



UNHCR

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

Country Operations Plan 2008-2009

**Venezuela,
Peru, Guyana, Suriname, Aruba
and the Netherlands Antilles**

2008-2009 COUNTRY OPERATIONS PLAN FOR VENEZUELA, PERU, GUYANA, SURINAME, ARUBA AND THE NETHERLANDS ANTILLES

Part One: Context and Strategy

Operational Context

- **Country/Sub-Regional Situation as it relates to the work of UNHCR including as appropriate for your operation:**
 - **Political, Social, Economic, Security, Human Rights and Asylum issues**

2006 was an election year in Venezuela and Peru, which brought uncertainty and change in many national government agencies and their priorities/activities, as there were wholesale changes in leadership and personnel. For example, major changes occurred in Venezuela before and after the election (entire Ministry of Foreign Relations and other ½ of the rest of the Ministries changed). In Peru, personnel changes reached down to the level of the national refugee eligibility commission.

In Venezuela, the turn-out during the presidential election was one of the largest in Venezuelan history. According to the electoral commission 11 million Venezuelan citizens turned out to vote, out of 16 million possible voters. Abstention was only 25%, the lowest since 1993.

In 2006 in Venezuela, continued high revenues from the sale of petroleum products contributed to a very high GDP growth (more than 10%) for a third consecutive year, which allowed the government to continue its support of social programs in health and education. According to the National Institute of Statistics (INE for the Spanish *Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas*), the unemployment rate fell in 2006 to 10,5%, inflation reached 17% (almost 4 points higher than the 2005 13,50% rate), and poverty fell under 33,1% (5 points lower than in 2005 - 38,5%), whilst extreme poverty reached 10,5%, slightly higher than the previous year.

In Peru, the presidential election of 2006 saw the return of Alan García who, after a difficult presidential term from 1985 to 1990, returned to the presidency with promises of improving social conditions, austere fiscal policies, as well macroeconomic and political stability. The presidential and legislative elections on April 9 took place in a context of widespread disaffection with democratic institutions. Garcia won over Humala, a former military officer accused of human rights violations in the 1980s, who benefited by the unpopularity of the political class, campaigning on an 'anti-system' ticket, taking the Peruvian 'traditional' position of the outsider. The elections of 25 regional presidents, as well as mayors and council members on the level of provinces and districts, were held on November 19. The elections confirmed the predicted results in favour of the many regional and local movements that participated in the elections at the expense of the national political parties. This reveals a new political map in Peru, characterized by fragmentation and in urgent need of consensus between the Government and the many actors that govern the regions and municipalities in the country.

In 2006, Peru showed a 7,8% GDP growth, according to National Institute of Statistics and Computing (INEI for the Spanish *Instituto Nacional de Estadística e Informática*), the cumulative inflation was 1,14% and the poverty rate reached 51,6%, whilst extreme poverty ranked at 19,2%.

- **Populations of concern/ themes to be addressed in UNHCR programmes**

As of 1 January 2007, the current caseload of recognized refugees in Venezuela is 719. Additionally, the number of asylum seekers is 7,754. The number of registered asylum seekers in 2006 was the largest ever in Venezuela, showing an increase of 37% from 2005. This increase is directly related from the intensifying conflict and internal displacement on the Colombian side of the border, which has now become more complex as armed actors (such as the ELN and FARC) are increasingly clashing over strategic zones and territorial disputes. It is likely that this situation will continue to deteriorate in the next two years, predictably causing further displacement into Venezuela in 2008 and 2009.

This number registered refugees and asylum seekers are but the tip of the iceberg. Studies done in 2003, added to other estimates since then, have led the office and government to conclude that there are approximately 200,000 persons of concern to UNHCR, mainly Colombians, who have entered Venezuela due to the Colombian conflict, who are in need of international protection, and who are mainly concentrated in border areas. For various reasons, including fear and distrust of local authorities, they have not opted to formally request refugee status. ROVEN will carry out a profiling survey of these populations and communities in 2007, through a joint programme with UNFPA and a cooperative agreement with six (6) major Universities in the border states. This profiling survey will provide a more accurate estimate of the magnitude of this population, as well as a better understanding of the communities where they live and the reasons for staying in anonymity, thus enabling a further refinement of the protection strategy in Venezuela.

In addition, Venezuela continued to receive refugee status applications from non-Colombians. By the end of 2006, there were some 61 applicants for refugee status of non-Colombian origin.

In Peru, the refugee population in 2006 was 911. During recent years, there has been an increase in the number of Cubans requesting asylum and of new arrivals from Colombia to border areas and in the number of refugee status applications from that same nationality. In 2006, 297 persons in need of international protection formally applied for asylum in Peru.

