



# MID-YEAR REPORT 2021

## REGIONAL REFUGEE AND MIGRANT RESPONSE PLAN (RMRP)

January - June 2021



Inter-Agency Coordination  
Platform for Refugees and  
Migrants from Venezuela

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## REGIONAL OVERVIEW



### PEOPLE REACHED BY NATIONAL OR SUBREGIONAL PLATFORMS



## REGIONAL OVERVIEW

By mid-2021, RMRP actors,<sup>1</sup> implementing activities under the RMRP in 17 countries, had reached some 1.8 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of affected host communities with some form of assistance, representing 51.45% of the target population.

In the midst of the global COVID-19 pandemic, it was significant that activities under the Health Sector reached the largest number of people, with almost 1 million (919,841 refugees and migrants and 67,812 host community members, or 51.5% of the target population) receiving support for medical care from RMRP partners. Vulnerable refugees and migrants – including survivors of sexual and gender-based violence (GBV), victims of human trafficking, persons with disabilities, pregnant and lactating women, and young children with nutritional deficiencies – were assisted with primary healthcare, reproductive health, mental health and telehealth services, cash and voucher assistance (CVA) to cover the cost of medicines and lab tests, and vaccines. Some RMRP partners were directly involved in administering COVID-19 vaccines, while others

supported health authorities with logistics, equipment (such as refrigeration units) and outreach for immunization campaigns. Recognizing the needs among host communities, RMRP actors also focused on strengthening local health authorities' capacities, donating necessary medical equipment, personal protective equipment (PPE), and providing training and logistics support for community outreach on health and prevention.

The Food Security Sector also made significant progress, thanks to strong donor support – particularly in Colombia – reaching 51.39% of its target population in the region, a total of 942,918 people, with 95.08% of all people assisted in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru.

Another significant element was the increased level of collaboration and coordination across R4V Sectors, working to achieve a holistic response at the field level, address intersectional aspects of the reality of the displacement experience of refugees and migrants, and mainstream the principle of Centrality of Protection (COP) across activities. For example, R4V partners distributing multipurpose cash transfers

[1] 115 out of a total of 159 appealing organizations (72%) in the RMRP reported activities implemented in the first half of 2021.



## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



### INTEGRATION



### PROTECTION



### HEALTH



### FOOD SECURITY



### EDUCATION



### SHELTER



### WASH



### NUTRITION



### HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION



### MULTIPURPOSE CVA



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The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:

#### EDUCATION



#### INTEGRATION



#### NUTRITION



(MPC) – including to refugees and migrants with identified protection risks – coordinated to ensure complementarity with partners distributing sectoral CVA for shelter, food security, and health; the Protection Sector worked with the Shelter Sector to identify root causes of and better prevent forced evictions; and WASH Sector partners collaborated to ensure that hygiene and sanitary protocols related to COVID-19 were met and PPE was provided to refugees and migrants in reception, accommodation and transportation activities of the Humanitarian Transportation and Shelter Sectors. The upgrading of the regional R4V service mapping tool also helped to better visualize available RMRP services.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

By end-June, R4V partners reported having received only 6.2% of needed funds for the RMRP 2021.<sup>2</sup> One of the main consequences of this lack of funds was the inability to carry out planned activities, and reductions in the number of people

receiving assistance. This resulted in an estimated 1.7 million vulnerable refugees and migrants and affected host community members who so far did not receive any form of support from RMRP partners.

The funding deficiencies were larger for some sectors and countries than others. Underfunded sub-regions and countries reached fewer people in need, with only 16.6% of the target population in countries of the Southern Cone receiving some form of support (including in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay) and only 21.9% of the target population of refugees and migrants in Peru being assisted by RMRP partners. Disparate levels of support across countries in the region can affect flows of refugees and migrants and trigger secondary movements where vulnerable populations are unable to integrate locally in order to meet their basic needs and are not assisted by the humanitarian response.

The lack of funding particularly limited the capacities of the Nutrition Sector (which reached a mere 8.9% of its target

[2] Funding data as of 31 June 2021 as reported to the Financial Tracking Service (FTS) of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>. However, at the time of drafting of this Mid-Year Report (end-September), the RMRP was 29.3% funded, according to FTS.

population), the Integration Sector (just 18.8%) and the Education Sector (only 24.9%). Interventions in nutrition and education are essential to ensure proper child development, physically and mentally. Interventions to promote local integration and provide access to education are important in the long-term to ensure development prospects, as well as refugees' and migrants' ability to enhance employment prospects, obtain jobs in the formal economy, and increase their income and self-sufficiency, thus reducing dependence on humanitarian aid. Without investments in these sectors, while other emergency needs may be met in the short-term, the mid-to-long-term prospects for refugees and migrants from Venezuela remain bleak.

## WORKING GROUPS & CROSS-CUTTING THEMES

Focal points for the cross-cutting theme of environmental matters worked to provide trainings to sector leads to enhance the mainstreaming of this important element. On gender, training was provided on the use of the Gender and Age Marker (GAM) to R4V partners and sectors.

In order to strengthen accountability to affected populations (AAP), a mapping as part of a baseline study was conducted, identifying current capacities in information-sharing and transparency, participation, and complaint and feedback mechanisms, while also providing recommendations for the implementation of AAP initiatives in the R4V response. To mainstream and strengthen mechanisms on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), based on the findings of a mapping carried out last year, the regional PSEA focal points developed a joint risk assessment for R4V field responses, as well as a standard PSEA training module for personnel of RMRP organizations, which will be rolled-out in the latter half of 2021.

During the first part of 2021, the regional Communicating with Communities / Communication for Development (CwC/C4D) working group developed social media content advocating for the inclusion of refugees and migrants in national vaccination campaigns. This content was tested in focus groups with Venezuelan refugees and migrants. Materials with recommendations for people on the move were also adapted and implemented by various national R4V Platforms.

The Support Spaces Working Group coordinated 202 Support Spaces operating in eight countries (Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Uruguay) where more than 400,000 individuals benefited from integrated assistance in protection, health, WASH, food security, shelter and nutrition support. Support Spaces implemented biosecurity measures to adapt their physical spaces to the COVID-19 context and shifted some services to remote and online modalities.

Highlights included an update of the regional Support Spaces toolkit and participation in the Quito Process (Lima Chapter), sharing best practices from Peru and Brazil and a video.

Limited funding resulted in Support Spaces with reduced staff capacity and saturated services; inability to expand to additional key locations; and increased exposure to protection risks for refugees and migrants who were less informed about their rights and could not access basic services as a result of not receiving support.

## REGIONAL SECTORS

R4V regional sector lead organizations have been driving initiatives at the regional level to provide national sectors with technical support, including developing manuals, holding thematic webinars and trainings, and conducting studies, while developing tools and identifying /sharing best practices on a broad range of thematic and cross-cutting issues.

As part of the lead-up to the International Donors' Conference in Solidarity with Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants, organized by the Government of Canada on 17 June, each of the nine Regional Sectors organized a virtual high-level side event, with key government representatives from the region's host countries as well as donor countries, as well as speakers from civil society, NGOs, faith-based organizations and financial institutions. The aim of these events was to promote and raise awareness of the situation faced by refugees and migrants from Venezuela from the perspective of each thematic sector, highlight the most pressing needs, and to give visibility to each sector and its response priorities. All events benefitted from high levels of participation, including by representatives of donor and host governments, and contributed to the collective pledging of some USD 2.36 billion in grants and loans by 34 donors, including seven new donor entities.

## CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE (CVA)

As of June 2021, 684,089 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of affected host communities had been assisted by 51 RMRP partner organizations across 17 countries with cash and voucher assistance (CVA), including multipurpose CVA and sectoral cash and voucher interventions. This assistance enabled receiving individuals to meet their most pressing needs, while minimizing the use of negative coping strategies and acting as a safety net for refugees and migrants during the COVID-19 health and ensuing economic crises in the 17 countries covered by the RMRP.

The highest number of CVA interventions were implemented through the Food Security Sector, while 35% of CVA was delivered through Multipurpose Cash Transfers (MPC). The

highest numbers of people reached through MPC were in Colombia (396,811), Ecuador (109,952), and Perú (85,000).

The Regional Cash Working Group (CWG) supported national platforms, national CWGs, and partners in their scale-up of MPC to ensure complementarity and coherence with sectoral CVA. Highlights of the regional response included: (i) the facilitation of a Regional Learning Event on linking CVA with Social Protection, with documented outcomes available in Spanish and English; (ii) a joint learning activity with the Shelter Sector on housing interventions and price monitoring; (iii) launching the new Regional Cash Working Group | R4V webpage; and (iv) the first elections process for co-leadership of the Regional CWG.

# MULTIPURPOSE CASH AND VOUCHER ASSISTANCE (CVA)

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
913.8 K

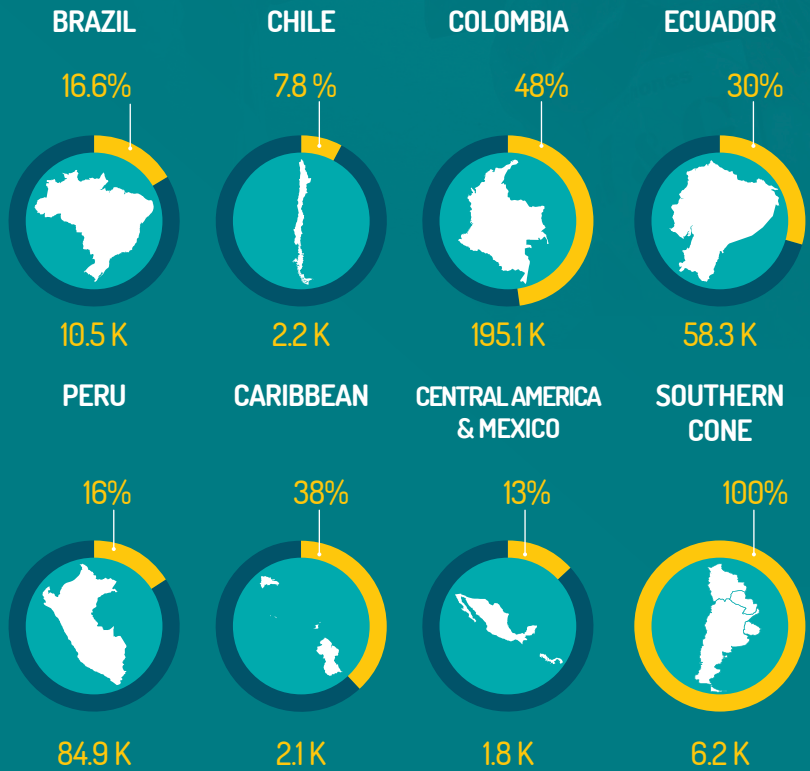
**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
1.2 M

**PEOPLE REACHED**  
361.5 K (28.9%)

**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$247.5 M

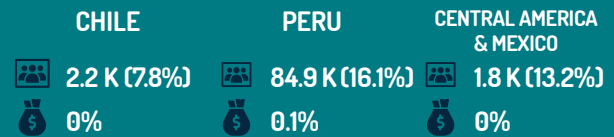
**FUNDED** 4.2% | **UNMET** \$237.2 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



© NRC / Nadège Mazars

**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**



Key national achievements in CVA included: in Mexico, countrywide market assessments and a joint request for proposals with the banking sector; in Brazil, linking entrepreneurship to financial education; and in Colombia, pilot programs to provide CVA to refugees and migrants in transit (“caminantes”) and the formation of the CVA and Protection Sub-Working Group, with 48 people certified in CVA trainings. In all National and sub-regional R4V Platforms, the importance of CVA as a cross-cutting assistance modality is very evident, including in terms of the increasing number of partners and sectors implementing CVA, among them education, integration and humanitarian transportation (including in internal relocation programmes) and protection (especially for survivors of GBV, people at risk of eviction, and victims of trafficking).

