

**ANNEX A – AMPLIFIED**  
**BACKGROUND**  
**DESCRIPTION**  
**(INCLUDES MAPS)**

**AMPLIFIED**  
**BACKGROUND**  
**DESCRIPTION**

## **ANNEX A to Human Rights Protected SOW – AMPLIFIED BACKGROUND**

### **Introduction**

USAID/Colombia seeks to continue supporting national efforts to enhance and broaden respect for human rights in Colombia through the prevention of human rights abuses, protection of human rights defenders, response to human rights abuses, formulation of long-term policy, NGO Strengthening and incorporation of international human rights standards to the peace process, specifically the right to truth, justice and reparations. The desired services, outlined through those five program components, will contribute to creating a more responsive, participatory and accountable democracy in Colombia.

USAID/Colombia anticipates a five-year effort, incorporating an initial two year contract with three separate options to add one additional year each.

### **A. Towards a Mission Strategy --**

The Mission will promote and support adherence of the Colombian Government to fundamental principles of the United Nations Universal declaration of Human Rights, ratified Human Rights treaties, and the Colombian Constitution. The Mission will promote strengthened adherence to the principles set forth in these instruments, and to the functional need of Colombian Government and independent oversight organizations to more effectively prevent, protect against and respond to human rights violations.

USAID supports three different categories of human rights such as fundamental, economic-social-cultural and collective rights, but the program designed under this concept paper will primarily target measures to secure and strengthen respect for the fundamental human rights of Colombians.

These rights, and their basis in international and Colombian law, are summarized in the table on the following page.

<b>Category of Human Rights</b>	<b>Basis in Colombian Law</b>
<p><b>1. Fundamental /substantial human rights</b> requiring immediate application (e.g. life, physical safety, equality, liberty, freedom of expression)</p> <p>Refers to the core fundamental human rights that form part of the essence of a human being and are the most affected by the internal armed conflict</p>	<p>Colombian Constitution (Chap. I, title II on Fundamental Rights and under Art 93 of the Colombian Constitution incorporation of treaty law into national law; example: Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Inter-American Convention on Human Rights</p> <p>International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, ratified 29 Oct 69; Convention Against Torture, ratified 10 Apr 85</p>
<p><b>Fundamental rights/procedural rights</b></p>	<p>Art.29 of The Colombian Constitution. This implies Right to “due process, right to have an adequate defense before competent judges”</p>
<p><b>2. Economic, Social and Cultural Rights</b> (longer term, progressively implemented by the State. Examples: Right to work, health- social security, education, adequate housing, property, culture)</p>	<p>International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, ratified 29 Oct 69</p> <p>American Convention on Human Rights, ratified 28 May 73</p>
<p><b>3. Collective rights</b>, such as basic public services, environment.</p>	<p>Inter-American Convention on Human Rights</p>

Various USAID (and other donor) programs provide complementary and mutually reinforcing assistance addressing human rights challenges in Colombia.

The new USAID/Colombia Human Rights Program (2006-2010) will focus primarily on “fundamental rights”, i.e. those rights which require timely and often immediate State responses in order to guarantee life, safety to persons and liberty. Violations of these fundamental rights regularly impact vulnerable populations in conflict zones. *Left unaddressed, these abuses erode public confidence in the State’s democratic security policy and compromise support for and achievement of Plan Colombia objectives.*

USAID/Colombia's [Democratic Governance office](#) manages a separate [justice reform and modernization \(JRMP\) program](#) (2006-2010) which assists national processes (State, regional, local authorities, and civil society) to strengthen and make more accessible the justice system; offering more transparent, speedy and effective impartial justice (and with special attention to the needs of the poor and other ethnically or regionally isolated populations).

The Mission's [Alternative Development](#) and [Displaced Persons programs](#) address longer term economic development and opportunity challenges for marginalized populations, through the USAID contracting instruments of ADAM and MIDAS. At the same time, PILAS provides integrated humanitarian assistance support to internally displaced persons (IDPs) and other vulnerable groups.

These mutually reinforcing USAID funded programs, provide important support for upholding first-generation "fundamental", second-generation "economic, social and cultural" rights.

## **B. Background -- The Human Rights Situation in Colombia**

### **1) General context:**

“The internal armed conflict in Colombia between the state, left-wing guerrillas and right-wing paramilitary groups remains one of the most intractable in the world. The modern origins of this conflict go back more than 40 years, and despite several attempts to negotiate a lasting peace, two guerrilla organizations and several paramilitary groups remain at arms. The armed conflict in Colombia has resulted in more than 40,000 deaths and the country leads the Western hemisphere in reported human rights and international humanitarian law violations ([Human Rights Watch, 2004](#)). Although there appear to be signs of improvements in national levels of violence and human rights violations, based on official data; these averaged figures may mask increases in violence in some regions, as well as differences in specific types of violation ([Amnesty International, 2004](#) - ). Estimates are that more than three million people have been internally displaced by the conflict since 1985. Although the number of new displacements fell in 2003, Colombia remains one of the countries in the world with the largest number of IDPs”<sup>1</sup>. ([FMO Research Guide: <http://www.forcedmigration.org/guides/fmo039/fmo039-2.htm>](#))

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<sup>1</sup> Amnesty International, Report 2004: Colombia <http://web.amnesty.org/report2004/col-summary-eng>

Forced Migration Online, Research Guides: Colombia <http://www.forcedmigration.org/guides/fmo003/>

Global IDP Database, Country Information Page: Colombia  
<http://www.db.idpproject.org/Sites/IdpProjectDb/idpSurvey.nsf/wCountries/Colombia>

Human Rights Watch, Human Rights Overview: Colombia (January 2004)  
<http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/21/colomb6978.htm>

International Crisis Group <http://www.crisisgroup.org/home/index.cfm?id=1094&l=1>

INCORE, Guide to Internet Sources on Conflict and Ethnicity in Colombia  
<http://www.incore.ulst.ac.uk/services/cds/countries/colombia.html>

USCRI, 'World Refugee Survey 2004: Country Report'  
<http://www.refugees.org/countryreports.aspx?area=investigate&subm=19&ssm=29&cid=83>

During 2004 several important Colombian events took place such as the debate around the presidential reelection, the justice reform, attempts to materialize a humanitarian accord, and the beginnings of the demobilization process of the paramilitary groups of the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia (AUC), among others. The demobilization process began without the existence of an appropriate legal framework to guarantee the international standards of the rights to truth, justice and reparations of victims. The GOC and the AUC have nearly completed the planned demobilization schedule, with a total of 28,350 reportedly demobilized as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2006.

In addition to these group demobilizations, According to the 2004 Vice Presidency Annual Report, 2,972 individual demobilizations registered during 2004 and they correspond to the FARC, ELN, AUC and other groups.

Recent GOC negotiations with the ELN seem to be increasing in pace and intensity, although it appears that little progress has been made with FARC.

The demobilization process has been scrutinized by the international community and future judgments on its success will likely be influenced by perceptions of how well the process complied with accepted international human rights standards and effective application of the Justice and Peace Law. The implementation of the law faces several challenges, not least of which is that need for key state entities to effectively assume functional responsibilities and find resources enabling compliance with the tasks required by the Justice and Peace Law.

For victims and others (i.e. victims and genuinely remorseful perpetrators) affected by the violence to be integrated into national reparation and reconciliation processes, Colombia will need organizations and mechanisms to effectively redress grievances, rehabilitate damaged psyches, establish social and criminal responsibilities for human rights abuses, to promote -- when circumstances warrant -- forgiveness and pardon. These national healing processes will likely require implementation within a framework of non-partisan and non-ideological documentation of historical "truth", as it relates to the general conflict and specific violations of individual and collective human rights.

Victims will require accessible and effective judicial systems, offering timely recourse to moral, financial and physical reparation in proportion to damages suffered. In addition, and within a process which upholds legal due process and Constitutional protections for all parties; demobilized members of illegal armed groups will require credible judicial processes, which determine legal and financial responsibilities and adjudicates eligibility for pardon and benefits under the "justice and peace" law. Currently the GOC is working to establish a commission that will manage the reparations process.

## **2) Brief description of the grave Human rights situation in Colombia specifically due to the internal armed conflict:**

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights/Colombia issued a [Report “E/CN.4/2005/10” of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005](#) describing the human rights situation in Colombia. It characterizes the Colombian situation as a severe human rights crisis and reports that “violations continued to be recorded on the rights to life, personal integrity, freedom and security, due process and privacy, as well as of the fundamental freedoms of movement, residence, opinion and expression”.

The report, while critical in many areas; also notes the (positive) downward trend of various indicators representing breaches of international humanitarian law continued, in particular a decrease in multiple homicides and hostage-taking, although their incidence remained high”.<sup>2</sup>

The UNHCHR’s 2004 report describes that “ the paramilitary groups failed to respect the cessation of hostilities. The illegal armed groups, particularly the FARC-EP and the paramilitaries, continued to commit serious and numerous breaches such as attacks on the civilian population, indiscriminate attacks, homicides, massacres, hostage-taking, acts of terrorism, forced displacements, use of antipersonnel mines, recruitment of minors, slavery, and attacks on the personal integrity and dignity of women and girls in the context of acts of sexual violence”<sup>3</sup>. In addition, the UNHCHR cites that “there were allegations of breaches attributed to members of the security forces, particularly the army, such as homicides, indiscriminate attacks, forced displacements, and attacks on the personal integrity and dignity of women”<sup>45</sup>

According to the 2004 Vice-Presidency Annual report, homicides rate were reduced considerably. Official reports indicate 20,167 homicides occurred during 2004, which represents a rate of 44,18% annual rate, being the lowest in the last 18 years. The report highlights the situation in the department of Valle del Cauca, which has been the department with the worst homicide rate within Colombia. After Valle del Cauca, follows Antioquia, which had had the highest homicide rate during the last thirteen years.

The same report describes a reduction in the number of massacres committed during 2004. The GOC reports that it went from 540 in 2003 and 259 in 2004. The worst Department was again Valle del Cauca, and followed by the departments of Casanare, Norte de Santander, Meta and Cauca.

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<sup>2</sup> According to the 2004 Vice-presidency Annual report, there was a decrease of 14% in homicides , 52% reduction in massacres , 35% decrease on kidnappings and 29% decrease in forced displacements. The murder of working unions members was reduced by 11%; there was 59% reduction on the killings of indigenous populations, 57% of journalists, and 76% reduction on the killings of councilmen (*concejales*.)

<sup>3</sup> 2005, UNHCHR Report

<sup>4</sup> 2005, UNHCHR Report “E/CN.4/2005/10” of February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2005

<sup>5</sup> According to the 2004 Vice-presidency Annual Report, the acts of terrorism decreased, due to the direct action of the armed forces, from 1257 in 2003 to 724 in 2004, attacks against infrastructure went from 329 in 2003 to 121 attacks in 2004

Despite these positive trends, the civilian population continues to be the principal victim of the nation's internal conflict in direct violation of international humanitarian law. Certain groups have been particularly susceptible to human rights abuses. These include, among others, women, children, unions, political leaders, journalists, Afro-Colombians, and indigenous populations.

