



# QUARTERLY REPORT

APRIL - JUNE 2023

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## HEADLINES

UNHCR's new field unit in Puerto Ayacucho, Amazonas, conducted a training on International Refugee Law, the Organic Law on Refugees and Gender-Based Violence for officials from Amazonas Protection Council, together with partner HIAS, the Office of the Ombudsperson and the Office of the Public Prosecutor with competence over Gender-Based Violence. The field unit also carried out a technical visit with the Foundation for the Development of Power Services (FUNDELEC) to two energy projects that will provide power to a public square in Puerto Ayacucho and the medical centre in Isla de Raton, an island in the Orinoco River, as well as a second technical visit to a safe shelter for women that is being constructed in Puerto Ayacucho with CERF funding.

UNHCR has also been advancing preparations for the implementation of the reintegration pilot projects in Miranda and Táchira with training workshops for the social sciences students who will be supporting the project in three communities in Petare (Greater Caracas), and meeting with focus groups in the communities of La Palmita and El Tejar in the border municipality of Junín and the urban community of La Machirí in San Cristóbal.

# SECOND QUARTER 2023 IN FIGURES



# 621,200

BENEFICIARIES



# 235,172

WASH



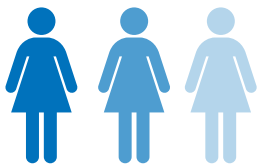
# 232,240

SHELTER

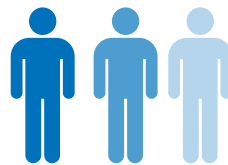


# 153,646

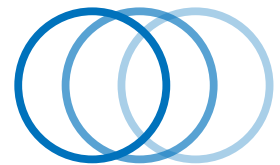
PROTECTION



# 345,561

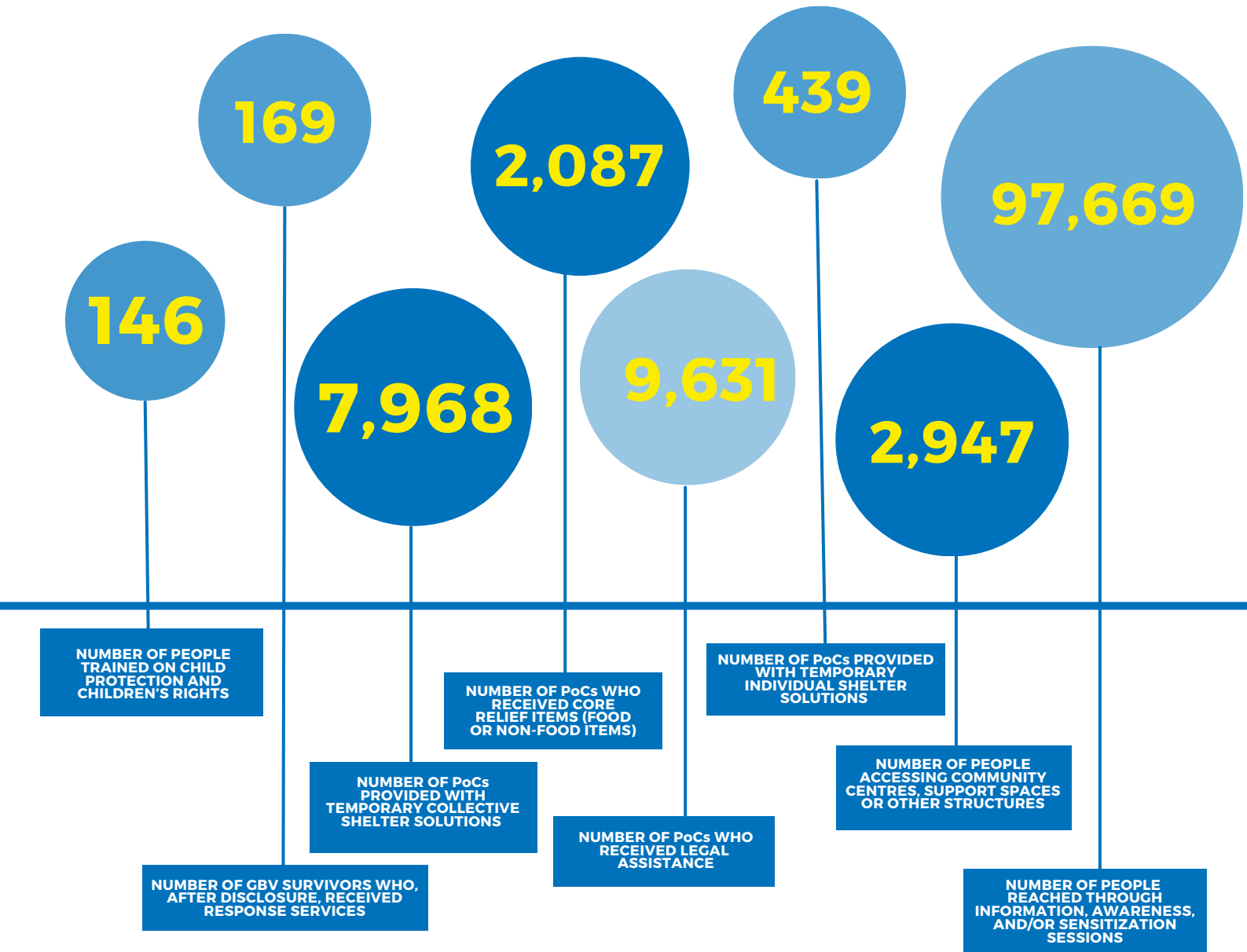


# 275,526



# 113

# UNHCR INDICATORS



# AGE GROUPS

**0 - 17**

**18 - 59**

**+60**

**160,512**

**419,295**

**41,393**

## PROTECTION HIGHLIGHTS

Partner Andres Bello Catholic University, (UCAB) presented results of the research pilot to advance the reintegration of Venezuelan returnees, as part of their partner agreement with UNHCR. The pilot included interviews of 12 cases of Venezuelans, permanently returning to the country, where UCAB was able to assess profiles and identify opportunities for interventions to