



# ANNUAL REPORT

2019



**Save the  
Children**  
100 AÑOS







*"Every generation of children offers mankind the possibility of rebuilding his ruin of the world".*

Eglantyne Jebb



**Save the Children**

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**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

Every child and adolescent that have given us the opportunity to learn from their lives and fulfil our mission as an organisation and team.

Thank you for working hand-in-hand with us throughout the country, because without you, our actions would be powerless.

**PHOTOGRAPHY**

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# TABLE OF CONTENTS



Save the Children



<b>RESULTS</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>EDUCATION</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>PROTECTION</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>POVERTY REDUCTION</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>HUMANITARIAN AID</b>	<b>22</b>
Protection in emergencies	24
Health in emergencies	26
Nutrition in emergencies	28
Water, sanitation and hygiene in emergencies (WASH)	30
Cash	32
<b>SAFEGUARDING</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>POLITICAL ADVOCACY</b>	<b>36</b>

<b>CAMPAIGNS</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION</b>	<b>40</b>
<b>CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>FUNDRAISING</b>	<b>44</b>
Child Guardian	50
Goodwill ambassadors and friends	51
<b>100 YEARS</b>	<b>56</b>



In 2019, Save the Children celebrated its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In May 1919, Save the Children was founded by Eglantyne Jebb and since then, the organisation has been present in 120 countries with the dual objective of assisting children in all instances of need (assistance in humanitarian emergencies, access to universal education, prevention of every type of violence, ensuring the right to health and adequate nutrition, and in the fight against poverty), in addition to creating permanent improvements through advocacy in the areas of public policy.

As Basque journalist Pilar Kaltzada said during the centennial celebrations, “on May 19, Eglantyne Jebb shared her vision to the world, through a massive event in London, which raised large sums of money to feed Austrian and German children; the primary civilian victims of the Great War. The international organisation was created the following year, and in 1923, the Declaration on Child Rights was published, raising five key points which, for the first time in history, recognized the world’s children as legal subjects, whose assistance and well-being, States must be responsible”.

This declaration was the basis for when the United Nations Assembly declared its ambition in this matter through the Declaration of the Rights of the Child, on November 20, 1959 which made little changes to the original



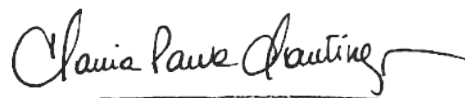
document. Thirty years later, Save the Children celebrates this convention, which has achieved great progress, including: strengthened national and international systems to protect children's rights, the inclusion of children in the international agenda with measurable targets in the Sustainable Development Goals, international protocols prohibiting the forced recruitment and use of children in conflicts, laws prohibiting physical and humiliating punishment, as well as a minimum age for marriage, a reduction in child labour, closing the gap on girls' access to education, greater coverage of health and social services, as well as a global commitment to make schools safe for children and a space for peacebuilding.

In addition to the above, and in order to keep alive the spirit and vision of the organisation's founder, Save the Children Colombia (SC CO), through its projects in 2019, was able to directly support a total of 120,918 participants in the departments of Nariño, Valle del Cauca, Arauca, Norte de Santander, Guajira, Boyacá and Cundinamarca. Furthermore, 1,547,206 children, adolescents, young people and adults were indirect participants. In addition, the organisation supported 19 childhood and youth participation groups made up of 1026 children, adolescents and young people in 13 municipalities.

As part of Colombian civil society, SC CO continues to amplify the voices of child and adolescent victims of the armed conflict, Venezuelan migrants, and those affected by natural disasters, by fighting against xenophobia, as well as promoting the implementation of the

Peace Agreement, the defence and protection of social leaders, the provision of services, and the realization of all rights in favour of those who need Save the Children the most.

Many thanks to everybody for making all this possible and working with the organisation!

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "María Paula Martínez", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

**María Paula Martínez**

## FAMILY

Preserving blood ties in times of crisis is important, but many children do not have their families due to the armed conflict and the Venezuelan migratory crisis.

Save the Children invites children and adolescents to count on the organisation as their concept of family.

Children not only share their lives with the SC CO team, they also teach the organisation lessons on love, diversity and understanding.

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“My family is made up of only women; my mom and my sisters. I like having a family because despite living in poverty, we are always smiling and happy to talk, and because my home is my role model”.

**Helen Zambrano**

Winning photo

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“My family is just my mom and I. I like having a family because we do everything together. It doesn’t matter if we have small or big families, just that it’s the only thing that we’ll always have”.

**Jeampier Marquínez**

Second place

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“I thought about the future and saw that we had a big family, the happiest and most privileged in the world. Even though we have different fathers, we’re brought together by our LOVE and APPRECIATION for one another and others.

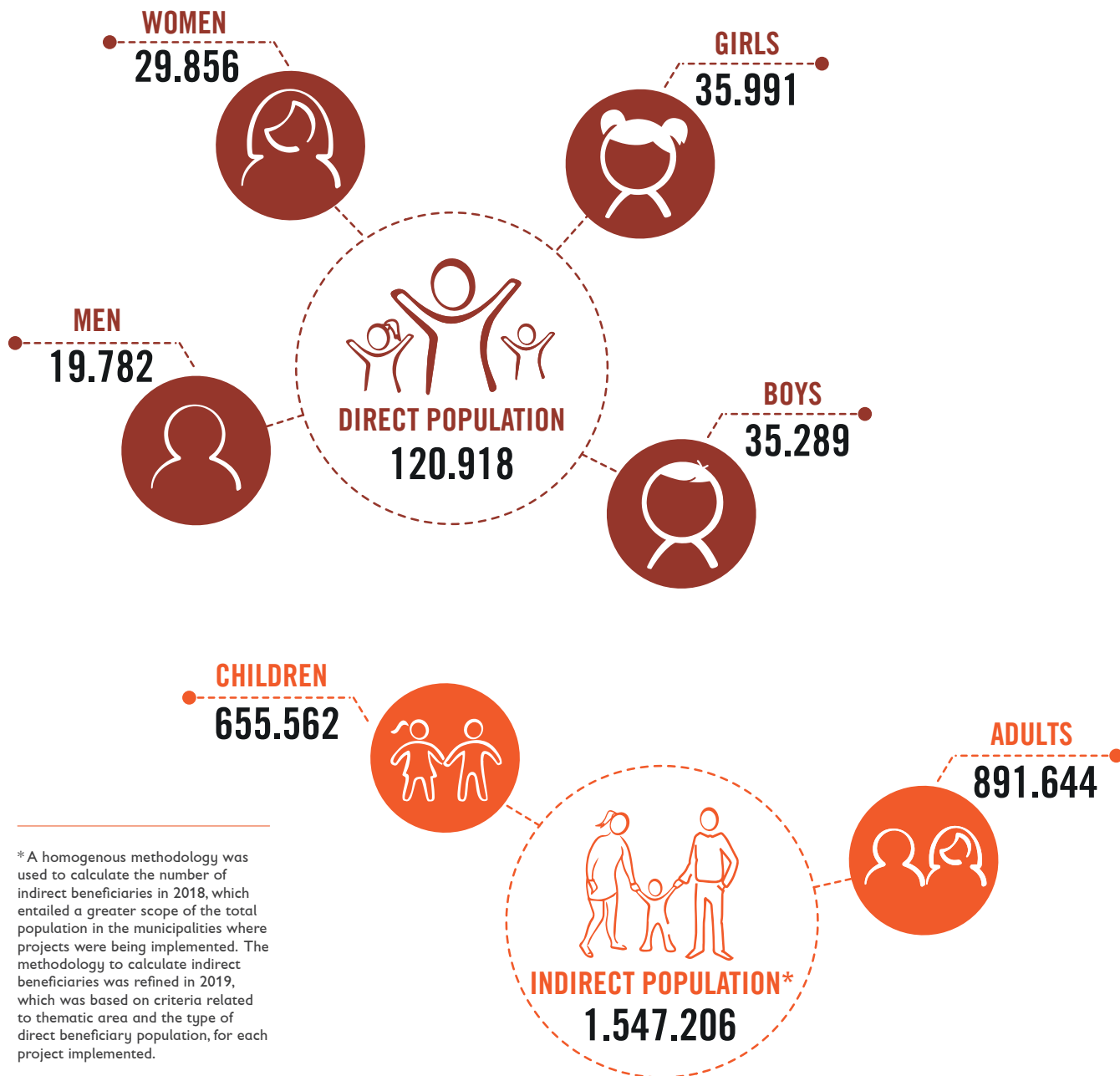
This is my family, the family of the future”.

