

# Ecuador

January - August 2023

Over 75.600\*\* **refugees** and 10.000 asylum-seekers are currently registered in Ecuador as of end of June. Most of them come from **Colombia**.

Ecuador hosts 474,945 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, **the fourth largest number in Latin America** after Colombia, Peru and Brazil according to the GTRM.

UNHCR works with authorities and partners to help refugees, asylum-seekers and their hosts **thrive in Ecuador**, not only survive.

## POPULATION OF CONCERN\*

### Profile

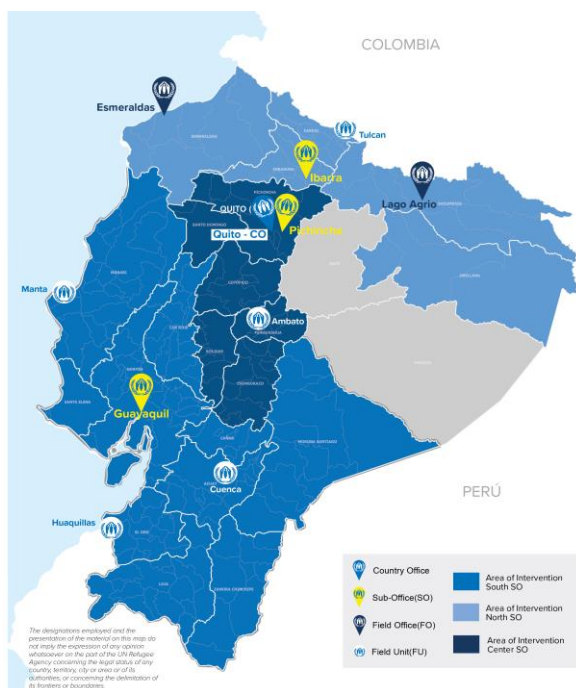
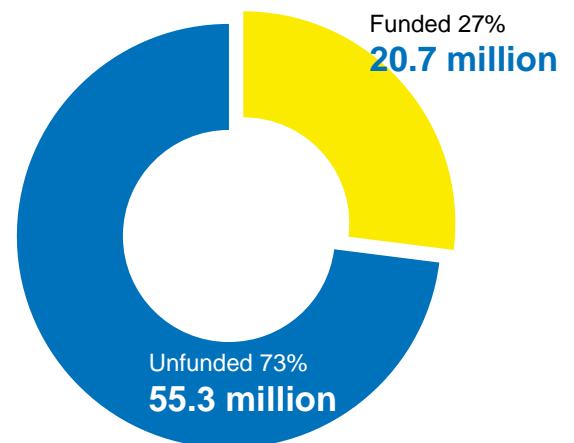


\*Source: UNHCR Ecuador National Trends

## FUNDING (AS OF 31 AUGUST 2023)

### USD 76 million

requested for the Ecuador operation



This exhibition was launched in the framework of World Refugee Day with the support of the Ecuadorian artist Carolina Vallejo and the Foreign Ministry of Ecuador. Read their [full stories here](#).

# Working with Partners

UNHCR has one country office and three suboffices covering north, south and central Ecuador. The UN Refugee Agency works with 19 partners, with 22 partnership agreements, and supports the Ecuadorian Government in the delivery of assistance and protection to refugees and other displaced people, as well as those from the host community in a vulnerable situation.

## Main Activities

Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, faith-based organizations, and communities, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:

### International Protection

- UNHCR facilitates access to the asylum procedure for people in need of international protection through engagement with government and local authorities to strengthen their capacities. UNHCR and partners supported 41,333 refugees and others displaced with access to free and quality legal services (including orientation and representation) between January and July. UNHCR has also supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in conducting registration and documentation brigades to remote areas to provide access to procedures, and together with partners, helped thousands of refugees and migrants to register for the regularization process. So far in 2023, 1,884 people were able to benefit from these brigades in San Lorenzo, Esmeraldas, Lago Agrio, Machala and Santo Domingo.
- UNHCR and partners continue providing support to the regularization process with direct counselling and guidance, communications with communities, cash for documentation, as well as brigades to support registration and any other related procedure. To the end of July 2023, 30,684 people have been supported in the process, with a total of 64,541 since the process started. UNHCR is also providing support to the Government through key technical staff within relevant ministries.

### Community-Based Protection

- UNHCR and partners work to strengthen and support local integration and peaceful coexistence among locals and refugees, including through key sports, arts and culture initiatives. Moreover, UNHCR is training refugees and local communities to enhance community communications efforts.
- Refugees and locals work together to fight against the effects of climate change while contributing to preserving the environment, including through recycling, clean ups and other circular economy initiatives that help boost livelihoods among community members. Check out our [climate action strategy](#).
- UNHCR-HIAS launched a report that revealed that 93 percent of women in human mobility in Ecuador suffered gender violence during their displacement. [Read more here](#).

### Access to rights: Education and Health

- UNHCR and partners work to reduce barriers in the access to the education system for people of concern through advocacy and specialized initiatives that tackle discrimination and xenophobia. Through the MYRP, UNHCR has supported over 1,400 children and 867 teachers by the end of July with mental health and psycho-pedagogic initiatives.
- UNHCR advocates for the effective access of refugees to health services and primary healthcare, as well as mental health. UNHCR and partners have provided 10,888 people with mental health and psychosocial support, by the end of July 2023.

### Emergency response: Cash-Based Interventions, Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR provides support to refugees and other displaced people through cash grants to meet the most basic needs. Between January and July, UNHCR has delivered cash support to 11,535 people.
- UNHCR and partners delivered just over 20,598 hygiene kits to displaced people across Ecuador.
- Shelters across the country continue to receive people in human mobility and to provide assistance. 8,144 people were able to access shelter services, safe, dignified, adequate housing and to community spaces between to the end of July.

### Durable solutions, integration and self-reliance

- UNHCR continued promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of people of concern in Ecuador, including for entrepreneurs and job placement. Most recently, UNHCR, in collaboration with the UN Global Compact and Sin Fronteras Programme launched the second edition of the Inclusive Company Seal to recognize the private sector's efforts in promoting refugee inclusion.
- To promote integration and peaceful coexistence, [UNHCR launched Un Mundo Posible](#), an initiative to bring together refugees and locals in exploring ways to create a world where everyone can thrive.
- UNHCR commemorated Pride across the country to raise awareness of the rights of those who flee due to their sexual orientation or gender identity. [See more](#).
- UNHCR works with international financial institutions to put forward the humanitarian-development nexus in support of the protection and integration of refugees and their host communities. This includes conducting joint advocacy before Government to ensure refugees are considered within key legislation.

### WITH THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Special thanks to donors who contributed earmarked and flexible funds to UNHCR:

Algeria | Australia | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Luxembourg | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America | UK | UNAIDS | UNESCO | UNICEF  
UNHCR in Ecuador is thankful to the private donors, including Australia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Swedish Postcode Lottery, Spain, UK, USA

**For more information** Diana Díaz Rodríguez, Associate Communications Officer, [diazdi@unhcr.org](mailto:diazdi@unhcr.org)

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