

In November the number of refugees and migrants from Venezuela is 1.6 million, according to official figures from Colombia Migration (October 31). The continuous flow of refugees and migrants and host communities requires support to meet their needs in the short, medium and long term. The Interagency Group for Mixed Migratory Flows (GIFMM, by its Spanish acronym) is currently composed of 61 members at the national level and coordinates the humanitarian response for refugees and migrants from Venezuela, Colombian returnees, and host communities. In addition to the national level, the platform includes eight local GIFMMs covering 11 departments. Assistance is provided to the target populations, complementing the Colombian State's response, and a *back to back* structure is utilized in close coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team.

KEY FIGURES

VENEZUELANOS IN COLOMBIA¹

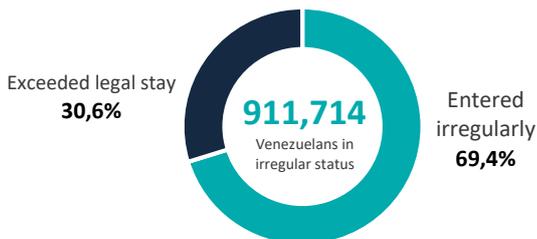
 **1,630,903** Venezuelans in Colombia

In regular migratory status



+77,364 within the period established by law (including tourist visas and other types of short term stay)

In irregular migratory status



 **4.6 million** Venezuelans with Temporary Border Mobility Card (TMF, by its Spanish acronym)

 **385,793** Venezuelans with Temporary Transit Permit (PIP-TT, by its Spanish acronym)

 **459,286** Venezuelans have left Colombia in 2019 via the Rumichaca International Bridge

RESPONSE

 **37**

Key Partners

 **39**

Implementing partners

 **415,850**

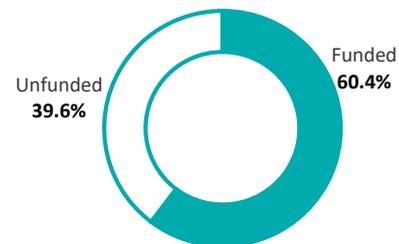
Beneficiaries who received one or more types of assistance

 **26** Departments
109 Municipalities

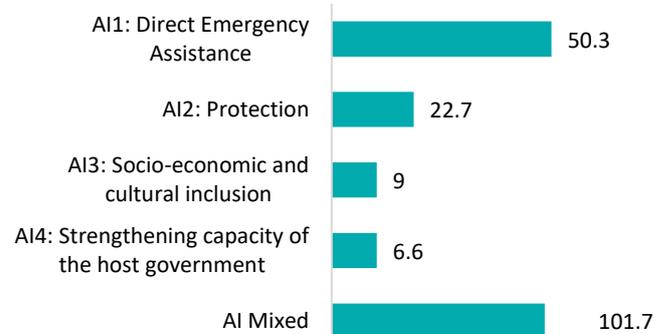
FINANCIAL OVERVIEW²

 **US\$ 315M** Requested funding

 **US\$ 190M** Funding received



Funding per Area of Intervention - in millions of US\$



¹ In-depth Analysis by Colombia Migration Infographic as of 31 October and Migration Report of Venezuelans in Colombia as of 2 December 2019.

² Partial financial information until 27 November, including paid commitments and contributions, but not contributions for multiple countries. For more information: <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/726/summary%20>

