

Colombia

March - June 2022

Colombia's Migration Authority has delivered - as of 30 June - over **1.1 million Temporary Protection Permits (TPP) to Venezuelans** enabling them to access rights and services.

Mr. Gustavo Petro won the presidential elections in Colombia. The **normalization of the diplomatic relations with Venezuela** is high on his agenda.

The Truth Commission published on 28 June the **Final Report** on human rights abuses and events occurred during the armed conflict in Colombia between 1986 and 2016.

FIGURES

2,477,588 

Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in Colombia

30,886 

Persons affected by **internal displacements** in 2022

43,488 

Persons affected by **confinements** in 2022

734,375 

Persons affected by **internal displacements** since 2016 Peace Agreement

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

During the reporting period, Colombia held legislative elections (March 2022) and two rounds of presidential elections (29 May and 19 June the run-off). Mr. **Gustavo Petro**, leader of the Historical Pact Coalition and former member of M-19 guerilla movement, won against Rodolfo Hernandez Suarez leading to the formation of the first left-wing government in last decades in Colombia. Ms. **Francia Marquez**, human rights and environmental activist became the first Afro Indigenous woman to be elected as Vice President of Colombia.

The **normalization of the relations with Venezuela** and the **land reform** stipulated in the 2016 Peace Agreement are on the top of the agenda of the newly elected president. Hand over meetings between the outgoing and incoming government -set to take office on 07 August- were held over 23 sectors. UNHCR, as GIFMM co-leader, presented its main priorities and concerns with regards to refugee, migration, forced displacement and statelessness issues with the Transition Committee restating its ongoing support to the Government of Colombia.

TEMPORARY PROTECTION PERMITS FOR VENEZUELAN (TPP) *4 JULY 2022

1,134,375
TPPs delivered

1,389,221
TPPs approved

2,305,679
pre-registrations into the National Registry for Venezuelan Migrants (RUMV) (with a profiling exercise completed)

UNHCR continues to support the implementation of the **Temporary Protection Status (TPS)** and provide information and guidance to Venezuelan refugees and migrants. As foreseen in the decree establishing the TPS, the pre-registration into National Registry for Venezuelan Migrants (RUMV) is only open to Venezuelan refugees and migrants who enter Colombia through official checkpoints between 29 May 2022 and 24 November 2023.

The Truth Commission - set up in 2016 as part of the peace agreement between the Government of Colombia and FARC - published on 28 June its final report, an 800-page document that covers human rights abuses and events occurred during the armed conflict between 1986 and 2016. UNHCR provided technical support to the **Truth Commission** on the elaboration of the chapter regarding **Victims in Exile**. The report is comprised of eleven chapters, including narratives of the armed conflict, exposure of the main violations of human rights and international humanitarian Law, the collective responsibilities, impact on LGBTIQ+ populations, ethnic peoples, children and adolescents and victims in exile, and testimonies of victims.

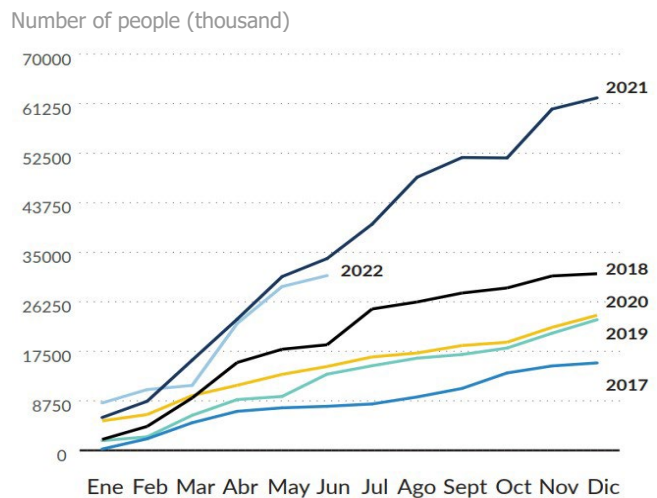
POPULATION TRENDS

All Colombian borders, including the one with Venezuela, were closed during presidential elections, respectively between 28 and 30 May with only Colombian nationals residing in Venezuela being allowed to cross and exercise their voting rights. In **Norte de Santander**, the daily flow of persons crossing through the 3 international bridges, including the International Bridge Simon Bolivar, is around 27,000, 90% of which correspond to pendular movements. In **La Guajira, Riohacha**, around 500 daily entries are reported by Colombian authorities, 300 of which are indigenous Wayuu community members engaged in circular movements. A daily average of 200 people are entering Venezuela. In **Necoclí, Antioquia**, the mixed migration flow of persons in transit to North America increased during the months of May and June reaching over 2,500 exits during the last week of June. The main nationalities of the people in transit were Venezuelan, followed by Haitians and Cubans. In **Putumayo**, at the San Miguel International Bridge, the net daily entry is 80 persons (120 exits and 200 entries), mostly of Colombian and Ecuadorian nationality.

