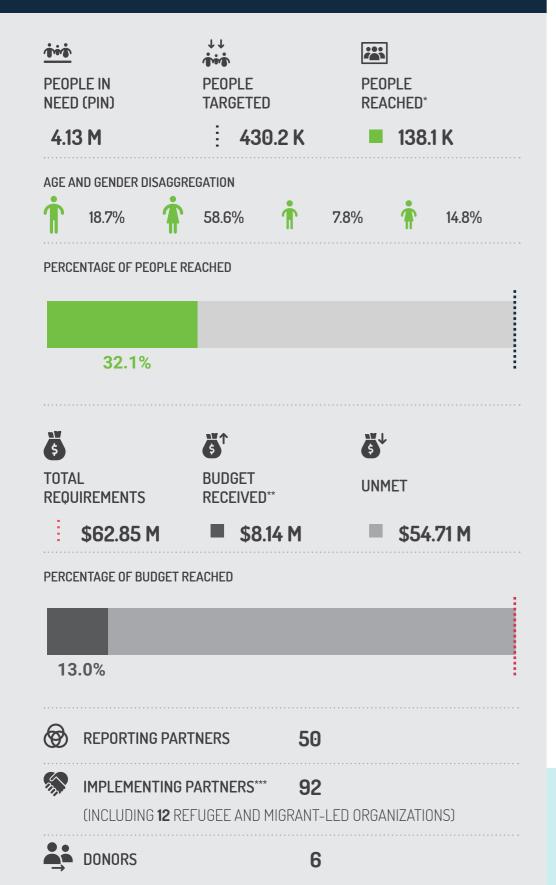
## **END-YEAR REPORT 2023**

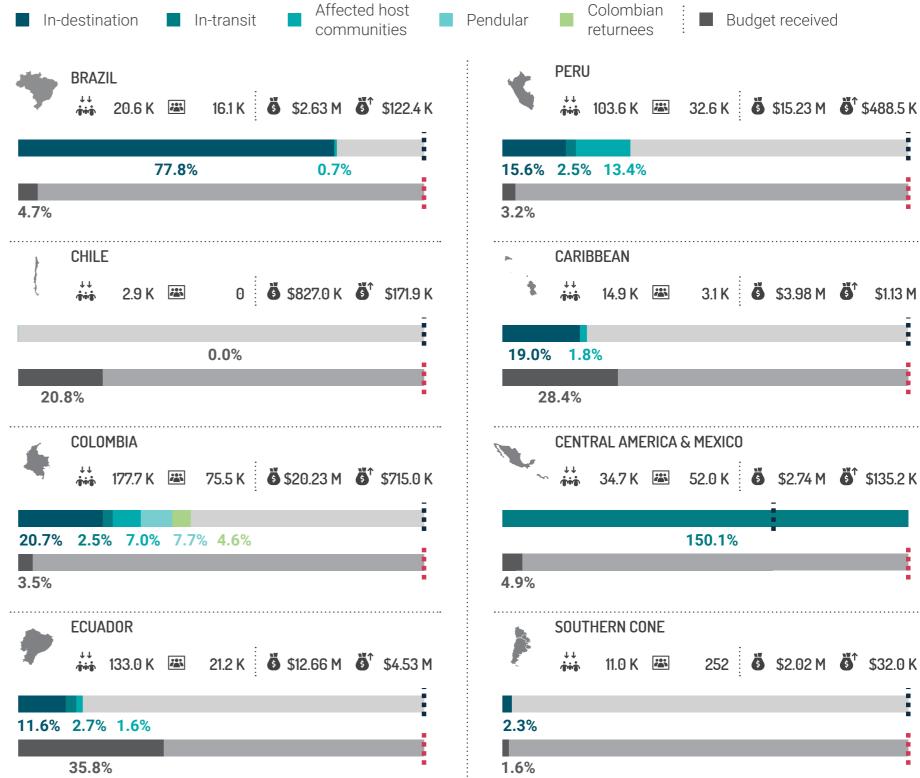


# **GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)**





### 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.





Refugee and migrant women, girls and LGBTQI+ persons continue to face severe gender-based violence (GBV) risks in public and private spaces. Population movement trends in 2023, along routes increasingly controlled by organized criminal groups, generated additional GBV threats and operational challenges for GBV responders. Refugees and migrants, predominantly women and girls, were subject to extortion, physical and sexual assault, trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes, and rape by armed and criminal groups during the perilous journey to reach destination countries. In 2023, a response actor provided *clinical management of rape* to 676 individuals entering Panama through the Darien jungle. *Sexual violence* against those in-transit was also reported on regular and irregular routes in Chile, Brazil, Peru and Colombia at the hands of drivers, police and border control officers.



Furthermore, organized crime, illegal mining and other illicit economies in remote territories in Brazil, Ecuador, Colombia, Panama, Guyana and Peru were associated with <u>femicides, rapes, and trafficking for sexual exploitation purposes</u> of refugees and migrants.

The impact of a challenging economic situation, high crime rates and political turmoil in some host countries also contributed to heightened insecurity, economic hardship and increased vulnerability to GBV risks for refugees and migrants, such as sexual harassment in public spaces and sexual exploitation.

#### Response

In 2023, GBV Sub-sector partners reached 138.1K individuals through a multisectoral response encompassing GBV prevention and risk mitigation programs (2,089 activities), trainings (1,330 activities) and direct GBV assistance (918). At the regional level, the Sub-sector developed technical guidance on GBV service provision, led regional trainings on inter-agency guidelines to improve GBV program quality, and collaborated with other sectors to mainstream GBV awareness in their action plans.

