UNHCR Peru - Annual Report

January to December 2022

UNHCR The UN Refugee Agency

CONTEXT

With more than **1.5 million Venezuelan asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants**, Peru is the second destination country for Venezuelans, only after Colombia. In 2022, some 532,000 Venezuelan asylum-seekers were officially registered in the Special Commission for Refugees. This figure makes Peru the **first host country for Venezuelan asylum-seekers** in the world. With more than one million, Lima is also the city with the highest number of Venezuelans worldwide (outside Venezuela).

The **political context** was characterized by **instability** that resulted in the vacancy of ex-President Pedro Castillo. In December 2022, Dina Boluarte was appointed president, becoming the first woman to hold that position. The new appointment unleashed social mobilizations demanding Boularte's resignation, the Peruvian Congress closure, and early general elections. Police repression in **social protests** resulted in the death of 22 people as of December 2022. To restore internal order, the new Government agreed to declare a state of emergency throughout the country.

Regarding the economic context, Peru registered an **inflation** rate of 8.56% nationwide and 8.46% in Lima, the highest rate in 26 years. In addition, the increased prices of essential foods have left the country, including refugees and migrants, vulnerable to **food insecurity.**

+1.5 million

Venezuelans in Peru, almost 1 million in Lima and Callao.

+532,000

Venezuelan asylum-seekers.

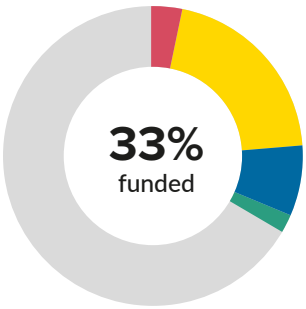
+4,250

Venezuelans recognized as refugees.

FUNDING UPDATES

As of 29 December 2022

To respond to the needs of refugees and migrants in Peru in 2022, UNHCR needed **USD 61.1 million**. As of December 29, the operation had received **$20.4 million** (33% of the total required).



$61.1 million

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

"Therapy is really for parents so that we can help our children. Sebastian can achieve anything he sets his mind to."

Thanks to community-based organization Mag TheBay and its "Growing Without Limits" programme, Oneida and her family receive support for the education of their son Sebastian, who is a person with autism. UNHCR supports more than 30 refugee and migrant-led organizations in Peru that provide specialized services to people at high risk.

Main advances

REGULARIZATION AND DOCUMENTATION

- By the end of 2022, **27,639 asylum-seekers from Venezuela** obtained their **Foreigner's ID Immigration Card** through the Humanitarian Residence Permit (CMH for its acronym in Spanish), issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. **224,747 foreign citizens** obtained the **Temporary Stay Permit** (CPP for its acronym in Spanish). This represents an increase of 8,299 and 152,041 respectively, compared to December 2021. UNHCR has supported both initiatives through technical assistance, guidance, information and outreach campaigns, and individual case management.
- In Arequipa, Cusco, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes, **1,152** representatives of the Government, different NGOs and civil society have **received training on international protection**.

ACCESS TO RIGHTS AND SERVICES

- In 2022, UNHCR supported **57 health facilities** in Lima, Callao and Trujillo with emergency modules and medical equipment, benefiting more than **27,000** Venezuelans and over **750,000** members of host communities.
- In September 2022, UNHCR launched the **Interagency Hotline** (INFOContigo) alongside IOM, UNICEF and WFP. By the end-of-year, over **6,000 calls** had been attended, providing information on access to rights and services for refugees and migrants.
- In 2022, UNHCR provided assistance to **437 gender-based violence and 997 child protection cases**. The INFOContigo line answered **632 calls** from people at risk of gender-based violence and 688 calls regarding cases with children and adolescents at high risk and lack of protection.
- As of December 2022, UNHCR carried out workshops on international protection and access to rights and services to residents of **16 temporary collective shelters** nationwide that benefited more than **1,000 refugees and migrants** that needed shelter.
- In 2022, UNHCR **rehabilitated 10 infrastructures** in Lima, Arequipa, Tumbes y Tacna, including shelters, community centers, educational institutions, government institutions and recreational spaces.

ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL INTEGRATION

- In 2022, UNHCR provided orientation on how to launch their businesses to over **2,000 Venezuelan entrepreneurs**, out of which **700 people received seed capital** to start or strengthen their small businesses. In addition, through an incubator, more than **80 established small businesses** received mentoring and technical assessments.
- Regarding **financial inclusion**, UNHCR provided access to bank accounts and loans to over **500** and **45** refugees and migrants, respectively.
- Over **756** refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants accessed UNHCR's **employment programmes** in 2022. More specifically, UNHCR supported the **revalidation of 470 titles and credentials** for Venezuelan health professionals.
- A consultancy conducted in 2022 with participants of UNHCR employment programs shows that **47 percent improved their income**: the proportion of people with incomes between S/. 900 and S/. 1,500 tripled. On the other hand, **75 percent of the participants** who participated in the degree revalidation programs **improved their economic situation**: the proportion of professionals with a monthly income higher than S/. 1,200 grew from 24,3 percent to 64,9 percent.

- UNHCR strengthened and supported the Interreligious Council for Refugees and Migrants (34 faith-based organizations), the Community-based Organizations Network (32 organizations), the Temporary Collective Shelter Network (9 shelters in Lima) and the Community Leadership Programme of UNHCR-HIAS, which supported 15 leaders in Lima and 10 in Trujillo **allowing more reach within the refugee and migrant population** in Peru.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- Since 2021, UNHCR has implemented a **resettlement programme** to provide protection to refugees whose specific needs cannot be met in their host country. The programme is also a mechanism for sharing responsibility among governments and an expression of international solidarity.
- As of December 2022, UNHCR identified over **3,300 people** with international protection and resettlement needs. The office **conducted 1,600 interviews** and prepared over **2,300 evaluations**. Cases of 1,165 people had been submitted for resettlement in Australia, Canada, and the United States. By the end of the year, **29 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants were resettled**.

COORDINATION

UNHCR co-leads with IOM the **Working Group for Refugees and Migrants** (GTRM for its acronym in Spanish), which is the national platform for **R4V** in Peru. The GTRM coordinates the organizations that support the work of the Peruvian State and respond to the needs of refugees, migrants and the host community.

In 2022, the GTRM increased its members from 87 to **99 organizations**. UNHCR strengthened its work with several new members, mainly community-based and Venezuelan-led organizations. On the other hand, the **Refugee and Migrants Response Plan**, which is biannual from 2023-2024, included a total of 69 partners with a request of **$320M** in 2023 and **$290M** in 2024. A total of 14 more partners participated in the design of the plan, compared to the previous year.

FROM THE FIELD

TUMBES (NORTHEN BORDER WITH ECUADOR): UNHCR led the opening of an **Assistance and Orientation Point** (PAO for its acronym in Spanish) on the northern border, providing information to more than **5,980 people** since February and identifying protection cases. In addition, with the Mobile Unit, **hygiene and hydration kits were distributed to 9,170 people in transit**. To prevent refoulment and promote access to documentation, UNCHR carried out training sessions on **International Law focused on Refugees** aimed at staff of the Army, National Police and the National Superintendence of Migrations. To promote local integration, UNHCR strengthened leadership and built community infrastructure.

TACNA (SOUTHERN BORDER WITH CHILE AND BOLIVIA): In 2022, UNHCR and its partners expanded their presence through the southern border and main transit points with **237 monitoring exercises** and the provision of legal **orientation to 8,823** refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants while identifying cases with specific protection needs. Additionally, UNHCR alongside the National Superintendence of Migration and the Ombudsperson's Office organized **nine regularization fairs** aimed at providing orientation and assistance to access documentation.

CUZCO: UNCHR carried out five introductory training sessions on international protection in Cusco and Madre de Dios, and over **60 staff members** of key institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Police, and the National Superintendence of Migration, among others, attended the sessions. In 2022, **UNHCR's closed its satellite office** in Cusco, but its presence will continue in 2023 exclusively through partners.

AREQUIPA: In 2022, UNHCR, with community-based organization "Angeles del Camino", organized **28 regularization fairs** aimed at providing protection services. Over 1,400 refugees and migrants attended the events. In addition, UNHCR financially **supported "Angeles del Camino"** to strengthen community leadership and develop participatory assessments, benefiting some 2,500 refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants.

TRUJILLO: In Trujillo, UNHCR is part of the **Intersectoral Roundtable for Migration** to support the Government´s humanitarian response to the refugee and migrant population in the region. In 2022, UNHCR **supported three community networks**, such as the Interreligious Council for Refugees and Migrants, community-based organizations led by Venezuelans and leadership programmes. In addition, UNHCR provided assistance in the implementation of projects such as a Childcare Centre, the Football Academy of Huanchaco and a Community Centre.

