On 14 June, UNHCR released the annual Global Trends in Forced Displacement 2022 report.

“These figures show us that some people are far too quick to rush to conflict, and way too slow to find solutions. The consequence is devastation, displacement, and anguish for each of the millions of people forcibly uprooted from their homes. (...) People around the world continue to show extraordinary hospitality for refugees as they extend protection and help to those in need, but much more international support and more equitable responsibility sharing is required, especially with those countries that are hosting most of the world’s displaced. (...) Above all, much more must be done to end conflict and remove obstacles so that refugees have the viable option to return home voluntarily, safely and with dignity.”

Filippo Grandi
UN High Commissioner for Refugees

The press-release is available HERE.

HIGHLIGHTS

One in every five forcibly displaced or stateless people worldwide lived in the Americas by the end of 2022, as political instability, violence, persecution, human rights violations, and climate-related disasters continued to force people to move seeking protection and safety. According to the UNHCR 2022 Global Trends Report, more than 2 in 5 of the new asylum applications worldwide were made by nationals from Latin America and the Caribbean, notably from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Cuba and Nicaragua. The United States of America remained the largest recipient of asylum applications, receiving 730,400 new claims, nearly four times more than during 2021, with Costa Rica (295,500 new claims) and Mexico (18,800) among the five major countries for individuals registration of new asylum seekers. A further 5.2 million other people in need of international protection, predominantly from Venezuela, were reported at the end of 2022. Globally, Colombia hosted the third largest population of refugees and others in need of international protection at the end of 2022, with a total of 2.5 million Venezuelans.

Upon the 12 May lifting of the Title 42 public health order by the United States of America, UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) called for a collaborative approach to better respond to the mixed movement of refugees and migrants throughout the region. UNHCR and IOM welcomed positive initiatives to expand resettlement and other regularization efforts undertaken by governments in the region and persons forcibly displaced, UNHCR also supports ongoing promotion of international protection-sensitive entry systems, ensure access to asylum and other lawful pathways to the United States of America and other countries.

In June, the United States of America jointly announced with the governments of Guatemala, Colombia and Costa Rica the initial phase of the Safe Mobility Offices, which are being designed to facilitate, with the support of UNHCR and IOM, access to protection and other lawful pathways to the United States of America and other countries.

UNHCR and IOM released a joint statement expressing their concern due to the increased number of people crossing the Darien jungle in search of protection and opportunities. According to the Panamanian authorities, as of May, over 166,000 people have crossed through Darien in 2023, representing five times more than those who arrived in the same period in 2022. Authorities estimate that, if the trend continues, by the end of 2023, some 400,000 people will have crossed Darien. Top nationalities in these movements include Venezuelans, Haitians, and Ecuadorians.

UN Deputy High Commissioner for Refugees, Kelly T. Clements, on 17 May appealed urgently for more support for countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. She stated that “While the increase in the number of people approaching the United States border has attracted a lot of attention, it is important to remember that most forcibly displaced people stay in Latin America.”

On 20 June UNHCR commemorated World Refugee Day with the theme “Hope away from home – a world where refugees are always included.” Across the Americas, refugees themselves, host communities, public institutions, businesses, well-known figures, and the general public participated in a multiplicity of activities aimed at promoting understanding, empathy and solidarity towards refugees, while recognizing their valuable contributions to host societies.
Chocó, Colombia.

María Victoria Palacios, a 36-year-old Afro-Colombian trans-woman, works orientation and gender identity.

risks as they are frequently targeted by armed groups because of their sexual

Afro-Colombian and indigenous communities have been disproportionately

affected by the internal armed conflict and are more likely to be displaced

while LGBTIQ+ Afro-Colombian and indigenous peoples face even greater

risks as they are frequently targeted by armed groups because of their sexual

orientation and gender identity.

More information HERE
Notes:
1. The financial requirements for The Americas are for the operations in Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Mexico, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, United States of America and Venezuela.
2. The percentage funded (29%) and total funding amount ($239,168,465) are indicative based on the methodology described above. This leaves an indicative funding gap of $588,263,415 representing 71% of the financial requirements.

$ 827.4 million
UNHCR’s humanitarian response in the Americas is made possible thanks to the generous support of major donors who have contributed unrestricted funding to UNHCR’s global operations and to donors who have generously contributed directly to UNHCR operations in the Americas. UNHCR is appealing for $827.4 million in funding in 2023 to respond to the most pressing needs in the Americas. As of July, donors had pledged $256 million.

THANKS TO DONORS IN 2023 AS OF 20 JULY:
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Panama. UNHCR launched “Confía en el Tucán”, a Communication with Communities project on social networks Facebook and TikTok to provide reliable information about the risks of the jungle between Panama and Colombia.

Brazil. Inclusion through education: Warao indigenous children attend school in Brazil.

Ukraine. Alfonso Herrera, UNHCR Goodwill Ambassador, called for solidarity with those affected by the invasion of Ukraine following his visit to the region.

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023
Tightly earmarked
Earmarked
Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
Funding gap (indicative)