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RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION OF VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19

June 2020

Developed by 63 civil society organizations in 23 countries of the region with the coordination of the **Office to Address the Regional Crisis of Venezuelan Migrants and Refugees of the OAS General Secretariat**

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report is the product of 13 meetings held between the OAS General Secretariat Office to Address the Venezuelan Migration and Refugee Crisis and the Coalition for Venezuela. The coalition is made up of 63 civil society organizations, established in 23 countries of the Americas and Caribbean region and provides Venezuelans, especially the most vulnerable, with various types of assistance ranging from counseling, education and training programs, psychological and psychosocial support, and the provision of food, medicine and basic necessities.

This document presents proposals and recommendations in the areas that require greater attention to promote integration, care and protection policies for migrants. It is aimed at improving the situation and conditions of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the host countries within the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is important to note that the 5.1 million Venezuelans currently living outside their country due to forced migration constitute the second largest refugee population in the world after migrants and refugees from Syria. However, the resources allocated by the international community and cooperation agencies to address the crisis of Venezuelan migrants and refugees have been substantially lower than those allocated to address the situation of Syrian refugees. These resources are insufficient to overcome the difficulties and implement appropriate policies to enable the Venezuelan migrant population to achieve a stable and secure integration into the social and economic dynamics of the host countries.

For this reason, the Office to Address the Regional Crisis of Venezuelan Migrants and Refugees of the OAS General Secretariat recognizes the efforts made by the Organization's member States, as well as the work of civil society organizations. In this regard, the contribution of the Office is intended to promote citizen participation and increase social cohesion in the reception of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, in accordance with the provisions of the OAS Inter-American Democratic Charter¹, through the necessary collaboration between different NGOs, local governments, international cooperation agencies, multilateral humanitarian organizations, the private sector and other sectors of society in order to achieve common and relevant solutions that improve the situation and conditions of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the host countries.



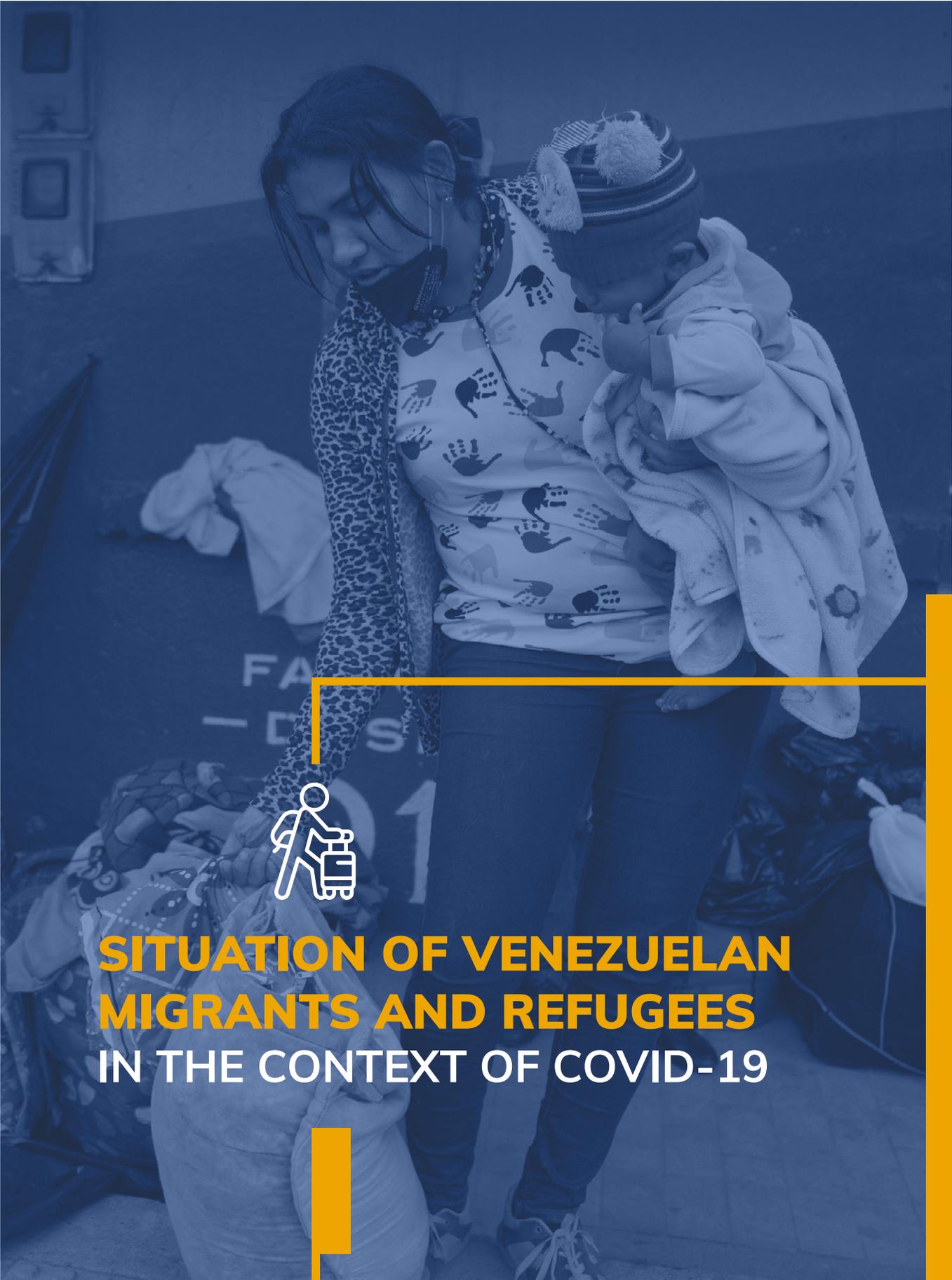
¹ Organization of American States OAS, Inter-American Democratic Charter (Articles 6 and 9), 6 September 2001.

