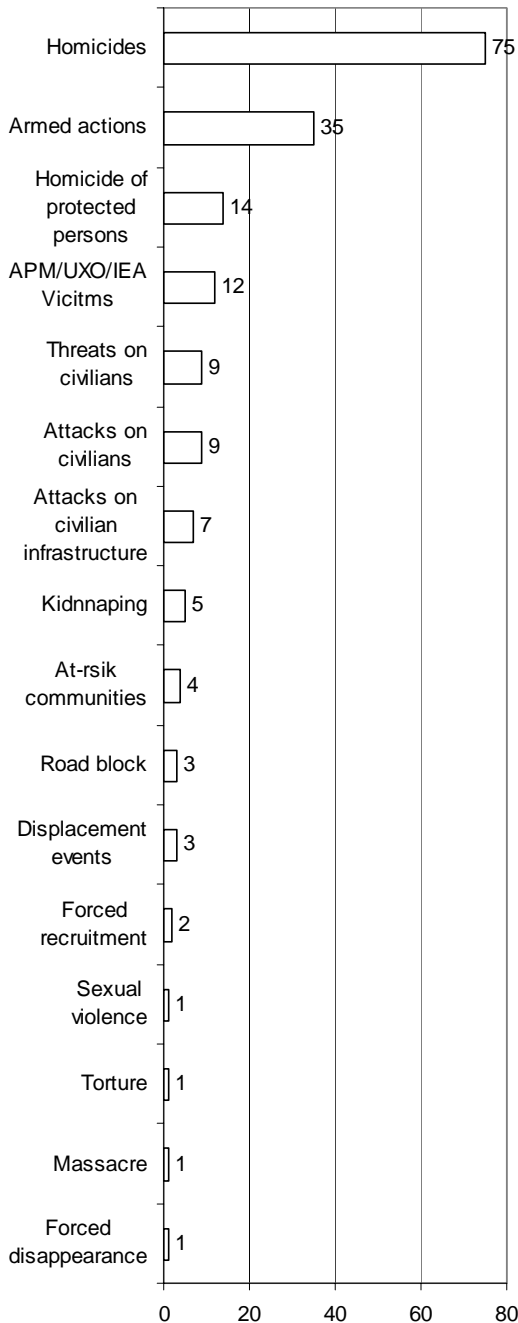
On 5 June, OCHA was informed about the displacement of 13 families (65 persons) from the village of El Verde towards the town of Monopamba, a rural area of Puerres municipality. According to information provided by the local Ombudsman’s office, the displacement was triggered by intense combats between the Army and the FARC. Municipal authorities are responding to the emergency; the Local Committee for IDPs Assistance met on 8 June and issued a declaration of mass displacement<sup>1</sup>. NRC, UNHCR and OCHA are monitoring the situation.

In Tumaco (Pacific coast of Nariño department), 125 families displaced from the villages of Chilvicito, Pindales and Km. 28, located along the road Tumaco - Pasto (departmental capital). According to information gathered by OCHA, rural communities are exposed in the middle of combats between alleged new illegal armed groups, one of which killed 5 people and threatened the population of the villages. More than 500 persons arrived in the city of Tumaco and are staying at the coliseum in poor sanitation conditions. Municipal capacities to cope with new emergencies are already overburdened --recent floods left 30,000 affected in March--. The departmental government is assessing the situation and budgetary availability to provide assistance. During the first hours of the emergency, the municipality provided food for IDPs (hot beverages and bread) and the local storekeepers donated food for a “community pot”<sup>2</sup>. Acción Social, the Presidential Program for Human Rights and UNHCR are advocating to obtain food aid for the community pot and to improve sanitation conditions in the coliseum. The Rapid Response teams of the Health Institute of Nariño are assisting the population (health and psychosocial assistance, epidemiological surveillance and vaccination). IOM has provided habitat and kitchen kits (pots, dinner services, and cutlery) and habitat kits (mattresses, blankets, mosquito nets). PAHO delivered water filters to provide safe water for IDPs;

<sup>1</sup> The Colombian Law acknowledges a mass displacement when 50 or more persons displace at the same time.

