



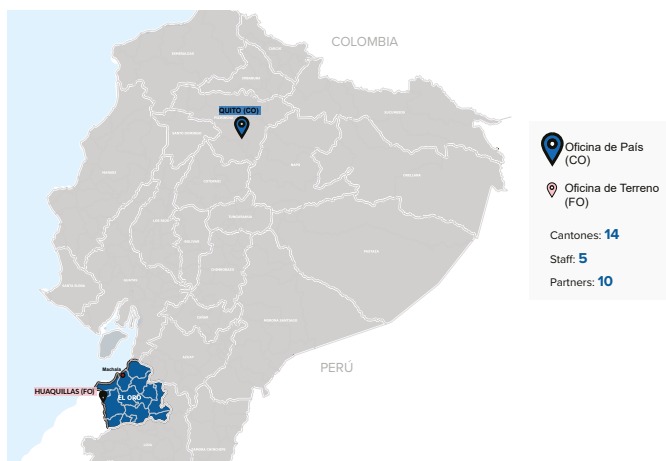
### Operational context

UNHCR has presence along the Ecuadorian and Peruvian border since 2018 with regular field missions from Guayaquil. In February 2021, UNHCR opened a field office in Huaquillas where it coordinates activities across El Oro Province.

The Province has one official exit point to Peru, as well as a number of irregular crossing areas currently preferred by

people on the move who have increased barriers to enter Peru – particularly in light of border closures since March 2020. In this context, refugees and other populations in human mobility resorting to invisible and difficult-to-monitor routes, face heightened protection risks, including of exploitation, violence and abuse.

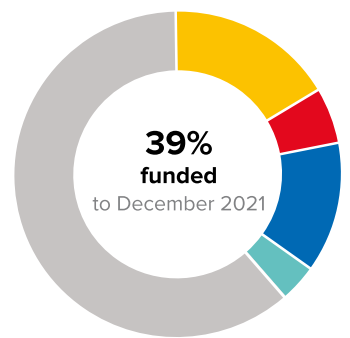
Moreover, while a significant number of people cross the border into Peru, this region is witness to mixed movements of people seeking either to return to Venezuela and Colombia due to the lack of a protection network in Ecuador, or those who remain in the Province to work in the shrimp industries and banana fields.



UNHCR continues to work, in collaboration with partners on improving reception conditions, border monitoring, access to humanitarian assistance, local integration, as well as ensuring security and health in the context of COVID-19. Moreover, UNHCR provides support to government institutions and local authorities to strengthen their response to international protection needs.

### Key figures:

<p>PoC registered by HIAS and NRC in Huaquillas and Machala:</p> <p><b>27.867</b> as of 31 December 2021</p>	<p>Assistance provided by the protection helpline to PoC:</p> <p><b>1.118</b> Communications</p> <p><b>310</b> Referrals</p>	<p>Venezuelan and Colombian students registered in the Public Education System in El Oro province</p> <p><b>2.951</b></p> <p>During academic year 2020-2021 Increase of 871% vs. 399 in 2018</p>
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**84.7M** required for the operation in Ecuador in 2021

- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

**In 2021, UNHCR and partners have delivered:**

<p><b>12.150</b> Hygiene kits</p>	<p><b>2.665</b> Temporary shelter in CAT and HIAS</p>	<p><b>7.375</b> PoC benefited of WASH Point</p>
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UNHCR Ecuador is grateful for the critical and generous support provided by donors who contributed with earmarked and unearmarked funding in 2021.

For more information on funding, please visit [reporting.unhcr.org/ecuador](https://reporting.unhcr.org/ecuador)



UNHCR Ecuador is also grateful for the support from private donors, including Australia, Germany, Italy, Republic of Korea, Japan, Spain, Swedish Postcode Lottery and USA.

## Work with partners

UNHCR works with 10 implementing partners: HIAS, NRC, ADRA, COOPI, CARE, Ecuadorian Red Cross, PLAPERTS, El Oro Women's Movement, Diálogo Diverso and the Human Rights Commission. UNHCR and partners provide humanitarian in-kind and cash assistance, counselling on international protection and access to asylum, child protection, information on prevention and assistance to survivors of gender-based violence, support and access to livelihoods to people living with HIV and sex workers, support to strengthen LGBTBI+ and youth organizations, temporary housing, access to safe water, and improvement of living conditions, among others.

## Key activities



### Protection

- UNHCR provides training and advocates among local authorities to promote the inclusion of people of concern in social and development programmes across the nine cantons with a significant number of refugees and migrants.
- UNHCR provides capacity building to the Public Defender's Office, the Ombudsman's Office, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility, municipalities, rights protection councils and cantonal boards for the protection of rights. UNHCR also works with civil society organizations to raise awareness about the rights and wellbeing of people with international protection needs.
- UNHCR and partners work to strengthen a network of human rights defenders to support the identification of specific needs and case management. Through these community networks, UNHCR seeks to facilitate access to services, protection routes and to refer cases of rights violations.
- In the context of COVID19, UNHCR has strengthened hospitals and health posts by providing biosafety gear and refugee housing units, while advocating for the removal of barriers to health services in coordination with the health district and the Ecuadorian Red Cross.
- UNHCR provides access to information and services through billboards and advertising strategically placed in the city of Machala and Huaquillas
- Moreover, UNHCR provides technical assistance to the Cantonal Rights Protection Council in Huaquillas to issue protection measures to 62 unaccompanied children.



### Humanitarian Assistance

In 2021, UNHCR and partners:

- Delivered 12.150 hygiene and *caminante* kits.
- Assisted 2.665 people with temporary accommodation (between 2020 and 2021).
- Assisted 7.375 people to access water and sanitation services.



### Coordination

- UNHCR along with IOM Co-lead the Working Group for Refugees and Migrants (GTRM), which involves 14 INGOs and UN agencies.
- UNHCR engages regularly with UN Agencies in Perú to ensure binational
- UNHCR also provides technical assistance for contingency planning.



### Livelihoods

- In 2021, UNHCR supported 59 sex workers, members of the LGBTIQ+ community, people living with HIV, refugees, migrants, and members of host communities, with training and seed capital. With this support, they have established businesses in pastry, beauty care, sales, food preparation, which has substantially improved their lives and that of their families.
- UNHCR and partner COOPI promote access to decent housing through the improvement of 14 homes of the host population that provide a home to 82 families / 410 Ecuadorian and Venezuelan people.