

1. Summaryⁱ

14	2,6 million	70 MSEK	0 MSEK	0 MSEK	70 MSEK
Humanitarian crisis ranking (Sida's initial allocation analysis) ⁱⁱ	Number of people with humanitarian needs (Sida's initial allocation analysis) ⁱⁱⁱ	Initial allocation for 2026	Additional allocation in 2026	Flexible funding in 2026	Total Sida funding in 2026

Colombia faces a protracted crisis with profound protection implications, driven by the simultaneous impacts of armed conflict, large-scale migration and recurring natural disasters. Over the past year, the humanitarian situation has deteriorated significantly due to a convergence of factors, including the stagnation of peace negotiations under the Petro Administration, followed by termination of cease-fires, fragmentation of armed groups and intensification of clashes for territorial control. This has been aggravated by sweeping changes in migration policies across the Americas, and the intensification of climate-related emergencies. There is a risk that the humanitarian deterioration in 2025 will be the worst in the past decade, with over 50 per cent of the territory under the influence of a non-state armed group according to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).¹

The total number of people in need (PIN) is 10.4 million, nearly 20 per cent of the population. Armed conflict and natural disasters have left 2.6 million people with urgent needs at severity level 4 or higher.² The country ranks as the third most affected worldwide by internal displacement, with 7.3 million people displaced³, of whom approximately 191,000 were newly displaced during 2025.⁴ Colombia is also the primary destination for people fleeing Venezuela's political and economic crisis with a total of 3.5 million refugees, migrants, returnees, and host communities facing unmet humanitarian needs.⁵ Sida's initial humanitarian allocation for 2026 is SEK 70 million, focusing on supporting a multisectoral and protection-centred response.

¹ ICRC. *Update of the Humanitarian Situation in Colombia*. (May 2025)

² OCHA. *Colombia: Global Humanitarian Overview*. (December 2025)

³ Internal Displacement Monitoring Center. *Global Report on Internal Displacement*. (May 2025)

⁴ OCHA. *Colombia: report on humanitarian trends and impact*. (October 2025)

⁵ R4V. *Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2026* (December 2025)

2. Humanitarian needs & affected population

The Humanitarian Response Plan for Community Priorities (HRP) of 2026 estimates that 10.4 million people in Colombia require humanitarian assistance, including 2.6 million people facing life-threatening needs (severity level 4 or higher) across 130 municipalities severely affected by conflict and natural hazards. Additionally, 3.5 million refugees, migrants and host communities continue to experience unmet humanitarian needs. Humanitarian needs are concentrated along the Pacific Coast (Chocó, Valle del Cauca, Cauca, and Nariño), Northwest Colombia and the Venezuelan border regions (Magdalena Medio, La Guajira, Norte de Santander, and Arauca), and the Amazon region (Caquetá, Putumayo, and Guaviare), which are also the areas with very scarce or no state presence.⁶

Across all sectors; Food Security, Nutrition, Shelter, Health, Protection (including gender-based violence (GBV) and mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS)), needs have risen sharply at the same time as assistance and availability of services decrease due to unprecedented funding gaps. Afro-descendant and indigenous people are disproportionately affected by the crisis, and women, girls and boys continue to bear the greatest burden. Increased clashes and presence by armed groups in communities lead to increased protection risks and cases including GBV, especially affecting women and children.

Armed violence remains the most significant threat to safety and the driver of humanitarian needs. Between January and October 2025, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) recorded approximately 190,000, newly forcibly displaced people and approximately 125,000 confined; trapped in active conflict and cut off from essential services.⁷ The use of explosive devices, including drones deploying thrown explosives, has escalated sharply with an increase in casualties from explosive devices by 145 per cent in 2025 compared to 2024.⁸ Child recruitment has also surged, with approximately 100 verified cases between January and March 2025, mainly affecting indigenous, afro-descendant, migrant and refugee children.⁹ This is believed to only be the tip of the iceberg, with real numbers being much higher.