INTRODUCTION

The spread of the COVID-19 (SARS-CoV-2) has transformed the social reality as it was known to date, including the migration dynamics that the region of the Americas has been facing. In this regard, States have had to adopt exceptional contingency measures to reduce the spread of the pandemic and contain its effects, as well as provide adequate care to those affected, through the declaration of states of emergency, states of siege, border closures, the implementation of preventive isolation and quarantines, among others. At the same time, economic regulations have been established to guarantee living conditions in the framework of the preventive confinement of the population.

The situation of Venezuelan migrants and refugees represents one of the greatest challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic, since it has made it increasingly difficult for them to access and fully exercise their rights such as: access to health and education, the right to life, housing, food and work, and the safeguarding of livelihoods. For this reason, the Coalition for Venezuela, represented by 63 civil society organizations present in 23 countries in the region, is dedicated to the comprehensive care and defense of the rights of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. With the support of the OAS General Secretariat Office to Address the Venezuelan Migration and Refugee Crisis, the following guidelines were developed as a comprehensive response to address the situation of these vulnerable groups in the context of the COVID-19.





**SITUATION OF VENEZUELAN
MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES
IN THE CONTEXT OF COVID-19**



General conditions

Although the right to health is recognized in the legal system of the countries of the Americas, its fulfillment is not homogeneous, since millions of migrants and refugees do not have a regular immigration status and are excluded from care in health centers. They do not have access to it. Additionally, those who are not covered by social security services do not have access to the medication or long-term treatment they need to control chronic diseases such as diabetes and hypertension, or high-cost diseases such as cancer or HIV.²

In addition, the conditions in which migrants and refugees find themselves are complex. They have little access to drinking water, income, food, and housing due to evictions and confinement as a result of the pandemic, among other factors that prevent them from carrying out basic tasks for their social insertion.³ This is combined with the fact that they do not have the required psychosocial care.⁴

On the other hand, the work of civil society organizations that have carried out free and independent care for migrants and refugees, despite the restrictions and difficulties, must be highlighted. Finally, it should be noted that, in the context of the health crisis caused by COVID-19, the restriction to access to healthcare for migrants and refugees has imposed an additional burden on their existent vulnerability.⁵

Needs

While it is true that in the vast majority of countries in the region healthcare does not depend on having a regular immigration status, there are some where it is required to be regularized in order to access these services, which is an obstacle to the full exercise of their right to health.⁶

Additionally, there have been cases of people who, at the time of applying for asylum or refuge status in border areas, have had their identity documents withheld. The same situation occurs to those who are waiting for the response to their asylum and refuge applications and do not have access to any document in order to obtain health insurance during the processing time. In light of this situation, there is a clear need to regularize the requests for asylum and refuge in order to guarantee their care and access to health services.

²Dejusticia, BARRERAS: el eterno trámite de ser migrante en Colombia, June 2019.

³World Health Organization, press release: "OHCHR, IOM, UNHCR and WHO joint press release: the rights and health of refugees, migrants and stateless must be protected in COVID-19 response", 31 March 2020.

⁴Pontifical Javeriana University of Colombia, Migración y Salud: el reto nacional en época de coronavirus, 21 April 2020.

⁵Inter-American Court of Justice IACtHR, Juridical Condition and Rights of Undocumented Migrants, Advisory Opinion OC-18/03, 17 September 2003. ⁶Ministry of Health and Social Protection of Colombia, Plan de Respuesta del Sector Salud al Fenómeno Migratorio. Ministerio de Salud y Protección Social, 2017.



Challenges

1

Expediting the regularization processes and grant refugee status in accordance with the Cartagena Declaration⁷ since a large number of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, in addition to their irregular status, do not have valid documentation such as passports or identity cards to prove their identity due to the difficulties of obtaining them in their country of origin or in the consulates in the country of destination or transit. One measure that would facilitate access to healthcare would be to have a registration and regularization process. In some countries, it would be necessary to waive the fines imposed on those who did not have the conditions to carry out their regularization process in the specified terms.⁸

2

Protecting and promoting the right to health of migrants and refugees, including those without a regular immigration status or whose documentation is in process. Additionally, there are countries such as Colombia with the Special Permit to Stay (PEP), Peru with the Temporary Permit to Stay (PTP) and Trinidad and Tobago with the Permit Ministry that have designed a complementary category of protection,⁹ which could facilitate the regularization process allowing migrants to access regulated jobs, make relevant contributions and guarantee access to healthcare.¹⁰

3

Incorporating a model to access temporary health protection funds in response to the high cost of healthcare plans, which could mitigate the impact on the economic system of each State while allowing for the rights of migrants and refugees to be met. It is important to maintain dialogue and direct attention in order to understand the needs of migrants and refugees and proceed to implement the appropriate responses.

4

Strengthening health systems by employing migrant and refugee professionals, taking into account those who are validated or in the process of being validated (with provisional permits), who are qualified to care for vulnerable populations.¹¹

⁷Colloquium on the International Protection of Refugees in Central America, Mexico and Panama, held at Cartagena, Colombia, Cartagena Declaration on Refugees, November 1984.

