



United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in Colombia newsletter informs about the main technical assistance activities carried out through the projects implemented in the country to strengthen the mine action sector, in conjunction with the **Office of the High Commissioner for Peace (OACP, in Spanish)** - **Descontamina Colombia**.

OACP assigns to HUMANICEMOS DH a second municipality of Caquetá to expand their humanitarian demining operations



On 10 December 2020, the OACP announced the allocation of a second municipality to HUMANICEMOS DH to expand its mine action operations. It is Solita, Caquetá, located 70 kilometers from La Montañita, the first municipality assigned to this humanitarian demining civil organization. **HUMANICEMOS DH** held the first meeting at the end of January with the municipal authorities of Solita to learn about the local context and begin to coordinate the start of operations in the coming months. This new allocation is a sign of confidence in the capacities that this organization has developed, composed and led by people in the process of reintegration, which emerged after the peace accord between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP.

UNMAS Colombia trains and evaluates the capacities of HUMANICEMOS DH personnel.

UNMAS and the OACP agree on a work plan to strengthen the mine action sector in 2021



Reference photo / UNMAS Colombia Archive

In the context of the 2020-2022 work plan agreed between the OACP and UNMAS, the Operations and Technical Assistance area of UNMAS Colombia agreed on a work plan for 2021 with the Humanitarian Demining component of the OACP, with the objective of continuing to strengthen the capacity of the mine action sector. The annual plan includes the development of refresher courses in Non-Technical Survey, Technical Survey and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) Level 2 or 3, which will be taught by UNMAS to the personnel of humanitarian demining organizations. It is also contemplated to support the design of the annexes of the new Colombian Technical Standards that will manage the entire mine action sector from this year, among other tasks.

Tadó, municipality of Chocó, now has an anti-personnel mine Victims Assistance Referral Pathway established



Photo: Regional Coordination Project / UNMAS

On January 26, the Local Coordinator visited the municipality of Tadó, Chocó, in the Colombian Pacific coast, to socialize to the local authorities the anti-personnel mines Victims Assistance (VA) referral pathway, prepared in coordination with the *Corporación Paz y Democracia*, an operator of Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE). At the meeting, printed material of this VA Route was delivered, which will be used for dissemination in the communities of Tadó and will facilitate services to victims of explosive ordnance. The printing of the VA Routes was funded by UNICEF. In this meeting, representatives of the Tadó Mayor's Office, the official responsible for victims, governors of ethnic communities and community leaders participated.

