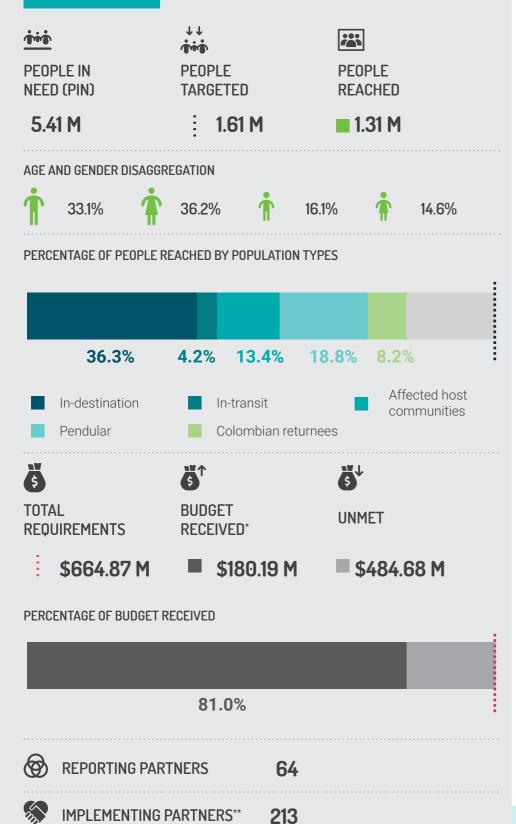
END-YEAR REPORT 2023



COLOMBIA



(INCLUDING **62** REFUGEE AND MIGRANT-LED ORGANIZATIONS)

29

DONORS



KEY FIGURES BY SECTOR

			*	%	 5 ***	5	%
=	EDUCATION	449.4 K	100.9 K	22.4%	\$56.21 M	\$8.47 M	15.1%
***	FOOD SECURITY	975.8 K	1.03 M	105.5%	\$125.36 M	\$50.06 M	39.9%
\$	HEALTH	1.43 M	574.0 K	40.3%	\$97.29 M	\$18.71 M	19.2%
	HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION	119.4 K	73.5 K	61.6%	\$4.66 M	\$1.25 M	26.9%
(3)	INTEGRATION	239.1 K	72.9 K	30.5%	\$126.84 M	\$21.26 M	16.8%
Ö	NUTRITION	114.8 K	35.3 K	30.8%	\$4.36 M	\$1.02 M	23.5%
4	PROTECTION	542.0 K	449.5 K	82.9%	\$64.12 M	\$32.41 M	50.5%
Li	CHILD PROTECTION	119.6 K	49.1 K	41.1%	\$28.02 M	\$7.16 M	25.5%
**	GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE (GBV)	177.7 K	75.5 K	42.5%	\$20.23 M	\$715.0 K	3.5%
¥	HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND SMUGGLING	29.0 K	26.8 K	92.3%	\$6.75 M	\$1.40 M	20.8%
Î	SHELTER	232.5 K	149.2 K	64.2%	\$36.02 M	\$10.14 M	28.2%
ب	WASH	288.7 K	183.3 K	63.5%	\$22.63 M	\$5.05 M	22.3%
•••	MULTIPURPOSE CASH ASSISTANCE (MPC)	272.4 K	141.4 K	51.9%	\$59.42 M	\$13.88 M	23.4%

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.

Funds reported for activities implemented under common services or reported for various activities falling under multiple sectors (not disaggregated) are not reflected in the above infographic. For more information about the funding of the RMRP please refer to this <u>link</u>.

^{*} Funding information as reported to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) as of 1 April 2024. This data ** 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

In 2023, Colombia and Venezuela restored diplomatic relations and fully reopened their borders, leading to increased regular movements between the two countries. Meanwhile, irregular and onward transit movements via Colombia grew, with 520.1K refugees and migrants (63% Venezuelans) crossing from Colombia to Panama in 2023, compared to 248.3K in 2022. This increase could be attributed to perceived opportunities in the United States of America and in Mexico, while challenging economic conditions, limited regular employment opportunities and an increasingly reserved political climate in Colombia negatively impacted the ability of refugees and migrants to integrate and create a stable future in the country.

