

# Women and internal conflict in Colombia

Oscar Rico
Victims abroad coordinator
Victims Unit
Government of Colombia

26 Ferurary 2020

### (1/12) Colombian armed conflict and violence

#### Protracted and ongoing (60 years)

Influenced by crops of illegal use, land occupant control and drug trafficking

Peace agreement in 2016

Single Victims Registry since 1997 (demand driven)

- Stock of people and events
- Broken down by sociodemographic and geographical variables
- 8,9 million individual victims
- 11,1 million events
- 88% internal displacement
- 18% country`s population



Victims Unit,

### (2/12) Women and internal conflict

#### Women are targeted, threatened and discriminated for:

- Their social and political involvement
- Standing for their rights
- Just because they are women

#### **Affectations:**

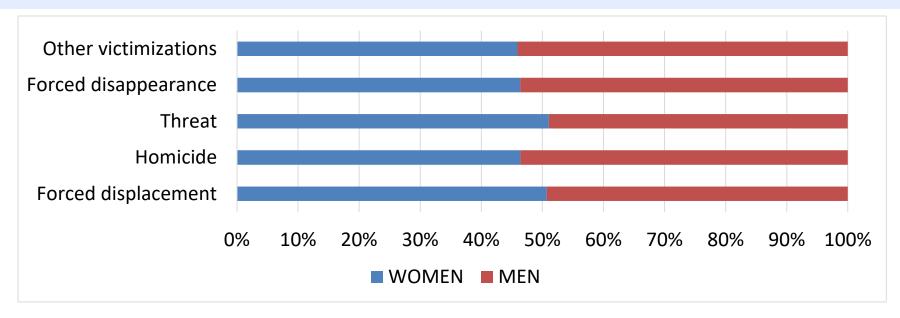
- Sexual and domestic violence
- Domestic and labour exploitation
- Low access to education and job opportunities
- Obstacles in access to land owneship
- Barriers to access public and political scenarios
- Forced recruitment of their children by armed groups
- Murder or disappearance of their economic provider

From traditional caregivers and housewives to being responsible for the household and providers

### (3/12) Background

- 2004, Ruling T-025. The Colombian Supreme Court declared an Anticonstitutional State of Affairs of the internal displacement situation.
- 2008, Ruling 092. The Supreme Court order the government to create specific programs to protect the rights of displaced women.
- 2008, Law 1257. The National Congress passed the Law to create awareness, prevention and punishment of forms of violence and discrimination against women.
- 2013, Conpes 3784. Public Policy Guidance to prevent risks, protect and guarantee the effective enjoyment of rights of women victims: coordination, monitoring with specific indicators.
- 2017, EGRIS. The Victims Unit joined EGRIS and the DANE (Colombian NSO) joined the IAEG-SDGs, both commissioned by the UN Stat Com.

### (4/12) Victimization (8,7 million victims)



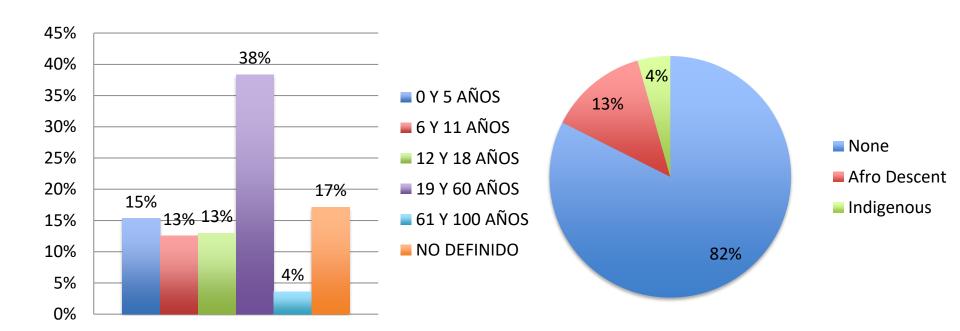
#### There is a general balance between the statistics of men and women but

- 4 million IDP women (combined with threat, land grabbing, gender based violance)
- 579.000 women have been affected by homicide, forced disappearance and kidnapping (indirect victims, loss of economic provider)
- 28.000 female victims of gender based violence (14 times higher than male statistics)
- 30% of IDP households were female headed at time of registration

Victims Unit, 31/01/2020



### (5/12) Female age and ethnicity (4 million women victims)



- 41% of women were under age at the time of victimization (27% at current age)
- 4% of women were above 60 at the time of victimizations (10% at current age)
- 13% of women victims are African descent (523.000 women)
- 4,4% of victims are indigenous women (182.000 women)

Victims Unit, 31/01/2020

### (6/12) Women specific programs

#### ... As intended by Ruling 092/2008:

- 1. Prevention of the disproportionate impact of displacement
- 2. Prevention of **sexual violence** against women
- 3. Prevention of domestic violence
- 4. Health Promotion
- 5. Support for women **heads of household**, access to labor and productive opportunities
- **6. Educational** support for women above 15 year olds
- Access to land ownership
- 8. Protection of the rights of **indigenous** women
- 9. Protection of the rights of women of African descent
- 10. Promotion of participation and prevention of violence against social leaders
- 11. Emotional recovery and psychosocial support

#### Were there feasible to create and measurable?

### (7/12) Operational System that incorporate gender aspects

A set of of practical and operational orientations that allows concrete actions and mechanisms to incorporate, appropriate and implement a gender and differential approach throughout the programs of the Victims ´Unit according to the needs and particularities of the victims of the internal conflict.