There are no refugee camps or formal settlements in Venezuela. Rather, refugees, asylum seekers and other persons in need of international protection are scattered through out the border area with the highest concentration in host Venezuelan rural communities located in three Border States: Apure, Táchira and Zulia, and a smaller number in the State of Amazonas. There are also significant numbers of Colombians living in shanty towns know as “barrios” in Caracas and other major urban centres, such as Maracaibo, Valencia and Barquisimeto. The Venezuela operation could be best described as rural communities/settlements with and additional urban caseload.

- **Summary Results of Assessments including Participatory Assessment with populations of concern, Annual Protection Report, Standards and Indicators, and other assessments undertaken by UNHCR and partners, per programme as defined by population of concern or theme.**

Participatory assessments were carried in all UNHCR offices in Venezuela through focus group discussions where protection risks, problems and capacities within the community were identified by the refugee population itself. The following summarizes the issues put forward in the various separate meetings with children, women and men in each location. The important mobilization and participation of refugee populations in these meetings has systematically been effective and pro-active, and sometimes beyond expectations of staff, implementing partners and government interlocutors, as expressed in numbers of persons participation and the quality of their interaction and dynamism.

1. The main concern of female, male and children asylum seekers in Venezuela is the inefficiency of the documentation regime, be it as a result of the serious lack of official documentation in isolated communities (Apure) and/or the slowness of the National Refugee Commission (CNR for the Spanish *Comisión Nacional para los Refugiados*) to deliver provisional documents and to make decisions (border areas, Caracas). This situation puts them at high risk of arbitrary detention, extortion and harassment by security forces. In addition, a major concern is the format and low quality of the document itself (a fragile paper, not easily recognized by police and security authorities). These concerns are exacerbated due to the security problems that they have to face, especially in Apure and Zulia, and the limited operational capacity of the Regional Technical Secretariat's (STRs for the Spanish *Secretarías Técnicas para los Refugiados*) which only cover urban areas and not the rural communities where many asylum seekers live. This general insecurity undermines asylum seekers' efforts towards legal integration in the country.

2. All participants expressed serious concerns about the almost systematic and constant extortions, bribe-taking and abuses suffered during the ‘refugee cycle’, at checkpoints at the border, further inland along the highways and in towns, from corrupt officials, mostly from the National Guard, but also regional or national police forces and migration agents. For the first time in these participatory

assessments, some women dared to mention gender based harassment inflicted on them and indirectly on their children by National Guard and other officers at some border checkpoints. The participation of the national authorities in the Caracas meeting provided for a better understanding of this issue. As a result, a process of confidential reporting and formal complaints to the National Refugee Commission on these type of incidents is being put in place by the relevant government authorities.

3. Women and men are equally affected and exposed to labour exploitation; both expressed their concern on the precarious living and housing conditions (insecurity, abusive prices, and extremely modest conditions), low incomes, lack of access to national law courts and requested training/orientation on their rights and legal procedures in Venezuela.

4. The lack of stable and sustainable psycho-social services tailored to the needs of refugees and asylum seekers was raised consistently in every meeting. Refugee survivors who were traumatized by their experiences in their country of origin are at risk of “re-traumatization” in the violent context of the shanty towns where they live, especially in Caracas, Maracaibo and Guasdalito. In addition, women both in border areas and in Caracas expressed their interest in receiving vocational skills training. Despite being discriminated against, this group is highly motivated to participate in these activities. For women in Táchira training on reproductive health and gender issues, including participation by men, was also identified as a priority.

5. Children confirmed these concerns regarding the lack of culturally appropriate psycho social services: they suffer from discrimination at school and have difficulties in knowing how to integrate in a community with high levels of violence/insecurity. In Caracas, children particularly requested these cultural and psycho-social services and activities to be done jointly with their parents and other children.

6. The issue of land acquisition and ownership through legal means was raised in all meetings in the border states, where refugees and asylum seekers often are farmers and ranchers by profession. Many participants also raised the possibility for recognized refugees to form *cooperativas* (collective small productive businesses that receive government support in Venezuela). National legislation does not allow foreigners to own properties next to the border due to national security concerns; however it enables the creation of *cooperativas*.

UNHCR has duly taken these concerns into account in its planning and implementation of activities, as proven in some concrete projects in 2006, following the previous exercises.