Processes for regularizing the situation of refugees and migrants in their countries have positively impacted refugees’ and migrants’ access to formal financial systems. At the same time, particularly those Venezuelans in irregular situations required emergency CVA, including while awaiting documentation. The COVID-19 crisis exacerbated entrenched vulnerabilities related to inadequate access to food, housing, healthcare, education, and employment, resulting in riskier coping mechanisms such as child labor, and increased risk for sexual violence and recruitment by armed groups.

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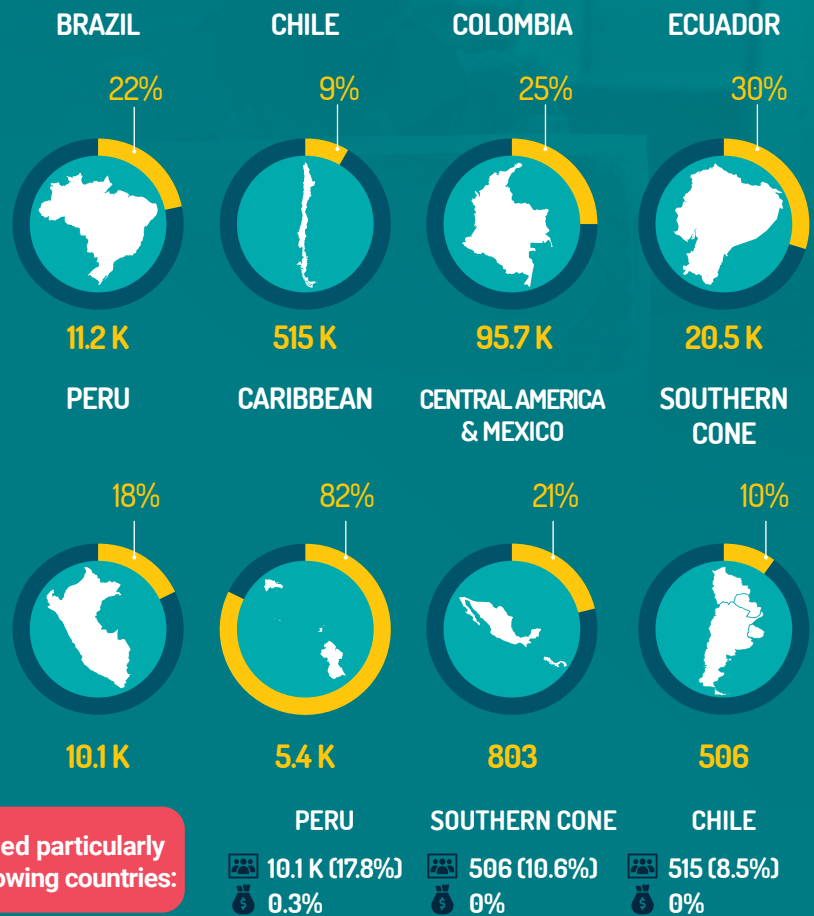
# REGIONAL SECTORS



## EDUCATION



### PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**! The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

By mid-2021, a total of 144,802 individuals (137,732 refugees and migrants and 7,952 members of affected host communities) received support from 35 Education Sector partners in 14 countries. Of those, 87.2% were children and adolescents, while 12.8% were adults, who were assisted with direct actions such as in-kind delivery (educational kits, school meals, hand washing kits and drinking water), and cash and voucher assistance (CVA, for transportation, food, or others).

Latin America and the Caribbean saw many significant achievements in the provision of education in the first half of 2021 in comparison to previous months. National Education Sectors reported improvements in government normative frameworks for education, improvement in data collection in some countries and RMRP partners' advancements in building schools' capacities – including through infrastructure improvements and technical guidance – to minimize risks and support the health and safety of children, especially as they prepare for reopening following over 1.5 years of COVID-19-related closure. The region also saw improvements in levels of access to education (including access to formal education) through national regularization initiatives and issuance of documentation for Venezuelan refugee and migrant children and adolescents.

### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Although the sector established a technical framework to provide access to education for refugee and migrant children and adolescents, including through direct support for children and adolescents to stay in school, only 24.74% of the target population was reached due to lack of funding. Consequences of underfunding include lower levels of school permanence for refugee and migrant children and adolescents, and difficulties accessing remote schooling without support for connectivity solutions. Moreover, there is a concerning lack of data on school enrollment in some countries, which could be improved with additional funding; inadequate complementary services – such as WASH, child protection, school feeding and MHPSS; and reduced kit delivery and limited monitoring of educational trajectories. Countries and sub-regions particularly affected by under-funding in their Education Sectors include Chile (where partners were able to reach just 8.6% of their target population with education activities); the Southern Cone (just 10.3% of intended beneficiaries); and Peru (only 17.8%).

## FOOD SECURITY



PEOPLE IN NEED

5.2 M



PEOPLE TARGETED

1.8 M



PEOPLE REACHED

942.9 K (51%)



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS

\$190.4 M

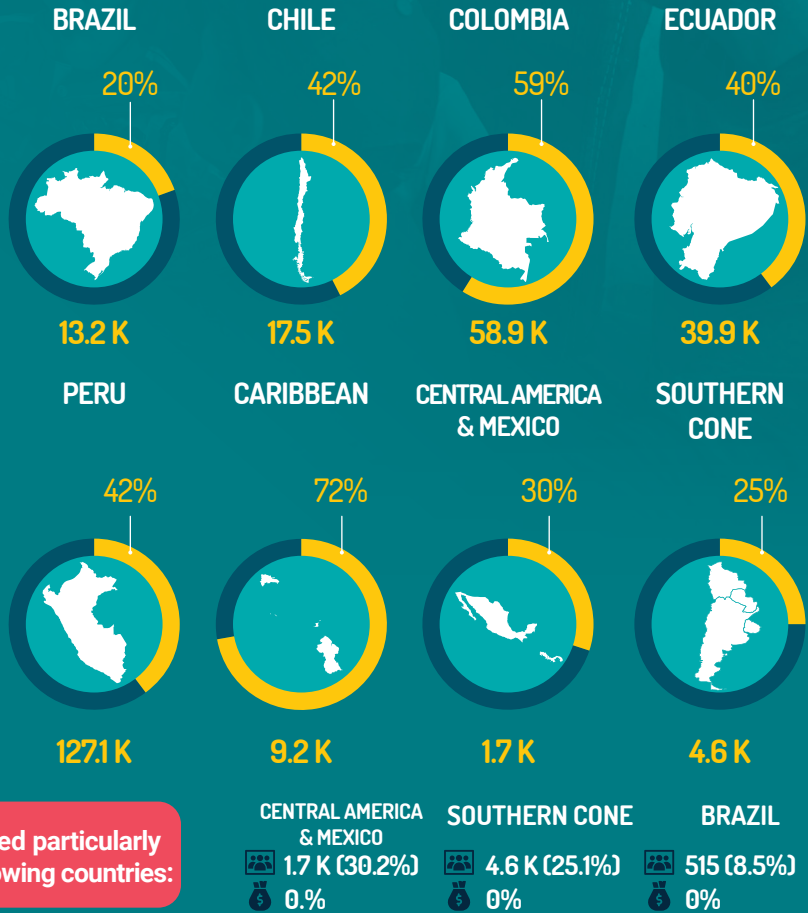
FUNDED

12.5%

UNMET

\$166.6 M

### PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:

By June, Food Security Sector partners had reached 942,918 individuals (refugees, migrants and affected host community members) through 1,900 activities, representing 51.4% of the target population of 1.8 million.

Highlights included a significantly increased coverage of food assistance programmes in Colombia; improved access by R4V Food Security partners to border points in Ecuador and Peru; and the expansion of sectoral CVA following the use of unified beneficiary registration systems by relevant food security actors. The regional Food Security Sector supported national and sub-regional sectors with studies on the impact of food security programs and expanded efforts to coordinate the response between national and local authorities, institutions and humanitarian actors.

Although some countries relaxed COVID-19 restrictions, facilitating the movement of people and goods, the situation of food insecurity worsened for the most vulnerable populations mainly due to the increase in the cost of the basic food basket, due to multiple and diverse factors such as disruption in supply chains, scarcity of specific items and/or reduction in family incomes.

### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

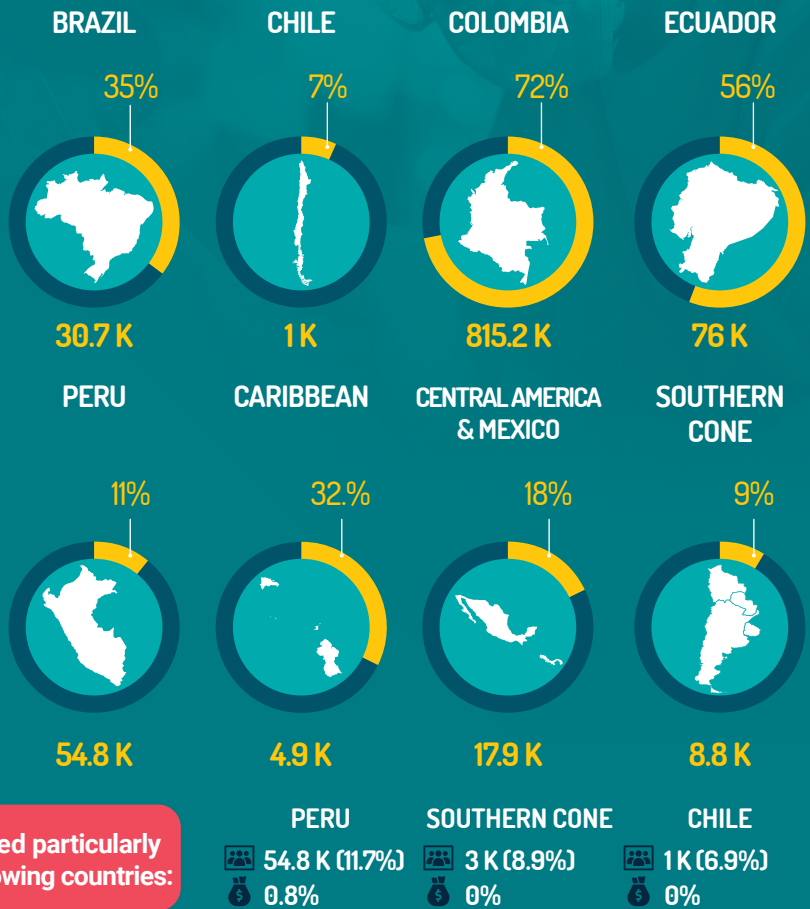
The lack of adequate funding for actors of the Food Security Sector resulted in a reduced number of activities being implemented to support the most vulnerable host populations affected by COVID-19, as well as gaps in needs identification and delivery of food assistance for the population in transit and /or engaging in pendular movements in border areas. Increased levels of social discord and anti-xenophobic tendencies in the region, particularly against the Venezuelan refugee and migrant population, have been attributed in some cases to shortages in reaching all those in need of vital food assistance.

Among the refugee and migrant populations facing food insecurity, various concerning developments were identified, including the consumption of cheaper foods; reduction of meal portions; reduction in the number of meals per day; refugee and migrant children being exposed to risks associated with child labour; and the sale or intake of seeds planned for crop growth. In order to avoid such unsustainable approaches and support households with the means to provide food to all those in their homes, sufficient support to these RMRP activities remains vital.

