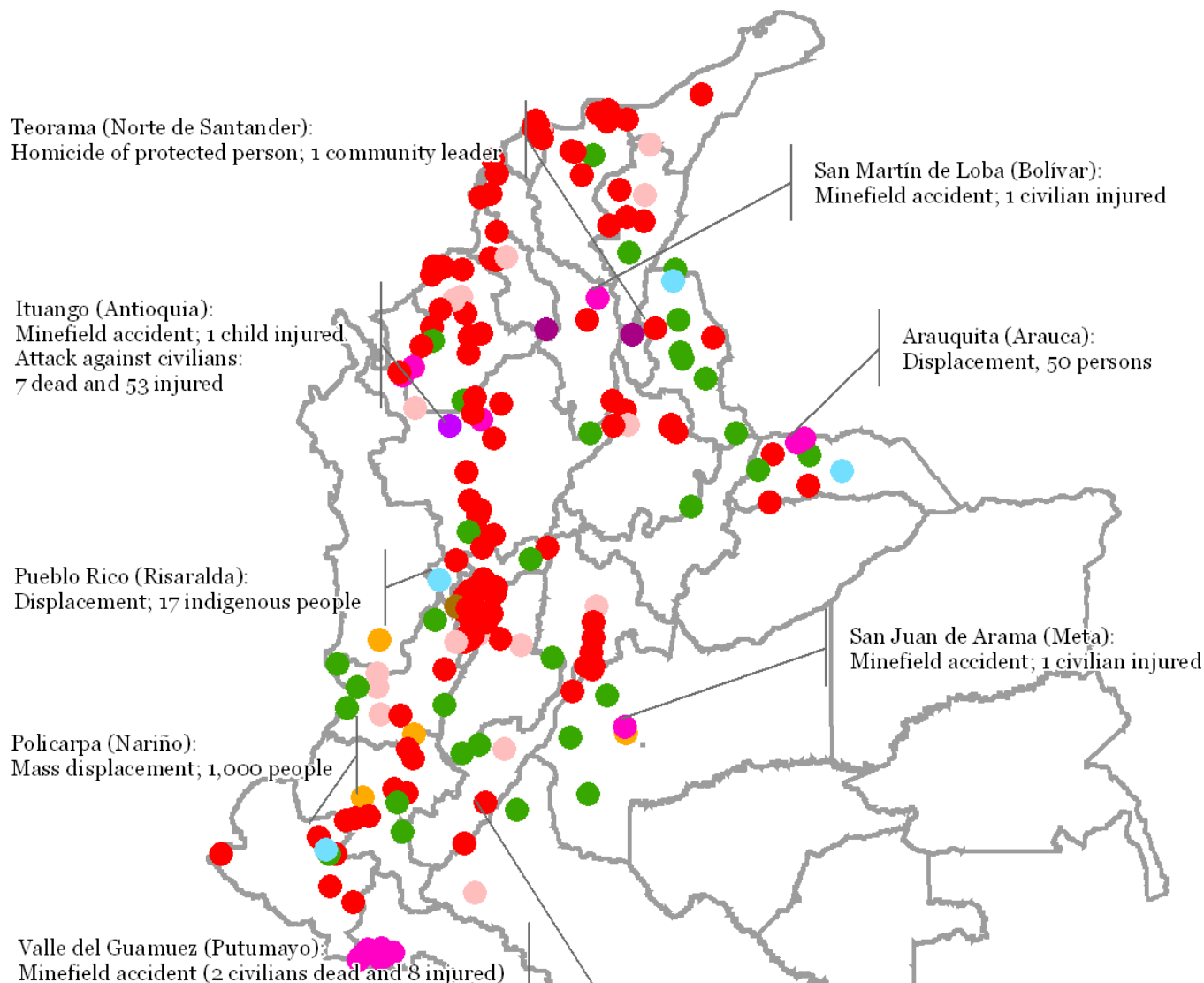




0 35 70 140 210 280
Kms.



