



The Korean Trust Fund for Economic and Peace Transitions

Final Report

P149775 - Peace Process Support in Colombia

1. Fragility, conflict and violence are main challenges for development in the current world, and has been the most difficult obstacle for sustainable growth, shared prosperity and the end of poverty in Colombia in the last half century. The objective of the activities financed by the KTF in Colombia was to support the Government of Colombia's readiness and ability to deliver timely and effectively on the ongoing post-conflict commitments and the emerging agreements from current peace negotiations with the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) in Havana, Cuba. This document summarizes the activities done in Colombia since March 2014 until December 2015 with the support of the KTF.

2. KTF activities in Colombia aimed at 1) providing technical assistance to government counterparts like the Colombian Agency for Former Combatants Reintegration- ACR, (Technical review of the Reintegration Policy in Colombia, for the ACR); 2) generating in-depth knowledge and learning on fragility, conflict and violence issues in strategic areas in the country in order to identify the institutional dynamics (Paper on Local Governability in Conflict affected zones done by the CINEP) and bring lessons from other conflicts on the particular challenges of residual violence (Paper on Residual Violence); 3) assessing the impact of state building interventions in conflict affected areas formerly under the control of guerrilla groups (Study on Communication strategies to Reinforce State building programs done by Los Andes University); 4) initiating analytical work on the systematization of programs addressing fragility, conflict and violence challenges such as reconciliation and gender based violence (Support to the NGO Foundation for Reconciliation through the reinforcement of their impact evaluation skills, and Design of research protocol for Analyzing Gender based Violence in the Armed Forces).

3. All activities supported by the KTF in Colombia allowed the Bank not only to respond quickly to requests for technical assistance in Colombia, but also to initiate catalytic analytical work on addressing challenges and solutions on fragility, conflict and violence for multiple countries.

4. The following section explains briefly each of the KTF activities in Colombia. Annexes contain the specific products of each activity.

Activities

1. Framing Peacebuilding in Colombia

5. This activity consisted of establishing a dialogue with the recently created Ministry of post-conflict in Colombia and writing a framework for understanding key aspects of the peace-building exercise in Colombia in the context of societal transition from armed conflict to sustainable peace. The framing document

describes a global perspective for a transition to sustainable peace in Colombia and the role of public policies such as Disarmament Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) programs in it. It also highlights the challenges for such a transition to happen, considering that those challenges shape the context and conditions in which ongoing public policies are implemented domestically, and provide the fundamental context and parameters for the implementation of any agreement with the FARC.

6. Final products:

- BBL on “Rapid Response Plan for Post-conflict in Colombia”. Speaker: Dr. Alexandra Guaqueta Girvin, office of the Ministry Counselor for Post-conflict, Human Rights and Security, Presidential Office Colombia. Washington D.C. (VC Bogota), May 29th 2015.
- Peacebuilding in Colombia- A framing paper (English version available)

2. [Technical review of the Reintegration process in Colombia. Lessons from and for countries transitioning to peace](#)

7. This activity helped to bring on time technical assistance to the Colombian Reintegration Agency (ACR - Agencia Colombiana para la Reintegración). At the request of the ACR the World Bank drafted a report assessing the policy and reintegration approach in order to prepare for the upcoming challenges concomitant with the transition to peace in Colombia. The report consists of a technical review of the reintegration process of former combatants in Colombia. This report will be useful to the international community for conceptualizing policies, and the implementation and adaptation to regional or temporal contexts within a nation state.

8. Final products:

- Technical review of the Reintegration Process of Former Combatants in Colombia. (English and Spanish version available)
- BBL on Reintegration of Former Combatants in Colombia: Successes and Challenges for 2015. Speaker: Joshua Mitrotti, Director of the ACR. Washington DC (VC Bogota) February the 23rd 2015

3. [Analysis of the role of Civil Society Organizations in local governability in the aftermath of a peace agreement](#)

9. This activity helped to support in-depth research on local conditions for peacebuilding. It consisted of creating spaces for discussing the often misunderstood

dynamics at the local level in conflict affected regions and writing a paper on the potential role Civil Society Organizations (CSO) can play in peacebuilding processes based on the analysis of the local dynamics of three highly strategic conflict-affected areas in Colombia. Two of the most influential think tanks in Colombia participated. The Fundación Nuevo Arco Iris hold a presentation in Washington D.C and the *Centro de Investigacion y Educacion Popular Programa Por la Paz* (CINEP) wrote the paper based on their knowledge and data collected in three municipalities specifically for this analysis.

