


 REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN
THE SUBREGION*

222,503


 PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE**

5,164



FUNDING SITUATION

REQUIREMENT: \$ 68.4 MILLION

Situation

- April saw an escalation of raids and detentions of Venezuelans by the **Aruban** authorities. According to one R4V partner, this created a fear among refugees and migrants of being out in public, detained or moving around the island, including for going to work and/or dropping children off at school. Partners also noted that as Venezuelans' incomes decreased, requests for food and shelter assistance increased.
- **Curacaoan** partners indicated that Venezuelans in an irregular situation could now purchase medical insurance through private insurance companies with eased administrative requirements, which the Human Rights Defense Curacao Foundation (HRDC) in the country had been lobbying for, due to challenges related to practical and administrative barriers. However, the list of participating insurance firms and the cost of policies are yet to be released. Meanwhile, partners noted that 2,500 refugees and migrants had registered through the Ministry of Justice in Curacao for the "Responsible Integration" program by the end of April, where persons who had entered the country regularly before 13 March 2020 could apply for a one-year temporary residency permit. Separately, six Venezuelan men were detained upon trying to enter the country irregularly. Despite initiating a hunger strike, demanding to be allowed to await a hearing on their claims for protection under Article 3 of the European Convention on Human Rights, they were [deported to Venezuela via commercial flights transiting through Panama, according to HRDC](#).
- R4V partners in the **Dominican Republic** supported 29 microbusinesses run by Venezuelan refugees and migrants within the framework of the Inclusive Cities project, in conjunction with the authorities of San Cristóbal, including through evaluations and workshops to assist these enterprises, in-kind donations, and assistance with legal procedures. R4V partners also concluded a mapping of cultural actors in Santo Domingo to identify and support actors, as part of a social cohesion initiative where refugees and migrants and host community members could collaborate through cultural activities.
- COVID-19 restrictions were removed in **Guyana** including the discontinued use of masks in public spaces. One partner, accompanied by the Region 9 authorities, conducted a mission to identify suitable spaces for the relocation of members of two Venezuelan indigenous communities, Enepas and Waraos, who were discovered in makeshift camps in Tabatinga in February 2022. Meanwhile, an R4V partner reported a 45% increase in the number of refugees and migrants requesting accommodation assistance in the month of April. At the same time, due to reduced funding, the partner had to decrease the assistance provided.
- Venezuelan refugees and migrants living in **Trinidad and Tobago (T&T)**, who took part in last year's re-registration exercise through the Ministry of National Security of T&T, [received a work permit extension](#) to the end of the year. Separately, one partner in T&T, in collaboration with CARICOM IMPACS hosted a meeting in Port of Spain on 26 and 27 April, on Legislative and Practical Pathways For Counter-Smuggling of Migrants in the Caribbean. Analysts at the meeting indicated that irregular movements along sub-regional some routes were at a [record high](#). However, statistics from one R4V partner showed that fewer [asylum-seekers had been registered in T&T](#) from April 2021 where an average of 517 persons registered monthly, while current numbers ranged in the mid 200s. Also, an R4V partner submitted an oral statement for the 49th Session of the Human Rights Council urging the T&T authorities to maintain their commitment to develop and implement a national policy to promote respect for the rights of refugees and migrants. Separately, an attempt to deport a Venezuelan woman who was granted refugee status in Trinidad and Tobago was temporarily blocked by the High Court. Additionally, several partners [met with the Tobago House of Assembly to discuss collaborating](#) to implement projects with the refugee and migrant population. On another note, T&T and Venezuelan authorities continued to jointly search for a Venezuelan national and a fisherman from T&T who were reportedly [kidnapped by pirates in March](#). Both remained missing despite a ransom being paid.

Response



HEALTH

In **Aruba**, group interventions and individual sessions were held with Venezuelan refugees and migrants and host community members on mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS). **Curaçao** partners provided primary health care consultations, as well as secondary health care services, including lab work, radiology, and specialised services to refugee and migrants. Also, in the **Dominican Republic**, one partner provided mental health support sessions to refugees and migrants from Venezuela.