**Paula Prieto**

Third Place

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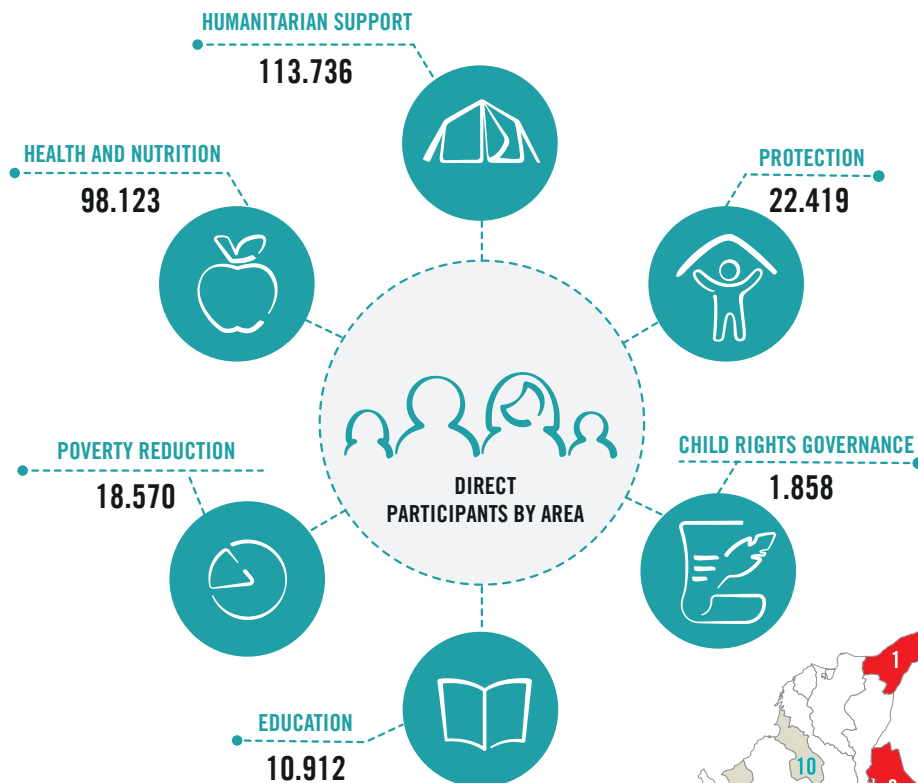


\*A homogenous methodology was used to calculate the number of indirect beneficiaries in 2018, which entailed a greater scope of the total population in the municipalities where projects were being implemented. The methodology to calculate indirect beneficiaries was refined in 2019, which was based on criteria related to thematic area and the type of direct beneficiary population, for each project implemented.



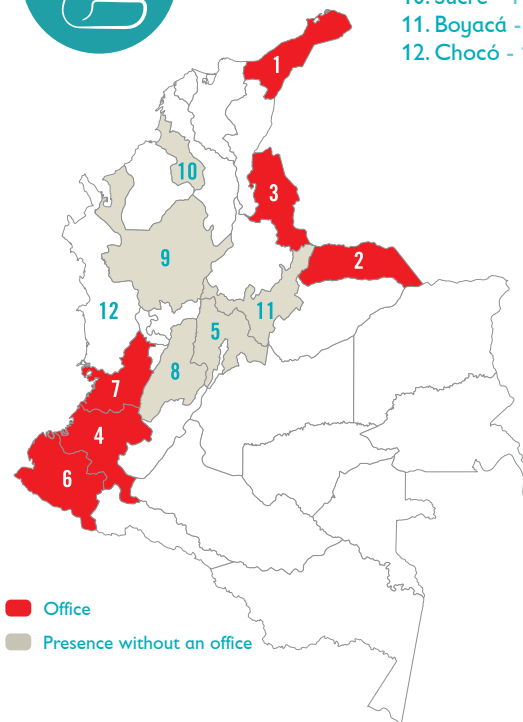
# RESULTS

## 2019

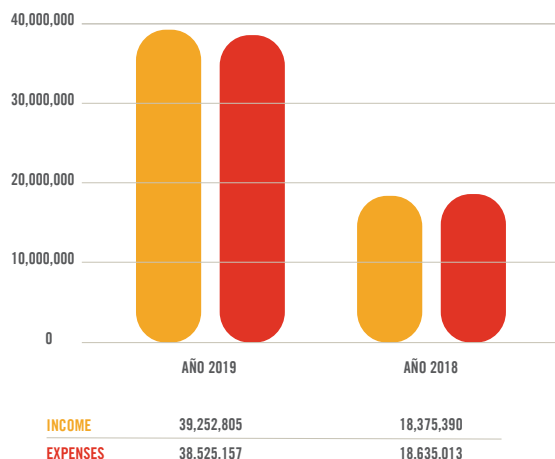


### Where are we?

1. La Guajira - 2 Municipalities
2. Arauca - 2 Municipalities
3. Norte de Santander - 4 Municipalities
4. Cauca - 1 Municipalities
5. Cundinamarca - 1 Municipalities
6. Nariño - 2 Municipalities
7. Valle del Cauca - 1 Municipalities
8. Tolima - 3 Municipalities
9. Antioquia - 1 Municipalities
10. Sucre - 1 Municipalities
11. Boyacá - 1 Municipalities
12. Chocó - 1 Municipalities



