

Guyana

November - December 2023

Key Figures



Over **1,100** people received information and awareness sessions on international protection, Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) and GBV prevention.



Over **140** forcibly displaced people received cash-based assistance to cover basic needs and address emergency protection concerns.



Over **370** forcibly displaced Venezuelans participated in UNHCR's gender - based violence (GBV) prevention and gender equality activities.

Context

Following the Essequibo border dispute, the [International Court of Justice \(ICJ\)](#) unanimously decided on Guyana's request for provisional measures. The ICJ stated that, pending a final ruling on the case, Venezuela should refrain from taking any action that could modify the current situation in the disputed territory. Despite this, Venezuela held a [consultative Referendum](#), fueling tensions over the controversy.

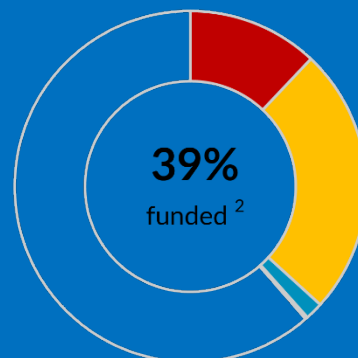
Guyana's and Venezuela's presidents [met in Argyle, St. Vincent and the Grenadines](#), to discuss the border dispute. The meeting resulted in a [joint declaration](#) from the participants, who agreed to refrain from using force against each other or escalating threats that would intensify the controversy.

They acknowledged that Guyana is committed to the ICJ procedure, and Venezuela does not recognize this court's jurisdiction. However, both agreed to settle their disputes under international law, including the Geneva Agreement (1966), and committed to continuing their dialogue in Brazil in the coming months.

In the framework of the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV), UNHCR hosted an art workshop for 21 forcibly displaced and local adolescents. Participants used their creativity to discuss GBV issues and ways to prevent it throughout the workshop.

Regional funding Overview

as of 15 December 2023



- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

\$55.4 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023

¹ Financial requirement for the Panama MCO in 2023 including requirements for the operations and activities in Aruba, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² The percentage funded is indicative.



UNHCR RESPONSE

UNHCR works with partners in Guyana and supports the State in providing assistance and protection services to refugees, migrants, asylum seekers, and host communities. UNHCR coordinates with other response partners to grant access to education, food security, health, integration, protection, shelter, WASH, and cash assistance. See the R4V Subregional portal for more information.



Protection | UNHCR provided information on access to protection services to over 328 forcibly displaced people and accompanied 203 individuals to government services. UNHCR, through Blossom Inc., provided case management services to over 100 children and their caregivers. The Agency provided Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to 36 girls and boys, including survivors of child abuse. UNHCR conducted a two-day training for 54 officials of the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security on the identification of sexual misconduct and GBV prevention and response.



Health | UNHCR and the National AIDS Programme Secretariat (NAPS) hosted an on-site HIV/STI testing and hygiene kits distribution in Region 8. Over 80 forcibly displaced people and indigenous host community members participated. In Georgetown, UNHCR participated in a public mental health fair organized by the Health Ministry, and briefed participants on the Agency's mandate and support to forcibly displaced populations and host communities.



Cash-based Interventions and Assistance | UNHCR and HIAS distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to 142 forcibly displaced people, reaching 58 households.



Education | UNHCR and the Ministry of Education held community-based English as a Second Language (ESL) classes for over 800 people in remote indigenous communities in Regions 1,2,3, and 7.



UNHCR visits Mabaruma, Region 1

UNHCR distributed food baskets, mosquito nets, hygiene kits and other core relief items to over 1500 vulnerable forcibly displaced Venezuelans in several remote indigenous communities in Region 1.

The Agency reached 1866 forcibly displaced Venezuelans (1,029 women, 426 men, 177 boys, and 234 girls) and provided information on access to fundamental rights.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: the United States of America, the European Union, the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), Guyana, Spain and the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS. We also thank the fundamental support provided by donors who have contributed to UNHCR with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds: Australia for UNHCR | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | España con ACNUR | France | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Japan for UNHCR | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Sweden for UNHCR | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United Kingdom for UNHCR | UNO-Flüchtlingshilfe | USA for UNHCR | Private donors in China, Italy, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

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UNHCR's presence in Guyana

