

**Puyo, G. (Ed) (2018). *Cooperation and territorial peace building in Colombia. Analysis from four case studies.* Bogotá: Universidad Nacional de Colombia.**

To analyze the role of the international community's cooperation in four territories in Colombia, and then identify the challenges in an eventual post-agreement scenario.

It establishes debates around post-conflict peace building from a look at the role of international actors; an analysis of USAID's Midas plan in Catatumbo; review of the role of international cooperation in southern Bolívar with the peace laboratory; review of international cooperation in Huila; the international cooperation of the United States Development Agency in Caquetá; and the conclusions.

The role of the international community has been fundamental in supporting, through the cooperation of Governments, cooperation agencies, non-governmental organizations and multilateral organizations that, through multiple programs and agendas, have been installed in the country to support the efforts to transform the realities of the population that has suffered from the conflict in its multiple manifestations. Therefore, it is important the role they play in the different moments of the Colombian conflict, both in the peace processes and in the dynamics of war in the different territories of the country, to establish the mechanisms and contributions to overcome and bring solutions to the most vulnerable populations.

The contributions of external actors, in convergence with the generation of mechanisms for non-violent management of conflicts and meeting scenarios, are multiple: the construction of tools and methodologies of action; the provision of financial resources to develop such scenarios; the implementation of projects, programs, plans and services; the technical assistance required for actions; monitoring the implementation and compliance with agreements and ensuring the proactive intervention of local actors in such peace building programs.

The Midas Plan, part of Plan Colombia, sought to eradicate illegal crops under two strategies: on the one hand, the elimination of illicit crops through aerial spraying of glyphosate and, on the other hand, the substitution of illicit crops through development alternatives linked mainly to wax palm and cocoa tree, on the basis of which it sought to build solid economic circuits in the region.

The strength of international cooperation in the regions of armed conflict is the participation of social organizations, the strengthening of exchanges and the construction of spaces for dialogue and the lessons learned in terms of establishing alliances, negotiating skills and overcoming mistrust. On the other hand, it identifies the weakness of the loss of autonomy of social organizations in decision-making on the development in their territories and the dependence on international cooperation resources for their actions.