Victims Unit Administrative Document 758/2014

#### **Principles:**

- No harm, avoid re-victimization
- Specialized orientation
- Targeting and prioritization
- Identification and profiling
- Rights education and dissemination
- Social programs adequation

### (8/12) Coordinating response

#### **Vulnerability assessment:**

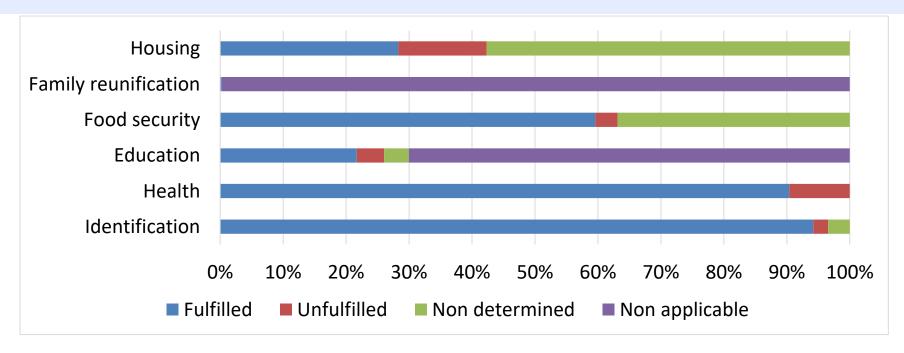
- Based on IASC Durable Solutions Framework
- The extent to which and IDPS has overcome displacement related vulnerabilities
- 7 indicators: identification, food security, education, health, income generation, housing, family reunification.
- Data collected via admin records + profiling surveys

#### **Administrative reparation program:**

- Economic compensation ("indemnización administrativa")
- Support for adequate investment of resources
- Emotional recovery strategy

Indicators included in the National Development Plan 2018-2022

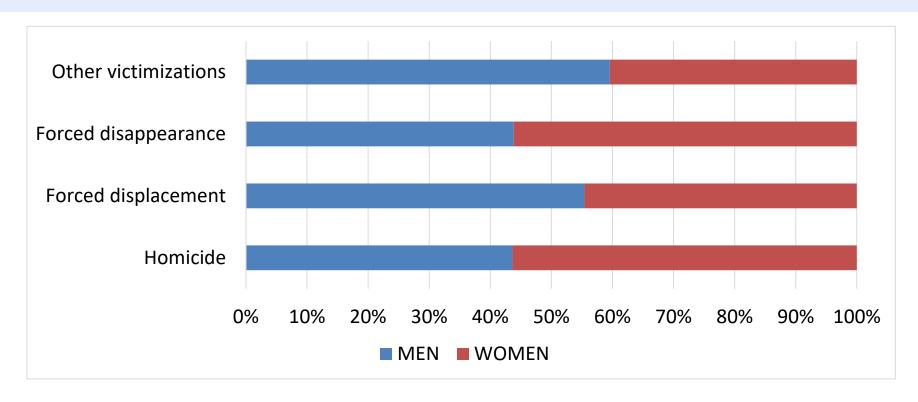
### (9/12) Durable solutions for IDP female



- 98% of IDP women have ID according to age (93% men)
- 90% of IDP women access the health system (87% men)
- 91% of IDP young women attend school (90% men)
- 59% of IDP women have food security (57% men) 47% ND
- 28% of IDP women live in adequate housing (30% men) 57% ND

3,7 million IDP women measured

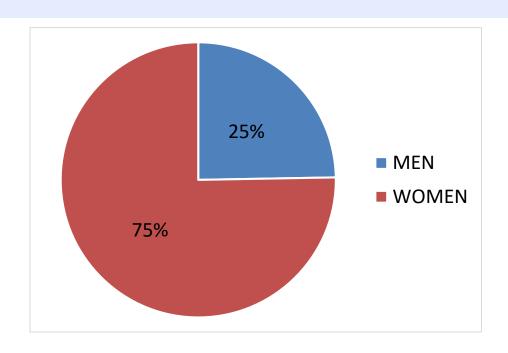
### (10/12) Making progress: economic compensation



#### Again, there is a general balance between men and women but

- 10% of the victims registered have accessed economic compensation
- 6% of female victims of displacement, 28% of female victims of gender based violence
- 547.000 women have accessed economic compensation (1163 million USD dollars)

### (11/12) Making progress: emotional recovery



- 75% of victims who have access psicosocial
   rehabilitation are women
- Women victims of gender based violence are mainly targeted to these programs along with economic compensation.

#### Collective reparation of women's collectives (women's organizations):

- Organizational strengthening
- Self-management
- Recovery of cultural practices
- Involvement in public policy decision making

### (12/12) Final remarks

- Conflict and forced displacement exacerbates discrimination and violence against women.
- Conflict and forced displacement express a dominant position of men and masculinity by armed groups.
- Victimization against women is a war strategy.

## Measuring the disproportionate impact of conflict and displacement in women is important to guide solutions, but

- How to make visible and countable the stigmatization, fear and lack of trust?
- How to move from disaggregation of current statistics to specific statistics of women and gender?
- SDGs #5 opportunity?



#### **Thanks**

Oscar Rico
Head of Victims abroad Unit
Victims Unit
Government of Colombia

oscar.rico@unidadvictimas.gov.co