


CHILE



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN CHILE
455,494



PEOPLE TARGETED IN 2020*
254,000



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

Situation

- According to the latest figures released by the Immigration Department and the National Statistics Institute, it is estimated that as of December 31, 2019, there are **nearly 455,500 refugees and migrants from Venezuela in Chile**. This represents more than 30% of the total foreign population residing in the country (1.49 M).
- **The arrival and rapid spread of COVID-19 in Chile has substantially affected the operational environment** and has had very tangible consequences for refugees and migrants from Venezuela. The closure of all borders to foreigners and non-residents, the halting of Refugee Status Determination (RSD) procedures and the slowing of other regularization processes as well as the closure of businesses has particularly impacted on refugees and migrants from Venezuelan. The closure of businesses in the service industry, often employing refugees and migrants under precarious conditions, has hit these communities particularly badly. The lack of documentation and challenges with renewal have placed limitations on refugees' and migrants' abilities to access basic social services, including health services.
- **A follow-up discussion was held with regards to the agenda for the sixth round of the Quito Process.** As incoming President *pro tempore*, Chile will set the thematic agenda for discussions and is expected to host the next meeting in Santiago de Chile.

Response

- Within the framework of the Quito Process, and in line with the outcomes of the Chapter held in Bogota in 2019, a national consultation was held in Chile with government institutions, NGOs, CSOs and members of the National Platform on the **Regional Protocol for the Protection of Venezuelan Migrant and Refugee Children and Adolescents**. The final version of this Regional Protocol is going to be presented during the sixth meeting of the Quito Process in Santiago, Chile.
- Major needs among Venezuelan refugees and migrants emerging from the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic in Chile include **shelter, food and non-food items**. In response, platform partners sought to **enhance shelter availability for particularly vulnerable refugees and migrants**, including female single-headed households with children in Arica, Antofagasta and Iquique (Northern Chile) as well as in Talca (Southern Chile).
- Similarly, efforts were made to **increase the distribution of food boxes** in locations with high numbers of refugees and migrants, as well as to distribute key **non-food items**, such as **hygiene kits**.
- As all partners adopted remote working modalities, **legal assistance and support** was moved to **online assistance** provided through the MIGRAPP application (an online messaging tool) and over the phone, by email and whatsapp.
- All shelters and communal food kitchens were provided with additional support to be able to comply with **pandemic-conforming hygiene standards** and ensure social distancing among refugees and migrants and with staff and volunteers.
- Implementation of activities in March also focused on the **provision of school supplies and backpacks** through five municipalities in Santiago (Estación Central, Independencia, La Pintana, Recoleta y Lo Prado) and one in Antofagasta and a SCO in the north of Chile (Deasila), in a bid to support families with children during this time of school closures.



PEOPLE REACHED*



Hum. Transp.

-



Integration

436



NFI

350



Nutrition

729



Protection

2995



Shelter

235