

Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
IN THE SUBREGION
235,000



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE*
15,656



FUNDING SITUATION**
2%
FUNDED: **0.9 MILLION**
REQUIREMENT: **41.7 MILLION**

Situation

- **Argentina** had more than 3,000 confirmed cases of COVID-19 and 65,000 deaths by the end of April. As of mid-April [new restrictions for the Buenos Aires metropolitan area \(AMBA\)](#) were put in place, and warnings about the state of Argentina's health system escalated. Argentina's mass vaccination campaign made progress, [including refugees and migrants](#) irrespective of their status, though the government struggled to acquire all the vaccines it had ordered. **The pandemic in Uruguay entered a critical phase, with the highest cases per capita in the world as of April.** The Permanent Secretariat of the National Refugee Commission (CORE) began to implement mechanisms to guarantee access to COVID-19 vaccines by asylum-seekers who do not have an identity card and, for that reason, cannot register themselves in the official database. The president of **Paraguay**, Mario Abdo Benítez, acknowledged to the media that [the country's health system was "under high demand"](#), with health centers and hospitals "outmatched" by the sustained increase in the spread of COVID-19 and the consequent increase in hospitalizations. Authorities promised to establish a mechanism for the refugee and migrant population to register for the vaccine. [In Bolivia, departments bordering Brazil had an accelerated growth of COVID-19 cases compared to the rest of the country.](#) By the end of April, the country entered a third wave of COVID-19 cases, and Bolivia closed the border with Brazil.
- In **Bolivia**, some 30 Venezuelans (including children) were reported by partners to be detained for several hours in Desaguadero border point (with Peru) for irregular crossing in spite of borders being closed, most of them with the intention to continue their journey to Chile and Paraguay. In April, partners at the Bolivian border with Peru reported a reduced influx of refugees and migrants, however Desaguadero continued to be the main entry point into Bolivia for Venezuelans, and Pisiga the main exit point with significant irregular movements.
- **The situation in Argentina's northwest border with Bolivia continued to show a steady flow of refugees and migrants from Venezuela arriving to the city of La Quiaca (Jujuy).** R4V partners continued to monitor the situation in the province of Misiones, where its proximity to the critical pandemic context in Brazil raised concerns about COVID-19 transmission rates. During 2021, partners reported 56 refugees and migrants having entered Argentina via Puerto Iguazu.

Response***



ARGENTINA: ADRA, APdeBA, CAREF, FCCAM, INICIA, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR.
BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Cochabamba, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, UNHCR, We World GVC, World Vision.
PARAGUAY: IOM, Semillas para la Democracia, UNHCR.
URUGUAY: ADRA, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, SEDHU, UNHCR.

- In **Argentina**, R4V partners assisted refugees and migrants at the border with Bolivia, the Triple Border zone and main cities with NFIs, food kits, shelter, humanitarian transport and mental health support activities. Multipurpose cash transfers were delivered to vulnerable persons, as well as training courses with fast employment prospects, and seed capital for microenterprises. Over 400 refugees and migrants were assisted at the La Quiaca border point during April with food, collective shelter, humanitarian transport and documentation.
- In Pisiga, **Bolivia**, partners continued to support and build the capacity of national authorities in border management and the provision of assistance to refugees and migrants crossing to Chile, however response capacity remained low. Partners also provided health supplies to the local medical center to facilitate medical care for the refugee and migrant population.
- In Chuy, **Uruguay**, the Support Space resumed face-to-face services in mid-April after three weeks of closure due to the pandemic. In the Rocha Departmental Emergency Coordination Center (CECOED) partners coordinated with local authorities and civil society organizations to respond to humanitarian needs and guarantee access to rights for refugees and migrants arriving in Chuy.
- In **Paraguay**, refugees and migrants were assisted with shelter, cash assistance and integration support. The National Refugee Commission recognized 769 Venezuelans as refugees in April.



| Food Security | Hum. Transp. | Health | Education | Integration | WASH | Protection | Shelter | CVA |
|---------------|--------------|-------------|------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| 2,285 | 748 | 1883 | 429 | 909 | 3,456 | 3,478 | 2,525 | 4,239 |

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*From 01/04/2021 until 30/04/2021 | **Source: FTS Website | ***The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.