## ANNUAL INCOME AND EXPENDITURE COMPARISON



## USE OF RESOURCES



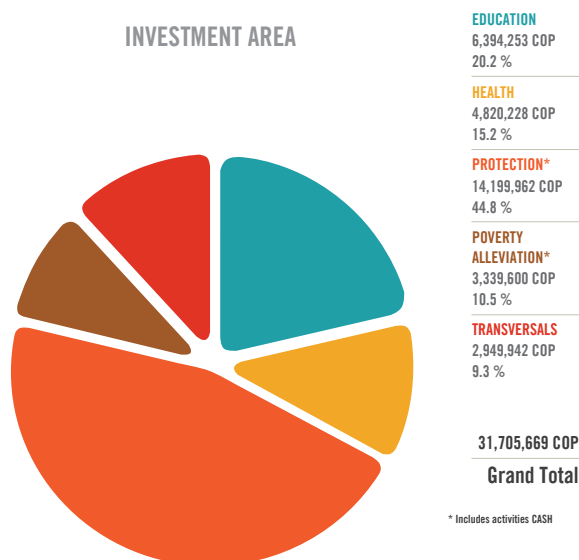
**PROGRAMME INVESTMENT**  
31,705,669 COP  
82.3 %

**OPERATION SUPPORT**  
6,022,546 COP  
15.8 %

**MARKETING AND RECRUITMENT OF NEW DONORS**  
796,942 COP  
1.9 %

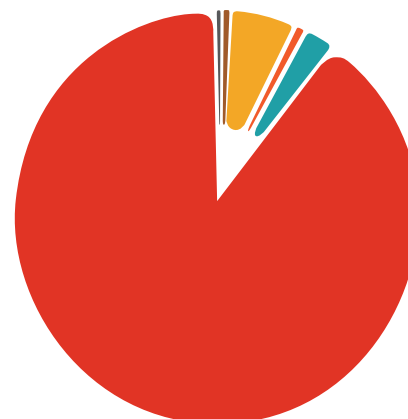
**38,525,157 COP**  
**Total investment**

## INVESTMENT AREA



\* Includes activities CASH

## INCOME BY SOURCE OF FINANCING



**IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS**  
161,144 COP  
0.41 %

**NATIONAL AGREEMENTS**  
1,861,683 COP  
4.74 %

**CORPORATE**  
217,778 COP  
0.55 %

**INDIVIDUALS**  
888,382 COP  
2.26 %

**FOREIGN INCOME**  
36,031,332 COP  
91.79 %

**OTHER**  
92,486 COP  
0.24 %

**39,252,805 COP**  
**TOTAL**

\* figures in thousands

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a group of children. In the foreground, two hands are raised, showing the palms. The child on the left has a small, dark, circular mark on their palm. The child on the right has a small, dark, circular mark on their palm. The background is filled with the faces of other children, all smiling and looking towards the camera. The overall tone is warm and positive.

Our actions and development projects in education, protection and poverty reduction are implemented in Arauca, Cúcuta, Tumaco and Cali.



# EDUCATION

Save the Children Colombia is committed to guaranteeing the right to an inclusive and quality education, “primarily” for children in conditions of great vulnerability, and those affected by armed conflict, migration and natural disasters.

The organisation’s objective is to promote access, consistent and quality education for the most excluded children. To achieve this, SC CO develops and strengthens the capacity of school management systems, trains teachers and students, and strengthens the links between families, communities and schools. SC CO also works closely with the State and civil society to develop programs, policies and strategies for the right to education.

## PROJECTIONS

- In 2020, SC CO will increase implementation of common approaches to literacy, numeracy and safe schools through education projects in Colombia.
- In 2020, the education program will initiate research studies, evaluations and analysis on education with a gender-based approach.
- In 2020, SC CO will establish partnerships with civil society and international organisations to improve the development of gender equity and inclusive approaches in the Colombian education system.
- In 2020, SC CO will formalize an agreement with the Ministry of Education to improve training on citizenship competencies and socio-emotional learning to strengthen the capacities of teachers in regions affected by migration and the armed conflict.





An agreement with the Normal School of Ocaña (Escuela Normal de Ocaña) was a wonderful opportunity to find communities with strong resilience capacities that are completely committed to educational development and children's rights in one of the areas most affected by the armed conflict in Colombia. Without a doubt, agreements with civil society organisations are an excellent way to reach the children with the greatest needs (Superior normal school during the HALDO evaluation).

## ACHIEVEMENTS

### EXPANSION OF THE EDUCATION PORTFOLIO

In 2019, SC CO increased its education portfolio. The Numeracy & Literary Boost and Safe Schools common approaches were adopted, in addition to the ILET evaluation model, which were essential in expanding the organisation's education services portfolio. These common approaches\* increased the quality of interventions in schools and communities, while also strengthening partnerships with governments and key actors.

### INCREASE OF EDUCATION DONORS

Through the implementation of the projects, *Catatumbo Loves Education and Everybody to School* (Catatumbo Ama la Educación and Todos al Cole), SC CO expanded its education program's coverage in one of the zones most affected by the armed conflict and migration in the country.

This increase is in addition to commitments made with Global Affairs Canada and Dubai Cares, whose objective are to improve the quality of education along the Colombian-Venezuelan border.

\* One common approach is a better understanding of Save the Children International's (SCI) approaches on addressing a particular problem faced by children, which are based on tests and can be adapted to function in multiple contexts, and are replicable in different countries.

# PROTECTION

Save the Children Colombia aims to create conditions that promote significant changes in norms, attitudes and behaviours to prevent and address violence and its impact on children, households, schools and communities, especially in territories affected by armed conflict, natural disasters and other forms of violence.

SC CO develops processes aimed at protecting children from violence, promoting appropriate care, safeguarding children from harmful work practices, and strengthening child protection systems in each region, in order to contribute to their protection and comprehensive development.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will strengthen the prevention and protection capacities of children, adolescents, families, communities and authorities against risks associated with situations of armed conflict, abuse, exploitation, sexual violence, physical abuse, and other forms of violence that impact children.
- SC CO will provide assistance through emergency responses in the form of case management and psychosocial care, aimed at preventing and responding to abuse, neglect, exploitation and violence against children and adolescents through direct social support.
- SC CO will strengthen institutional protection systems and community protection mechanisms, to guarantee protective environments for children, adolescents and young people affected by violence in contexts of armed conflict and migrant populations.







SC CO carried out an awareness-building workshop with officials from entities in Cali on children's rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and childhood participation. In this space, one of the exercises consisted of identifying the principles of childhood participation, and what they mean. The groups had to assign their meaning and establish the following points:

- How is the gender-based approach applied in each principle?
- What actions can be carried out in their entities to ensure compliance with these principles while promoting participation?

At the conclusion of the gathering, the participants made commitments to children in order to develop actions that promote childhood participation.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO adjusted protection pathways with participation from children and adolescents in the municipalities of Buenaventura, Tumaco, Cali, Ocaña and Guapi.
- SC CO has partnered with the Norwegian Refugee Council and Action Against Hunger, to strengthen the IPI Conse application, a virtual platform with information of interest for migrants on their country of destination, including data such as: currency, climate, duration of land travel, entry requirements, steps to apply for refugee status, visas or nationality, and accessible rights based on the legal situation of the person making the inquiry.
- SC CO consolidated the “safe participation protocol” for children, which established conditions to align necessary behaviours and actions to guarantee that children participation activities are safe, responsible and compatible with their interests, while protecting them from any situation of risk or damage to their integrity, dignity or life.

