



# Field monitoring and evaluation of international development cooperation projects funded by the Generalitat Valenciana to NGDO in Colombia

CMAYOR/2024/12Y03/0001 Lot 1

## Executive Summary:

Sub directorate General for International Development Cooperation,  
Directorate General for Inclusion and Development Cooperation, First  
Vice Presidency and Regional Ministry of Social Services, Equality, and  
Housing

## Prepared by:

Periferia Consultoría Social

## 1. Purpose and scope of the evaluation

The evaluation aimed to generate strategic and operational lessons learned from the analysis of ten interventions funded by the Generalitat Valenciana in Colombia during 2022 and 2023. Both the results of each project and the common structural elements were analyzed, with an emphasis on the pillars of people, prosperity, and peace outlined in the V Plan director's 2021-2024 vision. The selected projects represent geographical diversity (across ten departments and Bogotá D.C.), sectoral diversity (encompassing government and civil society, gender, agriculture, peace, and security), and strategic diversity, prioritizing areas affected by armed conflict, inequality, and institutional weakness.

## 2. Object of evaluation

The object consisted of ten projects implemented by NGOs with a total budget ranging from €69,977 to €899,935 per project, in sectors such as conflict prevention, reproductive health, democratic participation, agricultural research, education, and social services. Selection criteria focused on their thematic and strategic representativeness within Valencian cooperation in the country.

## 3. Methodology

The evaluation consisted of seven phases, ranging from desk research and comparison workshops to five weeks of fieldwork and final socialization. An evaluation matrix was used based on criteria of internal and external coherence, effectiveness, efficiency, coverage, participation, sustainability, and cross-cutting approaches. The process involved the use of various techniques, including documentary analysis, 79 individual interviews, 60 group interviews, 20 observation visits, and 11 participatory workshops, with the participation of 280 people (43% responsibility holders, 48% rights holders, and 8% obligation holders).

## 4. Valencian Cooperation in Colombia (2021-2024).

Between 2021 and 2024, 40 projects in Colombia received funding from Valencian cooperation, with annual amounts ranging from €3.6 million to €4.9 million, representing approximately 10% of the Official Development Assistance (ODA) for each call for proposals. Colombia consistently ranks among the top three recipient countries of Valencian Cooperation, after Bolivia and Peru. The lines of action included peacebuilding, human rights, economic autonomy (especially for migrants and refugees), strengthening organizational capacities, and vocational training.

## 5. Analysis of the incorporation of cross-cutting approaches

- **Gender:** Present in all projects, focusing on women and violence prevention but without addressing the power relations that sustain inequality or linking consistently with the thematic areas of each intervention.

- **Environment:** Weak, lacking concrete strategies for impact mitigation and sustainability that are adapted to the local context.
- **Childhood:** Limited to logistical care services for mothers; no methodological tools or visibility of children's rights.
- **Interculturality:** Variable; systematically applied in projects with indigenous or Afro-descendant populations but absent in urban and mobility areas.
- **Culture of peace:** Developed in conflict contexts, with peaceful resolution activities and protection of defenders; implicit in projects without a strong link to violence.
- **Functional diversity:** Almost non-existent, with no specific adaptations or participation mechanisms.

## 6. Conclusions and Lessons Learned

### **Strengths:**

- High territorial relevance and contextualization of interventions.
- Significant social participation and quality in the provision of care conditions.
- Territorial integration and community roots as a factor of sustainability.
- Financial efficiency and administrative transparency.
- Organizational strengthening of local partners.
- Recognition of Comunitat Valenciana as a committed funder.

### **Key areas for improvement:**

- More precise targeting of the beneficiary population based on territorial diagnoses.
- Robust and sustained institutional coordination to address the State's structural weaknesses.
- System of indicators with greater emphasis on results and qualitative impacts.
- Budget planning covers administrative and technical monitoring resources.
- Visibility and systematization of methodological innovations.
- Balance between administrative monitoring and training support by the requesting entities.
- Equitable incorporation of all cross-cutting approaches.
- Improvement of transnational administrative processes for operational agility.
- Coordination among territorial projects to foster complementarity and enhance efficiency.

## 7. Recommendations

### **For the implementing organizations:**

- Deepen sectoral analysis of cross-cutting approaches and translate them into viable strategies.
- Strengthen articulation with public entities through inter-institutional roundtables and training of officials.
- Document and share methodological innovations in open repositories.
- Invest in training to formulate qualitative indicators and intermediate goals.

- Conduct contextual risk analysis from the design phase.
- Adjust the intervention logic to enhance operational clarity and facilitate follow-up.
- Establish financial transfer schemes according to the duration of the projects.

#### ***For the Generalitat Valenciana***

- Select interventions for field monitoring and evaluation in collaboration with the organizations implementing projects in the country.
- Create a georeferenced database of financed projects and promote technical meetings with implementing organizations.
- Strengthen technical dialogue and flexible accompaniment during implementation.
- Expand the cooperation with the VISOR on evaluation reports and best practices.
- Maintain consolidated strategic lines in peace, human rights, and gender.
- Promote a strategic line of support for projects linked to ongoing social processes due to their greater relevance, sustainability, and transformative capacity.
- Reassess administrative processes and acknowledge the validity of Colombian e-invoicing systems.

## Conclusion

The cooperation of the Generalitat Valenciana in Colombia has demonstrated relevance, technical quality, and sustained financial commitment, focusing on peacebuilding, human rights, and women's empowerment. To consolidate and scale up its achievements, it is essential to strengthen the focus, institutional articulation, systematization of learning, inclusion of all cross-cutting approaches, and administrative efficiency in both executors and funders.