



**Women Advocate Peace**  
**Building Sustainable Peace & Gender Equality in Colombia**

**Country**

Colombia

**Population**

Bolívar, La Guajira,  
Putumayo and Meta

**Duration**

2021-2025

**Donors**

Dutch Ministry of Foreign  
Affairs

**Partners**

ICCO  
CODACOP  
LIMPAL  
Ruta Pacifica De Las Mujeres

**Background**

Despite the signing of the Peace Agreement in 2016 that ended more than 50 years of conflict between the Government and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC), violence and conflict continues in many parts of Colombia. Systematic human rights violations, forced displacements and violent conflict have rocked the country generating major psychosocial and mental health harm to individuals, families and communities living there.

Women and girls especially bear the brunt on instability and sexual and gender-based violence which remains highly prevalent in the form of abuse and/or physical violence, exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic and forced lock-downs. Women who speak out against armed groups face threats to their health and wellbeing with rising incidences of sexual violence and targeted killings.

Since 2016, HealthNet TPO has been working in Colombia working to create an environment whereby women and girls can feel safe and realise their rights.

## Project objectives

This five-year programme (2021-2025) is carried out under the framework of the Dutch National Action Plan for the implementation of the UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, funded by the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs. HealthNet TPO is part of a consortium of national and international NGOs – ICCO/Cordaid (as the lead) CODACOP, LIMPAL and Ruta Pacifica.

The project strives to create an environment where women and girls from various backgrounds can feel more protected, enabled to exercise their rights, have better access to psychosocial care and participate in processes for peacebuilding.

We develop research processes and strengthen strategic alliances with different sectors from a Public Health approach.

- Create an advocacy-based fund for women groups to engage in community activities, strengthen their psychosocial wellbeing and support their economic empowerment.
- Create a learning agenda: How are women (and men's) psychosocial wellbeing central to advocate and influence sustainable peace in Colombia?

## Past projects

Health Net TPO implemented the Women as Central Agents of Peacebuilding programme (2016-2020) in Colombia under the Women, Peace and Security agenda. [Read the full report here.](#)

## Activities

- Strengthen community-based psychosocial support mechanisms, including the implementation of safe spaces for women and girls.
- Promote the development of capacities in community agents and key institutional actors so that they can directly address the mental health conditions of their communities and their needs in psychosocial assistance.
- Support women organisations, caregivers and community leaders on strategies that promote self-care.

## With support from



## HealthNet TPO

is an international non-profit organisation that supports communities in fragile and conflict affected settings to regain control and maintain their own health and wellbeing. We believe that everyone has the inner strength to (re)build a better future for themselves and those around them.

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