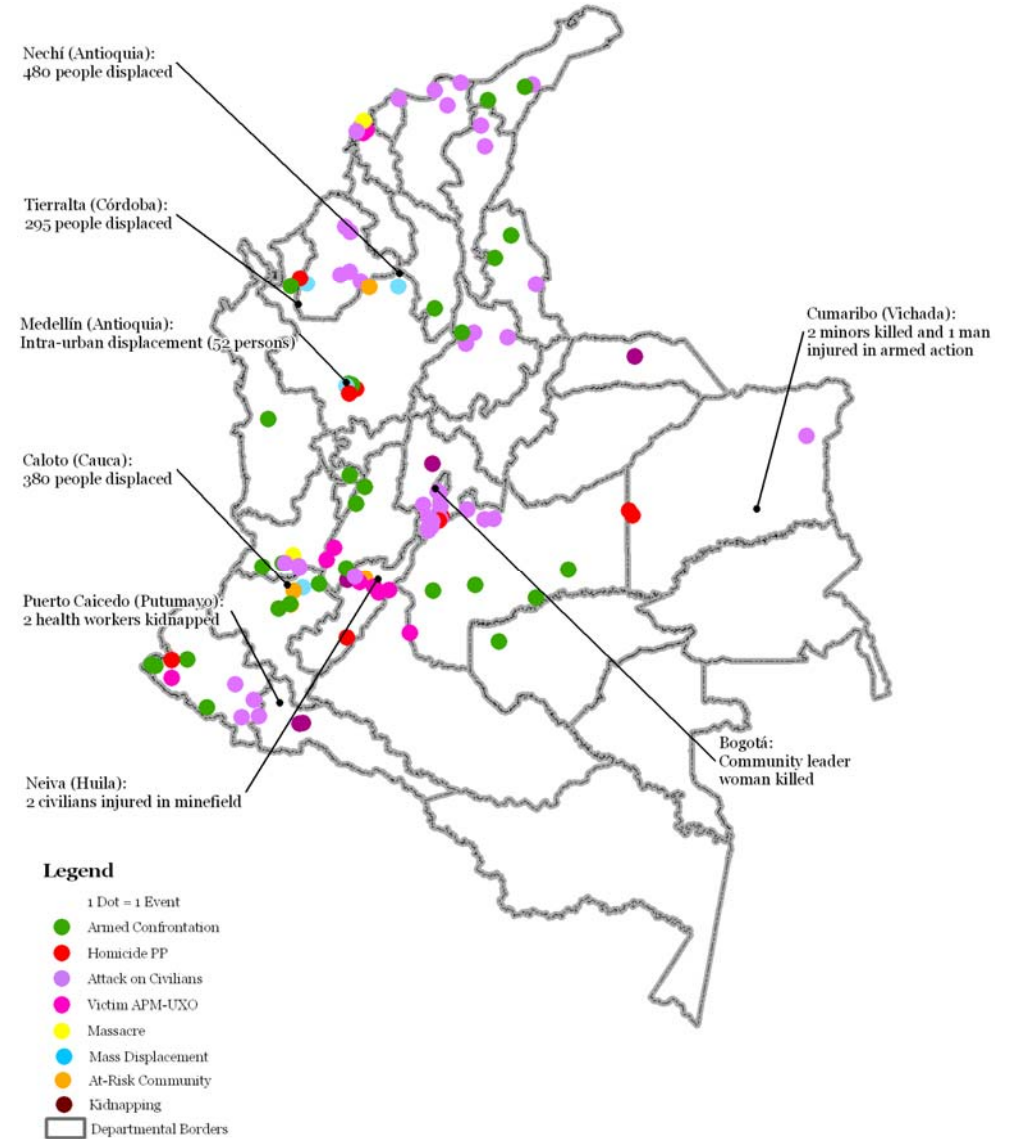
