FACT SHEET

Guyana

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

October- December 2024

Key Figures

23,412 forcibly displaced Venezuelans received stay permits since 2018.

991 people received information and participated in awareness sessions on international protection and how to access Government services.

232 forcibly displaced people received case management and protection services.

Context

Guyana is not a signatory of the 1951 Convention nor its 1967 Protocol. Authorities provide legal stay permits to forcibly displaced people, and Guyana's policy ensures everyone has access to health and education services, regardless of status. These groups face limited livelihood opportunities and language barriers, both obstacles to integration. Access to sanitary facilities and potable water is challenging, especially for Indigenous people in remote areas.

In December, Guyana presented its final written argument to the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the border dispute with Venezuela. This starts a second round of written submissions following Venezuela's counter-memorial in April 2024. The ICJ will schedule oral hearings after Venezuela submits its final response in 2025.

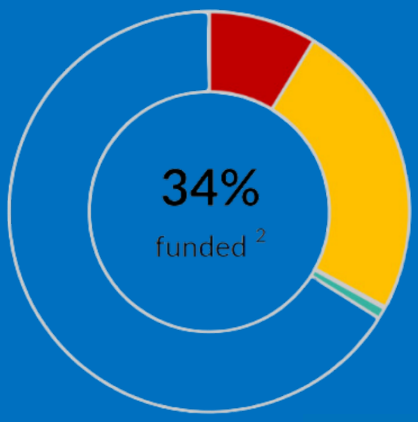
Tensions rose after Guyana announced plans to renovate the Camp Tigri airstrip, also known as Camp Jaguar, in the disputed New River Triangle between Guyana and Suriname. Although internationally recognized as part of Guyana, Suriname also claims the area. Officials from both countries met to discuss the issue, emphasizing policies to improve social services, infrastructure, and support for remote vulnerable communities while advancing bilateral cooperation.

UNHCR and the Ministry of Education launched an English as a Second Language (ESL) programme for 69 forcibly displaced Venezuelan adults in Regions 1 and 3.

© Guyana's Ministry of Education

Regional funding Overview

as of 30 December 2024



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

$56.1 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2024

[1] Financial requirement for the Panama MCO in 2024 including requirements for the operations and activities in **Aruba, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname,** and **Trinidad and Tobago.**

[2] The percentage funded is indicative.

UNHCR RESPONSE

UNHCR works with partners and supports the State in providing assistance and protection services to refugees, asylum-seekers, and host communities. UNHCR coordinates with other partners to grant access to education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and direct support to cover basic needs. See the R4V Subregional portal for more information.

Protection | UNHCR counselled 500 forcibly displaced people, assisting 163 with accessing essential services. Through Blossom Inc., the Agency supported 376 children and caregivers with case management services. UNHCR and partners delivered 25 mental health sessions to assist forcibly displaced people, including children, in navigating various challenges.

Basic Needs | UNHCR and HIAS provided 204 forcibly displaced people with direct support to cover basic needs, with 101 of them being new beneficiaries. In Region 1, the Agency distributed over 2,400 school supplies to education centres, including drawing books and backpacks, to enhance vulnerable children's access to education. In collaboration with local authorities, UNHCR distributed additional core relief items, including solar lamps and tarpaulins, to vulnerable individuals across various regions. A total of 474 individuals in the Smith's Creek community, Region 1, benefitted from this distribution. UNHCR supported several remote indigenous villages in Region 1 with agricultural tools to enhance livelihood opportunities and promote community integration.

Response to Violence Against Women and Girls | UNHCR conducted a three-day workshop for 35 frontline workers from government institutions and NGOs to strengthen specialized protection response coordination and service quality. UNHCR, through partners HIAS and Shades of the Sky (SOTS), provided specialized protection services to 568 forcibly displaced people, including survivors of violence against women. SOTS, in collaboration with the National Aids Programme Secretariat, conducted voluntary HIV/STI testing in Regions 3 and 8, benefiting 277 individuals.

Capacity building | UNHCR organized a two-day training on Community Based Protection for Guyana civil society organizations and partners. A total of 35 people participated.

