

Situation Report



222,503

refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the Caribbean¹



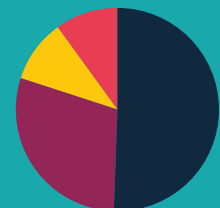
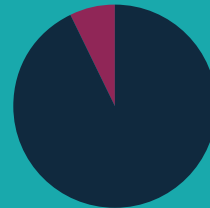
43,081

persons reached with direct assistance³



Funding Situation:

\$11.5M funded of **\$68.4M** required²



Refugees & Migrants from Venezuela

39,970

Host Communities

3,111

Women

21.9K

Girls

4.3K

Men

12.7K

Boys

4.3K

People Reached by Sector



Education

4949



Protection

33,326



Food Security

1766



Child Protection

2040



Health

4581



GBV

4759



Humanitarian Transportation

20



Human Trafficking & Smuggling

21



Integration

428



Shelter

1054



Nutrition

666



WASH

3418



Cash and Voucher Assistance

USD \$961K distributed to **11,248 persons**

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



Capacity Building

922 people trained on protection issues and response, including child protection, GBV & human trafficking/smuggling

255 people trained on communication about human displacement



Campaigns

948K people reached with awareness-raising and integration-promoting messages

(1) Projection for the 2022 RMRP (2) Source: FTS. Funding can take some months to update, so the actual figure may be higher. Does not include funding provided at regional level. (3) All assistance figures are cumulative for the year to date.

Situation

- The 2023-2024 RMRP launched at a region-wide event on 1 December as a two-year response plan to the humanitarian and integration needs of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. The [Caribbean RMRP snapshot on R4V.info](#) breaks down the planning assumptions and response plans by sector for the sub-region.
- The Venezuelan Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Kingdom of the Netherlands [agreed to meetings to work towards reopening the borders](#) with both **Aruba and Curaçao**; negotiations on phased re-openings are ongoing.
- By the end of November 2022, the **Dominican Republic** had issued 22,662 visas including 19,338 work visas and 3,324 student visas for Venezuelans who had registered in the Normalization Plan, while information hubs continued providing information for the next permit renewal process.
- According to the World Bank's updated factsheet, [poverty rates in Guyana are around 48 per cent](#), among the highest in Latin America and the Caribbean region. The most affected populations live in hinterland areas, where communities have limited access to economic opportunities, healthcare, and public services. Refugees and migrants are especially impacted by this situation and commonly lack adequate safety nets, which exposes them to further protection risks and exploitation. Also, the UN Resident Coordinator led a mission to indigenous settlements in Region 1, where based on the conditions observed, various agencies, including R4V partners, advocated for an expert assessment of health needs in Venezuelan indigenous settlements to inform a targeted response. Additionally, during a food distribution drive in Greenwich (Region 3), R4V partners observed high unemployment, language barriers, limited education opportunities and inadequate WASH services, including no privacy for females among refugees and migrants settled there.
- Heavy rains and strong winds affected **Trinidad and Tobago**, with numerous areas impacted by flooding, landslides, and damage to public infrastructure, resulting in road closures. Meanwhile, increasing reports of criminal activity led the U.S. to downgrade its travel security advisory for Trinidad and Tobago. Separately, local media reported incidents linking Venezuelans as both victims and perpetrators of crime, including [a Venezuelan man found dead](#). Work and stay permits issued in the Government's 2019 registration exercise were set to expire on 31 December. In early January 2023, [National Security Minister Fitzgerald Hinds told the press](#) he approved 9133 of the over 13,000 applicants for extensions, 4000 applications were still being evaluated and 449 Venezuelans were sent back to Venezuela owing to violations of the law. Hinds said the Government is expected to officially extend the registration by decree later in January.
- The R4V Sub-regional Coordination team delivered trainings on R4V coordination and reporting, and conducted consultations with partners in Aruba, Curaçao, and the Dominican Republic. The team also participated in R4V National Platform plenary meetings with the member partners and made field visits to partner projects in the three countries.