UNHCR Strategy

- **Achievements to date per programme as defined by population of concern or theme**

Persons of UNHCR concern have access to effective protection and assistance, particularly in border areas, through the promotion of *Borders and Cities of Solidarity*. Achievement to date in this objective include: (a) design and implementation of local integration projects (known as *proyectos de Protección, Asistencia Comunitaria e Integración – PACI – or Protection, Community Support and Integration projects*) in host communities along the Venezuelan border; (b) monitoring of those communities with international protection staff presence through these projects and other activities; and, (c) micro credit schemes to increase the self-sufficiency of refugees and asylum seekers, which in 2006 was expanded in Venezuela to cover urban areas in Maracaibo and Caracas. Through intensive monitoring and joint visits with IP’s and other operational partners, PACI projects have been revisited though the year aiming at enhancing their impact on host communities and persons of concern and fostering community participation through communal councils. Both in Peru’s and Venezuela’s border areas, human rights and conflict prevention projects with UK funds have been implemented in Apure, Táchira and Zulia in Venezuela (starting in 2005), and in Tumbes and Iquitos in Peru (starting in 2006). In 2007, this initiative in Venezuela will target Puerto Ayacucho in Amazonas through a joint programme with UNICEF, and in the area known as Sur del Lago¹, Zulia

¹ An area in the south of Zulia State, composed by the municipalities Colon, Francisco Javier Pulgar and Sucre. In the border with Tachira and Merida State and close to La Vigia and La Fria, Tachira State where UNHCR’s persons of concern reside.

directly by FOI San Cristóbal. It is expected that this contribution by the UK government will be extended throughout 2008-2009. A “City of Solidarity” Memorandum of Agreement was signed with the Mayor of Maracaibo, to have the city increase its collaboration with UNHCR and make city services much more accessible to refugees and asylum seekers. This initiative is expected to be emulated in San Cristobal, the state government of Táchira and with the city of Guasdalito, Apure in 2007.

Networks and alliances are strengthened to increase political support and operational capacity. Conflict prevention activities, on both the Venezuelan and Peruvian borders with Colombia, have contributed to fostering networks with civilians, military authorities, schools, universities and journalists. Strategic alliances have been built through the UNCT Border Thematic Group led by UNHCR, where joint programmes in the border areas have been identified, planned and implemented. Furthermore, of utmost importance have been the strategic alliances with the universities of ULA, UNET, UCAT (Tachira), LUZ (Zulia) and UNELLEZ (Apure) with which cooperation agreements will be signed so as to promote the participation of advance university students of various specialities in support of activities that benefit UNHCR’s persons of concern, as well as ensure their participation in the planned profiling survey of border communities in 2007.

Legal and institutional frameworks respond to protection needs of persons of UNHCR’s concern. Achievement to date in this objective include: UNHCR assistance in strengthening the capacity of its IPs along the border and in urban areas, in addition to fostering alliances with key non-governmental and governmental institutions, the Church and other United Nations agencies. Also, UNHCR provided support, intensive training and capacity building to the STRs, other state institutions and to local authorities in Venezuela and Peru. In addition, UNHCR coordinated the streamlining of RSD procedures between UNHCR, its implementing partners and other agencies working in the field of legal protection for refugees. In the case of Peru, the protection activities included the follow-up of the RSD procedures by the Special Refugee Commission, and assistance to relevant authorities in the formulation and implementation of public policies in all areas related to refugee issues.

- **Protection and Solutions Strategy for 2008-2009 per programme as defined by population of concern or theme**
 - **Overall Objectives and their Links to GSOs/ RSOs**

In view of the prevailing and deteriorating humanitarian situation in Colombia in areas bordering Venezuela, the number of asylum seekers entering is expected to increase given the exacerbation of the conflict, particularly in the Colombian border Departments of Arauca, Norte de Santander and Cesar. Thus the primary protection role of UNHCR in border monitoring, supporting responsible state institutions and assisting and advising asylum seekers, will continue has a high priority in 2008-2009. It is also expected that the number of asylum seekers, refugees and persons of concern will continue to increase in other areas of the country, such as Puerto Ayacucho, Amazonas State and Sur del Lago, Zulia State. However, the institutional response to the increased arrival of new asylum seekers in the above named areas is expected to be weak or non existent. Furthermore, there are no concrete policies or plans from national authorities to address this developing situation.

It is expected that this increasingly precarious security situation will continue directly affecting the safety of refugees and humanitarian workers and the ability of the Government and UNHCR to deliver effective protection to asylum seekers, refugees and persons of concern. The response of the Venezuelan authorities on the issue of national security is still facing many challenges despite the recent launching of a so called border security plan (led by the Ministry of Interior and Justice) and presumably, the reinforcement of the military presence in such areas.

The institutional response of the Venezuelan authorities concerning the implementation of a more effective protection system is slowly improving. According to the CNR and the STRs the staff involved in receiving and processing refugee status applications is likely to increase from two to three staff members in each STR. However, it is not envisaged that the CNR will either be able to cope with the demands of providing effective protection in the near future or that it will establish a presence in new areas such as Amazonas State and Sur del Lago, Zulia State, where it is reported that the number

of Colombian asylum seekers and refugees is increasing. It has also been reported that the CNR intends to hold RSD meetings twice a week from two sessions per month in order to speed up decisions. Despite this very welcome development, it is not envisaged that the CNR will be in a position to clear the backlog of pending cases for RSD decisions and address critical issues related to effective refugee protection such as reception, registration and documentation of asylum seekers and refugees.

