

REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN
THE SUBREGION*

222,503

PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE**

6,363



FUNDING SITUATION

REQUIREMENT: \$ 68.4 MILLION

Situation

- In March, [Trinidad and Tobago](#), [Aruba](#) and the [Dominican Republic](#) hosted national launches for the 2022 Refugee and Migrant Response Plan. The launches were virtually attended by the Joint Special Representative of UNHCR and IOM for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Dr. Eduardo Stein, who brought welcoming and closing remarks on behalf of the R4V Regional Inter-agency Coordination Platform. Details on population projections, context and planning assumptions as well as response activities for the regional, Caribbean Sub-regional and national levels were shared. Representatives from governments, UN agencies, international and local NGOs, academia and the diplomatic community attended.
- The Venezuelan Chancellor and the [Aruban](#) Prime Minister raised the topic of re-opening borders between the two countries in a meeting in Honduras. The matter remains under [deliberation](#) with the possibility of initially re-opening for trade only, provided that proper procedures are established. Various [detentions](#) of Venezuelans took place during the reporting period, with the Aruban authorities conducting [random checks](#) in the hospitality and construction sectors and other spaces where they believed persons with irregular status might be employed. The Aruban Coast Guard and the Aruban Police Corps (CPA) also [intercepted boats](#) that were allegedly carrying Venezuelans trying to enter the island in an [irregular manner](#).
- [Curaçao](#)'s Prime Minister met virtually with the Dutch Minister of Foreign Affairs and expressed concerns over the Venezuelan authorities' lack of response on the request to open the borders between both countries. Additionally, a large-scale inspection was carried out at a beach resort construction site, where [five](#) people were detained, including Venezuelans, for not being in possession of a work or residence permit. On another note, R4V partners received increased requests for food assistance from Venezuelan refugees and migrants as [food prices continued to rise](#). Furthermore, R4V partners received a delegation of the Dutch First Chamber Parliament to discuss the humanitarian situation of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, with a special focus on legal protection issues.
- Partners in the [Dominican Republic](#) continued to provide support to the Venezuelan population participating in the normalization plan, through the payment of documentation processing fees, legal support, normalization plan Q&A sessions and more. They also assisted the authorities with coordination, logistics and communication activities and published over 345 posts containing information on the situation of refugees and migrants from Venezuela via distinct social network sites, radio stations and more.
- The Vice-President of [Guyana](#), at a gathering in Region 2, stated that the government will help Guyanese who have returned from Venezuela and refugees and migrants from Venezuela who left their country. He urged that they must be treated with dignity and respect and should not be discriminated against. Separately, through a Government operation, approximately 35 families/135 Venezuelan refugees and migrants were relocated from Region 2 to Region 1 in an indigenous community settlement in Khan Hill, Mabaruma after claims of vandalism. Subsequently, the Regional Democratic Council (RDC) of Region 1 provided food and medical assistance to the families, including food hampers donated by one R4V partner.
- The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) results released by one partner in [Trinidad and Tobago](#) revealed that of a total of 1,376 Venezuelan refugees and migrants who participated in the [DTM 2021](#), 77% were fully vaccinated against COVID-19. Separately, the [Coast Guard crew members involved in the death of a Venezuelan infant in the previous month were removed from sea duties](#). Furthermore, [a Venezuelan mother of two, afflicted with uterine cancer, appealed for help to pay for surgery](#) as refugees and migrants cannot access free tertiary healthcare under the public healthcare system in the country. Additionally, the country was warned to [brace for continued hikes in food prices](#) which R4V partners anticipate will create additional economic strain on refugees and migrants and host community members.

Response



CVA

In the **Dominican Republic**, R4V partners supported small businesses run by vulnerable refugees and migrants with cash and voucher assistance (CVA). Venezuelan and Guyanese families participating in the Socio-Economic Support Program in **Guyana** received their second round of CVA support while partners accompanied them to access public services. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, refugees and migrants received cash assistance to meet basic needs. 10% of CVA applicants were survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) while 50% were persons with chronic/critical illnesses. 75% were unemployed and another 50% were unable to pay rent.



