

CHILE



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
IN CHILE
481K



PEOPLE REACHED
IN 2022*
9.588K



FUNDING SITUATION**
FUNDED:
REQUIREMENT: USD 59.51M

Situation

- On 10 February, [a young Chilean truck driver was killed](#) in the Antofagasta region. The National Police (Carabineros) reported that three Venezuelan nationals were arrested as allegedly responsible for the death. Following the incident, protests unfolded and [truck drivers blocked the main transportation routes](#) in the country, asking for greater security on the roads. Protesters also stated that they would continue to prevent transit until the authorities presented concrete solutions with regards to the current situation of refugees and migrants.
- On 12 February the [Regulation to accompany the new Migration Bill](#) in Chile was approved, which allows the application of a procedure known as *reconducción* or "redirection" of refugees and migrants who enter the country through unofficial border points. According to the national authorities and some local media, more than [60 foreigners were "redirected"](#) back to Bolivia over the weekend (12 and 13 February), out of whom some [refugees and migrants remained for a period of 24-48 hours](#) at the border between Chile and Bolivia without the possibility of entering Chile and in disagreement with re- entering to Bolivia.
- Concerning the redirection procedures, there was confusion due to the lack of protocols for their implementation, including the procedure for arriving refugees and migrants to "self-report" at the border transit points. In this regard, the mayor of Colchane said that during February only Bolivian nationals would be eligible to "self-report," as it is expected that Venezuelan refugees and migrants who attempt to enter will be redirected back to Bolivia and Peru.
- As a measure to stop the irregular entry of refugees and migrants through unofficial border points and contain the truckers strike, the National Government decreed a [state of emergency and militarization of the border](#) in four northern regions of the country for 15 days starting on 16 February.
- On 21 February, the Chilean armed forces began maintenance work on the ditch dividing the border communes of Colchane (Chile) and Pisiga (Bolivia). [The Minister of the Interior stated](#) that they were not constructing a new ditch nor creating an extension but rather simply maintaining the existing border marker.
- In the meantime, host community members in Chile (especially in the Tarapacá Region) demonstrated increasingly ["anti-migration" feelings](#), especially towards the Venezuelan population, manifested through acts of violence, discrimination, and demonstrations of xenophobia on social media networks.
- In February, the National Migration Service published a second version of the [irregularity index](#). The study shows information on people who are in an irregular situation in Chile, either after entering through unofficial border points or overstaying visas after entering regularly: from October to December 2021, the number of people in an irregular situation was 47,066.
- On 24 February, the Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants 2022 (RMRP) Chile chapter was launched by The Ministry of Foreign Affairs in close coordination with the United Nations in Chile and the National R4V Platform. The launch marks a milestone for the R4V National Platform in Chile since, for the first time, the Government of Chile and multiple international cooperation organizations showed their commitment to engage in humanitarian work with refugees and migrants coordinated through the RMRP and R4V.

Response

- Faced with the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the town of Colchane in February, R4V partners carried out a **rapid needs assessment** to identify the most urgent needs of refugees and migrants. Humanitarian transportation, shelter, and support for documentation were the main needs identified by the population entering Chile.
- R4V partners continued **assisting refugees and migrants with food and non-food items** (including hygiene kits) in Arica, Antofagasta and Tarapacá as well as in the Metropolitan Region. In addition, in the Colchane temporary shelter, hot food was provided (including lunch and dinner) to **185 refugees and migrants** per day who have entered the country through unofficial border points. This activity was done in close coordination with the Government.
- In terms of **shelter**, R4V partners supported families in vulnerable conditions with temporary accommodation in the city of Iquique and in the town of Colchane. **R4V partners**, in coordination with a local church, adapted a space that is being used as a temporary shelter for refugees and migrants who cannot access the governmental transitory quarantine shelter (DT for its Spanish acronym).
- Regarding **protection services**, R4V partners delivered key information to all refugees and migrants within the DT in Colchane and its surroundings.
- Between 21-27 February, an **inter-agency mission was carried out between several R4V partners** and agencies of the United Nations System in Tarapacá and Arica and Parinacota regions. The mission collected information on the situation of refugees and migrants, with a particular focus on children and adolescents and the impact on host communities.

PEOPLE REACHED*	Health	Education	Food Security	Integration	CBI	Protection	Shelter	Hum. Transp.	WASH
646	451	9,072	0	975	1,499	1,203	0	1,379	

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* Accumulated figures up to 28/02/2022 | **Source: FTS Website.