END-YEAR REPORT 2023



DONORS

SHELTER

Tit **PEOPLE IN PEOPLE PEOPLE** NEED (PIN) **TARGETED REACHED*** 586.5 K 6.63 M **240.9 K** AGE AND GENDER DISAGGREGATION 33.1% 33.2% 16.4% PERCENTAGE OF PEOPLE REACHED 41.1% TOTAL BUDGET **UNMET** REQUIREMENTS RECEIVED** ■ \$108.67 M \$130.86 M **\$22.18 M** PERCENTAGE OF BUDGET REACHED 17.0% REPORTING PARTNERS 33 **IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS**** (INCLUDING 6 REFUGEE AND MIGRANT-LED ORGANIZATIONS)

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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.





Situation

The shelter situation of refugees and migrants in the region remained challenging throughout 2023 due to the combined effects of a strained economic situation, high levels of inflation, increasing levels of xenophobia, and prevalent security risks. As highlighted in the RMNA 2023, refugees and migrants faced increasing difficulties in accessing affordable and adequate housing, especially in urban areas, where most reside. Due to economic instability and high levels inflation in many of the countries in the region, costs of living, including rental prices, notably increased compared to 2022. Many refugees and migrants were forced to live in overcrowded, informal, or precarious settlements. In some countries, such as Panama, Costa Rica, and the Dominican Republic, refugees and migrants faced legal and administrative barriers to accessing formal housing, among them, some noteworthy obstacles were the lack of documentation, bank accounts, or guarantors, as these are often required to secure a formal rental contract.

Shelter remains as a <u>key concern for refugees and migrants intransit</u>, who often find themselves sleeping in the streets and public spaces throughout their journey. Up to 76% of refugees and migrants surveyed in Brazil, Colombia, Mexico, Panama and Costa Rica expressed uncertainty about where to spend the next night.

Response

The Sector responded to the urgent shelter needs of refugees and migrants by providing shelter assistance to 240.9K people, which represents 41% of the target population. This was achieved through 2,727 activities implemented by 73 partners, among which 6 are refugee- and migrant-led organizations. Out of the total activities, 16.3% were implemented through CVA.

Rental assistance constituted almost half of the activities implemented by the Sector, reaching more than 112,000 refugees and migrants. This included short-term support through hotels (43% of the overall rental assistance), short-term rental support for up to 3 months (30%), and long-term support of more than 3

months (26%).^[1] To accompany these efforts, the Sector promoted technical tools such as the adequate housing tool, which was initially published in 2022 but adapted and improved in 2023.

The Shelter Sector coordinated with other sectors and partners to ensure a comprehensive and holistic approach to shelter interventions while supporting the integration of refugees and migrants, as well as promoting self-reliance in host communities. To this end, the Sector worked with the Integration Sector and Shelter actors to develop tools and guidelines to support the settlement approach/area-based approach in the region. Additionally, in 2023, the Sector published guidance on the Harmonization of Household Items Kits. Finally, the work of the Shelter Sector was highlighted as a good practice in the Global Shelter Cluster's 9th edition of Shelter Projects.

Lessons Learned

The rise in the rental prices, which are often the largest cost for a family, led to refugees and migrants moving to less adequate and remote options. Such relocations, in turn, negatively impact their integration efforts. As a result, the shelter response had to continuously adapt to new rental market realities and update its tools and approaches to address the changing needs.

Another challenge relates to the ever-growing rate of refugees and migrants engaging in multidirectional onward and transit movements across the region, which contribute to the exhaustion of existing response capacities, in particular as concerns collective accommodation in border and urban areas, resulting in refugees and migrants frequently sleeping outside, without safety and protection from the elements and exposed to risks of abuse and exploitation, among others.

^{1]} Percentages are calculated based on the total number of activities conducted by R4V partners. The total number of refugees and migrants reached with rental assistance may contain duplications.