# Situation Report





# 222,503

refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the Caribbean <sup>1</sup>



# 37,696

persons reached with direct assistance<sup>3</sup>



## Funding Situation:

\$8.16M funded of \$68.4M required <sup>2</sup>

12%





Refugees & Migrants from Venezuela

Host Communities

Women Men

19K Girls

11.2K Boys 3

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

ARUBA
CURAÇAO

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO

GUYANA

# People Reached by Sector



Education



Protection 28.312



Food Security



Child Protection



## Cash and Voucher Assistance

USD\$551 distributed to 9718 persons

for Education, Food, Health, Integration, Protection, Shelter, and Multipurpose Cash



Health 4090



**GBV** 



Humanitarian Transportation



Human Trafficking & Smuggling



# Capacity Building

601 people trained on protection issues and response, including child protection, GBV & human trafficking/smuggling 106 people trained on communication about human displacement

65 people trained to improve access/quality of education



Integration 293





Shelter 958



WASH 3017



## Situation

- The first Refugee and Migrant Needs Analysis (RMNA), conducted by the Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V), was launched on 12 October.
- The Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs visited Aruba and Curação; the topics of mixed movements, Venezuelans, and the re-opening of borders with Venezuela were discussed. Reopening may begin with commercial traffic.
- The Government of Aruba has accelerated discussions on reopening the borders with Venezuela and established a committee to create a phased reopening plan. On 26 August, a new policy<sup>1</sup> establishing new procedural and time limits on injunctions about detention and deportation orders was published.
- The State Secretary of Justice and Security of the Kingdom visited Curação and discussed the challenges and situation of refugees and migrants from Venezuela on the island with local NGOs/partners. The monthly meetings of the Curação National Platform between R4V partners restarted.
- On 19 September, Hurricane Fiona battered the Dominican Republic, producing considerable damage to homes and infrastructure, cutting power to over 400,000, and displacing more than 12,000 people. R4V partners took part in the humanitarian response, delivering core relief items to vulnerable affected communities. The dates for reopening phase 1 of the Normalization Plan remained under discussion and are yet to be announced; an ongoing discussion about the inclusion of children of parents enrolled in the plan clarified that all children born in the Dominican Republic to enrolled parents will be included. Additionally, the meeting of the *Coalición por*



A video produced by R4V partners celebrated the first year of the Normalization Plan in the Dominican Republic.

*Venezuela* in Punta Cana offered an opportunity to show the challenges and opportunities of the Normalization Plan as a best practice for the Caribbean.

The Ministry of Labour of **Guyana** announced its <u>intention to work with R4V partners</u> to <u>establish a framework to integrate Venezuelans into the local labour force</u> through the Board of Industrial Training, which will comprise training for refugees and migrants and capacity building for the public and private sectors. Separately, the <u>U.S. State Department Trafficking in Persons Report</u> highlighted the ongoing vulnerability of Venezuelans, who comprise 81 per cent of victims identified by the Government, to trafficking for forced labour and sex. Partners noted that eviction risks are escalating as families increasingly require assistance to pay rent.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Official Gazette, JAARGANG 2022 EDITIE NO. 18



Strong seasonal rainfall in Trinidad and Tobago produced several instances of significant flooding and flood risk remains high; R4V partners are monitoring if emergency humanitarian assistance is needed, including among refugee and migrant communities. The 2022/2023 National Budget was passed in the Lower House of Parliament, including likely increases in fuel prices and public utility fees, which will have inevitable knock-on effects on the cost of living. The Government also noted that it will upgrade the Automated Fingerprint Identification System for the Immigration Division, "which will improve the border management system as a monitoring solution which limits the entry of undocumented immigrants." Meanwhile, Venezuela has



R4V partners contributed to a mural celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Trinidad and Tobago's independence and showcasing its contributions to achieving the SDGs.

reopened its maritime border with Trinidad, with biweekly sailings operating to the Venezuelan port of Güiria.