According to UNHCR monitoring, as of 30 June, **30,886 people** (11,735 households) have been uprooted since the start of 2022 by **79 large-group displacement events**. During the month of June, 7 large group displacements occurred in the departments of Cauca (2) Choco (3) Risaralda (1) y Nariño (1) impacting 1,949 persons (801 households). In addition, more than 43,488 people (10,488 households), have been **confined** in Chocó, Valle del Cauca, Arauca. For more information, see [Confinement Bulletin](#).

[CLICK TO READ FACTSHEET](#)

Annual evolution of large group displacements 2017 - 2022



UNHCR Response



443,895
LEGAL ASSISTANCE



242,793
PROTECTION ACTIVITIES



87,225
HEALTH



5,137
LIVELIHOODS



18,823
WASH



20,702
SHELTER & NFI



8,756
MULTIPURPOSE CASH



636
FOOD SECURITY

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Graduation Model Ceremony

UNHCR led **Graduation Model** is a comprehensive poverty alleviation program that seeks to generate economic self-sufficiency within a 12-18 months' timeframe for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian IDPs and host communities. The program includes 3 months of financial support, financial education, strengthening of skills and competencies for access to employment and self-employment and ongoing support from psychosocial and livelihoods professionals. On 23 June, 46 graduates from the 2020 Cohort celebrated together with their families and communities their successful participation in the programme. Through implementing partner **Corporación Ayuda Humanitaria**, UNHCR assisted between January 2019 and June 2022 over 362 families (1,593 persons).



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UNHCR jointly with its partner **Corporación Opción Legal** has **52 Information and Orientation Centers (PAOs- Puntos de Atención y Orientación** in Spanish) throughout Colombia, extending UNHCR's outreach to 19 departments and 37 municipalities. PAOs serve as a safe space for persons of concern to receive information and orientation, and for UNHCR to identify and respond to persons with specific needs. The majority of PAOs are in fixed, strategic locations (e.g., bus terminals, official border entry points), with 3 mobile PAOs that access remote and hard to reach areas. During the first semester of 2022 the PAOs registered over **19,000 people** through 44,142 communications and provided **6,046 assistances** and **3,919 referrals for specialized protection services**.

Communication With Communities



@Reinel Pino Aranda Mobile PAO Unit staff during a mass communication campaign in Arauca

Campaign #LIBÉRATEDELAXENOFOBIA



PASO 1
 EMPATÍMETRO

UNHCR launched the **“Free yourself from xenophobia”**, an initiative in the framework of the **“Somos Panas Colombia”** anti-xenophobia campaign. This campaign is meant to break-down what xenophobia is and to invite the public to take concrete steps towards addressing it, first by understanding why it is important to free oneself from xenophobia and second by explaining how to do it. The campaign presents the empathy thermometer, a self-monitoring tool to discover to what extent one is at risk of carrying the weight of xenophobia. Several Colombian influencers are contributing to the campaign on social media with the hashtag **#LibérateDeLaXenofobia**.



PASO 2
 PROTÉGETE

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World Refugee Day Celebrations

On **World Refugee Day 2022**, the message “**whoever, wherever, whenever, everyone has the right to seek protection**” was disseminated to commemorate the courage and resilience of people forcibly displaced from their homes. UNHCR Colombia organized **62** community events, including artistic and gastronomic exhibitions, recognitions and conferences across the country with the participation of over **10,800** people. For more information, please visit: [link](#).



H.E. Takasugi Masahiro, Ambassador of Japan to Colombia and UNHCR Representative Mireille Girard opening the World Refugee Day community celebrations in Kennedy, Bogotá event organized in partnership with Aldeas Infantiles SOS.



Watch video of UNHCR High profile supporter, Alberto Lineros hosting a dinner for a Venezuelan refugee, a Colombian returnee, an internally displaced person, and a host community member.

New Field Presence

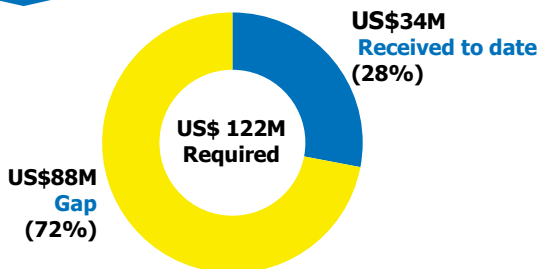
UNHCR inaugurated on 13 May in **Montería**, Córdoba, a **new Field Unit** that will assist, in close cooperation with local authorities in the sub-regions of Sur de Córdoba and Bajo Cauca, Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian returnees and internally displaced persons access their rights and basic services.

[CLICK TO SEE UNHCR MAP](#)



UNHCR Deputy Representative Matthew Brook, the Head of Office in Medellín, Elisa Carlaccini and other UNHCR staff participate in the inauguration of the new Field Unit in Montería.

FUNDING



Working in partnership

UNHCR, together with IOM, co-leads the Inter-Agency Mixed Migration Flows Group (GIFMM in Spanish), which includes 77 members, UN agencies, international and local NGOs and members of the Red Cross movement. Its main objective is to coordinate the response to the needs of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Colombian returnees, and the host population in a complementary manner with the Government.

CONTRIBUTIONS

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is grateful for the support of:

Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Japan | KOICA | Netherlands | Norway | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Arab Emirates | United States of America | Central Emergency Response Fund | UN Programme on HIV/ AIDS.

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