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

- On November 13, the **2020 Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP)**³ was launched in Bogotá. The event was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and was headed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos Holmes Trujillo and the Joint Special Representative (UNHCR and IOM) Eduardo Stein. The funding required for the 2020 response plan is 1.35 billion USD for 4 million people in the 17 countries of Latin America and the Caribbean, including refugees, migrants and returnees. For Colombia, the requested amount is 739.2 million USD and the response will be implemented by the 58 GIFMM members included in the RMRP 2020.
- The **fifth Quito** meeting was held on November 14 and 15 in Bogotá and was attended by 11 countries that signed a joint declaration to strengthen the cooperation between the Quito Process and the Interagency Coordination Platform (R4V). During the meeting, the terms of reference for the “Friends of Quito Process” group were approved. The participating members reiterated the request that UNHCR and IOM continue supporting the Technical Secretariat of the Quito Process and the two agencies presented the terms of reference for the institutionalization of the Technical Secretariat to the Colombian Government. The main topics discussed and agreed upon were related to the immigration card, the strengthening of national refuge commissions, and the reception and orientation centers. Likewise, progress was made on issues such as human trafficking and child protection. The next Quito Process meeting (Quito VI) will be carried out in Chile.
- On November 12, **Claudia Blum** was appointed as the new Minister of Foreign Affairs in replacement of Carlos Holmes Trujillo. In her first public statement, Blum announced that she will convene a donor conference during the first quarter of 2020 to reiterate Colombia's commitment and response in favor of refugees and migrants from Venezuela.⁴ Similarly, the Director of Colombia Migration, officially announced his withdrawal from the entity and will remain in charge until the end of 2019.
- On Thursday, November 21, a national strike was initiated, which convened different social sectors around a list of concerns that were expressed to the National Government. This strike resulted in numerous public demonstrations. Simultaneously, there was an increase in expressions of discrimination and xenophobia against the population from Venezuela.



³ RMRP 2020, <https://r4v.info/es/documents/details/72254>

⁴ Laura Lucía Becerra Elejalde (2019, 13 de noviembre). *The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Claudia Blum, to convene donors' conference to assist migrants*. LR La República. <https://www.larepublica.co/economia/canciller-claudia-blum-convocara-conferencia-de-donantes-para-atender-a-migrantes-2932261>.

OVERVIEW OF THE RESPONSE

Area of Intervention 1: Direct Emergency Assistance

Throughout the month of November, GIFMM members provided immediate assistance to meet the most urgent needs of the target population. Through close collaboration with government entities, Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian returnees and host communities received crucial assistance to maintain human dignity.

In 10 departments, GIFMM members ensured that the target population accessed adequate water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities, as well as training on the subject. In this sector, 6,600 people in **Norte de Santander** got access to drinking water (in accordance with the Sphere Standards), more than 17,450 individuals received kits for different age profiles, including family, school and dignity kits, kits for pregnant women, and others, and approximately 5,100 people were trained in sanitation and hygiene.

In response to the dietary needs and the fight against malnutrition within Venezuelan population, about 158,100 individuals received food in the community canteens, an additional 136,600 received food assistance through vouchers and another 11,900 in kind. 20,076 children benefited from school meals in five departments. Likewise, nearly 700 people attended nutritional prevention and management programs and 948 people in **La Guajira** participated in initiatives to increase production for self-consumption.

Considering the impact on the Colombian health system, GIFMM members have contributed by providing refugees and migrants from Venezuela with support in health services. For example, about 37,700 people were treated in 14 departments with general medical assistance, other services such as prenatal care were provided to approximately 1,930 women, family planning support and treatment of sexually transmitted infections was given to 2,500 individuals, early detection and screening benefited 272 people, and attention in mental health and psychosocial support reached 5,150 people. In addition, almost 50 children under the age of five with acute malnutrition were treated.

- 23** Key partners
- 30** Implementing partners
- 315,200** Beneficiaries of one or more types of assistance
- 21** Departments
- 76** Municipalities