⁸Example case in Trinidad and Tobago, in which currently more than 34 people are detained, who paid the fine for illegal entry into the country and are still deprived of liberty. Available at: <https://twitter.com/intelectolerant/status/1252983836004286464>.

⁹IACHR, Complementary Protection, Available at: <http://www.corteidh.or.cr/sitios/observaciones/complementarias/ACNUR/ULRCuadroProteccioncomplementaria.pdf>.

¹⁰The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR, Personas que necesitan protección internacional, June 2017.

¹¹The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR, Refugee health workers step up for coronavirus response in Latin America, 24 April 2020

EDUCATION



General conditions

The States of the Americas recognize the right to education, including basic, secondary, and college education. However, most States only allow access to education for migrants with a regular immigration status. Most migrant and refugee families have stated that their children do not have access to formal, state-accredited education.¹² In this regard, the difficulty of accessing the educational system for the migrant population increases when it comes to access to higher education. In countries such as Peru, Argentina and Colombia, professional Venezuelan migrants and refugees have faced difficulties in obtaining validation of their university degrees because they do not have a regular immigration status. However, the efforts of these States to enable their professional integration are highlighted.¹³

In this sense, it is important to continue facilitating the processes of degree validation through professional groups and colleges to facilitate their entry into the labor market. On the other hand, as a result of the adoption of compulsory preventive confinement as a control measure for the COVID-19 pandemic, classes in schools and educational institutions have been suspended. However, access to the technological means necessary to be able to take classes virtually, such as computers and internet connections, are practically inaccessible for migrants and refugees, since, in addition to not having the economic resources necessary to pay for these services, they cannot contract internet services because they are under an irregular immigration status within the States. This leaves thousands of children and adolescents without the possibility of receiving an education.¹⁴



¹²UNESCO, Global education monitoring report, 2019: Migration, displacement and education: building bridges, not walls, 2019.

¹³Migration Policy Institute, An Uneven Welcome: Latin American and Caribbean Responses to Venezuelan and Nicaraguan Migration, February 2020.

¹⁴UNICEF, As COVID-19 pandemic continues, forcibly displaced children need more support than ever, 20 April 2020.

EDUCATION



Needs

1

Identify the children and adolescents who are not in formal and accredited educational programs in order to continue their schooling process.

2

Offer a complementary migratory category of protection that allows migrants and refugees to achieve the homologation and validation of titles.

3

Promote the inclusion of migrants and refugees in all areas of education, putting them in contact with technical or public higher education institutions.

4

Promote the validation of university degrees and registration in professional associations, which will allow their insertion in the labor market and, therefore promote their contribution and productivity in the transit and reception countries.

5

Implement models such as the application of a Single Population Registration Key (CURP)¹⁵ to facilitate the regularization process by including migrants and refugees in the different systems, both health and education.

6

Include Venezuelan migrants and refugees in protected professions, promoting the opening of markets, especially for health professionals as they address the health crisis caused by the COVID-19, strengthening health systems.

¹⁵ Autonomous University of Mexico UNAM, Guía para obtener la CURP para usuarios extranjeros, 2019.

EDUCATION



Challenges

1

Promoting the inclusion of school-age migrants in basic, secondary, and college education through funding or discounts and by developing policies to facilitate their insertion.

2

Promoting campaigns that highlight the importance of including Venezuelan professionals within the labor system (educational/professional) of each country through the design of regional cooperation mechanisms that promote the validation of their university degrees.

3

In the context of the COVID-19 crisis, implementing special permits to allow migrants and refugees that are professionals and technicians in the area of health to participate according to their experience and expertise.

4

Regularizing their immigration status through the recognition of their refugee status or through the implementation of a complementary protection category. It is important to provide technical education, training, financial, and credit education for entrepreneurs in order to increase educational opportunities for migrants and refugees.

LIVELIHOODS



General conditions

In the Americas, more than 40% of migrants and refugees are in an irregular situation. That is, they do not have legal documentation to live in the host or receiving countries, nor do they have work permits or any document that allows their social integration, limiting their entry to formal jobs.¹⁶

Although a large part of the migrant and refugee population has vocational training, their access to the labor system is limited by their lack of documentation, accreditation and/or work permits, causing them to turn to the informal economy and become self-employed. This situation, combined with high unemployment rates in the region,¹⁷ impacts on safety within the countries because it makes it difficult to regulate the economy and supervise their activities. The contingency measures adopted in the midst of the spread of COVID-19 have worsened the economic situation of this population, since they do not have the means to continue their economic activities. In addition, migrants and refugees who are not regularized do not have access to the credit system, a condition that limits the possibility of strengthening small and medium sized enterprises in their initial stage.

On the other hand, migrants who are waiting for a response on their regular immigration status do not have access to any type of work. In addition, the lack of clarity in the types of regularization opportunities that have been implemented in the region has created legal and economic gaps for the migrant population, since they find themselves in a situation where they face barriers to their inclusion in the labor market despite having a regular immigration status.¹⁸



¹⁶R4V, Situación Respuesta a los Venezolanos, 5 May 2020.

¹⁷International Labour Organization ILO, Press release: "Latin America and the Caribbean experience slight increase in unemployment, which could get worse in 2020", 28 January 2020.