# POVERTY REDUCTION

SC CO seeks to decrease situations of economic scarcity and their underlying conditions (physical, psychological, social and biological). The intervention model is a proposal for the development of gradual changes, which prioritizes early childhood, childhood, adolescence, youth and mothers, as the target population to break the vicious and causative cycles in which one generation after another lives in poverty. The following strategic lines are developed:

- Livelihoods
- Life and work competences
- Social protection

## PROJECTIONS

### GEN CERO - FOR A HEALTHY CHILDHOOD

- 78 community actors were educated and trained on chronic malnutrition and its social determinants, providing an understanding of its impacts on individual and collective development in the territories.
- 588 institutional officials from 10 municipalities were educated and trained on chronic malnutrition and its determinants.
- The process had a total of 666 beneficiary participants in the territories.



## IMPROVE YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK CAPACITIES AND ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES IN CAUCA & NARIÑO, COLOMBIA.

- 3 jeweller associations improved the design of their pieces and the technical filigree jewellery production process. They also improved their accounting practices related to inventory, price matrixes, pricing of pieces, sales, and purchasing raw materials.
- 200 adolescents and young people have developed basic competences to help them enter the labour market.
- Work was carried out with 252 direct beneficiaries in Tumaco, Guapi and Barbacoas.



*"I don't want to go into details about it, but I'll tell you that despite everything that we had to face, we have stayed*

*united. We have gotten through difficult circumstances and thanks to education, I've been able to leave all that behind.*

*First at school, and then in the Save the Children and Bulgari project, which provided me an opportunity to learn the art of jewellery making and gold-smithing. If it weren't for this project, I don't know where I would be. Who knows if I would have been able to get away from the violence? I might not have my daughter, nor live how I live... I might not even be here".*

*\*José - Guapi*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Technical and management capacities in 10 municipalities were strengthened to incorporate territorial plans and programs aimed at preventing chronic malnutrition and addressing its social determinants.
- 80 adolescents and young people were placed in the labour market through their participation in the project, Employing Young People for a Better Future (Empleando Jóvenes para un Futuro Mejor).
- SC CO developed a project to strengthen access to health and nutritional services for pregnant women, nursing mothers and children under two years of age, while also innovating an economic income option that contributes to this population's protein consumption.



# HUMANITARIAN AID



## EDUCATION IN EMERGENCIES

SC CO works to ensure that children and adolescents have access to education by establishing Temporary Learning Spaces (TLS) and preparing them for their transition to formal education in times of crisis or emergency.

To this end, SC CO works hand-in-hand with the education community to improve education quality through teacher training and improving local capacities.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will strengthen the strategy for adolescents and young people who do not attend school through digital classroom activities.
- SC CO will reinforce the digital skills of children and adolescents who attend the TLSs.
- SC CO will develop an online-accessible interactive teacher training package.
- SC CO will ensure that all children who go through the TLSs complete their transition to formal education.



The Education in Emergency Team is honoured to have colleagues from Venezuela as members, who have found an opportunity to strengthen SC CO's actions with a bi-national approach, based on the need to contribute to the development and adaptation of children who have migrated from Venezuela.

Their presence engenders closeness and familiarity, and has led to the identification of particular needs, as they themselves have experienced barriers in accessing basic services, a lack of opportunities, etc. However, through their experiences, they are able to provide new meaning to the lives of migrant children, as an opportunity to provide tools to strengthen their lives and the lives of others.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Children in Arauca and La Guajira participate in TLSs, which provide SC CO the opportunity to teach them literacy, arithmetic, and social-emotional learning activities and help facilitate their transition to formal education.
- SC CO provides training to teachers at educational institutions in Arauca and La Guajira, on strengthening local capacities, social-emotional learning, Numeracy and Literacy Boost, and risk management (PEGIR).
- SC CO promotes Numeracy and Literacy Boost\* activities for children and adolescents to improve their literacy and arithmetic skills.
- SC CO has set-up digital classrooms with young people at educational institutions. These extra-curricular activities are part of the education inclusion and digitalization strategy.

\* Numeracy and Literacy Boost supports teachers, students, parents and communities in developing numerical and linguistic skills of children in the early grades of primary school and those out of school.



## PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES

SC CO develops strategies and activities to prevent and attend to situations of risk faced by children, including abuse (physical, emotional or sexual), neglect, recruitment, abandonment, unaccompaniment, separation and attend to the needs of survivors of sexual violence.

SC CO directs its actions at the most vulnerable families, such as migrants, returned Colombians and those in host communities in the departments in Arauca, La Guajira and Valle del Cauca, and families in situations of displacement and confinement, as well as victims of armed conflict in the department of Nariño.

SC CO's primary lines of action are establishing and operating Child Friendly Spaces (CFS), case management, implementing community mobilization activities, as well as strengthening referral pathways, and establishing protective and safe environments for children.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will consolidate its presence and implementation of activities to promote protection mechanisms and spaces for child victims of the armed conflict in rural and difficult-to-access zones on the Pacific Coast of Nariño (Tumaco, El Charco and Barbacoas).
- SC CO will explore partnerships and coordination mechanisms that consolidate protection networks in the territories.





The *hallaca* is a dish that unites two cultures. The CFS and Community Mobilization Team led the way in organizing the celebration of International Migrant Day. It was a marvellous experience, in which choosing the food for the day played a major role. The childh protection committees made the decision to prepare *hallacas*, which is culturally considered a dish eaten by both Colombians and Venezuelans during the holiday season.

At first, it seemed simple to execute, however, the logistics of preparing and delivering a massive amounts of food in 38° C temperatures, entailed not only a commitment to work, but also a passion and dedication to details, however minimal.

There were ingredients to make 300 *hallacas*, but with the support and determination of the entire team, 500 were made. This is what happens when the ties of bi-nationality are united.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO consolidated networks, protective and friendly spaces in informal settlements with migrant populations in Arauca and La Guajira, through the establishment of CFSs, youth clubs, and community child protection committees.
- Through case management, SC CO attended to children and adolescents, providing them and their family nucleus with psychosocial support and continuous accompaniment.
- SC CO strengthened the capacities of authorities and local organisations in identification processes, activation of referral pathways, and attending to childhood protection risks tied to the migratory phenomena.
- SC CO established new operations to attend to the growing humanitarian crisis and childhood protection needs in various municipalities of the Pacific Coast of Nariño (Tumaco, El Charco and Barbacoas) to provide assistance to families in situations of internal displacement and confinement.



## HEALTH IN EMERGENCIES

The health program offers comprehensive care for mental health, psychosocial support, and sexual and reproductive health care. SC CO provides services based on the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP) and Colombia's clinical practice guidelines through the Sexual and Reproductive Health Unit (SRHU in Maicao), and Mobile Sexual and Reproductive Health Units (SRH-MU in Paraguachon and Fonseca). Since 2019, SC CO has become one of the most comprehensive alternatives for pre-natal, post-natal and family planning services for migrant women in the department of La Guajira, providing 11,261 consultations; 8,255 for sexual and reproductive health, and 3006 for mental health.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will expand its humanitarian health response in southern La Guajira, in Albania and San Juan del César.
- SC CO will establish operations in the department of Valle del Cauca, in the cities of Cali and Palmira.



Strengthening the dignity and recovering the self-esteem of hundreds of migrant women is the health team's most significant objective.