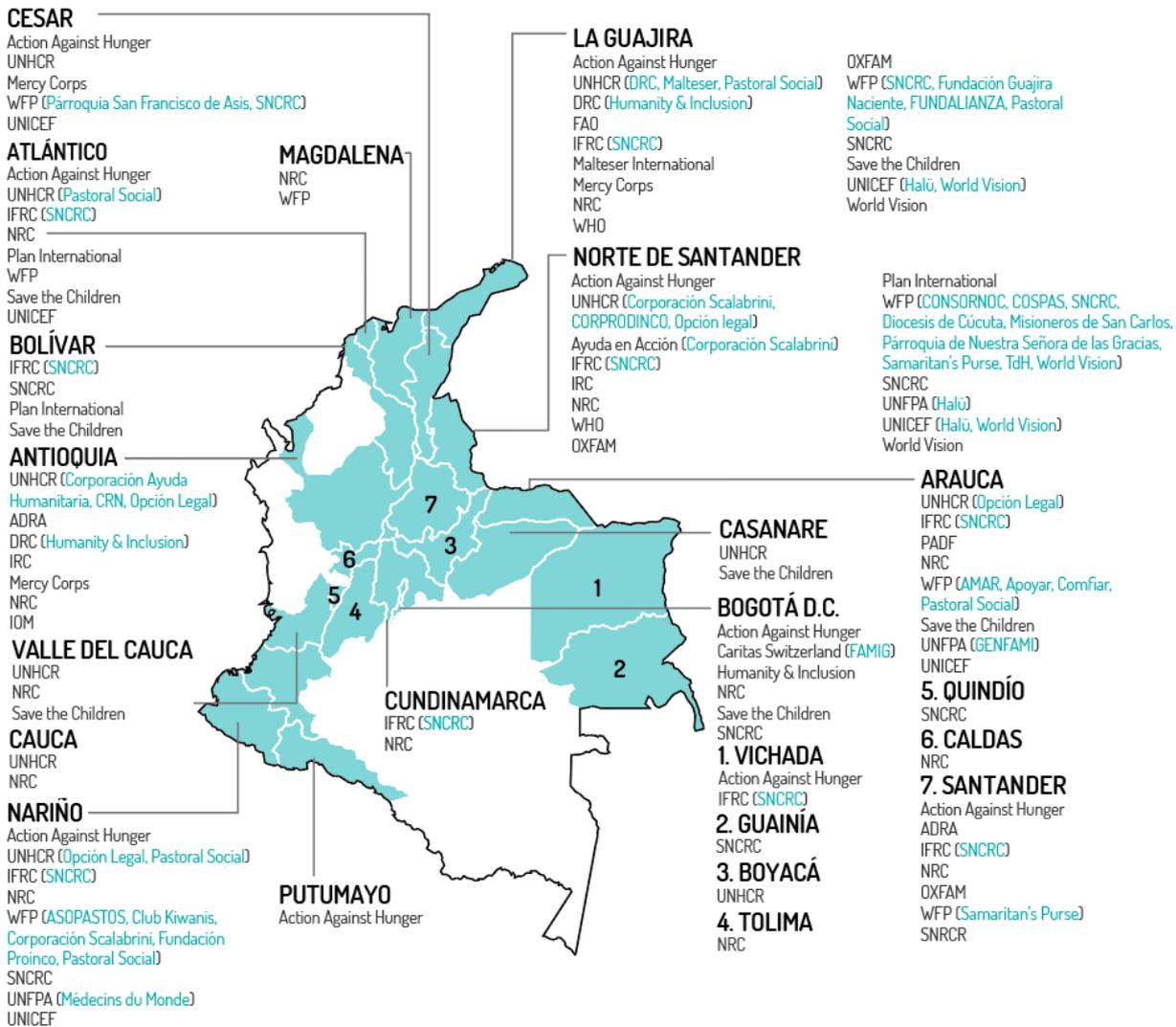
In Riohacha, La Guajira, Profamilia carries out brigades where they provide access to sexual and reproductive health to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, under the motto Without Borders - Because Sexual Rights and Reproductive Rights Have No Borders. © Profamilia

The GIFMM members also addressed the specific humanitarian needs of girls, boys and adolescents. Regarding the education sector, 486 children accessed educational spaces built, improved, equipped or supported, and another 10,500 received emergency education services.