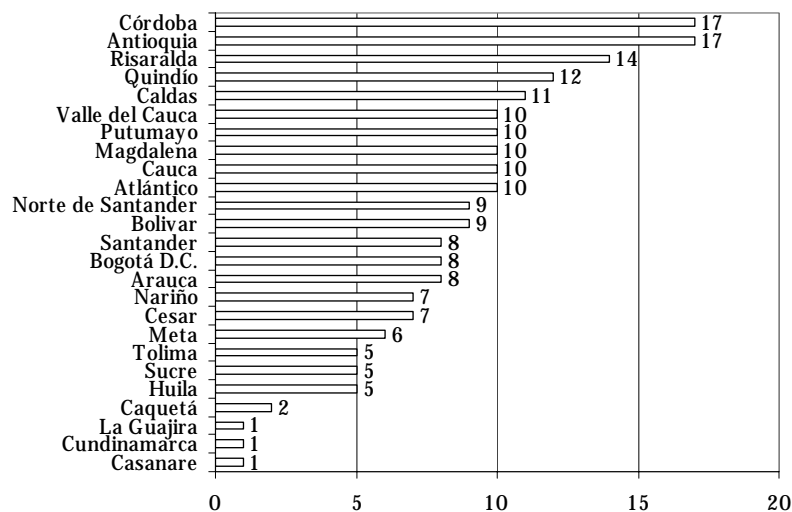
Legend

Departmental Borders

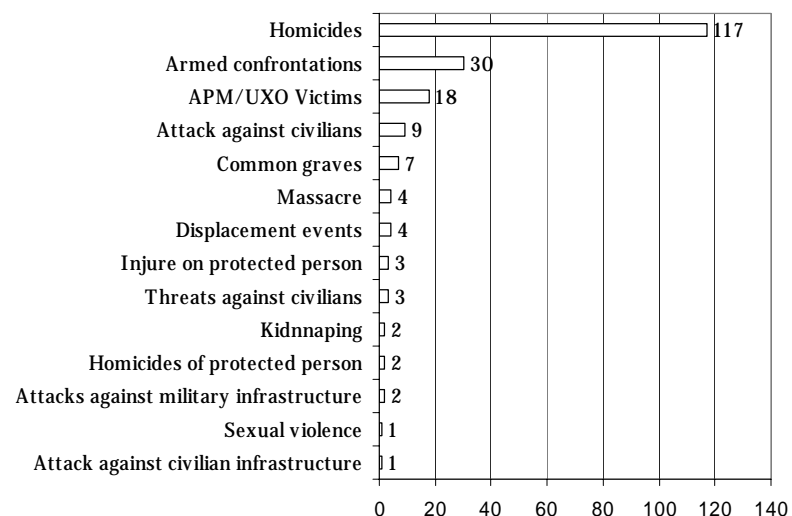
1 Dot = 1 Event

- Armed Confrontation
- Homicide PP
- Kidnapping
- APM/UXO Victim
- Sexual Violence
- Attack against Civilians
- Mass Displacement
- Massacre

Events per department



Events



All data herewith presented was gathered from official sources by OCHA Colombia

Humanitarian situation

MASS-DISPLACEMENT IN NARIÑO DEPARTMENT

August 15: over 1,000 persons fled their farmhouses in the town of Santa Cruz, municipality of Policarpa, due to armed confrontations between the emerging band “Nueva Generación” and the Army; one civilian resulted injured and damages to several houses and the local school were reported

IDPs fled from six surrounding villages into the towns of Santa Cruz, Madrigal and the urban site of Policarpa. Some did not find shelter and returned on the 16th -most remain settled in the local school and/or at friends and relatives’ houses in Santa Cruz and there’s also a group of 31 staying at the local school of Policarpa-. However, confrontations are ongoing and the military operation stands. Difficulties to access the area due to strict security measures do not allow authorities to count the exact number of IDPs. Most available information is so far gathered via phone calls with community leaders in the villages. Given the intensity of armed confrontations, emergency humanitarian assistance cannot be delivered at this stage. Community leaders indicate an undetermined number of children under age 5, pregnant women and elderly persons are in difficult health conditions -acute diarrhoea and respiratory diseases-. Policarpa’s health authorities declared a red alert not having sufficient resources to address the emergency. The closest medical mission is in Madrigal, unable to reach affected IDPs due to clashes and armed activity. Despite the alert, health authorities struggle to provide medical attention, particularly in Policarpa and Madrigal.

