

## PREPAREDNESS AND MITIGATION MEASURES COVID-19

### UPDATE No 5

#### SITUATION/CONTEXT INFORMATION

- On 31 March, the Mayor of Lima inaugurated a temporary shelter in Plaza de Acho (a bullring) for homeless persons including refugee and migrants. This shelter, hosting some 120 persons, provides food, water, WASH services, a child-friendly space, designated isolation areas and medical assistance.
- On 1 April, President Vizcarra announced the creation of a COVID-19 Operational Taskforce comprised by health, military and police authorities. This taskforce will manage all available resources and take operational decisions towards a more efficient response to the pandemic.
- On 1 April the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Minister of Justice confirmed that similarly to their support to nationals in a vulnerable situation, Venezuelan would receive monetary assistance by the international community, more specifically by GTRM partners.
- On 1 April the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP) stated that violence against women has risen. More than 500 women reported sexual assaults of which more than 40 were rapes of women and girls.
- On 1 April, the government decreed that the use of internet would be free of charge for children using the *aprendo en casa* programme. School lessons resume virtually on April 6.
- On 1 April military units were deployed to regions with a high rate of quarantine and curfew infringement. Similarly, military were deployed to reinforce the borders and prevent irregular entries.
- On 2 April the President announced new mobility restrictions effective as of 3 April. Men are now allowed to circulate on Monday, Wednesday and Friday, and women on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday, to access supermarkets, pharmacies, and banking institutions. On Sunday the President required an all-day mandatory curfew. GTRM members are highly concerned about how these measures will impact some LGBTBIQ communities.
- Parliament is reviewing legislation to forcibly repatriate foreigners affected by the COVID-19 emergency. This includes foreigners holding the humanitarian visa, temporary stay permit (PTP), and other documents.

#### KEY IMPACTS, NEEDS AND RISKS

- Vulnerable women and children are at **heightened risk of violence (including sexual violence) and revictimization** during the compliance of social isolation measures. Emergency services by the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP) remain limited.
- Partners reported an increased **discrimination and stigmatization** against refugees and migrants from Venezuela, especially with tension over food distributions and assistance.

**RESPONSE**

**PREPAREDNESS**

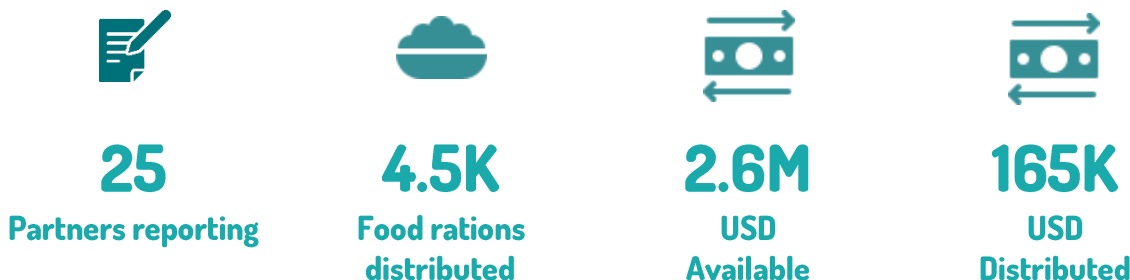
Coordination:

- GTRM / RCO / INDECI
- 1. The GTRM, together with the UN Resident Coordination Office have been coordinating with the National Institute of Civil Defense (INDECI for its acronym in Spanish) to ensure the inclusion of Venezuelan vulnerable population in government planned food distributions and other type of assistance across the country.

**OPERATIONAL MEASURES**

1. Some USD 165,000 have been distributed to support 5,300 persons of concern. Of these, USD 99,000 were distributed in Lima, USD 24,000 in Tumbes, USD 18,000 in La Libertad, USD 13,000 in Tacna. Refugees and migrants were also assisted through CBI in Arequipa, Cusco, Piura, Lambayeque and Madre de Dios.
2. In view of the rising number of detentions across Peru, the GTRM, developed a referral pathway to help refugees and migrants from Venezuela with procedural information and legal aid.
3. Protection routes for gender-based violence and child protection during the COVID-19 emergency are operational.

**KEY FIGURES**



**REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS ASSISTED**

