

PROGRAM FOR STRENGTHENING COLOMBIA'S TERRITORIAL PEACE COUNCILS (CONPAZ)

An Initiative of the Catholic Church

The ConPaz Program has been led since 2020 by **FICONPAZ**, an organization of the **Archdiocese of Bogotá** committed to promoting peace.

About the ConPaz Program

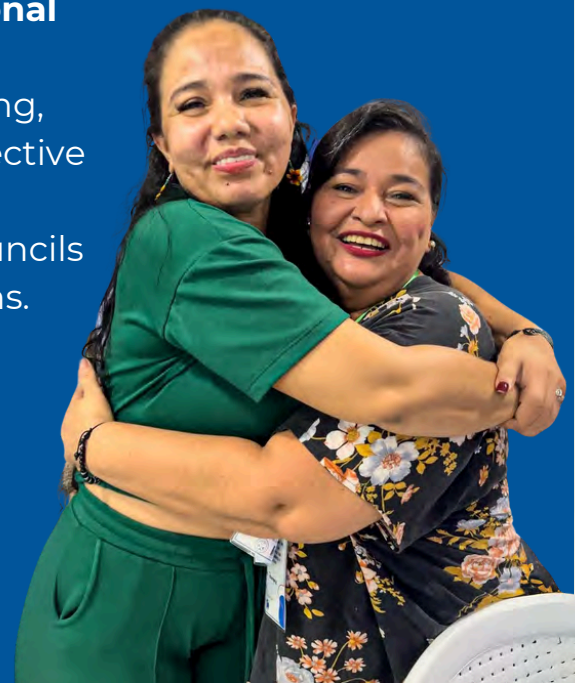
The ConPaz Program—**funded and supported by the Bureau of Conflict and Stabilization Operations (CSO) of the U.S. Department of State**—strengthens the **technical, organizational, and relational capacities of Peace Councils** to foster citizen participation, advocacy, and peacebuilding. Its work emphasizes reconciliation, the rebuilding of the social fabric, and the inclusion of populations at risk due to violence.

Peace Councils: Local Coordination for Peace

Peace Councils are **plural and participatory spaces** that aim to strengthen the **relationship between civil society and local authorities**, promoting coordination and local action to implement peacebuilding policies, improve coexistence, and contribute to the stabilization of territories across the country.

Key Achievements in 2024

- Strengthened more than **100 Peace Councils** across the country.
- Organized **19 regional gatherings** and **one national meeting** of Peace Councils to exchange and systematize successful practices, fostering learning, replication, and common standards for more effective **local peacebuilding efforts**.
- Supported **advocacy** processes led by Peace Councils in the formulation of territorial development plans.
- Expanded and consolidated an **online platform** designed as a **toolbox** to support the capacity-building of Peace Councils:
www.despensadelapazficonpaz.com



Success Story: Women Leading Peace in Algeciras and Chaparral

In the municipalities of Algeciras and Chaparral (Huila), women peace councilors—supported by the ConPaz Program—successfully advocated for the integration of women's rights into the peace chapter of the new local development plans. ConPaz provided technical guidance and facilitated dialogue between the Peace Councils and local authorities, enabling a coordinated effort between peace and women's agendas that resulted in concrete proposals included in the planning process.

Current Presence of the ConPaz Program Across Colombia

