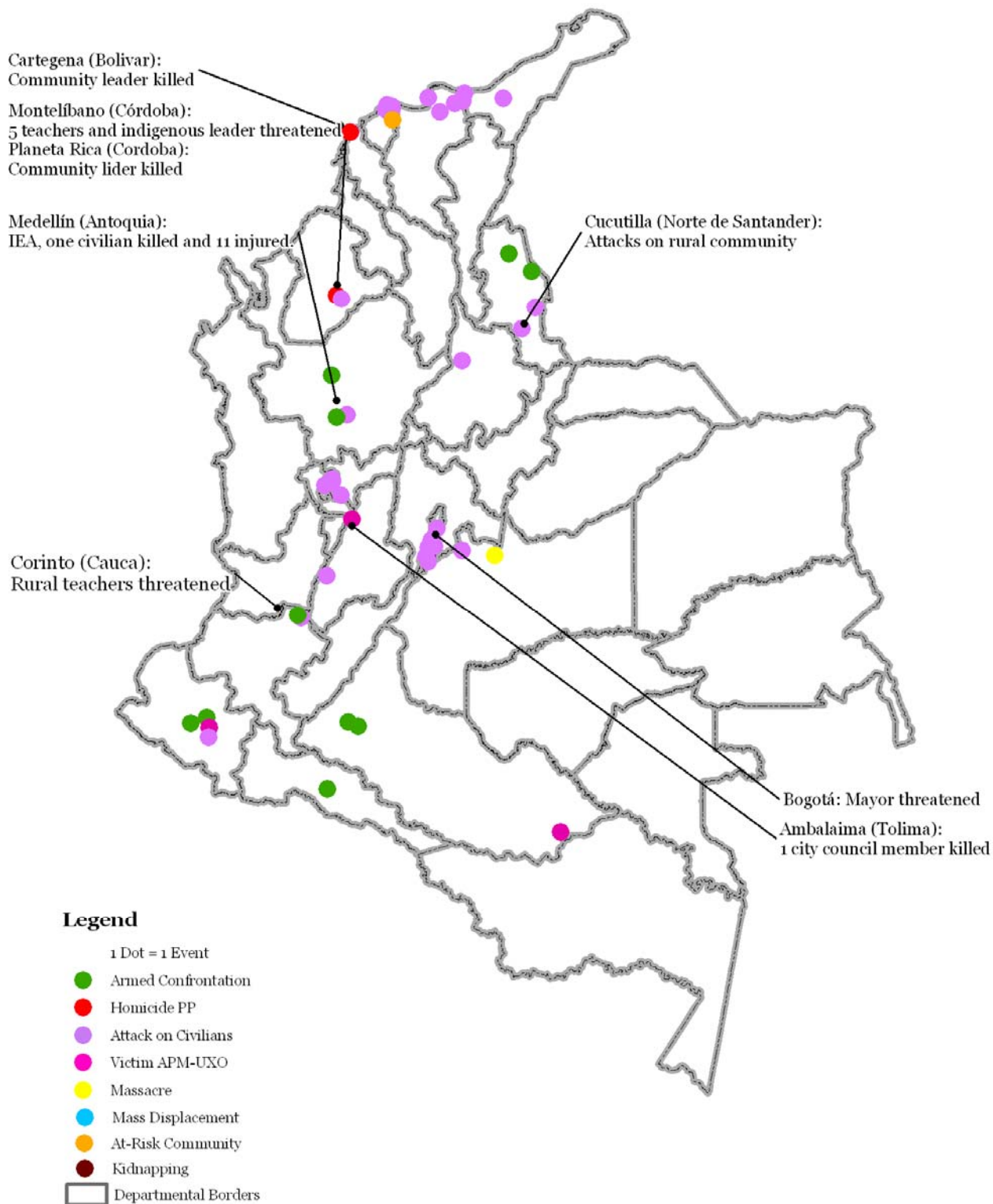


Highlights

- *New displacements and attacks in Nariño Department*
- *Indigenous displacement in Guaviare Department*
- *Increasing threats against various social sectors*
- *Natural disasters update*



New displacements and attacks in Nariño Department

⇒ *Armed confrontations in the Pacific coast and in the highlands of the department pose serious risks for rural communities.*

