

National Commission for Reparation and Reconciliation



*“¿ Is it possible to talk about reconciliation
in Colombia?
Comprehensive reparation as a way to
achieve reconciliation*

Colombia: A Society Longing for Reconciliation

- Reconciliation is a process...
- Without actors involved, there can be no process!!!
- Who are those actors and what can they accomplish?
- Reparation, Historical Memory, Justice...all of this is a way of approaching the **past** in a different way...
- Guarantees of non repetition means breaking with the dynamics of the past and carrying on with the future...
- ... And reconciliation means building a shared and common future...

With what Tools?

- Starting from transitional justice (T,J,R, GNR, etc.).
 - With the tools of the rule of law
 - From a culture of human rights.
 - With methodological pluralism and a differential approach.
 - Do it from the territories or the local-community.
 - Work next to / with the citizens .

Let's learn ¿what is not Reconciliation?

- It's not just laying down weapons/arms disarmament
- It's not just a result
- It's not restricted to a victim and perpetrator relation
- It's not exclusively an individual effort
- It's not “kisses and hugs” between adversaries

Meanings of Reconciliation (progressive concept)



RECONCILIATION

“Reconciliation is a goal and a long term process. It is a process involving people and societies, focused on building an environment of peaceful coexistence based on the restoration of relationships of trust between citizens and the State, as well as amongst citizens. It also includes establishing the bases of democracy with participation of the institutions and civil society”.

Some hypotheses....



SOME HYPOTHESES



“Reconciliation is a process that must link different sectors and transform itself into a public policy, to favor conditions for peace”.

SOME HYPOTHESES:

"In Colombia, reconciliation activities are possible even in the middle of the conflict, as an alternative for finding peace."



SOME HYPOTHESES

“Reconciliation is not opposed to the guarantee of the rights of the victims. On the contrary, truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non repetition are **BASIC PRINCIPLES** for the reconciliation process.”