In many patients, we have been able to demonstrate how their health has improved, in addition to raising their awareness on the importance of pre- and post-natal care, and how to activate the case management process in the event of gender-based violence.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO started providing care in the municipalities of Maicao and Fonseca, which was validated by health authorities in the department of La Guajira.
- SC CO implemented a comprehensive approach which includes having local Wayuú bilingual staff.
- SC CO performed case management for instances of gender-based violence and activated the respective referral process to access assistance mechanisms from public entities.
- SC CO coordinated with international cooperation actors, as well as with national and local authorities.
- Save the Children Colombia's health program was chosen as a success story to be presented during the academic panel of the Inter-Agency Working Group on Reproductive Health in Crises (IAWG) in Thailand.





## NUTRITION IN EMERGENCIES

SC CO supports and teaches parents and caregivers to prevent acute malnutrition in children under two years old through workshops in which they learn the best practices for feeding their children, which includes: exclusively breastfeeding for the first six months of a child's life and the initiation of a complementary, varied, balanced and hygienic diet.

In addition to learning the above, the workshops provided an opportunity to debunk false beliefs regarding eating habits during this window of opportunity (first 1000 days of life), in favour of the optimum development of children.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will strengthen support to the community through the nutrition counselling service, which resolves doubts regarding the processes of breastfeeding and/or complementary feeding.
- SC CO will reinforce the community's knowledge by managing support groups to discuss good childhood nutrition practices.
- SC CO will implement screening sessions to timely detect cases of malnutrition, with the necessary coordination to ensure participants receive proper care.



When a mother of a six month old child in the breastfeeding room was asked if she had given her baby any water or other food, she surprising said, “weren’t you the ones who told me that my baby doesn’t need anything else?”

Of course we responded, exclusively breast feeding the first six months is the best food for your baby!

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 2,836 heads of households were educated on good breastfeeding and nutritional practices for small children.
- 1,345 people educated on breastfeeding and complementary feeding.
- Participants increased their knowledge of breastfeeding and complementary feeding by 26 points.
- The percentage of exclusive breastfeeding and nutritional diversity (consumption of more than 4 food groups) among the participants grew.



## WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE IN EMERGENCIES (WASH)

Since 2019, the WASH Program has been supporting the response to the Venezuelan migration crisis in Colombia in the municipalities of Maicao (La Guajira) and Arauca (Arauca), by providing access to safe water, improving conditions to access basic sanitation, and promoting good hygiene habits, which has reached approximately 60,000 direct and indirect beneficiaries.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will set up dry latrines in informal settlements in La Guajira and Arauca.
- SC CO will implement long-term water access solutions for Venezuelan migrants in La Guajira and Arauca.
- SC CO will strengthen WASH committees in informal settlements in La Guajira and Arauca, emphasizing the organisation and self-management of basic hygienic and drinking water needs.
- SC CO will expand the geographic range so the organisation can reach more families with hygiene and drinking water solutions.





The experience of providing water to a settlement such as Montecarlo, where there are no drinking water sources, nor basic hygiene systems, is very gratifying. As a team, we worked together to improve this population's quality of life.

Community members saw one of their greatest desires, access to water, fulfilled that day. From that day on, children have been clean and able to attend school or TLSs in better health and hygienic conditions.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- More than three million liters of water have been provided to informal settlements and schools in La Guajira.
- Dry latrines were installed at CFSs and TLSs in La Guajira.
- Hygiene was promoted among transitory migrants in Arauca.
- Key messages that promote hygiene among children and adolescents in were disseminated in La Guajira and Arauca.
- The program expanded with an intervention in the municipality of Uribía, which provided water purification kits to informal settlements.



## CASH

Through monthly multipurpose cash transfers across a period of six months, SC CO has helped to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable people; Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees, and members of host communities.

With this program, SC CO seeks to raise awareness about child protection, as well as educate people about cases of gender-based violence, providing information on available attention mechanisms, and improve feeding practices for infants and young children.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will reach 10,010 beneficiaries with multipurpose cash assistance, affecting more than 35,000 people.
- SC CO will implement at least 9 breastfeeding rooms across the country to promote breastfeeding as the best source of childhood nutrition.
- SC CO will increase protective behaviours of children related to feeding practices.



Centro Abrazar has become a fundamental ally, enabling the implementation of a breastfeeding room for hundreds of mothers, where the bonding between mothers and babies, and counselling process has resulted in happier and healthier children.

Isaías is a four-month-old baby who, with the help of his mother and the professionals at the centre, and our (SC CO) counselling, was able to drink breast milk in his mother's absence. Although at first, he felt very uncomfortable and upset, as the days went by, with effort, dedication and love, we managed to get this baby to receive his mother's milk with a spoon. This satisfaction is what drives our tireless work day after day.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO began implementing activities of the agreement in 2019, with the project operating in new cities such as Cali, Palmira and Bogotá.
- Agreements were made with local entities such as the Secretariat of Social Integration in Bogotá, for the referral processes for this population.
- SC CO signed a framework agreement with EFECTY, a financial services provider, which has 10,000 service points in the country.
- 90% of the team has implemented the project.



# CHILD SAFEGUARDING



SC CO is committed to being the safest organisation for children and adults in the communities where it works. The organisation is certain that the do-no-harm approach is one of the most important practices developed by SC CO. To this end, Save the Children has a global safeguarding framework, which brings together a set of policies, procedures, strategies and actions directed at implementing safer programs, and ensuring staff act with the highest behavioural standards.

This framework's safeguarding actions includes all the populations the organisation works with, through an action plan with a child-centred, territorial and community approach, to ensure everybody's participation and commitment in this process.

## PROJECTIONS

In 2020, SC CO will be committed to safeguarding children and adults in communities by reinforcing the following three components:

- Developing an action plan based on strengthening and working with Save the Children's allies, prioritizing implementing partners
- Developing processes for children and adults in communities to ensure their commitment to safeguarding, and the timely reporting of concerns that can be followed-up upon.
- Being the leading office in Latin America for safe programming for children, communities and staff.



Children who participate in Save the Children's activities in Arauca, are accompanied by the CFS protection team, which has identified the risks to which they were exposed in their environment, and designed measures to mitigate them. The resulting material from this activity was adopted by the organisation and returned to the community in the form of sidewalk signs.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO has positioned the safeguarding strategy and principles at internal and external levels, consolidating itself as a reference for safeguarding issues in communities and with partners and donors.
- SC CO has implemented the safeguarding policy, its standards and principles.
- SC CO has strengthened the knowledge of its team in the country office on safe programming, through training sessions and a safeguarding risk assessment, to ensure that no child is harmed in the implementation of projects.

