🖾 June 2020

## **Southern Cone**



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME FORM OF ASSISTANCE\* 13,104



5 FUNDN

FUNDNG SITUATION\*\* FUNDED: 6,272,674 REQUIREMENT: 34,103,534

## Situation

- COVID-19 self-isolation measures were extended and tightened in most of the sub-region, with Argentina and Bolivia taking a step back in the relaxation of measures in main urban centres, where most cases have been reported.
- The humanitarian impact of the pandemic on refugees and migrants from Venezuela continued to be tough and disproportionate, as they continue with no means to reengage in their income and livelihoods activities. Many continue lacking shelter, food and money to pay for their basic needs, while others are confronted with homelessness.
- Border closures were maintained in the four countries. Nevertheless, Argentinian and Paraguayan authorities are considering exceptions to the closure of borders for people in need of international protection, as already done by Uruguay. The Bolivian National Commission for Refugees (CONARE) met in June and recognized 50 Venezuelan as refugees. In Paraguay, so far in 2020, 670 new asylum applications have been received from Venezuelans.



Venezuelan woman receiving food assistance in Encarnación, Paraguay © IOM/ 2020

• An increase in xenophobic expressions and discrimination were reported in Chuy, Uruguay since the first positive COVID-19 case among foreigners was diagnosed. Local and departmental authorities have implemented health controls for refugees and migrants who arrive from Brazil. Faced with possible positive cases, the aim is to establish a shelter that allows isolation.

Response\*\*\*

ARGENTINA: 100% Diversidad, ADRA, Alianza por Venezuela, ASOVEN, CAREF, FCCAM, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, PROVEAR, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR.

BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, Pastoral de Movilidad Humana, Red Cross Bolivia, Scalabrini Foundation, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision. PARAGUAY: IOM, Semillas para la Democracia, UNFPA, UNHCR.

URUGUAY: ADRA, El Paso, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, Manos Veneguayas, SEDHU, UNHCR, UruVene.

- Assistance provided by partners continued to be focused on shelter solutions, NFIs (especially medicines and hygiene and <u>winter clothes kits</u>), food assistance and cash-based interventions to cover the needs of the most vulnerable refugees and migrants from Venezuela.
- Primary health care assistance as well as interventions targeting children's education and birth registrations were carried out in Bolivia as well as psychosocial support and integration activities in Paraguay and Uruguay, where quarantine measures have been relaxed.
- In Uruguay and Paraguay, partners resumed more actively activities aiming at the the socio-economic integration of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, including microentrepreneurship support, workshops and dissemination of job vacancies.
- Partners provided social-legal advice to refugees and migrants on access to asylum and regularization procedures and documentation in the four countries.

Partners in Uruguay also supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for the regularization of 53 Venezuelans.

- Partners continue to provide age and gender-sensitive assistance, with 42 per cent of beneficiaries being women and 20 per cent children. In this regard, assitance has been provided for GBV survivors, unaccompanied minors and LGBTI refugees and migrants.
- In Argentina partners developed <u>antidiscrimination</u> <u>audiovisual pieces</u> for social media. <u>Messages with</u> <u>information on risks to return to Venezuela</u> under current conditions were also reinforced.
- This month, 60 per cent of the activities implemented by partners were related to COVID-19, among these, partners supported governments with the reinforcement and establishment of emergency health care facilities (including medical supplies) and shelter where refugees and migrants can comply with the self-isolation measures.

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	Food Security	Hum. Transp.	Health	Education	Integration	NFI	Protection	Shelter	CBI
PEOPLE REACHED*	11,486	30	655	55	270	11,584	3,637	1,345	1,693

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\*From 01/06/2020 until 30/06/2020 | \*\*Source: FTS Website | \*\*\*The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report, and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.