PERU





PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME FORM OF ASSISTANCE*

73,557



Situation

On 12 February, the Peruvian government <u>decreed</u> the reopening of the land borders on 14 February (closed since 16 March 2020). It also established the entry requirement of accrediting the complete vaccination doses against COVID-19 (two doses for those over 18 years old) or presenting a molecular test with a negative result (within 48 hours) for any person entering the country without being vaccinated. The Ministry of Health announced the beginning of the decline in COVID-19 cases in Peru following the third wave.

In the southern border region, borders were not reopened as the the Chilean side continued to be closed as a containment measure due to COVID-19, which caused a greater presence of refugees and migrants from Venezuela throughout the border region. Those willing to cross, faced challenges taking into account the border closure and the recently approved Immigration Law of Chile, including the Decree 296, which approves the Regulations of Law No. 21325 introducing new immigration changes concerning entries. As a result, Venezuelans interviewed during border monitoring undertaken by parters in Tacna, mentioned that even persons near the city of Arica were intervened by the Chilean police and returned to Peruvian territory.

While some sought to return to the north, others indicated that they would try again to cross the border into Chile through Puno and Bolivia, a route which presents high climate/weather and protection risks.

In mid-February Congress legislators presented three bills that seek to increase sanctions for administrative offenses against foreigners (PL <u>1280-CR</u>; PL <u>1309-CR</u>; PL <u>1354-CR</u>).

Response

To support the efforts of the Superintendence of Migration (SNM), GTRM partners continued providing specialized support and orientation to refugees and migrants on issues of regularization and documentation, considering the ongoing processes (the Temporary Permanence Permit Card-CPP and the humanitarian residency-CMH). Thus, partners assisted some **8,470 refugees and migrants with general protection orientations** (3,770) and with legal counselling (4,700). In addition, almost 170 persons received cash assistance (CVA) to pay migratory fines related to effectively guarantee regularization and documentation procedures.

Considering the impact of the pandemic, as well as the risks experienced on the travel route, part of the sector response is aimed at socioemotional support of refugees and migrants. In this sense, to address socioemotional needs, over **4,000 persons (including almost 280 children) received psychosocial assistance** through group and individual sessions.

650 women and adolescent survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) received mental health support and 19 Venezuelans more supported through case management, including five children and adolescents referred to specialized state services in Callao and Lima.

Over 60 parents and caregivers received support with workshops on child rearing and protection to prevent abuse.

Some 380 key actors, including host community and refugees and migrants, participated in 17 workshops and trainings on GBV, child protection, and human trafficking and smuggling, in Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.

Some 40 highly vulnerable refugees and migrants benefited with alternative accommodations in hotels in Puno and Tumbes, almost 190 in shelters in Lima, Puno and Tacna, and 36 more with short term

rentals. Regarding the gap in access to housing for vulnerable refugees and migrants, partners provided sectoral CBI to some 24 Venezuelan families.

As part of WASH efforts, partners distributed some 3,370 hygiene kits, including almost 400 kits for women and adolescents' sexual and reproductive health. In Lambayeque and Lima, partners installed 48 water towers with tanks to improve facilities and access to safe drinking water in public spaces.

GTRM partners distributed 80,200 hot and cold meals, and almost 4,170 snacks to support highly vulnerable refugees and migrants (including those in transit) and host community members. In addition, nearly **54,800 persons received CVA to support access to food**.

In the context of the reopening of land borders, partners also assisted some 360 vulnerable persons with humanitarian transport from points of entry such as Puno, Tacna and Tumbes.

GTRM partners facilitated the validation of 34 professional degrees, additionally, some 70 other persons received sectoral CVA to support that process. As part of the Education sectoral response aimed to promote school enrolment and preventing dropouts, in the context of returning to in-person classes, partners provided guidance to over 170 children and adolescents on the school enrolment process in Arequipa, Callao, Chiclayo, Cusco, Lima and Tumbes, and 100 more in Tumbes received school kits. In addition, partners distributed sectoral CVA to access basic education benefiting 150 vulnerable Venezuelan children.

As to Integration efforts on boosting self-reliance, **1,300 persons** participated in entrepreneurship and self-employment programmes to increase their livelihoods opportunities, and over 4,000 more accessed the financial system and received financial education with the support from GTRM partners. Nearly 700 persons received CVA for

livelihoods. To improve access to decent work and prevent abuses, around 1,100 persons participated in capacity-development trainings on how to access decent work, including guidance on labour rights.

GTRM partners provided primary health assistance to over 1,120 refugees and migrants and host community members. Some 2,700 persons received mental healthcare, almost 800 accessed HIV screening tests, and some 70 pregnant and lactating women received support on nutritional guidance.

Around 1,100 vulnerable refugees and migrants received support to access the Comprehensive Health Insurance (SIS). Some 190 persons were supported to access treatment and pay for medical expenses through sectoral CVA (USD 24,800).

A total of USD 2.75 million were distributed as multisectoral CVA assistance.

Coordination

GTRM's knowledge-sharing and planning efforts have enabled its 88 partners to coordinate a sectorial and cross-sectorial approach to respond to the needs of refugees and migrants. The International Rescue Committee (IRC) joined the GTRM. Regarding the reopening of land borders, the GTRM supported the Inter-sectoral Round Table for Migratory Management (MTIGM) efforts to coordinate and monitor possible impacts. In turn, during the first plenary meeting of 2022, the MTIGM, which is led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, confirmed its technical support to the activities under the RMRP 2022.



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