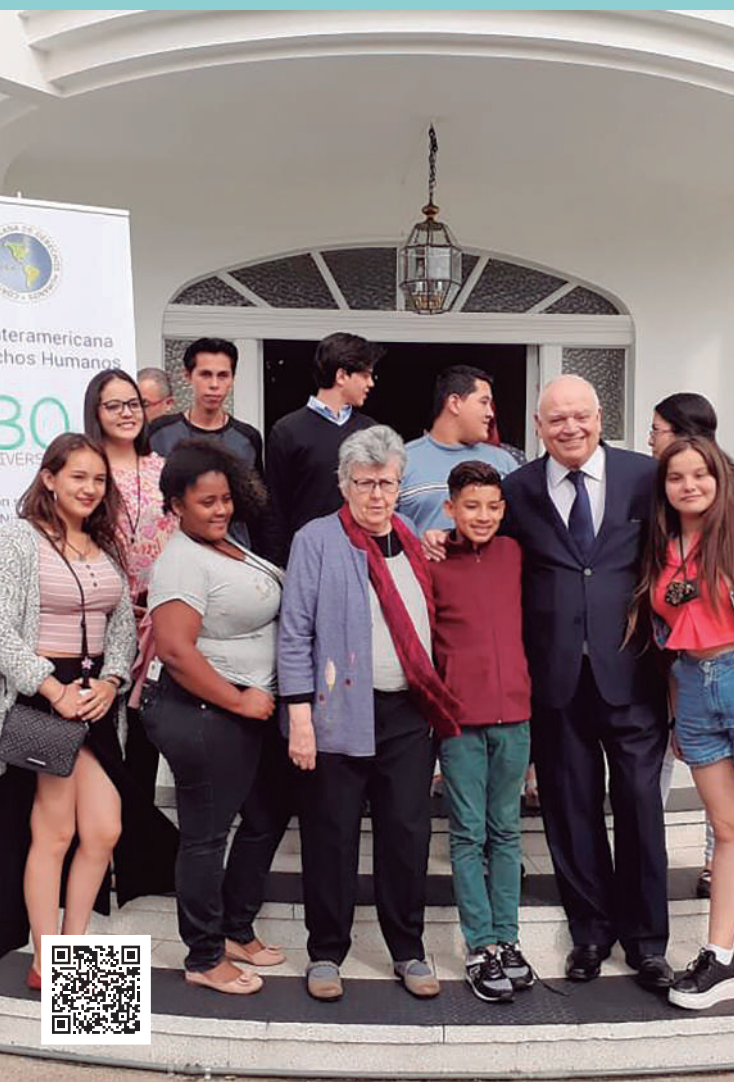
# POLITICAL ADVOCACY

SC CO works together with civil society actors, the United Nations, control agencies, governmental entities, children and adolescents, at the international, national, departmental and municipal levels, to impact public policies, laws, plans, programs and budgets, focused on the fulfilment of children's rights.

Through bodies such as the Alliance for Colombian Childhood (Alianza por la Niñez Colombiana), the protection cluster, the inter-agency group on mixed migratory flows (GIFMM), and the Niñez Ya foundation, SC CO has been able to develop processes to monitor and make proposals to the national government regarding how children's rights are affected by violence, the armed conflict, sexual abuse, participation, gender, physical punishment and a migratory childhood.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will contribute to the promotion and defence of children's rights in the country through collaborative work with Colombian civil society organisations and inter-agency entities.
- SC CO will advocate to include children's issues in development plans, and municipal and departmental budgets.
- SC CO will apply political advocacy to seek approval for bill to eliminate the physical and humiliating punishment of children before the Congress of the Republic, for the Colombian Government to sign the Declaration of Safe Schools, as well as





for the development of campaigns and processes to raise public awareness and social commitment to address these issues.



Travelling is always a marvellous experience because one learns through smells, colours, all your senses are activated.

However, crossing borders and representing children from an entire country is a responsibility that we take on with love and commitment, because this experience left a lasting impression on our lives.

That is what we experienced with the delegation that participated in a session of the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights of the Organization of American States in Costa Rica.

*“I always thought that children’s voices were not heard in decision-making spaces. Through this experience, I realized that these participation spaces not only exist, but that we can also make a difference in them.*

*My participation in this experience changed my perspective. Now, I teach children at the participation multiplier groups that their voices can be heard, and that we must be prepared to fight for our rights, and those of others, whose voices are not heard, for whatever reason”.*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- Through collaboration with the Niñez Ya Foundation, SC CO achieved the inclusion of 100% of the subjects of the childhood policy proposal in the National Development Plan, in addition to mayoral and gubernatorial plans in 25 municipalities. Participation on the part of children and adolescents with ideas and proposals which were developed in consultations, workshops and gatherings with decision-makers was essential.
- SC CO encourages child and adolescent participation in reflections, proposals and visibility of children’s rights especially within the framework of the 30 year anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child at national and international levels, such as the Inter-American Court of Human Rights, the Pan-American Children’s Forum, the National Education Forum, the Regional Children’s Forum, and through dialogue with Congress, among other settings.
- Together with the Alliance for Colombian Childhood, SC CO developed initiatives in favour of children’s rights and their protection, such as the Observatory of Children’s Rights in which children and adolescents participate.
- SC CO advanced the bill on eliminating physical and humiliating punishment by developing forums, seminars and position documents on the subjects of violence against children, sexual abuse and physical and humiliating punishment.
- SC CO supports the advocacy process of the Office of the Ombudsman for the Presidential Resolution Against Statelessness, which has benefited migrants in Colombian territory.

# CAMPAIGNS

100 years ago, the founder of Save the Children, Eglantyne Jebb, challenged the world to put an end to “wars against children”. However, today the number of children who live in conflict zones is growing and their basic rights are being threatened.

The *Stop the War on Children* campaign raises public awareness and social mobilization around a commitment to protect children and adolescents from being affected by armed conflicts in the world.

The armed conflict in Colombia has lasted nearly 60 years, in which children and adolescents have not had a single day in peace. Therefore, efforts must be redoubled to protect children through laws and their enforcement, to guarantee justice against those who violate their rights, and to ensure comprehensive restoration processes that consider not only their physical recovery, but their emotional and psychological recovery as well.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will implement the campaign tool developed by SCI with children as part of the processes developed with children and adolescents.
- SC CO will strengthen the implementation of campaign plans designed and implemented by youth groups at the local level, as they are allies of Save the Children in the Stop the War on Children campaign.
- SC CO will carry out social mobilization efforts with partners, including children, to



facilitates achieve a greater commitment from Colombian society to protect children from the impacts of the armed conflict, and restore their rights where they have been violated.



*“For me, peacebuilding is what each person does to contribute to their community, the way they try to make a difference, make a positive contribution, generate change; not only in their community, but in themselves as well.*

*A few years ago, I started peacebuilding in my territory with the Child, Adolescent and Youth Communication Network of Guapi, who have been trained thanks to our enthusiasm and support from Save the Children. My role is to help children empower themselves by knowing their rights and seeking tools to enforce them.*

*As children, we are the future generation and if we are able to access an education based on values such as peace, we will have a new generation with stronger principles. Children have suffered the most from war; how can we not be included in peacebuilding”?*

*\*Eduardo— Guapi*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO supported the creation of plans for the Stop the War on Children campaign, which were designed by groups of children, adolescents and young people in Tumaco, Guapi, Cali, Buenaventura, Arauca and La Guajira. These included the commemoration of International Red Hand Day (day against the involvement of children in armed conflicts), International Women’s Day, International Youth Day, International Day of Peace, International Day of the Girl Child, and the Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- SC CO launched the study, “Children’s Participation in Peace Agreements”, in Bogotá and Cali, with speakers from the Office of the Ombudsman, the Coalition Against the Involvement of Boys, Girls and Youth in the Armed Conflict (COALICO), Save the Children, and representatives from children’s groups. Other organisations also participated, including the United Nations and the Colombian State.



