

PROTECTION MONITORING: PERU

SNAPSHOT APRIL-JUNE 2022 – PERU

This snapshot summarizes the main findings of the Protection Monitoring conducted in Lima, Peru between April and June 2022 as part of the humanitarian intervention of the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and ENCUENTROS SJM in the country. This project is implemented with funding from the European Union Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) and through a consortium named “Alliance for Protection Programming (AFPP)” which includes two INGOs: the Danish Refugee Council (DRC) and Humanity and Inclusion (HI).

To view the interactive dashboard with the findings from this period and since the beginning of the Protection Monitoring program, [click here](#).

INTRODUCTION

Between April and June 2022, DRC and ENCUENTROS SJM interviewed 172 households accounting for a total of 590 persons. Since the beginning of the Protection Monitoring exercise in Peru in October 2020, 1,402 households have been interviewed reaching a total of 4.906 persons.

CONTEXT UPDATE

How a \$3 million approved funding from World Bank and the Government of Canada could strengthen the institutional efforts for promoting integration and protection of human rights for the Venezuelan population in Peru

- During the reporting period, World Bank along with the Government of Canada, announced the release of \$3 million funding, with the Governments of Colombia and Peru to be the principal recipients. This funding will aim to support the Government of Peru to identify and implement innovative practices and policies with a three-folded objective; to improve the social inclusion and integration of the Venezuelan population through socio-economic initiatives which promote social cohesion, to enhance further the delivery of quality social services emphasizing to meeting the needs of vulnerable communities and further strengthen institutional and legal policies striving to advance existing programs such as the regulation of legal documentation.
- One of the biggest barriers encountered by the Venezuelan population is their involvement in informal employment, resulting from the absence of legal documentation.[1] As it was revealed by a Multi-sectoral study, realized by Action Against Hunger in Metropolitan Lima, and Callao, almost 80% of the Venezuelan migrants and refugees are forced to be informally employed, due to absence of documentation which also jeopardizes severely their access to social programs, education services and health insurance.
- The absence of legal documentation or permission to stay regularly in Peru, lack guaranteed access to basic rights for the Venezuelan migrants and refugees. Food security remains one of the biggest challenges for the affected populations, who were forced to resort to negative coping mechanisms such as the reduction of meals per day or decrease the food consumption for the adults, prioritizing the needs of the minors. [2] In May 2022, 70% of surveyed refugee and migrant populations from Venezuela reported to be in moderate (32.2%) or severe (38,3%) food insecurity, as a result of their inability of encountering employment either due to lack of documentation or negative social and xenophobic perceptions as manifested on behalf of the local communities.



[1] This Multi-sectoral Study in Venezuelan Refugee and Migrant population who live in Metropolitan Lima, Peru 2022 is available at <https://accioncontraelhambre.pe/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Resumen-Ejecutivo-Estudio-Multisectorial-CASTELLANO.pdf>

[2] For additional information, please see: <https://accioncontraelhambre.pe/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Resumen-Ejecutivo-Estudio-Multisectorial-CASTELLANO.pdf>

- Apart from the absence of documentation that accredits the regular entry into the country, the weak legislation on hiring foreign workers, nationality-based discrimination and the reduction of employment opportunities, hinder even further the access to Peruvian labor market for the migrant and refugee populations from Venezuela, increasing the risks of food insecurity, labor exploitation and the overall physical and psychological well-being of the affected population.

An integrated migratory control has restarted at the borders between Peru and Chile.

Since April 2022, the border authorities of Peru and Chile, restarted the migration control at the crossing points of Santa Rosa in Tacna and Chacalluta complex in Arica. This activity is falling within the framework of Integrated migration control, which was agreed and implemented by both countries, as an effort to better monitor the migratory and refugee flows between Peru and Chile.

PROTECTION MONITORING – MAIN FINDINGS

Absence of legal documentation: one of the main constraints preventing Venezuelan refugees and migrants accessing essential services, while also hindering their rights to safe housing and employment.

- The percentage of 50% of the respondents lack of legal documentation which would enable them legalizing their permanence in the country. For the migrants and refugees who cross the border irregularly, most of them only had ID documents (52,5%), birth certificates (22,7%) or anything, increasing associated risks such as arbitrary detention, extortion, or intimidation, perpetrated by illegal armed groups, or Peruvian law enforcement authorities.
- As identified, the lack of legal documentation has been reported as the main constraint (33,3%) access to health services for the Venezuelan population, followed by the high costs associated with medical attention (27,8%).
- Cognizant that legal documentation is indispensable also for accessing formal employment, 45,2% of the respondents reported barriers encountering jobs that could ensure them a safe income that could enable them covering costs associated with alimentation, medicine and safe housing, while mitigating protection risks such as labor exploitation, malnutrition or evictions.

MAIN PRIORITIES OF PERSONS OF CONCERN (POC)

Food security, health and legal documentation continued to be reported by the interviewees, as the principal priorities between April and June. Yet, employment/livelihoods was the main need for which the PoC would like to receive more information, as they considered that it is widely linked with their access to essential services such as health, as 27,8% of the respondents underscored as the main barrier hindering their access to health services, due to lack of financial resources.



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