

Guyana

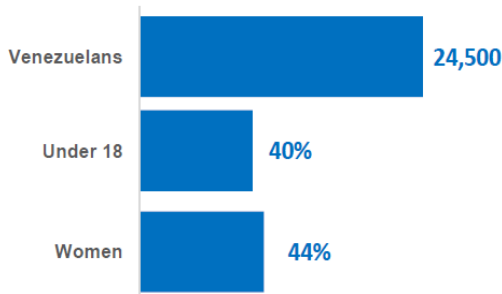
July - August 2022

Guyana hosts **24,500 refugees and migrants from Venezuela**, as well as 198 refugees and asylum seekers from other nationalities, including Cubans and Haitians.

UNHCR, in coordination with the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security and partner HIAS, assisted **20 Venezuelan Waraos with protection needs** who travelled from Region 2 to Georgetown for support.

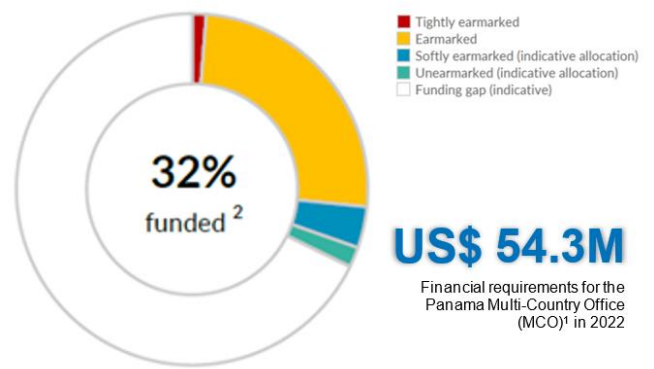
The Government continues issuing stay permits to Venezuelans upon arrival. The permit is valid for **six months** and requires **periodic renewal**.

Population of concern*



* Source: UNHCR internal estimates, as of 31 August 2022

STATE OF PLAY: FUNDING RECEIVED VS. FUNDING NEEDS (AS OF 30 AUGUST 2022)



¹ The financial requirements for the **Panama Multi-Country Office** include those for the Coronavirus Emergency and the Venezuela Situation. **Guyana** is part of the **Panama MCO** since 2021 along with Panama, Nicaragua, Belize, Cuba and the Southern Caribbean.

² The percentage funded includes indicative allocations of softly earmarked and unearmarked contributions.

Context

UNHCR supports the Government with the provision of assistance and protection services to refugees and migrants with specific needs, and to vulnerable host communities while working in coordination with other **Interagency Response Platform partners**.

UNHCR delivers **humanitarian aid**, including food kits and sanitary items, as well as **support and counselling** to facilitate access to government services for refugees and migrants.

Gender-based Violence (GBV) continues to be a major concern, particularly for **Venezuelan refugees and migrants – mainly women** – who have engaged in **survival sex** and are at risk of **human trafficking**. **Child Protection** concerns are also consistently present.



UNHCR accesses remote communities in Port Kaituma, (Region 1), to provide protection and humanitarian assistance to refugees and other vulnerable groups.

UNHCR Response and Strategy

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

Main Activities

Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, development actors, and UN Agencies, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:



Protection | UNHCR provided information on access to protection services to 416 refugees and migrants (89 girls, 111 boys, 139 women 77 men). In addition, 134 persons (30 girls, 26 boys, 2 women and 26 men) were either accompanied or referred to relevant governmental protection services.



Gender-based Violence (GBV) | In remote mining areas, UNHCR and the Guyana Sex Work Coalition (GSWC), sensitized 149 women who engage in survival sex on HIV, sexually transmitted infections and Sexual and Reproductive Health, and provided HIV testing and counselling to 111 women. A total of 148 hygiene kits were distributed, and eight key community members were sensitized to Gender-Based Violence (GBV) and the specific needs of Venezuelan women who engage in survival sex. UNHCR through partner HIAS reached 27 persons with GBV prevention messages and counselling on rights, services and referral pathways. Over 36 persons participated in community-based initiatives, including awareness raising on Intimate Partner Violence. HIAS provided case management services to 12 GBV survivors. UNHCR through Blossom Inc. supported eight children GBV survivors with trauma-focused therapy and conducted 16 forensic interviews with Venezuelan and Guyanese children who survived sexual abuse. Case management services were provided to 20 Venezuelan children, and two Venezuelan children were placed in foster care.



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) | UNHCR delivered 87 hygiene kits to 28 households of refugees and migrants. UNHCR donated 266 jerry cans to 242 members of vulnerable host communities in Regions 1, 2 and 4. In addition, UNHCR distributed 3,262 soap bars to 892 vulnerable individuals with limited access to WASH.



Cash-based Interventions and In-kind Assistance | UNHCR through HIAS distributed multipurpose cash and in-kind assistance to 107 refugees and migrants. UNHCR distributed 138 food kits to 121 persons in need in Region 1, including indigenous communities at-risk.



Health | UNHCR coordinated with local authorities to track cases medically evacuated from the regions to Georgetown which require assistance. UNHCR supported healthcare workers from the Port Kaituma Hospital on a vaccination campaign at the Green House settlement, where 34 Venezuelans were vaccinated against yellow fever, Polio, HPV, Covid-19, Measles, Mumps, and Rubella (MMR). In Regions 1, 2 and 4, UNHCR accompanied and provided counselling on access to health services, such as Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, immunization and Covid-19 prevention.



Education | UNHCR supports the education and integration of 600 children in Regions 1,3 and 7 through English as Second Language (ESL) classes through a partnership with the Ministry of Education (MoE) and direct implementation of community-based education for out-of-school children. By collaborating with the MoE and the Regional Democratic Council (RDC) of Region 1, UNHCR donated 10 Refugee Housing Units (RHU) to provide classroom space to increase student enrolment and participation. UNHCR conducted a two-day training with 20 Government school teachers from Regions 3 and 7 and provided equipment to allow distance support to new ESL teachers. Online training was carried out to government staff from the MoE and the RDC of Regions 1 and 3 to install RHUs to increase access to education.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: Canada, the European Union, France, Guyana, the United States of America, 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: Belgium | Denmark | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom. Private donors in Australia | Canada | Germany | Italy | Japan | the Republic of Korea | Spain | and the United States

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UNHCR Guyana: Operational Presence August 2022

