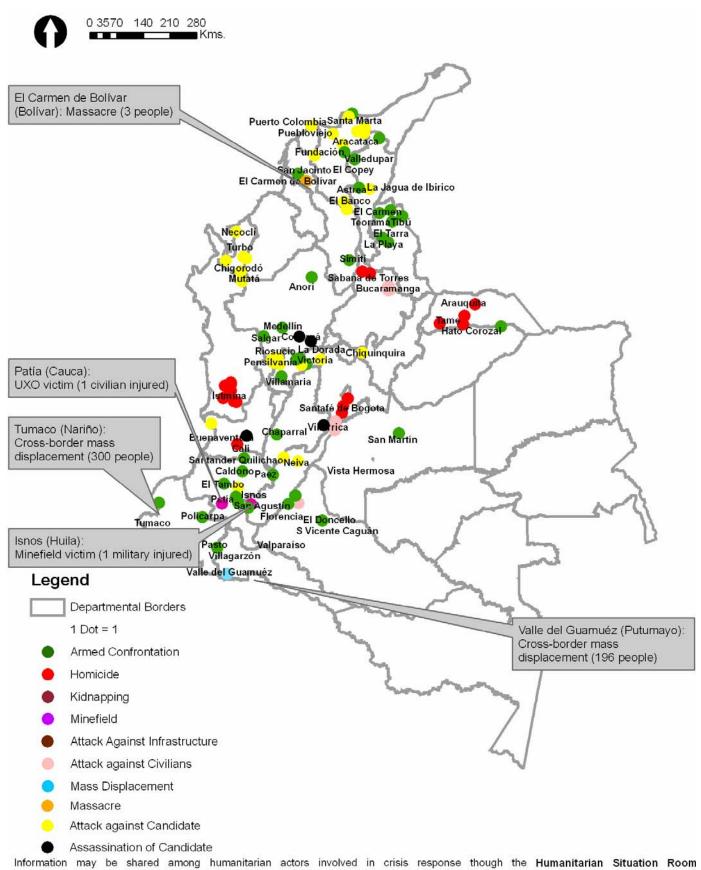
омві weekly humanitarian situation report | N°28



www.colombiassh.org Organizations can post their contact details though the Who What Where site, as well as any other pertinent information by submitting it to: onu-ssh@colombiassh.org Updated information on IASC Colombia can be found at www.colombiassh.org/iasc. Borders and names on this map do not represent an official endorsement by the United Nations.

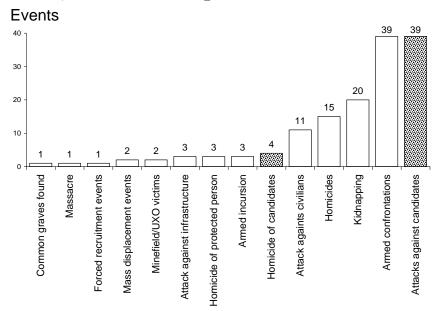
OCTOBER 8 - 16

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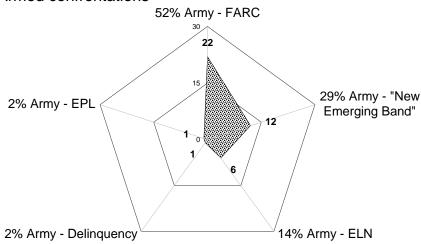


Situation and events

Arauca | Meta | Putumayo | Casanare | Chocó | Casanare | Chocó | Cundinamarca | Chocó | Cundinamarca | Chocó | Casanare | Chocó | Cundinamarca | Cundinamarca | Meta | Putumayo | Tolima | Valle del Cauca | Maringo | Cadas | Cauca | Magdalena | Antioquia | Caldas | Cauca | Magdalena | Antioquia | Caldas | Cauca | Magdalena | Caldas | Canca | Magdalena | Canca | Magdalena | Canca | Magdalena | Canca | Magdalena | Canca | Canca | Magdalena | Canca | Canc



Armed confrontations



DATA HEREWITH PRESENTED WAS COLLECTED FROM OFFICIAL SOURCES BY OCHA

New border displacement

Two mass displacements were registered from lpiales and Tumaco, Nariño, into Ecuadorian provinces of Sucumbíos and Esmeraldas.