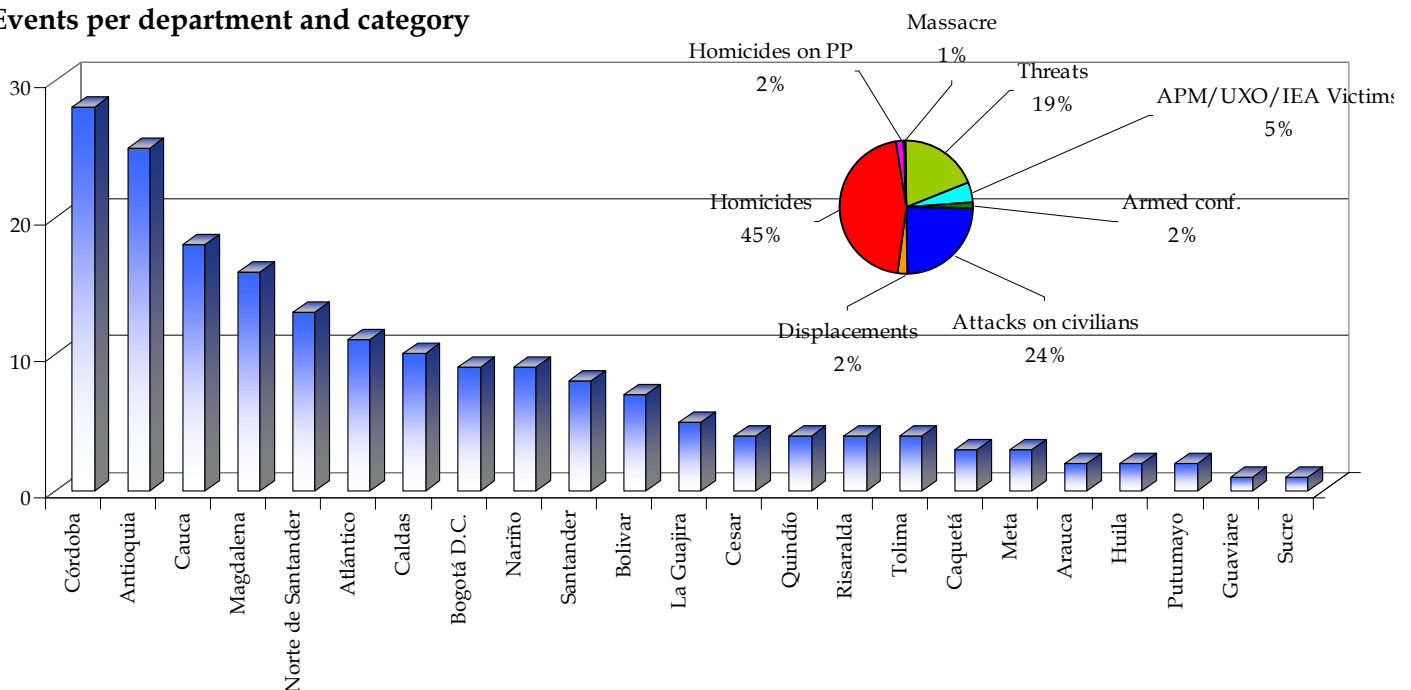
Acción Social reported displacements in the rural area of Olaya Herrera in the Pacific coast of the Department. Reportedly, 60 people displaced from the village of Fátima towards the urban area the municipality, following confrontations between illegal armed groups on 15 April. The local committee for IDPs assistance met on 17 and 19 April to coordinate response. The municipality and ICRC are providing food aid. Acción Social and ICBF are also responding to the emergency. IDPs are sheltered among their friends and relatives.

On 12 April, the FARC conducted hostilities in Roberto Payán, El Charco and Barbacoas Municipalities. After the attacks Roberto Payán, an undetermined number of people displaced in the rural area of Roberto Payán. So far, five families remain in the urban area, according to information provided by Acción Social. According to the local authorities of Barbacoas the attacks caused extensive damage, including the electrical power. No casualties were registered. Nonetheless, communities fear further attacks. Acción Social is currently assessing the situation. In El Charco, hostilities took place in the villages Magdalena, Rosario and Castigo, along the Pulbusa River on 19 April. Three houses resulted damaged. According to the local Ombudsman, 283 persons left displaced from El Castigo to Magdalena, within the rural area. The local committee for IDPs assistance met on 22 April to assess the situation.

Indigenous displacement in Guaviare Department

⇒ *The Nukak-Makú, a nomadic people that inhabits in Guaviare Department, is one of the indigenous communities at risk of extinction, according to the National Indigenous Organization (ONIC). In the last 20 years, its population has been reduced to nearly half. Currently its total population ranges between 450 and 600.*

Events per department and category





HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN

ISSUE 16 | 12 - 18 April 2010

COLOMBIA

According to ONIC, 26 members of the Nukak-Makú indigenous community displaced from the rural area of Tomachipán towards the urban area of San José del Guaviare Municipality (Guaviare Department) on 5 April. Among the IDPs are 12 children and a pregnant woman. Reportedly, the indigenous communities displaced due to threats by illegal armed groups and lack of health assistance. More families are expected to arrive in San José del Guaviare in the coming days. According to ONIC, IDPs are at precarious conditions in the urban area. Cases of malaria have been reported. The indigenous organization calls upon national and local authorities to assist IDPs taking into account their specific needs as a nomadic indigenous community. It also urges the GoC to adopt the necessary measures to protect this particularly vulnerable population.