The economy saw a modest 0.6% GDP increase, the lowest in two decades (excluding 2020 due to COVID-19). The ever-increasing costs of living exacerbated the situation of refugees and migrants, who faced persistent barriers to entering the regular labour market, including difficulties in validating their educational and professional credentials, or lack of regularization.

Out of the 2.8M Venezuelans residing in Colombia, by end-2023, 1.9M had received temporary protection permits (TPP). However more than half of TPP holders reported difficulties accessing public services and finding jobs, citing documentary requirements, discrimination, low salaries or poor job conditions as main obstacles.

Insecurity is the third main reason identified in the RMNA for refugees and migrants in Colombia to move to another country. Despite a *decrease in some violence indicators* in 2023, refugees and migrants face ongoing *risks*; for instance, there were 1,574 *violent deaths* of Venezuelans in Colombia in 2023.

Response

In responding to the main priorities identified in the RMNA 2022, which highlighted a particular need for integration, shelter, health, and protection, throughout 2023, 66 R4V partners reached over 1.3 million people in 32 departments of Colombia.

The **Health Sector** assisted more than 574K individuals with primary healthcare, complementary services, and epidemiological

surveillance. The Sector also activated a health committee to improve coordination between Colombia and Panama. Regarding sexual and reproductive health, partners made progress in monitoring sexual and reproductive health, facilitating the generation of alerts regarding morbidity and mortality to be shared with the refugee and migrant populations.

The **Food Security Sector** reached more than 1,03M people, mainly through direct food assistance. For the high number of people intransit, the Sector adjusted its response and prioritized hot meals at communal facilities and ready-to-eat meals. Meanwhile, the **Nutrition Sector** assisted over 35.3K refugees and migrants, with particular focus on nutritional supplements for children aged 6 to 59 months, as well as for pregnant and lactating women.

With 29% of refugee and migrant children in-destination aged between 6 and 17 *not enrolled in school* (primarily due to financial constraints), the **Education Sector** assisted over 100.9K individuals, through supplies or educational services, such as school kits (60%), and assistance related to enrollment in formal educational institutions or non-formal education programs (38%).

The **Integration Sector** assisted over 72.9K individuals with financial inclusion and financial education services (41%) and support for self-employment or entrepreneurship initiatives (29%). Furthermore, the sector improved national and local institutional responses with competency certification programs and entrepreneurship support.

The **Shelter Sector** supported 149.2K refugees and migrants with short-term shelter solutions (e.g., hotel rooms) as well as medium- and long-term support, including through cash for rent programmes. The **Humanitarian Transportation Sector** provided assistance to 73.5K refugees and migrants, mainly for transportation within the country in order for refugees and migrants to access vital healthcare, protection, regularization, education and labour opportunities and services.

The **WASH Sector** provided access to services for 183.3K people, primarily through hygiene supplies and communication campaigns on hygiene practices. It also provided safe access to sufficient and potable water, for example in Urabá, where bottled water and hygiene items were distributed.

The **Protection Sector** reached 449.5K individuals, prioritizing access to rights and support for the TPS programme and asylum procedures. In response to the increase in GBV cases among the refugee and migrant populations (as highlighted in the RMNA 2022), the **GBV Sub-sector** reached over 75.5K through GBV prevention programs (82%) and referrals to survivor assistance (18%). The **Child Protection Sub-sector** assisted 49.1K people, including through specialized child protection services (69%), mental health and psychosocial support (31%). The Sub-sector prioritized the care of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC), aimed at preventing recruitment by armed actors and criminal groups.

Lastly, 141.3K people received **cash and voucher assistance** in Colombia in 2023.

Lessons Learned

Challenges mainly related to the limited integration prospects and managing the growing onward and transit movements of refugees and migrants. Between 2% – 20% of those refugees and migrants who engage in onward or transit movements via Colombia have reportedly obtained a regular status in the country (largely the TPS). This indicates that, despite prevailing challenges, the TPP and refugee recognition contribute to stabilizing a majority of refugees and migrants in Colombia.

In 2023, there was a shift within the government of responsibilities for refugees and migrants. For example, a new Ministry of Equality was created and will assume the responsibilities previously held by Border Management (Gerencia de Fronteras), and is expected to be fully operational in 2024.