Furthermore, the members of the GIFMM complemented the previously mentioned actions with the provision of safe and adequate emergency accommodation to around 2,170 people and supported 25 people through lease subsidies. Humanitarian transport reached 1,390 individuals, the delivery of non-food items (NFIs) benefited 5,430 people, and multipurpose money transfers were distributed to 4,680 individuals. Finally, around 2,400 people received information on how to access mechanisms to satisfy basic humanitarian needs.

Area of Intervention 1: Actors by department who reported activities in November

Key Partner (Implementing Partner)



Area of Intervention 2: Protection

In order to guarantee the basic human rights of the population from Venezuela that has arrived in Colombia, the members of the GIFMM worked hand in hand with the Colombian State during the month of November. Approximately 14,200 people received legal guidance, and more than 11,100 refugees and migrants were capacitated on regularization, documentation and asylum processes, including almost 300 individuals who applied for refugee status, most of which were in **Nariño** and **Valle de Cauca**.

Using different strategies in the dissemination of messages and information for the promotion of rights, activities were carried out through sports, art, culture and communication in which 58,970 people participated in the departments of **Atlántico** and **Bolívar** located in the Caribbean coast, the border departments of **La Guajira**, **Nariño** and **Norte de Santander** and **Bogotá**.

15 Key partners

19 Implementing partners

90,200 Beneficiaries of one or more types of assistance

23 Departments

74 Municipalities

Considering the protection risks of people entering Colombia from Venezuela, the GIFMM members assisted 7,500 refugees, migrants and returnees with information on the prevention of human trafficking, smuggling and labor exploitation, as well as protection against illegal recruitment, drug use, risk of mines, as well as the dynamics of illicit

economies. In relation to the needs of girls, boys and adolescents, more than 9,100 children and young people benefited from protective and child-friendly spaces.