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16 Days of Activism Campaign

In Region 1, UNHCR and partners held a sensitization session at North-West Secondary School. Forty-five students, including forcibly displaced Venezuelans, discussed topics such as prevention and response to violence against women and women's health. The interactive session encouraged open dialogue on respect and dignity. Simultaneously, UNHCR conducted a dedicated protection focused workshop for young male students.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: Australia | Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Guyana | Ireland | Japan | the Republic of Korea | The Kingdom of the Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland | Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS | Private donors from Italy, the Republic of Korea and the Netherlands, Australia for UNHCR, España con ACNUR, Japan for UNHCR, Sweden for UNHCR, the Dutch Postcode Lottery, UK for UNHCR, UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe and USA for UNHCR.

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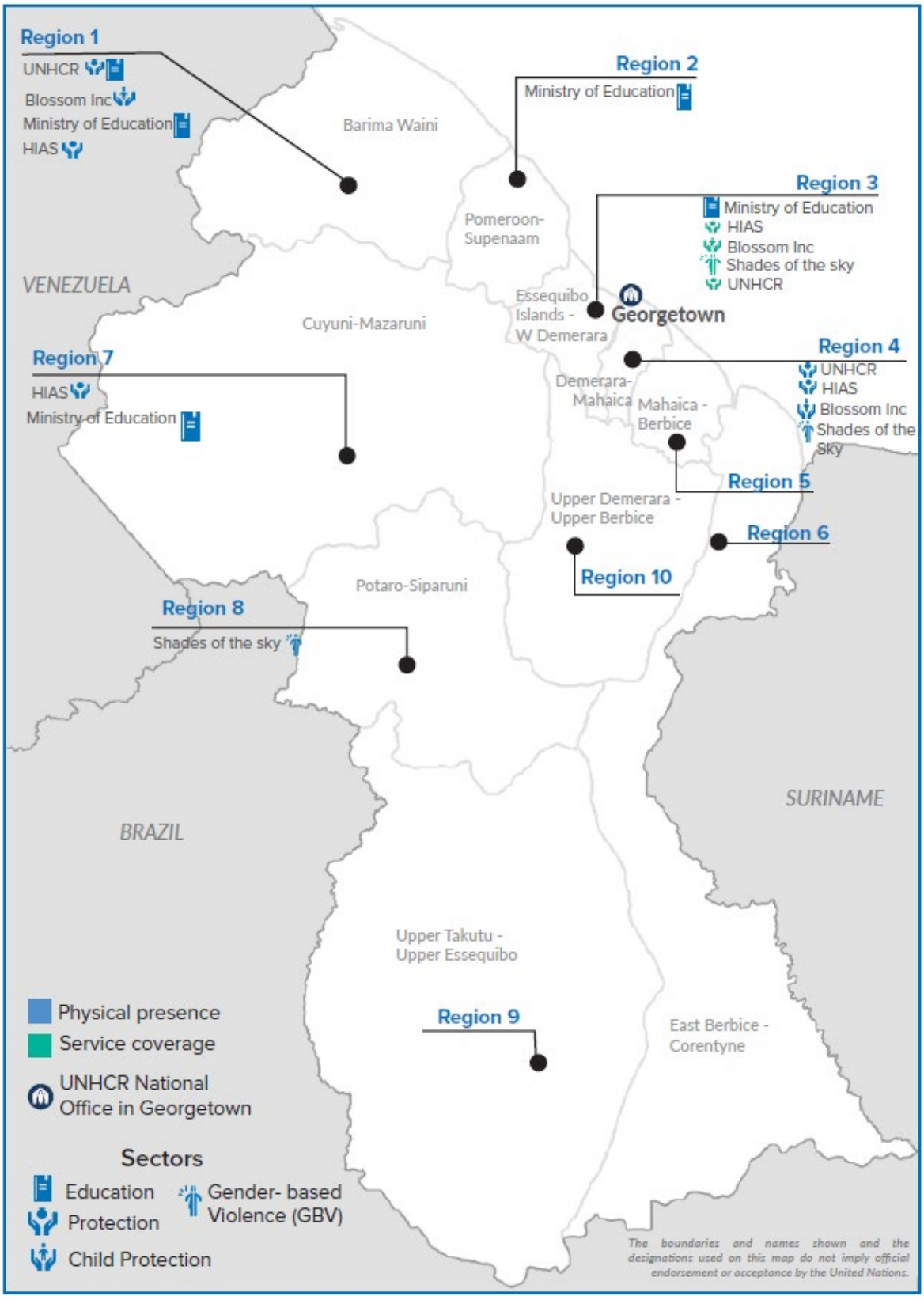
UNHCR's presence in Guyana