

Guyana

April-June 2024

Key Figures



1,939 people, including forcibly displaced and locals, received information and awareness on international protection.



608 forcibly displaced people were supported with case management and protection services.



830 forcibly displaced Venezuelan children enrolled in the Ministry of Education's English as a Second Language (ESL) after-school classes in Regions 1, 2, 3, and 7 (108 new enrollments).

Context

The Venezuelan President [ratified](#) the law declaring the Essequibo region part of the country. Guyana's [President](#) stated that the country would not tolerate any move to annex sections of its territory. The Caribbean Community ([CARICOM](#)) and the Organization of American States ([OAS](#)) condemned the action as threatening regional security. The [UN Security Council](#) released a statement expressing concern about the possible escalation of tensions between the countries. The International Court of Justice ([ICJ](#)) has given Guyana until December 9, 2024, to respond to Venezuela's Counter-Memorial.

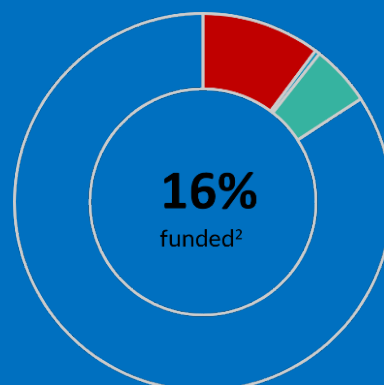
The [Minister of Education](#) announced that more than 3,000 forcibly displaced Venezuelan children are enrolled in the local school system. Most are in primary schools, benefiting from hot meals and other assistance. The official emphasized that Guyana's education policy safeguards that no child, including international, is left behind. She added that work is ongoing to integrate these children into the classrooms.

The [Minister of Labour](#) announced the development of an initiative to ensure Venezuelans living in the country receive training and certification to join the local labor force.

UNHCR organized a sports day in Lethem, Region 9, to commemorate World Refugee Day. The event featured football matches, traditional games, and painting activities to promote integration and peaceful coexistence between local and forcibly displaced communities.

Regional funding Overview

as of 30 June 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, migrants, asylum seekers, and host communities. UNHCR coordinates with other partners to grant access to education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and cash assistance. See the R4V Subregional portal for more information.



Protection | UNHCR partners, HIAS and Shades of the Sky (SotS), assisted 164 forcibly displaced people with protection services through its GBV specialized programmes. UNHCR, through SotS, conducted voluntary HIV testing in Parika, Region 3, benefitting 22 people. UNHCR, through Blossom Inc., provided case management services to 119 children and caregivers.



Cash-based Interventions and Assistance | UNHCR and HIAS distributed cash-based assistance to 98 forcibly displaced people, 35 households. Out of these, 69 were new beneficiaries.



Health | In Region 9, UNHCR, the Malaria Government's Department, and the Regional Chairman of Lethem distributed 50 mosquito nets to 18 forcibly displaced families living in Bon Success. UNHCR and HIAS visited seven communities in Region 1, sensitizing over 500 forcibly displaced people on health matters and the prevention of sexually transmitted diseases. HIAS distributed over 500 items, including panic alarms and shower tents, and explained the usage of each item to participants.



World Refugee Day (WRD) | UNHCR launched the poetry competition "A World Where Refugees Are Included" to commemorate WRD. The winners recited their poems at an event and received prizes. In Mabaruma, Region 1, UNHCR held a focus group discussion with forcibly displaced individuals and local community members. Participants shared their achievements and challenges with local integration, calling for reflection on the importance of welcoming refugees.



UNHCR visits the University of Guyana

In the framework of World Refugee Day, UNHCR and the University of Guyana's International Centre for Migration and Diaspora Studies hosted the "Building Bridges Beyond Borders: Inclusion and Acceptance" panel discussion. Panelists included experts from UNHCR, HIAS, and the Least of These Foundation.

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

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UNHCR's presence in Guyana