For example;

- The situation in the indigenous community has been critical. Several ethnic groups have been affected by the internal armed conflict, such as the Nasa or Paez, Embera Chamí, Kankumos, Wayuu and Embera Katios. The situation of the indigenous populations located at Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and identified as the Koguis, Wiwas, Kankuamos and Arhuacos, is particularly dire. Several of their religious leaders (*mamos*) and indigenous members were assassinated. According to the 2004 annual report of the National Ombudsman, the indigenous communities were victims of various human rights violations; such as illegal and arbitrary detentions, threats, inhuman and degrading treatment, forced displacements, destruction and occupations of their sacred places, violation to their freedom of movement and conscience, etc
- The GOC reports that most indigenous homicides were committed in the departments of Cauca, Cesar, Guajira y Caldas.
  - Despite the still worrisome situation, the Vice-Presidency office on human rights highlights that the number of homicides of indigenous populations was reduced from 211 in 2003 to 86 in 2004.
- The Office of the National Human Rights Ombudsman informs in its annual report that approximately 80% of the displaced people are women, boys and girls. At least 58% of the internal displaced in Colombia are women and 55% are younger than 18 years. The report factors that enable recruitment of minors into illegal armed groups. These include domestic abuse, lack or very limited access to opportunities, inefficient educational services, and promises by the illegal armed groups to receive provide comparatively generous salaries to those of other work sectors.
- The National Ombudsman reports that at least 9% of displaced women have been raped, but according to other calculations, the true percentage may be more than 25%. According to PROFAMILIA, 90% of displaced women and children have never had access to preventive health activities, nor training on reproductive and sexual rights.
- The National Institute for Forensic Medicine reported 59,770 instances of domestic abuse during 2004; of which 9,847 were related to minors. The National Institute also reported 12,350 sexual crimes and estimated that 95% of all abuse cases are never reported to authorities. Among the reported sexual crimes were 2,049 cases of rape.
- • An estimated 25% of children between the ages of 6 and 15 do not attend school. The Institute of Forensic Medicine reported 9,173 cases of child abuse during 1999; 1,161 of these cases involved sexual abuse. An estimated

25,000 boys and girls under age 18 work in the sex trade. More than 3,000 cases of forced disappearance have been reported formally to the authorities.

### 3) The Implementation Environment

The USAID Human Rights Program is carried out at a critical moment in contemporary Colombian history. There is an increasing level of international attention being paid to the human rights situation in Colombia. The United States and European countries are providing substantial financial resources to address multiple issues, including human rights, administration of justice, anti-corruption, local governance, drug production and trafficking, and peace. The Government of Colombia's response to address the country's fundamental political, social and economic problems, known as *Plan Colombia*,<sup>6</sup> pays specific attention to the human rights crisis. The GOC's Democratic Security Policy is designed to be implemented with respect for human rights standards, while meeting legitimate needs to secure national security.

USAID/Colombia's support of human rights initiatives represents a significant investment on the part of the U.S. Government to the "social" side of *Plan Colombia*. The program permitted the incorporation of key human rights considerations into the GOC's high level agenda, and promotes compliance with international human rights standards and accrued international humanitarian law obligations. . Over the course of the new USAID human Rights program (2006-2010), emphasis will continue to be given to enhanced and broadened respect for human rights in Colombia, particularly within the context of the internal armed conflict. The Human Rights Program is designed to address critical factors that have hindered adequate responses to the human rights crisis on the part of state and civil society actors. The Program strives to foster conditions by which Colombians can avoid or prevent a further deterioration of the human rights situation, and to help create an environment for progress in the peace process.

Requirements for Colombia would benefit from stronger and more effective human rights institutions. Within the context of the continued armed conflict, specific requirements to advance program objectives and goals in each of the program components include:

- promoting and implementing multi-stakeholder civic scenario building processes offering constructive dialogue and partnerships between Colombian State and civil society stakeholders;
- strengthening civil society capacity to develop and accompany national initiatives for prevention, protection and respect of human rights abuses;
- supporting the State's efforts to develop and implement a public policy on prevention;
- strengthening the current early warning system;
- protecting human rights workers and communities at risk, supporting the GOC on its efforts to formulate long-term public policies on protection;
- enhancing State capacity to investigate and adjudicate grave human rights abuses;

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<sup>6</sup> *Plan Colombia: Plan for Peace, Prosperity and the Strengthening of the State*, October 1999.

- supporting the incorporation of human rights standards to the peace process.

All of the above offer to substantially address the human rights situation in Colombia

#### 4) **National entities in the area of human rights :**

Colombian organizations involved in efforts to strengthen human rights, include the following:

##### *Inspector General -*

The Inspector General Office ( Procuraduria - <http://www.procuraduria.gov.co/>) is an independent oversight entity that represents citizens in processes vis-a-vis the State, and is the lead agency within the unique Colombian Public Ministry (also composed of the national Ombudsman (*Defensor del Pueblo*) and *personerías* (municipal human rights workers). The Inspector General's mandate includes ensuring that public officials exercise their roles in accordance with the constitution and law.

##### *National Ombudsman -*

The National Ombudsman (<http://www.defensoria.org.co/>) is the state entity responsible for promoting, defending and protecting human rights and international humanitarian law. It has a predominant role in educating citizens on human rights and it currently manages the human rights alert Early Warning System (EWS).

Both the National Ombudsman and the Inspector General are developing plans to establish justice and peace units to monitor the peace process. Both entities currently lack adequate resources to set up sufficiently robust units.

- The National Ombudsman office has recently shared with the international community a set of different projects that require technical and financial support. It is worth mentioning that several projects merit special attention. These include:
  - An initiative to strengthen the role of the “*defensores comunitarios*”.
  - Strengthening the national ombudsman's interactions with the Constitutional court and Colombian Congress
  - Continued support for the Ombudsman's office managed EWS, recognized internationally as an effective mechanism to prevent massive human rights violations.
  - Ombudsman's participation in long-term public policy on prevention and protection of human rights.

- Development of EWS impact indicators, necessary to measure its effectiveness and refine its functions.
- The National Ombudsman and EWS offices also need to strengthen their community outreach activities to ensure Colombian citizens are aware of their rights, responsibilities, and how to access human rights protection services.

For further information about the National Ombudsman's needs for the period 2006-2010 please see ANNEX J entitled "National Ombudsman's needs for the period 2006-2010".

***Vice President's Office on Human Rights -***

- In the Executive Branch, the Vice-presidency (<http://www.vicepresidencia.gov.co/>) is the government entity in charge of coordinating the public policies on human rights. It was created through Presidential Decree 2111 on November of 1987, under the name of "Consejería para la Defensa y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos". This office exercises a human rights and international humanitarian law public policy formulation and action planning role. Among its principal functions is to manage inter-institutional coordination for formulation and implementation of public policies on human rights. The office currently manages a human rights observatory (which documents human rights threats and trends by assessing and reporting regionally focused threats) and coordinating ongoing efforts to develop a national action plan on human rights, responding to a 1993 Vienna Conference requirement. (To date, the plan has not been fully vetted or published.)

***Ministry of Interior and Justice's Human Rights Program:***

- The Ministry of Interior and Justice (<http://www.mininteriorjusticia.gov.co/>) has exercised a central and positive role in protection of human rights advocates and other threatened groups and persons. The Ministry has significantly increased the nationally funded budget for the protection program, and has extended coverage to new beneficiaries. It is worth noting that, together with other Colombian entities, a protection program to assure adequate protection to communities at risk has also been developed. This latter program is scheduled to be implemented in 12 pilot areas. In addition to USAID support, the program also receives assistance from the Spanish Agency of Cooperation. These initiatives have been lauded as an important contribution to human rights in Colombia by the international community, including the Inter-American Commission of Human Rights and the OAS Special Rapporteur on freedom of Expression.

***FENACON (Federación Nacional de Concejales/ National Federation of Councilmen):***

- According to FENACON ([Federacion Nacional de Concejales](http://www.fenacon.org/)) (<http://www.fenacon.org/>), community councilmen (*Concejales*) have experienced an increase in threats to their human rights within the context of the electoral processes of 2006. In addition, they have expressed needs for training in exercising their human rights enabling functions, as well as public information and education programs for communities; the latter to highlight their role as community leaders acting on behalf of citizen interests, as opposed to local government representatives acting on behalf of the State.

### ***Human Rights Unit of the Colombian National Police:***

The National Police (<http://www.policia.gov.co/>) human rights unit mandate is critical to prevention and protection of human rights abuses. A priority activity will be strengthening the unit's role and capacity in functions that uphold police adherence to human rights standards, foster accountability in cases of abuses and promote more effective police/ civil society partnerships in human rights.

### ***Constitutional Court -***

According to the Colombian Constitution, the [Constitutional Court](#) is the national court of last resort for protecting the integrity of the Colombian Constitution, and therefore of Colombian's fundamental human rights. The Court needs to develop programs to ensure citizens understand and support its critical function within a framework of democratic rule-of-law, and that citizens have ample access to the important landmark decisions in human rights that have shaped jurisprudence in human rights.

### ***Civil Society -***

Civil Society in Colombia plays an important role in promoting, supporting the Human Rights agenda and monitoring violations against human rights and international humanitarian law. CSOs have a range of needs that have been clearly identified; these include enhancing capacity to:

- engage in constructive dialogue with the GOC;
- effectively participate in forums that assess, debate and provide public policy recommendations;
- develop, plan and implement initiatives on prevention and protection of human rights;
- monitor human rights cases and public policies (such as the EWS or the protection program);
- expand their human rights case data bases and strengthen their visibility before the GOC and the Inter-American and international human rights scenarios.

## *Victims Groups -*

Victims of Human rights abuses have grouped into NGOs and associations that represent the legitimate interests of victims. The groups need to be recognized and allowed to participate in meaningful human rights strengthening processes.

### **5) Obstacles to Program Implementation**

*Some of the most frequently identified obstacles to human rights program implementation, include:*

- The challenges to security posed by the current internal armed conflict; lack of or ineffective inter-institutional coordination among different GOC and State entities
- Absence of long term public policies on prevention and protection
- Absence of a road-map or national action plan for human rights
- Financial weaknesses and resource constraints of Government entities (such as the Vice-presidency) and independent oversight entities (e.g. Procuraduria, Defensoria del Pueblo, non-partisan Colombian human rights organizations).

