## **CHILE**



**PEOPLE REACHED IN 2020\*** 22,320



RZS

**FUNDING SITUATION\*\*** FUNDED: 10 M REQUIREMENT: 35,9 M

## Situation

- In the border regions of Chile, the authorities continued to report a steady increase in irregular entries of refugees and migrants, mostly Venezuelans coming from Peru and Bolivia. According to data from the Investigation Police (PDI) between January and August 2020, 5,144 irregular entries were registered, out of which 2,969 were Venezuelans. In Chilean northern highlands, where people are detected by the police or turned themselves to the authorities, they are taken to a health residence in the nearest city to comply with guarantine measures (according to the sanitary protocol). This situation has received ample media and social coverage specially during the last weeks of September, generating a surge in discriminatory public speeches.
- The Government of Chile as the Pro-Tempore Presidency conducted the Quito Process through a very thorough agenda with ٠ ten technical workshops as part of the preparation for the VI Round, which was held in virtual mode on 23 and 24 September, with a plenary session and side events that counted with the participation of 1,200 people.
- During September the Senate approved the new Migration Bill and sent it for further discussion to the Chamber of • Deputies. Amongst the most controversial provisions' discussions was the extraordinary regularization of migrants who arrived before 1 September 2019, who, if the Bill is approved as such, will be able to regulate their migratory status within 6 months after the adoption of the Law. If the Bill is rejected by the Chamber of Deputies, a Mixed Commission must be constituted for its further discussion.

## Response

- R4V partners have continued to deliver humanitarian aid to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, especially groups with children and adolescents, in Arica y Parinacota and Tarapaca Regions, as the situation of those who are crossing by foot ("los caminantes") through routes with inhospitable conditions is of particular concern. R4V partners assessed the context and provided humanitarian assistance and orientation on sanitary controls and local measures regarding COVID-19.
- This month, some 1,973 people have been reached with protection assistance, 241 food kits were distributed, and 101 people were supported with cash-based interventions, enabling refugees and migrants to access basic goods and cover their rent payments.
- Efforts to improve the coordination among R4V Support Spaces and enhance the range of services provided is on-going. Partners are developing a joint action plan and considering expanding the current services to enhance the economic inclusion of refugees and migrants. This is becoming more relevant in the context of the current unemployment rate of 12 per cent and the prognosis of a COVID-19 resurgence that will reactivate lockdown restrictions.
- The National Platform together with the Sector leads coordinated the preparation of the RMRP Plan for 2021, this included several training and working sessions related with the activities of new and current partners.



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