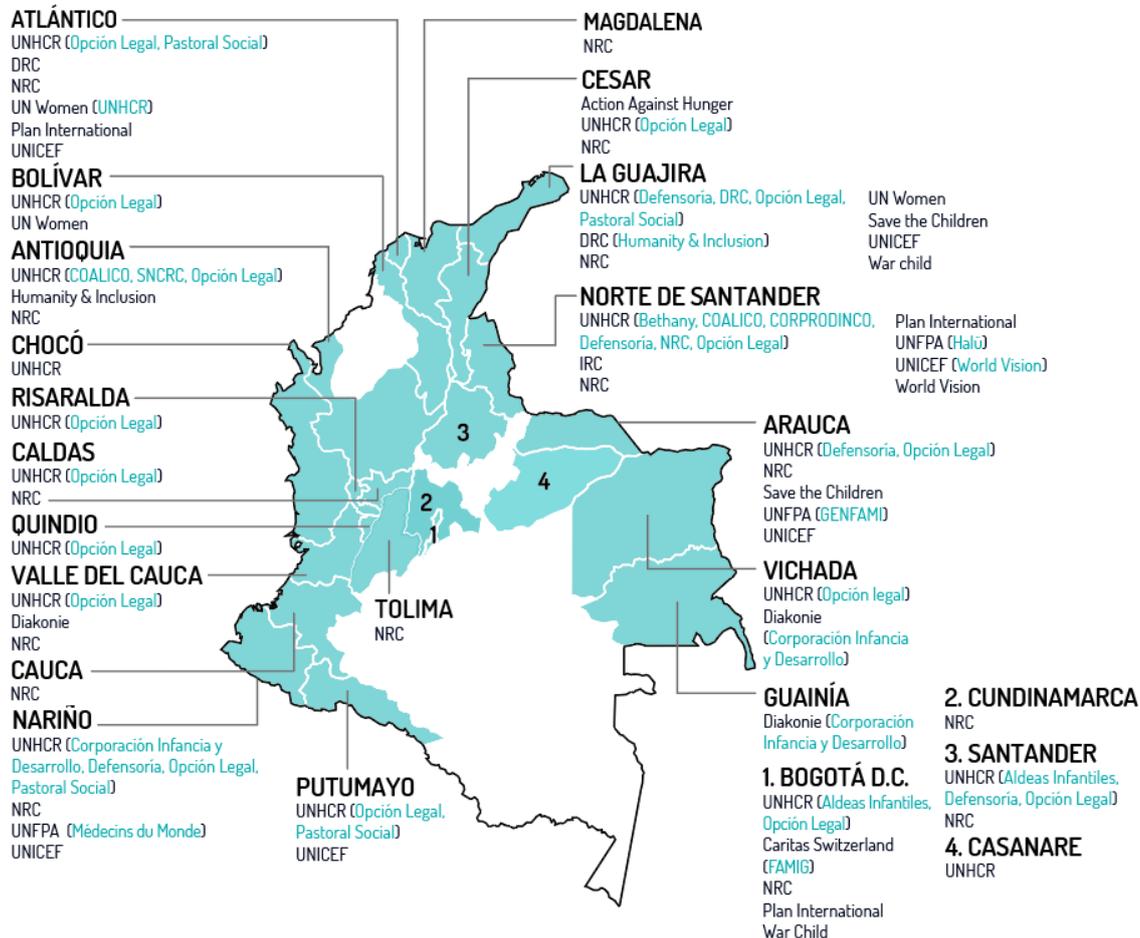


Refugee and migrant women participate in community strengthening activities in prevention and response to gender-based violence in Arauca. © UNFPA

Likewise, a total of 1,221 cases in the border departments of Arauca, Norte de Santander, La Guajira, as well as Atlántico and Nariño were identified, referred to and treated in the Support Spaces. This Regional initiative seeks that refugees, migrants, returnees from Venezuela and the host population have access to information, guidance and basic quality services that respond to urgent needs in a coordinated and joint manner.

Area of Intervention 2: Actors by department who reported activities in November

Key Partner (Implementing Partner)



Feature Store: Joy and emotional support in a long adventure

20 days ago, the adventure began with my aunt Mary. She says the trip will end soon and we'll be with my mom again. My little sisters are also with us: Mariluz, 4 years old, and Marisol, 6 years old. I am 10 years old and I am from Maracaibo, Venezuela. We traveled to Colombia because things in my country changed, or as my aunt says: "the situation was complicated." My aunt says we have the challenge of going to find the queen, who is my mother. She is in a city called Yopal, here in Colombia, where we can live, play and study again. My mom already has a new job.

We have met many people; we have got on different buses and we have walked through many places. We have also laughed and cried, because all this is very strange for us. Three days ago, we arrived in Bogotá, here the bus that can take us to my mother passes, but we lacked money to buy the tickets. My aunt started selling candy on the buses to get money, and in the meantime, we stayed at the FAMIG. The idea is that today we finally travel to Yopal. Something very funny happened the other day: some red jacket teachers came and played with us and the other children, they taught us to work as a team, even if we didn't know each other. At that moment I felt a lot of joy. I also made new friends, because there were many children there, but they were always with their moms and we didn't play together. Today I saw the teachers again and they told me that they come from War Child. We played again, and as I knew the games, they had taught us, they let me teach them to the other children. I told them that today I travel with my aunt and my sisters, so they said goodbye to us and wished us luck. We are already packing our bags to see my mom and tell her what we did. I will show all the games and what I learned with the teachers.



Story based on the testimony of Maycol, from the Migrant Assistance Foundation (FAMIG).
(*Maycol's name has been changed in order to protect her identity)

War Child offers structured movement-based activities for migrant children from Venezuela, in Bogotá and La Guajira. Through the TeamUp methodology, which consists of psychosocial support for children, War Child promotes their resilience, well-being and emotional self-regulation. War Child also offers information sessions on services available to migrant adults.