## C. Additional Information on the Human Rights Situation in Colombia

Relevant reports can be found at the following hyperlinks and/or references:

- **1) Domestic Reports**
  - a. Governmental Reports
    - i. 2004 Vice-Presidency Report/ Annual report on human rights and international humanitarian law ([Vicepresidencia de la Republica - Informe Anual de Derechos Humanos y DIH 2004](#))
  - b. Independent Oversight Entities (Ombudsman and Inspector General)
    - i. 2004 National Ombudsman Report to the Colombian Congress/  
[http://www.defensoria.org.co/pdf/informes/informe\\_115.pdf?](http://www.defensoria.org.co/pdf/informes/informe_115.pdf?)
    - ii. 2004 Inspector General Report (2001-2004)/ [Procuraduría General de la Nación, República de Colombia](#)
  - c. NGOs reports
    - i. 2004 Comision Colombiana de Juristas Report (Comisión Colombiana de Juristas)
    - ii. 2004 CINEP Report “Mas Alla del Embrujo, Tercer ano del Gobierno de Alvaro Uribe” (CINEP - Producciones)
    - iii. 2004 CODHES Report about forced displacement

## 2) International Reports about human rights in Colombia

- 2005 UNHCHR Report / Document E/CN.4/2005/10, 28 February, 2005. <http://www.derechos.org/nizkor/colombia/doc/onuco14.html>  
<http://www.hchr.org.co/documentoseinformes/informes/altocomisionado/informes.php3?cod=8&cat=11>
- 2005 UNHCHR Recommendations for Colombia ([DOCUMENTOS](#))
- 2005 United States “Country Report” on [Colombia](#)
- 2005 Human Rights Watch Report ([human rights watch | informe anual 2005 \(sucesos de 2004\)](#) and [human rights watch | los derechos humanos en colombia](#))
- 2005 Amnesty International Human Rights Report on Colombia (<http://web.amnesty.org/report2005/col-summary-eng>)
- 2005 Washington Office Latin America (WOLA) Report on Colombia (<http://www.wola.org/Colombia/colombia.htm>)
- 2005 Interamerican Commission for Human Rights Report on Colombia <http://www.cidh.oas.org/annualrep/2004eng/chap.4.htm>)
- 2005 OEA Reports about the demobilization process in Colombia (<http://www.oas.org/documents/spa/colombia.asp>)

**USAID HUMAN RIGHTS**  
**PROGRAM 2001 - 2006**



**USAID**  
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

## USAID Human Rights Program

The Human Rights Program is focused on promoting a more responsive, participatory, and accountable democracy to enhance and broaden respect for human rights through a three component program: Prevention of Human Rights Abuses; Protection of Human Rights Workers; and Response to Human Rights Abuses.

**September, 2005**



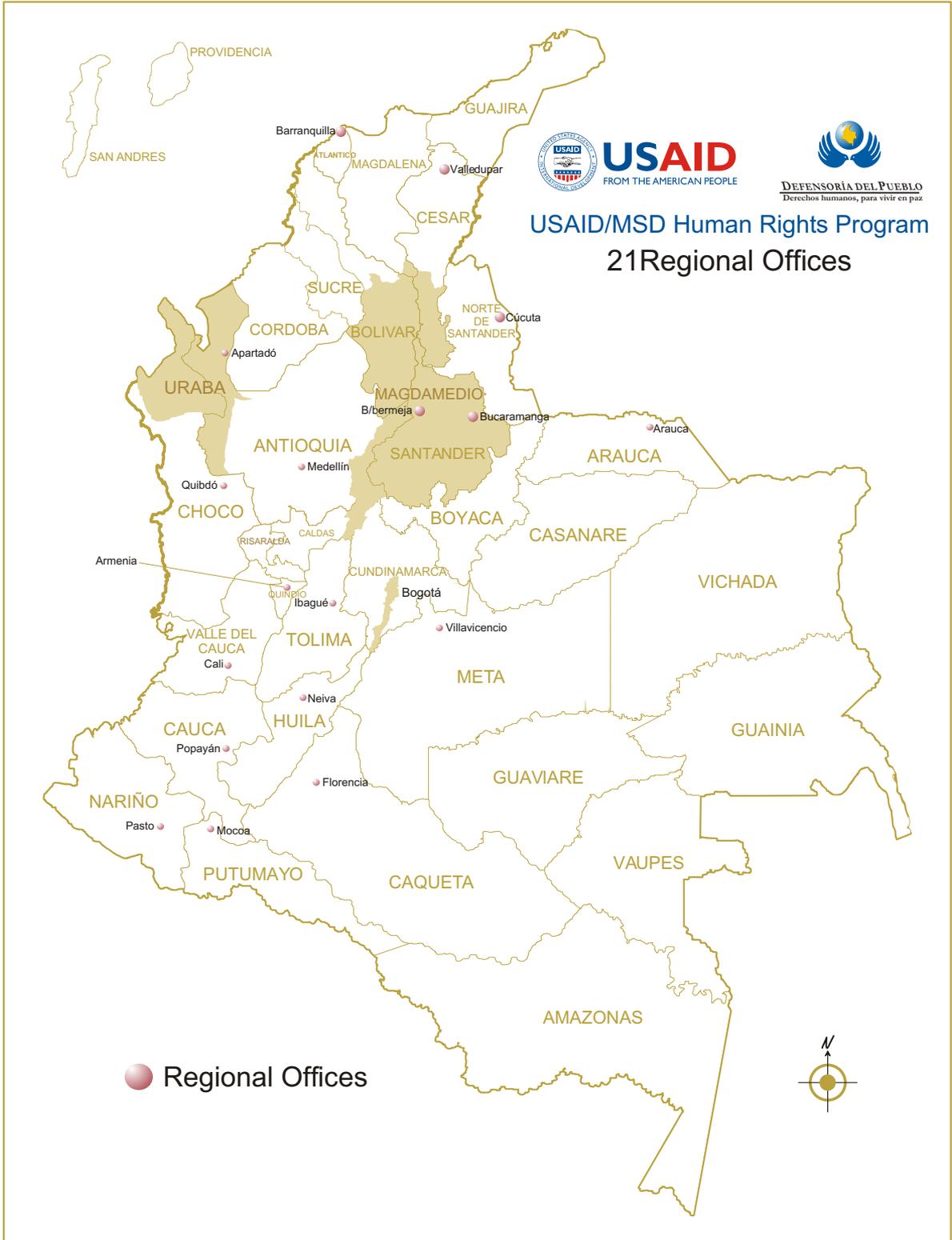
## Component I: Prevention of Human Rights Abuses Ombudsman's Office - Early Warning System

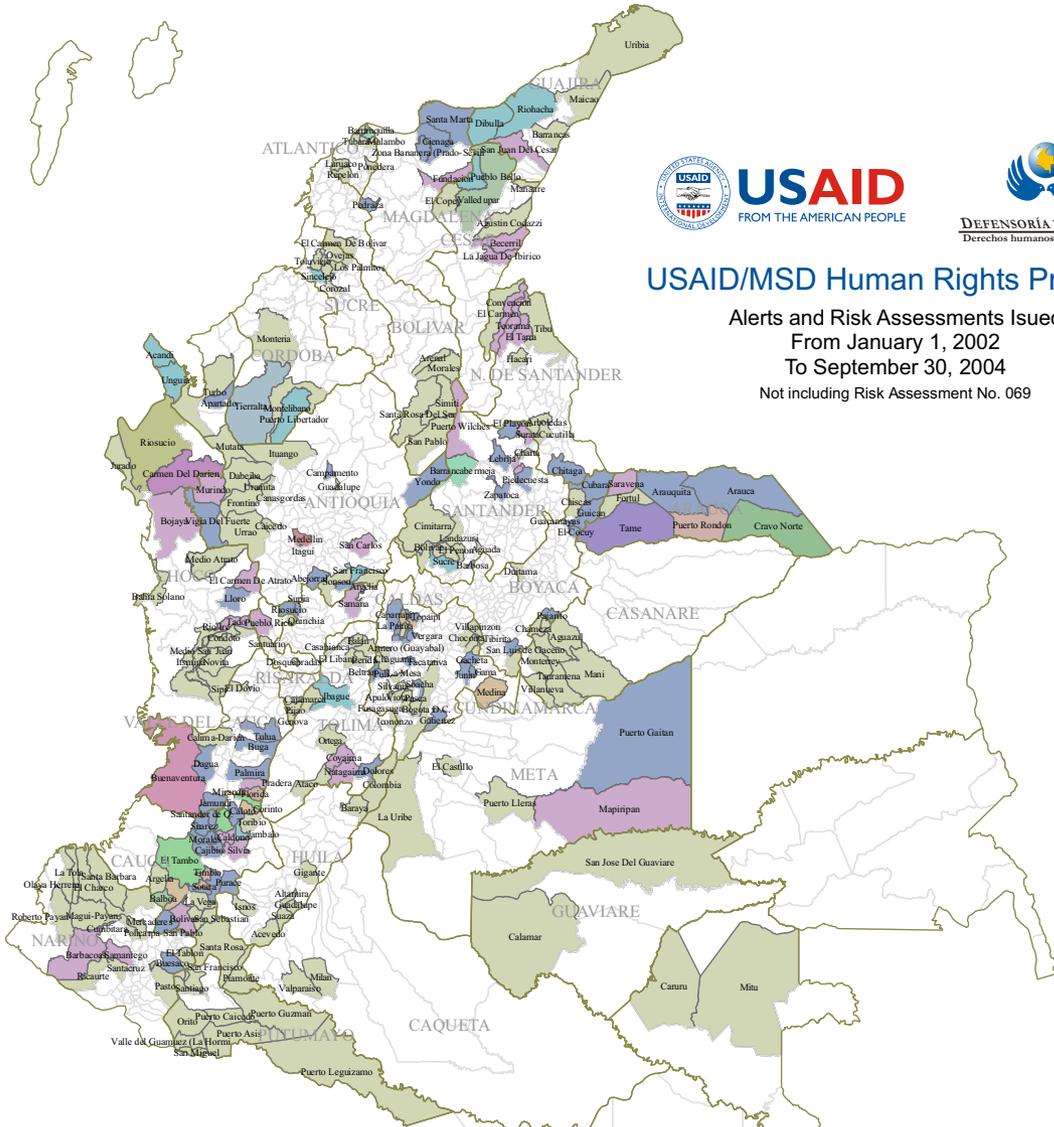
→ **T**he Early Warning System (EWS) was established with USAID assistance in 2001 in the National Ombudsman's Office in Bogotá. The EWS provides state institutions, primarily the Military, Police, and/or the Social Solidarity Network, with an early warning of egregious human rights abuses.

→ USAID supports the EWS through the overall consolidation and effective operation of the EWS and continued support to the establishment of regional offices and networks. To date, a total of 21 regional offices have been established throughout the country and they cover the following regions: 1) **Popayán** (Based in Popayán and covers the Departments of Cauca); 2) **Cúcuta** (based in Cúcuta and covers the department of North Santander); 3) **Mocoa** (based in Mocoa and covers Putumayo); 4) **Arauca** (based in Arauca and covers Arauca and North-East of Boyacá); 5) **Cundinamarca** (based in Bogotá and covers Cundinamarca and Boyacá); 6) **Bucaramanga** (covers the department of Santander); 7) **Armenia** (Coffee Region-covers Quindío, Risaralda and Caldas); 8) **Valledupar** (covers the departments of Cesar, Magdalena and Guajira); 9) **Neiva** (covers Huila); 10) **Apartadó** (covers Urabá Antioqueño and Chocoano); 11) **Medellín** (covers Antioquia, except Urabá); 12) **Barranquilla** (covers Atlántico and Bolívar); 13) **Bogotá** (covers Bogotá, Amazonas, Guainía, Vaupés and Vichada); 14) **Villavicencio** (covers Meta, Casanare, Guaviare); 15) **Barrancabermeja** (covers the Magdalena Medio region); 16) **Ibagué** (covers Tolima); 17) **Montería** (covers Córdoba and Sucre); 18) **Pasto** (covers Nariño); 19) **Cali** (covers Valle del Cauca); 20) **Florencia** (covers Caquetá); 21) **Quibdó** (covers Chocó, except Urabá Chocoano). All regional offices are operational.