¹⁸Ministry of Labor of Colombia, La Integración Socioeconómica de las Personas Migrantes y Refugiadas Venezolanas en América Latina y el Caribe, Meeting of Ministries of Labour in support of the Quito Process, Rapporteur, 13 November 2019.

LIVELIHOODS



Needs

1

Promote the inclusion of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the labor market and allow them to access the banking and credit system.

2

Design transitioning mechanisms that allow for the regularization and incorporation into the formal economy of those migrants and refugees who work in the informal sector.²⁰

Challenges

1

Promoting the regularization of Venezuelan migrants and refugees through the implementation of various mechanisms that allow their socioeconomic integration.

2

Simplifying the processes for obtaining work permits and reducing protected careers so that migrants and refugees can be fully included.

3

Promoting international cooperation with multilateral organizations to address the situation arising from the spread of COVID-19.

4

Promoting tools that strengthen entrepreneurs with the purpose of generating income in a formal manner through training, capital, labor courses, job fairs, and campaigns in industries and companies to employ the migrant population.



²⁰The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR, Survey highlights risks faced by vulnerable Venezuelans on the move, 19 July de 2019.

²¹BBC News, Press release: "Coronavirus y América Latina: cómo la crisis está provocando una histórica caída de las remesas de las que dependen millones de hogares (y qué pueden hacer los gobiernos para ayudar)", 15 May 2020.

PROTECTION



General conditions

In accordance with Article 1(1) of the American Convention on Human Rights, States are obliged to ensure the protection of all persons within their territory. The States of the Americas have offered protection for migrants and refugees within their countries. However, there is concern about the safety and protection of the integrity of migrants who do not have a regular immigration status since they are more exposed to violations of their rights and their condition limits their possibility of denouncing or going to the respective authorities,²² due to the fear that their migratory situation will worsen.

On the other hand, the work of the States that, in the context of the spread of COVID-19, have extended protection measures and suspended sanctions in the absence of regularization is noteworthy. However, the situation faced by migrants who are deprived of their liberty because of their immigration status is worrying²³ as they are not subject to the differentiations required by law,²⁴ since the cause of their detention is their irregular status and not the commission of a crime. There have also been reports of migrants being held in improper conditions. In addition, the lack of conditions that guarantee their integrity in the context of COVID-19 pose a danger to their lives.

The right to integrity and the right to life are essential pillars for the exercise of other rights.²⁵ Migrants and refugees, since before the arrival of COVID-19, have faced different hardships such as the difficulty to access basic services and employment.²⁶ Such is the case of the walkers and rafters who, in the midst of fleeing their country, cross borders and dangerous and unknown places in search of refuge, guarantees and better conditions for them and their families.²⁷ Socioeconomic barriers, legal obstacles to the exercise of the right to identity, and xenophobia have been some of the main challenges to the protection of their integrity and lives.

With the spread of COVID-19, the conditions of vulnerability of Venezuelan migrants and refugees have become severe. Therefore, it is necessary to install safeguard mechanisms for this population. Furthermore, it is essential to pay attention to the situation of Venezuelan migrants and refugees who are detained in the countries of the region due to their lack of a regular immigration status. In this regard, the IACHR has urged countries to consider the protocols for care to prevent the spread of this virus in detention centers²⁸ by virtue of safeguarding the life and other rights of persons who are deprived of their liberty.

²²University of the Andes, Politics and Society / Report, El Covid-19 agudiza la exclusión de migrantes venezolanos, 6 April 2020.

²³Amnesty International, Detained and deported: Venezuelans denied protection in Curaçao, September 2018.

²⁴Organization of American States OAS, American Convention on Human Rights (Articles 7 y 8), November 1969.

²⁵Inter-American Court of Human Rights IACtHR, Case of Cruz Sanchez et al. v. Peru, Preliminary Objections, Merits, Reparations and Costs), sentence of 17 April 2015, párr. 257

²⁶The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR, Press release: "Situation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants needs greater global attention", Statement by Eduardo Stein, Joint UNHCR-IOM Special Representative for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, 29 August 2019.

²⁷The UN Refugee Agency UNCHR, In a trek to safety, Venezuelans take on mountain peaks on foot, 5 September 2019.

²⁸Inter-American Commission on Human Rights IACHR, Press release: "IACHR and OSRESCER Urge States to Guarantee Comprehensive Protection for Human Rights and Public Health during the COVID-19 Pandemic", 20 March 2020.

PROTECTION



Needs

1

Guarantee the protection of the human rights of migrants and refugees, especially those who are detained due to lack of regularization. Promote compliance with the protection of due process and other related rights within a reasonable time frame and without detriment to the rights of this population.

2

Create educational dialogues with local and institutional authorities to fight xenophobia, highlighting that institutional discrimination increases the vulnerability of migrants and refugees.

Challenges

1

Designing regional cooperation mechanisms highlighting the importance of determining regularization processes that do not criminalize migration and that promote the social integration of the Venezuelan migrant and refugee population.