They assessed IDPs, received patients and included them in the respective institutional health programmes. Their report highlights all IDPs are in dire need of psycho-social attention. So far, authorities haven’t registered IDPs. The municipal administration conducted a number of meetings of the municipal committee for IPDs’ attention whereby the emergency was declared and humanitarian assistance activated. Acción Social deployed an emergency team to the area and ICBF sent a mobile unit to Policarpa (August 16). ICRC deployed an assessment mission on August 17 to evaluate access conditions in Santa Cruz. UNHCR left on mission on August 18 while PAHO, OCHA and UNHCR have also participated in the committee’s meetings to advice on local response.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT

MASS-DISPLACEMENT AND MASSACRE IN CAUCA DEPARTMENT

Clashes between FARC and ELN along the riverside of Yuyal Jolí River in López de Micay triggered the mass-displacement of 500. Also, 9 civilians were killed in the town of El Tambo, allegedly by ELN guerrillas.

Civilians began displacing on August 17 into the urban bounds of López de Micay. Out of the 250 persons (32 families) 80 are children. It is likely that another 200 could result affected by combats -inter-village displacement-. However, restricted access impedes confirming this information. Information gathered by the local administration accounts for these access difficulties, which could unleash food scarcity over the coming days. IDPs are mostly sheltered in friends and relatives' houses. On August 18 the local committee for IDPs attention met to coordinate humanitarian response to this emergency. Authorities are therefore delivering assistance and Acción Social and ICRC were notified of the event. OHCHR, DIAKONIE and OCHA are monitoring the situation and are planning a future mission to the area.

On other accounts, 9 civilians were killed in El Tambo on August 9 -allegedly- by ELN guerrillas. In light of risks derived from increased violence, the regional IASC in Cauca department is closely following the situation and stands ready to address possible humanitarian consequences.

MASS-DISPLACEMENT IN RISARALDA DEPARTMENT

The Departmental Ombudsman of Risaralda denounced the displacement of 17 indigenous belonging to the Embera Chamí group of Pueblo Rico.

Indigenous authorities reported they are under threats and therefore had to leave their reservation, fleeing towards the departmental capital city, Pereira. These threats are likely to cause the further displacement of many more indigenous families. Indigenous IDPs in Pereira were received by the Immediate Attention Unit - UAO in Spanish- to spend the night. Their conditions are unknown at this stage.

EIGHTEEN INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES AT RISK OF EXTINCTION

The claim was raised by the Colombian National Indigenous Organisation, ONIC, pointing out six of them are in a critical situation caused by the internal armed conflict

Over the past year -according to ONIC- 30 indigenous leaders have been murdered and over 80,000 forcibly displaced, particularly in Chocó, Putumayo, Nariño and Cauca departments. Almost 2,000 were murdered in Colombia since 2002, far more than the figure corresponding to the past 20 years. Added to this, six indigenous groups face a dire food scarcity -these communities have on average a remaining population of less than 500 persons-. The president of ONIC laid on the table a possible national protest against the indigenous genocide of indigenous groups in Colombia, which would set out to march in favour of "life and culture". He also insisted to bring this situation before international courts.

FOLLOW-UP: MASS-DISPLACEMENT IN ALTO BAUDÓ, CHOCÓ DEPARTMENT

A week after the mass-displacement of the Embera (an indigenous community of Chocó) -see issue #25-, 650 remain concentrated in the town of Miácora, a place never before affected by conflict according to authorities. They are three days away from the departmental capital by boat. ICRC is constantly deploying assistance back and forth between Quibdó and Miácora via helicopters. According to ICRC combats continue and IDPs fear their return will be delayed. The Embera families are settled in the local school, the medical centre and a community house in Miácora; among them 100 children, 43 women and 60 men. Since the past week ICRC has delivered 11 tons of food and NFI to cover the most immediate needs. This air humanitarian mission is also being supported by the Aerial Health Programme of Antioquia and the Colombian Red Cross.

HUMANITARIAN SITUATION REPORT

FOLLOW-UP: CONFINED COMMUNITIES IN NARIÑO DEPARTMENT

(See issue #13-14)

Approximately 1,400 families remain confined inside the town of Santa Cruz de Guachavez -spread in 24 villages-. The Government of Nariño indicates 860 of these families belong to the Sande indigenous reservation. Authorities conducted a humanitarian mission to provide healthcare and psycho-social attention, and established a departmental human rights' committee to watch upon this phenomenon. Acción Social reported the departmental government is under alert of likely mass-displacements. Acción Social has so far delivered food assistance in the mountainous areas along the boundary with Ricaurte municipality and prioritised 200 additional beneficiaries of food rations -namely 600 food kits to be delivered by ICBF and the municipal administration to inhabitants of a village known as El Paraíso-.