


CHILE




REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN CHILE
455,494



PEOPLE TARGETED IN 2020*
254,000

FUNDING SITUATION**

FUNDED: 13%
REQUIREMENT: 35,090,000



Situation

In May, 668 Venezuelans gathered outside the Venezuelan Embassy in Santiago de Chile to request their Government's assistance with a humanitarian return flight, enduring increasingly cold and harsh weather conditions. Two COVID-19 cases were detected among the group and isolated in 'sanitary shelters', where they have received treatment. The Government introduced an affidavit, requesting refugees and migrants of all nationalities to sign should they benefit from a humanitarian return flight to their country of origin. The affidavit imposes a nine year entry ban to Chile. Following several interventions of Platform members and other civil society organizations, the Government is now considering revising the affidavit.

The number of COVID-19 cases continued to rise throughout the month of May, with a total of 99,688 infections identified and 1,054 COVID-19 related deaths registered to date. The entire Gran Metropolitana region was placed under strict quarantine as of early May. Municipalities, including Santiago, Estación Central and La Pintana are struggling with an increase in requests for assistance regarding evictions, defaults in rent payments and the need for urgent basic assistance.

The Government's Emergency Response Plan, announced on 20 April 2020, was expanded in May to include an emergency income plan for families impacted by loss of employment due to COVID-19 as well as the distribution of over 2 million food baskets as part of the "Food for Chile" plan. **Undocumented refugees and migrants and their children** are currently unable to benefit from these assistance programmes, but R4V partners are advocating for their inclusion.

The **Government of Chile assumed the Pro Tempore presidency of the Quito Process on 27 May 2020**, taking over from the Government of Colombia. During the handover, the new Presidency underscored Chile's role as a **destination country** and the need to support greater socio-economic inclusion of refugees and migrants.

Response

R4V partners assisted the group of Venezuelans gathered outside their embassy with basic humanitarian aid – including access to medical care, temporary shelter and hygiene items, especially given the stark drop in temperatures.

Throughout the month, partners provided cash-based assistance to 147 **persons**, providing access to basic goods and covering rent payments. In addition, emergency assistance was provided to **791 households**, addressing immediate food, NFI and hygiene needs.

Dedicated medical assistance was provided in refugee and migrant shelters in Santiago and Arica to address potential symptoms of the virus as early as possible and ensure the necessary sanitary conditions are in place to prevent a potential spread. Partners also provided a prevention training to Venezuelan refugee and migrant groups to mitigate contagion during self-organized aid distributions. **165 persons** were also assisted in accessing the EUNACOM exam, allowing them to convert their medical professional certification, to enable them to join the healthcare workforce in Chile.

In coordination with the Ministry of Health, the Health Sector developed an information campaign in Spanish and Haitian


Creole, broadcasted on social media to promote relevant medical services while increasing prevention and control of COVID-19 in densely populated areas.



Food and hygiene kits delivering in the Municipality of Lo Prado. With respect to coordination, **two Activity Info trainings were held** to assist R4V partners and highlight the importance of reporting on their activities. **In the UNCT meeting, the Platform discussed** the background of **the UN's response to COVID-19**. Bilateral meetings were held between the Coordination team and each sector.




PEOPLE REACHED*




Integration
892



NFI
45




Food Security
746



CBI
147



Protection
1.652



Shelter
259