# HEALTH

- PEOPLE IN NEED**  
5.3 M
- PEOPLE TARGETED**  
1.9 M
- PEOPLE REACHED**  
987.6 K (51%)
- FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$212.5 M
- FUNDED** 1%
- UNMET** \$210.4 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

In the first half of 2021, R4V Health Sector partners reached some 987,653 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of affected host communities, representing 51.6% of the Sector’s target population. Countries with the greatest progress on health assistance included Colombia (reaching 72.3% of the target population) and Ecuador (reaching 56%). In all 17 countries of the RMRP, R4V partners engaged in advocacy with national authorities for the inclusion of refugees and migrants in national COVID-19 vaccination plans, with almost all countries making explicit reference to the inclusion of refugees and migrants in their vaccination plans.

As per the Health Sector’s work plan, the regional sector provided support to national and sub-regional sectors through two thematic sessions on mental health care and the situation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants living with HIV in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Chile, Ecuador and Peru; and by developing a self-study course on migration and health that will be available in Spanish and English. Sector partners also conducted three studies on the health situation of refugee and migrant women and children, including access to basic health services and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV in Panama, Peru and Ecuador.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

The following activities could not be implemented by the Sector and its actors as a result of the poor funding status: a) conducting studies and generating evidence on the needs and gaps in access to health services for refugees and migrants, especially as a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic; and b) strengthening the health response to engage refugees and migrants with irregular status in transit to complement the governments’ response. Countries and sub-regions whose health sector responses were particularly limited due to lack of funds include Chile (which reached just 6.9% of the sector’s target population), countries in the Southern Cone (reaching just 8.9% of the target population) and Peru (with 11.2%).

# HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
326.2 K

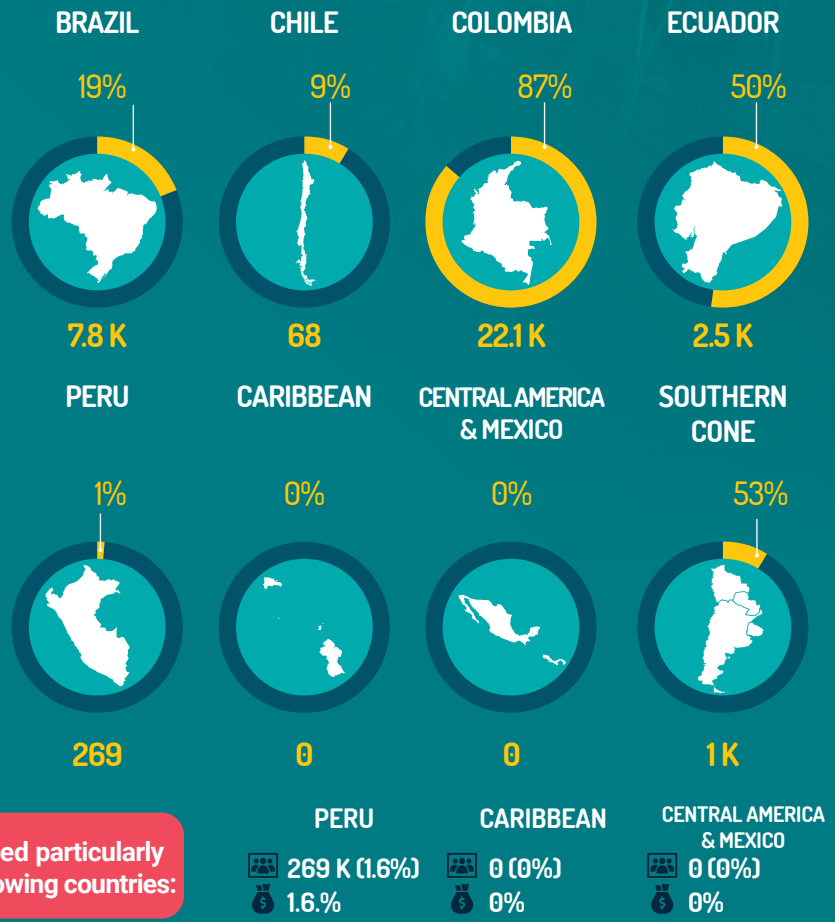
**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
91.5 K

**PEOPLE REACHED**  
33.8 K (37%)

**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$10.8 M

**FUNDED** 0.6% | **UNMET** \$10.8 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**! The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

In the eight (8) R4V countries in which Humanitarian Transportation activities are carried out, a total of 33,855 refugees and migrants received assistance by June, representing almost 37% of the target population foreseen in the RMRP 2021. There were significant differences among national and sub-regional contexts, with Colombia reaching already 86.7% of its target, but four countries and platforms reaching less than 10% of their targets. Internal transport was the most common form of assistance provided (53% of all activities), with border-to-border transport largely suspended as a result of prevailing border closures.

Key developments in the of provision of regular status to refugees and migrants in Brazil, Uruguay, Argentina and Colombia, impacted access by refugees and migrants from Venezuela to humanitarian transportation activities, allowing for their safe internal transit and movements. In this context, the agreement reached by RMRP partners in Chile with local authorities in Tarapacá for the provision of humanitarian transport to vulnerable individuals in irregular situations, stands out as a notable good practice.

Recalling that orderly humanitarian transportation services by R4V actors can only be provided to those with a regular status in the relevant country, many refugees and migrants in irregular situations, who had entered countries via unofficial border points, were exposed to increased protection risks, including those related

to human trafficking and smuggling, particularly in the Andean Corridor, as well as in Aruba, Costa Rica and Trinidad and Tobago.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Of all the R4V sectors, Humanitarian Transportation received the least reported funds in proportion to those requested in the 2021 RMRP, with less than 1% by the end of June.<sup>3</sup>

The Caribbean, Central America and Mexico were unable to provide Humanitarian Transportation support to any people in need so far this year due to lack of funds, and Peru had only reached 1.6% of its target population. The lack of financing hindered the expansion and quality of activities, including the enhancement of prevention measures against COVID-19, hygiene activities, cleaning and disinfection of transport, as well as the availability of PPE during transport. Refugees and migrants therefore continued to be exposed to protection risks while traveling along insecure routes using inadequate modalities, particularly those forced to walk through inhospitable terrains.

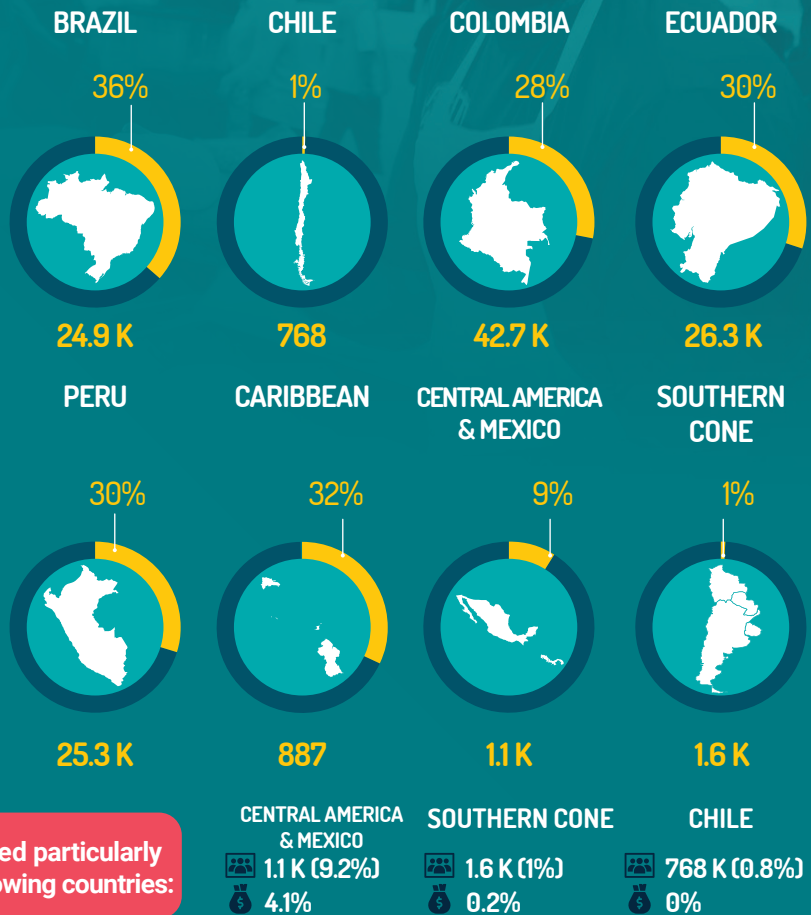
[3] Funding for the Humanitarian Transportation sector remained at < 1% by end-September. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>



## INTEGRATION



### PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

The Integration Sector reached some 123,756 people by June-2021, almost 19% of its target of 658,000 refugees, migrants and members of affected host communities.

The majority of activities implemented in the first half of 2021 supported access to employment and entrepreneurship initiatives, primarily through financial or in-kind support, trainings (vocational, entrepreneurship, digital literacy, soft skills), mentorship, trade fairs and guidance on labor rights, recruitment processes and the local labor markets. Many trainings were provided virtually. Portuguese language courses were also provided in Brazil and support to access the PEPFF (Permiso Especial de Permanencia) were provided in Colombia. Social cohesion was enhanced in 10 countries by strengthening networks and spaces that bring communities together, sharing anti-xenophobia messaging, and promoting community-based intercultural events. Financial inclusion initiatives were supported in six countries and the capacities of government institutions and the private sector were strengthened, through the provision of training for the private sector and employers on the ethical recruitment of refugees and migrants and financial inclusion issues such as xenophobia, discrimination, documentation, social protection, CVA and gender.

Regularization efforts in Colombia and the Dominican Republic were noteworthy developments, which should positively impact the situation of refugees and migrants there: in Colombia, Venezuelans

are eligible to receive a ten-year temporary protection status which will facilitate their access to basic services (including the COVID-19 vaccination program) and the formal labour market; while the normalization process in the Dominican Republic aims to facilitate the regularization of more than 115,000 Venezuelans with irregular status, which will also support their socio-economic integration.

### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

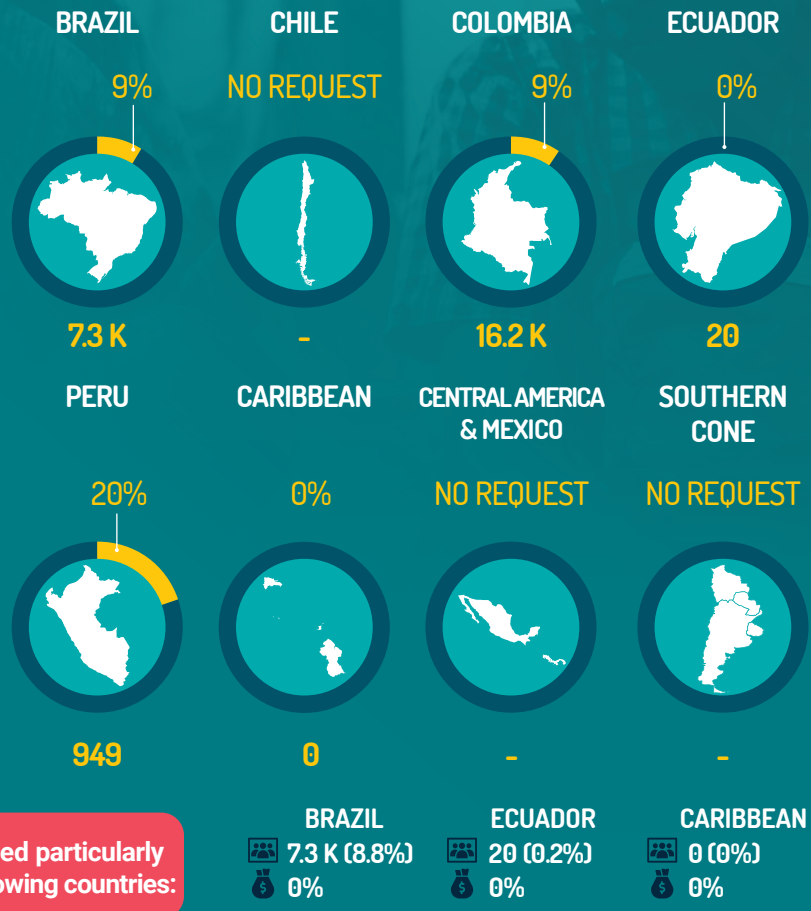
By end-June, Integration Sector partners reported having received a mere 2.6% of funds needed.<sup>4</sup> Due to this underfunding, the Sector reported one of the lowest implementation rates of any sector, reaching just 18.8% of its target population. National and sub-regional R4V Platforms and RMRP partners tried to maintain integration activities, but low financing forced partners to decrease their reach, reducing the number of vulnerable refugees and migrants assisted, particularly in Chile (reaching just 0.8% of its target population) and the Southern Cone (just 1.1%). The majority of R4V Platforms indicated the importance of holistic and integrated approaches to ensure the sustainability of integration efforts. For example, rather than providing entrepreneurship support in isolation, complementing this support with other assistance, such as psychosocial support, legal counseling, protection services, empowerment, would enhance the overall impact of R4V activities. Applying such an integrated approach, however, has proved difficult without sufficient funding.

