

Situation Report



217,130

refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the Caribbean ¹



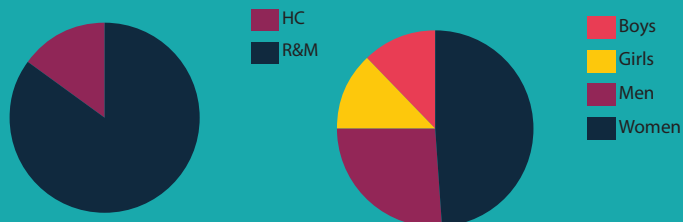
14,199

persons reached with direct assistance ³



Funding Situation:
\$962.4K funded of **\$72.65M** required ²

1.3%



Refugees & Migrants from Venezuela

12,169 Women 7,098 Girls 1,771

Host Communities

2,030 Men 3,618 Boys 1,711

People Reached by Sector



Education
2,814



Protection
9,350



Food Security
2,165



Child Protection
200



Health
1,292



GBV
2,363



Humanitarian Transportation
11



Human Trafficking & Smuggling
313



Integration
683



Shelter
973



WASH
1,879



Cash and Voucher Assistance

USD \$33K distributed to **2,010 persons** for Food, Integration, Protection, Shelter, and Multipurpose Cash.



Capacity Building

589 persons trained on prevention, mitigation and response to GBV amongst refugees and migrants.
186 persons trained to strengthen the protection environment.



Campaigns

491 persons reached with awareness sessions to prevent GBV against refugees and migrants and affected host communities.

(1) Projected population by end of 2023 (2) Source: FTS. Funding can take some months to update, and does not include funding provided at regional level, so the actual figure may be higher. (3) All assistance figures are cumulative for the year to date.

Situation

- In July, the Aruban Ministry of Transport announced [an Interim Traffic Management policy to allow local companies to operate cargo flights from Venezuela via Curaçao](#) since **Aruba** has extended [restrictions](#) with Venezuela for commercial and general air travel, including restrictions for Venezuelans to enter the country.
- On 7 July, [Curaçao's Prime Minister met with the Dutch Ambassador in Caracas](#) to discuss the situation in Venezuela, the resumption of direct flights between the two countries, **Curaçao** residents' well-being, and visa processes. Meanwhile, R4V partners have observed an increasing sentiment among the local population in Curaçao that refugees and migrants are taking jobs, particularly in the informal market, demonstrating ongoing challenges related to socio-economic integration. Further, the country reported hikes in diesel and petrol costs in August, indicating higher fuel prices and other commodities for host community members and refugees and migrants alike.
- In the **Dominican Republic**, as of the end of August, more than 24,650 work and student visas have been issued to Venezuelans. In August, the 4th vulnerability survey carried out by R4V partners with 250 Venezuelans revealed healthcare, housing, education, nutrition, and documentation needs.
- On 19 July, **Guyana's** Foreign Affairs Minister convened a [meeting of the Multi-Agency Coordinating Committee](#) to discuss the response to the arrival of Venezuelans to Guyana. The government highlighted the importance of arriving Venezuelans presenting themselves to immigration authorities for registration, to facilitate access to various services provided by the Government of Guyana. According to the representative of immigration, 777 Venezuelans were newly registered during the period of 8 March to 19 July (bringing the total number of Venezuelans registered in Guyana from 20,899 in March to 21,676 in July).
- In early July, the UN Secretary General [travelled to Port of Spain, Trinidad](#) to address the 45th CARICOM (Caribbean Community) Conference of the Heads of Government, which also coincided with CARICOM's 50th Anniversary celebration. Partners shared an update on the situation of refugees and migrants in Trinidad and Tobago in meetings with the Secretary General. A couple weeks following the visit, on 14 July, [the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs announced at the R4V Humanitarian Breakfast that the Government was working to integrate refugee and migrant children into the public school system](#). Additionally, on 4 July, [a High Court judge in Trinidad and Tobago ruled that the 1951 Convention does not apply to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago as there has been no domestic incorporation](#). [UN experts pointed out that non-refoulement is also a principle of customary international law and noted the risks of deportation](#) for those seeking international protection. On 8 July, nearly 200 Venezuelan refugees and migrants between the ages of 17 and 46 were arrested and detained, and some 98 of these Venezuelans were deported in August, including [refugees and asylum-seekers](#).

