Southern Cone









FUNDED: 11.8 MILLION

Situation

In Argentina, national government authorities opened an Integratrion Centre for Refugees and Migrants in La Quiaca, Jujuy Province (border with Bolivia), with the support of R4V partners. The centres are part of a public policy aimed at promoting refugees' and migrants' social inclusion. So far four centres have been opened in the country, located in Buenos Aires city, La Plata, Rosario and Córdoba.

On 25 August in Bolivia, the deadline for foreigners who were in an irregular situation in the country to access a 2-year stay permit ended, as established by the migratory amnesty regime (Supreme Decree 4546/2021). According to migration authorities, some 4,328 people were able to access regularization since its implementation on 25 August 2021. Of the total number of foreigners who accessed the permit, Venezuelans were among the most benefitted nationalities, accounting for 1,698 of the residence permits issued (37.1 per cent of the total adult population and 58 per cent of the total children and adolescents). In addition, according to R4V partners, the application of Regulation N° 148 entitled "Exceptional Acceptance of the Simple Copy of the Certificate or Registration or of the Birth Certificate of Children and Adolescents under 18 Years of Venezuelan Nationality and Expired Travel Documents for Adults", issued in February 2020, ceased to be applied in the country. Therefore Bolivia is no longer granting special residence permits for Venezuelans families with children under these conditions.

At the end of August, after two years and five months of border closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic, car passage was restored over the International Bridge located in Bermejo, Bolivia and Aguas Blancas, Argentina.

In Paraguay, the National Commission for Refugees (CONARE) recognized 207 Venezuelans as refugees, through a procedure comparable to prima facie group recognition.

In Uruguay, migration authorities reported that a virtual system would be put in place so asylum-seekers (including Venezuelans) can apply for identity cards, facilitating its prompt obtention of documentation and resolving the delays registered in recent months.

Response highlights***



ARGENTINA: CAREF, IOM, UNHCR. BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, UNHCR, World Vision. PARAGUAY: IOM, UNHCR. URUGUAY: Idas y Vueltas, IOM, UNHCR.

In Argentina, R4V partners provided training sessions on international protection to government authorities in Jujuy and Mendoza provinces, as well as to health providers in the local hospital of La Quiaca (border with Bolivia). Moreover, partners provided legal advice and information to refugees and migrants across the country on issues such as asylum, migratory regularization and access to documentation.

In Bolivia, R4V partners provided refugees and migrants from Venezuela shelter, safe spaces for children's education and entertainment, warm clothes, kitchen sets, hygiene items, medicines, psychosocial services, legal advice and information of services on the route, as well as referral to health services.

In Paraguay, R4V partners provided training sessions on the refugee status determination procedure with the new team of eligibility officers of the Executive Secretariat of CONARE. Partners continue providing cash and voucher assistance to refugees and migrants. Most of the people who received cash assistance were those who only had access to two meals per day (54 per cent) and households with specific protection needs such as people with medical conditions (28 per cent), lactating women (17 per cent), and single caregivers (10 per cent).

R4V partners in **Uruguay** provided refugees and migrants protection services and other specialized services to facilitate their access to rights.



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1.638

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