USAID also supports the following activities:

- Training of analysts involved in the operation of the system; strengthening public education and communication strategies to disseminate information about the EWS; technical assistance for risk assessments, database implementation; short and long term planning; design of more integral prevention strategies, and others.
- USAID also provides technical assistance to the Early Warning Inter-Institutional Committee (CIAT) whose members are the Ministry of Interior and Justice, the Ministry of Defense, the Vice-Presidency, the Security Administrative Department (Spanish acronym - DAS), the Police and the Social Solidarity Network. The CIAT is in charge of coordinating the government's response to Risk Assessments.
- As of September 16, 2005 the EWS issued a cumulative total of 388 risk assessments to the government of Colombia (GOC) on the basis of which the GOC (CIAT) issued 201 alerts to the local authorities to take preventive action. Generally alerts request the convening of a local security council meeting.





**USAID/MSD Human Rights Program**

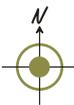
Alerts and Risk Assessments Issued  
 From January 1, 2002  
 To September 30, 2004  
 Not including Risk Assessment No. 069

**Legenda Explicativa**

- Límite Departamental
- Límite Municipal

245 AT e IR emitidos para 280 municipios

- |                               |                             |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Alerta Temprana             | 11 municipios con 2 IR      |
| 28 municipios con 1 AT - 1 IR | 3 municipios con 3 AT       |
| 2 municipios con 1 AT - 2 IR  | 1 municipio con 3 AT - 1 IR |
| 1 municipio con 1 AT - 3 IR   | 2 municipios con 3 IR       |
| 1 municipio con 1 AT - 4 IR   |                             |
| 1 municipio con 1 AT - 5 IR   |                             |
| 154 municipios con 1 IR       |                             |
| 6 municipios con 2 AT         |                             |
| 3 municipios con 2 AT - 1 IR  |                             |
| 1 municipio con 2 AT - 2 IR   |                             |
| 1 municipio con 2 AT - 3 IR   |                             |
| 1 municipio con 2 AT - 5 IR   |                             |



## Component I: Prevention of Human Rights Abuses

### Inspector General's Office - Development and Adoption of a Prevention Policy in Human Rights

- ➔ The Human Rights Program supports the Inspector General's Office (IGO) in developing a prevention policy to avert human rights violations. This policy will guide the design of internal and external actions and activities that strengthen the Inspector-General's role as a control institution, which monitors the State's compliance with human rights norms and seeks to prevent human rights abuses.
- ➔ USAID support also includes developing a case-monitoring system within the IGO to improve the tracking and monitoring of human rights disciplinary and criminal cases as well as legal procedures set in motion by the Inter-American Human Rights System. As of July 30, 2005, a total of 4,950 records were included into the system. These records correspond to the first 20 regional and 20 provincial inspectors of the IGO trained, which is equivalent to approximately 750 officials trained out of the total 910 targeted for the year 2005.
- ➔ USAID support also includes the training of IGO staff in national and international human rights norms. In 2005, approximately 910 officials (20% of the total IGO officials) will receive these trainings.
- ➔ On December 15 2004, USAID signed a memorandum of understanding with the Inspector General's Office for one million dollars. This agreement will continue to support actions in the area of prevention policy such as the expansion of SEPREDH, (case monitoring database) and will strengthen the IGO's disciplinary and monitoring duties in connection with the demobilisation and disarmament of illegal armed groups.



## Component 2: Protection of Human Rights Workers

### Ministry of Interior Human Rights Office-Protection Group

- ➔ The Human Rights Program enhances and strengthens the Ministry of Interior's protection mechanisms, and primarily focuses on the protection of individuals and organizations that work in the promotion and defense of human rights. Initially, the beneficiary population of the Protection Program included union leaders, journalists, social leaders, members of the *Unión Patriótica* (UP) and the communist party. In 2002 the program was expanded to include protection schemes for mayors, council members, and municipal human rights workers.
- ➔ USAID supports the provision of hard and soft protection measures; strengthens current procedures for eligibility criteria to select beneficiaries and for immediate response to protection requests; expands and improves program operation and administration given the current target beneficiary group; improves risk assessments of the program's target population; and develops an adequate preventive security training program.
- ➔ As of September 16, 2005, 4,618 individuals were protected through 9,291 measures. In addition, a total of 113 offices were armored (17 NGO's offices, 80 workers union offices, 9 indigenous organizations, 2 state offices -the Ombudsman's Office and the Human Rights Office of the Ministry of Interior and Justice (MOIJ); 2 offices for an international organization; 1 for an academic research institute; 1 for a radio station and 1 NGO - Afrocaribbean community.)
- ➔ USAID is also supporting a preventive security training program for beneficiaries of the Protection Program. Training sessions will take place in 12 cities for a total of 37 training sessions. It is expected that the total number of participants will be approximately 1,480. The schedule designed by MSD and the MOIJ will cover the following cities: Bogotá, Barranquilla, Cali, Pasto, Florencia, Barrancabermeja, Arauca, Pereira, Popayán, Neiva, Medellín, and Ibagué. Beneficiaries of training sessions have been grouped as follows: 1) union leaders, NGOs, and human rights advocates. 2) local authorities (mayors, municipal human rights workers, deputies, council members) 3) journalists. To date, trainings have been conducted in Atlántico (August 3-7), Valle del Cauca (August 17-21) Arauca (August 31<sup>st</sup>-Sept 4<sup>th</sup>), Huila (October 12-16), Caquetá, (December 14-18), Santander (May 24-28), and Cauca (June 5-9), for a total of 565 persons trained including mayors, municipal human rights workers, council members, deputies, journalists, leaders and union workers.
- ➔ Additionally, support extends to a “**training program for officials**” of the MOIJ Human Rights Division in areas such as human rights, international humanitarian law, methodologies to analyze internal conflict, interviewing techniques, and alternative dispute resolution.

## Component 2: Protection of Human Rights Workers Ministry of Interior Human Rights Office-Protection Group

New strategies for the year 2005:

USAID will support the following projects under the Protection area:

### Protection of Communities at Risk

According to the UNHCHR, protection measures provided by the Human Rights Office of the MOIJ are effective when they are granted to individual or groups located in urban areas. However, they are not as effective when protecting the rights of communities located in rural areas with difficult access, low institutional presence, communications difficulties and areas disputed by illegal armed actors. Thus, it is necessary to identify protection measures to enforce these rights. The Inter-American Human Rights Commission and Court have issued provisional and precautionary measures to avoid irreparable human rights violations in 23 communities under risk in Colombia. Of these, 11 are *campesino* communities, 6 Afro-Colombian and 5 indigenous communities.

The general objective of this project is to increase protection of the rights to life, freedom, and integrity of members belonging to communities at high risk due to political violence. This project will be implemented between the MOIJ, the Vice-presidency, the Social Solidarity Network and the Ombudsman's Office.



## Component 2: Protection of Human Rights Workers Ministry of Interior Human Rights Office-Protection Group

- ➔ A pilot project will be initially implemented in communities located in the following regions: low and medium Atrato; Communities from Oriente Antioqueño; Catatumbo; Saravena and Fortul, Arauca-; communities from Caquetá, Pueblo Embera Chamí, Caldas, Risaralda and Chocó-, Provincia de Rionegro - Cundinamarca-; Pueblos de la Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta; communities from the Macizo Colombiano; Cauca; Nariño and South Tolima.

### Inter-Institutional Projects - Decentralization

- ➔ **Decentralization of human rights public policy.** The purpose of this project is to support and strengthen the implementation of 32 departmental action plans with a human rights and IHL perspective, and 450 municipal action plans. This will a) strengthen and consolidate national strategies regarding human rights and IHL public policies at the national and regional levels; and b) initiate discussions around the State's role in preventing abuses and the role of the civilian population in protecting its rights in coordination with state agencies. To date, 29 departments have included a human rights perspective in their development plans. This is an inter-institutional initiative between the Ministry of Interior and Justice and the Vice-Presidency.
- ➔ A new process is under way to develop specific action plans at the local level. These action plans include areas such as prevention and protection strategies; attention to vulnerable groups and human rights training for officials and the general community. As of July 2005, 237 human rights municipal action plans are being developed.



## Component 3: Responding to Human Rights Abuses and Concerns

### Vice-President's Office-Strengthening the Presidential Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law Program

➔ USAID assists the Office of the Vice President in coordinating the GOC's human rights policy. This project supports initiatives in the following areas:

- Strengthening the Human Rights Observatory as an instrument to gather information from different governmental and non governmental sources in the area of human rights and International Humanitarian Law. This information provides an insight into the country's human rights situation and helps design public policies to confront human rights situations. With support from USAID, the Human Rights Observatory prepares Regional Reports, Thematic Bulletins, Statistic Bulletins and Short Reports (*Reseñas*) on a permanent basis.
- USAID also provides support to the Vice-Presidency in the area of dialogues; communications; EWS/CIAT; and the development of the National Human Rights Plan.



### Network Development for the Promotion, Defense, and Guarantee of Human Rights-National Human Rights Promoters Network and Youth Human Rights Network

- ➔ USAID provided support to the Ombudsman's Office in the development of both the Human Rights Promoters Network and the Youth Network. Promoters trained through human rights diplomas formed the core group of human rights promoters who would replicate their learning experience in their communities. As of December 31, through 29 partnering universities, a total of 2,657 promoters were trained (*diplomados*) in human rights, benefiting around 317,000 individuals through expansion projects. This project ended in March 2005.
- ➔ Support to the Youth Network - an initiative of the Ombudsman's Delegate for Women and Children, this project focused on training youth in human rights related issues as a means to engage them and avoid their involvement in the armed conflict. The project also had a goal to support youth sponsored dialogue sessions to address their concerns on related policy issues. Approximately 633 youth were trained in human rights and became part of the human rights youth network in the Ombudsman's Office. This project ended in May 2005.
- ➔ The Human Rights Program also assists the Ombudsman's Office in the design of a methodology to monitor economic, social and cultural rights in the areas of education, health, work and housing.

### Component 3: Responding to Human Rights Abuses and Concerns NGOs/CSOs Strengthened in the Exercise, Promotion, Defense, and Guarantee of Human Rights

- ➔ USAID designated approximately \$4,102,668 in funds to support Colombian civil society in the areas of policy formulation, development of networks, case monitoring, and human rights education, all with the goal of improving the defense, protection, and promotion of human rights. USAID placed a special emphasis on improving the human rights climate of indigenous and Afro-Colombian populations. To this end, USAID prioritized work with these vulnerable populations in conflictive areas where these groups are more at risk. Other target beneficiaries included journalists, women, peasants and internally displaced population. As of August 31, 2005, USAID committed US\$3,381,641.82 of which US\$ 3,154,442.41 has been disbursed under a grants program addressed to approximately 50 organizations (54 projects). USAID also provided technical assistance in several areas (human rights training; information systems and human rights observatories; food security; national, regional and local human rights public policies; and democratic security policy).

