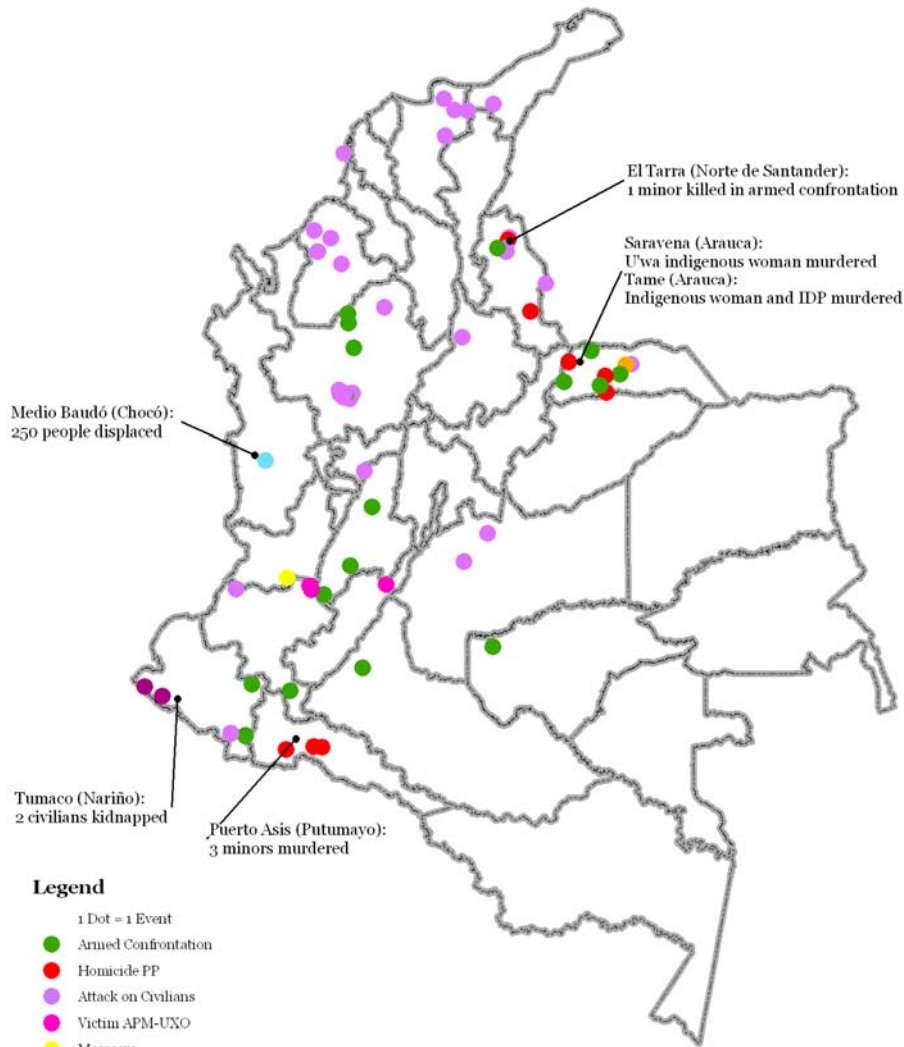


# HUMANITARIAN BULLETIN

ISSUES 34.35 | 16 - 29 August 2010  
COLOMBIA

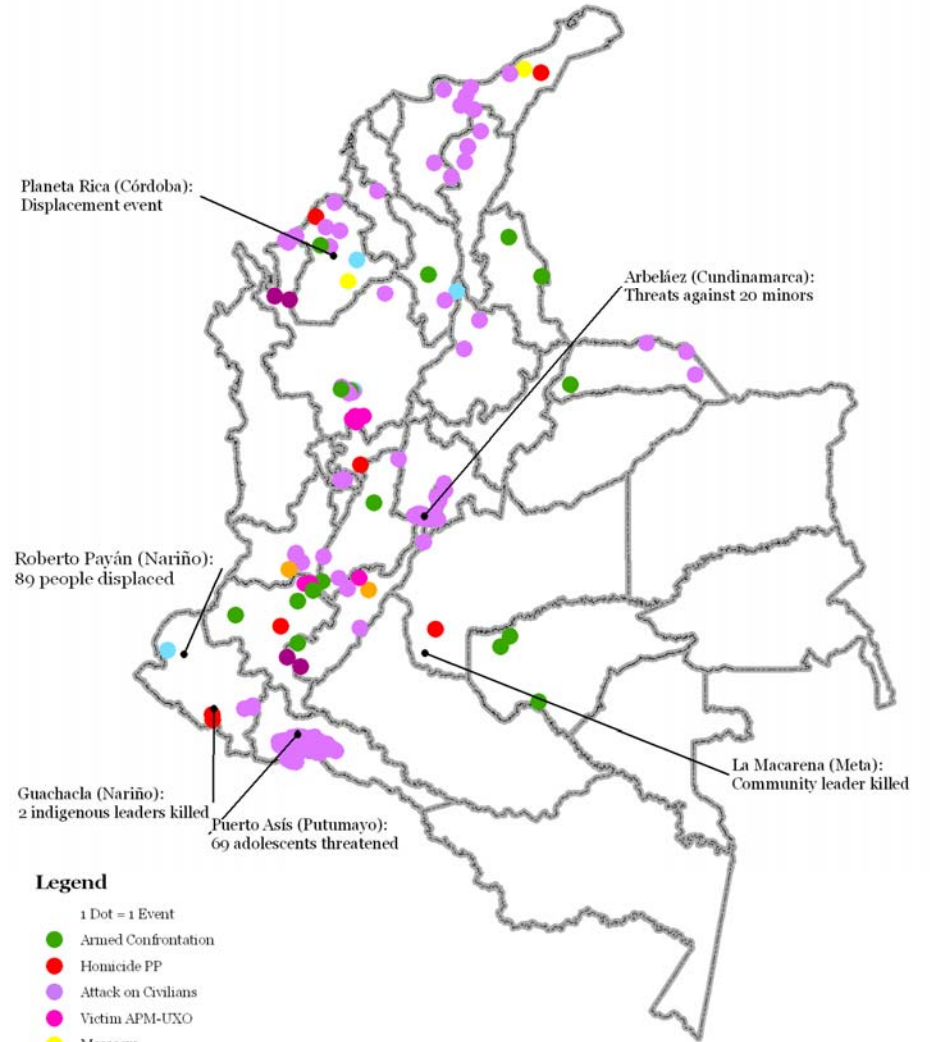
## Week 1



### Legend

- 1 Dot = 1 Event
- Armed Confrontation
- Homicide PP
- Attack on Civilians
- Victim APM-UXO
- Massacre
- Mass Displacement
- At-Risk Community
- Kidnapping
- Departmental Borders

## Week 2



### Legend

- 1 Dot = 1 Event
- Armed Confrontation
- Homicide PP
- Attack on Civilians
- Victim APM-UXO
- Massacre
- Mass Displacement
- At-Risk Community
- Kidnapping
- Departmental Borders

## Highlights

- *Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities displaced in Chocó and Nariño Departments*
- *Indigenous leaders killed in Arauca and Nariño department*
- *Violence escalates in the urban area of Medellín*
- *Follow-up: Natural disasters*

## Indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities displaced in the Pacific region

⇒ *Acts of violence triggered new mass displacements in Chocó and Nariño departments, where the most affected are indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities.*

On 16 August, local authorities reported the displacement of 180 people, mainly indigenous people, within the rural area of Medio Baudó Municipality (West of Chocó Department). According to preliminary information, the displacement was triggered by the disappearance of two men and one woman the day before. Authorities have also denounced the presence of illegal armed groups in the region. No information regarding the population's needs is available yet. This is the fifth displacement in the department during 2010.