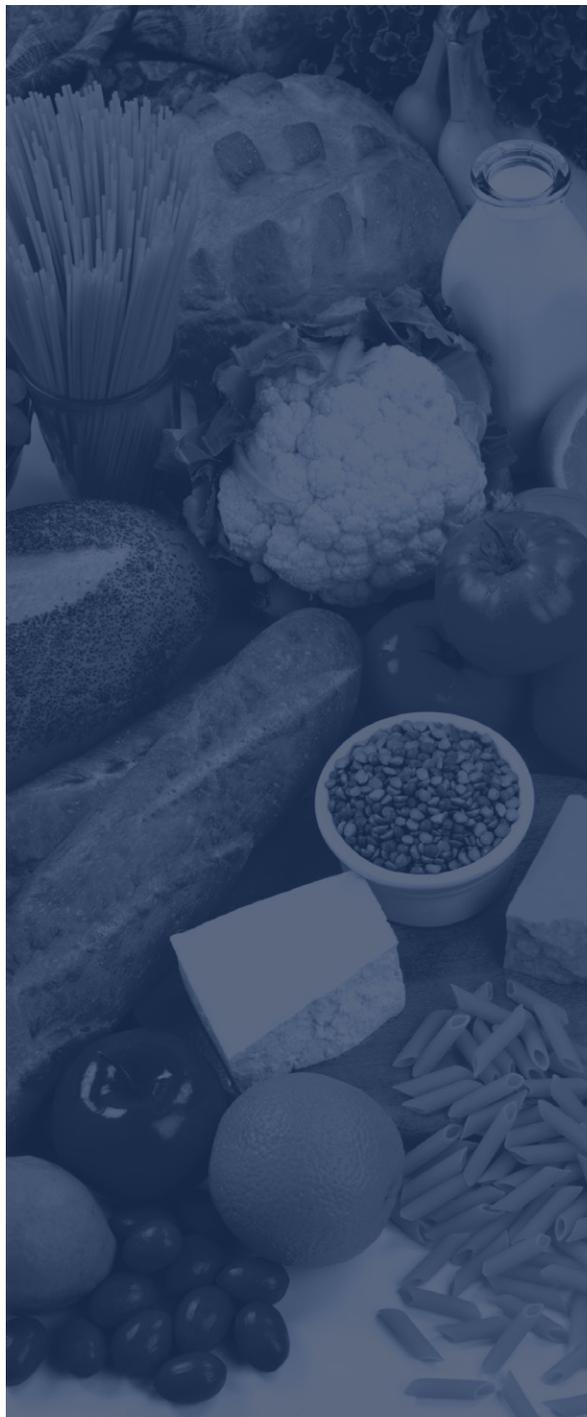
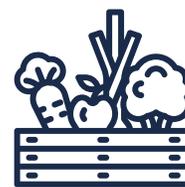
2

Promoting awareness and training programs for local and institutional authorities with the purpose of improving the treatment of the Venezuelan migrant population.

3

Implementing processing tools to speed up documentation processes.

FOOD SAFETY



General conditions

The lack of conditions that guarantee the recognition of refugee status and other limitations to the regularization of migrants have made it difficult for them to access the labor market and the formal economy. This situation has directly impacted their possibility of acquiring food and necessary supplies. In addition, in the context of the COVID-19 health crisis, requests for humanitarian assistance have increased²⁹ since the measures taken by States regarding health protection have limited migrants capacity for work and have increased the unemployment rate. The work of the States and of multiple civil society organizations seeking to provide food assistance to the migrant population amidst preventive isolation is noteworthy. However, the humanitarian assistance provided so far has not been sufficient to cover all Venezuelan migrants and refugees.

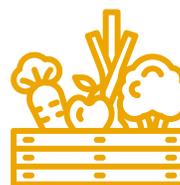
It is essential to guarantee the production and supply of food in order to mitigate the impacts from lack of food, especially for vulnerable populations such as Venezuelan migrants and refugees.³⁰ In this regard, their inclusion in food assistance programs is essential.

Although the region of the Americas had been facing major challenges in terms of food security for vulnerable communities since before the spread of COVID-19, the pandemic has worsened the crisis and increased the risk of being affected by it. Moreover, the importance of guaranteeing the supply of water to this population to preserve their right to life and integrity is stressed.

²⁹United Nations, Colombia, Refugiados y migrantes de Venezuela durante la crisis del COVID-19: Según aumentan las necesidades, son necesarias más medidas inclusivas y ayuda, 1 April 2020.

³⁰Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nation FAO, Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19), 2020.

FOOD SAFETY



Needs

Requests for food assistance and medicines have increased due to preventive confinement measures. Migrants and refugees, children, adolescents, older adults and pregnant women who do not have food or access to livelihoods demand the implementation of measures to address their situation. In addition, thousands of migrants and refugees have been excluded from the assistance policies that the States have implemented to address the crisis within the context of the COVID-19.³¹

Challenges

1

Guaranteeing access for Venezuelan migrants and refugees to the humanitarian assistance that the States have implemented in the midst of the crisis caused by the COVID-19, aiding them in the acquisition of food and other basic necessities.

2

Guaranteeing that all migrant and refugee children and adolescents are included in the School Feeding Programs of the receiving countries.



