


 REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN
THE SUBREGION*

224,000


 PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE**

7,675



FUNDING SITUATION

FUNDED: \$11.6 MILLION

REQUIREMENT: \$ 40.7 MILLION



Situation

- A High-Level Indigenous Forum organized by the R4V Regional Protection Sector took place virtually on 30 November and featured 16 displaced Venezuelan indigenous delegates from four countries including Trinidad & Tobago and Guyana. The Forum presented key needs and concerns of these communities to the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
- In **Aruba**, 72.77% of the population were fully vaccinated by the end of November and [COVID-19 cases stabilized](#) with minimal increases in viral infections. The Netherlands postponed the decision to distribute [the final tranche of funding that had been pledged to Aruba for the last quarter of 2021, citing that the island had not met specified conditions](#), including implementation of stipulated changes to expenditures, and further considers the island to be "[on the recovery track](#)". The Council of Ministers of the Dutch Kingdom will meet the 21 Jan 2022 to decide on financial aid to the island. It is anticipated that economic recovery could lead to job creation and improved conditions for individuals in Aruba, including for refugees and migrants. However, existing fiscal constraints can make it difficult for all individuals, especially refugees and migrants to access the benefits of this economic revival.
- While [COVID-19 infections slowed in Curaçao](#), the authorities [tightened travel restrictions for Dutch travellers](#) due to concerns of increasing numbers of cases in the Netherlands. Curaçao's economy is highly dependent on tourism, and [the industry has only just started recovering](#) since the pandemic began. Many refugees and migrants depend on the tourism industry for jobs to sustain themselves and their families. Meanwhile, vaccination efforts continued with 57.69% of the population being fully vaccinated. Separately, UNHCR registration certificates issued to refugees and asylum-seekers were renewed.
- R4V partners in the **Dominican Republic (DR)** continue to support the [regularization process of refugees and migrants from Venezuela](#) which is now in its [third phase of implementation](#). From the 43,000 Venezuelans who have registered so far, 30,416 received first-phase extensions of stay, 8,312 obtained work and student visas during the second phase, and approximately 1,000 persons submitted documents for non-resident cards in the third phase.
- In **Guyana**, [an emergency situation in an indigenous community in Region 1 where children showed signs of acute malnutrition](#) was reported in the local media. The authorities immediately became involved and a task force to provide humanitarian assistance was set up, including UN agencies and R4V partners who have been providing aid and response measures. Support was given in the form of emergency food kits, emergency shelter and more. Additionally, national vaccination campaigns continued to be accessible to refugees and migrants.
- The [Universal Periodic Review of Trinidad and Tobago \(T&T\)](#) was held on 9 November. The Attorney General noted that "there are economic migrants as opposed to asylum-seekers." Several national delegates recommended that legislation and processes need to be developed for persons in need of international protection. Additionally, the Caribbean Centre for Human Rights (CCHR), a member of the Sub Working Group on Detention of the R4V Refugee and Migrant Working Group, facilitated [a panel discussion on Immigration Detention, "A Dialogue on Due Process and Access to Justice"](#) addressed to attorneys-at-law. Meanwhile, the State of Emergency (SOE), implemented by the authorities in response to the upsurge of COVID-19 cases in May 2021, was officially [revoked on 17 November](#). Public health regulations [remained in place](#), including restrictions on public gatherings. T&T also [recorded its highest number of new COVID-19 cases](#) since the start of the pandemic on November 17 and reported a [third wave](#) of infections. [Minister of National Security, Fitzgerald Hinds, met with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime](#), and highlighted the country's commitment to strengthening border security and preventing the interception of illicit goods, drugs, and high-risk passengers.

Response



HEALTH

Venezuelan children in T&T accessed **pediatric care services** through **telehealth** and **in-person clinic visits**. In addition, one R4V partner hosted a **series of health fairs** that were accessible to locals and refugees and migrants. **Sexual and reproductive health (SRH) services** were also provided through **diagnostic clinics** which offered ultrasounds and ECGs. Meanwhile, **hotline workers** in Guyana and T&T participated in **Psychological First Aid workshops** to strengthen their community response. Also, an R4V partner along with the Aruba Positive Foundation organized an HIV awareness workshop, while **MHPSS** was provided to vulnerable Venezuelans and their children (ages 16 to 21) in Aruba. **Primary health consultations** were provided in Curaçao.



