Guyana
November - December 2022

Guyana hosts 19,643 refugees and migrants from Venezuela, as well as 177 refugees and asylum seekers of other nationalities, including Cubans and Haitians.

To mark the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV) UNHCR held an awareness session on gender equality and GBV prevention for 40 participants.

The Government of Guyana continues issuing three-month stay permits to Venezuelans who arrive in the country. These permits can be extended for six months and require periodic renewal.

People UNHCR protects*

- Venezuelans: 19,643
- Under 18: 40%
- Women: 44%

* Source: UNHCR internal estimates, as of 31 August 2022

CONTEXT

UNHCR supports the government in the provision of assistance and protection services to refugees and migrants with specific needs, and to vulnerable host communities while working in coordination with other Interagency Response Platform partners.

UNHCR delivers humanitarian aid, including food hampers and sanitary items, as well as support and counseling to facilitate access to government services for refugees and migrants.

Gender-based Violence continues to be a major problem, particularly for vulnerable Venezuelan refugee and migrant women who engage in survival sex as a coping mechanism and indigenous women. Trafficking-in-Persons and Child Protection risks are also consistently present concerns, especially in mining areas.

STATE OF PLAY: FUNDING RECEIVED VS. FUNDING NEEDS (AS OF 29 DECEMBER 2022)

- 37% funded

International Human Rights Day

UNHCR at the exhibition commemorating Human Rights Day, sponsored by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance. During the event, the Agency gave a presentation, showcased documentaries, and distributed information materials on international protection and the right to seek asylum.

www.unhcr.org
UNHCR Response and Strategy
UNHCR works with four partners in Guyana and supports the State in the delivery of assistance and protection services to refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and host communities. UNHCR works in coordination with other response partners to provide access to education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and cash assistance, among others. See the R4V Subregional portal for more information.

Main Activities
Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, development actors, and UN Agencies, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:

Protection | UNHCR provided information on access to protection services to 463 refugees and migrants (155 women, 154 men, 70 girls, 84 boys). UNHCR accompanied 216 persons (79 women, 70 men, 30 girls, and 37 boys) to relevant government services, including the Immigration Department, for access to stay permits, justice and legal support.

Gender-based Violence | In remote mining areas, UNHCR and partner Guyana Sex Work Coalition (GSWC), sensitized 100 women who engage in survival sex on HIV, sexually transmitted infections and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. GSWC provided HIV testing and counselling to 113 women and distributed 98 hygiene kits. A total of 18 key community members were sensitized on GBV, and 172 people were counselled on GBV prevention and referral pathways. Some 109 people participated in community-based initiatives, including awareness raising on the importance of renewing stay permits. HIAS provided case management services to 18 GBV survivors. UNHRC through Partner Blossom Inc. conducted 19 forensic interviews with Venezuelan and Guyanese children who survived sexual abuse. Case management services were provided to 14 Venezuelan children.

Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) | UNHCR delivered 133 hygiene kits to 65 refugee and migrant households. UNHCR also donated 26 jerry cans to 20 households. In addition, the Agency distributed 16 baby kits to pregnant women and families with newborn babies in Regions 1, 2 and 4.

Cash-based interventions and in-kind assistance | UNHCR through HIAS distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 279 refugees and migrants. In addition, UNHCR distributed 142 food hampers to 99 households that were unable to meet their basic needs in Regions 1, 2 and 4.

Health | In Regions 1, 2 and 4, UNHCR accompanied and provided counselling on access to health services, such as sexual and reproductive health and rights, immunization and Covid-19 prevention. In November, UNHCR supported health workers in a vaccination campaign at Farm Corps, Region 1, home to 200 indigenous individuals from Venezuela.

Education | In partnership with the Ministry of Education, UNHCR supported access to education and integration of 49 children in Regions 1, 3 and 7 through English as Second Language (ESL) classes. With the same purpose, UNHCR implemented community-based ESL classes for 237 out-of-school children in remote areas in Region 1, including indigenous communities.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: Canada, the European Union, France, Guyana, the United States of America, and the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS. We also thank the fundamental support provided by donors who have contributed to UNHCR with un earmarked and softly earmarked funds: Belgium | Denmark | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | the United Kingdom. Private donors in Australia | Canada | Germany | Italy | Japan | the Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | and the United States

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UNHCR presence in Guyana

Region 1
Blossom Inc
HIAS
Guyana Sex Work Coalition
Ministry of Education
UNHCR

Region 2
HIAS

Region 3
Georgetown
Ministry of Education

Region 4
HIAS
Guyana Sex Work Coalition

Region 5

Region 6
Guyana Sex Work Coalition

Region 7
HIAS
Guyana Sex Work Coalition
Ministry of Education

Region 8
Blossom Inc
HIAS
Guyana Sex Work Coalition

Region 9

Region 10
HIAS

UNHCR National Office in Georgetown

Sectors
Education
Protection
Child Protection

The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.