For the year 2005, the Human Rights Program designed a new strategy to work with NGOs in all three components of the Human Rights Program (Prevention through the EWS; Protection through the project on communities at risk; and Response through the enforceability of rights project). This new orientation integrally responds to requests from several CSOs in the area of prevention, protection and response to human rights abuses and breaches of IHL.

Based on this 2005 strategy, in April 2005, MSD selected and provided 12 grants to 10 social organizations that will implement their projects until February, 2006.

- ➔ MSD will be working with:
- National Indigenous Organizations (ONIC), and regional organizations such as KANKUAMOS, WIWA, ETTE ENNAKA (from Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta) and Nasas (*Consejo regional Indígena del Cauca*);
  - Two Afro-Colombian organizations, (Conferencia Nacional Afrocolombiana and Red Departamental de Mujeres del Chocó);
  - 4 organizations working with victims on issues of truth, justice and reparation in regions such as Antioquia, Bolívar, Sucre, Santander, Cesar, Córdoba, Risaralda, Putumayo, Huila, Tolima, Norte de Santander (Nuevo Arco Iris, Cultura democrática, Instituto Popular de Capacitación and Corponación);
  - and the Antonio Restrepo Barco Foundation which works with young people and the right to education.



### Component 3: Responding to Human Rights Abuses and Concerns Strengthen Education on Human Rights with Secondary Schools, Universities, State Institutions, and NGOs/CSOs

- ➔ To increase the capacity of state institutions and the legal education sector, USAID/MSD is supporting four initiatives: 1) Academic Network for Human Rights; 2) the Inter-American Human Rights Moot Court Competition; 3) Academy on Human Rights and Humanitarian Law, at American University, Washington College of Law; and 4) the National Moot Court Competition.
- ➔ Every year, MSD organizes the National Moot Court Competition. This academic event gathers public and private universities to train students in human rights and international humanitarian law and invites universities to participate in the National Moot Court Competition as a way to encourage human rights education. To date, MSD has organized 3 National Moot Court Competitions with an average of 23 universities participating in each one of them (26 in the first Moot Court, 26 in the second, and 17 in the third competition). A new competition will take place on September 27 - 30, 2005 in Medellín (*Universidad de San Buenaventura*).
- ➔ In addition, MSD signed 38 general cooperation agreements with universities throughout the country to support human rights issues as follows:
  - Create links between universities and the National Human Rights Network promoted by the Human Rights Program;
  - Support projects and research on fundamental rights;
  - Promote training and replica projects in human rights and IH;
  - Support the National Moot Court Competition.
- ➔ Based on an invitation to submit projects proposals, MSD funded 10 university projects primarily focused on a community-oriented work. Approved projects were submitted by: Universidad Católica Popular-Risaralda; Universidad de San Buenaventura-Medellín; Universidad del Rosario-Bogotá; Autónoma de Bucaramanga; Corporación Universitaria-bagué; Universidad del Norte- Barranquilla; Universidad Libre-Cali; Corporación Universitaria Simón Bolívar-Barranquilla; Externado de Colombia and Universidad de los Andes-Bogotá.
- ➔ The Moot Court competition is a tool to highlight the need to include human rights into Law School curricula. In addition, support to the Network of University Professors is essential to increasing their level of knowledge around human rights issues, and the promotion of human rights curriculum within their own universities, with NGOs/CSOs, and government institutions.

### Component 3: Responding to Human Rights Abuses and Concerns

#### Strengthened Forceability of Rights and Presentation of Human Rights Public Policies

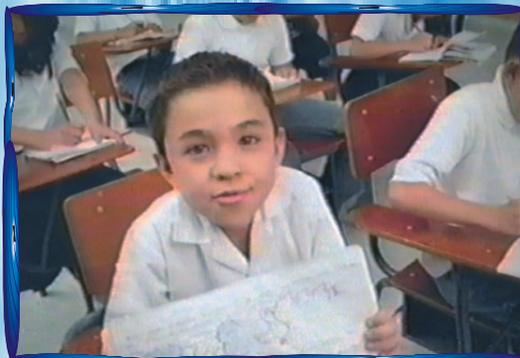
- ➔ USAID also supported 2 NGOs (*Planeta Paz* and *Humanizar*) working with the Ombudsman's Office in presenting anti-discrimination and freedom of expression policy proposals to Congress. The objective of this initiative was to define the Anti-Discrimination Statute.
- ➔ The Human Rights Program assists the Ombudsman's Office before Congress and the Constitutional Court. In Congress, the objective is to carry out a systematic monitoring of proposed laws affecting liberties and constitutional guarantees in order to timely interfere before the legislative organ to advance defense and respect for human rights. With the Constitutional Court the objective is to take legal action to guarantee respect for constitutional norms and human rights.



## Component 3: Responding to Human Rights Abuses and Concerns Analytical Services Research Unit

➔ USAID and MSD designed an integral strategy for the year 2005 in the area of peace and human rights that includes the following areas:

- Follow up and monitoring of the demobilisation process.
- Technical support to the legislative body in complying with international human rights and IHL standards. These standards will be included in the legal and regulatory framework that will result from the process of justice, truth and reparation.
- Support the operative development of bodies/entities that may be created to effectively apply the law of justice, truth and reparation as a result of demobilisation.
- Support groups of victims in representing and documenting cases.

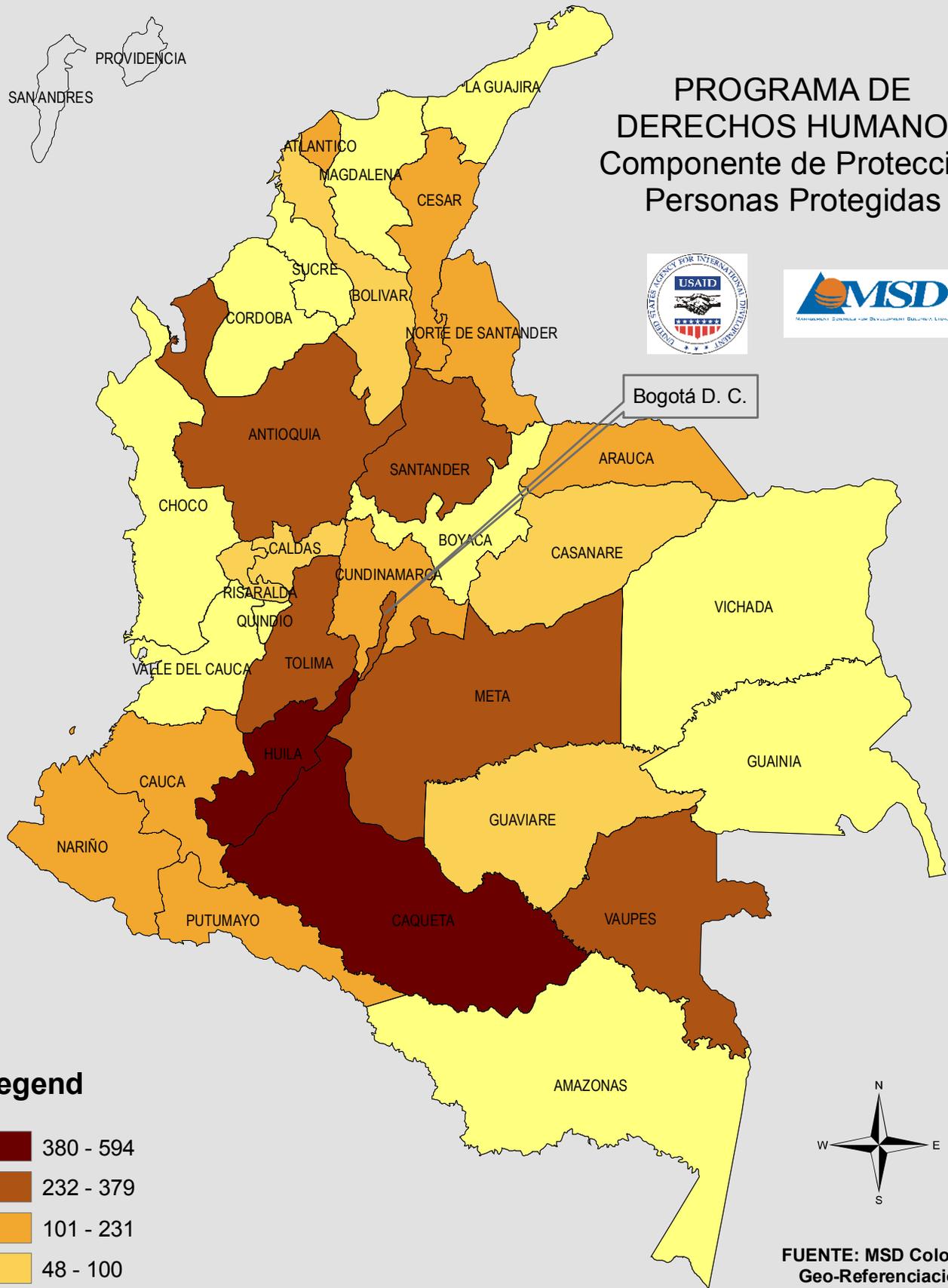


# **UPDATED MAPS**

SAN ANDRÉS  
 PROVIDENCIA

# PROGRAMA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS

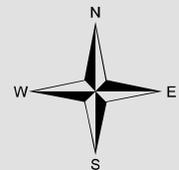
## Componente de Protección Personas Protegidas



Bogotá D. C.