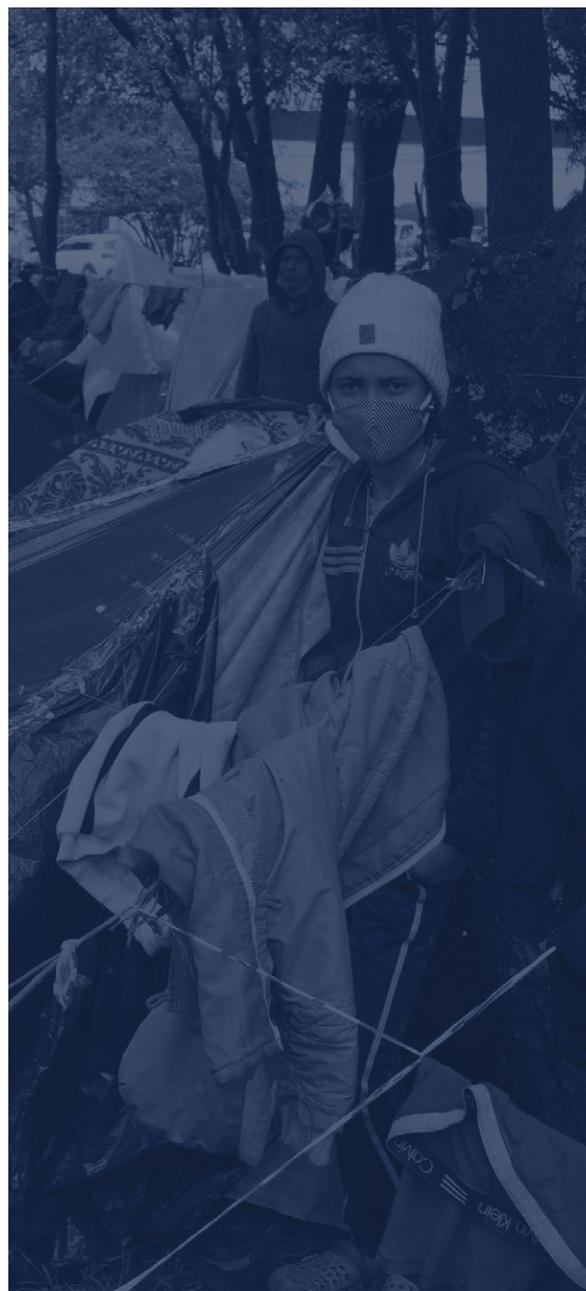
HOUSING



Current conditions

Most States in the region have enacted measures to contain the spread of COVID-19, including a ban on evictions. However, the reality is that some landlords have proceeded to carry out evictions disregarding the measures decreed by the States. There have even been reports of evictions with the support of local officials. On the other hand, the situation faced by some migrants who are not regularized is worse. Situation that triggers difficulties in accessing decent housing due to lack of income or not being able to prove their employability.

It should be noted that various groups of legal volunteers have come together to provide legal assistance. However, it is essential to ensure compliance with the provisions made by governments to contain COVID-19 including the adherence to legal precepts that protect the right to housing, preventing evictions. In particular, there is a need to resort to the principles of solidarity and shared responsibility to promote instruments of cooperation with the objective of consolidating the installation of shelters, reception centers, settlements, among other provisions that guarantee housing for people in a situation of mobility, as suggested by the IACHR.³²



³²Inter-American Commission on Human Rights IACHR, Press release: "The IACHR urges States to protect the human rights of migrants, refugees and displaced persons in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic", 17 April 2020.

HOUSING



Needs

The increase in evictions of Venezuelan migrants and refugees within the context of COVID-19³³ despite government provisions prohibiting this practice, coupled with the lack of possibilities for formal employment that would allow them to pay rent, accentuates the need to promote measures that would prevent evictions and make renting conditions more flexible.

Challenges

1

Implementing measures that reinforce the legal provisions on the prohibition of evictions established by the States through dialogue with the parties involved and the development of guarantees for pensioners and landlords.

2

Temporarily facilitating the designation of funds to prevent and contain evictions.

3

Providing legal advice to those who are affected.



³³International Organization for Migration IOM, Press release: "Urgent Support Needed as COVID-19 Inflicts Hardship on Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela", 12 May 2020.



**RECOMMENDATIONS TO IMPROVE
THE SITUATION OF MIGRANTS
IN HOST COUNTRIES:**



- 1** Adopt measures that regularize the immigration status of Venezuelan migrants and refugees and allow them access to primary public health services.
- 2** Design joint programs between the States and civil society organizations to care for the migrant and refugee population.
- 3** Carry out awareness and prevention campaigns in places where there is a greater migrant population.
- 4** Create health spaces and medical centers in places where there is a greater concentration of migrants and allow their access to medical care.
- 5** Promote campaigns against xenophobia in health institutions and centers to avoid discrimination against Venezuelan migrants.
- 6** Establish alliances with the private sector in order to promote the acquisition of insurance policies with broad coverage and low cost for migrants, refugees, and their families.
- 7** Develop public health and COVID-19 prevention strategies in places with the largest populations or concentrations of Venezuelan migrants and refugees.
- 8** Provide access to the psychology programs of the host country's universities for the psychosocial support of the migrant population.
- 9** Create assistance programs for patients with chronic diseases, people with disabilities and special needs, and older adults.



EDUCATION

1

Carry out a census or registration of school-age migrants who are not on the education system in order to design strategies for inclusion and training.

2

Design joint programs between the States and civil society organizations for the migrant and refugee population.

3

Strengthen scholarship programs and funds that allow young and adult migrants to access higher education.

4

Promote cooperation mechanisms for the validation of university degrees of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, with special attention to health professionals.

5

Promote technical education systems and advisory services for entrepreneurs in order to broaden their scope of action through their undertakings and their social impact.



LIVELIHOODS

1

Promote mechanisms for the regularization of migrants and refugees so they can access and participate in the formal economy.

2

Design programs between States and civil society organizations for migrant and refugee populations.

3

Design cooperation strategies with banks and the private sector to include the migrant population in the banking and credit systems.

