

# Guyana

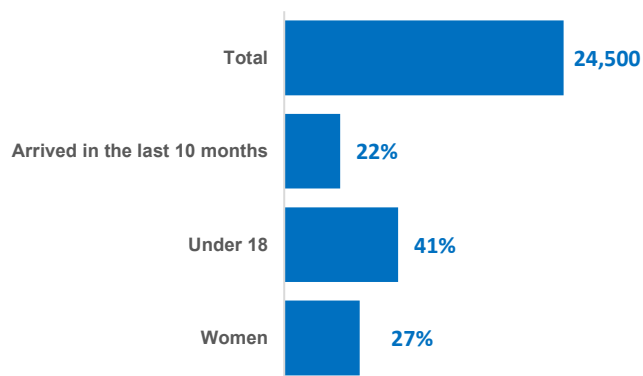
January - February 2022

Guyana hosts an estimated **24,500 Venezuelan refugees and migrants** in 2022, as well as a small number of refugees of other nationalities, mainly Cubans.

Between January and February 2022, UNHCR observed the **arrival** of an **average of 50 individuals** per month at the monitored border entry points in Regions 1 and 2, including Venezuelan Waraos.

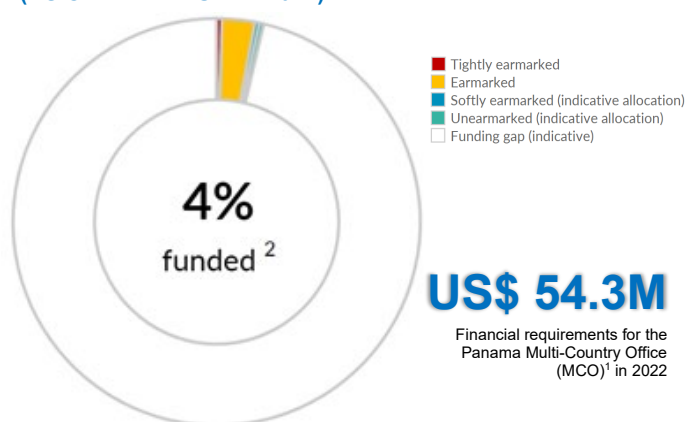
Venezuelans are issued with a **Government stay permit** upon arrival, which is valid for **three months** and requires **periodic renewal**.

## Population of concern\*



\* Source: UNHCR internal estimates, as of 28 February 2022

## STATE OF PLAY: FUNDING RECEIVED VS. FUNDING NEEDS (AS OF 22 FEBRUARY 2022)



<sup>1</sup> The financial requirements for the Panama MCO include requirements for the Coronavirus Emergency and the Venezuela Situation. **Guyana** is part of the **Panama Multi-Country Office** in 2021 along with Panama, Nicaragua, Belize, Cuba and the Southern Caribbean.

<sup>2</sup> The percentage funded includes indicative allocations of softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions.

## CONTEXT

The COVID-19 pandemic continued with **increased infections** in the first months of 2022, reaching **the highest rates** since the outbreak of the health crisis. Between January and February, **UNHCR delivered humanitarian aid**, including food kits and sanitary items, and provided **interpretation support** and **legal counseling** to facilitate access to Government services for the persons of concern.

**Gender-based violence (GBV)** remains an important **concern**, particularly for **Venezuelan refugees and migrants – mainly women** – who have been **victims of trafficking** and/or engage in **survival sex**.

UNHCR continues to support the Government of Guyana in the delivery of assistance and protection to vulnerable refugees and migrants (including women, children, and survivors of GBV) and to vulnerable local communities, while working in coordination with partners under the **R4V Inter Agency Response Platform**.

## Children attend community-based ESL class in Khan Hill



*Seeking to promote and strengthen local integration, UNHCR delivers community-based English as a Second Language (ESL) classes to out-of-school Warao and Spanish speaking children in Khan Hill (Region 1).*


## UNHCR Response and Strategy


UNHCR works with four partners in Guyana and supports the State in the delivery of assistance and protection to vulnerable refugees, migrants, and asylum-seekers. UNHCR also works in coordination with other partners under the R4V Platform to provide responses on education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and cash assistance, among others. [See the R4V Subregional portal](#) for more information.


## Main Activities


Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, development actors, and UN Agencies, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:


 **Protection** | UNHCR provided [information on access to protection and services](#) to [1,513 persons](#) via two-way communication mechanisms.


 **Gender-based Violence** | UNHCR through HIAS implemented actions for response and prevention of Gender-based Violence (GBV). In remote mining areas, community mobilizers reached [43 persons](#) with [GBV prevention messaging and counselling](#) on rights, services and referral pathways; [case management services](#) were provided to [9 GBV survivors](#) by HIAS. Additionally, UNHCR through Blossom Inc. supported [15 children GBV survivors](#) with [trauma focused therapy](#).

 **Child Protection** | UNHCR through Blossom Inc. conducted [11 forensic interviews](#) with [Venezuelan and Guyanese children](#) who survived sexual abuse and provided [case management services](#) to [3 Venezuelan children](#).

 **Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)** | UNHCR donated [325 bars of soap](#) to [82 households](#) and [87 jerry cans](#) for storing water to [vulnerable communities in Region 1, 2, 4 and 9](#). UNHCR also donated [WASH supplies and hand sanitizers](#) to ensure the safe operation of the English as a Second Language (ESL) community classes. Additionally, UNHCR delivered [hygiene kits](#) to approximately [220 people](#).

 **Cash-based Interventions and In-kind Assistance** | UNHCR through HIAS distributed [multipurpose cash and material support](#) to [17 people](#). Moreover, UNHCR distributed [food kits](#) to approximately [291 people](#) in Regions 1, 2, and 4 and donated an additional of [40 food kits](#) to the Neighborhood Democratic Council in Port Kaituma for a [joint distribution](#) at the indigenous [community of Anabisi](#), benefiting approximately [72 households](#).

 **Health** | UNHCR distributed [646 face masks](#) to [82 households](#) to help prevent the spread of COVID-19 in vulnerable communities in Region 1.

 **Education** | UNHCR supported [180 out-of-school children](#) with [ESL classes](#) in four indigenous communities in Region 1. Each of the children was provided with [PPE items](#), as well as [learning materials](#) and [school supplies](#), including notebooks and workbooks, pencils, and backpacks, among others. To increase enrolment in the public school system, [10,000 leaflets on access to education](#), produced in collaboration with the Ministry of Education of Guyana, were printed for distribution.

The UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: European Union, as well as to the following donors of unearmarked and softly earmarked funds: Algeria | Armenia | Belgium | Bulgaria | Canada | Denmark | Estonia | Finland | Germany | Iceland | Ireland | Liechtenstein | Lithuania | Luxembourg | Monaco | Montenegro | Netherlands | Norway | Peru | Qatar | Republic of Korea | Saudi Arabia | Singapore | Sweden | Switzerland | Thailand | Turkey | Uruguay | Private donors

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## UNHCR and Persons of Concern in Guyana

