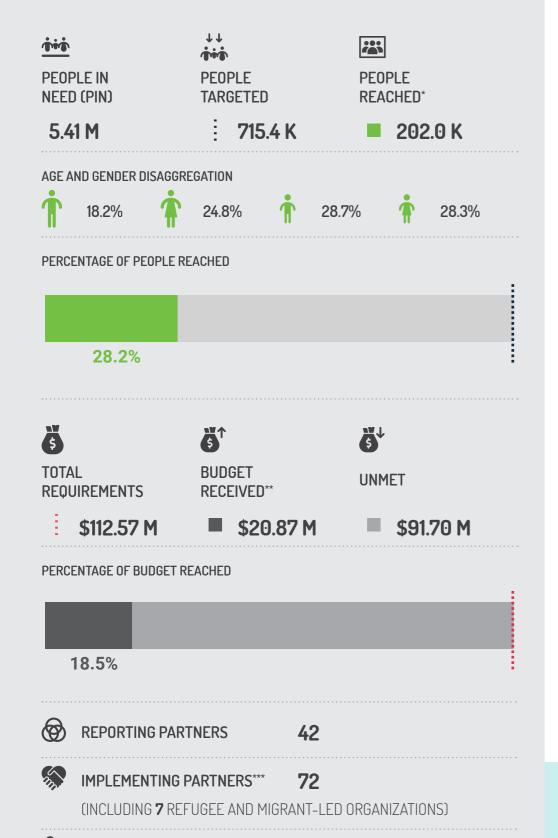


DONORS

END-YEAR REPORT 2023

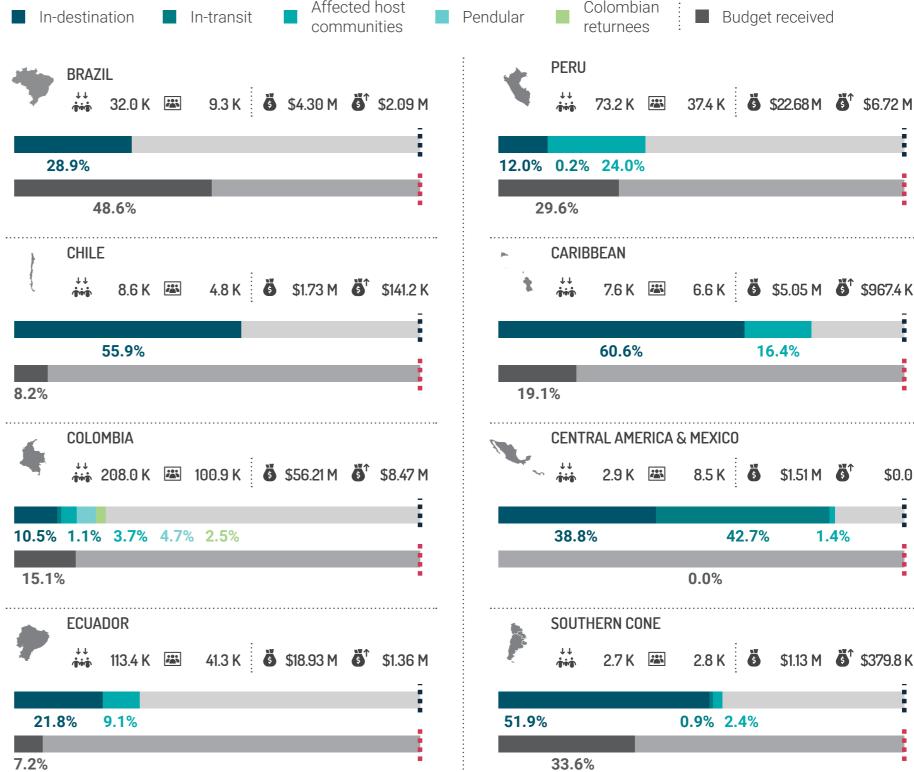
EDUCATION



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PEOPLE REACHED AND FUNDING BY NATIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL PLATFORM