In Nariño Department, WFP and the National Institute for Family Welfare (ICBF) reported the displacement of 89 people in the municipality of Roberto Payán (Pacific coast of Nariño Department) on 23 August. Reportedly, 12 members of an illegal armed group broke into the village of Guabal, where they beat and threatened some members of the community. Also, the illegal armed group caused damages and set fire to civilians' houses. One 15-year old was killed. Some 25 out of the total 28 families of the village displaced towards the urban area. Among the displaced communities are four pregnant women and four newborns. The municipality is providing humanitarian assistance so far with the support of MSF. However, local capacities to cope with the emergency are already overburdened. It is worth recalling that more than 200 people displaced in the municipality in January 2010. For additional information please view full sitreps at: [www.colombiassh.org](http://www.colombiassh.org)

## Indigenous leaders killed in Arauca and Nariño departments

⇒ *Four indigenous people have been killed in the last two weeks. According to the report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Situation of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms for Indigenous People on his visit to Colombia, "official figures report 1,075 homicides of indigenous people in the period between 1998 and 2008 (...) other figures estimate 1,365 homicides in the same period".*

According to information from the Ombudsman's Office, member of the U'wa indigenous community was killed in Saravena (Arauca) on 13 August. She worked as coordinator of the Office of Indigenous Affairs of the municipality. The indigenous leader was pregnant and was the mother of two children. On 14 August, a Sikuani indigenous leader, who was forced to displace, was killed in Tame (Arauca). In Nariño, a Pasto indigenous leader and his wife were kidnapped on 26 August. Their bodies were found two days after in the village of El Corso, rural area of Guachucal municipality, on the border with Ecuador.

The Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) condemned the murder in a press release issued on 1 September. In the release, the IACHR indicates that these are "grave crimes that violate the integrity and collective rights of indigenous peoples as groups that have special protections under

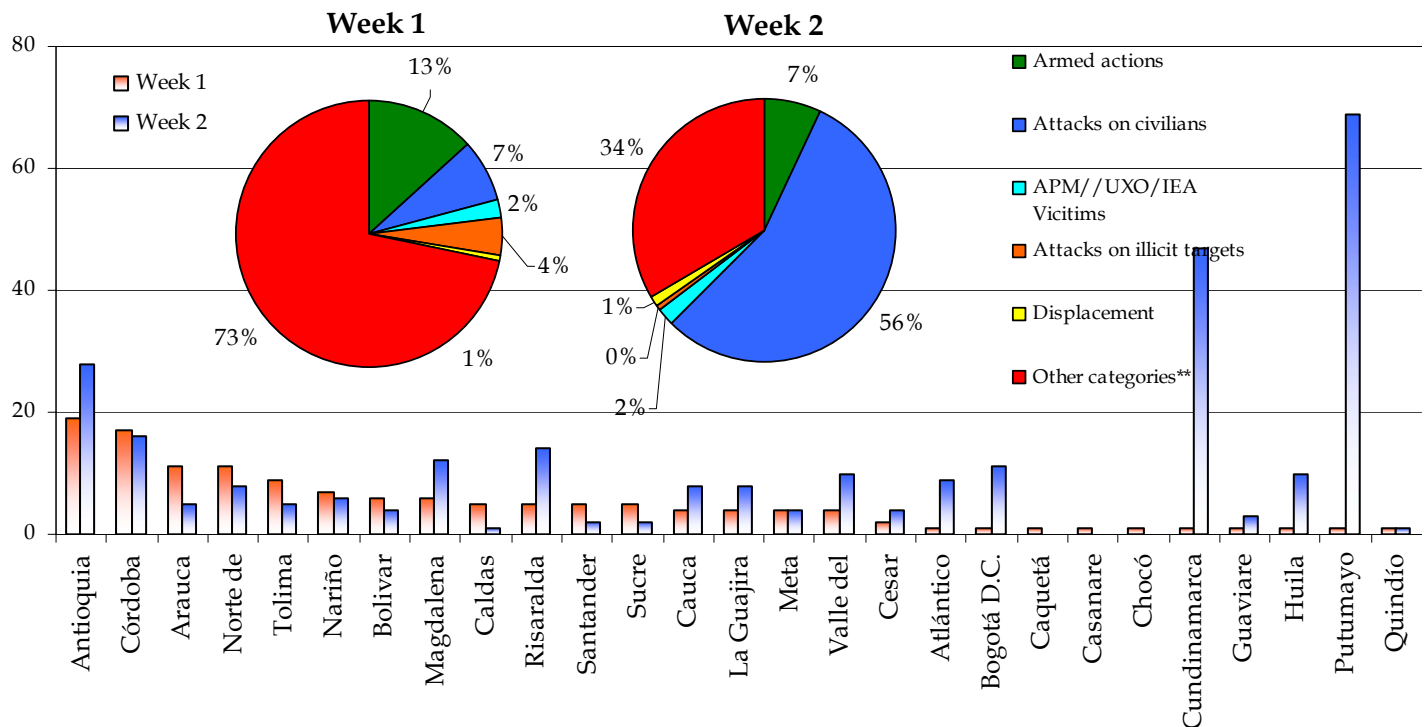
international human rights law and, in the context of internal armed conflicts such as the one in Colombia, under international humanitarian law as well.” The Commission “urges the Colombian State to investigate these crimes, prosecute and punish the perpetrators and masterminds, and address the needs for protection and security of indigenous leaders and authorities in Colombia, in order to prevent these violations of individual and collective human rights.”

## Violence escalates in the urban area of Medellín

⇒ According to figures from the local Ombudsman, 1,250 people have been killed in Medellín in 2010 and 2,266 have been displaced inside the city, due to gang warfare. Some 200 gangs dispute the control of territory for drug-trafficking and other illegal activities.

In the last two weeks at least three people were killed and 12 injured due to confrontation between gang members in the north-west of the city and in the sector of the Comuna 13, one of Medellín suburbs. On 23 August, a violent incursion in Manrique neighborhood of at least 200 alleged members of six different gangs. A person was killed and four others injured. On 25 August, a child was killed during an armed clash between the Police and one gang. On 30 August, riots were registered in Santo Domingo neighborhood, due to the killing of a young man. The ICRC announced that it is considering the delivery of humanitarian assistance, provide health services and on an action plan with the local government and illegal gangs to protect civilians from the constant shoot-outs between rival gangs. The National Police announced an increase of 800 officers as well as the installation of video cameras in the Comuna 13. The US government expressed a willingness to support National Police’s efforts. On 31 August, President Juan Manuel Santos held a security council in Medellín and announced new measures to address the gang warfare in the city.