Area of Intervention 3: Socio-economic and cultural integration

In **Atlántico, Bogotá, Nariño** and **Valle del Cauca**, 453 refugees and migrants participated in trainings to strengthen their technical skills or their job search processes. The trainings were realized together with the piloting of the Orientation Guide for job search in Colombia, a tool to familiarize and empower refugees and migrants with the employability route of the Public Employment Service. In **Atlántico, Bogotá, Cesar, Nariño, Santander** and **Valle del Cauca**, 197 businessmen participated in sensitization including information on the processes necessary for the recruitment of refugees and migrants from Venezuela and identification of employment opportunities. Advocacy targeting the business sector, and vacancy identification exercises, is the starting point of a successful labor insertion process.

In **Antioquia, Arauca, Bogotá, Cundinamarca, La Guajira** and **Norte de Santander**, 6,034 refugees, migrants and Colombians from host communities received information and guidance on how to take make use of existing services in: health, education, employment and documentation. A prominent example is the Comprehensive Action Strategies, developed by the Ministry of Labor with the support of the international cooperation, with approximately 2,701 beneficiaries in the departments of **Magdalena** and **Norte de Santander**.

In **Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, Casanare, Nariño** and **Norte de Santander**, around 5,458 refugees, migrants and host communities participated in spaces for dialogue and workshops to promote hospitality, development of community fabric seeking to foster integration and social cohesion in the host territories. In **Arauca, Bogotá, Boyacá, Casanare, La Guajira, Meta, Norte de Santander** and **Vichada** campaigns were carried out that reached more than 8,000 refugees, migrants and host communities, in order to improve peaceful coexistence and prevent outbreaks of xenophobia in the territories.

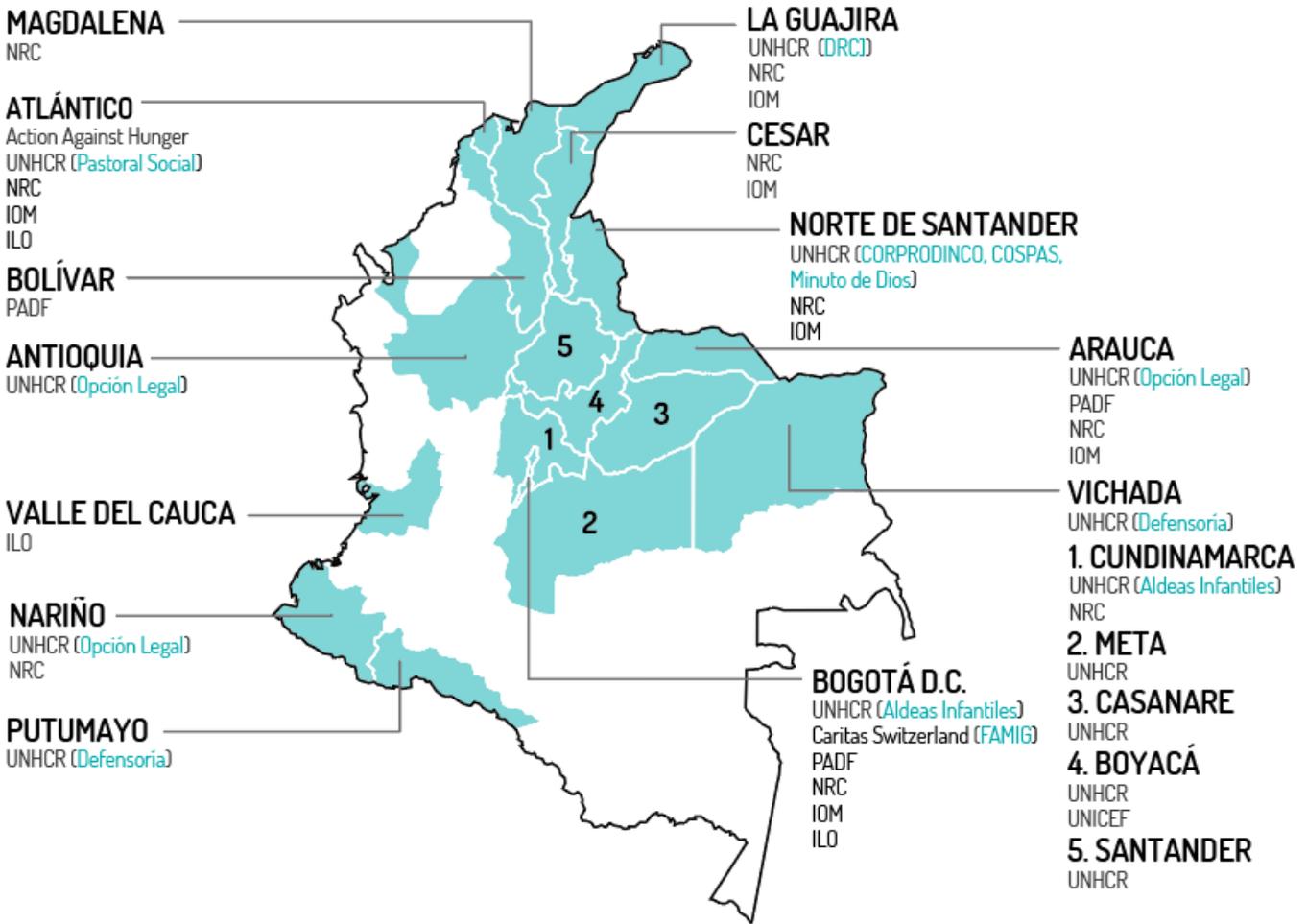
- 8** Key partners
- 10** Implementing partners
- 9,300** Beneficiaries of one or more types of assistance
- 14** Departments
- 44** Municipalities