GBV

R4V partners in **Aruba** delivered a presentation on positive masculinities during a healthcare event. Dignity kits were provided to vulnerable Venezuelans. In **Guyana**, partners distributed dignity kits to women and girls to promote physical wellbeing, alleviate family budget constraints and ensure they could continue to engage in daily activities despite their menstrual cycles. The kits included health and protection information to raise awareness on hygiene, reproductive health, GBV related issues, and available services. In **Curaçao**, partners provided psychosocial support and services to Venezuelans and vulnerable host community members, especially persons at risk or survivors of GBV.



HEALTH

In **Aruba**, vulnerable children of refugees and migrants and host community members benefitted from an art therapy session to help them manage their emotions and stress levels in an adaptive way. Also, a partner organised a Health Fair where primary consultations with local volunteer doctors and NGOs were provided to refugees and migrants. In **Curaçao**, partners provided post-partum care, maternity as well as new-born kits. Additionally, Venezuelan refugees and migrants in irregular situations received psychosocial first aid with some receiving more than one session, and others receiving phone consultations depending on their needs.



PROTECTION

In **Aruba** and **Curaçao**, refugees and migrants received information and counselling, legal assistance, humanitarian assistance, and resettlement. In **Guyana**, R4V partners accompanied refugees and migrants in regions 1, 2 and 4 on visits to services, including support with application for legal documents, and access to public services. In **Trinidad and Tobago**, refugee status determination (RSD) services and support with resettlement processes were provided to at-risk Venezuelans.



In Trinidad and Tobago, in March R4V partners hosted a Humanitarian Breakfast Series, an information exchange session between humanitarian actors and the international community. Refugees and migrants' access to health services was discussed. Many Embassies participated, including through the attendance of multiple Ambassadors.











WASH

In **Aruba**, partners distributed COVID-19 prevention packages to Venezuelan refugees, migrants, and host community members. In **Curaçao**, partners delivered personal hygiene kits, clothes and other items to refugees and migrants through a charity shop, which they could visit for a specific amount of time to choose what they need. In **Guyana**, partners supported the distribution of hygiene kits in Region 7 at a graduation ceremony for the Life Empowerment Cosmetology Course.






Covid-19 Situation **

COUNTRY	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
CASES IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	0.73%	3.27%	0.60%	0.53%	7.90%
DEATHS IN RELATION TO PREVIOUS MONTH	0.47%	2.30%	0.16%	0.49%	3.36%
INDIVIDUALS FULLY VACCINATED IN RELATION TO TOTAL POPULATION	75.94%	59.77%	54.13%	45.70%	50.52%

People Reached*

SECTOR	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO	TOTAL
 EDUCATION	102	75	100	131	1,269	1,677
 FOOD SECURITY			53			53
 HEALTH	108	326				434
 INTEGRATION	37			45		82
 CVA	3	19	42	276	8	348
 PROTECTION	228	242	2,257	879	773	4,379
 SHELTER		2	42	32		76
 WASH	530	92		88		710

Operational Overview*

	ARUBA	CURAÇAO	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	GUYANA	TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
PARTNERS	IOM, PADF, UNHCR, VeneAruba Solidaria, Xavier University School of Medicine	IOM, UNHCR, PADF, Venex Curaçao Foundation, Human Rights Defence Curaçao, Salú pa Tur Foundation, Fundashon Perspektiva i Sosten Integral, Stima Foundation, Famia Plania	IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF, Venezuelan Emigrant Foundation, Asociación Aves, Venezuelan Diaspora in the Dominican Republic, Diáspora Venezolana en Boca Chica, Dominican Institute for Integrated Development, FUNCOVERD, Venezolanos en San Cristóbal, Churún Merú, Duendes y Ángeles Vinotinto República Dominicana, Globalizate Radio	HIAS, IOM, UNHCR, Guyana Sex Workers Coalition, Blossoms Inc, Voices Guyana	UNHCR, IOM, UN Habitat, FPATT, Living Water Community, Rape Crisis Society
SECTORS					

APPEALING PARTNERS, IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

Livia Manente, R4V Coordinator, IOM, imanente@iom.int

Helene Songe, R4V Coordinator, UNHCR, songe@unhcr.org

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

* Based on current month activities | ** As of 31/03/2022; Sources: [COVID Live Update Worldometer \(worldometers.info\)](https://www.worldometers.info/covid-19/) and [Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) Vaccinations \(Our World in Data\)](https://ourworldindata.org/covid-19-vaccinations)