UNITED NATIONS POST-CONFLICT MULTI-PARTNER TRUST FUND FOR COLOMBIA
Participating Organizations

(IOM) International Organization for Migration

(ILO) International Labour Organization

(UNOPS) United Nations Office for Project Services

UN-Habitat: United Nations Human Settlements Programme

(UNDP) United Nations Development Programme

(WFP) World Food Programme

(UNIC) United Nations Information Centre

UN WOMEN: United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women

(UNICEF) United Nations Children’s Fund

(UNFPA) United Nations Population Fund

(FAO) Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

(OCHA) United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs

(UNIDO) United Nations Industrial Development Organization

(UNODC) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

(UNESCO) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
Donors

Canada

United Kingdom

Sweden

Norway

Germany

Switzerland

Peacebuilding Fund

GAI

Ireland
The signing of the Peace Agreement between the Government of Colombia and the FARC-EP, in December 2016, marked a historic milestone for the country. An arduous process has been consolidated that has brought hope that the longest armed conflict in the hemisphere will end. The international experience shows that the success of a peace process depends on the State’s ability to stabilize it, through actions that build confidence in those territories most affected by the armed conflict. To achieve this, it is necessary to create effective financing mechanisms supported by the international cooperation. The Colombian government has established a strategic route for this purpose through the High Council for Post-conflict which, under the slogan ‘Colombia Renace’, articulates the joint vision of the National Government for this purpose and advises on the structuring and development of related policies and programs. The United Nations and the donors are strategic partners in this enterprise through their technical expertise, operational capacity and relationships with local authorities and communities in many corners of the country.

In this report, we share how the United Nations Multi-Partner Fund for Post-Conflict, chaired by the National Government and co-chaired by the UN, has become an important mechanism for the early implementation of peace. The Fund has given a great boost to the national strategy for post-conflict, bringing concrete benefits and hope to thousands of Colombians across the national territory.

In less than 12 months of operation, the Fund has been instrumental in laying the foundations for building a stable and lasting peace, building on efforts, skills, know-how and financial resources under the leadership of the Government and its peace strategy. In these pages are the testimonies of success of those who know the value of the Fund for the stabilization of peace in Colombia: its partners in the Government, the United Nations system, civil society and its beneficiaries that live with the hope for a better future in the most remote territories of the country.

Rafael Pardo Rueda
HIGH COUNSELOR FOR POST-CONFLICT, HUMAN RIGHTS AND SECURITY
Colombia is changing. The entry into force of the bilateral and definitive cease-fire and the signing of the Peace Agreement between the Colombian Government and the FARC-EP has meant reducing the violence of the conflict to historical levels. This fact, in addition to saving thousands of lives, has allowed the country to begin the road to sustainable peace.

It is not enough to silence the rifles, it is also necessary that peace is sustained. This means that, in the context of respect for and promotion of human rights, we must achieve a link between peacebuilding, sustainable development, the establishment of lasting solutions for the reparation of victims, and closing gaps between all sectors of the Colombian population. With this vision, we will not leave anyone behind; we will work with youth, women, Afro-Colombians and indigenous peoples so that the most vulnerable communities are the main beneficiaries of these efforts.

The Multi-Partner Trust Fund is framed within the vision of sustaining peace. Colombia has been positioning as an example of how this instrument has been useful in articulating the efforts of the Colombian Government, the international donor community and the United Nations, to achieve concrete results in the consolidation of peace. Indeed, during its first year, the Fund has supported the creation of critical institutions for the early implementation of the peace agreements, has led to tangible dividends for the populations most affected by the conflict and has been central in formulating proposals to give voice and re-establish the rights of victims; without these, peace will be unfinished.

We will continue, without ceasing, to make peace possible. The United Nations will continue its strong commitment to provide the country with all its experience and implementation capacity and we deeply appreciate the support of the international community and the Colombian Government for their dedication to this effort. Together we will make hope an irreversible fact.

