

Chile

May 2023

Despite efforts to address the humanitarian needs of people forcibly displaced in Chile, **refugees and others in need of international protection continue to face challenges such as access to territory, adequate housing, health**

care and food. This situation is often exacerbated by the harsh climate, extreme altitude, and rugged terrain, as well as the rise in discrimination rates and violence, including sexual exploitation and abuse, trafficking and

smuggling for those on the move. At the same time, physical violence, verbal abuse, and public demonstrations against people in various regions of the country, especially towards Venezuelan nationals.

KEY FIGURES

1,482,390

Foreign population in Chile as of 31 December 2021, representing **7.7%** of the total population residing in the country.

31%

Of the total foreign population are refugees and migrants from Venezuela (444,423) *

*The figure only considers the regular population

53,875

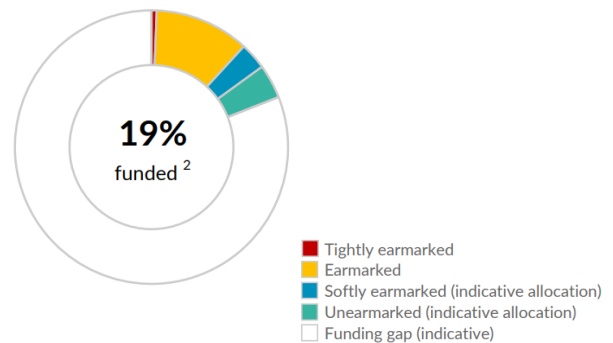
Voluntary declarations for clandestine entry into the country during 2022, out of which 74% are from Venezuelan nationals.



FUNDING (1 OF JUNE)

USD 31,5 million

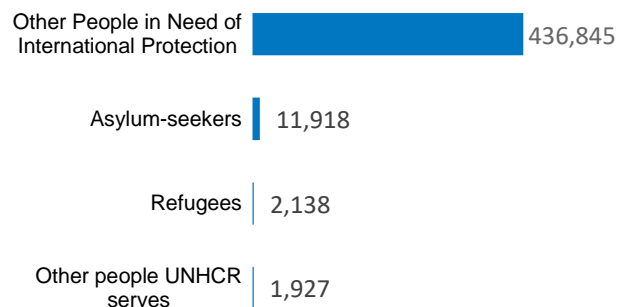
requested for the UNHCR operation in Chile in 2023*



1. The financial needs for Chile include the needs for the country's regular program and the Venezuela Situation.
2. The percentage financed (8%) covers the first quarter of 2023, which represents a deficit of 92% of the financial needs.

POPULATION UNHCR SERVES

452,603*



* * The figures were collected from the Government of Chile. Other People in Need of International protection include Venezuelan people residing in Chile when not refugees or Asylum-seekers.

Main Results

January to March 2023



PROTECTION

- In the first months of 2023, UNHCR facilitated interpretation services for the processing of asylum applications by the Refugee Department. This has accelerated the refugee status determination process for more than 60 Ukrainian, Afghan and Haitian nationals in Chile, and more than 200 interpretations supported in 2022.
- More than 1,800 people were reached through the national hotline and the automated chatbot "Tu Paisa" with relevant information on the asylum process, regularization mechanisms and access to other services in Chile.
- Case management, including registration and timely and effective referral mechanisms, has been improved using the PRIMES ecosystem in Chile and the development of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) with implementing partners. More than 2,478 cases were registered in PRIMES during the first trimester in Santiago, Arica, Iquique, and Antofagasta.



DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Launch of the livelihood platform Mercado Inclusivo (www.mercadoinclusivo.cl) together with the Vicaría de la Pastoral Social and with the support of the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Economy. The platform aims to facilitate access to decent work, provide information on labor rights and give visibility to small entrepreneurs, especially women and members of the LGTBQIA+ community. In addition, this initiative has also implemented connectivity spaces from Arica to Temuco and trained more than 100 refugees and migrants in digital literacy.
- UNHCR and the Gastronomía Social Foundation supported community kitchens to provide safe meals to more than 800 people affected by the fires in the southern region of Biobío. UNHCR also supported the [Minga Project](#) by implementing a cookhouse aimed at recovering and reusing wasted food, and training vulnerable women to cook canned food as a sustainable livelihood.
- Implementation of the final phase of the Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund project, carried out jointly with the International Labor Organization and International Organization for Migration. In this last step, UNHCR developed a program to ensure access to certification of work skills for 149 refugees and migrants in the areas of gastronomy and commerce, in close coordination with key actors, such as SENCE, ChileValora, Fundación Emplea, the Municipality of Santiago and two selected certification centers.



SHELTER AND BASIC NEEDS

- 1,245 refugees and migrants who were homeless or at risk of eviction received rent subsidies and emergency shelter. This assistance was provided mainly in the Tarapacá and Metropolitan regions.
- In the first quarter of the year, the UNHCR provided 60 rent subsidies to support refugees and migrants who were leaving the Lobitos shelter in Tarapacá.
- 342 people could meet their basic needs through cash assistance; 376 vouchers were distributed to give them access to food, hygiene items and other products.



COMMUNITY INTEGRATION

- 29 people benefited directly through “Connected market”, an electronic wallet used as a delivery mechanism for cash assistance. Families had access to food, hygiene items and other products available at local commercial outlets near their homes. This initiative also benefited the local economy and promoted the local integration of refugees and migrants.
- To contribute to the country's environmental development and improve sustainability, which has a direct impact on the lives of people in the Tarapacá region, UNHCR is developing the 'Close the Loop' project. The first phase of the project has already been implemented and involved measuring the carbon footprint and characterizing the waste generated, particularly in the aid provided in Colchane and Lobito. This will allow sustainable alternatives to be proposed, enabling UNHCR to contribute to the creation of a better environment.

Financial Information

UNHCR is grateful for the critical support provided by donors who have contributed to this operation, as well as those who have contributed to UNHCR programs with broadly earmarked and unearmarked funds in 2023:

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UNHCR assists people in need at the Transitional Care Center in Iquique, Tarapacá Region, which is financed by the Undersecretariat for Children (under the Ministry of Social Development and Family).

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