OCHA confirmed IDPs have returned

10/10/2007

The Jesuit Refugee Service in Ecuador informed nearly Colombian citizens displaced through the department of Putumayo into the Ecuadorian province of Sucumbíos. IDPs came from rural Ipiales (Nariño) after undertaking a protest against manual eradication and fumigation of coca crops on September 28, together with peasants from Putumayo department. IDPs were accommodated in the town's cathedral and started their return on October 12 -according to authorities in Sucumbios. Nearly 3,000 more protesting for the same reasons, displaced from Tumaco into the Ecuadorian town of San Lorenzo: a similar event occurred earlier last month (see issue # 23). UNCHR reported nearly 300 were able to cross the border and were moved to the neighbouring town of Ibarra (temporary shelters in San Lorenzo were dismantled after the last event), while the others remained in Colombian territory. On October 12, the population started their return to Colombian territory. According to JRS Ecuador, the Ecuadorian Government established emergency military checkpoints in order to control the massive arrival of Colombian citizens through the border. Moreover, Ecuadorian authorities declared they would not allow political mobilisations within their territory -IDPs rejected UNHCR's humanitarian aid and political asylum offers, therefore highlighting the political character of the displacement. The Colombian Government, through Acción Social, denounced FARC of forcing the peasant population of Nariño and Putumayo to displace towards Ecuador, as a way to create political tensions between the two countries regarding manual eradication and fumigation policies. As for the displaced population in Ecuador, the National Government offered protection measures and safe conditions for their return.

Mass-displacement in Antioquia Following the homicides of 2 candidates last week, 28 families displaced seeking protection in Cocorná.

12/10/2007

2

OCHA's field office was informed 100 people displaced allegedly due to fear regarding pre-electoral events –two murders and 8 resignations. The Local Committee for IDPs' Integral Assistance reported (October 12) more people are expected to displace. The local government is assisting IDPs and has offered protection for candidates in order to impede their resignation.

OCTOBER 8 - 16



Forced recruitment alerts continue in 10 departments

An IOM report reveals forced recruitment figures in 10 departments are seriously increasing, mainly among children. Community claims throughout the country are increasing as well. ICBF informed that 212 demobilised children's whereabouts are unknown

09/10/2007

IOM's report observes forced recruitment is worsening since the demobilisation of self-defense groups; the most affected departments would be Antioquia, Tolima, Sucre, Bolívar, Putumayo, Caquetá, Arauca and Cauca. Children and ex-combatants are the main target of illegal armed groups. The Ombudsman's Office points-out the matter is aggravated because victims of forced recruitment are rarely able to denounce; therefore, the real magnitude of the problem is even more difficult to determine. One critical example is the case of Soacha, a town neighbouring Bogotá. Last month community members denounced 40 youngsters had been recruited -7 last week. However, authorities declare to be unable to collect material proof that can lead to an investigation. The Humanitarian Working Group of Soacha, facilitated by OCHA, is monitoring the situation. Similarly, ICBF indicated that 14 months after the demobilisation, authorities lost track of 212 children formerly part of paramilitary groups. ICBF cannot confirm their whereabouts and reports they are not currently benefiting from their social programmes. The Coalition against Forced Recruitment, the Ombudsman's Office and Procuraduría expressed their concerns on the matter, highlighting the absence of judicial processes for this crime in the context of the demobilisation and reintegration process.

Follow-up: Awá's displacement in Nariño

Awá indigenous authorities report 876 remain settled in the reservation's school

10/10/2007

Following the mass-displacement of an Awá indigenous community in rural Tumaco on September 18, the departmental health institute of Nariño informed health conditions of IDPs are improving thanks to the construction of a health centre and better shelters. However, the institute reported 25 cases of dehydration among children, 2 of which had to be hospitalised. Therefore, Tumaco's local hospital, together with MSF is providing sanitation assistance in the shelter. Nariño's government is raising funds with Solidarity International and IOM's contribution for the improvement of infrastructure and the construction 3 school restaurants, 3 welfare shelters and medical equipment for emergency response. In the meantime, OCHA reported a new risk alert of displacement in light of the arrival of manual eradicating groups. While ICRC is to visit the area to follow up on their assessments, the IASC Nariño and OCHA will keep monitoring the situation.

Follow-up: mass-mobilisation in Alto Baudó, Chocó

Nearly 1,500 protesters remain in the rural area of the town waiting for the local government's response

12/10/2007

After two weeks from the arrival of afro-Colombian and indigenous population from the rural areas protesting against the lack of basic services, representatives form the departmental government and the Public Ministry visited the urban area of Alto Baudó to discuss the matter and reach an agreement with the protesters. So far, the commission has not pronounced on the results of the visit. OCHA keeps monitoring the situation.

OCTOBER 8 - 16 3