



Former combatants identify the first two areas with contamination of explosive ordnance in Caquetá

Former combatants of FARC-EP in process of reintegration, members of the civil humanitarian demining organization **HUMANICEMOS DH**, in October identified the first two Confirmed Hazardous Areas (CHA) in a community of La Montañita, Caquetá, an area that was the scene of fighting during the armed conflict. This is a milestone for this organization that emerged after the Peace Accord and which for the first time deployed its Non-Technical Survey teams, **thanks to the support of the European Trust Fund for Peace**. The identified areas will be cleared in the coming months to safely release the land back to the community.



Teachers from Meta and Caquetá receive training on Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE)

33 teachers from the department of Caquetá and the municipality of Mesetas, in the department of Meta, were trained by local coordinators deployed by UNMAS for the **Office of the High Commissioner for Peace (OACP, in Spanish)** in EORE to enable them to share information with their students in the communities. These trainings are important, since Caquetá is the third department in Colombia with the highest number of events involving explosive ordnance, while Mesetas is the fourth municipality in the country with the highest number of recorded events, according to data from *Descontamina Colombia*. The virtual workshops were held on November 4 and 5, in coordination with the Government of Caquetá, the department's Education Office and the Mesetas Mayor's Office.



Officials of Cúcuta Mayor's Office participate in awareness raising sessions about the risk of anti-personnel mines

Officials from the Post-Conflict Secretariat and the Government Secretariat of the **Cúcuta Mayor's Office**, in the department of Norte de Santander, were sensitized on the risk of anti-personnel mines by local coordinators deployed by UNMAS for the OACP. The training was held on November 4 at the municipal mayor's office with the aim of generating self-care capacities among these officials, who work in the rural areas of Cúcuta, a territory impacted by the presence of explosive ordnance. This activity was carried out in coordination with the officials responsible for victim assistance in the municipality.



Peace Counselors from 13 Putumayo municipalities are trained in Mine Action

Peace Counselors from 13 municipalities in the department of Putumayo were trained on issues related to regional coordination and the regulations of Mine Action in Colombia, in addition to being sensitized in EORE, as part of a training program for Territorial Peace Councils. The workshops were given by the local coordinators deployed by UNMAS for the OACP. This training program is a joint effort of the **Putumayo Government**, the OACP and the **Presidential Council for Human Rights of Colombia**.

The UNMAS Colombia team



Pauline Boyer
Programme Officer

Pauline joined UNMAS Colombia in October 2018. She has ten years of experience in humanitarian sector organizations in countries such as the **Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Jordan and Colombia**. At UNMAS, she led the Programme team, which is in charge of supporting resource mobilization, the preparation of proposals to donors, and the reports that show the impact of our activities in the country. In addition, she was in charge of the coordination with other UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes in Colombia, highlighting the formulation of interagency proposals to help reduce the impact of contamination with explosive ordnance in the regions. Pauline ends her time at UNMAS in November 2020 and we appreciate her contributions to the programme and the sector at large in Colombia.

Our results, in numbers

Between September and October 2020, UNMAS Colombia carried out various actions to strengthen the mine action sector in Colombia. These actions included:



73 ombudsperson from six departments affected by explosive ordnance, trained in mine action, in coordination with the Office of the Inspector General, UNICEF, UNHCR and Colombian Campaign to Ban Landmines.



Participation in 22 virtual sessions to support the OACP in the revision of the new Technical Norms of the mine action sector (*previously "National Mine Action Standards"*).



Departments represented in the training with ombudsperson

- Antioquia
- Arauca
- Chocó
- Nariño
- Norte de Santander
- Putumayo



*Definition of the number of people in need of mine action measure in the 156 most affected municipalities for the **2021 Humanitarian Needs Overview**. The number was established at **268,319 people**.



Support for the participation of the Colombian NGO CIREC in the Global Protection Forum, which gathered more than 3,000 protection practitioners worldwide.

*The report is prepared by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA).

About UNMAS Colombia

Since 2010, UNMAS has supported the National Mine Action Center of Colombia, now under the direction of the OACP, humanitarian demining, victim assistance and explosive ordnance risk education organizations, to increase the capacity of the mine action sector and strengthen its coordination and regulatory frameworks, considering best global practices. UNMAS works in Colombia with the support of the **European Union**, through the **European Trust Fund for Peace**; and the Governments of **Germany, Italy, Sweden and Switzerland**, whom we thank for their contributions in 2020.