## **Active Partners\***

Aruba: HIAS, IOM, PADF, UNHCR, Botica di Servicio Eagle, Centro Medico Familiar, Famia Planea Aruba, Fundación Contra Violencia Relacional, Stichting Onderwijs Adventis Zeden Aruba, VeneAruba Solidaria, Xavier University School of Medicine

Curaçao: IOM, PADF, UNHCR, Famia Plania, Fundashon Duna Lus, Fundashon Perspektiva i Sosten Integral, Fundashon Perspektiva i Sosten Integral (PSI), Human Rights Defence Curaçao, Orthodent Orthodontic Clinic, Salú pa Tur Foundation, Samaya Transitie Advies, Stima Foundation, University of the West Indies, Venex Curaçao Foundation

Dominican Republic: IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, Venezuelan Emigrant Foundation (FEV), Asociación Aves, Churún Merú Association, FUNCOVERD, Diáspora Venezolana en Boca Chica, IDDI, Duendes y Ángeles Vinotinto RD, Globalizate Radio, Heartland Alliance International (HAI), Instituto Nacional de Migración, Venezolanos en San Cristóbal, Venezuelan Diaspora in the DR

**Guyana**: HIAS, IOM, UNHCR, Blossoms Inc, Guyana Sex Workers Coalition, HIAS, Hope Foundation, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Roman Catholic Bishop of Guyana, Voices Guyana

**Trinidad & Tobago**: IOM, UNICEF, UNHCR, UN Habitat, Family Planning Association, Freely Give Foundation, Living Water Community, Longdenville Village Council, Rape Crisis Society

<sup>\*</sup> Appealing Partner, Implementing Partner. Based on partners reporting monthly activities to the R4V Platform.



# Response

#### **Education**

The new school year began in September, with the Equal Place programme restarting formal classes in Trinidad and Tobago, where refugee and migrant children continue to be unable to enroll in public schools. R4V partners also provided after-school programmes and alternative programmes for out-of-school children in Aruba, Curaçao, and Guyana, providing ESL, Dutch, and Papiamento language classes among other learning support. A partner distributed cash and voucher assistance for education costs in the Dominican Republic, and tablets were distributed at a child-friendly space in Tobago.

#### **Protection**

An R4V partner facilitated a workshop on international refugee protection for members of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, including officers from other islands in the region. R4V partners in the Dominican Republic held a workshop for Venezuelan community leaders on protection and durable solutions. Protection assistance via hotlines, legal assistance, protection screening, and counselling continues in all countries in the Sub-region. An inter-agency Child Protection Assessment started in Curaçao with qualitative data collection.

### Integration

Community consultations took place in Trinidad and Tobago in the Longdenville and Chaguanas areas to gather input on tactical urbanism interventions that would benefit the communities, and how to foster engagement with vulnerable populations. In the Dominican Republic, Venezuelans continued accessing the Normalization Plan, with the total number of visas (phase 2) issued to date at 21,988. Vulnerable refugees and migrants without financial means were assisted with the associated costs of phases 1 and 2 of the Plan.

### **GBV**

Partners across the Sub-region focused on preparations for 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, commencing on 25 November. An R4V partner in Guyana delivered workshops on GBV identification, prevention, and response to embassy personnel and various local communities. In the Dominican Republic, a workshop on new masculinities focused on the prevention of domestic violence. In Aruba, Curaçao, the Dominican Republic, and Guyana, GBV survivors received psychosocial and legal support, as well as referrals to relevant support services.

### **Shelter**

In Trinidad and Tobago, a new safe accommodation for GBV survivors began operations, with R4V partners supporting with hygiene and baby kits as well as household items, in coordination with the shelter. Additionally, refugees and migrants in Guyana and the Dominican Republic received rent and shelter assistance, including through CVA and emergency accommodation.

#### Health

R4V partners provided direct care and referrals at a partner clinic in Curaçao and supported refugees and migrants in accessing medical services in the Dominican Republic with CVA and referrals. Also in the Dominican Republic, partners provided psychosocial services to people in need. A health fair was held in Aruba, where R4V partners provided primary care consultations and referrals for further assistance. Hygiene/baby kits were distributed in Curaçao.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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R4V - RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELA: HTTPS://R4V.INFO/EN/CARIBBEAN

R4V - CARIBBEAN MONITORING: HTTPS://WWW.R4V.INFO/EN/CARIBBEAN/MONITORING