Martín Santiago Herrero
RESIDENT AND HUMANITARIAN COORDINATOR OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM IN COLOMBIA
The United Nations Post-Conflict Multi-Partner Trust Fund for Colombia was launched in February of 2016, with a view to supporting projects related to (i) Post-conflict stabilization, (ii) Confidence building in the most affected populations, and (iii) Preparedness and early implementation of the peace treaty achieved with the FARC. In the first year of operation, it has demonstrated that it is an important instrument for peace stabilization in Colombia, contributing to the establishment of the institutional framework required to put the peace agreements into effect and facilitating the fast delivery of peace dividends in the most conflict affected areas.

The purpose of the Fund is to mobilize and channel the financial support of the international community towards the government stabilization effort and the early implementation of the peace agreement. By supporting these initiatives, the risk of renewed conflict and violence will be reduced and trust built with the most affected communities. Every initiative supported by the Fund is closely coordinated with the relevant State bodies and ministries, thus ensuring complementarity and alignment with the short and mid-term priorities of the government peace strategy.

Projects that have received funding include both a differential approach and reconciliation and strengthening of human rights as cross-cutting. They also have participation and consultation mechanisms with the communities in the territories, as well as an environmental “do no harm” approach in all their interventions. Furthermore, the Fund aims to allocate 15 percent of its resources to projects and results that promote the women’s participation and empowerment, as well as gender equality.
By the end of the fiscal year in December 2016, the Fund had received (either as signed agreements or deposits) contributions for 56 million U.S. dollars from 8 donors: Canada (15.2 million), United Kingdom (13.2 million), Sweden (8.6 million), Norway (6 million), Germany (5.4 million), Switzerland (3 million), the UN Peace Building Fund (3 million), and Ireland (0.43 million), with an additional contribution of 1 million U.S. dollars confirmed by the Global Acceleration Instrument (GAI).

The annual report provides evidence -through the perceptions of those who have participated in its governance structures- that the successful startup of the Fund has served as a solid foundation for the appropriate and, above all, strategic allocation of resources. The report demonstrates that the initial phase of the Fund established the governance system, ways of working and financial commitments needed to achieve the impacts that are expected during the most intense years of implementation to come (2017 – 2018).

The Fund has been instrumental in supporting 3 key moments of the Colombian Peace Process timeline:

1. 📚 Public awareness: Before the signing of the Peace agreement, the Fund supported various initiatives aimed at socializing and discussing its content and its scope. These interventions reached a diverse audience in both urban and rural settings. Peace awareness activities were carried out with the private sector, ethnic minorities, women, youth and small farmer organizations, amongst others.

2. 🗞️ Preparedness: Before and after the signing of the peace agreement, the Fund also led efforts to strengthen the institutions responsible for its implementation. This support to the institutional architecture for peace continues and is currently being strengthened.

3. 🌱 Stabilization: After the signing of the peace agreement, the Fund also dedicated part of its support to State building in the most vulnerable territories where the presence of the State is being strengthened, to deliver early peace dividends for the most-in-need populations.

Contributions 2016
US $56 million
As of December 31, 2016, the Fund’s Steering Committee (with the expert advice and recommendations of the technical committee) had approved funding for 24 projects and transferred resources to 17. All of the funded projects contribute to a theory of change that is aligned to national strategic objectives and expressed in 8 outcomes.

2016 was the year in which the Fund was established and launched. The first annual report has therefore been focused on the achievements related to the launch and functioning of the Fund’s governance system, in addition to its tangible results. It is particularly noteworthy that the Fund’s decision-making and technical evaluation mechanisms have achieved an appropriate equilibrium between its various stakeholders. The report also highlights how its architecture and ways of working have respected international aid effectiveness principles by sharing leadership with the National Government. Despite the short implementation period, the Fund has demonstrated important gains in confidence building and satisfying immediate needs.
KEY
ACHIEVEMENTS 2016

In less than 12 months, the MPTF in Colombia has become a reference for good practice in effective inter-institutional coordination in post-conflict situations. The different perceptions and perspectives of representatives of the government, the UN system and cooperation agencies gathered, have confirmed that the structure and the management mechanisms built jointly during 2016 are adequate for the purposes of the Fund. These have established the foundations for achieving the Fund’s overall objective: channeling the resources of the international cooperation towards national priorities in an effective and efficient manner. This has generated a series of inter-related benefits that are mutually reinforcing, including a more effective inter-institutional coordination, greater strategic coherence and sense of ownership by the interest groups, a significant reduction in transaction costs, and a more agile and flexible execution, especially in the approval and disbursement of funds.