FOOD SECURITY

An R4V partner provided emergency **food kits** to refugees and migrants in one of the [indigenous communities in Region 1, Guyana, where children showed signs of acute malnutrition](#). **Food hampers** were also distributed to Venezuelan and host community households in Region 7, Kaikan, in the hinterland where access to vulnerable Venezuelans is more difficult. Meanwhile, Venezuelans received **cash vouchers** that were redeemable in Regions 4 and 9, so that they could purchase **food items**. Households received a **maximum of two vouchers** depending on their level of vulnerability. Additionally, **food vouchers** were distributed by R4V partners to vulnerable refugee, migrant, and local families throughout T&T, including rural and coastal areas.



SHELTER

R4V partners in collaboration with the Government of Guyana gave **emergency shelter** to [refugees and migrants in the indigenous community in Region 1](#). One individual received assistance of to purchase diapers and clothes for her baby and was relocated to Region 4. Accommodation assistance was provided to vulnerable Venezuelans in Regions 4 and 9 where they received **rent subsidies** and were **placed at a shelter**. In Georgetown, R4V partners assisted refugees and migrants with **food and shelter** in hotels rooms and AirBnB open homes, for cases of persons at risk of eviction, persons with health problems requiring specialized care in the capital and GBV survivors. In Curaçao, R4V partners provided **temporary accommodation assistance** via cash for rent to migrants in vulnerable conditions, such as survivors of GBV.



INTEGRATION

Venezuelans and locals in the Dominican Republic participated in **community fairs** facilitated by R4V partners, where Venezuelan products were sold. **Mobile hubs** for regularization were set up by R4V partners in provinces where there are none to assist with information on the procedures of the Normalization Plan. Meanwhile, a **workshop** on “Co-creation” was undertaken in Boca Chica as part of the activities of the territorial intervention plan within the community. Activities in the plan include the recovery of public spaces, protected areas, and the beautification of the host community with recognition of the contribution of refugees and migrants to the development and sustainability of the community. Additionally, in Curaçao, an R4V partner organized an **arts and crafts workshop** for refugees and migrants.











[R4V Partners, in a joint effort with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development in Trinidad & Tobago met to discuss the Inclusive Cities Project in the country.](#) ©IOM



PROTECTION

Capacity building sessions for **Trafficking in Persons** were held in T&T and in Curaçao with stakeholders from the Government and other agencies. In honour of the [16 Days of Activism Campaign against GBV](#), capacity building and awareness-raising activities were undertaken in Aruba, Curaçao, Guyana, T&T and the DR. R4V partners in T&T hosted a **two-day workshop** for displaced Warao communities from Venezuela, which explored key issues on **displaced indigenous communities**. Additionally, a training workshop was delivered on **International Refugee Protection** for police officers and an implementing agency in T&T. In Aruba, R4V partners hosted a film screening and panel discussion, distributed **dignity kits** and **awareness materials** to refugee, migrants and host community's women and girls.

People Reached*

SECTOR	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	TOTAL
 EDUCATION		29				29
 FOOD SECURITY	271		24	1265		1560
 HEALTH	152	27	72		450	701
 INTEGRATION			4	40	12	56
 CVA	52		179	127	34	392
 PROTECTION	70	0	2766	1447	99	4382
 SHELTER		82	173	149		404
 WASH				151		151

Covid-19 Situation**

COUNTRY	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
CASES IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	+2.69%	+1.86%	+6.70%	+6.54%	+24.48%
DEATHS IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	+1.75%	+2.30%	+1.79%	+8.87%	+27.24%
INDIVIDUALS FULLY VACCINATED IN RELATION TO TOTAL POPULATION	72.77%	57.69%	51.14%	35.18%	45.87%

Operational Overview*

	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
PARTNERS	HIAS, IOM, UNHCR	IOM, UNHCR, Unidat di Barrio, Salut Pa Tur	UNHCR, HAI, Dominican Institute for Integrated Development, Venezuelan Emigrant Foundation	HIAS, IOM, UNHCR, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Social Protection	FPATT, IOM, Living Water Community, Rape Crisis Society, UNHCR, UNICEF, Panamerican Development Foundation
SECTORS					

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Sunita Maharaj, Reporting Officer/Interim R4V Coordinator, IOM, smaharajland@iom.int

Heidi Hunter, Information Management Officer/Interim R4V Coordinator, UNHCR, hunter@unhcr.org

R4V - RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELA: [HTTPS://R4V.INFO/EN/CARIBBEAN](https://r4v.info/en/caribbean)

FINANCIAL TRACKING SYSTEM: [HTTPS://FTS.UNOCHA.ORG/APPEALS/1021/SUMMARY](https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary)

* Based on current month activities | ** As of 30/11/2021; Sources: [COVID Live Update Worldometer \(worldometers.info\)](https://www.worldometers.info/) and [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Vaccinations \(Our World in Data\)](https://www.worldometers.info/)