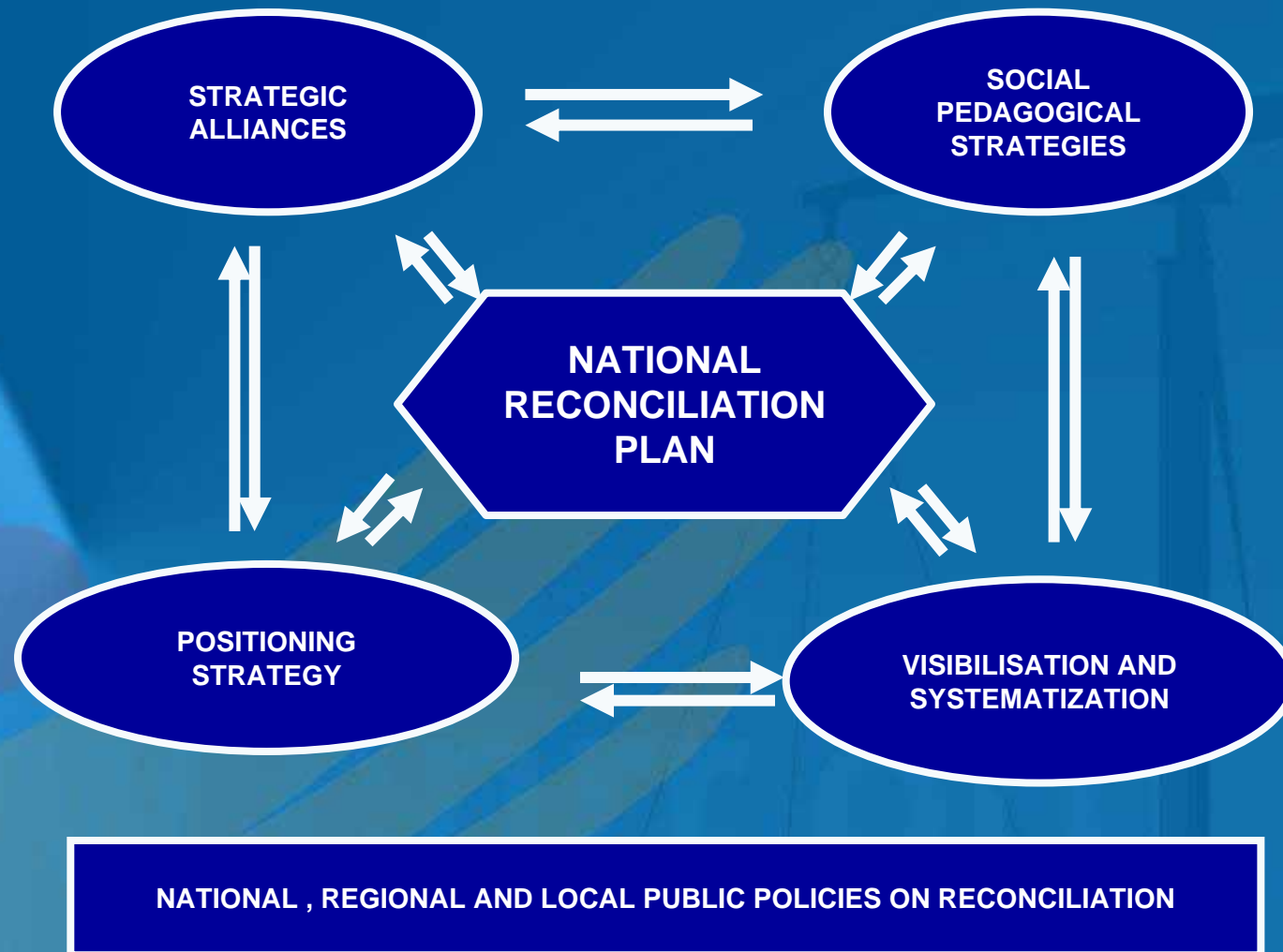


SOME HYPOTHESES:

“A public policy on reconciliation must include the characteristic features of regional contexts, and respect a differential approach”.