Despite the projects’ short implementation period (most had less than four months of execution as of the cutoff date), there has been important progress in six out of the eight outcomes set out in the results framework agreed between the UN and the Government:

- In the area of Justice and Security, important steps have been taken to create new justice systems with the capacity to adapt to emerging post-conflict needs at the local level (result 2).

- In the area of Transitional Justice and Reconciliation, the reparation of victims has been accelerated and put into practice by withdrawing minors from the ranks of the FARC (result 4).

- A substantial boost has been made to collective reparation, validating and preparing for the fast implementation of the agreements between 27 communities and the State in a participative manner (result 4).

- The response capacity of local authorities and civil society has been strengthened so that they can contribute to the peace agreement, its electoral endorsement and implementation (result 6).

- Infrastructure projects prioritized by the communities most affected by the armed conflict have been developed, creating decent jobs, immediate income and building confidence in the integral presence of the State (result 5).

- Hundreds of State entities and civil society organizations in the 12 regions with high risk of social conflict have been trained in how to use dialogue to transform conflicts in a non-violent way (result 7).

- Finally, the Fund has empowered thousands of the most vulnerable male and female citizens in the territories through awareness raising campaigns, so that they can understand the relevance of the peace agreement and take ownership of it in their territorial context (result 8).
The Fund is strategically aligned with the National Development Plan for 2014-2018, *Todos por un Nuevo País* (in Spanish), and the UN’s Development Assistance Framework for 2015-2019. It is also an integral part of the new institutional structure, the Colombia in Peace Fund, created by the Colombian Government to bring about close coordination between the different international cooperation funds. The Fund operates through 3 implementation windows: (i) for the United Nations, (ii) for the National Government, and (iii) for civil society (with UNDP acting as managing agent). The Steering Committee, supported by the technical committee, has ensured that the windows work together, guaranteeing both complementarity and an effective response to the funding gaps for critical post-conflict intervention.

The Fund has established 8 results based on the post-conflict strategy of the Colombian government, and to which each of its interventions respond.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 1:</th>
<th>Result 2:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No of Projects</strong></td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amount Allocated to Result:</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 1.300.000</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>THE LINK BETWEEN POLITICS AND VIOLENCE HAS BEEN BROKEN</strong></td>
<td><strong>IMPROVED CITIZEN ACCESS TO MECHANISMS OF FORMAL AND ALTERNATIVE JUSTICE</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 3:</th>
<th>Result 4:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No of Projects</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amount Allocated to Result:</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 3.378.547</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>IMPROVED CITIZEN PERCEPTION ABOUT SECURITY AND CONFIDENCE ON THE STATE</strong></td>
<td><strong>ACCELERATION OF VICTIM’S REPARATIONS</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Result 5:</th>
<th>Result 6:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>No of Projects</strong></td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Amount Allocated to Result:</strong></td>
<td><strong>US$ 2.946.796</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>LAUNCH LOCAL ECONOMIC AND INFRASTRUCTURE REHABILITATION</strong></td>
<td><strong>DEVELOP INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY IN MAYORS’ AND GOVERNORS’ OFFICES</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Result 7:

No of Proyects: 1

TRANSFORMATIVE AND CONSTRUCTIVE MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL CONFLICTS AND HUMANITARIAN SITUATION AT THE LOCAL LEVEL

Amount Allocated to Result: **US$ 2,100,000**

---

Result 8:

No of Proyects: 12

EFFICIENT AND TRANSPARENT COMMUNICATION OF AGREEMENTS AND PROGRESS TOWARDS PEACEBUILDING

Amount Allocated to Result: **US$3,934,650**
In 2016, initiatives aimed at strengthening local institutional capacity were supported:

- 291 students supported 118 municipalities to take on peace building leadership in their territories, including the technical capacity to build historical memory, perform awareness raising activities about the peace agreement, characterize the victim population, and promote psychosocial recovery and peaceful coexistence in returning communities.