4

Promote agreements between State entities and civil society organizations that provide professional licenses, encouraging volunteer work and internships, allowing migrants to acquire experience for their insertion in the labor system.

5

Promote alliances with multilateral organizations that can be extended to the regions and local governments.

6

Include private organizations or banking entities that promote cooperation.

7

Promote the use of technology and virtual means for the development of new jobs and enterprises.

8

Decentralize policies, actions, and resources to help migrants in the regions and localities within the host countries.

9

Stimulate employers with administrative and tax incentives to encourage the recruitment of migrants.



FOOD SAFETY

1

Promote institutional campaigns in favor of the inclusion of migrants and refugees in social programs of the States and in programs of private entities.

2

Design and implement joint programs between the States and civil society organizations to assist the migrant and refugee population.

3

Promote international cooperation agreements to improve the provision of food assistance and basic necessities.

4

Design social support programs, such as fundraising, to provide food to vulnerable populations.

5

Create alliances with the private sector, especially with those in charge of food production, marketing and distribution, as well as restaurants, to promote agreements that will make it possible to serve vulnerable sectors.

6

Collaborate with civil society organizations that provide assistance to Venezuelan migrants and refugees.



- 1** Promote agreements between authorities, landlords and tenants to avoid evictions.
- 2** Design orientation and information programs on protection issues jointly between States and civil society organizations.
- 3** Guarantee the prohibition of evictions of families, children, adolescents, older adults and pregnant women.
- 4** Promote cooperation for the collection of funds for the protection of the right to housing of migrants and refugees and vulnerable families.
- 5** Streamline processes for the regularization of the immigration status of Venezuelan migrants and refugees, thus facilitating their social integration.
- 6** Develop programs and campaigns against the stigmatization of migrants in a irregular situation.
- 7** Address complaints about the violation of due process of migrants and refugees deprived of their liberty, with special attention to minors.



HOUSING

1

Encourage instances of mediation and agreement between landlords and tenants to avoid evictions of people in vulnerable conditions.

2

Create an economic fund for the protection of housing of migrants and refugees, especially for the most vulnerable families.

3

Maintain communication channels that allow the migrant population to access information on the rights and procedures to be followed in the event of evictions.

4

Establish mechanisms and systems for reporting possible arbitrary evictions.

BENEFITS FOR HOST COUNTRIES IN IMPLEMENTING THESE RECOMMENDATIONS

1

Regularization of the immigration status and the integration of Venezuelan migrants and refugees helps the economic development of the host country.

2

Regularization and qualification of health professionals strengthens the health system, improving the State's response to the COVID-19.

3

Ensuring universal healthcare coverage without exclusion strengthens the public health of States.

4

Inclusion of migrants and refugees in school-age into the formal education helps socio-cultural integration. This is a determining factor in reducing violence.

5

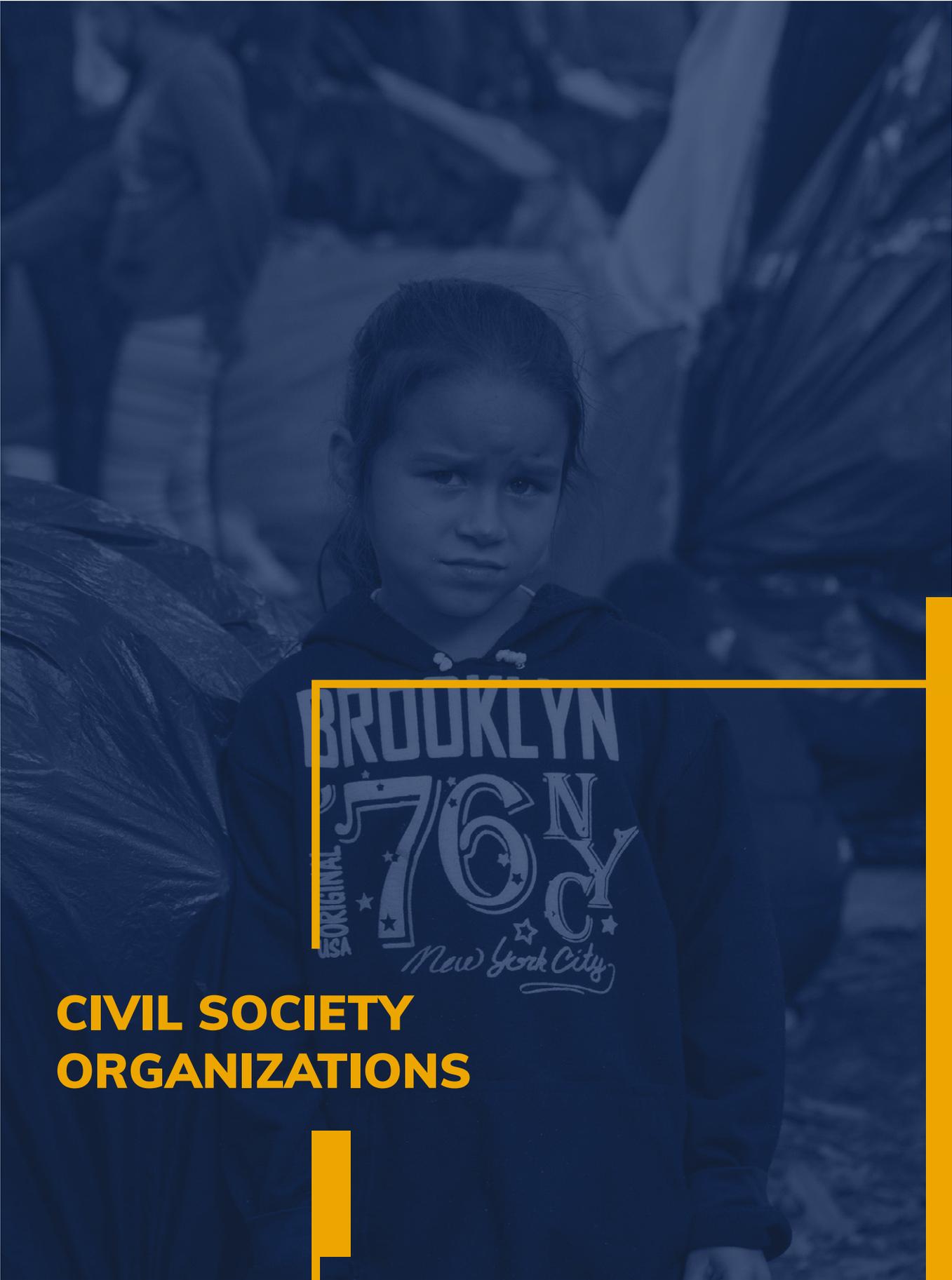
Standardization of professionals and qualified personnel strengthens the response to the economic needs of the States.