Reconciliation: a management model for the CNRR



STRATEGIC ALLIANCES



Specific populations



Perpetrators



Victims



National and local institutions

Actors of the Reconciliation



Businessmen



Mass media



Civil society

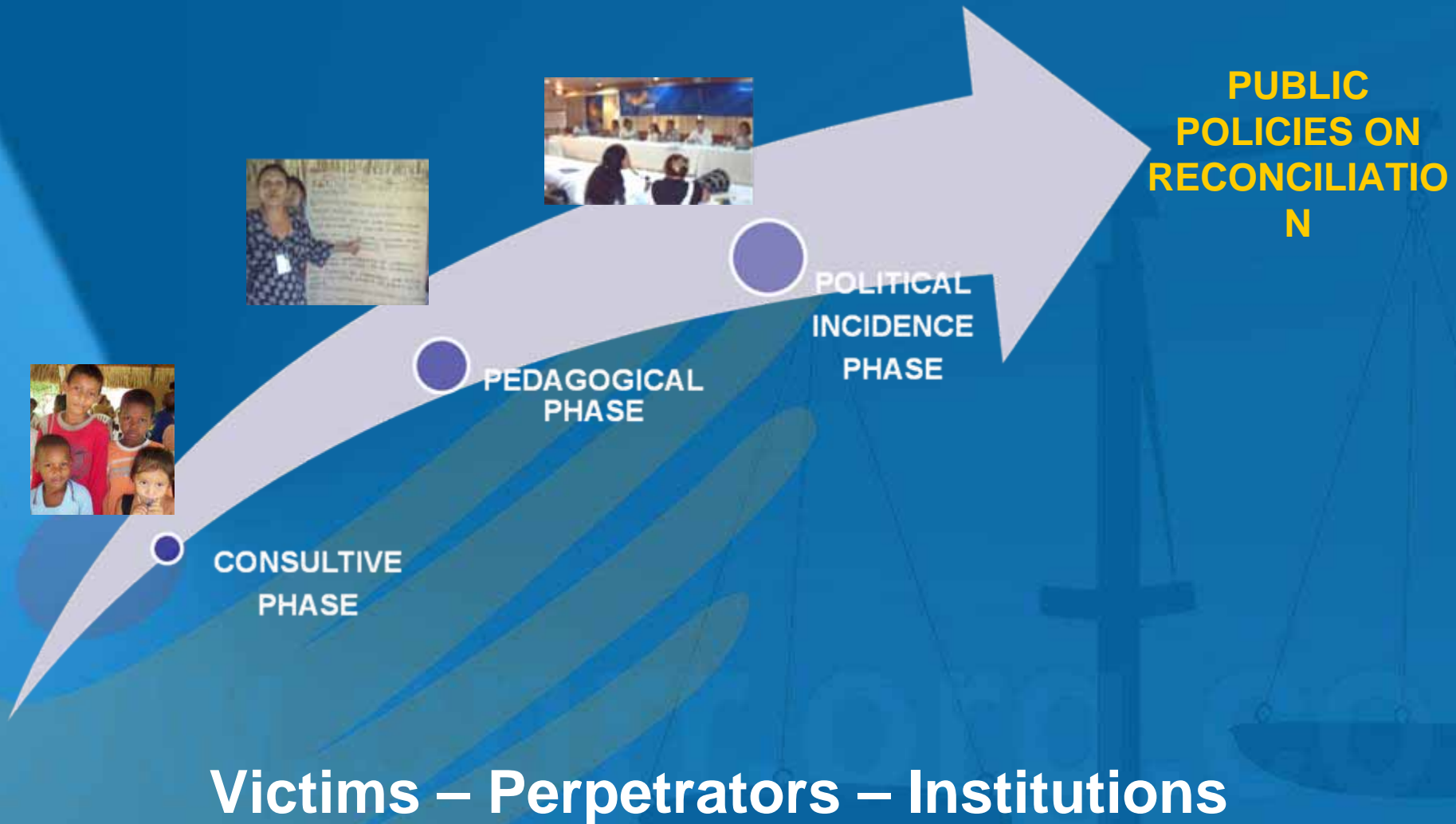


Public force

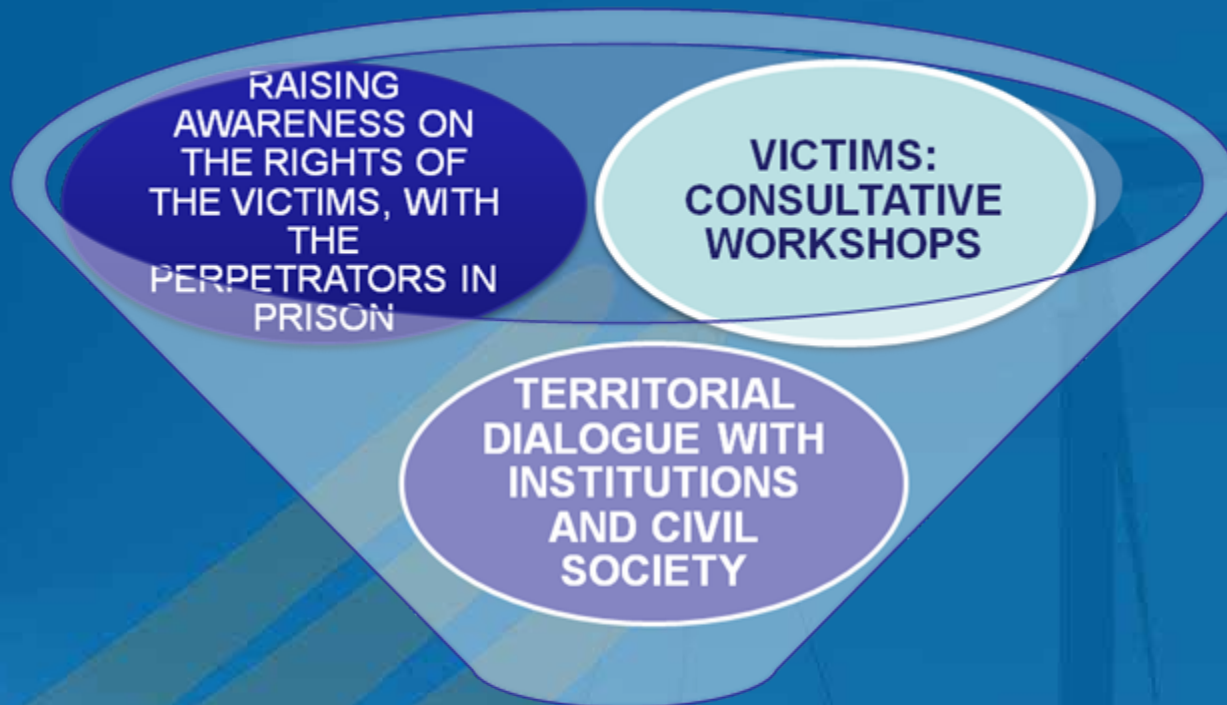


Church

SOCIAL PEDAGOGICAL STRATEGIES



SOCIAL PEDAGOGICAL STRATEGIES



PUBLIC POLICIES ON RECONCILIATION

Social pedagogy on reconciliation

- *¿If I haven't fought with anybody, who am I going to reconcile with?*
- *¿I don't even know who my aggressor was, how should I reconcile?*
- *¿If I have never been conciliated, how am I going to reconcile?*
- *¿How do I reconcile if there is still no real repentance and I am still being attacked?*

With victims: *consultative workshops on collective visions on reconciliation*



FORGIVENESS

Some victims think they must forgive, and others set high standards to forgive their aggressor .

Dialogue and willpower

Reconciliation: a process with different actors

Guarantees of non repetition

The main element identified by the victims



“Conflict is like a bullfight because not everyone enjoys that bull gets killed (demobilized AUC member)

In conflict, some enjoy to kill Pedro Pérez while others suffer because Pedro Pérez got killed “ (demobilized AUC member)

VICTIMS

"We want to know what the victimizers think, the reason to so much violence."

"The state must assume its responsibility in the conflict."

FORMER COMBATANTS

"This society can not stand the truth that we have to tell"

"The civilian population is losing forever. The AUC and the State are responsible "

TRUTH

"The difference between the guerrillas and the AUC is the boss "(demobilized AUC member)

NRR

JUSTICE

VICTIMS

"5 years is not a sentence for a person who massacred and raped women"

"Judges need to know our reality, we should all be informed"

FORMER COMBATANTS

"When will the prosecutor investigate all the facts confessed?."

"It's very important that we know the judicial process and that the rules are clear"

"Before killing my son, they should have made sure if he was a guerrilla member or not (Victim)"

REPARATION

VICTIMS

"We will not forgive unless we first receive reparation"