FOOD SECURITY

In **Trinidad and Tobago**, one partner supported refugee and migrant households with supermarket food purchases using the WiPay system which allows refugees and asylum seekers to apply online and they can receive an e-voucher or QR code which can be redeemed for food at partner supermarkets nationwide. Emergency food vouchers were distributed in **Aruba** to vulnerable Venezuelan refugees and migrants and host community members.

Partners distributed food kits to vulnerable refugees and migrants from Venezuela in Regions 1, 2 and 4 in **Guyana**.



EDUCATION

Partners in **Aruba** provided language courses in Dutch and English to Venezuelan youth seeking to enter the national school system. In addition, they provided supplementary language learning support to Venezuelan students enrolled in local schools to support them with integrating and thriving in their new academic settings. In **Curaçao**, one partner continued to provide daily language support in Dutch, as well as after school tutoring sessions for primary school students and adolescents to strengthen their academic success, integration, and retention in schools.



INTEGRATION

Partners in **Guyana** implemented a training program based on Design Thinking, Canvas and Lean Start Up methodologies to support business plan development and cultivate seed money for small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) of refugees and migrants. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, one partner held a series of cultural activities for refugees, migrants, and host community children such as painting, candle-making, and other crafts. Vulnerable children and adolescents in **Aruba** participated in art activities to express their emotions and promote social cohesion, culminating in a painted mural.



R4V partners together with the Governor of San Cristóbal, celebrating 29 start-ups supported with a culture and dance presentation by girls from the DR and Venezuela. April 2022 ©IOM











PROTECTION

Partners in **Guyana** delivered training on Good Enough Parenting (GEP) for refugees and migrants, including with sex workers, via presentations, group discussions and role plays. In the **Dominican Republic**, Venezuelans received study visas and temporary work permits as part of the [Normalization Plan](#). In **Aruba**, one partner disseminated information on gender-based violence (GBV) services and positive masculinities. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, partners supported refugees and migrants with registration (for asylum-seekers) and resettlement (for some recognized refugees).
























Covid-19 Situation **

COUNTRY	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
CASES IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	2.70%	5.03%	0.25%	0.36%	7.60%
DEATHS IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	0.00%	2.62%	0.02%	0.16%	2.16%
INDIVIDUALS FULLY VACCINATED IN RELATION TO TOTAL POPULATION	76.44%	60.08%	54.43%	46.10%	50.69%

People Reached*

SECTOR	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	TOTAL
 EDUCATION	98	99				197
 FOOD SECURITY	14			71		85
 HEALTH	127	5	60			192
 INTEGRATION	37			8		45
 CVA	12		19	48	47	126
 PROTECTION	94	252	3,336	724	486	4,892
 SHELTER		11	14	272		297
 WASH		86		57		143

Operational Overview*

	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
PARTNERS	IOM, HIAS, PADF, UNHCR, VeneAruba Solidaria, Famia Planea Aruba	IOM, UNHCR, PADF, Human Rights Defence Curaçao, Venex Curaçao Foundation, Stima Foundation, Famia Plania, Salú pa Tur Foundation	IOM, UNHCR, Dominican Institute for Integrated Development, Asociación Aves, HAI, Diáspora Venezolana en Boca Chica, Churún Merú Association, Venezuelan Emigrant Foundation, Venezolanos en San Cristóbal, FUNCOVERD	HIAS, IOM, UNHCR, Roman Catholic Bishop of Guyana, Guyana Sex Workers Coalition, Blossoms Inc, Voices Guyana, Ministry of Health	UNHCR, IOM, UN Habitat, FPATT, Living Water Community, Rape Crisis Society
SECTORS	     	    	   	     	 

APPEALING PARTNERS, IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

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R4V - RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELA: [HTTPS://R4V.INFO/EN/CARIBBEAN](https://r4v.info/en/caribbean)

* Based on current month activities | ** As of 30/04/2022; Sources: [COVID Live Update Worldometer \(worldometers.info\)](https://www.worldometers.info/covid-19/) and [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Vaccinations \(Our World in Data\)](https://ourworldindata.org/covid-vaccinations)