[4] By end-September, this had increased to 4.9% of funds received for the Integration Sector. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>

# NUTRITION

- PEOPLE IN NEED**  
1.1 M
- PEOPLE TARGETED**  
276 K
- PEOPLE REACHED**  
24.4 K (9%)
- FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$12.1 M
- FUNDED** 7.2% | **UNMET** \$11.2 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**! The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

Some 24,481 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of affected host communities received support from R4V Nutrition Sector partners by end-June, or just 8.9% of the Sector’s target population.

Close collaboration and coordination with health authorities was one of the main achievements of the R4V Nutrition Sector, which permitted improved nutrition support to population groups at risk of malnutrition, and adaptation of nutrition interventions in a COVID-19 context. This included strengthening capacities of the Ministry of Health in infant and young child feeding (IYCF) in Guyana, and the funding of additional nutrition personnel in government health units in Brazil. Cross-border nutrition monitoring of children under 5 was also a key achievement between Ecuador and Colombia, whose Ministries of Health coordinated with R4V partners to allow for monitoring and nutrition interventions for refugee and migrant children transiting across the borders between both countries.

Coordination with other sectors permitted the provision of counseling on infant and young child feeding to those receiving cash and voucher assistance as a complementary service in Trinidad and Tobago and Peru, and practical training for caregivers on food preparation and healthy feeding coupled with food security assistance in Brazil.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

The Nutrition Sector shows the biggest gap in reaching its target population. All interventions to prevent, identify, and treat malnutrition were affected by the limited funds available, which resulted in only a small portion of refugee and migrant children and women in-need receiving nutrition assistance.

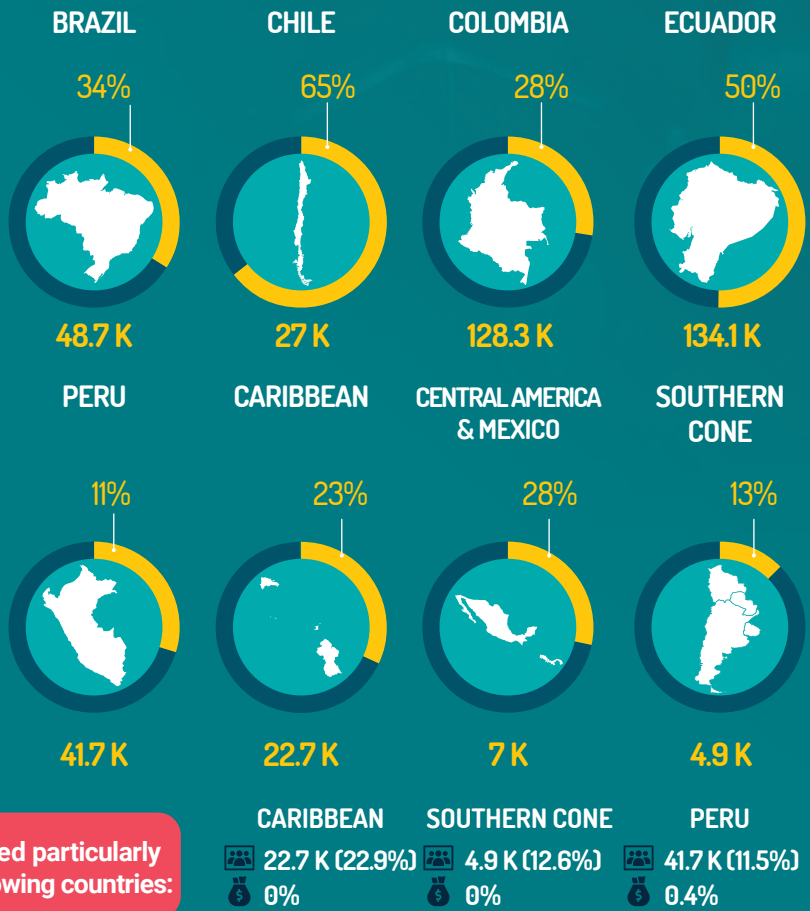
Children under 5 and pregnant and lactating women are population groups inherently vulnerable to malnutrition, due to their heightened nutritional needs. Without access to timely nutrition interventions, these women and young children will continue to face high risks of malnutrition, infection, and even death. This is particularly relevant to the Venezuela refugee and migration crisis where refugees and migrants, especially those in-transit, have limited access to safe drinking water, food, health and nutrition services, and often live in unhygienic environments, leading to reduced dietary intake and increased exposure to pathogens. 90% of recorded deaths associated with malnutrition were attributed to a lack of timely health and nutrition care.

The funding situation of the Nutrition Sector remains critical. Additional support from the donor community is urgently needed to ensure that refugee and migrant children and women can be reached with life-saving nutrition interventions under the RMRP.

# PROTECTION



## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



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**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

RMRP partners reached some 414,558 people, 49.1% of whom were women, with protection services in the first half of 2021. The vast majority, or 75.5% of interventions, focused on providing direct support to individuals in-need, and 14.6% on building capacity. The Regional Protection Sector prioritized specific population sub-groups, including women engaged in sex work, evicted persons and indigenous peoples.

The regional Sector carried out a protection analysis of ongoing regularization initiatives in 9 countries, to identify gaps and good practices to be considered by states. The Sector also launched a joint consultancy with the Human Trafficking and Smuggling sub-sector to identify profiles of Venezuelan refugees and migrants at risk of "double affectation" (displaced persons also affected by organized crime in countries of transit and/or in-destination) and to develop effective prevention and protection strategies.

In February, in coordination with the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), the Sector launched a regional toolbox on eviction risk mitigation. The Sector also developed a report on the disproportionate impact of protection risks on indigenous peoples, sex workers and evicted persons, that will be launched later in the year in coordination with the Organization of American States (OAS).

The Sector's work plan included a focus on indigenous peoples, which was implemented through six technical sessions held with indigenous authorities, delegates and organizations in Brazil, Colombia, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago. These sessions served to assess protection needs and risks and to plan the upcoming High-Level Forum on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples from Venezuela, to be held in the second half of 2021.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Limited funding for protection activities led to especially low numbers of people reached with protection support in Peru (only 11.6%) and countries of the Southern Cone (only 12.7%). Activities that were not possible or were severely limited include: border monitoring, activation of safe houses for high-risk cases, supporting access to documentation and regularization, strengthening identification and referral systems, and adapting services (such as legal counseling and representation) to current needs and profiles (e.g. for assistance with evictions; for indigenous peoples). Affected persons without protection support are more exposed to risks of recruitment by organized crime and illegal armed actors in the absence of access to effective protection.

# SUB-SECTOR: CHILD PROTECTION


-  **PEOPLE IN NEED**  
**1.7 M**
-  **PEOPLE TARGETED**  
**368 K**
-  **PEOPLE REACHED**  
**65.3 K (17.7%)**
-  **FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**\$42.6 M**

<b>FUNDED</b>	<b>UNMET</b>
<b>4.3%</b>	<b>\$41 M</b>

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



© UNHCR / Sebastian Roa

 **The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

By end-June, the Child Protection Sub-Sector had reached some 52,695 individuals with assistance through 1,518 activities, or 17.35% of the regional target population. Out of the 47,898 children assisted by the Sub-Sector, 24,369 were girls and 23,509 were boys, while 17,440 adults were supported through capacity-building, including 9,992 women and 7,448 men. Twenty-seven RMRP partners reported on their child protection activities in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guayana, Perú, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay. Ecuador represented 49% of all child protection activities in the region, and Colombia 33%.

The regional sub-sector worked with its members to gather information on unaccompanied and/or separated children (UASC) as a priority, to facilitate a more focused response to the specific needs of UASC throughout the region, and established a community of practice for UASC to support this objective.

A June 2021 study by an RMRP partner of 171 households of refugees and migrants found that the main concerns for children in Colombia, Brazil, Peru, and Venezuela<sup>5</sup> were food scarcity (51%), school desertion (16%) and abuse, exploitation, and negligence (11%).

Another June 2021 study by an RMRP partner found that gender-based violence (GBV) was the most recurrent form of violence affecting Venezuelan refugee and migrant girls and adolescents in Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. Study participants reported experiencing sexual, physical and psychological violence, as well as xenophobia both in public and private spaces.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

A particularly acute funding gap impeded the implementation of child protection activities, aimed at assisting vulnerable children and adolescents in Chile and in Central America and Mexico. Meanwhile, only 9.6% of the target population of vulnerable children and adolescents received support with child protection services in Brazil, and only 10.6% in Peru. The lack of funding for the sub-sector resulted in a reduced capacity to identify, monitor, and provide specialized child protection services, and a lack of adequate support for family reunifications and support to regularization of UASC and adolescents.

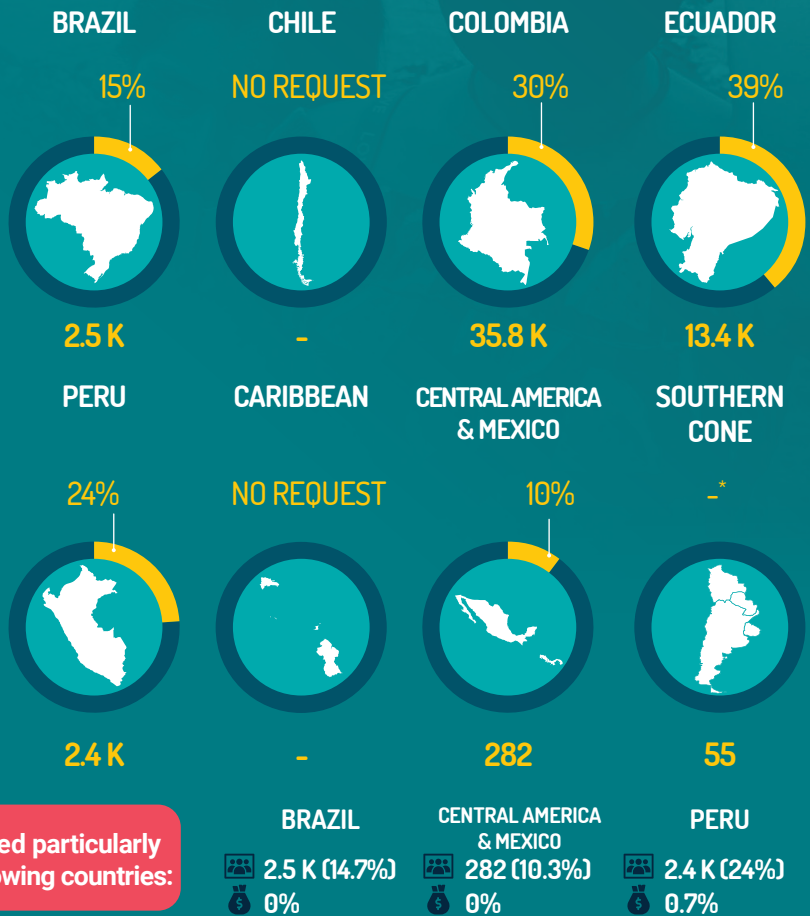
[5] In Venezuela the study included the situation of internally displaced persons.