"We need to sensitize officials"

FORMER COMBATANTS

"If I have no property or money, how can I provide reparation?"

"I already met some of my victims and negotiated with them what they wanted as reparation"

Challenges: Direct reparations, restoration of property and land, collective reparations.

"Drug trafficking is a fuel for the war, the guerrillas used it and so did we" (demobilized AUC member)

VICTIMS

"That the victimizers stop committing crimes while in prison"

"If you don't feel safe and secure, you do not dare to denounce."

FORMER COMBATANTS

"The day I get my freedom, that will be the day in when I'm no longer a paramilitary"

"It is no secret that emerging bands have demobilized paramilitaries among them, but families of victims are also part of the ranks... there is a bigger problem out there"

**GUARANTEES OF NON
REPETITION**

REPARATION AND RECONCILIATION

Comprehensive reparation



Measures aimed at cultural transformation, restoring confidence in the institutions, citizenship

Land and property restitution



Reconstruction of life project, relationship to land, trust and coexistence.

Collective reparations



Rebuilding the social tissue of communities, promoting a culture of peace and social development

Territorial Dialogues on Reconciliation with Institutions

Ignorance of the Justice and Peace process and on how to address the topic of reconciliation.

Lack of interinstitutional cooperation.

Lack of monitoring and follow-up mechanisms.

Victims perceived as a problem.

Larger sensitization of civil society actors.



CHALLENGES

- Integrate the approach of reconciliation in the process of reparation (in the different bills presented to Congress)
- Promote a real commitment of institutional, social, political and economic actors both regional and national .
- Positioning of national and local government agendas to promote conditions for reconciliation through public policy.

CHALLENGES

- Implementation of social pedagogy of reconciliation as a State strategy.
- National implementation of the model of reintegration and reconciliation in communities (demobilized + victims + other actors)
- Strengthening communities that promote reconciliation and peace.

