

Guyana

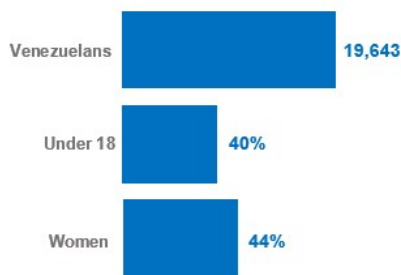
November - December 2022

Guyana hosts **19,643 refugees and migrants from Venezuela**, as well as **177 refugees and asylum seekers** of other nationalities, including Cubans and Haitians.

To mark the **16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence (GBV)** UNHCR held an awareness session on gender equality and GBV prevention for **40 participants**.

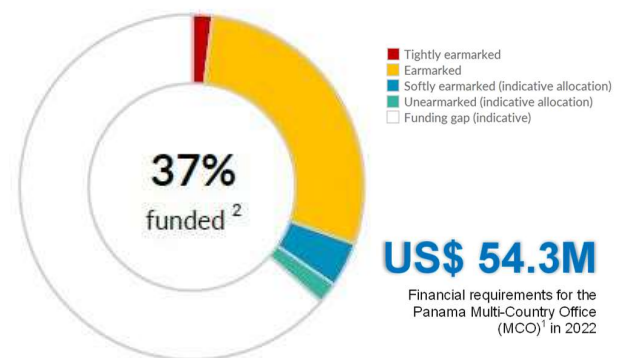
The Government of Guyana continues issuing **three-month** stay permits to Venezuelans who arrive in the country. These permits can be extended for **six months** and require **periodic renewal**.

People UNHCR protects*



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

STATE OF PLAY: FUNDING RECEIVED VS. FUNDING NEEDS (AS OF 29 DECEMBER 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 in 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 hampers and sanitary items, as well as **support and counseling** to facilitate access to government services for refugees and migrants.

Gender-based Violence continues to be a major problem, particularly for vulnerable **Venezuelan refugee and migrant women** who engage in survival sex as a coping mechanism and indigenous women. **Trafficking-in-Persons** and **Child Protection risks** are also consistently present concerns, especially in mining areas.

International Human Rights Day



UNHCR at the exhibition commemorating Human Rights Day, sponsored by the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance. During the event, the Agency gave a presentation, showcased documentaries, and distributed information materials on international protection and the right to seek asylum.

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 [463 refugees and migrants](#) (155 women, 154 men, 70 girls, 84 boys). UNHCR accompanied [216 persons](#) (79 women, 70 men, 30 girls, and 37 boys) to relevant government services, including the Immigration Department, for access to stay permits, justice and legal support.



Gender-based Violence | In remote mining areas, UNHCR and partner Guyana Sex Work Coalition (GSWC), sensitized [100 women](#) who engage in survival sex on HIV, sexually transmitted infections and Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights. GSWC provided HIV testing and counselling to [113 women](#) and distributed [98 hygiene kits](#). A total of [18 key community members](#) were sensitized on GBV, and [172 people](#) were counselled on [GBV prevention and referral pathways](#). Some [109 people](#) participated in community-based initiatives, including awareness raising on the [importance of renewing stay permits](#). HIAS provided case management services to [18 GBV survivors](#). UNHCR through Partner Blossom Inc. conducted [19 forensic interviews](#) with [Venezuelan and Guyanese children](#) who survived sexual abuse. Case management services were provided to [14 Venezuelan children](#).



Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) | UNHCR delivered [133 hygiene kits](#) to [65 refugee and migrant households](#). UNHCR also donated [26 jerry cans](#) to [20 households](#). In addition, the Agency distributed [16 baby kits](#) to pregnant women and families with newborn babies in Regions 1, 2 and 4.



Cash-based interventions and in-kind assistance | UNHCR through HIAS distributed multi-purpose cash assistance to [279 refugees and migrants](#). In addition, UNHCR distributed [142 food hampers](#) to [99 households](#) that were unable to meet their basic needs in Regions 1, 2 and 4.



Health | 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. In November, UNHCR supported health workers in a [vaccination campaign](#) at Farm Corps, Region 1, home to [200 indigenous individuals](#) from Venezuela.



Education | In partnership with the [Ministry of Education](#), UNHCR supported access to education and integration of [49 children](#) in [Regions 1, 3 and 7](#) through English as Second Language (ESL) classes. With the same purpose, UNHCR implemented community-based ESL classes for [237 out-of-school children](#) in [remote areas](#) in Region 1, including indigenous communities.

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 | the United Kingdom. Private donors in Australia | Canada | Germany | Italy | Japan | the Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | and the United States

For more information:

In **Guyana** | **Henri-Sylvain Yakara**, Head of National Office, yakara@unhcr.org

In **MCO Panama** | **Viola Eleonora Bruttomesso**, Associate Communications Officer, bruttome@unhcr.org

UNHCR presence in Guyana