## SUB-SECTOR: GENDER BASED VIOLENCE



### PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



\* FUNDS REQUESTED FOR ACTIVITIES THAT DO NOT HAVE A TARGET NUMBER OF BENEFICIARIES

**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

By end-June, the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Sub-Sector had reached some 54,667 individuals with specialized support; of those, 44.3% were women, 16.7% girls, 24.4% men and 14.7% boys.

The Regional GBV Sub-Sector focused on finalizing and rolling-out technical guidance materials, GBV prevention campaigns and training materials to respond to increased capacity development needs amidst a restrictive operational environment due to COVID-19.

Those included:

- A guidance manual on the use of Multipurpose Cash (MPC) to meet the needs of Venezuelan refugee and migrant GBV survivors, developed by the GBV regional sub-sector together with the integration sector and RMRP partners in Ecuador;
- Training materials for non-GBV specialists (such as health workers, education, shelter and transportation specialists) on how to refer GBV survivors to multisectoral services in a timely and ethical manner, with trainings to be rolled-out in the second half of the year; and
- A multi-country learning program on GBV responses, developed jointly by RMRP partners of the GBV and Child Protection sub-sectors. The organizations conducted four trainings on the ethical provision of remote psychosocial care to Venezuelan adolescent GBV survivors that benefitted eighty-five social workers and GBV practitioners from Colombia, Peru, Ecuador, Brazil, Argentina, Uruguay, México, Panama and Guyana.

The subsector launched a regional positive masculinity campaign “Ser Hombre de Mil Maneras” from April to June 2021, consisting of videos, social media threads and messaging in English, Portuguese and Spanish to prompt reflection and challenge harmful gender norms that give rise to the acceptability of violence against women and LGBTI+ persons. Overall partners reached 9,808,176 individuals through 747,484 social media interactions. Meanwhile, a GBV partner in Colombia facilitated a training for twenty-five participants along the Colombia-Venezuela border on safe referrals for GBV survivors to facilitate access to care.

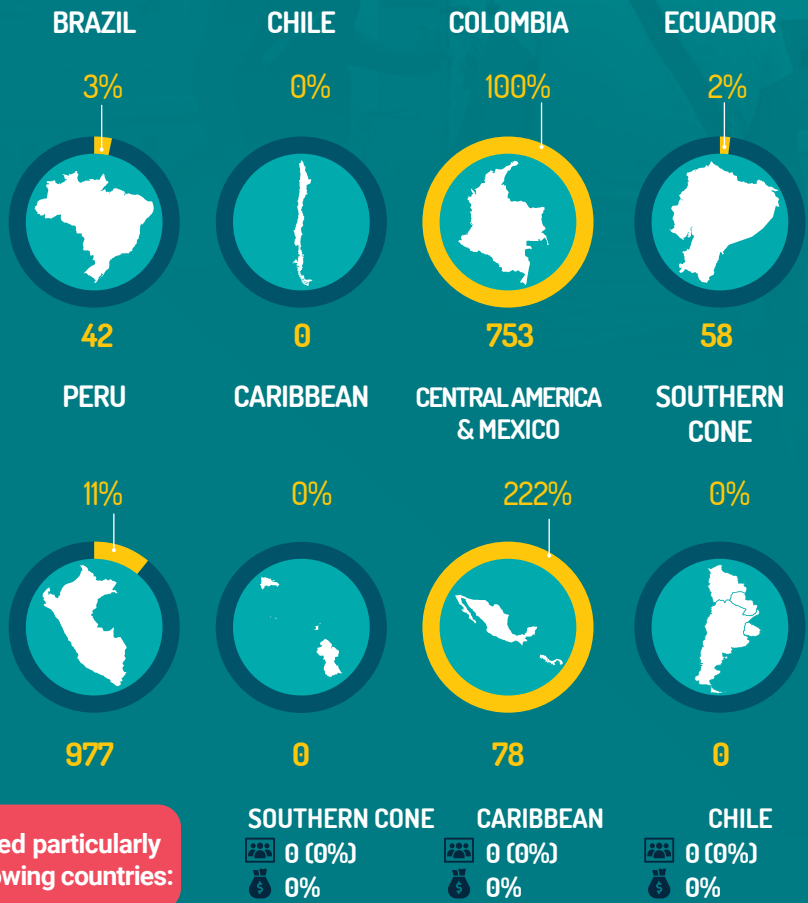
### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

The regional sub-sector’s priority is to support the continuity of lifesaving GBV services and ensure the prioritization of GBV prevention, mitigation and response in the humanitarian agenda. The lack of funding for GBV response programs, especially in areas along the routes of refugees and migrants, impacts these populations directly, especially women, girls and people with diverse gender identities and sexual orientations who have endured GBV, who are less able to access care for their empowerment and recovery. The lack of funding has led to fewer GBV survivors receiving specialized support from RMRP partners, particularly in Central America and Mexico (where only 10.4% of persons targeted for assistance by the sub-sector received support) and in Brazil (only 14.7%).

## SUB-SECTOR: HUMAN TRAFFICKING & SMUGGLING



### PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



© Save The Children / Glenna Gordon

**! The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

By June 2021, 1,908 people were assisted through Human Trafficking and Smuggling (HT&S) Sub-Sector activities, of whom 76.2% were women, 10.6% girls, 13.01% men and 0.2% boys. According to the work plan for the Human Trafficking and Smuggling Sub-Sector, highlights included the implementation of a Regional Assistance Mechanism to support refugees and migrants from Venezuela who have experienced or are at risk of violence, abuse and/or exploitation. 55 cases were identified through this mechanism, and 33 people assisted were victims of trafficking or showed indications of being victims.

With the collaboration of RMRP partners in Colombia, progress was made in the creation of a mechanism for the exchange of information, analysis and specialized training between criminal justice professionals, Ombudsmen's Offices, and Colombian civil society organizations.

The sub-sector worked collaboratively with other sectors and key actors within the R4V response, seeking to articulate efforts to offer more comprehensive responses to address human trafficking and smuggling. In June, the sub-sector, in collaboration with the Protection Sector, held a workshop with the Special Rapporteur on Trafficking in Persons, in which 21 civil society organizations that conduct activities related to the protection, prevention and assistance to victims of trafficking and smuggling participated from 10 countries of the RMRP

response (Ecuador, Costa Rica, Uruguay, Guyana, Brazil, Chile, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, Bolivia and Paraguay).

### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

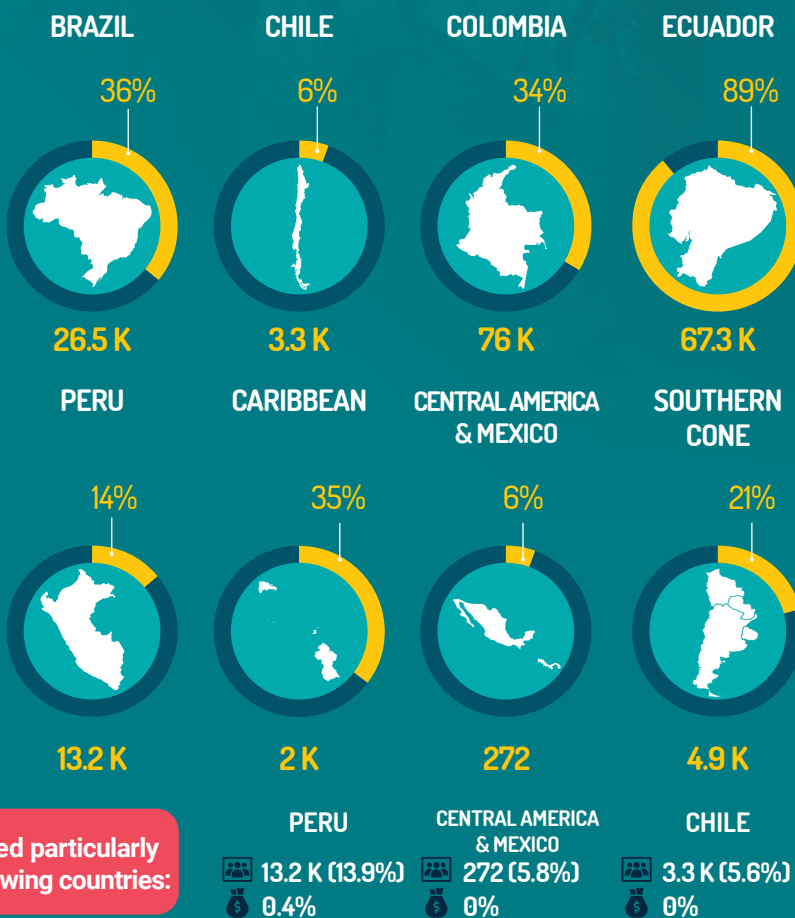
A severe lack of funding led to very limited activities by the Human Trafficking and Smuggling Sub-Sector in Chile and other countries of the Southern Cone (see infographics above), while underfunding in Ecuador led to severe limitations on people reached (just 2%). Some of the activities planned for 2021 by the regional sub-sector that could not be carried out due to lack of funds include: trainings of R4V partners on trafficking and smuggling of refugees and migrants from Venezuela with a gender perspective, and technical support to national sub-sectors and partners on the development and/or implementation of SOPs for the identification, referral and assistance of cases of victims of trafficking.

# SHELTER

- 
**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
**4.3 M**
- 
**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
**561.5 K**
- 
**PEOPLE REACHED**  
**193.6 K (34%)**
- 
**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
**\$70 M**

<b>FUNDED</b>	<b>UNMET</b>
<b>3.2%</b>	<b>\$67.8 M</b>

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



© UNHCR / Nicolo Filippo

**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

More than 193,000 people were assisted with Shelter Sector activities by the end of June, reaching 34.49% of the Sector's target population.

A key development in the first half of 2021 was the adaptation and reopening of collective shelter centers, following the lifting of some COVID-19 pandemic restrictions. The majority of Shelter Sector activities in the first half of 2021 were services provided in temporary collective accommodations (53.5%), followed by the distribution of essential household items (27%) and the provision of rental support (18%).

In the pandemic context, the Shelter Sector worked in coordination with the Protection Sector and the Cash Working Group to develop activities related to rental support as a measure to prevent evictions and promote access to individual accommodation solutions, thereby also supporting durable solutions and local integration for displaced Venezuelans.

Notable positive developments included efforts of countries such as the Dominican Republic to activate temporary government-run accommodation centers that provide assistance to Venezuelan women victims of GBV; efforts of organizations working in Ecuador and Colombia to provide longer-term housing solutions with, for example, area-based approaches and community infrastructure, as well as initiatives such as Occupancy Free of Charge linked to home repairs; and

in the case of Curaçao, RMRP partners reaching and surpassing 100% of the target population for shelter support, where 66% of assisted people were women.

### IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Donor support for Shelter Sector activities varied widely across countries of the RMRP response, resulting in significant assistance disparities: for example, while Ecuador reached 89.2% of its target population by mid-year, Chile, Central America and Mexico all reached less than 6% of their respective target populations with shelter support.

Despite the fact that the distribution of multipurpose cash transfers (MPC) helped to cover accommodation needs of the affected population in several contexts, complementary support is also needed for rental programs that promote the security of tenure, provide sector-based CVA for the payment of rent and basic services, improve housing conditions, and provide basic household items, among others.