support their sustainable reintegration. These includes legal assistance to access documentation—identity documents and certification of studies abroad— back to school support, particularly for children; promote and support access to livelihoods development programs; community trainings on peaceful conflict resolution; and access to mental health services.

In the context of the joint UNHCR-National Commission for Refugees (CONARE) workplan, the Protection-Project Control-Programme multi-functional team facilitated a refresher session on the standard operating procedures (SOPs) for payments, procurement and rehabilitations for CONARE staff members at the central level. They discussed the importance of receiving requirement forms from CONARE within the timeframe indicated in the SOPs to ensure timely processing and effective planning; and the importance of monthly joint monitoring and evaluation meetings at regional and central levels to follow-up on workplan implementation.

## HRP CLUSTERS LED BY UNHCR

### SHELTER ENERGY & NFIS CLUSTER

By the end of the second quarter, the Shelter, Energy and NFIs Cluster **reached 15,892 direct beneficiaries** through partner organizations **and 199,600 indirect beneficiaries** through interventions in institutions and community spaces providing essential services to the people we serve, such as temporary shelters, and education, health, and community centres.

The Shelter, Energy and NFIs Cluster also organized "**Energy Week 2023**", an event in which participants from humanitarian organizations, the private sector, and public sector institutions shared projects, experiences and good practices for energy solutions in Venezuela.

## PROTECTION CLUSTER

The initial 2023 allocation of the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund prioritized the approach proposed by the Protection Cluster (PC), to strengthen essential services to foster secure and protective environments for returnees and host communities. Among the eight approved projects, six were submitted by local organizations, while the remaining two came from international organizations.

