









## **SITUATION**

Guyana's land borders, including the border with Venezuela, have been officially closed since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Biometric registration, which was undertaken by the Government of Guyana between October 2019 and February 2020, remains suspended. Regardless, refugees and migrants from Venezuela continue to enter irregularly via waterways, and are exposed to risks of trafficking, abuse, and exploitation. While the government grants renewable three-month stay permits to Venezuelans upon arrival in the country, these permits do not allow access to the formal labour market, limiting employment opportunities.

The pandemic has disproportionately affected refugees and migrants in Guyana, leaving them with limited livelihood options, prompting evictions and discrimination and increasing their need for emergency assistance. Whilst the government launched a series of social support programs for vulnerable communities, including refugees and migrants, limited capacity and language barriers limit their access to these programmes and public services, such as education—and health. A digital divide in both equipment and capacity, which disproportionately impacts indigenous communities in remote border areas which also host Venezuelans, makes it difficult for refugee and migrant children to adapt to virtual learning and use educational resources made publicly available. Additional common protection concerns include the risk of GBV, sexual and labour exploitation and abuse, lack of livelihoods opportunities, and the lack of safe and dignified shelter, particularly in hinterland areas and for GBV survivors and victims of trafficking. Limited livelihoods and income-generation alternatives continue to pose major challenges for integration, particularly of indigenous communities, and has forced vulnerable groups - such as at-risk women - to resort to negative coping mechanisms, including survival sex.

## **RESPONSE PRIORITIES**

- Improve access to essential services, protection, and assistance for vulnerable refugees and migrants, especially survivors of gender-based violence and human trafficking, by building capacity of service providers and strengthening response mechanisms and case management.
- Provide and improve safe and dignified access to food and nutrition, essential non-food items, emergency shelter, hygiene items, potable water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) infrastructure and services.
- Promote social and economic inclusion and support access to formal livelihood opportunities for refugees and migrants from Venezuela, Guyanese returnees and their host communities.

  Ensure access to quality, inclusive education for school-aged refugee and migrant children from Venezuela, Guyanese returnees, and indigenous communities.

Hinterland communities and indigenous populations are also affected by higher consumer prices and limited availability of food items - a situation aggravated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Moreover, due to school closures, many children lost access to school meal programmes, and segments of the refugee and migrant population are experiencing acute food insecurity. Additionally, access to safe, potable water and sanitation pose challenges, particularly in hinterland areas and for indigenous communities.

## NUMBER OF ORGANIZATIONS AND FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS BY ORGANIZATION TYPE

	International NGO	National NGO / CSO	Others <sup>‡</sup>	UN Agencies	‡ Others include the Red Cross Movement, civil society, academia and faith based organizations. The list of organizations and RMRP partners only includes	
Financial requirements	7.13%	1.11%	-	91.76%	<ul> <li>appealing organizations under the RMRP.</li> <li>Many on these organizations collaborate with implementing partners to carry out RMRP acvivities.</li> </ul>	
Organizations	1	1	_	6		
Appealing partners	HIAS, ILO, IO					

## POPULATION IN NEED AND TARGET, FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS AND NUMBER OF PARTNERS BY SECTOR

	Sector	People in need (PiN)*	■ Targeted ■ In need	People targeted*	Financial requirements (USD)	Partners
	Education	14.8 K		2.2 K	1.52 M	4
333	Food security	18.1 K		2.5 K	300 K	2
\$	Health	14.5 K		4.1 K	189 K	3
	Humanitarian Transportation	13.0 K		80	207 K	2
	Integration	23.5 K	•	2.0 K	2.34 M	6
Ö	Nutrition	10.1 K		400	100 K	1
*	Protection**	26.0 K		13.6 K	1.00 M	4
	Child protection	6.5 K		975	680.1 K	3
Ť	Gender Based Violence (GBV)	9.4 K		5.2 K	1.24 M	6
4	Human Trafficking & Smuggling	6.5 K	-	-	25 K	1
Î	Shelter	17.0 K	_	2.3 K	1.76 M	2
<b>—</b>	WASH	15.9 K		4.45 K	470 K	3
	Multipurpose Cash Assistance	-	-	1.1 K	377.2 K	3
7° K	Common services***	-	-	-	351 K	1

<sup>\*</sup> Figures for refugees and migrants in-transit to other countries are not included in the totals as they can be - by definition- recipients of services in more than one country. However, the total budget and sector specific requirements include activities targeting this population group, including as refugees and migrants in-transit will have specific needs to be adressed.

<sup>\*\*</sup> This includes Support Spaces

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