

# Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS  
IN THE SUBREGION  
**239,000**



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME  
FORM OF ASSISTANCE\*  
**16,555**



FUNDING SITUATION\*\*  
**TBC** FUNDED: -  
REQUIREMENT: 46.7 MILLION

## Situation

- On 12 February, Chile's new Migration Law went into effect with the publication of its by-laws, which led to the application of a procedure known as reconducción or "redirection" of refugees and migrants entering Chile through irregular crossings, [causing bottlenecks of refugees and migrants in Pisiga, Bolivia](#). According to partners, despite the application of the "redirection" procedure under the new Chilean Migration Law, and the difficult weather and terrain along these routes, refugees and migrants continued to arrive and attempt to enter Chile irregularly from Bolivia (and also Peru), many in dire economic circumstances with little capacity to meet their basic needs. Inter-agency monitoring missions carried out by multiple R4V partners during the latter half of February observed between 200 to 300 refugees and migrants crossing Bolivia at Pisiga daily *en route* to enter Chile, the vast majority Venezuelans, comprised of approximately 65 per cent women and 10 per cent children under the age of 10. On 16 February, a group of nearly 200 people were stopped from entering into Colchane from Bolivia, according to the Chilean National Police (Carabineros).
- During the beginning of January, [Argentina was the worst affected country by COVID-19 in Latin America](#), reaching a test positivity rate of 69.83 percent – well above the 10 percent recommended by the WHO. As of 29 January, new requirements for entering Argentina went into force, with persons with a complete vaccination schedule not needing a COVID-19 test prior to entry, if coming from a neighbouring country. At least [80 per cent of the population](#) had completed vaccination against the disease. In Uruguay, the Ministry of Public Health (MSP) approved [modifications to the decree that authorizes entry into the country](#) of Uruguayan citizens, foreign residents and foreigners: those who have had COVID-19 from 10 to 90 days prior will be exempt from negative PCR tests up to 72 hours before, and the requirement to comply with preventive isolation. As of mid-February, foreigners can enter the country as well with only an [antigen test](#). In Paraguay, on 23 February, due to the improved epidemiological situation in the country, the [Government decided that it will no longer issue a new decree on sanitary measures](#) and with it the provisions that established restrictions since the beginning of the pandemic ceased to apply. However, the modalities to be followed by travelers to enter the country remain in force, and the use of masks remains mandatory both in closed spaces and in open places where distance cannot be maintained.
- In **Uruguay**, during January and the first ten days of February, 207 asylum claims by Venezuelans were registered in the country, whether in person or online, most of them at the Rivera border point with Brazil. In **Argentina**, partners were concerned about cases of rejections of Venezuelans at borders in the city of Puerto Iguazú – particularly cases involving children and adolescents – and denial of access to asylum at the border and access to registration of such applications.

Response  
Highlights\*\*\*



**ARGENTINA:** APdeBA, CAREF, FCCAM, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, MIRARES, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR. **BOLIVIA:** Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Cochabamba, Caritas Switzerland, IICAB, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, Scalabrini Foundation, UNICEF, UNHCR, World Vision. **PARAGUAY:** IOM, Semillas para la Democracia UNHCR. **URUGUAY:** ADRA, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF.

- In **Argentina**, R4V partners provided shelter assistance to more than 900 refugees and migrants in Buenos Aires City and border areas such as Jujuy and Misiones (70%), and hygiene and COVID-19 kits to 107 refugees and migrants in border areas. In urban areas, partners provided assistance for self-employment or entrepreneurship initiatives to some 100 refugees and migrants. Almost 1,000 people received cash grants and some other 3,000 protection services (50% in border areas in the north).
- In **Paraguay**, more than 200 refugees and migrants received legal advice for migratory regularization, labour orientation, homologation of degrees, and for access to public health by partners; more than 100 vulnerable people received multipurpose cash grants in the departments of Alto Parana (border with Argentina and Brazil), Asuncion and Central. Some 50 children received school kits to begin their school year.
- In **Uruguay** partners provided assistance for the regularization and documentation of almost 200 refugees and migrants and more than 300 people received cash to cover their needs. In January, thanks to partners' efforts, an elderly woman and her grandson arrived in Uruguay to reunite with the child's mother.
- In **Bolivia**, to improve protection for refugees and migrants from Venezuela, partners cooperated and coordinated with the authorities, and disseminated information to Venezuelans in the context of the new migratory panorama in Chile. Partners ensured regular monitoring of movements, strengthened a temporary shelter in Pisiga to increase its reception capacity, distributed potable water and food and supported a health center in Pisiga with supplies.



Food Security

Hum. Transp.

Health

Education

Integration

WASH

Protection

Shelter

CVA

PEOPLE REACHED\*

1,624

208

1,331

64

335

1,171

7,277

3,934

1,888

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\*From 01/01/2022 until 28/02/2022 | \*\*Source: FTS Website | \*\*\*The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.