

Plataforma de Coordinación Interagencial para Refugiados y Migrantes de Venezuela







PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME FORM OF ASSISTANCE* 24.3K



FUNDING SITUATION** 0034.3 FUNDED: **\$104.4M** REQUIREMENT: **\$304M**

Situation

<u>Political instability impacted Peru</u> and a new government was formed with Dina Boluarte as first female president. The new appointment unleashed widespread demonstrations demanding the closure of the Congress, resignation of the president, and the advancement of general elections, among other requests. Protests were mostly concentrated in the southern regions, leading to the closure of airports in Cusco, Ayacucho and Arequipa. Civil unrest also led to the suspension or limitation of several health, education, child, and social protection services, including for refugees and migrants. Moreover, clashes between demonstrators and police forces resulted in the death of 22 people.¹ As a result, on 15 December, President Boluarte declared a nationwide State of Emergency partially restricting freedom of movement and assembly, as well as assigning public security duties to the Armed Forces. Movement restrictions and violence outbreaks increases the vulnerability of many refugees and migrants from Venezuela since it reduces their ability to earn an income to cover basic needs.

Response

GTRM partners have deepened their efforts to increase regularization and documentation of refugees and migrants from Venezuela as a key step for them to gain access to exercise their rights. Thus, partners assisted 16,495 refugees and migrants from Venezuela with general protection orientations (10,900) and with legal counselling (5,595), the latter being provided mostly to in-transit populations. Besides, to reduce the socioeconomic barriers to access documentation, over 1,050 refugees and migrants from Venezuela residing in the country received cash transfers to cover immigration procedures, including fines. Over 660 women and girls' survivors or at risk of gender-based violence (GBV) received assistance, which is a 10-times increase compared to November. The assistance included case management, psychological counselling, and referral to specialized services. This corresponds with the increase in the number of breaches to the lives of women during the month of December, with a record of 13 femicides, 5 violent deaths and 7 attempts².

Furthermore, 190 caregivers received capacity development workshops to enhance **parenting practices to prevent child abuse.** In Tumbes, the participation of adolescent and singlemother families can be highlighted.

Additionally, refugees and migrants from Venezuela require emergency and primary healthcare assistance, as the lack of documentation and the structural challenges of the Peruvian healthcare system cannot provide quality medical attention. Consequently, GTRM partners provided cash transfers to 1,749 highly vulnerable people to ensure their access to health care, of which 1,418 were refugees and migrants and 331 were host community members. Additionally, 1,686 people were provided consultations on sexual and reproductive health, and 1,531 people received mental health counselling, which include orientation about available public support services. Lastly, 291 people were tested against HIV/AIDS.

Moreover, partners have complemented their intervention in the Health Sector with initiatives aimed at improving access to **WASH**. For example, 2,330 hygiene kits (individual and family) were distributed to reduce the risk of infectious diseases, especially among new-borns, adolescents, and women.

Over 586 refugees and migrants from Venezuela received **accommodation** support. In Lima, they were hosted mostly in temporary collective shelters (420 people), and in the bordering regions of Tacna, Tumbes, and Arequipa (166 people) in hotels. Along with the provision of accommodation, in the latter three departments, along with Cusco and La Libertad, partners supported 2,188 refugees and migrants from Venezuela with housing kits (1,458 blankets and other shelter items, 229 first aid kits, 42 kitchen kits and 8 kits for babies).

Food Security partners provided hot and cold meals to over 27,770 people, mostly refugees and migrants **from Venezuela**

¹ Reuters (29 Dec 2022) Lima: Peru president backs investigation into protest deaths, available at <u>https://www.reuters.com/world/americas/peru-president-backs-investigation-into-protest-deaths-2022-12-29/</u>

² Swiss Info (18 Jan 2023) Perú reportó más de 5.380 mujeres desaparecidas y 137 feminicidios en 2022, available at: <u>https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/per%C3%BA-desapariciones_per%C3%BA-report%C3%B3-m%C3%A1s-de-5.380-mujeres-desaparecidas-y-137-feminicidios-en-2022/48215604</u>

as well as host community members, notably children and nursing mothers in shelter houses. Unlike previous months, inkind food assistance became a stronger mechanism to tackle food insecurity in comparison to CVA interventions, which reached 710 refugees and migrants from Venezuela.

Education Sector partners trained 1,858 teachers and directors of schools in Lima, the city where most Venezuelan students are enrolled. The trainings aimed to improve the quality of education that students receive and subsequently increase social and economic integration.

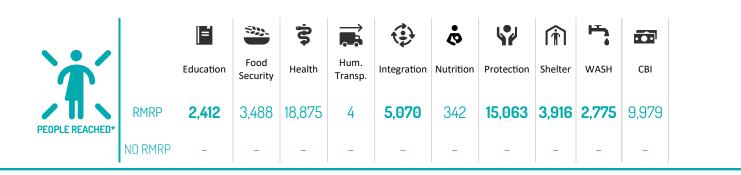
Partners supported 80 refugees and migrants to validate their **technical studies and labour** certifications, which is a key step to access formal jobs. In line with these efforts to improve employability, 250 people received orientation on labour rights and contracting processes to access decent work, and 851

people were trained to increase their competences to gain access to decent jobs (i.e.: digital marketing, client orientation, etc.). To improve livelihoods and contribute to the local economy, partners implemented initiatives for the selfsufficiency of refugees and migrants. Over 506 people attended entrepreneurship trainings and 78 entrepreneurs received seed capital to boost their self-employment. Secondly, 1,680 people received support to access financial services, for instance, through personalized coaching to access credit for their businesses.

Finally, over 9,970 refugees and migrants from Venezuela with special needs received 772.4 thousand USD in multipurpose **cash and voucher assistance** (compared to 593.4 thousand USD in November), which allows them autonomy to address any cross-cutting needs.

Coordination

On 6 December, the GTRM launched the Peru Chapter of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) for 2023-2024. The <u>launch event</u> gathered representatives from the GTRM members, the Intersectoral Working Table for Migration Management (Ministry of External Relations), UNHCR, IOM, and the coordination of the GTRM in Peru. It was an opportunity to present the accomplishments of GTRM during 2022, reflect about the opportunities and challenges ahead, and set the priorities for the next two years.



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