



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN COUNTRY*
22,000



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME FORM OF ASSISTANCE**
1,001

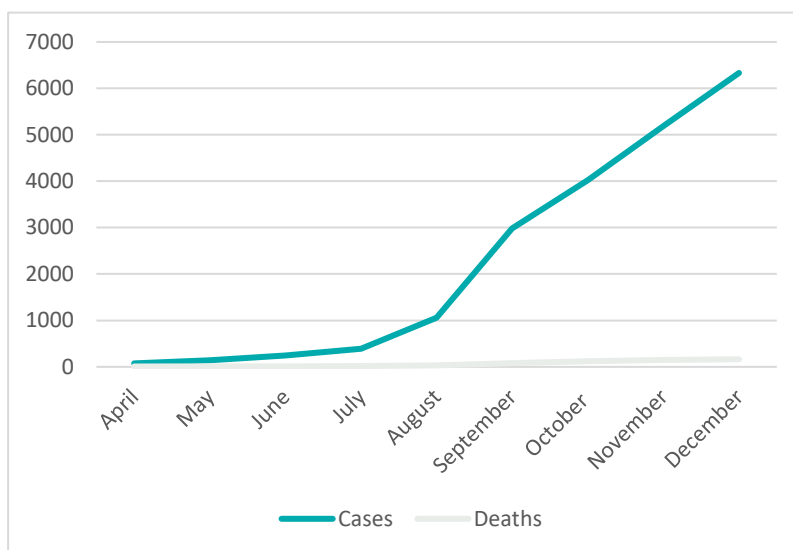


FUNDING SITUATION***
FUNDED: \$7.22 MILLION
REQUIREMENT: \$13 MILLION

Situation

- By the end of December, **Guyana** reported 6,332 total cases of COVID-19 recorded, 348 active cases and moved to 164 deaths.
- Emergency measures remained intact; curfews continued from 10:30 p.m. to 04:30 a.m. Large gatherings remained prohibited even as the Christmas shopping season started. Bars stayed closed while restaurants facilitated outdoor dining and takeout services. Hotels and resorts reopened, and airports remained open to International flights. Schools closed-off classes for the Christmas vacation period. Remote Regions 1 and 7 saw an increase in COVID-19 cases. Law enforcement continued to patrol the streets to enforce mask wearing as part of the ongoing operation [Covi-curb operation](#).
- On 5 December the Health Ministry set [protocols for the re-opening](#) of the Guyana-Suriname border areas, as law enforcement continued patrolling border areas with limited resources and as challenges continued with irregular crossings.
- COVID-19 restrictions continued to contribute to high unemployment rates amongst host community members as well as refugees and migrants. Many remained in financial difficulties, and the need for shelter, food, NFIs (including hygiene products) remained among the highest needs.
- Although pandemic measures continued to have socio-economic impacts on the host community and refugees and migrants, **Guyana's** fast ascension to the rank of petroleum prompted positive outlooks from its government who announced plans to [establish a world-class petroleum institute and training centre in Guyana](#).
- The authorities revealed intentions of providing [free university education by the end of 2024](#). No formal announcement was made regarding potential inclusion of foreign students; this will be explored by R4V partners in future discussions.
- On 11 December, an enabling environment and political stability in the country encouraged the [European Union to disburse €19.8 billion \(approximately US\\$92 million\) to Guyana, to aid in inclusive and sustainable development](#) as the country moved to create a "better life for all".
- In his [New Year's address](#), President Ali declared that "Never again will anyone suffer the indignity of losing their household appliances by virtue of missing a payment," creating hope for vulnerable refugees and migrants






COVID-19 CASES AND RESULTING DEATHS IN GUYANA APRIL-DEC 2020.