- * The above regional-level data on people reached with assistance under the RMRP 2023 does not include assistance provided to refugees and migrants in-transit. While assistance under the RMRP was provided to refugees and migrants in-transit (in Brazil and Mexico, primarily to Venezuelan nationals, in the other countries, refugees and migrants of all nationalities in-transit), given that in-transit populations by their very nature pass through multiple countries, they may be assisted in more than one country. This would mean that the regional total for in-transit people reached with assistance would include significant duplications. In order to avoid such duplications, information for the in-transit population assisted is included at the country levels and should be referred to distinctly from the in-destination population (as is also done for the corresponding PiNs and targets).
- * Funding information as reported to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) as of 1 April 2024. This data is based on partners' voluntary reporting of contributions and may not accurately represent all funds attributed to the RMRP response. Unearmarked funds from donors may also not be reported to FTS with a sector or country designation at the time of receipt by RMRP partners.
- Sectoral funds reported for activities implemented at a regional, sub-regional, or multi-country level are not reflected in the above infographic disaggregated by national and sub-regional platforms. For more information about the funding of the RMRP please refer to this <u>link</u>.
- *** This includes RMRP appealing partners that are also implementing activities, as well as implementing partners that are not appealing partners. For this reason, it is recommended to quote partner figures separately and not sum the number of partners, as this would double-count implementing partners that are also reporting activities.





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Refugee and migrant children and adolescents in the region continue to face challenges accessing educational services and addressing various multi-sectoral needs to mitigate learning gaps. The RMNA 2023 highlighted that the main obstacles to access schools and maintain retention are the widespread lack of regular status and documentation of refugees and migrants. Another important challenge that affected school attendance in various R4V countries was families' lack of financial means to afford tuition fees (where applicable) and essential school supplies that are not covered by host countries, such as materials, transportation, and uniforms. In countries like Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru, the shortage of available enrolment slots also constituted an important challenge for access to education for refugees and migrants. Language barriers often impede Spanish speaking refugee and migrant children's access and/or effective attendance



in countries such as Brazil, Aruba, Curaçao, Trinidad and Tobago, and Guyana. The Trinidad and Tobago government identified 170 Venezuelan students for a pilot program through which it is envisaged that they will be granted access to education in the course of 2024.

Despite various challenges, 2023 also saw some improvements in the field of refugees' and migrants' access to education. For example, enrolment of Venezuelan refugee and migrant children in schools in Colombia increased from approximately 488.5K (2022) to 606.5K (2023), with Venezuelan children representing 6% of all children enrolled nationally.

Response

Efforts of R4V education partners supported refugee and migrant children in meeting their educational needs, reaching some 202K people across the region in 2023, accounting for 28.2% of the Sector's target population.

To enhance access to education for refugee and migrant children, R4V partners conducted a number of activities in 2023, including direct assistance, capacity development, advocacy, and support to governments in the implementation of national education policies inclusive of refugees and migrants. Partners also addressed barriers preventing school attendance, such as lack of financial means to cover costs linked to enrolment and essential supplies, by distributing cash and voucher assistance (CVA), education materials and school uniforms. Additionally, partner initiatives included efforts to identify out-of-school children, as seen in Brazil and Ecuador. Furthermore, collaborative efforts with the Ministries of Education included joint communication campaigns (Peru), provision of educational materials (Colombia), establishment of a special working group (Bolivia) and joint workshops (Chile) aimed at integrating refugee and migrant children into the education system.

To ensure permanence in the educational system, the Education Sector conducted academic leveling activities in Ecuador. Initiatives promoting equality and preventing xenophobia included trainings of school personnel in Peru on xenophobia prevention and intercultural approaches to encourage school retention in Argentina, Paraguay and Uruguay.

In the Caribbean sub-region, educational initiatives included language support and after-school classes tailored for Venezuelan refugee and migrant children in Aruba, Curaçao, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. Moreover, indigenous children in Guyana received English language classes pending their school enrolment. Alternative education was also provided for those without access to national education systems in Trinidad and Tobago.

Partners also supported inclusive education policies across various countries. For example, in Ecuador, R4V partners supported the application of Ministerial Agreement 26 A and Active Search programs, which included supporting communication campaigns for refugees and migrants, as well as assistance to individual cases of children in their enrolment in schools.

Finally, education partners also reached some 2.3K teachers through the online course "Creando Aula", aiming to enhance the continuation of education in contexts of emergency situations. Linked to the increasing number of refugee and migrant children intransit, the "*Education without limits: I learn here or there*" campaign raised awareness about the educational crisis experienced by these children.

Lessons Learned

In 2023, several challenges were identified both regionally and nationally. For example, the limited alignment between the regulatory frameworks of the countries in the region concerning access to and permanence of educational services. While important steps were taken through initiatives like the Convenio Andrés Bello (CAB) equivalency table, the various country-specific documentary requirements remain a challenge for the recognition of and access to learning.

Another challenge was the implementation of public policies at the local level, as often a new federal policy do not automatically result in the elimination of educational barriers. For this reason, the Education Sector will continue to focus on supporting governments, also at the local level to ensure federal policies and laws translate into increased access to education for refugee and migrant children in the entire country, particularly in remote areas.