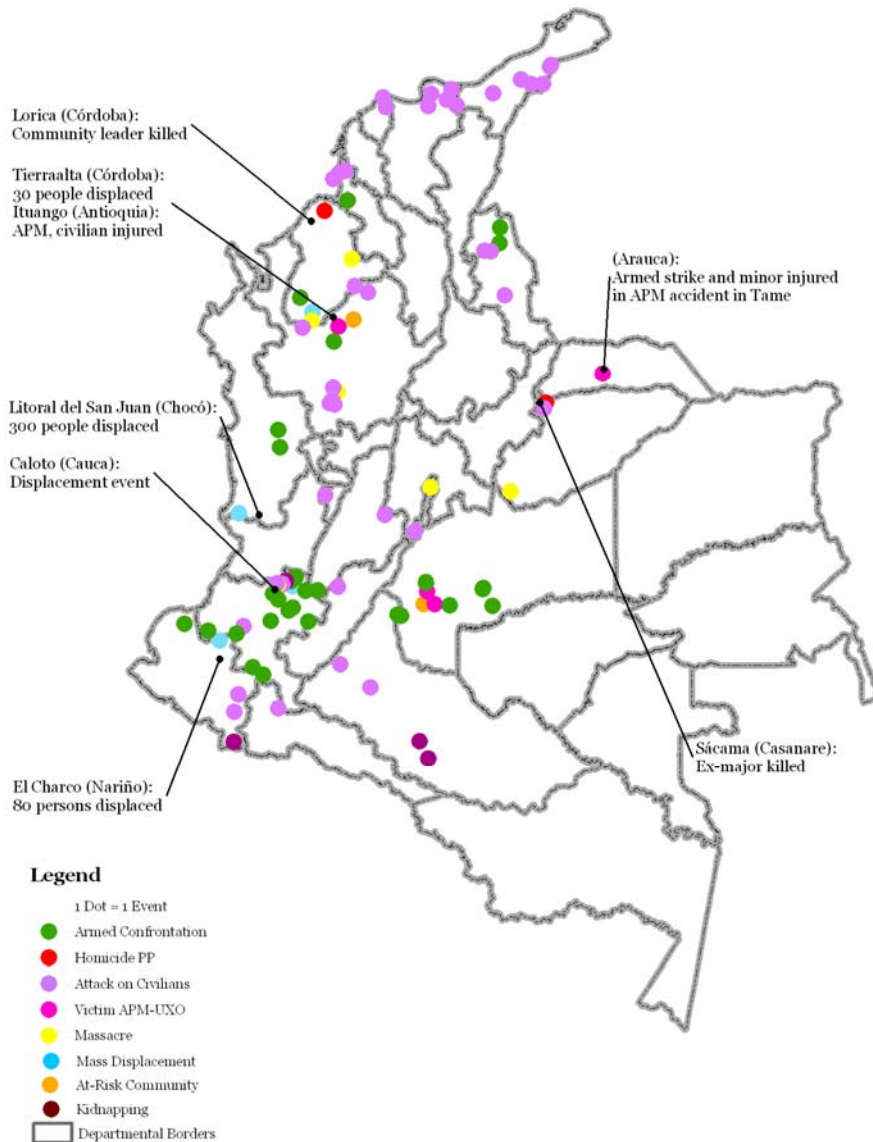




