

Ecuador

January 2024

Over 76,800** **refugees** and 7,600 asylum-seekers are currently registered in Ecuador as of end of September. 95% of them come from **Colombia**.

Ecuador hosts 474,945 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, **the fourth largest number** after Colombia, Peru and Brazil according to the GTRM.

UNHCR works with authorities and partners to help refugees, asylum-seekers and their hosts **build resilient communities in Ecuador**.

POPULATION OF CONCERN*

Profile



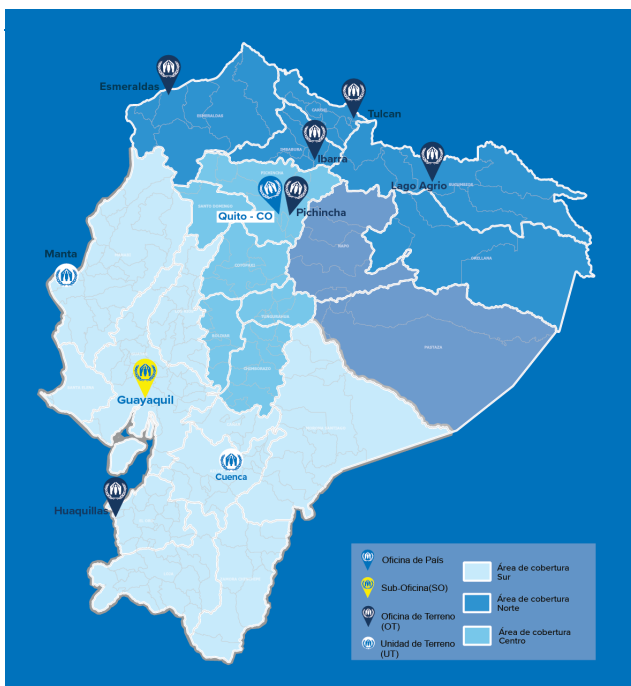
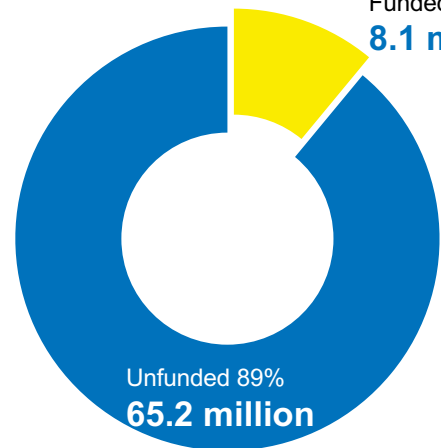
*Source: UNHCR Ecuador National Trends

FUNDING (AS OF 31 JANUARY 2024)

USD 73.3 million

requested for the Ecuador operation

Funded 11%
8.1 million



ESPERANZA LEJOS DEL HOGAR EN UN MUNDO POSIBLE **Junto a ti**

construye un mundo posible para los refugiados

Compra una camiseta y brinda esperanza a quienes tuvieron que huir de sus hogares por la violencia, conflictos y la persecución.

Por tiempo limitado.
¡No te quedes sin tu camiseta!



UNHCR and AÉROPOSTALE announced the winners of the art contest and printed the three designs on t-shirts sold nationally in support of refugees. You can [buy your t-shirt here](#).

Working with Partners

UNHCR has one country office and three suboffices covering north, south, and central Ecuador. The UN Refugee Agency works with 15 partners and supports the Ecuadorian Government in the delivery of protection and solutions to refugees and other displaced people, as well as those from the host community in a vulnerable situation. UNHCR also co-leads the interagency working group for refugees and migrants (GTRM), a platform coordinating the response to the needs of people forced to flee in Ecuador. Check out the latest [GTRM needs assessment](#) for more information.

Main Activities

Alongside the government, partner organizations, civil society, faith-based organizations, and communities, UNHCR undertakes protection and solutions activities, including:

International Protection

- UNHCR facilitates access to the asylum procedure for people in need of international protection through engagement with government and local authorities to strengthen their capacities. UNHCR and partners supported 1,970 refugees and others displaced with access to free and quality legal services (including orientation and representation) so far in 2024.
- UNHCR and partners continue providing support to the regularization process with counselling and guidance, communications with communities, cash for documentation, as well as brigades to support registration and any other related procedure. By the end of January 2024 and since the beginning of the process, over 90,000 people had received their Ecuadorian ID. UNHCR is also supporting with key technical staff withing Government to strengthen the process.
- The second phase of the Safe Mobility Programme (SMO) began with the opening of online applications through the website www.movilidadsegura.org. UNHCR and IOM staff are working on case management to schedule interviews for eligible applicants. Information about the programme is being disseminated on the social media to prevent fraud against applicants.

Community-Based Protection and Prevention Against Violence

- UNHCR and partners work to strengthen and support local integration and peaceful coexistence among locals and refugees. Moreover, UNHCR is training refugees and local communities to enhance community communications efforts.
- UNHCR and partners implement a sports for protection strategy to help create resilience and prevent violence against children and adolescents across the country. In addition, UNHCR engages teens and youth in arts and culture for protection initiatives, to provide them an outlet to express their stories, fears and dreams for the future, including the Cámaras a Camaradas initiative.

Access to rights: Education and Health

- UNHCR and partners work to reduce barriers to access the education system for people forced to flee through advocacy and Respiramos Inclusión methodology that tackle discrimination and xenophobia. Through education interventions, UNHCR has delivered 5 trainings in Quito with over 180 teachers, student counsellors and students to promote their permanence in school.
- UNHCR advocates for the effective access of refugees to health and programmes, as well as mental health. UNHCR and partners have provided 16,448 people with mental health and psychosocial support, by the end of November 2023.

Responding to needs: Cash-Based Interventions, Shelter and NFIs

- UNHCR provides support to refugees and other displaced people through cash grants to meet the most basic protection needs. So far in 2024, UNHCR has delivered cash support to 966 people.
- Shelters throughout the country continue to receive people in human mobility and to provide assistance. 836 people were able to access shelter services, safe, dignified, adequate housing and to community spaces so far in 2024.

Durable solutions, resilience and self-reliance

- In January, UNHCR met with the ministries of Human Rights, Sports and Education to put forward nation-wide initiatives to protect refugees and their host communities through their respective lines of action.
- Ecuador participated in the Global Refugee Forum held in Geneva in December 2023, with pledges ranging from improving access to the refugee status determination procedure and child protection measures, to sports for protection initiatives and the commitment from the private sector to continue pursuing refugee inclusion. [Read more.](#)
- UNHCR continued promoting the socioeconomic inclusion of people forced to flee in Ecuador, including for entrepreneurs and job placement.
- To promote integration and resilience, [UNHCR launched Un Mundo Posible](#), an initiative to bring together refugees and locals in exploring ways to create a world where everyone can thrive.
- UNHCR works with international financial institutions to put forward the humanitarian-development nexus in support of refugees and their hosts. This includes conducting joint advocacy. [Learn more here.](#)

WITH THANKS TO OUR DONORS

Special thanks to donors who contributed earmarked and flexible funds to UNHCR globally and in Ecuador:

Australia | Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Ireland | Luxembourg | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America | UK

UNHCR is also thankful to private donors

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