# CHILDHOOD AND YOUTH PARTICIPATION

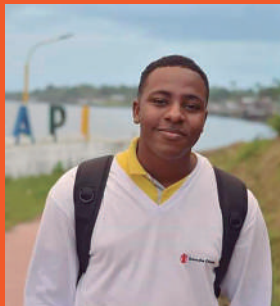
Participation is a right according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the Childhood and Adolescence Code of Colombia.

For Save the Children, children's participation consists of having the opportunity to express their points of view, having them taken into account, and having the chance to make an impact in decision-making settings (home, school, society, State) on those issues that interest and affect them. Participation is demanded as a right; inclusion, non-discrimination and the gender equality approach, enables children, adolescents and young people to have more opportunities and faculties to exercise these rights.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will continue strengthening groups of children, adolescents and young people at the city-level and in the national participation network.
- SC CO will strengthen child and adolescent participation in decision making settings.





*“Being part of the child, adolescent and youth participation processes supported by Save the Children has represented a change in my life; in my way of thinking, in how I see the world,*

*in how I contribute to the change and social transformation that I want to see in the world, and in how I act in myself and with others.*

*Despite having been directly affected by the armed conflict, this process has helped me to not think about my own pain, but overcome it, overcome the resentment that I had with people who hurt my family and I in the conflict, and instead to build peace, because the situation of children’s rights is what hurts me.*

*I have now succeeded in transcending these processes and not only change my life, but also to become an agent of transformation with other children and adolescents in my territory, through my work and that of the grassroots group, the Child, Adolescent and Youth Communication Network of Guapi, with whom we work to transmit messages about peace, children’s rights, hope, and that we can be part of changing our territory and society at large”.*

\* Roberto, leader of the grassroots group: Child, Adolescent and Youth Communication Network of Guapi.

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- 7 workshops were held with 115 children and adolescents in Tumaco, Guapi, Buenaventura and Cali to study and develop a proposal for the policy agenda of the Niñez Ya Foundation for the National Development Plan. They expressed their main concerns regarding the fulfilment of children’s rights and the proposals to be included.
- SC CO supports the consolidation and strengthening of networks of children, adolescents and young people in Buenaventura, Guapi and Tumaco. These networks have consolidated their coordination groups in which 45 adolescents and young people participate and have managed to broaden their scope with the creation of participation groups for 560 children and adolescents.
- SC CO held the Second National Childhood Participation Gathering, in which 60 representatives from different cities participated and developed guidelines to advance the development of the national participation network.
- SC CO strengthened participation processes in actions carried out via humanitarian aid and emergency projects, as a mechanism to improve the exercise of citizenship among children and adolescents.
- SC CO strengthened the participation skills of children, adolescents and young people in decision-making scenarios at the community, municipality, departmental, national and international levels as transformative agents of social change and peacebuilding.

# CHILD RIGHTS GOVERNANCE

SC CO has consolidated its child rights governance strategy, through the development of a positioning plan, toolbox and an operational pathway, and actions for staff and key actors (government, children, private and academic sectors, and civil society organisations). In addition, guidelines were established to help incorporate a child rights governance approach at the program level, in project implementation, and in coordination between areas.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will accompany the process to streamline planning instruments and public policies to help guarantee the rights of children, in alignment with the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the context in each of the country's departments and municipalities, in order to increase investment in actions aimed at guaranteeing and restoring children's rights.
- SC CO will pilot an information system that facilitates monitoring children's rights within the organisation.
- SC CO will strengthen competencies for active participation among both children and adolescents as well as civil society, as advocates of children's rights with assistance from governments.
- SC CO will advance coordinated work between different sectors; public, private, academic and society, in understanding, defending and guaranteeing children's rights.





- SC CO will strengthen staff competences on subjects of child rights governance.



## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO identified public investment in children over the last 4 years in 6 municipalities in the department of Norte de Santander, where the NORAD project operates. This was done to establish a baseline to guide increased public investment in the new planning process.
- SC CO identified the capacity building needs of local authorities to conduct planning processes with a focus on children, and to allocate the corresponding budgetary amounts to carry out actions that guarantee the rights of children.
- SC CO accompanied the development of a strategic plan on business principles and children's rights for three sectors in Colombia: agriculture, extraction and tourism. The plan aims to prevent and eradicate child labour, the commercial sexual exploitation of children and adolescents, and promote decent work for adolescents in the labour market, as well as components in the area of child rights governance.

# FUNDRAISING

The private sector has joined Save the Children by forming synergies that seek to support children in Colombia, have a presence in the most remote sectors, and generate long-lasting social impacts in communities.



SC CO's mission is to unite the efforts of natural and legal persons to support the organisation's programs to mitigate the needs of the communities in which it works, with the goal of reaching every last child in this manner.

## PROJECTIONS

- SC CO will reach the largest number of individual and corporate donors in order to, among other goals, improve education quality and foster childhood participation in the zones most affected by the conflict and the migratory crisis.
- SC CO will work to obtain the necessary resources for the organisation to guarantee access to quality education for all children. All the organisation's actions are aimed at benefiting children and adolescents who, for different socio-economic reasons, have fewer opportunities to access a quality education.



*For me, working at Save the Children is very rewarding; it's something that fills me with pride, satisfaction and great joy, to continue giving my best in everything I do".*

*\* Angélica Serna*

*"In February 2019, the team had the opportunity to travel to Tumaco, to visit the Inda Guacarai indigenous community. Without a doubt it was one of the most beautiful experiences we have had as an organisation.*

*When we arrived to the community, the first thing I noticed was that everyone was very happy, because someone was going to listen to them, and not just continue to ignore them. When they entered the space that had been adapted so that children and adolescents could attend class, the teachers were really happy. They showed all their lessons plans that they would use, taking into account that it was going to be a different type of education, which focused on their cultural roots. They would also be able to teach in a way that the children would really enjoy, so there would no longer be so many school dropouts in their community.*

## ACHIEVEMENTS

- SC CO reinforced its commitment with companies to innovate, reproduce and expand programming, especially for children and adolescents in conditions of extreme vulnerability. Special attention has been given to creating shared-value partnerships with national and international companies, which now include: Procter & Gamble, Colgate, Baker & McKenzie, Laboratorios Smart S.A.S, Gallagher, Novaventa, Fine Research Latinoamerica, BCG, GSK, ADECCO, among others.
- The organisation's donors and partner companies have actively participated in the main athletic races in the country, including: the Bogotá half marathon, the Medellín half marathon, Ironman 70.3 in Cartagena, the Paipa Triathlon, the Allianz 15k, the Bimbo Race, and New Balance Race.
- SC CO's goodwill ambassador and friend, André Tarditi, hosted a charity Christmas dinner at the Trattoria de la Plaza Restaurant, to support Save the Children's programs.