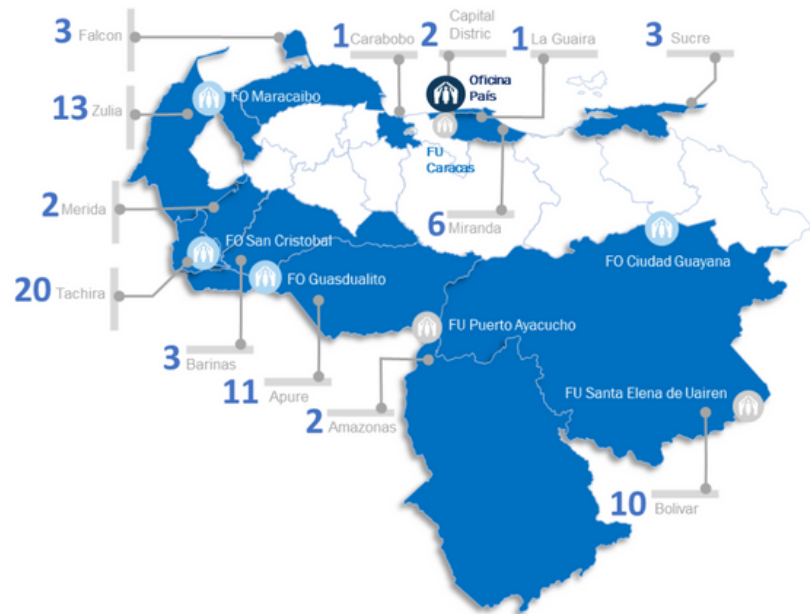
The Protection Cluster also **created a Guide on Protecting LGBTIQ+ People in Humanitarian Action**, to support the protection and inclusion of individuals who identify as lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex, or queer (LGBTIQ+) in humanitarian action. The document offers guidance to humanitarian actors, government officials, UN agencies, and NGOs on how to deliver suitable, dignified, and non-discriminatory services and support to the LGBTIQ+ population.

# PRESENCE

77 Communities

41 Municipalities

13 States



# RESPONSE

UNHCR works in close coordination with the National Commission for Refugees (CONARE) to ensure that international protection is provided to refugees and that durable solutions are available. UNHCR has supported CONARE's organisation of asylum-seeker registration and RSD outreach activities, the establishment of a registration/case management system (SIGESREF), individual documentation for asylum-seekers and joint capacity-building activities with other government institutions, among other initiatives. At the same time,

At the same time, within the framework of the Humanitarian Response Plan and its leadership role in the Protection Cluster and the Shelter, Energy and NFIs Cluster, UNHCR supports the UN inter-agency response in the country, by providing humanitarian and protection assistance to affected populations. UNHCR is also supporting 315 community outreach volunteers, 19 community committees, women networks and 14 youth networks. Community projects led by these community volunteers have included projects to address protection, nutrition, health, water and sanitation and education needs.

UNHCR also supports the provision of Gender-Based Violence (GBV) prevention and response services through the Safe Spaces Network and in coordination with the Protection Cluster GBV AoR, to ensure that people on the move have access to confidential case management, counselling, psychosocial support, medical aid and legal services.

# OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



UNHCR rehabilitated and equipped this ambulance boat to promote timely access to health services in the state of Sucre. The intervention was funded through CERF and was carried out in coordination with OCHA, in the municipality of Cruz Salmerón Acosta, and the Sucre State Office of the Ombudsperson.

This "ambulancha" operates 24/7 and transfers patients from Araya to Cumaná in less than half an hour, so that they may receive specialized medical care at the Antonio Patricio De Alcalá University Hospital. Otherwise, patients with serious injuries or other emergencies risked not arriving to the hospital in time, as the trip by land from Araya to Cumaná takes around 3.5 hours. The ambulance is managed by the local fire brigade, Civil Protection, and the Office of the Mayor of Cruz Salmerón Acosta.

Together with Office of the Mayor of Maracaibo and the NGO Red Clamor, UNHCR commemorated World Refugee Day with the "Hope Away from Home" walk in the city of Maracaibo, Zulia. Nearly 250 people, including refugees, asylum-seekers, colleagues from United Nations agencies and local NGOs, and residents of Maracaibo, completed a 6-kilometre-long tour to promote understanding and empathy towards refugees and displaced people, while recognizing their resilience in rebuilding their lives despite the difficult circumstances they have to face.



## DONORS

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