In Cúcuta, Norte de Santander, children's day is celebrated with a festival for cultural integration between the refugee and migrant population and the host community. Folk dances, typical for each country, are performed to strengthen ties and prevent xenophobic attitudes. © Ayuda en Acción

Area of Intervention 3: Actors by department who reported activities in November

Key Partner (Implementing Partner)



Area of Intervention 4: Strengthening the capacity of the host government

The support to strategies and in technical processes of Colombian government institutions, related to the response to the Venezuelan population and host communities, allows for development of better tools to assist the population in need of services. Similarly, support is also provided in the identification of key components regarding migration issues, and in the incorporation of these components in the development plans of the new local and regional governors.

In this regard, 153 officials were trained in eight departments in international protection mechanisms and access to refugee and migrant rights, and 70 recommendations were shared with the authorities in **Atlántico** and **Nariño** in order to promote a better response to the population in terms of protection. In addition, in **Nariño** and **Cesar**, 105 members of local authorities and/or health institutions received support through technical assistance, supplies, human resources, logistics or infrastructure for health care. The Colombian State was furthermore supported in the implementation of the exceptional measure which grants Colombian nationality to more than 27,000 girls and boys, born to Venezuelan parents in Colombia since 2015. This is implemented in 20 departments of the country, in 84 offices of the National Civil Registry of Colombia.

- 4** Key partners
- 3** Implementing partners
- 1,080** Beneficiaries of one or more types of assistance
- 11** Departments
- 36** Municipalities

COORDINATION*

The local GIFMMs, as the territorial expression of the national platform, are spaces for strategic coordination of the operational response at the local level, working in close collaboration with the authorities' coordination mechanisms. The following are the highlights of the month of November:

- The **national GIFMM** advanced in the development of the tool for the mapping of the attention points to the walking population, as well as in the strengthening of the Interagency and inter-institutional coordination to improve integral attention. 96 points were registered for November; however, partners are reiterated on the importance of reporting and on the continuity of the attention points in 2020.
- In **Cúcuta**, with the support of the local GIFMM and the national GIFMM, a national workshop on the Support Spaces was carried out during November 7 and 8. This training aimed to provide the basic concepts around Support Spaces, the consolidation of principles, minimum standards in the provision of services and the toolkit for the creation of Support Spaces. The workshop was attended by about 50 people, including GIFMM partners and local authorities from various regions of the country (**Barranquilla**, **Cúcuta** and **Bogotá**).
- A health day was developed with the participation of GIFMM members in Antioquia and the municipality of Itagüí; dentistry, psychology, oral hygiene, exercise, general medicine, sexual and reproductive health and medication provision services were provided. In addition, the VenEsperanza Consortium announced that it will initiate its "Program to provide emergency assistance for people in need, by delivering multipurpose cash," which will benefit 16,539 people in **Medellín**, Bello and Itagüí for 18 months.
- The local GIFMM in **Arauca**, with the support of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, held a workshop with 57 officials of the Government of Casanare on the response to mixed migration flows. In addition, the local GIFMM conducted a workshop on the response to trafficking in persons in territory, including concepts and issues related to trafficking and smuggling of migrants.
- During the month, the Education Cannot Wait delegation was received in **La Guajira**. The purpose of the delegation was to visit the educational spaces and analyze the context and gaps in the response for children and adolescents. ECHO's aim was to follow up on the status of some projects and to talk with local GIFMM partners about the contextual needs of the department. Visits were also made to the Support Spaces in **Maicao** and the initiative was communicated to the beneficiary population in Paraguachón.
- A day of training was held in **Valle de Cauca** together with the ICBF (Colombian Family Welfare Institute) regarding attention to refugee and migrant children.
- In **Ipiales**, a temporary shelter was opened for LGBTI people and women survivors of gender-based violence, sexual abuse and trafficking. This initiative will be supported from the local GIFMM in **Nariño**, to promote the prevention of all forms of sexual and gender-based violence. In addition, an educational census was carried out with 344 Venezuelan families in permanent residence. It was identified that within nuclear families there are 582 girls, boys, adolescents and young people, in ages between 5 and 28 years, who are not included in the education system.

GIFMM MEMBERS*

ACTED | Action Against Hunger | ADRA | Aid for AIDS | Alliance for Solidarity | American Red Cross | Americares | Ayuda en Acción | Bethany International | BLUMONT | Caritas Germany | Caritas Switzerland | Colombian Red Cross | Diakonie | Doctors of the World | DRC | FAO | Global Communities | Halü | HIAS | Humanity & Inclusion | ICRC | IFRC | ILO | iMMAP | IOM | IRC | JRS Colombia | JRS Latin America and the Caribbean | Lutheran World Federation | Malteser International | Mercy Corps | Norwegian Red Cross | NRC | OCHA | OCR | OHCHR | OXFAM | PADF | Pastoral Social | Plan International | Premiere Urgence | Profamilia | RET International | Save the Children | SOS Children's Villages | Tearfund | Terre des Hommes - Lausanne | UN Habitat | UN Women | Un Techo Para Mi País | UNDP | UNEP | UNFPA | UNHCR | UNICEF | UNODC | War Child | WFP | WHO | World Vision

*National members, including organisations which are part of the RMRP 2019 and observer organisations.

CONTRIBUTIONS

GOVERNMENTS: Austria, Canada, Colombia, Denmark, European Union, France, Germany, Japan, Norway, Netherlands, Spain, South Korea, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States of America.

OTHER DONORS: Bloomberg, Central Emergency Response Fund, Dubai Cares, Dutch Relief Alliance, Education Cannot Wait Fund, Ford Foundation, Franz Hoffman Foundation, Gilead Sciences Inc., International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Labour Organization, Latter-Day Saint Charities, Medicor Foundation, Novo Nordisk, Ole Kirk's Foundation, Oxfam Intermón, Oxfam International, Pan American Development Foundation, Spanish Red Cross, Stichting Vluchteling, Stichting War Child, United Nations Children's Fund, World Vision Canada, World Vision International, World Vision Korea, World Vision USA.

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