- The Fund has strengthened the capacity of State institutions (local and national) and civil society initiatives to contribute to peace agreement preparedness, electoral endorsement and implementation. This included interventions to train local authorities in the national human rights strategy, civil society and local authorities in techniques for promoting social dialogue, and political parties and movements to participate in the development of the Opposition Statute, as well as influencing local development and land use planning.

- The Fund has been instrumental in supporting the launch of the Territorial Renovation Agency (ART in Spanish), strengthening its technical and human capacity in the territories and positioning it as a strategic partner for local peace building.

- Local development was boosted through 24 community infrastructure projects benefiting 26,000 people. These initiatives included mobility works (road and pedestrian), school and community center renovation, and the construction of sports centers and water supply systems. Decent, direct em-
ployment was created for hundreds of local workers, including women, young people, and members of the indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.

◆ The Fund strengthened the foundations for the startup of the collective reparation programs in the most conflict-affected territories. The reparation measures agreed with the National Government were validated through participatory processes with victim communities and their integrated into territorial development programs put into practice with local authorities.

◆ The first of the FARC’s child soldiers were withdrawn from their ranks, restoring their rights as victims and re incorporating them into their community and family care.

◆ Actions of collective reparation of high symbolic value were implemented between victims and the FARC, generating public awareness that reconciliation is possible.

◆ A massive awareness raising campaign was launched to inform the Colombian electorate. At least 8 million people from post-conflict priority territories or major cities were informed about the peace agreement and/or participated in public events or in social networks. 200,000 people directly participated in the public manifestations. The social organizations reached out to a wide range of demographic sectors that are representative of Colombian society. These included religious groups, the private sector, women, youth, smaller producers, victims, Afro-Colombians and members of the LGTBI community.
During its first year of implementation, the Fund has demonstrated its added value as a financial instrument that is flexible and can respond rapidly to support the post-conflict. The first annual report focuses on measuring how adequate the institutional design of the Fund has been to face post-conflict challenges, based on consultations with its 3 main actors: Government, donors and the UN.

Effective alliance

An unprecedented tripartite alliance has been consolidated between the national government, the United Nations system and bilateral cooperation agencies. The shared leadership of the Fund’s Steering Committee between the national government and the UN, and the degree of influence exercised by the government representation in general in decision-making, has been important for promoting the Paris and Accra aid effectiveness agenda in the Colombian context. It has also created a consensual financing mechanism that guarantees transparency and builds trust between the partners.

National Leadership

The Fund is an instrument that reinforces the strategic leadership of the government and generates synergies. The donors highlight the great commitment and sense of ownership demonstrated by the government. It has been observed that the new tripartite alliance has become the main coordination mechanism be-
between the donors, generating a fluid strategic communication. For its part, the government views positively the capacity of the new alliances to leverage resources from different donors for the same fund and within the same results framework as the government. Every initiative supported is tightly coordinated with the relevant state entity and ministry. In this sense, the complementarity with the government strategy and the support that it requires have been ensured.

Flexibility and Adaptability in a changing environment

Another highlighted achievement was the flexibility of the Fund as a financing instrument with the ability to deliver resources to the actors with the capacity to respond quickly to post-conflict priorities. The Fund was established in Colombia thanks to the preexistence of standardized legal documents that could be adapted to the Colombian context. For the Presidential Agency for International Cooperation in Colombia (APC in Spanish), the ease with which the UN agencies have been able to execute projects through the Fund has been an added value given they are already established in priority territories and have operational procedures that facilitate rapid implementation.