Climate-related events and other natural hazards continue to intensify vulnerabilities. The HRP 2026 reports 2 million people affected by natural disasters, including severe floods linked to El Niño and La Niña in Chocó and Vichada, areas already burdened by conflict and mixed migration flows.¹⁰

The humanitarian situation of migrants and refugees has also deteriorated due to major policy shifts across the Americas, strained US–Venezuela geopolitical relations and stalled integration efforts caused by insufficient funding. Northbound crossings through the Darién Gap are estimated to have decreased by 98 per cent during 2025, whilst a reverse flow has emerged where around 16,000 people have crossed southwards back into Colombia. These people face extreme humanitarian needs and protection

⁶ OCHA. *Colombia: Global Humanitarian Overview*. (December 2025)

⁷ OCHA. *Colombia: report on humanitarian trends and impact*. (October 2025)

⁸ ICRC. *Update of the Humanitarian Situation in Colombia*. (May 2025)

⁹ UNICEF *Monitoring and Follow up Mechanism for Colombia of the UN Resolution 1612*. (unpublished)

¹⁰ OCHA *Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia 2026*. (unpublished).

risks from armed groups.¹¹ There is a risk that political developments in the United States, Venezuela, and Colombia could generate new, large-scale movements with severe humanitarian consequences and additional pressure on already overstretched local services.

3. The humanitarian response

The global freeze and scale-back of US funding announced in January 2025 has had major consequences given that the US contributed more than 68 per cent of the funding for the humanitarian response in Colombia during 2024. The Humanitarian Country Team (HCT) has drafted a reset plan until the end of 2026 and adopted a hyper-prioritisation approach, targeting only people with severity level 4 or higher and made efforts to streamline the humanitarian architecture. The HRP 2026 aims to assist 2.6 million people through two objectives:

i) saving lives by addressing urgent needs caused by conflict and disasters and ii) strengthening protective environments for at-risk and affected populations in massive emergencies.¹² In parallel, the Interagency Group for Mixed Migratory Flows (GIFMM), which is part of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP), targets 550,000 refugees, migrants and host communities through multisectoral assistance with focus on Norte de Santander and major urban centres such as Bogotá and Medellín.¹³

The HNRP prioritises 130 municipalities in 16 departments for which local coordination teams were established, merging coordination spaces between the GIFMM with those of the HCT to improve coherence and efficiency.¹⁴ Of concern is that some emerging conflict zones, such as Huila and parts of the Amazon region (Vaupés and some areas of Meta and Caquetá), remain outside the prioritised areas. In these areas, the plan is that assistance will be delivered through localised rapid response mechanisms supported by multiple funding streams, including the Colombia Humanitarian Fund (CHF). The HCT also developed nine territorial plans in the most critical departments (Antioquia, Arauca, Cauca, Córdoba, Chocó, La Guajira, Nariño, Norte de Santander, and Putumayo) and prioritised five Local Coordination Teams (ELCs) to reinforce rapid response capacities in remote and highly affected areas.¹⁵ Despite the efforts of merging migration and OCHA humanitarian coordination spaces, information-management gaps persist as the two platforms continue to operate under separate response

3.1 million	\$619 million	51,3%(HNRP) 9,6% (RMRP)
2.6 million people targeted in the HRRP 2026 and 550,000 in the RMRP 2026	USD 384 million required to reach the target of the HNRP 2026 and 235 million of the RMRP 2026	Of the funding secured for the HNRP and RMRP for 2026

¹¹ R4V. *Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2026. Colombia chapter*. (December 2025)

¹² OCHA *Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia 2026*. (unpublished).

¹³ R4V. *Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2026. Colombia chapter*. (December 2025)

¹⁴ OCHA *Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia 2026*. (unpublished)

¹⁵ OCHA. *Colombia: Global Humanitarian Overview*. (December 2025)

plans during 2026. Furthermore, OCHA has alerted on a reduction of approximately 60 per cent in overall information-management capacity.¹⁶

The cluster architecture was reduced from 10 clusters to 6, accompanied by a redesign of functions to better align with existing capacities. Funding shortages have significantly reduced territorial presence, pushing organisations to refocus on frontline assistance such as Food Security, Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH), and physical Health. The shift has led to increased gaps in Protection, particularly in GBV services, legal assistance and MHPSS.

Moreover, access constraints are severe, hampered by the fragmentation of armed groups. Newly emerging non-state actors, driven primarily by control of illegal economies, show decreased compliance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL), heightening risks for communities and humanitarian personnel.