10. Thus, the KTF allowed to emphasize one important aspect of the peacebuilding process for a successful transition to peace: the role of civil society organizations in the process of building the state in conflict-affected areas under the control of illegal armed forces. By looking in detail into the institutional dynamics at the local level, the paper tries to: 1) understand how the governability works in areas where the state is supplanted by other actors (fragile), 2) how public policies coming from the central state can build upon civil society initiatives for building its legitimate presence after a peace process.

11. Final products:

- Paper on The Potential of CSO for building governability at the local level during post-conflict (only Spanish version)
- BBL in Washington D.C. and Bogota on Local governability and peace in Colombia. May 29th 2014. Director of Corporacion Nuevo Arco Iris.

4. Residual Violence: Challenges for the aftermath of a peace process

The objective of this activity was to gather knowledge about crime and violence in the aftermath of an armed-conflict and how public policy can effectively address post-conflict violence. KTF resources allowed to initiate a dialog on the special characteristics of a post-conflict scenario and see how violence and criminality can change or evolve in this type of settings.

12. Final product:

Paper on Residual violence and criminality in post-conflict environments (only English version)

5. Communication strategies for building trust in state institutions in conflict-affected areas under state building policy

13. The objective of this activity was to build evidence on communication strategies for trust building in state institutions in conflict-affected areas under state

building policy. The Observatory of Democracy of Los Andes University carried out a study on the effects of a communication strategy, whereby text messages regarding citizen's trust in the government in several municipalities where the Consolidation policy has been implemented were sent to individuals. The objective of the Consolidation policy has been to bring state presence to isolated areas where military forces had established their control but that present low institutional capacity and violence. This project aimed at building evidence on the capacity of state-building policies to impact levels of trust to inform decision makers in Colombia and to draw lessons for other countries facing similar challenges. The study is based on the data collected by the Observatory at the national level for a global research on institutional trust.

14. The study found evidence that the SMS intervention had a measurable effect on participants' attitudes towards the state, both positive and negative. However, the effects only became visible after comparing individuals from the treatment groups (information and participation) who recalled receiving the SMS intervention with the control group. The results suggest that a communication strategy based on SMS needs careful elaboration in order to reach its full potential and to mitigate potentially negative effects.

15. Final product:

- Methodological guideline for carrying out communication programs for building citizens' trust in institutions in sub national areas with low levels of state presence and affected by violence: "Overcoming the vicious circle. Trust-building in state building areas via text messages". (only English version)

6. Building evidence on programs for reconciliation and forgiveness

16. This activity aimed at building evidence on implemented and on-going development programs carried out with communities, including victims and ex-combatants, with the objective of encouraging forgiveness and reconciliation. In Colombia, and the rest of the world, there is a multiplicity of micro-experiences demonstrating good results on reconciliation and/or forgiveness. However, such initiatives have rarely been evaluated and therefore difficult to share and replicate.

17. KTF resources allowed the Bank to support the development of a methodology for creating impact evaluation skills inside the organizations working on reconciliation and forgiveness with vulnerable populations in conflict-affected areas, post- conflict situations, prisons, neighborhoods and other fragile environments. The capacity building activities were carried out by Econometria, a consulting firm specialized in impact evaluation, The organization benefitting from the training was the Foundation

for Reconciliation, which has been working with communities since 2003. By creating the capacity to measure impact and ameliorate monitoring, organizations and institutions will be able to clarify and ameliorate their offer, gather useful information for policy-makers, identify good practices, replicate programs and share experiences.

18. Final products:

- Systematization of the experience with the Foundation for Reconciliation: A document explaining how Econometria developed a tailor-made approach for the Foundation in order to create the capacity to evaluate and monitor their actions, as well as how to replicate this experience (Spanish version only).
- Design of an Impact Evaluation of a reconciliation program with former combatants and reception communities.

7. How to assess Gender based violence in the Armed Forces

19. This activity aimed at preparing a methodology for carrying out a gender based violence assessment in the Armed Forces. The initial objective was to support the NGO Ideamerica in the development of a methodology for assessing gender based violence in the Armed Forces in Colombia and be able to test the methodology, ameliorate and share it. However, the activity was not fully implemented because the government of Colombia took a long time to approve the contract with the NGO to authorize access to data. Nevertheless, KTF resources allowed the formulation of a research protocol ready to be reviewed and implemented.

20. Final product:

- Research protocol on Analysis of Gender based violence in the Armed Forces (only Spanish version)
- Concept note of the activity to develop a methodology for assessing gender based violence in the Armed Forces