Governance of the Fund

The Fund’s governance system, including its structure, ways of work and consensual decision-making mechanisms, have been crucial for generating synergies between the various entities involved. Stakeholders highlighted the Technical Committee’s high level of competence and performance as a key factor for the successful startup of the Fund, where an arduous work of analysis is done and all key players are present. The effective role of the Technical Secretariat as a coordinating body and guarantor for the Fund’s smooth running, has also been highlighted as a success factor.
Thanks to the capacity to achieve a good balance between technical rigor and efficiency, the Fund has not suffered any major setbacks.

#### Differentiated Windows

The operational organization into differentiated windows for (i) UN agencies, (ii) state entities, and (iii) civil society, was positively evaluated by partners. They have highlighted the importance of the civil society window, which has been key for involving and strengthening NGOs and social organizations that will be fundamental for implementing the agreements in the most conflict affected territories. By operating through these windows, each actor has been able to participate in the arenas that play to their greatest strengths.

#### Transversal Approaches

The projects that have been funded have adopted a differential approach that considers the specific needs of particularly vulnerable groups and the potential environmental impact of their actions. The Fund has also promoted reconciliation and the strengthening of human rights as cross-cutting. According to the UN Secretary General’s seven-point Action Plan to improve the participation of women in peace consolidation (2010), the Fund has sought to earmark 15% of the resources allocated to projects and programs for results and activities that promote women’s participation and empowerment, as well as gender equality.
The 56 million U.S. dollars mobilized during its first year of operations are proof of the trust that donors have placed in the Fund and its added value for post-conflict. Thanks to the efficient fundraising, flexible financing has been available for projects that have achieved concrete results. As of December 31, 2016, the Steering Committee had approved the funding for, and allocated resources to, 24 projects, for a total of USD $18,039,667. 15 of these interventions were approved through the civil society window, while the remaining 9 were approved through the UN window.

Of the 9 projects approved through the UN window, 2 were inter-agency joint programmes. Out of the 15 agencies that participate in the Fund, 4 (FAO, IOM, UNDP and UNICEF) were involved in the implementation of projects in 2016.
Notwithstanding the successful initiation of the Fund, and its achievements in 2016, the consultation with the partners produced important recommendations that will be considered for the coming year:

1. **Greater civil society participation**: While the UN agencies have played a prominent role during the first year due to their strong response capacity, the Fund should ensure a greater participation by non-governmental organizations through the civil society window.

2. **Ensure a balance between the need to be flexible and to achieve a clear strategic prioritization**: Although the Fund was planned as a three-year mechanism (with the possibility of extension), it is important to establish clear strategic priorities during the second year without losing its added value as a flexible instrument in a rapidly changing context.

3. **Strengthen the incorporation of the gender approach**: Although all the Fund’s projects are required to be gender sensitive, specific gender equality activities and projects should be prioritized to reach the 15% earmarking goal.

4. **Strengthen the visibility of the Fund and the communication strategies around how it works**: Through the brand Colombia Renace, the fund should be more visible in the prioritized territories and to donors as a State strategy. There could be more communication about the calls for proposals in order to attract strategically relevant actors.

5. **Strengthen the monitoring and evaluation system**: The Fund should strengthen its existing monitoring and evaluation mechanism, giving priority to the identification of impact indicators, and ensuring even more that the interventions contribute directly to a national strategy.

6. **Periodic review of the strategic management of the Fund**: The strategic conversations of the Technical Committee should be more frequent to ensure that the priorities of the Fund are constantly reviewed in response to specific contexts.

7. **Increasing the inter-agency interventions, and increasing the participation of the UN agencies**: With regard to the UN implementation window, the Fund should decide to give greater priority to inter-agency projects, since these can generate greater territorial impact and address multiple priorities in an integrated way. For this reason, it is recommendable for more UN agencies to participate in the implementation of projects.