- Alliance for Colombian Childhood
- Niñez YA
- Coalition Against the Involvement of Boys, Girls and Youth in the Armed Conflict (COALICO)
- Collective of Civil Society Organisations for the Monitoring of the SDGs.
- Colombia Institute of Family Welfare (ICBF)
- National Ministry of Education
- High Council for Human Rights
- High Council for Early Childhood Issues
- Ministry of the Post-Conflict Period
- High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
- United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)
- National Training Service (SENA)
- Intersectoral Early Childhood Commission
- Makú Art Workshop
- Artesanías de Colombia
- Unit for the Assistance and Comprehensive Reparation to Victims (UARIV)
- Plan Foundation
- World Vision Colombia
- SOS Children's Villages
- Norwegian Refugee Council
- Jerez & Sandoval
- Éxito Foundation
- Children International

- RedPapaz
- Embassy of Norway
- Embassy of Canada
- Embassy of Spain
- Embassy of Sweden
- Embassy of Argentina
- Geneva Call
- International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)
- National Red Cross
- National Disaster Risk Management Unit
- Pastoral Social
- Education Board for rational emergencies and in the municipalities where the organisation works.
- Protection clusters at the national and local levels in the municipalities where the organisation works.
- Municipal Councils, Governorships, Education Secretariats and Social Wellbeing
- Conectados
- Paz y Bien Foundation
- Mario Mesa
- Camila Martínez
- Manuela Echeverry
- Embassy of the United States
- Netherlands
- IOM
- LAC Office of Save the Children
- Save the Children International
- Embassy of Switzerland in Colombia – Humanitarian Aid and Development (COSUDE)

3Biomat



Baker McKenzie.



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por la niñez colombiana



# CHILD GUARDIAN



## ADRIANA RESTREPO

“For me, Save the Children is a noble cause. During these five years, I have seen (being a child guardian) a source of inspiration day after day, that goes along with the feeling of contributing to the hope for a better future for children in the country. I truly believe that we must do everything in our power so that children and adolescents have a different story to tell than that of their ancestors, because they are the present, and the future.

Sometimes you go to fairs to shop and what we found was a way to actually contribute to the country. The organisation’s staff told me about their mission, vision and the impact that my contributions would have in supporting the most vulnerable children and adolescents in difficult zones in the country due to the armed conflict, poverty, and limited access to education. That’s why I made the decision to get involved and support the organisation to continue doing wonderful and extraordinary things in the country.

I have witnessed the positive change in children’s lives. They may not know me, but seeing the impact that the organisation has on their day-to-day lives, strengthens my confidence and conviction to donate monthly and not worry about the charge on my card. I’ve stopped doing a lot of unnecessary things, but being a child guardian isn’t one of them”.

Adriana Restrepo,  
Child guardian for five years.

## GOODWILL AMBASSADORS AND FRIENDS



### JUAN FERNANDO FONSECA

Save the Children's Goodwill Ambassador has always supported the promotion of art and culture in the communities in which the organisation works.

The SC CO team knows a great deal about his interest in transforming the realities of children and adolescents; he has advanced initiatives in communities to change their realities. Many thanks to Fonseca for his support and for believing in the cause of Save the Children.





## MIK MISH

“I had heard about the organisation since I was in school and have always liked their mission. Currently, I am working on different approaches and strategies to be able to contribute a grain of sand towards the realization of Save the Children’s mission. My goal is to be able to show young people different ways they can help. I want to make a new team of Goodwill Friends committed to helping those with the most needs in our country”.



## MARÍA JOSÉ MARTÍNEZ

“I am firmly convinced that protecting the rights of children and adolescents, as well as preventing unwanted pregnancies, will give the country and the world sufficient tools to escape poverty, reduce inequality and think how we as a society, can be much more empathetic and supportive, committed to the realization of human rights”.



## ALKILADOS

“We joined this cause because we firmly believe that ensuring safe and protective environments for children and adolescents will help us have a fairer country, because as a society, we owe them the most. We consider that the only indicator of progress that really counts is the well-being of our most vulnerable population”.



## MAURICIO BOTERO

“I’m very proud to be part of this family because our agreement is to change the country and move beyond personal interest.

Seeing the work that Save the Children is doing, constantly working, where their teams work; it motivates and drives me to continue working for the country, because not all organisations in Colombia reach the territories that (SC CO) does”.



## CAMILA MARTÍNEZ

“Unquestionably, the value is in what Save the Children has given me as an individual, changing my professional feeling towards a collective thought. This has made it possible for me to offer communication alternatives and solutions to develop partnerships with different brands and people to create non-conventional spaces that connect people with the organisation’s mission in mind”.



## ANDRÉ TARDITI MÉNDEZ

“Children and adolescents offer us an opportunity to change how the world acts and makes decisions. If only we thought more about them, or asked them what they think, we would stop making mistakes, which in the present and the future, take away the possibility of having a better society”.

## Tribute to Alejandro Cuellar, our goodwill ambassador



“One of the most difficult tasks I have had recently was writing this article about my son Alejandro Cuéllar Suárez, following his early passing in Kuala Lumpur, Indonesia, on November 13 last year.

There were many places, towns, villages, and settlements, as wonderful as they were forgotten, that he was able to visit. There were a large number of settlements that progress

and the State had left behind, but had the most authentic and delicious gastronomic traditions, made by wise midwives who still preserve the native flavour of each region.

This story, told as if it were in black and white, was always surrounded by the happiest colours with which Alejandro enjoyed each experience; his enthusiasm, nobility and respectful camaraderie with the locals of every region; his joy, good humour and the total commitment to every activity he carried out in his kitchen.

He carried the pride and responsibility of the dignity that came with being a Save the Children Ambassador on his shoulders. It made him even more committed to his decisive and insistent management to dignify and give the deserved recognition to rural Colombians for their valuable contributions to the richness of special delicacies which, as works of art, are served on the most exclusive and elegant tablecloths in the world.

He was always concerned for the respect of women and children as a vital part of this rural environment, and was dedicated in his management to dignify and consolidate this link in the gastronomic chain, seeking to achieve better opportunities, and thus strengthen the development of this social and human seed that is so important for the good of our society”.

Enrique Cuéllar  
Father of Alejandro.





## NEW BALANCE

New Balance choose Save the Children as the official cause of the Guasca 15K race that was held in November 2019. With this new experience, New Balance was able to provide participants the chance to experience a unique and different race, which broke the mould, off the city's asphalt with an opportunity to help the most vulnerable children through their race registration.



## THE NARIÑO CHALLENGE

“Our main motivation for choosing Save the Children as the official cause for our triathlon was that we are sure that investing in children and adolescents gives the country the possibility of having a generation of people who are much more aware that reducing the gaps of poverty and inequality is not just for discourse, but a necessity that we must all work on”.



One hundred years ago, in 1919, Save the Children's work began, aimed at creating a world where all children and adolescents could survive, access a quality education, and be protected.

Since then, SC has achieved a great deal with many success stories. However, the organisation's work is not done, and it will continue working day in and day out to reach every last child.

Every day, the SC team in Colombia and around world, work to change the lives of children and adolescents in conditions of extreme vulnerability in a meaningful and permanent manner.

Save the Children's logo was projected onto the Colpatria Tower, the most emblematic building in the country, as a sign to Stop the War on Children.





Commemorating the International Day of the Girl Child with art exhibitions in the streets of Bogota, Tumaco and Arauca.



Commemorating the 30 year anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child. Climbing the most famous hill in Bogotá; 1605 steps for children.





One hundred year celebration with the entire SC CO country team; after all, one doesn't turn 100 every day.





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