<http://ochaonline.un.org/whd/>





Highlights

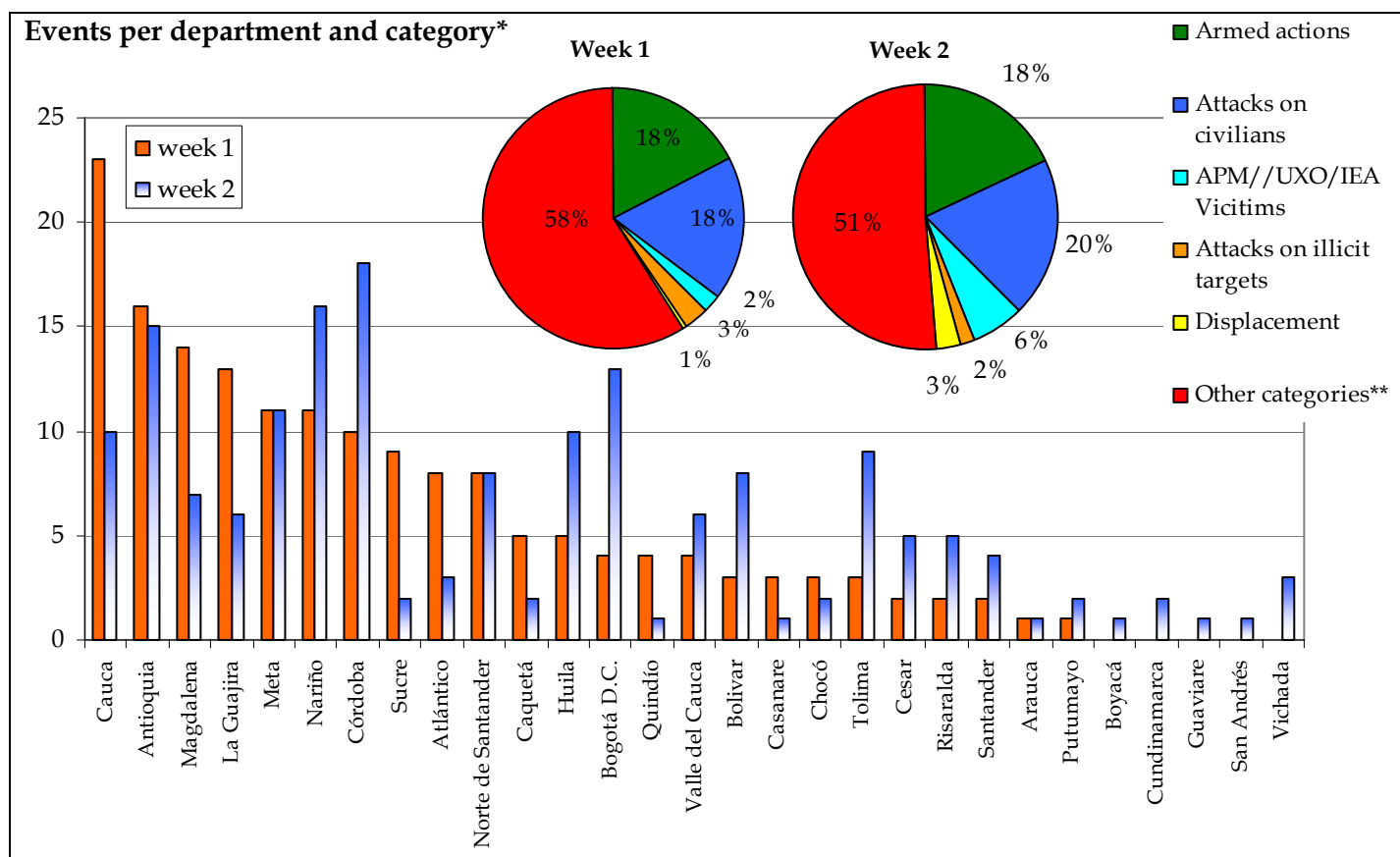
- Hostilities leave two minors dead and hundreds displaced in four Departments
- First rainy season: The UNETT prepares a flood response plan for 2010

Hostilities leave two minors dead and hundreds displaced in four Departments

⇒ Armed actions are the main cause for mass displacements. In 2010, more than 7,500 people have fled from hostilities as of 15 August. Furthermore, according to OCHA's Integrated Humanitarian Information System, at least 20 minors have been injured or killed in the midst of combats on 2010 (as of 15 August). Serious gaps on the protection of civilians call for urgent measures.

Pacific coast of Nariño Department

On 2 August, clashes between the Colombian Navy and the FARC in the rural area of El Charco (Pacific coast of Nariño Department) left two minors dead and more than 300 people displaced. According to a local NGO, the two minors (of 7 and 10 years old) were reached by bullet fragments during the displacement. The children were transferred to the municipality Tumaco (approximately five hours away by River) and died later. According to information gathered by OCHA, the IDPs (332 people) left the villages of Bolita and Salto Magdalena and arrived in the villages of Magdalena and El Castigo. ICRC and MSF are providing humanitarian assistance. On 19 April, some 300 persons displaced in the same area due to combat. Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities from the rural areas are enduring a humanitarian crisis due to continued hostilities, food insecurity, mobility restrictions and mass displacements. With more than 18,000 IDPs in the last three years, El Charco stands as the fourth municipality with the highest number of IDPs.





Northern Cauca Department

Clashes between the Army in the FARC caused the displacement of the Nasa indigenous people in the rural area of Caloto municipality on 2 August. According to Acción Social, 380 people displaced within the indigenous reservation of Huellas, towards the “permanent assembly site” set in a school facility. According to the Indigenous Association of Northern Cauca (ACIN) gun shots and explosive artifacts have hit schools, houses and crops. ACIN also denounced the existence of APM along one of the main roads. School classes were suspended and serious mobility constraints were also reported. Since May, intermittent displacements of indigenous people due to hostilities have been registered in the Northern region of Cauca Department (municipalities of Toribio, Caloto and Totoro). Clashes have also left civilian casualties (with minors among them) and there is permanent fear among the population.

Bajo Cauca region, Antioquia Department

Since mid July, clashes between illegal groups for territorial control are putting civilians in danger in the rural area of the municipality of Nechí. On 1 August, the inhabitants of Correntoso and Parcelas de Londres villages received a threatening pamphlet whereby they were forced to leave the towns by 4 August. So far, 395 IDPs have arrived in the urban area and are staying with friends and relatives. Six families are staying in a private warehouse which lacks the minimum shelter standards. According to local authorities, nearly 1,400 families (some 7,000 persons) are currently at risk in the area due to frequent hostilities between armed groups. Local authorities are providing humanitarian assistance, in coordination with ICBF, Acción Social and ICRC. In addition, Nechi has also been hard hit by heavy rains which caused flooding in almost 80% of the municipality. More than 13,000 persons were affected and 500 hectares of rice were lost on July.