At the national level, the national Sub-sector in Colombia adapted an inter-agency GBV risk mitigation tool for cash transfers and trained national Cash Working Group members on using the tool and making safe and ethical GBV referrals. Some 381 capacity building activities and 1.2K awareness sessions on GBV prevention were also implemented in Colombia. In Peru, 60 partners were trained on the use of cash in GBV response. In Brazil, the Roraima Inter-agency GBV SOP was finalized, and the Sub-sector organized a refugee and migrant women convention, during which a document was presented to government leaders, aimed at improving protection policies for refugees and migrants. It also conducted a large scale GBV awareness campaign reaching 5K people. In Ecuador, the Sub-sector updated referral protocols and improved referral practices between R4V partners and health and legal state actors. In Guyana, Sub-sector launched self-paced capacity development activities for partners.

The regional Sub-sector's achievements included facilitating a panel on safe referrals and appropriate interaction with survivors for Venezuelan women leaders. It also led multi-country capacity strengthening initiatives, including a training on minimum standards for GBV programming for 38 women-led organizations from seven host countries. The Sub-sector also trained social workers four countries in the Caribbean on psychosocial care for adolescent GBV survivors. Additionally, in-person workshops and online session were facilitated in Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Chile on topics including GBV minimum standards, coordination, risk mitigation in shelters, GBV core concepts and safe referrals.

Additionally, the GBV Sub-sector provided technical guidance and support to national sub-sectors, including support into strategic planning processes in four countries. Further achievements included the production of a guidance on social inclusion for adolescent refugees and migrants and a guidance on psychosocial support for LGBTQI+ adolescents from Venezuela.

To mitigate GBV risks in temporary accommodation sites, the GBV Sub-sector and the Shelter Sector conducted a three-day training of trainers (ToT) programme on GBV risk mitigation and safe referrals for 17 shelter and project managers from seven countries.

#### **Lessons Learned**

Implementation of GBV programming was challenging in areas controlled by armed groups or with heightened insecurity such as in Ecuador, Colombia, Guyana and along the Bolivian border. To address disruptions in humanitarian access, GBV responders relied on mobile women and girls' safe spaces and brigades, remote modalities and work through local partners.

For a more sustainable response in 2024, the GBV Sub-sector will focus on strengthening and partnering with women-led organizations to deliver community-based GBV responses due to their continued access, sustained presence and community buy-in.