# WASH



PEOPLE IN NEED  
**4.3 M**



PEOPLE TARGETED  
**1,190.8 M**



PEOPLE REACHED  
**346.8 K (30%)**



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS  
**\$42.4 M**

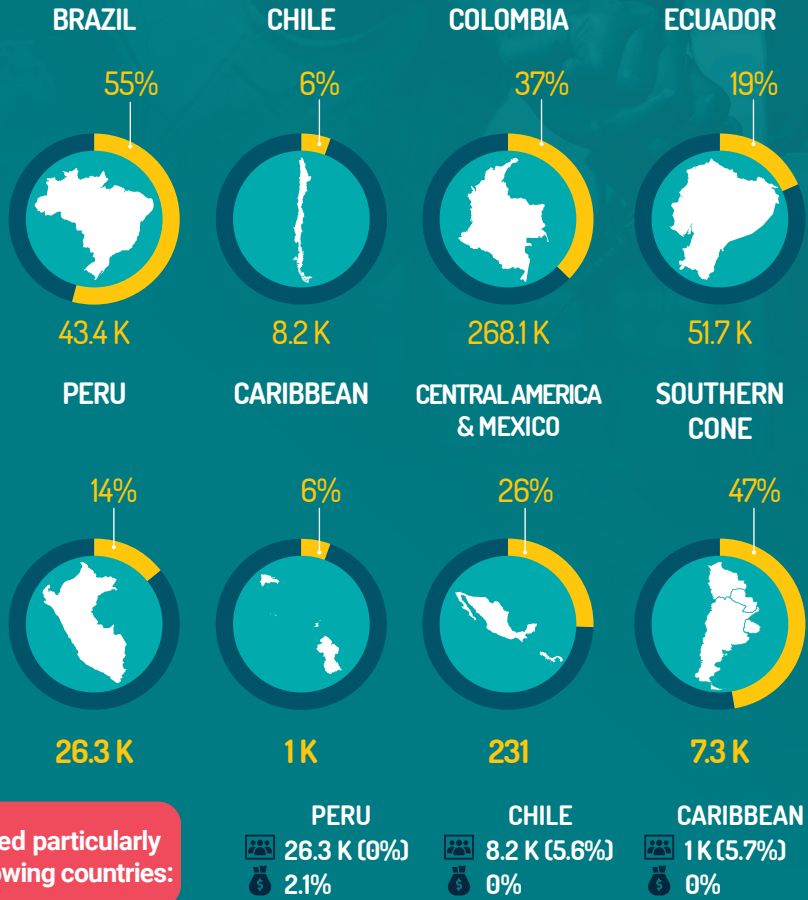
FUNDED

**1.6%**

UNMET

**\$41.7 M**

## PEOPLE REACHED BY PLATFORM



© UNHCR / Lucas Novaes

**! The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following countries:**

The WASH Sector reached 30.2% of its regional target population, including 350,499 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and 14,399 members of affected host communities, by end-June. Progress was greatest in Brazil, with 54.5% of the target population reached, including through the distribution of water treatment plant products, WASH education, hygiene promotion and COVID-19 prevention activities; and in Colombia, with nearly 40% of the target population reached, including through a rapid response in the most affected departments, such as Arauca.

Sector partners carried out a regional study "Access to the human right to water, sanitation and hygiene of the Venezuelan migrant and refugee population" to map public policies and measures by host governments to ensure the human right to water, sanitation and hygiene of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. The Hand Hygiene for All initiative, being developed with the support of regional and national WASH sector coordinators, partners and governments, made progress towards providing hygiene services, including menstrual hygiene supplies, and appropriate messaging.

Coordination with local and national authorities to ensure public and private contributions to WASH services has also been a priority of RMRP partners. It is expected that, as an indirect consequence of initiatives to promote the regularization of Venezuelans in several countries of the region, the refugee and migrant population will have increased access to WASH services.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

WASH activities reached the lowest numbers of people in need in Chile (just 5.7% of the target population) and the Caribbean (5.8%) due to lack of funds, with R4V actors in both Platforms reporting 0.0% funding of their WASH sectors by the end of June.

Limited funds for WASH are reflected in gaps in the provision of quality drinking water, sanitation and hygiene services for refugees and migrants, especially those that take into account gender- and age-related needs, as well as the inclusion of people with disabilities, found mostly in peri-urban areas, informal human settlements, and rural and indigenous communities. In other instances, WASH partners were unable to provide sector-specific CVA for the purchase of hygiene items, which are particularly necessary for unemployed, low-income families, single mothers, and people with disabilities. In addition, there was reduced capacity to strengthen environmental and public health measures to reduce the transmission of COVID-19, and a reduced capacity to incorporate the needs of refugees, migrants and affected host communities into local government policies, plans and budgets for WASH at the national and local levels.

Also notable was the lack of support for funding the operation and maintenance of existing WASH infrastructure, to promote its sustainability, rather than inaugurating new infrastructure.



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# NATIONAL AND SUB-REGIONAL PLATFORMS

# BRASIL

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
379.2 K

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
184.1 K

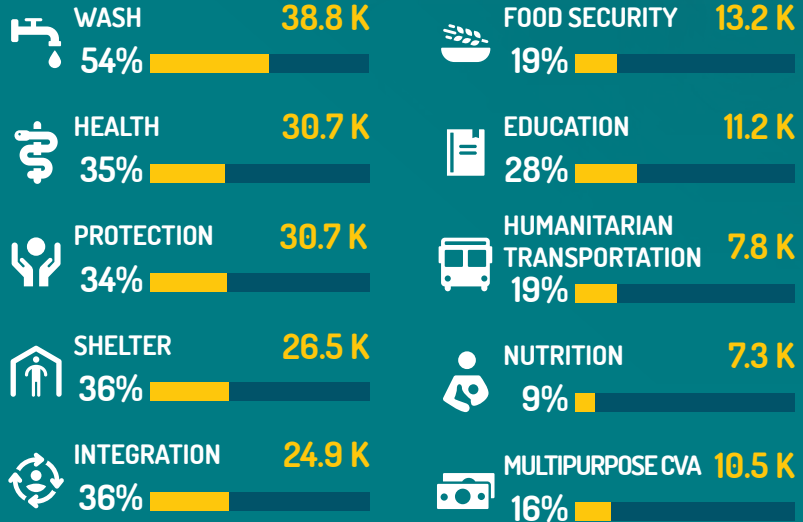


**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$98.1 M

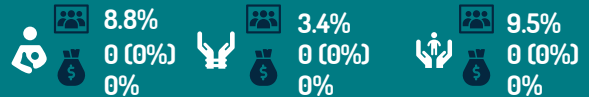


**PEOPLE REACHED**  
79.1 K (43%)

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:**



By end-June, RMRP partners in Brazil had assisted a total of 79.1K refugees and migrants from Venezuela and affected host community members, or 43% of the target of 184.1K people.

Key achievements of the first half of 2021 include: 1) incorporating refugees and migrants in national COVID-19 immunization programmes (prioritizing the elderly and indigenous peoples); 2) providing documentation to 1,182 refugees and migrants after a Federal Court of Roraima decision in favour of regularization (effective from 21 to 30 March); 3) opening three new shelters in Roraima with a capacity to house 1,611 people to support Operation Welcome reception efforts; 4) supporting the internal relocation strategy (interiorização) to voluntarily relocate 7,841 Venezuelans within Brazil; and 5) facilitating the economic inclusion of refugees and migrants by strengthening partnerships with the private sector and local authorities.

Since March 2020, Brazil had imposed entry restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, which effectively impeded the entry of Venezuelan refugees and migrants, without exceptions for family reunification or based on humanitarian or protection needs. On 23 June 2021, however, the Federal Government approved Ordinance 655, which eased entry restrictions for vulnerable Venezuelans and allowed for their subsequent

regularization in Brazil, including all Venezuelans who previously entered Brazil irregularly during the period of border closures.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Underfunding affected all R4V sectors in Brazil, but the consequences were particularly acute in the areas of GBV, Integration and WASH.

Due to a lack of funding, one GBV partner was required to give up its role as co-lead of the sub-sector, suspending inter-agency initiatives aimed at strengthening the GBV response. In addition, underfunding hampered efforts to strengthen the capacity of municipalities receiving internally relocated refugees and migrants to prevent and respond to GBV.

The lack of funding reduced the Integration Sector's capacity to support entrepreneurs and organise vocational trainings. Start-ups fail to grow, fewer refugees and migrants find formal employment, and average income remains low as a result.

An assessment conducted by the national WASH Sector in March showed an urgent need to improve WASH services and facilities in shelters. However, the current level of funding has not allowed partners to make the necessary improvements, putting refugees' and migrants' health at risk.

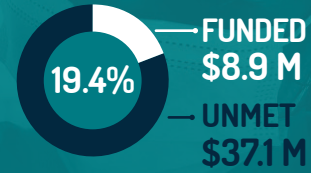
# CHILE

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
370.3

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
136.9



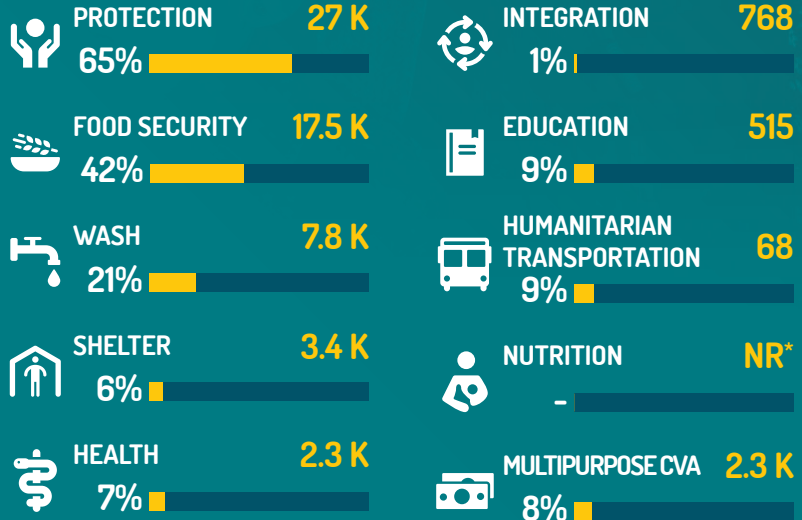
**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$46 M



## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**PEOPLE REACHED**  
60.4 K (44%)



\* NO REQUEST

**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:**



R4V partners had reached 60.4K refugees and migrants in Chile with some form of assistance by end-June. Protection, Food Security and WASH were the areas in which support was most frequently provided, with those sectors assisting 64.8%, 42.5% and 21.5% of their respective target populations. However, many refugees and migrants remained with unmet needs in other sectors, with integration reaching only 0.8% of its target population, shelter just 5.7% and health just 7.0%, due to the lack of funding. Chile 21% of Venezuelans assisted by R4V partners were in the central region of Chile, while 19.4% were in the north, along the borders with Peru and Bolivia, in areas where fragile reception conditions, combined with a harsh landscape and limited local capacity to absorb new arrivals contributed to xenophobic sentiments and the need for a larger R4V presence to respond effectively and enhance social cohesion.

Highlights of the R4V response in Chile included: trainings on the rights of refugees and migrants provided to 300 members of law enforcement; the distribution of 700 tablets to refugee and migrant students to facilitate remote learning; the facilitation of an entrepreneurship course for 20 Venezuelan women; and the launch of an anti-xenophobia social media campaign.

The country also witnessed important changes to policies for refugees and migrants: the Migration Law adopted in April updated the institutional framework governing the reception of foreigners, including asylum and regularization procedures, as well as

deportations. Meanwhile, public institutions signed agreements to protect children who entered the country irregularly.

