

Guyana

March-April 2023

Key Figures



Guyana hosts

21,335

Venezuelan refugees and migrants, and **193** refugees and asylum-seekers of other nationalities.



Nearly **600** forcibly displaced Venezuelans and host community members participated in UNHCR's interventions on gender-based violence prevention and gender equality promotion.



UNHCR distributed over

650

Core Relief Items, including mosquito nets, hygiene kits and jerry cans, to forcibly displaced Venezuelans in March and April.

Context

The Minister of Foreign Affairs attended the 2023 International Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants and their Host Countries and Communities, calling for a concerted response to Venezuelan displacement in the region. The Minister indicated that Guyana continues to offer regularization services to this group and is working on a strategy to include them in the labour market.

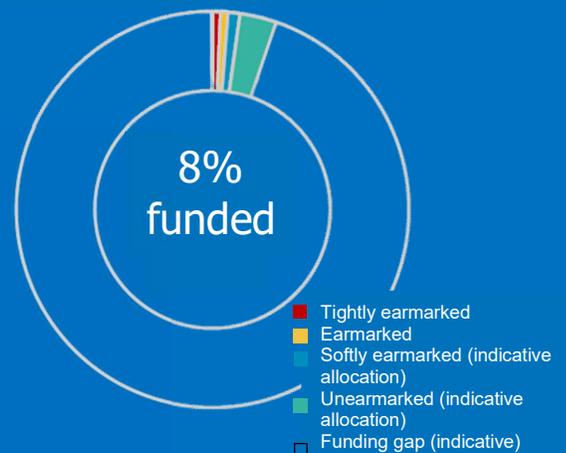
During these months, authorities increased its presence in border areas with Venezuela to monitor irregular border crossings and combat criminal activities. Guyana's Army Chief announced that through its presence, Guyana would continue to provide humanitarian assistance to forcibly displaced Venezuelans.

In April, the Minister of Human Services and Social Security (HSSS) introduced a Bill to combat the trafficking in persons following international standards. The Bill establishes a specialized Task Force to prevent human trafficking, which includes law enforcement, legal affairs, and immigration officers. In 2023, the domestic violence hotline received some 4,000 calls, including 200 people who reported sexual offenses. The line is also available for Spanish speakers.

UNHCR and the United States Ambassador to Guyana visited a settlement of Venezuelan indigenous Enepas in Lethem, Region 9, to understand their needs. The Agency reached out to some 160 people.

Regional funding Overview

as of 27 April 2023



\$55.4 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023

¹ Financial requirement for the Panama MCO in 2023 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 in Guyana and supports the State in providing assistance and protection services to refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and host communities. UNHCR coordinates with other response partners to provide access to education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and cash assistance. See the R4V Subregional portal for more information.



Protection | UNHCR provided information on access to protection services, including documentation and rights, to 478 forcibly displaced Venezuelans (138 women, 123 men, 105 girls, 112 boys). In addition, UNHCR accompanied 211 people (68 women, 50 men, 45 girls, and 48 boys) to relevant government services, such as police, court, hospitals, and immigration offices. UNHCR, through Blossom Inc., has provided case management services to 50 children and their caregivers. It provided Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to 20 girls and boys survivors of child abuse.



Gender-based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response | UNHCR and the Guyana Sex Work Coalition (GSWC) conducted awareness sessions on HIV, sexually transmitted infections, and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) among 85 women who engage in survival sex. GSWC distributed 9,624 condoms and provided emergency assistance to one GBV survivor. UNHCR, with HIAS, provided case management services to 14 GBV survivors and assisted 16 individuals with mental health and psychosocial support.



Cash-based Interventions and Assistance | UNHCR and HIAS distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to over 50 forcibly displaced Venezuelans, reaching 18 households.



Education | In partnership with the Ministry of Education, UNHCR supported access to education and the integration of 720 children in schools – in regions 1, 2, 3, and 7 – through English as Second Language (ESL) classes. UNHCR held community-based ESL classes for 213 out-of-school children and adults in indigenous communities in Region 1.



UNHCR COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

UNHCR conducted a community outreach to provide information to people in Guyana's National Park. During March and April, UNHCR reached 265 people with information and awareness sessions on international protection and access to rights.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: the European Union, the United States of America, and the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS. We also thank the fundamental support provided by donors who have contributed to UNHCR with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds: Belgium | Canada | Denmark | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Spain | Switzerland | private donors in Australia

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UNHCR's presence in Guyana