<sup>2</sup> A makeshift kitchen run by the affected community

Events per type



however, more filters are still required to cover the current needs. IRC is supporting the municipality in order to guarantee the normal development of school classes for IDPs and the host population. The IASC group in Nariño, through IOM, IRC and UNHCR are in Tumaco coordinating and supporting the response with local authorities. OCHA is gathering further information on the emergency.

On 12 June a new displacement was registered in the municipality of El Charco --the third in 2009, see issues No. 10.11.12 and 16.17.18)--. So far, some 550 people from the rural area have arrived to the village of Playa Grande fleeing from threats by alleged members of the FARC. Information gathered by OCHA --currently in the area-- points out that more people arrived in the village of El Cuy where the population census is yet to be conducted. IDPs are currently sheltered in the village's church and in houses of the host community. The municipality, the local hospital and the Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (ICBF) provided food aid for three days. Three community pots were installed. The most urgent needs are food to complement the assistance provided by authorities, safe-drinking water and health care --the health post is currently closed--. It should be noted that ICRC is still providing assistance for the people that displaced in March and May and for that reason has not been able to assist the current emergency. The situation of forced displacement in El Charco is now chronic, with nearly 3,000 persons displaced in the last four months and some more that displaced in March 2007 who still remain in the urban area almost unattended. SitReps on these emergencies can be found at [www.colombiassh.org](http://www.colombiassh.org)

## Indigenous communities targeted by illegal armed groups in Arauca

Over the last week two indigenous people were killed, one remains missing and 18 indigenous families displaced during 3 days fearing further attacks

On 11 June, according to the World Lutheran Federation (FLM) alleged members of illegal armed groups bursted into the indigenous reservation of Betoyes and killed one of its members (municipality of Tame), where three Sikuni and Macaguani indigenous communities remain displaced since 2008. Following the incursion, 72 people displaced towards the urban area of Betoyes and returned on 13 June. Furthermore, 30 more families expressed their will to displace towards the



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urban area of Tame to protect their lives. Although indigenous communities decided to stay in their territories, they are concerned by the worsening of the situation in their communities. Previously, on 8 June, three members of the indigenous community of Caño Claro had an encounter with an illegal armed group --one of them remains missing-- and on 9 June and indigenous teacher of the community of Matacandela was killed by illegal armed actors.

FLM visited the communities on 15 June and reported the situation to the IASC group in Arauca and to departmental and national authorities. The Local Committee for IDPs Assistance will meet on 17 June to assess the situation, with the participation of indigenous authorities. The departmental government will deliver food aid for IDPs and Acción Social and ICBF will continue with their periodic delivery of food aid. ICRC visited the communities on 16 June.

### **Follow-up: Displacements in Antioquia department (issue # 21)**

The IASC group in Antioquia assessed the displacement situation in the department, following the recent events in Segovia, Cauca, Dabeiba and the high-risk situation in San Rafael. According to information gathered by humanitarian actors, the situation of the communities in these municipalities is pressing due to the struggle between illegal armed actors for territorial and drug-trafficking control. There is an alert of displacement risk in the municipality of San Francisco (in the West of the department) due to the loss of self-sustenance crops caused by the aerial spraying of coca crops.

### **OCHA's Emergency Response Fund endorsed for Colombia**

Drawing from OCHA's experience in managing 13 ERFs to date, it is apparent that this funding mechanism has consistently strengthened the role of the Humanitarian Coordinator (HC) and the coordination architecture that supports the HC in his/her role as the custodian of the humanitarian community. As a funding mechanism it can improve the speed and accuracy to respond to small, sudden-onset disasters/emergencies and fulfill critical gaps. As a complementary funding mechanism to the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), the ERF has been beneficial in engaging NGOs directly in a more proactive and equal manner in its use and prioritisation. Under the recommendation of consultations with actors in the country including members of IASC, an objective of using the fund to primarily complement and leverage humanitarian response where possible in areas of conflict affected by natural disasters, and gap-filling in the context of wider overall response plans, such as the Colombian Flood Response Plan of late 2008, was approved. The ERF is envisaged for a target of \$4 million for this year.

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\* All data herein reflected was processed by OCHA from official and secondary sources



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