

USAID/Colombia Regional Integration Strategy

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) supports Colombians' efforts to overcome the internal conflict and lay the foundations for a more stable, peaceful and prosperous Colombia. In order to meet this purpose, USAID/Colombia works in partnership with local governments, civil society, and the private sector to foster a more inclusive and equitable society.

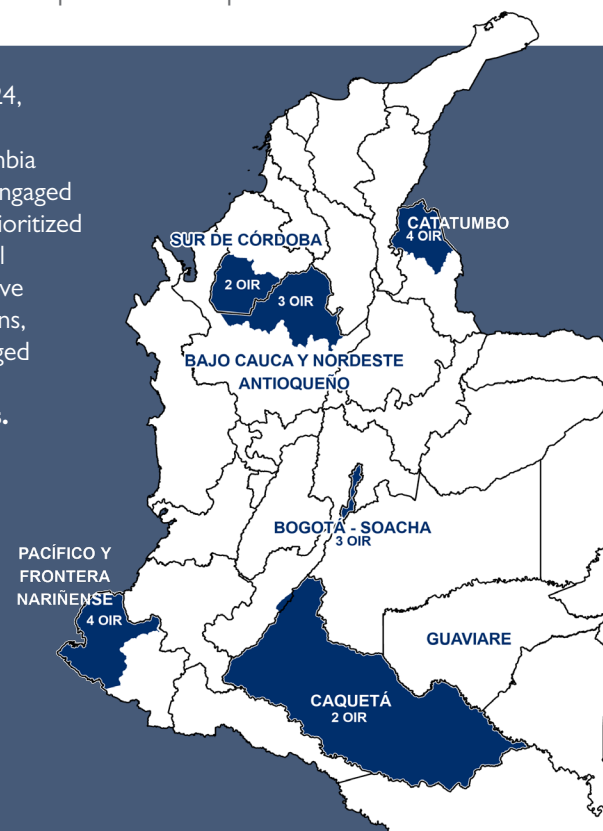
USAID/Colombia Activities, mainly developed in regions affected by the internal conflict, and with a high presence of Afro-colombian and indigenous population, aim to improve their living conditions through institutional capacity building that allows the State to respond more efficiently and transparently to citizens' needs. Likewise, USAID/Colombia promotes licit income opportunities, along with increased access to financial services and supports the implementation of land restitution and rural development in Colombia. Furthermore, USAID supports the Colombian Government's goal to reduce threats to biodiversity and ecosystems, and strengthen environmental governance in order to preserve protected areas and ethnic territories.

In May 2021, USAID/Colombia launched the Regional Integration Strategy (RIS) to deepen the regional impact of its Activities through an increased coordination and collaboration between them and with external stakeholders in prioritized regions. Thus, RIS aims to minimize duplicities and inefficiencies across the Mission's portfolio.

The implementation of the Regional Integration Strategy for each prioritized region begins with the engagement of local actors in the formulation of a Theory of Change (ToC), which represents USAID/Colombia's development vision

for each region, taking the local and regional development plans into account. Subsequently, and based on the regional ToC, key thematic areas (known as Regional Integration Opportunities - OIRs in Spanish) are identified in order to group Mission Activities that share synergies and can complement each other. The OIRs, in turn, become the basis for joint action plans in the implementation of RIS.

As of April 2024, a total of **30** USAID/Colombia Activities are engaged in RIS, in six prioritized regions. A total of **19 OIRs** have joint action plans, and have engaged **170 external stakeholders**.





USAID/Colombia Activities	RIS Regions					
	Bajo Cauca y Nordeste Antioqueño	Caquetá	Catatumbo	Sur de Córdoba	Pacífico y Frontera Nariñense	Bogotá
Sustainable Agriculture	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Equitable Finance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Generating Equity	✓	-	-	-	✓	✓
Responsive Governance	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	-
Weaving Lives and Hopes	✓	-	-	-	-	-
Partners for Transparency	✓	-	-	✓	-	-
Youth Resilience	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	✓
Human Rights For Peace	✓	✓	-	-	✓	-
Inclusive Justice	✓	-	-	✓	✓	-
Land For Prosperity	✓	✓	✓	-	✓	-
Resilient Communities	✓	-	✓	✓	-	-
Golden Land	✓	-	-	-	-	-
Colombia Transforma	✓	-	✓	-	✓	-
Bitter cassava for a sweet milk	✓	-	-	✓	-	-
Integra	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Convivencia y Seguridad Ciudadana	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Colombian Empowerment	-	-	-	-	✓	✓
Together We Learn	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Local Health System Sustainability	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Opportunities without borders	-	-	-	-	-	✓
ReactiveAction	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Restoring Our Future	-	✓	-	-	✓	✓
Strengthening Together	-	-	-	-	-	✓
Safe Steps	-	-	✓	-	-	-
Productive Entrepreneurships For Peace	-	✓	✓	-	-	-
Alianza para los paisajes	-	✓	-	-	-	-
Amazonía Connect	-	✓	-	-	-	-
Amazon Alive	-	✓	-	-	-	-
Destination Nature	-	✓	-	-	✓	-
Cacao For Peace	-	-	-	✓	-	-

In 2024, RIS will expand its scope to include the departments of Chocó and Cauca as prioritized Regions. RIS will also continue to enhance and deepen collaboration among USAID/Colombia Activities and with external stakeholders, including government agencies, academia, civil society organizations, the private sector and other international Donors.