

CHILE



REFUGEES AND
MIGRANTS IN CHILE
455,494



PEOPLE TARGETED IN 2020*
254,000



FUNDING SITUATION**

FUNDED: **0.7 %**
REQUIREMENT: **31,500,000**

Situation

- The last two weeks of April saw an increase in requests by Venezuelan refugees and migrants for a humanitarian return flight from Santiago de Chile to Caracas. More than 200 Venezuelans took up position in front of their Embassy in Santiago de Chile in the hope that a flight could be arranged. The Government of Chile is in close contact with the Venezuelan authorities to find a solution to the situation.
- The number of COVID-19 cases continued to rise** throughout the month of April. The Government registered more than 16,000 cases by 30 April. Due to non-discriminatory efforts, the data is not disaggregated by nationality. However, informal enquiries suggest that the number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants affected by the virus remain very low.

Response

- As a consequence of business closures and the economic situation due to the COVID-19 pandemic in Chile, employment or income continue to be the most pressing needs among refugees and migrants from Venezuela. In this regard, actions this month focused mainly on **the roll-out of cash based interventions and protocols for rental subsidies for vulnerable refugees and migrants**, complementing the platform's efforts to increase the provision of **shelter, and the distribution of food and non-food items**, such as **hygiene kits**.
- In close coordination with the Ministry of Health, Health sector partners are seeking to ensure access to relevant medical services while communicating information on disease prevention and response, particularly in densely populated areas. Similarly, members of the Platform have launched an awareness and prevention campaign with a focus on intercultural communication with the Ministry of Health and WHO/PAHO.
- In the framework of the local campaign "Yo Sirvo a Mi País En La Emergencia" (I Serve my Country in the Emergency), which aims to recruit health professionals and technicians to support medical teams responding to the COVID-19 emergency, almost 7,000 applications from health care specialists were received.
- Amongst these, Venezuelans lead with 617 offers of assistance, followed by 152 offers by Chileans. In the context of health emergencies, personnel with foreign medical certification may be hired in Chile. Currently, circa 6,000 foreign medical staff are employed in the public system. It is estimated that there are a total of 10,000 foreign doctors in Chile.
- The co-leaders of the platform met with the Office of the Resident Coordinator on 30 April 2020 to discuss next steps for the national response, given that the proposal presented to relevant Government counterparts was met with support.
- Two **Activity Info trainings** were held on April to support platform partners and to highlight the importance of reporting on their activities. **11 out of 18 partners are now fully capacitated**.
- Following two coordination meetings in April, the **Government of Chile will assume the Pro Tempore presidency on 27 May 2020**, taking over from the Government of Colombia. The handover will take place **one day after the International Pledging Conference** that will be held in support of refugee and migrant-hosting countries in Latin America.



PEOPLE REACHED*



Integration

531



NFI

665



Nutrition

865



Protection

538



Shelter

7