### Events per department and category\*



## Follow-up: Natural Disasters

The first rainy season that started in April has left a toll of 70 dead, 145 wounded, 14 missing, 660,951 people affected, 569 houses destroyed and 114,676 damaged. Heavy rains have caused emergencies in 374 municipalities (30% of the Country), 27 departments as well as the District of Bogotá. The GoC has delivered almost \$4 million in emergency aid. During the week in review, floods affected 50,000 inhabitants of Mompox (33,395), Talaigua Nuevo (9,300) and Cicuco (6,896) municipalities, Bolívar Department. According to GoC authorities, the most affected departments are: Bolivar, (200,000), Sucre (92,000), Magdalena (82,000) and Córdoba (47,000), all of them in the Caribbean Coast area. In Chocó department, floods affected 2,885 people from Alto Baudó municipality and 1,500 families from Riosucio municipality.

Registered August 23 - August 29 2010

	Affection						
	Dead	Injured	Missing	Affected	Families	Homes destroyed	Damaged homes
Landslide	0	2	2	105	21	3	18
Flood	0	0	0	59,776	12,978	5	12,973
Wind storms	0	0	0	535	107	0	107
Volcanic eruption	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Earthquake	0	0	0	5	1	0	1
Total	0	2	2	60,421	13,107	8	13,099
<b>Accumulated April 6 August 22*</b>	172	363	15	679,096	146,285	808	117,727

\* 6 April was the official start of the rainy season according to DGR.

Source SIGPAD Emergencies 2010 table from [http://www.sigpad.gov.co/emergencias\\_detalle.aspx?idn=41](http://www.sigpad.gov.co/emergencias_detalle.aspx?idn=41) download September 01 2010.

On 28 August, the National Institute of Geology and Mining (INGEOMINAS) reported an earthquake of 3.2 magnitude in the Richter scale hit La Vega, Cauca department, in the southwest of Colombia, near Nariño department where Galeras volcano is located. On 30 August, another earthquake of magnitude 4.0 hit the Galeras Volcano and 30 minutes later another earthquake hit Ginebra municipality, Valle del Cauca department, also in the southwestern. No victims or damages were reported. On 25 August, GoC authorities restored the alert level to "orange" after having raised it to "red" due to an earthquake measuring 4.6 in the Richter scale registered in the Galeras Volcano, in Nariño Department. Local and Departmental DRR Committees are still active and authorities still waiting for inhabitants of the Volcano area to move to safe shelters.

For additional information please view full sitreps at: [www.colombiassh.org/unete](http://www.colombiassh.org/unete)

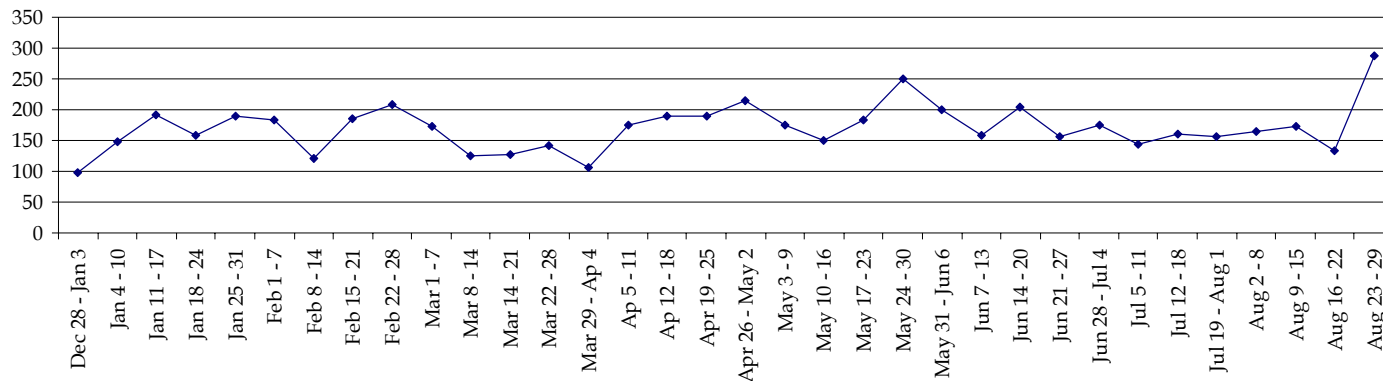


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## Events - Weekly trend \*



\* 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.