The HNRP seeks to increase the role of national authorities in the humanitarian architecture and response through a gradual transition towards government ownership. However, coordination challenges persist, and national-level responses often remain untimely and insufficient. Local authorities show strong political will but limited response capacities, constrained by structural issues such as insufficient funding and bureaucratic hurdles.

Local actors play a critical role as first responders, particularly where international organisations have reduced presence. Several initiatives have supported the strengthening of locally-led humanitarian action including the implementation of OCHA's Flagship Initiative and its capacity strengthening of local humanitarian actors, the CHF being exclusively for local actors, and the establishment of a shared leadership and coordination model within the new humanitarian architecture involving local organisations. In addition, local actors hold leadership roles in the MIRE intersectoral Rapid Response Mechanisms funded primarily by the European Commission's Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (ECHO) and are integrated into the local humanitarian coordination spaces.

The so-called Good Humanitarian Donorship Group (HGDG) remains the primary platform for donor coordination. Active donors include ECHO, Sweden, the US, Switzerland, Canada, and Spain, with more limited participation from Norway, Germany, France, and Ireland. Donors exchange information on priorities and funding and coordinate their support.

4. Sida's humanitarian allocation

Sida's humanitarian allocation for Colombia will initially amount to SEK 70 million and focus on addressing the most acute and severe needs in areas prioritised by the HNRP. In addition, the allocation

¹⁶ This refers to an internal communication by OCHA to the HCT

aims to support the ongoing reset process by supporting key functions in the humanitarian architecture, including the advancement of locally-led humanitarian action.

Through its 2026 allocation, Sida will prioritise the actors best positioned to deliver needs-based, multi-sector humanitarian assistance in the hardest-to-reach areas. Partners have been selected based on several parameters, including sectoral focus and operational capacity. Priority was given to actors with strong protection focus; both through specialised and mainstreamed thematic focus. In support of the reset and transition of the humanitarian architecture, priority was given to actors with clear mandates and leadership roles, particularly in the Protection sector, to strengthen coordination, ensure effectiveness, and support compliance with IHL. In addition, the selection reflects partners with an established presence and sufficient capacity to operate in the HNRP prioritised geographic areas. Preference was given to actors demonstrating high levels of flexibility and cost-efficiency, enabling them to adapt services to changing needs and an increasingly volatile context.

Building on significant progress in locally-led humanitarian action in Colombia, the inclusion of at least one partnership supporting community and refugee-led humanitarian action is planned for the first half of 2026. The partnership aims to strengthen locally-led humanitarian action in a gradual manner, particularly in underserved geographic areas where humanitarian presence has declined in the last year.

PARTNER	INITIAL ALLOCATION
Action against Hunger (ACF)	8,000,000
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)	22,000,000
Première Urgence Internationale (PUI)	12,000,000
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)	10,000,000
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	18,000,000
TOTAL	70,00000

ⁱ The 2026 initial allocation of humanitarian funding is based on Sida's humanitarian allocation analysis methodology. The analysis reflects the current humanitarian situation across crises and is being updated continuously with the latest available data. The information in the HCA is based on reports, data, and information from partner organisations and other entities, as well as observations from field visits and dialogue with partners.

ⁱⁱ Sida's initial allocation analysis consists of three dimensions that are assessed for each crisis-affected country: 1) magnitude and severity of humanitarian needs 2) capacity of the humanitarian system to respond to needs and 3) capacity of the crisis-affected country to respond to needs. The qualitative and quantitative analysis produces an index scoring for each country, where the highest ranked country is found to have the greatest proportion of unmet severe humanitarian needs globally, based on available data. Sida's initial allocation for 2026 includes a total of 25 countries with the highest scores. For more information please see Initial Allocation Methodology.

ⁱⁱⁱ The number of people with humanitarian needs according to Sida's allocation analysis is based on the most inclusive estimate of humanitarian needs that is available from recent sources and supported by triangulation. For Colombia, the

sources are HNRP 2025 (as changes in GHO 2026 are being triangulated) and RMRP 2025 for people with humanitarian needs outside HRNP scope.