Putting an end to protracted forced displacement:

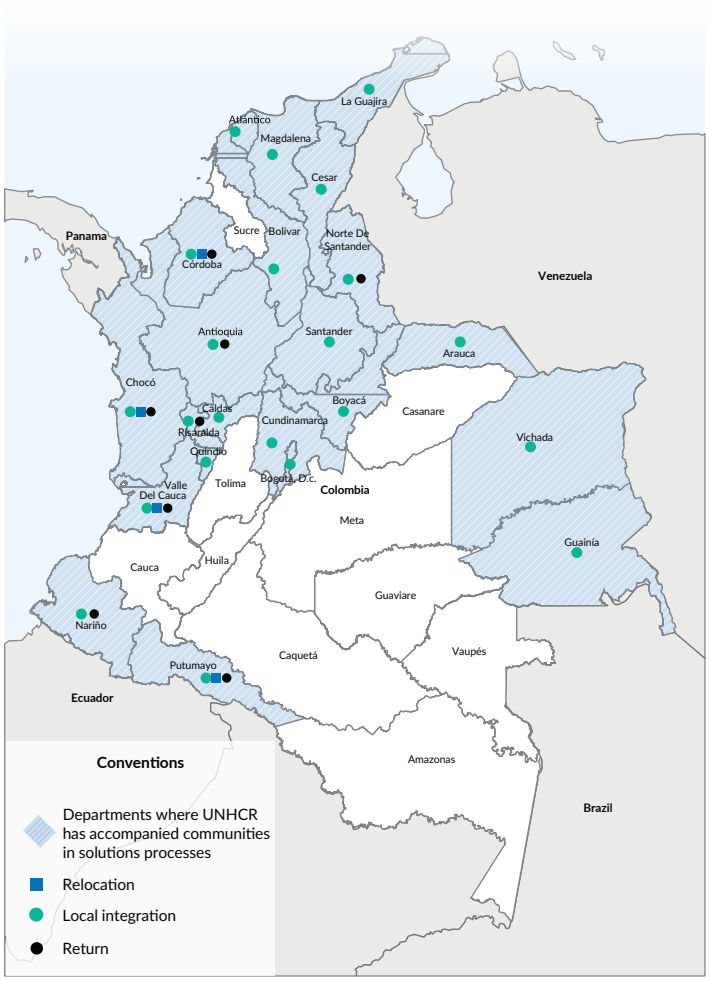
local integration, return and relocation

UNHCR prioritizes solutions to the forced displacement of Colombians in their own country, as well as refugees residing in Colombia

In Colombia, more than 7 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) due to conflict, still need assistance and a solution to their displacement. Most of the population lives in precarious conditions in the cities. Given the continuation and intensification of the armed conflict and violence, 75% of the IDPs decide to settle where they are, as they are not able to return. More than 65% of the IDPs live below the poverty line, only 15% have access to housing and 88% have not overcome their situation of vulnerability.

UNHCR prioritizes the realization of durable solutions for people displaced by conflict in Colombia, to put an end to their uprootedness, either through safe returns to their villages of origin, their relocation to safer areas within the country or their integration into the communities that are hosting them, mainly through the legalization of informal settlements in urban contexts.

Colombia's robust legal framework still needs to be complemented by a comprehensive durable solutions strategy. UNHCR is directly contributing to the design of such a policy for durable solutions that would bring these efforts to scale, while redoubling its own interventions on the ground to accelerate local integration processes, return and relocation and in 7 departments of the country.



Currently, UNHCR supports 165 conflict-affected communities throughout the country. Through the Practical Solutions in Land and Housing project, progress was made in the legalization of 24 settlements, benefiting 12,306 households (49,224 people) in 2024.

The legalization of these neighborhoods is the gateway to long-term solutions: it allows progressive access to public services, such as water and electricity, progress in the titling of land, housing improvements, private sector investment, and the commitment of local authorities to meet the needs of this population. As a result of the legalization processes, not only the internally displaced population benefits, but also the communities that host them, generating a multiplier effect of the intervention and contributing to the overall development and stabilization in the territories. UNHCR's strategic partnership with the Ministry of Housing is resulting in the adoption of legalization policies by many more local authorities throughout the country.

165 communities | **22** departments | **63** municipalities