Training with Aruban R4V partners.

Response

Protection

R4V partners in **Trinidad and Tobago** conducted workshops on international protection for members of the Police Service and law students at the University of the West Indies; sessions were also held for asylum seekers on legal procedures. In **Guyana**, the Counter Trafficking in Persons Unit and the Police Force identified a group of 34 indigenous Venezuelans from the Warao ethnic group who were believed to be facing labour exploitation in Region 4; the group was relocated to Region 1 and provided with food assistance by R4V partners, after coordinating with local authorities.

Child Protection

R4V partners held a focus group discussion with undocumented Venezuelan refugee and migrant children ages 12-17 and their parents in the context of a child protection assessment in **Curaçao**; the results of the assessment will be finalized in early 2023. Best interest determination panels were carried out for the first time for refugee and migrant children in **Trinidad and Tobago**, and an R4V partner began providing Spanish translation services to the Children's Authority. Partners in **Guyana** provided specialized Mental Health and Psychosocial Support services in the form of trauma-focused, behavioral, and art therapy for children dealing with bullying, Gender-Based Violence and child abuse, and for minors in foster care.



R4V partners organized numerous activities for 16 Days of Activism against GBV throughout the Caribbean. In Aruba, the installation *She's Gone* protests femicide around the world.

GBV

For the 16 Days of Activism, R4V partners in **Trinidad and Tobago** held a memorial for refugee and migrant victims of femicide. The Trinidad and Tobago platform also made GBV the focus of the fifth installment of the Humanitarian Breakfast series, which was attended by government officials, members of the diplomatic corps, and the humanitarian community. **Guyana** partners celebrated with a series of activities including webinars, talks with the refugee and migrant and host communities, and information and awareness sessions related to GBV. Further, partners in Guyana held a workshop in collaboration with the Guyana Association of Women Lawyers for refugees and migrants from Venezuela on understanding local legislation regarding domestic violence and divorce.

Health

Partners in **Aruba** held a health fair for refugees, migrants, and host community as part of the 16 Days of Activism which garnered significant positive engagement from the public. R4V partners in **Trinidad and Tobago** held a healthcare day for female refugees and migrants. Additionally, a **Curaçao** partner, which is the only provider of health services to refugees and migrants on the island, surpassed its target for 2022 by 259 per cent in primary care and referrals for secondary healthcare testing and treatments for patients with acute conditions.

Integration

Guyana partners delivered the last installments to small business owners to open or expand their businesses and led financial literacy workshops as well as a workshop on local legislation on starting a business. In the **Dominican Republic**, partners celebrated the holiday season with community-led activities to foster integration and peaceful coexistence including a “verbena” or Christmas bazaar, Christmas songs, and toy distribution. In **Curaçao**, partners delivered vocational training on baking, sewing, and cosmetology to Venezuelan refugees and migrants, and host community members.

Shelter

R4V partners in **Guyana** and the **Dominican Republic** provided multipurpose cash and other electronic cash mechanisms to assist Venezuelans with temporary shelter accommodation, including survivors of GBV. To prevent eviction, partners in **Curaçao** also supported refugees and migrants from Venezuela with short-term individual shelter or temporary accommodation in the form of rent subsidies via bank transfers.



The third concert of the Orquesta Sinfónica Binacional Dominico-venezolana was held on 24 November, *Al ritmo del agradecimiento* in the framework of the Ciudades Incluyentes project.

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, Human Rights Defence Curaçao, Orthodont 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, Globalize Radio, Heartland Alliance International, Instituto Nacional de Migración, Venezolanos en San Cristóbal, Venezuelan Diaspora in the Dominican Republic,*

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, *La Casita Hispanic Cultural Centre, UNICEF, UNHCR, UN Habitat, Family Planning Association, Freely Give Foundation, Living Water Community, Longdenville Village Council, Rape Crisis Society*

* Appealing Partner, *Implementing Partner*. Based on partners reporting monthly activities to the R4V Platform.

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