South of Córdoba Department

On 3 August, a new mass displacement was registered in the municipality of Tierralta, the second in 2010. According to preliminary information, 99 people (half of which are children) displaced within the rural area due to strong clashes between the FARC and a new illegal armed group, still undetermined. IDPs arrived in three villages (El Guácimo, Las Pailas and Los Guayabos) and are receiving shelter among host communities. More families are expected to arrive in the urban area in the forthcoming days. Previous bulletins have highlighted serious protection gaps in the South of Córdoba Department, where illegal armed groups are systematically targeting civilians in struggle over territorial control.

First rainy season: The UNETT prepares a flood response plan for 2010

⇒ *Hundreds of thousands have been affected by flash floods since the beginning of the rainy season. This situation is particularly serious in areas where the presence of illegal armed actors is jeopardizing the national response capacities.*

During the period under review, emergencies were reported in La Mojana region (Sucre and Bolívar Departments), La Guajira, Chocó and Antioquia Departments. UNHCR reported that 160 families (some 800 persons) need to be relocated in the municipality of Maicao (La Guajira) due to flooding in the urban area. According to the Regional Committee for Disasters Prevention and Assistance, food and shelter are the main needs. In La Mojana region, the situation remains worrisome with more than 130,000 affected and nearly 20,000 houses damaged. President Juan Manuel Santos visited the affected areas. According to the needs assessment conducted by OXFAM, the Government of Sucre declared a red alert in the health centres of four municipalities. The local health secretariat reported more than 1,000 cases of dengue fever. In Bolivar



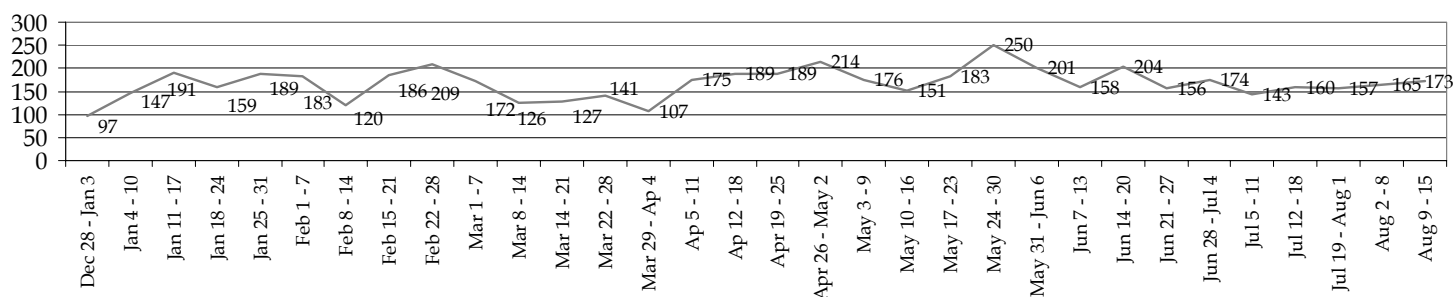
Department, the municipalities of Achi, Pinillos and Tiquisio were the hardest hit, with more than 40,000 people affected.

Due to the strong impact of heavy rains during the first rainy season, the harshest in the last years, the UNETT is working on a national response plan, in coordination with the GoC. The plan will prioritize the regions and sectors where most urgent needs have been identified and where local capacities need to be complemented. Since May, the Emergency Response Fund has mobilized \$600,000 to complement the response to the emergencies by floods in Cauca, Chocó and Caquetá Departments.

According to IDEAM, this time of the year is usually dry. The increased level of rainfall between June and July was much more than it was forecasted by national authorities. During the next months the probability of the occurrence of “La Niña” phenomenon, which produces the cooling of the Central and Eastern part of the Tropical Pacific Ocean in front of the Peruvian, Ecuadorean and Colombian coasts, is very likely. This phenomenon could increase the level of rains, particularly in the Caribbean and Andean regions, and could worsen the impact of the second rainy season (2010) and the first rainy season of 2011.

For additional information please view full sitreps at: www.colombiassh.or/unete

Events - Weekly trend *



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

** Other categories refer to events that are not directly linked with HR violations or IHL infractions.