Response

Education

Refugee and migrant children received cash assistance for Back to School from R4V partners in **Aruba**. Also, 35 Venezuelans and 18 host community children were assisted to enroll in formal educational institutions and provided after-school learning programs and/or alternative education platforms. A **Curaçao** partner provided language and exam prep support to 55 Venezuelan students, as well as workshops for teachers, parents, and school staff on human rights, migration, and child protection. In **Guyana**, an R4V partner collaborated with the Ministry of Education to enroll over 150 Venezuelan Warao children from remote Region 1 areas in school, while 56 non-enrolled Warao children continued community-based ESL classes. A subsequent review with the Ministry of Education evaluated the ESL program, planning improvements for 2023 and confirming the addition of two public primary schools as new ESL venues starting September-October. Following the government's announcement to allow the enrollment of registered children in public schools in Trinidad and Tobago, the Education Working Group identified available school slots and qualifying children according to the Ministry of Education's eligibility requirements, created FAQs, and translated school rules into Spanish. Partners coordinated with the national immunization program and continued to advocate for the inclusion of all refugee and migrant children in schools, including inclusive eligibility requirements.

Integration

An R4V partner in **Curaçao** offered language and vocational courses to 27 adult refugees and migrants, fostering integration and employment opportunities. In August, partners in **Aruba** provided English language courses to 72 Venezuelan refugees,

migrants, and host community members to help them access or retain employment. In **Guyana**, a partner offered English classes to 45 Venezuelan Warao, enhancing their job prospects and host community interaction. R4V partners in the **Dominican Republic** provided information related to the Normalization Plan for Venezuelans (PNV), as well as other services available to Venezuelans at the information hubs managed by partners throughout the country. Partners, in collaboration with local authorities, prepared a tutorial for Venezuelans on how to renew the PNV migratory card to facilitate the process.

Food Security

In July, partners in **Aruba** distributed food vouchers to 13 vulnerable Venezuelan households (36 people in total) facing financial hardship from illness-related income loss or unexpected expenses. Partners also distributed cash vouchers for basic needs to Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In August, food vouchers were provided to 18 Venezuelans. In **Curaçao**, 32 vulnerable Venezuelans received food vouchers from partners in August. During July-August, partners in **Guyana** provided food assistance through vouchers to 18 vulnerable households, reaching 68 vulnerable refugees and migrants.

Shelter

In **Aruba**, partners visited 13 households to assess their living conditions, found two to be inadequate, and helped these families to relocate to suitable homes. During July-August, partners in **Guyana** provided rental assistance to eight vulnerable households, reaching 24 refugees and migrants.

Health

Health partners in **Aruba** provided medical consultations, including primary healthcare, dental and optometrist services, sexual and reproductive health, mental health, and psycho-social support. They also assisted refugees and migrants with laboratory and other medical tests for chronic illnesses, among others, and distributed cash to support people living with HIV with their medical needs. In July, a **Curaçao** partner clinic offered primary healthcare to 30 Venezuelans and 23 host community members. In August, they assisted 81 individuals. Another Curaçao partner provided psychosocial support services to 63 Venezuelan refugees and migrants and 31 host community members, including individual and group support, with ongoing help from in-house social workers. In the **Dominican Republic**, partners ensured access to primary healthcare for 23 Venezuelans by covering their medical expenses. A partner donated 300 mosquito nets to Mabaruma Hospital's Malaria Department in **Guyana's** Region 1, aiding refugees, migrants and host communities amidst rising malaria and dengue incidences. In July, in **Trinidad and Tobago**, partners provided healthcare to 98 people, mostly Venezuelans, offering 377 health services (32% through telehealth) while 46 Venezuelans were provided with mental health support, medical care, and referrals, including for indigenous Warao, requiring translation services to access healthcare. In August, these healthcare services were expanded to **Tobago** as well.