### Legend

- 380 - 594
- 232 - 379
- 101 - 231
- 48 - 100
- 1 - 47



FUENTE: MSD Colombia  
 Geo-Referenciación:  
 Julio E. Cortés  
 10-Mar-2006

SAN ANDRÉS  
PROVIDENCIA

LA GUAJIRA

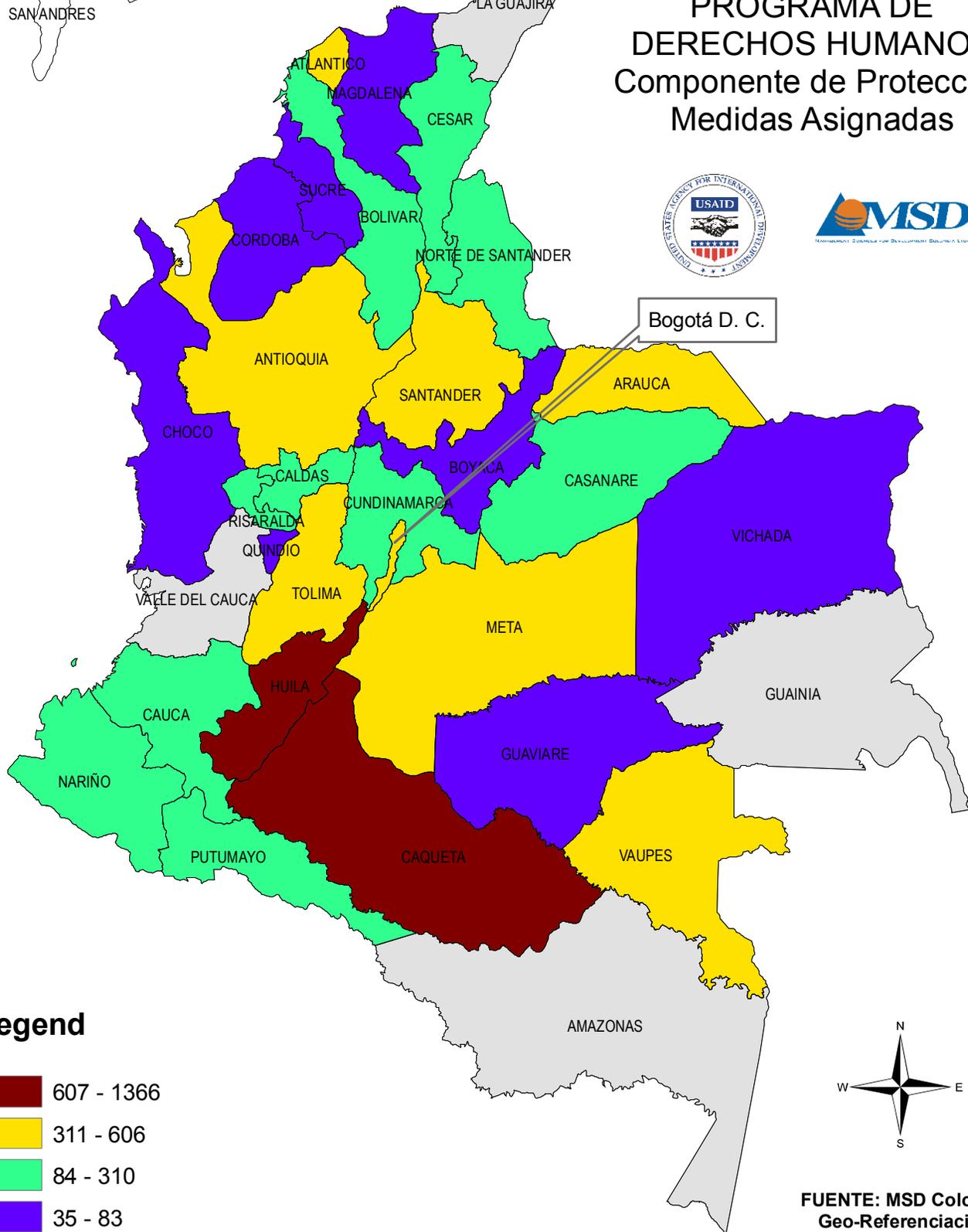
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## Componente de Protección

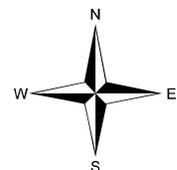
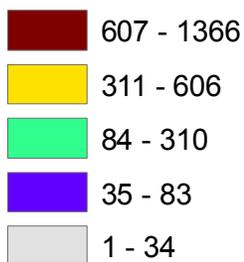
### Medidas Asignadas



Bogotá D. C.



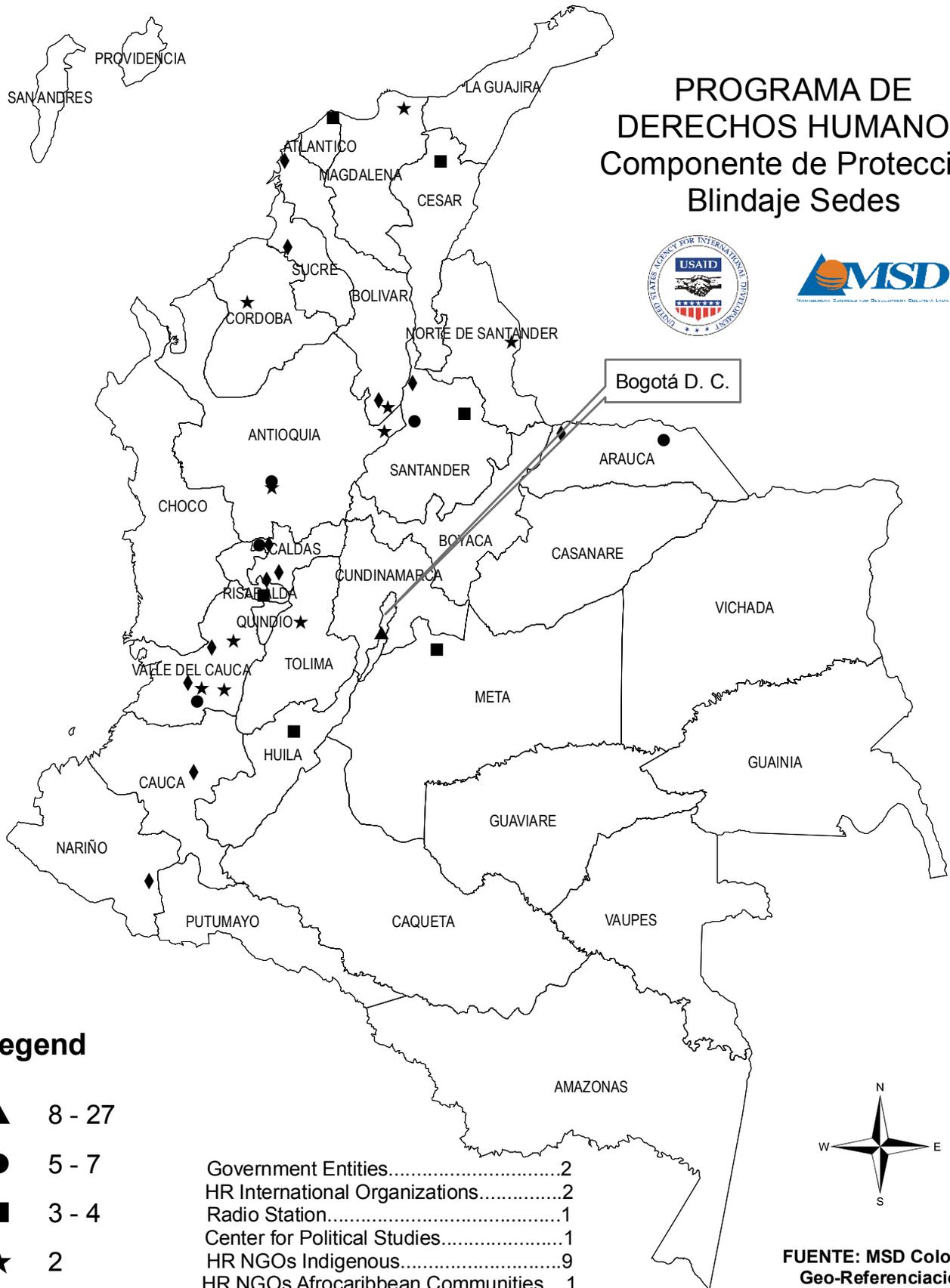
### Legend



FUENTE: MSD Colombia  
Geo-Referenciación:  
Julio E. Cortés  
10-Mar-2006

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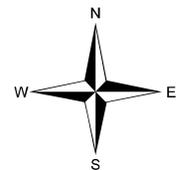
## Componente de Protección Blindaje Sedes



### Legend

- ▲ 8 - 27
- 5 - 7
- 3 - 4
- ★ 2
- ◆ 1

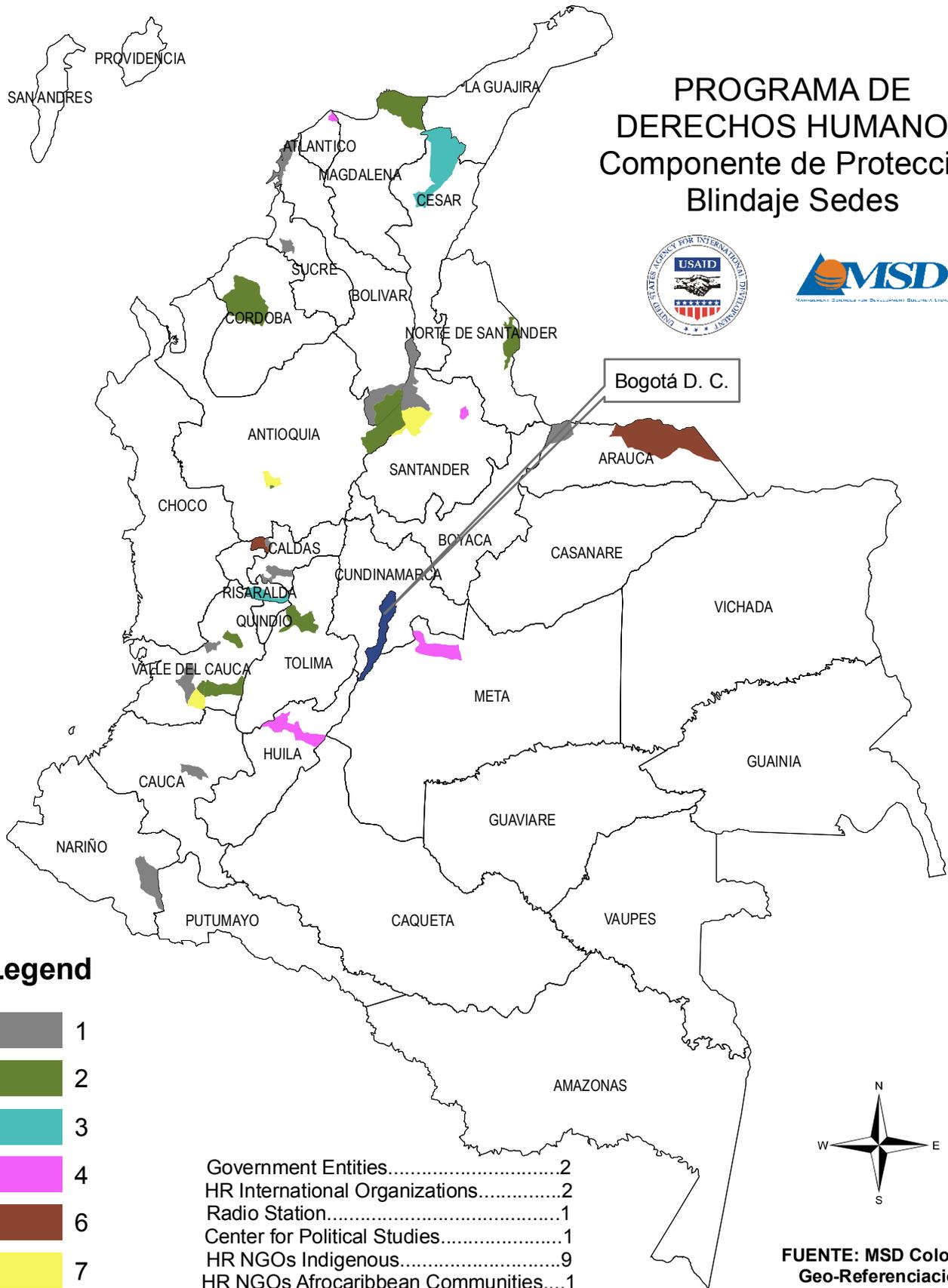
Government Entities.....	2
HR International Organizations.....	2
Radio Station.....	1
Center for Political Studies.....	1
HR NGOs Indigenous.....	9
HR NGOs Afrocaribbean Communities....	1
HR NGOs.....	18
Workers Union.....	80



FUENTE: MSD Colombia  
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 10-Mar-2006

# PROGRAMA DE DERECHOS HUMANOS

## Componente de Protección Blindaje Sedes

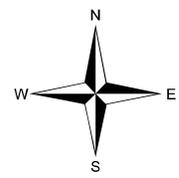


Bogotá D. C.