Against this background, the number of daily new COVID-19 cases fluctuated from 7,000 in April to 2,100 in June, with two complete lockdowns impeding R4V activities. Compounded by the austere reception environment, COVID-19 entry restrictions led to some 4,200 new arrivals using dangerous irregular routes to enter the country, with 11 Venezuelans losing their lives while entering Chile in the first half of this year. The inhospitable context discouraged many Venezuelans in irregular situations from approaching COVID-19 vaccination facilities, out of fear of deportation, although COVID-19 vaccines were made available to refugees and migrants.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Given the inflation of prices of transport, rent, and basic services in Chile, without adequate funding R4V partners will not be able to assist the originally identified 136.9K individuals in-need, and will have to cease support to some of those already assisted. A shortage of integration funds will disable vocational and business trainings, as well as credential validation efforts, which are the most effective routes to self-reliance. If underfunded, the consequences are increased dependence on aid and public services – including for housing and medical care – in an already fragile and polarized context.

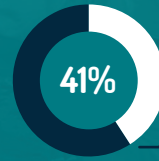
# COLOMBIA

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
4.1 M

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
1.8 M



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$641 M



## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**PEOPLE REACHED**  
1.2 M (68%)

**HEALTH** 815 K  
72%

**FOOD SECURITY** 669 K  
59%

**WASH** 236 K  
38%

**PROTECTION** 128 K  
28%

**EDUCATION** 95.7 K  
25%

**SHELTER** 76 K  
34%

**INTEGRATION** 42.7 K  
28%

**HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION** 22.1 K  
87%

**NUTRITION** 16.2 K  
10%

**MULTIPURPOSE CVA** 195 K  
48%



The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:

25%  
\$3.7 M (8.2%)

9.5%  
\$881 K (11.1%)

13%  
\$1.7 K (7.6%)

According to the Government of Colombia, more than 1.7 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela were residing in the country by mid-2021.

The creation of the Temporary Protection Statute (TPS) for Venezuelans; opening of the country's border with Venezuela; advances in the COVID-19 vaccination plan incorporating refugees and migrants (including as the result of advocacy and support by R4V partners); and easing of COVID-19 lockdown measures were key developments during the reporting period.

Over 1.2 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela and vulnerable members of affected host communities in Colombia received some form of assistance from R4V partners as part of the RMRP 2021, reaching 67.6% of the target population. Of this total, 315,531 people were assisted through COVID-19 response activities of the RMRP, and more than 12,700 people were assisted as part of the R4V National Coordination Platform in Colombia (GIFMM)'s Support Plan for the implementation of TPS.

The GIFMM continued to play an important role coordinating the response of 246 organizations (including 67 appealing organizations and 179 of their implementing partners) reporting activities in the framework of the RMRP 2021. In the first half of the year, the GIFMM conducted more than 2,100 surveys as part of joint needs assessments; and carried out a rapid needs

assessment with local partners and authorities in the context of the sudden arrival of some 5,000 Venezuelans in Arauca, fleeing from hostilities in Apure state in Venezuela.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

R4V actors in Colombia reported receiving USD 59.8 M by end-June for RMRP activities, or 9.3% of the requirements.<sup>6</sup> Yet there are stark differences in funding across sectors: Food Security had received 21.1% of its required funds (a total of USD 23.4 M) while Health had just 1.2%, WASH 1.9%, Integration 3.4%, Protection 4.7%, and Humanitarian Transportation 6.9% of required funds in Colombia. Limited support for health will result in reduced access to primary care and insufficient support to institutions responding to the COVID-19 emergency to vaccinate refugees and migrants; limited WASH support will mean reduced distributions of hygiene items, including menstrual hygiene items for women and girls; limited integration funds will mean reduced support for employment, entrepreneurship, and financial inclusion initiatives; limited support for humanitarian transportation will leave more refugees and migrants to travel on foot in harsh conditions and more exposed to protection risks; while limited support for protection will undermine support for the regularization and integration of refugees and migrants under TPS.

[6] According to FTS as of 30 June 2021, information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>. However, by end-September, FTS reflected that Colombia had received 37.6% of required funds under the RMRP 2021.



# ECUADOR

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
682.1 K

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
362.4 K



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$234.2 M



**PEOPLE REACHED**

206.4 K (57%)

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**PROTECTION** 134 K  
50%



**FOOD SECURITY** 101 K  
40%



**HEALTH** 76 K  
56%



**SHELTER** 67.3 K  
89%



**WASH** 47.4 K  
19%



**INTEGRATION** 26.3 K  
30%



**EDUCATION** 20.5 K  
30%



**HUMANITARIAN TRANSPORTATION** 2.6 K  
50%



**NUTRITION** 20  
0%



**MULTIPURPOSE CVA** 10.5 K  
30%



The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:



0.2%  
0 (0%)  
0%



2%  
0 (0%)  
0%



18.6%  
\$145 M  
(3.2%)

By end-June, some 176,635 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and 27,209 members of affected host communities had received some form of assistance from one or more of 77 R4V partners (40 appealing organizations and 37 of their implementing partners) across 18 provinces of Ecuador. The Protection, Food Security, Health, Shelter Sectors, and the Multipurpose CVA working group accounted for the greatest numbers of people reached. Meanwhile, priority needs identified through the R4V National Platform in Ecuador (GTRM) joint needs assessment (JNA) conducted in May 2021 were food (87%), access to income opportunities (65%), shelter (53%), health services (25%), and documentation (17%).

In terms of key developments, visa requirements and the closure of borders due to the pandemic led to significant numbers of Venezuelans in Ecuador in irregular situations, while the number of pending asylum claims from Venezuelans reached 16,187 by June 2021. The R4V response – including to protection risks identified – was informed by data collected through the GTRM Border Monitoring and Population Profiling System. Meanwhile, the newly elected government, under President Guillermo Lasso, announced a new regularization exercise to be implemented in the second half of the year, as well as the inclusion of refugees and migrants in the COVID-19 vaccination plan.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

R4V partners in Ecuador reported having received only 3.1% of required funding by end-June.<sup>7</sup> As a direct consequence of mid-year underfunding, worrying gaps in multipurpose Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) translated into a decrease in the number of people assisted from the month of June to July, negatively impacting Venezuelans' ability to meet their basic needs and increasing reliance on negative coping mechanisms.

Additional funding is required for the Integration Sector to support access to livelihoods, foster self-reliance and discontinue dependency on humanitarian aid. With regards to limited funding for the Education Sector, over 20% of families interviewed in the May JNA reported that their children were not attending school due to the lack of electronic devices for remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic, which R4V partners have sought funds to provide. Further resources are also urgently needed in order to scale up the Shelter Sector response, particularly in border areas, as insufficient temporary shelter options lead to an increased number of homeless Venezuelans, and expose particularly women and children to protection risks. Linked to this, additional resources are required to scale up the Protection Sector response, including for immediate services and assistance to refugees and migrants, as well as national systems strengthening.

[7] By end-September, 14.1% of the RMRP 2021 in Ecuador was funded, according to FTS. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>



# PERU

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
1.3 M

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
679.9 K



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$274.7 M

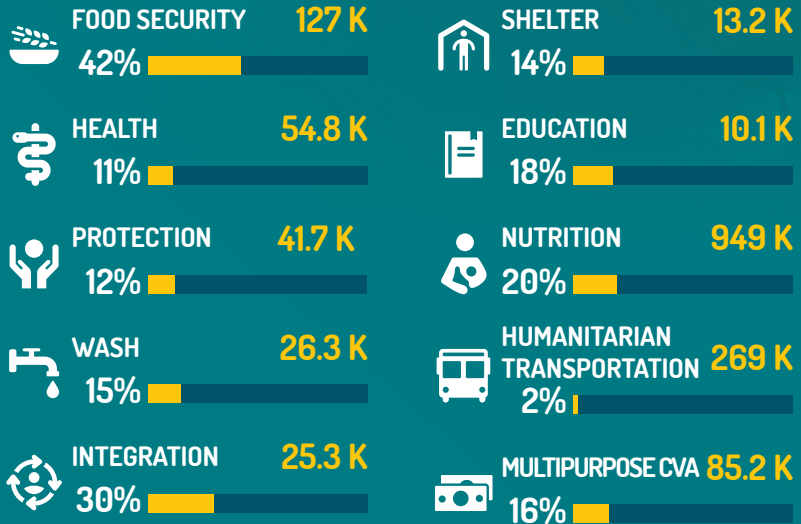


**FUNDED**  
\$54.3 M  
**UNMET**  
\$220.4 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**PEOPLE REACHED**  
149 K (21%)



The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:



R4V partners in Peru assisted 149,018 highly vulnerable individuals between January and June 2021, or 21.9% of the target population, including 106,126 refugees and migrants from Venezuela living in the country, 11,462 in transit and 31,430 members of the affected host community.

A main achievement in the first half of 2021 was overcoming the significant challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic to reach and assist highly vulnerable persons through the use of Cash-and-Voucher Assistance (CVA). In the first half of 2020, which included a lockdown for more than 100 days, R4V partners reached some 93,000 highly vulnerable persons with USD 2.2 million to cover basic needs, but the situation quickly deteriorated as the pandemic prolonged. In comparison, during the same period in 2021, some 203,000 persons received USD 14.3 million from R4V partners to limit food insecurity and reduce the risk of evictions caused by the economic contraction and resulting unemployment. CVA has also been an important component of the Health Sector response throughout 2021, to enable vulnerable refugees and migrants to access health services and treatment.

There were also several important developments in the national context: On 8 January, the Superintendence of Migration (SNM) published Resolution 009-2021 approving special, exceptional and temporary measures to regularize foreigners whose stay permits expired or who entered the country irregularly. The pre-

registration period that followed and that closed on 7 April allowed 360,000 persons, mostly refugees and migrants from Venezuela (including 130,000 asylum-seekers) to begin the process to obtain the new temporal stay permit (CTP). R4V partners also supported efforts to provide asylum-seekers with humanitarian residency permits, which allow them to access the national health insurance system and other social protection schemes.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

R4V partners in Peru reported having received only 2.2% of needed funding by end-June.<sup>8</sup> Due to insufficient funds for the Health Sector in particular, which was only 0.8% funded despite the COVID-19 context, only 11.2% of intended beneficiaries received health support in Peru, while the RMRP strategies aimed at supporting healthcare centres with medical supplies, personal protection equipment (PPE), sexual and reproductive health kits, as well as technical support were also seriously limited.

Likewise, while assistance for self-employment and entrepreneurship initiatives (including the provision of seed capital) are essential in order to boost refugees' and migrants' self-reliance, access to financial capital and independence, the Integration Sector response was only 2.9% funded. As a result, refugees and migrants face increased challenges to overcome poverty traps and cover their basic needs in Peru.

