

Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
IN THE SUBREGION
202,373



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE*
8,738



FUNDING SITUATION**
44,3% FUNDED: 15 MILLION
REQUIREMENT: 34,1 MILLION

44,3%

Situation

- Borders in the sub-region began to open partially again. In Argentina**, in spite of the spike of cases during October, **the country opened its air borders to receive tourists from neighbouring countries**, who would not need to comply with a mandatory quarantine period upon arrival. **Paraguay ordered the reopening of 13 border points**, including the Asunción International Airport and the cities of Encarnación, Ciudad del Este, Mayor Infante Rivarola and Pedro Juan Caballero, among others. **Tourists and non-resident foreigners can enter the country.** Meanwhile, **Uruguay still keeps its borders closed** to most arrivals from foreign countries.
- Partners in Bolivia noticed during October an increasing trend of entries of refugee and migrant families from Venezuela in Desaguadero, Bolivia, coming from Peru** through unauthorized border crossing points despite borders remaining closed due to COVID-19 preventative measures. Most of them arrive in very poor health conditions (severe symptoms of “altitude sickness”) and expressed their **intention to continue traveling to Chile** through the Pisiga-Colchane border (**average crossings of 150 persons on a daily basis**). In Bolivia as well, **R4V partners identified an increase in Venezuelan unaccompanied and separated children** during the month and accompanied them for treatment by national and local government entities dealing with childhood issues.
- Five Venezuelan families** (25 people, including 4 children and adolescents) were identified during the month **entering Uruguay from Argentina through the Paysandú-Colón border** (up until September, Paysandú had not been identified as an entry point for refugees and migrants from Venezuela into Uruguay). All of the people who entered made asylum claims at the border and were assisted by partners.



Ad from partners inviting refugees and migrants to psychosocial support sessions in Uruguay © UNHCR/2020

Response***



ARGENTINA: 100% Diversidad, ADRA, CAREF, FCCAM, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, MIRARES, Psychoanalytic Association of Buenos Aires, PSICOVEN, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR.

BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Cochabamba, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, Scalabrini Foundation, UNHCR, UNICEF, WFP, World Vision.

PARAGUAY: IOM, Semillas para la Democracia, UNHCR.

URUGUAY: ADRA, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, SEDHU, UNHCR.

- During October, 412 refugees and migrants from Venezuela were supported with **shelter solutions** including collective/individual shelter in the short, medium and long term **to prevent homelessness among** the most vulnerable, 1,556 people were reached with **NFIs** (especially medicines and hygiene/cleaning items), almost 1,900 received **food** and 1,600 people were reached with **multipurpose cash assistance** to cover their basic needs.
- The provision of psychosocial support** has been intensified by partners. Pandemic impact on refugees and migrants mental health is worsening with crisis stress and anguish due to economic uncertainty. **Primary health care** assistance as well as interventions targeting **children’s education and birth registrations** in Bolivia and Uruguay continued.
- Integration activities such as online workshops** to promote and provide training on small scale entrepreneurs, e-commerce, financial management, elaboration of resumé, and photography were conducted by partners in Argentina.
- Partners provided **social-legal advice to refugees and migrants on access to asylum and regularization** procedures, access to basic social services and other documentation in the four countries.
- As lockdown measures relaxed and some borders opened, **partners stepped up humanitarian transportation** assistance for 31 refugees and migrants. In Bolivia, partners **elaborated roadmap for the care of GBV cases**.



Food Security
1,224

Hum. Transp.
31

Health
679

Education
34

Integration
1,328

NFI
1,556

Protection
3,354

Shelter
412

CBI
1,649

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*From 01/10/2020 until 31/10/2020 | **Source: FTS Website | ***The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.