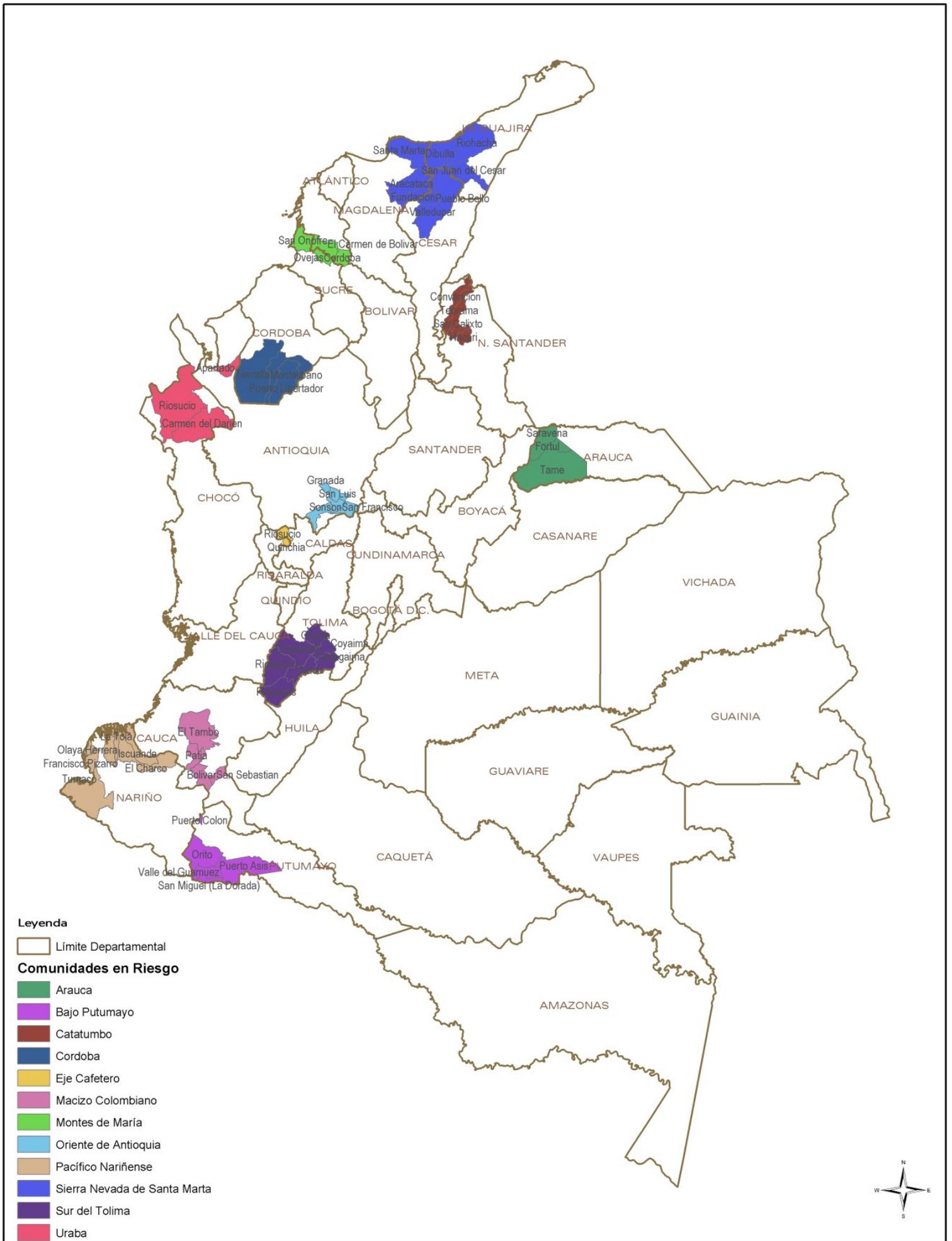
### Legend

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 6
- 7
- 27

Government Entities.....	2
HR International Organizations.....	2
Radio Station.....	1
Center for Political Studies.....	1
HR NGOs Indigenous.....	9
HR NGOs Afrocaribbean Communities....	1
HR NGOs.....	18
Workers Union.....	80



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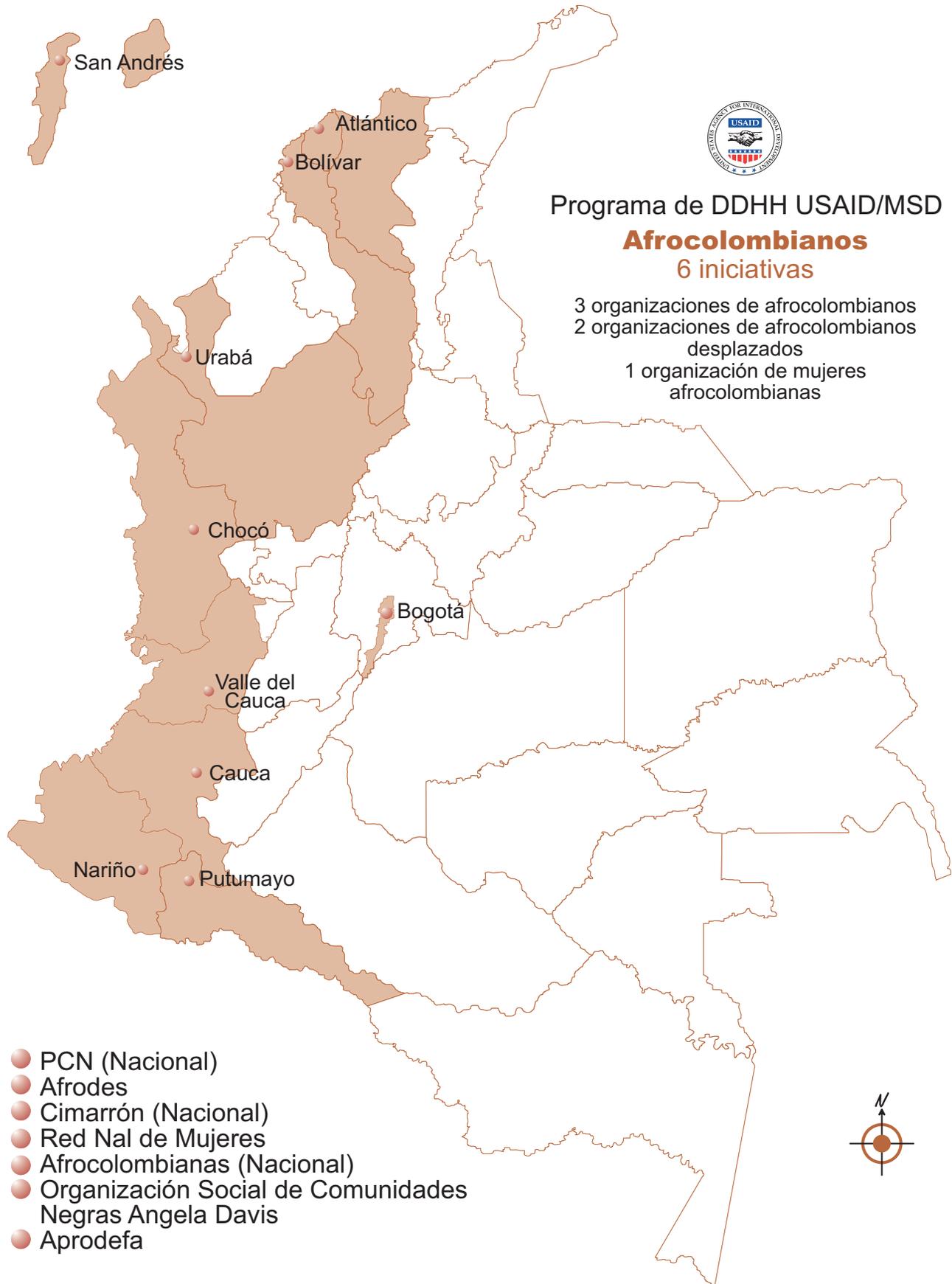


## Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD

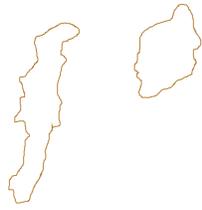
### Afrocolombianos

6 iniciativas

3 organizaciones de afrocolombianos  
2 organizaciones de afrocolombianos  
desplazados  
1 organización de mujeres  
afrocolombianas