Protection

In July, social workers in **Aruba** provided psychosocial support to 42 Venezuelans. In August, partners carried out workshops on international protection and human rights. In **Curaçao**, one partner provided legal aid and referrals for vulnerable Venezuelans, while another gave guidance and referrals to 16 refugees and migrants through a helpdesk. Additionally, partners conducted trainings for 27 community leaders, promoting protection services for Venezuelans and local communities. **Guyana** partners also provided case management and information on services available to refugees and migrants, including abuse prevention. They offered group and individual guidance and accompaniment where required and used social media and print materials to disseminate information on rights and access to services related to education, health, and legal counselling. A partner in **Trinidad and Tobago** offered services such as identification and case management for individuals with specific needs. Partners provided 81 Venezuelans with legal assistance to address arbitrary detention, potential *refoulement*, and appeal deportation orders. In August, **Trinidad and Tobago** partners assisted 626 Venezuelans with asylum registrations. In the **Dominican Republic**, legal assistance was extended through cash transfers for Venezuelans, supporting the Normalization Plan and their access to rights.



GBV

R4V partners in **Aruba** and **Guyana** provided comprehensive GBV support in July and August, including workshops, safe spaces, and awareness activities. **Aruba** partners supported vulnerable Venezuelan survivors with case management services and provided multi-purpose cash assistance to six beneficiaries over the two-month period. In **Guyana**, partners trained 39 public officials in two regions on GBV and SRHR, provided group support to 31 Venezuelan survivors of GBV, while 187 Venezuelans and 42 host community members received dignity kits. Partners held workshops on violence prevention and well-being reaching 343 Venezuelans. They addressed gender inequality, service access, and support for survivors through brochures, workshops, events, and men's understanding of GBV. **Dominican Republic** partners held focus groups with 250 Venezuelans, assessing GBV and the link between violence in schools and dropout rates, and presented findings and recommended actions.



Trafficking in Persons

In **Guyana**, partners reached 67 Venezuelan refugees and migrants through community awareness activities, including workshops and discussions addressing trafficking.



Child Protection

In July, partners in **Guyana** provided case management services to 22 refugee and migrant children in the areas of psychosocial support, hospital visits, emergency assistance, foster care placement, and translation services. Partners also provided accompaniment to 13 refugee and migrant children and families to receive health care and birth certificates. In August, a psychologist provided in-person and group MHPSS sessions in Regions 1 and 3 to 49 Venezuelan children in Spanish, while 24 more Venezuelan children benefitted from Emergency Assistance which included baby clothing and essentials such as disposable diapers, food, hygiene, and medical essentials support. Also, 49 Venezuelans received specialized services, and 24 refugee and migrant children received essential support. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, 60 participants took part in three cybercrime prevention trainings to prevent online child sexual exploitation and abuse; plan an awareness campaign addressed to children, parents and teachers; and provide support for child victims, with the participation of local law enforcement, justice, ministry representatives, international experts, governmental agencies and organizations.



WASH

A **Curaçao** partner distributed WASH kits to 19 vulnerable Venezuelans and host community households, promoting safe water, sanitation, and hygiene practices, including menstrual hygiene management for women and girls.

Active Partners*

Aruba: HIAS, PADF, *VeneAruba Solidaria*

Curaçao: IOM, PADF, *Human Rights Defence Curaçao, Salú pa Tur Foundation, Venex Curaçao Foundation*

Dominican Republic: UNHCR, UN Habitat, Fundación de Emigrantes y Refugiados Sin Fronteras Para El Mundo (FERFM), *Dominican Institute for Integrated Development, Heartland Alliance International, Venezuelan Emigrant Foundation (FEV)*

Guyana: IOM, HIAS, UNHCR, *Blossoms Inc, Guyana Sex Workers Coalition, Ministry of Education*

Trinidad and Tobago: UNHCR, UNODC, UN Habitat, PADF, *La Casita, Women's Institute for Alternative Development, Family Planning Association, Living Water Community*

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Janine Hutchison, R4V Co-coordinator, IOM, jhutchison@iom.int

Maria Chiara Massetti, R4V Co-coordinator, UNHCR, massetti@unhcr.org

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