6

Integration of migrants and refugees into the formal economy allows host countries to increase their tax collection and minimizes the exploitation of migrants. It also provides greater stability, security, and confidence for all those who wish to start or invest in their own businesses.

7

Social cohesion, as an engine for development, reduces xenophobia, discrimination and promotes tolerance, generating a more democratic and just society.



**CIVIL SOCIETY
ORGANIZATIONS**



Argentina

- 1 Alianza X Venezuela
- 2 Asociación de Médicos Venezolanos en Argentina
- 3 Venezolanos en Bahía Blanca
- 4 Asociación Civil Venezolanos en Córdoba Argentina



VENEZOLANOS
EN BAHÍA BLANCA



ACVCA
ASOCIACIÓN CIVIL VENEZOLANOS
EN CÓRDOBA ARGENTINA



Aruba

- 5 Fundación VeneAruba Solidaria



FUNDACIÓN
VENEARUBA SOLIDARIA



Bolivia

- 6 Venmundo Bolivia



VenMundo
Venezolanos en el mundo
www.venmundo.com



Bonaire

- 7 Fundación Venex Bonaire





Brazil

8 Refugio 343



Canada

9 Canada-Venezuela Democracy Forum



Chile

10 Asociación Venezolana en Chile

11 Venmundo Chile

12 Asociación de Venezolanos Pensionados en Chile



Colombia

13 Venezolanos en Barranquilla

14 Fundación Entre Dos Tierras

15 Colonia Venezolana en Colombia - Medellín

16 Fundación Un Solo Pueblo

17 Fundación Venezolanos en Cúcuta





Colombia

- 18** Fundación de Venezolanos en El Tolima
- 19** Fundación Aires de Esperanza
- 20** Colonia Venezolana en Colombia - Valle del Cauca
- 21** Asociación para el Desarrollo y Promoción Integral de los Derechos Humanos
- 22** Asociación Central de Venezolanos en Colombia
- 23** Asociación Salto Ángel
- 24** Fundación Cultural Simón Bolívar
- 25** Fundación Venezolanos en el Exterior
- 26** Fundación Venezolanos en Colombia
- 27** Asociación de Venezolanos Residentes en los Llanos Colombianos
- 28** Fundación RadaBer
- 29** Fundación De Pana Que Sí
- 30** Asociación de Venezolanos en Sincelejo
- 31** Fundación Manitas Amarillas
- 32** Fundación de Venezolanos en el Quindío
- 33** Delegación de Venezolanos en El Chocó
- 34** Corporación Cleo





Colombia

- 35** Organización de Migrantes para la Integración y Prevención
- 36** Fundación Mujeres sin Fronteras Colombo Venezolanas
- 37** Colonia Venezolana en Colombia - Popayán
- 38** Colonia Venezolana en Colombia - Ipiales
- 39** Colonia Venezolana en Colombia - Santa Marta



Costa Rica

- 40** Alianza VENCRA



Curacao

- 41** Fundación Venex Curaçao



Ecuador

- 42** Venmundo Ecuador





El Salvador

- 43 Asociación de Venezolanos en El Salvador



United States

- 44 Un Mundo sin Mordaza
- 45 VENAMERICA
- 46 My Voice Counts
- 47 One Milk For Venezuela



Guatemala

- 48 Asociación de Venezolanos en Guatemala



Mexico

- 49 VENEMEX



Puerto Rico

- 50 Asociación de Venezolanos en Puerto Rico
- 51 Ayuda Humanitaria de Puerto Rico para Venezuela



 **Panama**

52 Activados Panamá



 **Paraguay**

53 Asociación de Venezolanos en Paraguay



 **Peru**

54 Unión Venezolana en Perú



 **Dominican Republic**

55 Fundación Venezolana en República Dominicana

56 Venezolanos en San Cristóbal

57 Asociación Churún Merú de Venezuela





Trinidad and Tobago

58 TTV Solidarity Network



Uruguay

59 Manos Veneguayas

60 Asociación de Pensionados y Jubilados de Venezuela en Uruguay



Venezuela

61 Mujer y Ciudadanía a.c.

62 Defiende Venezuela

63 Más Ciudadanos



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