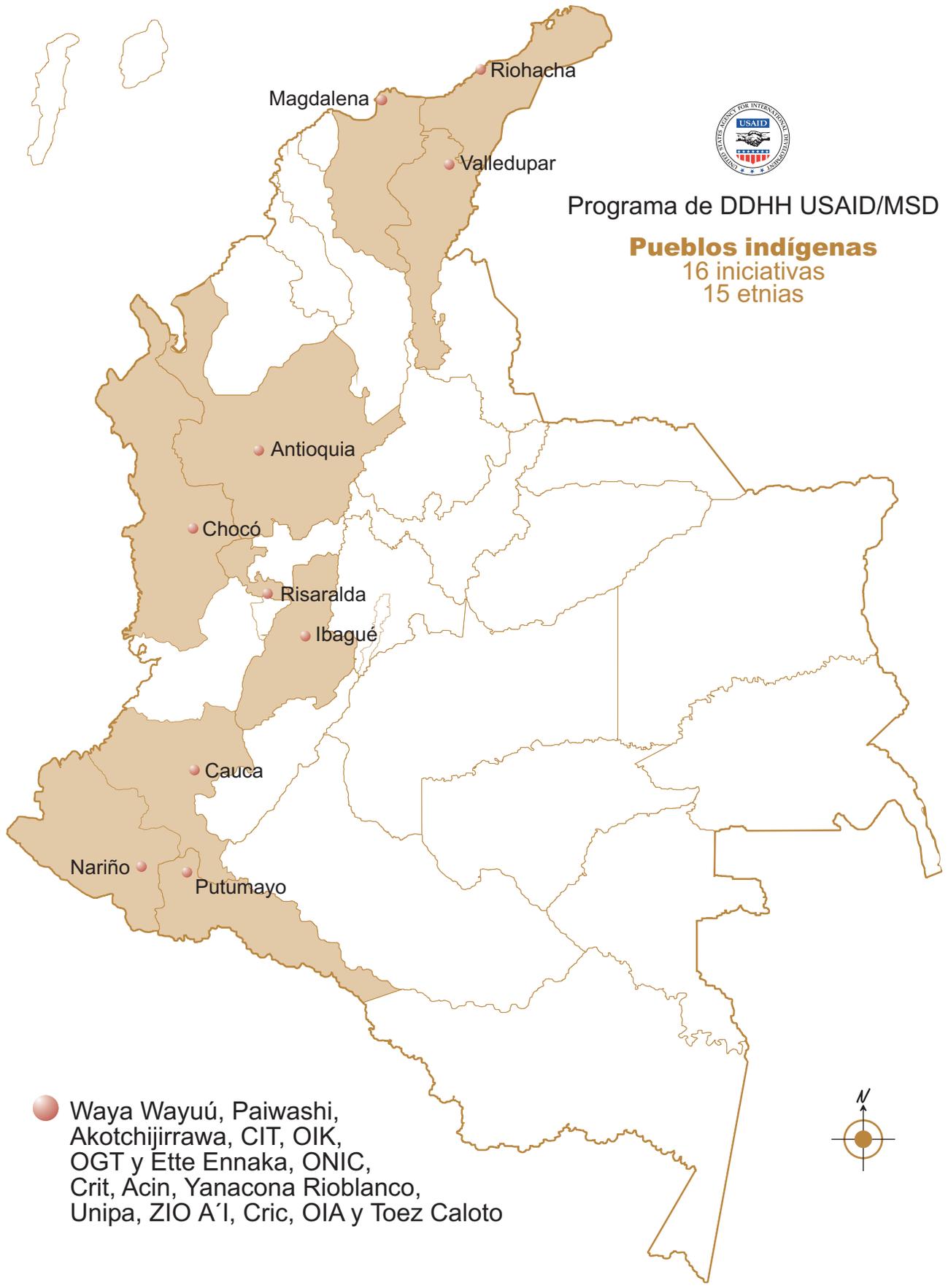


- PCN (Nacional)
- Afrodes
- Cimarrón (Nacional)
- Red Nal de Mujeres
- Afrocolombianas (Nacional)
- Organización Social de Comunidades Negras Angela Davis
- Aprodefa

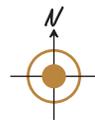


Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD

**Pueblos indígenas**  
16 iniciativas  
15 etnias

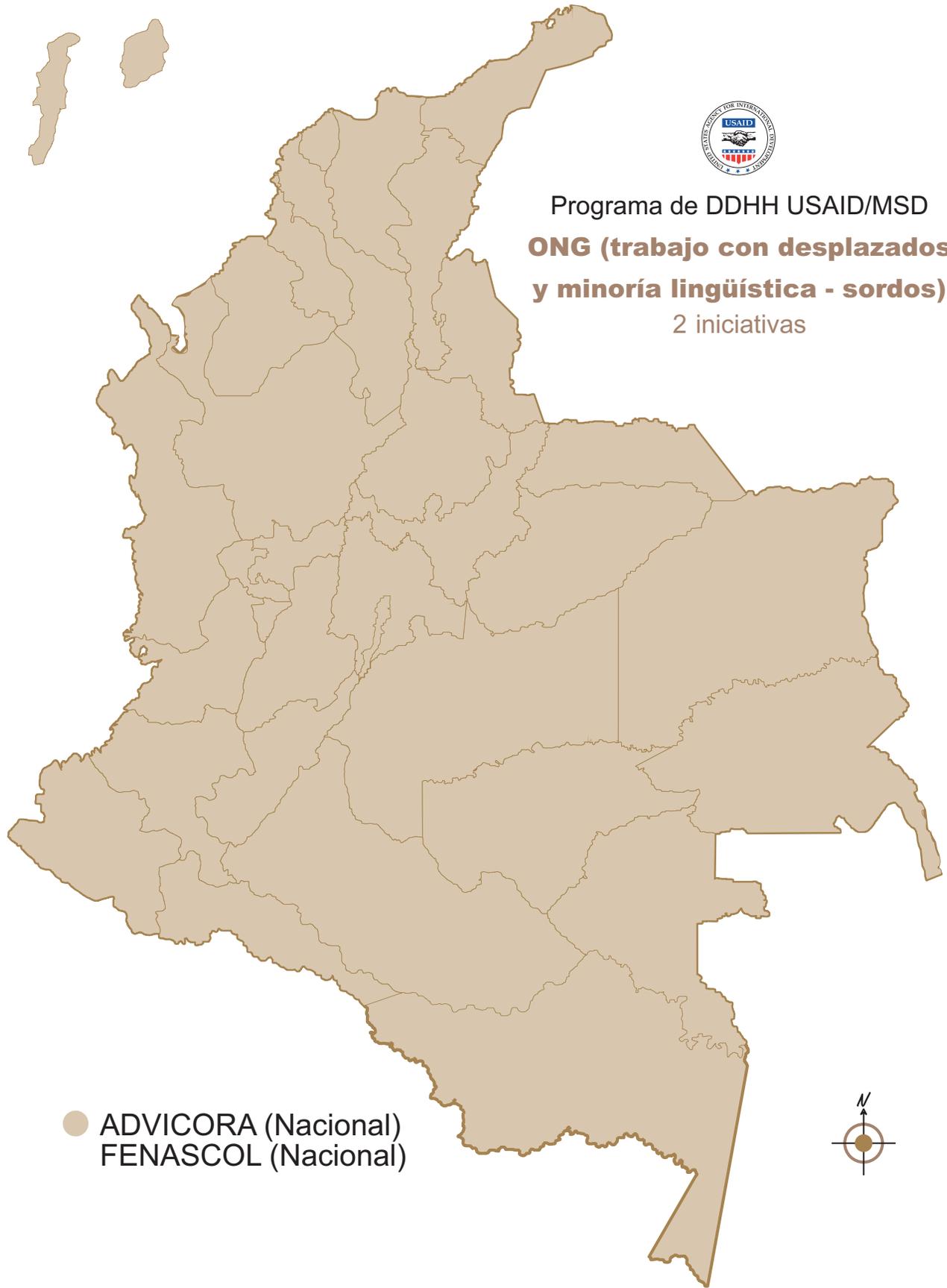


● Waya Wayuú, Paiwashi, Akotchijirrawa, CIT, OIK, OGT y Ette Ennaka, ONIC, Crit, Acin, Yanacona Rioblanco, Unipa, ZIO A'1, Cric, OIA y Toez Caloto

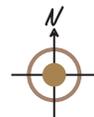




Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD  
**ONG (trabajo con desplazados  
y minoría lingüística - sordos)**  
2 iniciativas

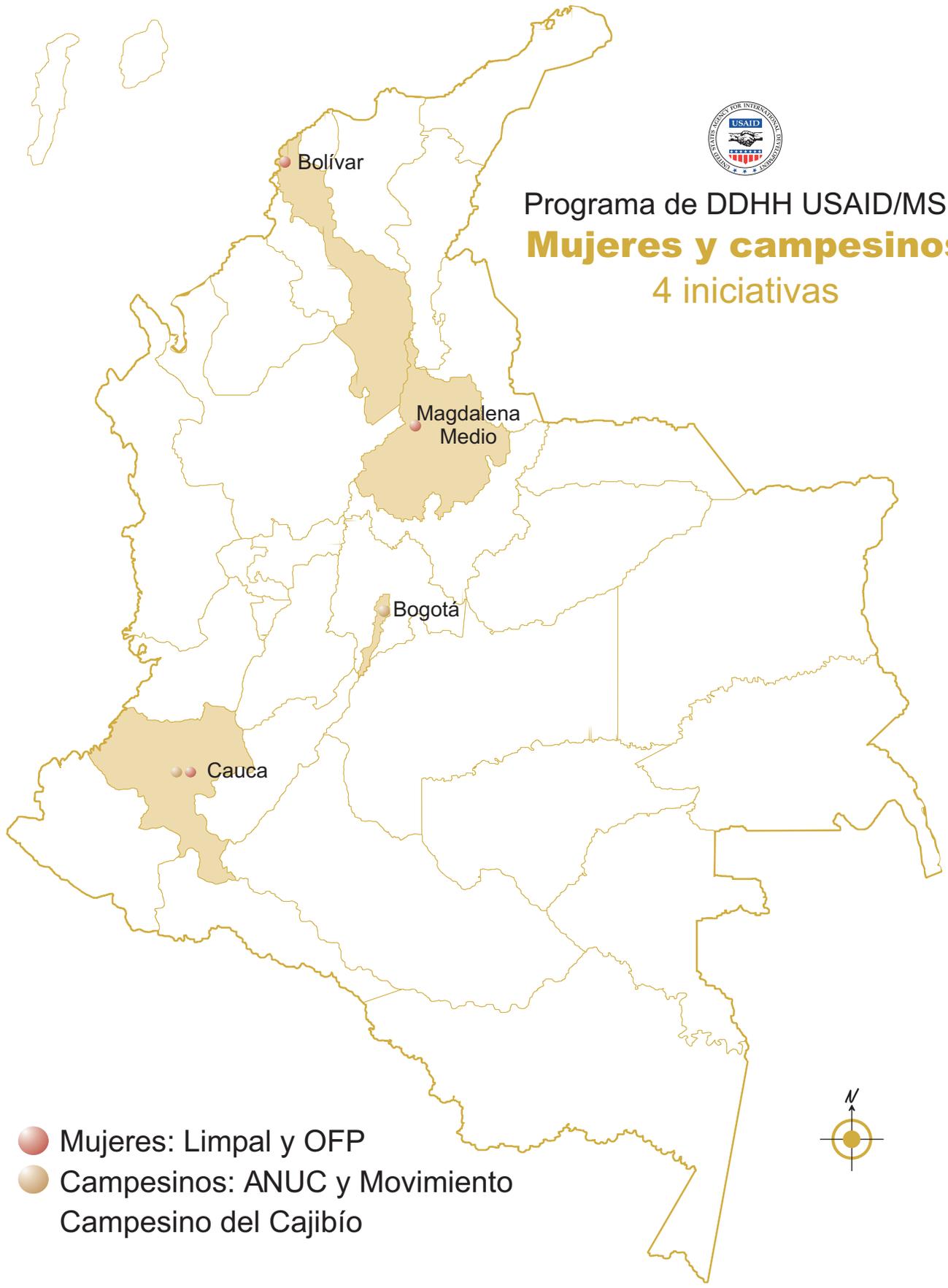


- ADVICORA (Nacional)
- FENASCOL (Nacional)

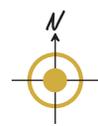


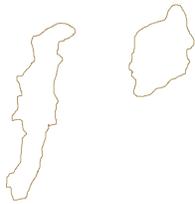


Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD  
**Mujeres y campesinos**  
4 iniciativas



- Mujeres: Limpal y OFP
- Campesinos: ANUC y Movimiento Campesino del Cajibío





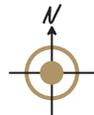
Atlántico

Antioquia



Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD  
**ONG (trabajo con víctimas)**  
5 iniciativas

- Corpojúridica
- Fundación Dos Mundos
- Reiniciar (Nacional)
- CEICOS (Nacional)
- Fundación País Libre





Programa de DDHH USAID/MSD  
**ONG (trabajo en promoción)**  
10 iniciativas



- Funcop, Presencia, Corporación San Bernardo, Fundein, Trenza, Fundesecopa, Corporación Colombiana de Teatro, Sidepaz, Funprocep y Aesatcc.

