

Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
IN THE SUBREGION
201,815



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE*
9,683



FUNDING SITUATION**
13% FUNDED: **4,322,674**
REQUIREMENT: **34,103,534**

Situation

- The **humanitarian impact of COVID-19 on refugees and migrants from Venezuela** continues to be tough and disproportionate, since most of them have lost their jobs and livelihoods. Many are lacking shelter, food and money to pay for their basic needs, while others are confronted with homelessness.
- Refugees and migrants also face **difficulties accessing social programmes** due to lack of documentation and/or not complying with requirements related to the length of their residence in these countries.
- Movement restrictions were partially lifted in all of four countries**, mostly in Paraguay and Uruguay, while stricter measures remained in place in main urban centres of Argentina and Bolivia. Borders in the four countries remain closed.
- Partners became aware and provided emergency assistance to **refugees and migrants from Venezuela who tested positive with COVID-19** in Bolivia and Argentina, complementing national support services.
- Some refugees and migrants approached partners in Argentina and Bolivia requesting **assistance to return to Venezuela**, reflecting the dire situation in which they have been living over the past two and a half months due to the pandemic.
- Representatives of the governments of **Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay attended the Pledging Conference in solidarity with Venezuelan refugees and migrants** on 26 May, co-organized by the EU and Spain, Canada and Norway with the support of UNHCR and IOM, addressing the donor community and showing their committed support in the search of solutions for refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the sub-region.



Children alternative learning in La Paz, Bolivia during quarantine © I.J.Mariño, Munasim Kullakita/ 2020

Response***



ARGENTINA: 100% Diversidad, ADRA, Alianza por Venezuela, ASOVEN, CAREF, FCCAM, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, PROVEAR, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR.

BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, Pastoral de Movilidad Humana, Red Cross Bolivia, Scalabrini Foundation, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision.

PARAGUAY: IOM, Red con Migrantes y Refugiados, Semillas para la Democracia, UNHCR.

URUGUAY: ADRA, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, Manos Veneguayas, SEDHU, UNHCR.

- Assistance provided by partners continued to be focused on **providing shelter solutions, NFIs** (especially medicines and hygiene, baby and maternity kits), **food assistance and cash-based interventions** to the most vulnerable refugees and migrants from Venezuela in border areas and in the main urban centres, where most of the population is located.
- Moreover, **primary health care assistance, psychosocial support**, as well as interventions targeting **children's education** have been scaled-up in Bolivia and Uruguay.
- As the winter approaches in the Southern hemisphere, **partners have begun providing assistance for refugees and migrants to cope with low temperatures**, such as winter kits and hot meals. Low funding puts the continuity of the assistance at risk, especially as some quarantine measures remain in place in most of the countries.
- As days in lockdown continued to increase, partners **identified and provided socio-legal assistance and support to GBV cases** in Argentina and Bolivia.
- Partners in Bolivia continued monitoring the situation at borders and advising Venezuelans on the risks of attempting journeys** under the current circumstances, as several attempts of irregular crossings were reported.
- Partners are providing assistance for **the socio-economic integration of refugees and migrants from Venezuela**, including micro-entrepreneurship support, counselling and dissemination of job vacancies.
- Partners have also continued **collecting key information on short and medium term needs of refugees and migrants in the subregion**, including opportunities to mitigate the negative socio-economic impacts of the compulsory social isolation.



Food Security
3,305

Health
909

Integration
295

NFI
3,318

Protection
3,311

Shelter
601

CBI
1,793

For more information, please contact: José M. Cáceres – caceres@unhcr.org | Estefanía Solano de la Sala – esolano@iom.int

*From 01/05/2020 until 31/05/2020 | **Source: FTS Website | ***The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report, and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.