UNHCR registration in Siparia, Trinidad

Registration Snapshot

January – December 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 arbitrary arrest, detention, and refoulement, 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

8,284

Forcibly displaced and stateless people from **5,831 households** were registered in all countries under MCO Panama in 2024

50% Male

50% Female

6,217

Adults, **3%** over 60 years

2,069

Children, **33%** under five years

5,960

People biometrically registered through BIMS**

51

Nationalities registered, mainly Venezuela, Cuba, Colombia, Jamaica

79%

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

PROTECTION RESPONSE THROUGH PRIMES

4,140 Specific protection needs identified, related to

- **Legal and physical protection: 2,037**
- **Child protection: 818**
- **Serious medical conditions: 492**
- **Gender-based violence: 263**
- **Women at risk: 200**
- **Single parents: 157**
- **Unaccompanied/separated children: 84**
- **Disabilities: 74**

1,138

Counselling sessions provided

2,181

Assistance delivered, mainly for basic needs, livelihoods and documentation

8,936

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

170

Asylum seekers helped to get permanent residency under Belize Amnesty

241

Refugee Status Determination cases finalized (407 individuals)

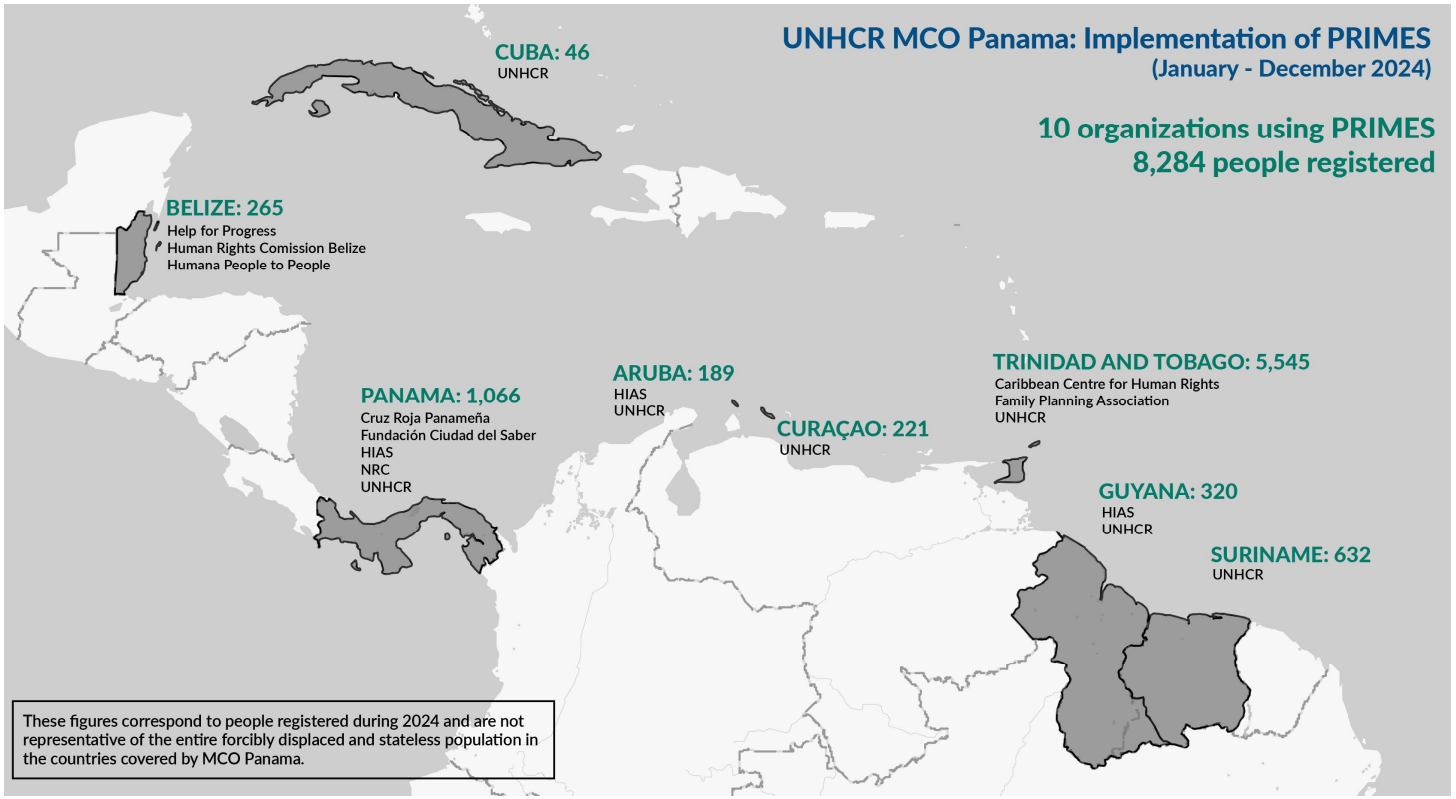
515

Cases interviewed for resettlement (1,220 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

UNHCR MCO PANAMA | **Creation date:** 13 January 2025 | **Sources:** UNHCR monitoring data | **Feedback**: panpaim@unhcr.org



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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