[8] By end-September, FTS reported 19.8% of the RMRP 2021 funded in Peru. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>

# CARIBBEAN

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
184.8 K

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
110.3 K



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$40.7 M

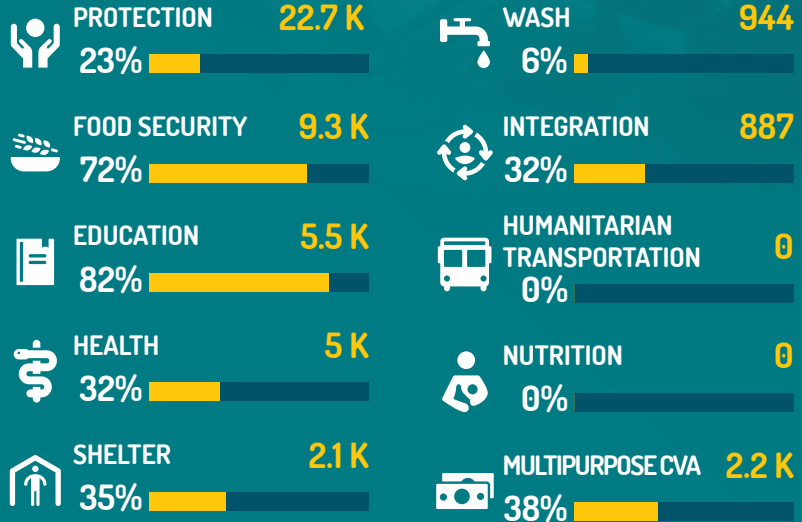


**FUNDED \$8.4 M**  
**UNMET \$32.3 M**

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



**PEOPLE REACHED**  
48.5 K (40%)



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**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:**



By end-June, R4V partners had assisted 48,469 individuals in Aruba, Curacao, the Dominican Republic, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago: 96% Venezuelan refugees and migrants and 4% host community members. Priority response areas included emergency shelter, food assistance, health, education, and CVA.

R4V partners improved health services for 4,967 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of host communities – including survivors of GBV, victims of human trafficking, and other vulnerable groups – by providing remote healthcare, mental health and psychosocial support, as well as through CVA to cover medical expenses not covered by local health systems.

R4V partners provided protection assistance to 22,681 individuals through legal counselling, case management, advocacy, and remote capacity development, as well as through information, prevention, and response services for incidents of GBV. Refugee status determination and resettlement took place in and from Trinidad and Tobago and the Dominican Republic. In the Dominican Republic, R4V partners supported an ongoing government-led regularization campaign by opening and operating seven immigration information centres, which helped over 43,000 Venezuelans apply for stay permits. In Trinidad and Tobago, the government completed a re-registration exercise for Venezuelans, granting six-month extensions of stay permits.

In an important change in the operational context due to COVID-19,

countries redesigned school programmes, moving mainly to virtual modalities, with R4V partners supporting 5,455 refugees and migrants to access education. R4V education activities included the donation of tablets in Aruba and Curacao, after-school programmes and second language classes in Guyana, and the Equal Place school initiative in Trinidad and Tobago. Integration activities included the promotion of livelihoods, access to employment, diploma recognition, scholarship opportunities, vocational training, and activities to reduce xenophobia.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Caribbean R4V actors had received only 6.6% of their funding requirements by June 2021.<sup>9</sup> Limited funding prevented partners from responding to immediate needs, forced the prioritization of assistance (leaving many vulnerable refugees and migrants without support), halted staff recruitment and limited cash for emergency interventions. It also prevented the establishment of Support Spaces meant to provide multi-sectoral assistance, and constrained GBV and Child Protection services. The high costs of infrastructure required to access remote areas, including in Guyana along the border with Venezuela, prevented R4V partners from providing safe and dignified shelter in all reception locations, which caused refugees and migrants to live in conditions that lacked basic WASH facilities. Funds to support Venezuelans with local integration were also severely limited, especially in the Dominican Republic.

[9] By end-September, FTS reflected the Caribbean RMRP as 20.7% funded. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>

# CENTRAL AMERICA & MEXICO

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
127.6 K

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
44 K



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$24.1 M



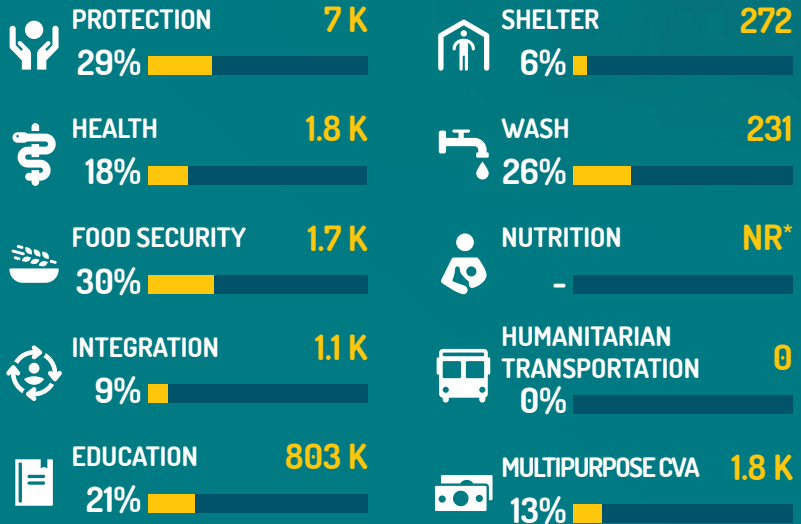
**FUNDED**  
\$2.1 M

**UNMET**  
\$22.1 M

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



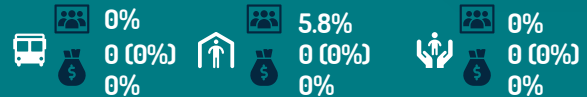
**PEOPLE REACHED**  
11.7 K (28%)



\* NO REQUEST



The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:



By 30 June 2021, a total of 11,667 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and members of affected host communities had received some form of assistance from R4V partners (5,088 in Mexico; 3,764 in Panama; and 2,850 in Costa Rica). This represented 26.6% of the target population in the sub-region. Key areas of support included education, food security, health, integration, protection (including GBV), shelter, and CVA.

Highlights of the R4V response in Costa Rica included an agreement negotiated with Costa Rican Social Security to grant medical insurance to up to 10,000 asylum-seekers and refugees, which had benefited 1,013 Venezuelans. In Mexico, R4V partners focused on providing refugees and migrants from Venezuela with CVA and support for medical care. In Panama, R4V partners provided technical assistance to the Ombudsman's Office to strengthen attention to refugees and migrants, and trained officials from the Commission for Human Trafficking and Smuggling. Social media campaigns such as Somos Lo Mismo helped to combat xenophobia. R4V partners in all three countries successfully advocated for the inclusion of refugees and migrants in national COVID-19 vaccination campaigns, including Venezuelans in irregular situations.

Key contextual developments included, among others, in Costa Rica the introduction in February 2021 of the Complementary Protection Category for Venezuelans with denied asylum claims, through which 418 Venezuelans received two-year residency

permits and work authorization. In Mexico, R4V partners noted an increase in Venezuelans who apply for asylum (3,510 by mid-2021, more than in all of 2020) and an increase in Venezuelans who arrive by land through the southern border with Guatemala. In Panama, the Ministry of Government (ONPAR) ended its expired documents grace period, which resulted in more refugees and migrants with inadequate documentation and limited their access to formal livelihoods opportunities.

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

Due largely to a lack of funds, the sectors that made the least progress in terms of people reached included shelter (reaching 5.8% of its target population), integration (9.1%) and CVA (13.1%). Due to lack of funds, in Costa Rica there was reduced ability to provide food assistance, hygiene kits, and diapers for children, and temporary emergency shelter was greatly limited. In Mexico, decreased funding meant R4V partners prioritized among the target population and reduced household CVA; were at times unable to provide PPE, health, and hygiene products; and were unable to provide start-up funding for entrepreneurship initiatives. In Panama, under-funding meant that R4V partners could only support some Venezuelans with document renewal, while the lack of documentation continued to limit livelihoods and self-reliance, increasing debt accumulation and vulnerability, with protection and integration support also limited.



# SOUTHERN CONE

**PEOPLE IN NEED**  
276.8 K

**PEOPLE TARGETED**  
163.5 K



**FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS**  
\$41.7 M

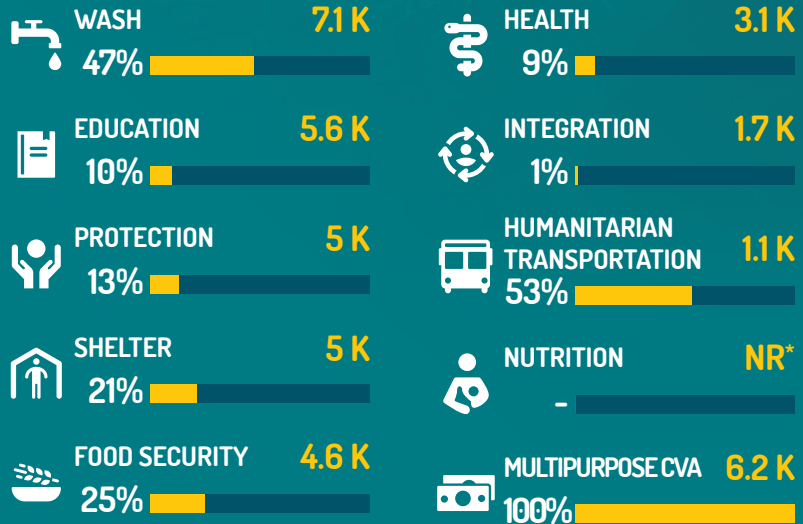


**FUNDED \$6.8 M**  
**UNMET \$34.9 M**

## PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR

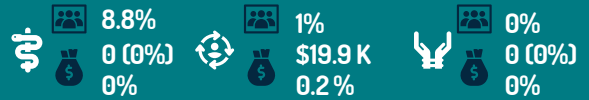


**PEOPLE REACHED**  
27.2 K (17%)



\* NO REQUEST

**The situation of underfunding affected particularly the provision of assistance in the following Sectors:**



As of June 2021, R4V partners reached 27,179 refugees and migrants from Venezuela and affected host communities in Argentina, Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay, mostly with multipurpose CVA, shelter, WASH, protection and food security assistance. This represented just 16.6% of the target population receiving R4V assistance in the Southern Cone.

Population movements across the sub-region continued throughout the first half of the year in spite of ongoing border closures, with flows across Argentina’s northwest border with Bolivia (La Quiaca) and the border with Brazil and Paraguay (Puerto Iguazu); Bolivia’s border with Peru (Desaguadero) and Chile (Pisiga); Uruguay’s border with Brazil (Rivera); and the “dry border” between Argentina and Uruguay. Uruguay was the only country in the sub-region to allow the legal entry of people with manifest international protection needs.

In this context of significant irregular cross-border movements, often in remote high-altitude areas with extremely inhospitable geography and weather – especially during the dangerously cold winter months – R4V partners in border areas provided shelter, food, NFIs (including warm clothes and blankets) and CVA to the most vulnerable Venezuelans. Humanitarian transportation was provided to 1,052 vulnerable individuals, particularly from border areas to urban centres. In urban areas, R4V partners provided CVA,

as well as capacity-building to improve employment prospects, and seed capital for microenterprises.

R4V partners’ advocacy and support were essential to securing several government commitments to protect Venezuelans, including the incorporation of refugees and migrants in national COVID-19 vaccination campaigns; successful family reunifications in Argentina, Uruguay and Paraguay; the recognition of Venezuelan refugees in Paraguay (1,207) and Uruguay (80); and in Argentina, after advocacy by R4V partners, the government was in the process of facilitating the regularization of some 6,000 Venezuelan children without proof of identity (birth certificates).

## IMPACT OF UNDERFUNDING

At the end of June, the RMRP was only 4% funded in the Southern Cone.<sup>10</sup> The Integration Sector was particularly underfunded, with the consequence that just 1.1% of the national Sector’s target population could be provided with socio-economic integration support. With limited funds, R4V partners were struggling to provide emergency shelter, food and NFIs to newly arrived refugees and migrants, in contexts where they need to comply with 14-day mandatory quarantines. Many Venezuelans without support were homeless and unable to protect themselves against COVID-19.

[10] By end-September, this increased to 16.3% funding of the Southern Cone RMRP. Information available at <https://fts.unocha.org/appeals/1021/summary> and on <https://www.r4v.info/en/funding>



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RESPONSEFORVENEZUELANAS



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Inter-Agency Coordination  
Platform for Refugees and  
Migrants from Venezuela