



UNHCR Biometric registration in Oranjestad, Aruba


# Registration Snapshot

January – November 2024



**Registration** - recording, verifying, and updating biographical, biometric, and socioeconomic data - is the first step to protecting forcibly displaced and stateless persons. It allows for the **identification of specific needs, the provision of targeted assistance, and the attainment of durable solutions**. Registration protects against refoulement, arbitrary arrest, and detention, helps keep families together, and facilitates reunification.

The Population Registration and Identity Management Ecosystem (**PRIMES**) is a set of interoperable tools developed by UNHCR to enhance registration, case management, and identity management for the persons we protect.


## MAIN FIGURES – PEOPLE REGISTERED


**7,890**

Forcibly displaced and stateless people from **5,575 households** were registered in all countries under MCO Panama during 2024.


**50%**

**50%**


Male Female


**5,895**

Adults, **3%** over 60 years


**1,989**

Children, **34%** under five years


**5,741**

People biometrically registered through BIMS\*\*


**46**

Nationalities registered, mainly Venezuela, Cuba, Colombia, Jamaica



**79%**

Asylum seekers, **2%** refugees, **17%** other people UNHCR protects


## PROTECTION RESPONSE THROUGH PRIMES


**3,955** Specific protection needs identified, related to


- **Legal and physical protection: 1,907**
- **Child protection: 800**
- **Serious medical conditions: 480**
- **Gender-based violence: 250**
- **Women at risk: 196**
- **Single parents: 153**
- **Unaccompanied/separated children: 83**
- **Disabilities: 73**


**1064**


Counselling sessions provided


**159**

Asylum seekers helped to get permanent residency under Belize Amnesty


**2,000**


Assistances delivered for basic needs, livelihoods, documentation, inter alia


**219**

Refugee Status Determination cases finalized (369 individuals)


**8,604**

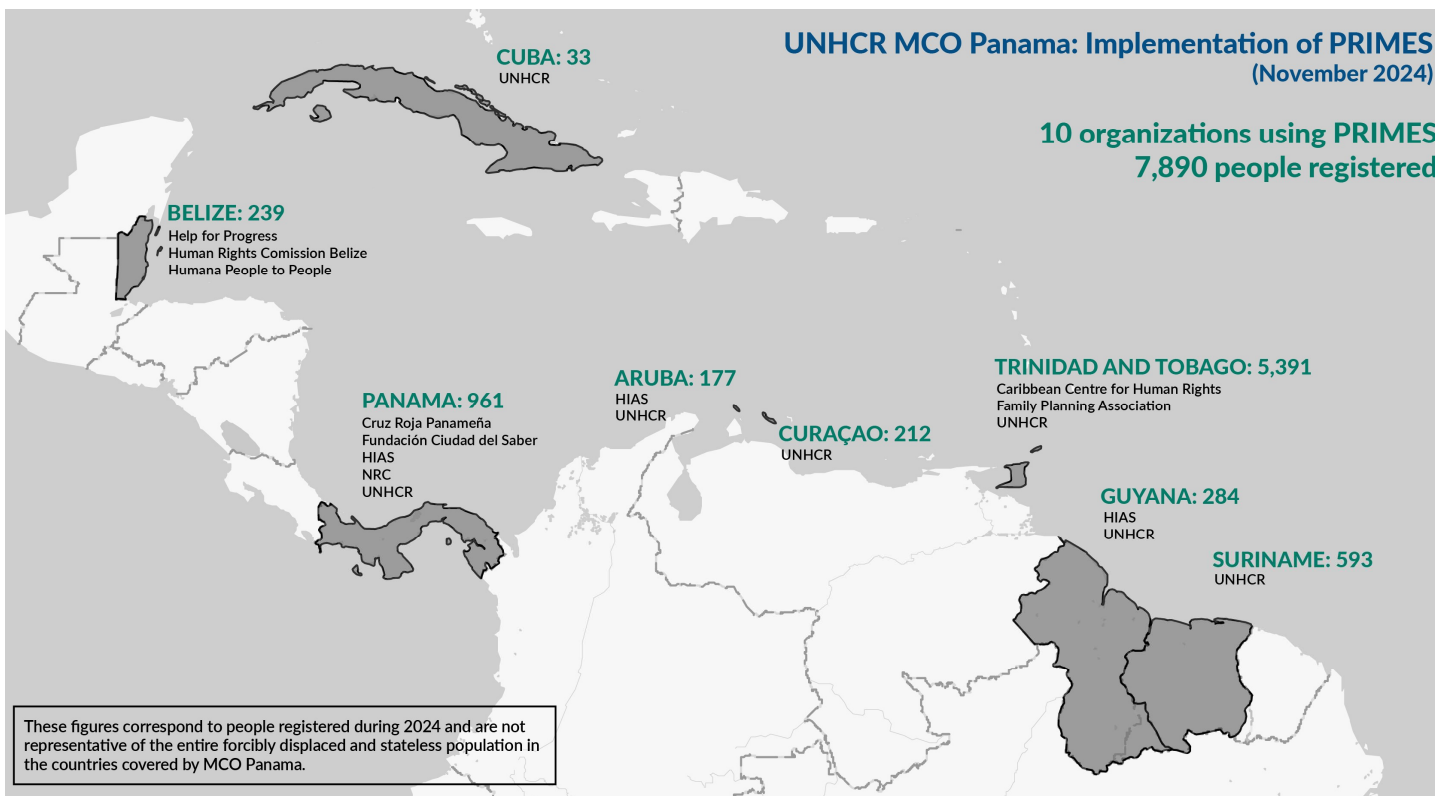
UNHCR Documents\*\*\* issued in Cuba, Guyana, Suriname, Trinidad & Tobago


**494**

Cases interviewed for resettlement (1169 individuals)

\*These figures are not representative of the entire forcibly displaced and stateless population in the countries covered by MCO Panama. \*\* Biometric Identity Management System: biometric registration includes fingerprint and iris scans and a facial photograph.

\*\*\* UNHCR Documents are Certificates or Cards attesting to an individual's recognition as a Mandate Refugee or as an Asylum Seeker to certify that they are persons protected by UNHCR



## STRATEGIC REGISTRATION GOALS

- ✓ **Ensure high-standard registration** at the internal level for efficient case management, mandate RSD (Cuba, Guyana, Trinidad & Tobago) and RST (Aruba, Curaçao, Panama, Trinidad & Tobago).
- ✓ **Enhance partners' capacity** and integrity in case management procedures and data protection.
- ✓ **Support governments** to build or strengthen digitalized registration, case management and identity management systems to ensure fair and efficient national asylum procedures.

## How does PRIMES enhance registration, case management and identity management for forcibly displaced and stateless persons?

- ✓ **Data Integrity and Accuracy;**
- ✓ **Security and Privacy** through encryption and access controls, preventing fraud and corruption;
- ✓ **Collaboration** between partners, facilitating joint efforts, avoiding duplication and reducing revictimization;
- ✓ **Digital identity for persons we protect**, enabling their socio-economic inclusion within host communities;
- ✓ **Field-proofing**, though tools working in online, offline and GSM\* environments.
- ✓ **Scalability**, enabling seamless expansion to support potential large-scale and emergency displacements.

The boundaries, names, and designations shown on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

\*GSM: Global System for Mobile Communications, the most widely used cellular-wireless telecommunications standard.

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