Source: <https://www.worldometers.info/coronavirus/country/guyana/>



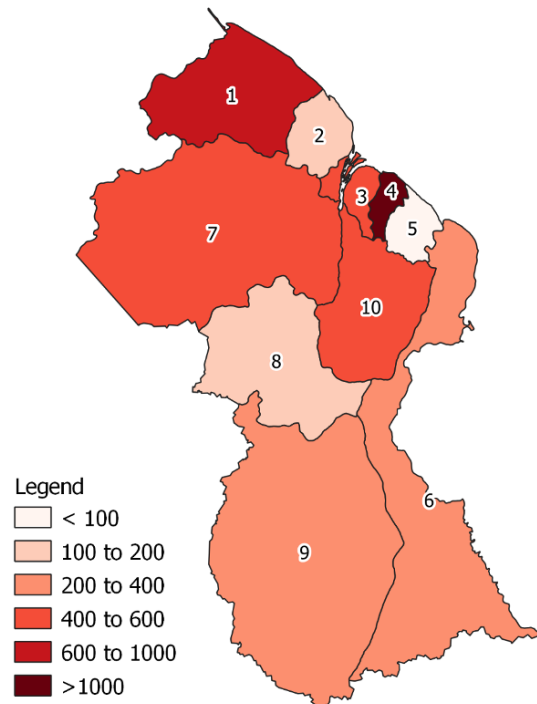
PEOPLE REACHED*

				
Education	Food Security	NFI	Protection	Shelter
88	430	79	1001	40

Response

- As economic needs increased, R4V partners provided much needed **temporary shelter** support to 40 vulnerable refugees and migrants in Guyana. In addition, 12 beneficiaries received shelter assistance in Regions 9 and 28 in Region 4 with short term individual rental support from a different partner.
- Seventy-nine Venezuelans received NFI(s) **hygiene** and **baby kits**.
- A total of 430 persons including 392 Venezuelans benefitted from targeted emergency through **food hamper** distributions. While another partner delivered 153 food kits to beneficiaries in region 9 and to 38 more individuals in region 4.
- 1,001 refugees and migrants received counselling on access to protection, documentation services and 373 were accompanied to government services.
- 66 refugees and migrants were supported with income generating activities resulting in the production of 7,127 of cloth masks from 5 regions. Distribution is ongoing to communities and local authorities in support of the Government response to COVID-19.
- The Government of Guyana (GoG) began preparations for storing COVID-19 vaccines through the acquisition of cold storage facilities.
- Additionally, 28 Venezuelan children in grades 6 and 10 continued receiving special **language support** classes, and support with adult ESL classes also continued as in previous months.
- Guyana R4V partners focussed efforts on supporting **child protection** for 51 Venezuelan minors while separately promoting sensitization and awareness on **Gender Based Violence (GBV)**, through sensitization related to prevention and response services, case management and **mental and psychosocial support (MHPSS)** and **Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)** services.
- In December, partners conducted an anti-**Trafficking in Persons** walk through public awareness campaigns in two regions, and a two-day awareness and distribution drive took place in one of Guyana's interior regions. During the sessions, food items, novelty items, posters, and brochures branded with anti-trafficking messages were distributed.
- Additionally, partners engaged in exercises to guide 46 Venezuelans on accessing basic services and renew stay permits and providing them with information on rights and responsibilities.

COVID-19 CONTINUED TO AFFECT THE TEN REGIONS OF GUYANA IN DECEMBER 2020



The RMRP 2021 Launch in Guyana

- On 16 December, the Guyana R4V Platform virtually launched the appeal for the RMRP 2021. R4V National Coordinators shared the opening remarks with the Government of Guyana's representative, Ambassador Michael E. Brotherson, Director of Bilateral Affairs at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.
- The event was attended by 46 participants including Government Officials, UN agencies, NGOs, community-led associations from the Venezuelan diaspora. Director of the Americas Bureau, José Samaniego and the Special Envoy of the IOM Director General for the Regional Response to the Venezuelan Situation, Diego Beltrand provided an overview of the RMRP 2021 in the Americas region.
- It was emphasized that R4V partners will continue to support the Government in key priority areas. The Government expressed willingness to continue hosting refugees and migrants from Venezuela, while highlighting the impact of this flow into Guyana and its limited resources and capacities. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the education system of Guyana was addressed, where schools remain closed, and many children remain unable to access online education. Government officials also stressed the need for an R4V adjusted, planned response to developments that may arise in 2021.
- Lastly, the R4V National Platform took the opportunity to underscore that they stand ready to coordinate and support the Government of Guyana in responding to the current COVID-19 pandemic as well as its response to the Venezuela situation and its efforts in addressing the needs of Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

Partners by Sector*

 EDUCATION	 FOOD SECURITY	 PROTECTION	 NFI	 SHELTER
UNHCR, PADF	IOM, UNHCR	Blossoms Inc, HIAS, UNHCR, UNICEF	IOM, UNHCR	IOM, UNHCR

PARTNERS IN THE RESPONSE ARE GRATEFUL FOR THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF: GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA, ESTONIA, GERMANY, GREECE, IRELAND, NORWAY, SPAIN, SWEDEN, UNITED ARAB EMIRATES, UNITED KINGDOM, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; EUROPEAN COMMISSION INCL THE HUMANITARIAN AID AND CIVIL PROTECTION DEPARTMENT; UNICEF NATIONAL COMMITTEE/CANADA, US FUND FOR UNICEF; WORLD BANK**

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R4V- Response for Venezuela: <https://r4v.info/en/situations/platform>

FINANCIAL TRACKING SYSTEM: [HTTPS://FTS.UNOCHA.ORG.APPEALS/726/SUMMARY](https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/726/summary)