Follow-up: Mass displacement in Antioquia

Between 15 and 19 April, 1,550 people returned to their homes in the rural areas of Ituango and Peque, two weeks after their displacement. IDPs agreed to return after agreements with national and local authorities upon assistance and accompaniment. Among the population's demands are security guarantees, health assistance, and the implementation of food security projects. Due to the difficult geographical conditions in the area, the Municipality provided transport for the population's return.

Increasing threats against various social sectors

⇒ *Threats against teachers, NGOs, human rights defenders, community leaders and MPs call for stronger protection and prevention measures. Threatening communiqués and pamphlets have been circulating since 2007.*

On 10 April, the illegal armed group known as "Los Rastrojos" circulated a communiqué with death threats against NGOs, community leaders, social organizations and politicians as military objectives. The release, similar to previous ones issued by other illegal armed groups, targets at least 60 organizations and persons in Nariño, North of Valle del Cauca Department and the Eje Cafetero region (comprised by the Departments of Caldas, Quindío and Risaralda). These organizations are signaled by the illegal armed group as collaborators of the guerrillas. In November 2009, three similar pamphlets were released by the same illegal armed group. At the time, the pamphlets targeted at least 20 organizations and NGOs of Nariño, Cauca and Valle del Cauca department. Most of the organizations, among indigenous associations, human rights NGOs and politicians are named in all the releases.

Cases were also reported in Córdoba and Cauca Departments, where at least 31 rural teachers received death threats. In Córdoba, seven teachers from conflict areas needed to be transferred and the Education Secretariat of the Department is assessing 7 more requests. In Corinto Municipality (North of Cauca Department) 14 teachers from the rural area were threatened causing the suspension of classes in four villages. More than 500 children have been affected by the cancellation of school classes. There is increasing concern among local authorities and organizations, who urge for stronger prevention and protection measures.

Natural Disasters

Second Hemispheric Encounter on National Mechanisms and Networks for Disaster Risk Reduction

⇒ *The GoC, in coordination with the international community are moving forward to advance in the establishment and strengthening of National Platforms for Disaster Risk Reduction under the Hyogo Framework for Action (HFA).*

The Second Hemispheric Encounter on National Mechanisms and Networks for Disaster Risk Reduction: "Encounter of Santa Marta: From Theory to Practice," was held on 14-16 April, 2010, in Santa Marta, Colombia. The main objective of the event was to foster the exchange of successful experiences and good practices in Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change Adaptation, as implemented by existing National Mechanisms and Networks in the hemisphere. The encounter was chaired by the GoC and OAS.

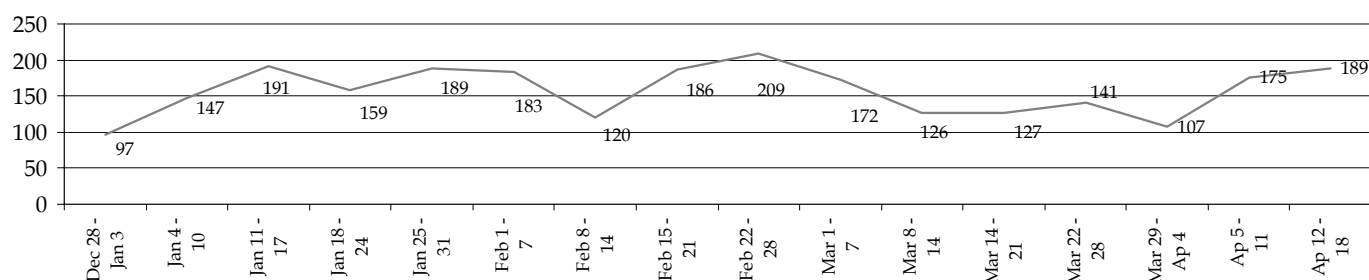
During the period under review, 16,413 people were affected by events related to the first rainy season of the year. Most of the affectation was caused by floods. The Office of Risk Management through the National Calamity Fund has allocated around \$ 140,000 to assist the affected population. The following table shows the affectation

**Affectation by Natural Disasters
April 12 - 18 2010 (source SNPAD)**

Events	Affectation						
	Dead	Injured	Missing	No. people affected	Families	Destroyed houses	Damaged houses
Sliding	2	3	-	1.759	382	-	200
Flood	-	6	1	11.335	2.401	25	2.375
Strong winds	-	2	-	267	53	-	53
total	2	11	1	13.361	2.836	25	2.628
Accumulated April 8-18*	7	13	1	16.413	3.444	34	3.210

* 8 April was the official start of the rainy season according to the Directorate for Risk Management

Events - Weekly trend *



* All data herewith presented was processed by OCHA from official and secondary sources.