PROJECTS WITH DONORS AND VISIBILITY

Throughout 2022, **United States' support** in areas such as local integration, child protection, health and livelihoods has been vital for UNHCR´s work in favour of Venezuelan refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in Peru. Among other activities, in June 2022, thanks to their contribution, in the framework of World Refugee Day, UNHCR organized the **"Great Inclusive Race"** in Lima and complementary activities in Tacna and Tumbes to raise awareness of refugees and strengthen integration messages. More than **1,700 people** of different nationalities participated in the events.

Canada and Italy´s funding allowed more than **1,000 Venezuelan health professionals** to revalidate their academic degrees to practice their professions in Peru. Of these, more than **80% were women**. Disciplines included dentistry, medicine, nursing, nutrition and psychology.

Thanks to Canada´s contribution, UNHCR was able to launch the pilot for a livelihoods project that promotes the integration of Venezuelan health professionals into the Peruvian health system, the strengthening of the national healthcare system and the improvement of the sanitary service demand.

In addition, UNHCR provided subsidies for **short-term job placements to 16 Venezuelan health professionals** working in the first rehabilitation centre in the district of Los Olivos, 49 nurses to support the fifth COVID-19 wave and 18 people working in private clinics in Lima and Trujillo.

Thanks to the funds provided by the **Spanish Agency of International Cooperation** (AECID for its acronym in Spanish), UNHCR provided **278 gender-based violence survivors** with psychosocial assistance. In this way, UNHCR addressed the specific needs of refugees and migrants in vulnerable situations.

Thanks to **ECHO´s support** UNHCR provided **temporary shelter** to some **920 Venezuelan** refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants in high vulnerability residing in Lima and Tacna.

The **Swedish Postcode Lottery (SPL)** funding allowed UNHCR to continue its work with refugee and migrants' members of the LGBTIQ+ community. In 2022, UNCHR alongside Amnesty International participated for the first time in the **Lima Pride Parade 2022** with a float featuring Venezuelan LGBTIQ+ refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants. In the framework of the 16 days of activism, thanks to SPL funding, UNHCR produced a **news segment called "Untangling: Reporting the present to transform the future"** which was created and presented by Venezuelan and Peruvian adolescents and aimed to inform the refugee and migrants population about sex and reproductive health.

Operation in Peru: UNHCR and partners

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www.r4v.info/peru

UNHCR thanks its donors for their support and look forward to further cooperation.

UNHCR would also like to thank Private Donors from Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Republic of Corea, Spain, Sweden and the Unites States.

Summary: Our response in figures

1 million people in need of support.

172,874 people assisted by UNHCR and its partners.

BASIC NEEDS

- **23,495** people assisted with cash assistance (CBI).
- **20,604** kits distributed.

PROTECTION

- **47,808** people accessed information and orientation on rights and services.
- **3,545** community leaders trained.
- **2,101** cases submitted for resettlement opportunities.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE AND CHILD PROTECTION

- **632** people informed through UNHCR's gender-based violence hotline.
- **437** survivors of gender-based violence supported.
- **688** people informed through UNHCR's child protection hotline.
- **1,010** refugee, asylum-seeker and migrant children and adolescents have received child protection services.

HEALTH

- **4,888** people accessed health and mental health services.
- **18 health centres** supported with infrastructure and equipment, benefiting over **16,495** Venezuelans and over **21,179** members of the host community at a national level.

EDUCATION

- **10,124** children supported with educational materials.
- **306** children participated in workshops for school reinforcement.
- **2,001** children supported with enrollment into the educational system.

SHELTER

- **1,187** people accessed emergency shelter.

LIVELIHOODS

- **5,296** people received guidance to access employment.
- **430** health professionals revalidated academic degrees or credentials.
- **421** people enrolled in educational institutions for the certification of technical skills.
- **107** people accessed training on self-employment or entrepreneurship.
- **370** entrepreneurships created or supported.
- **90** professionals hired as a result of UNHCR's temporary contracts pilot project.

INTERAGENCY

- **99 organizations** worked in a coordinated manner on behalf of refugees, asylum-seekers, migrants and the host community within the framework of the **Working Group for Refugees and Migrants** of the R4V platform.