Within the framework of the UNHCR Global and Regional Strategic Objectives and the Mexico Plan of Action, UNHCR's protection strategy has been developed as follows:

Goal No. 1: Enhance the protection of refugees, asylum seekers and persons of concern, thus improving the ability of Venezuela to provide more effective protection to these categories, mainstreaming age and gender in all activities²

UNHCR will continue promoting the adoption of proper refugee reception mechanisms for asylum seekers in accordance with Article 14 of the Venezuelan refugee law and articles 5, 7 and 13 of the Peruvian Refugee Law in coordination with the corresponding institutions in charge of refugee protection.

Regularly monitor entry points of persons of interest, including visits to the military and civil authorities using results of survey (border monitoring 2007) to examine refugee population influxes in a more systematic manner and also focus on areas where UNHCR or Implementing Partners or the CNR are not present. The information gathered through the 2007 profiling survey mentioned previously will also assist in formulating protection mechanisms, including network building, sensitizing key communities and establish a platform for information sharing with UNHCR colleagues in Colombia on cross border movements.

Monitoring of entry points and the protection of asylum seekers and refugees will be expanded to other geographical areas of Venezuela. In view of the increasing number of asylum seekers entering Amazonas State coming mainly from the Department of Vichada on the Colombian side and due to the absence of reception arrangements and the need to monitor this specific population movements, in 2008 UNHCR is planning to deploy an UN Volunteer who will be co-located in the UNICEF office in Puerto Ayacucho. In 2009, it is foreseen that UNHCR will establish a presence in Puerto Ayacucho with an office structure similar to that of Apure or Maracaibo (one head of office, one UNV and one driver).

UNHCR is also planning to deploy a UNV to cover the Sur del Lago Maracaibo, where many asylum seekers and refugees are located, in order to monitor their situation. This follows assessment missions by UNHCR staff and conversations with Church authorities who have long had a small presence in the area. The UNV will be based in San Cristobal with regular monitoring missions to that area. Given tight budgetary considerations, this new area of activity will be covered from FO San Cristobal.

UNHCR in 2008 and 2009 will continue to provide support to the CNR and the STRs in Venezuela and the Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR for the Spanish *Comisión Especial para los Refugiados*) in Peru in the fulfillment of their functions, including technical advice, regular provision of country of origin information, training and limited logistics/financial support. Also, UNHCR will provide the CNR with follow up support in the implementation, use and maintenance of their refugee database. In the case of Peru, as requested by the CEPR, UNHCR will continue to provide support in the fulfillment of Peru's obligations emanated from article 14 by reinforcing its capacity to issue provisional documents for asylum seekers.

In accordance with the new protection strategy for Venezuela in 2006, UNHCR with its implementing agencies, will continue a gradual disengagement from a heavy role on registration, interviewing and refugee status determination in order to shift to a more advisory and supervisory capacity *vis a vis* the

² In accordance to Global Strategic Objectives 1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3; 2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4; Global Strategic and Management Priorities 7, 7.1, 7.3 and Bureau's Strategic Objectives 1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 2, 2.1, 2.2, 7, 7.1, 7.3, and 7.4.

CNR, in order to encourage the Venezuelan authorities to assume an active role in refugee protection as provided in international instruments and Venezuelan refugee law. These aspects of the protection strategy will remain valid for 2008 and 2009, meaning a gradual shift from the emphasis on individual cases towards a more complementary and effective protection of persons of concern to UNHCR.

Training activities for military and civil authorities will remain a priority for 2008-2009 both in Venezuela and Peru, in order to continue sensitizing key interlocutors about refugee issues and UNHCR activities. These training activities also provide excellent opportunities to meet with leaders of key civil institutions and military officials, and thus should be seen as important confidence building mechanisms. Protection training activities will also include issues refugee related to statelessness, trafficking and the nexus between migration and asylum.

In relation to Implementing Partners and their role in protection activities in Venezuela, particularly in the reception of asylum applications and legal advice on behalf of UNHCR, UNHCR will continue supporting them according to the Protection Guidelines elaborated by UNHCR in consultation with the IPs in early 2006. As a result of an on-going assessment of the effectiveness and efficiency of Implementing Partners working in the legal assistance area with UNHCR funds, it is anticipated that some of them will not continue providing legal assistance and that new agencies will be replacing them. For 2008 and 2009, and follow-up to the participatory assessments noted above, psycho-social assistance, legal orientation to refugees and asylum seekers in the urban areas of Caracas and Maracaibo, as well as a structured internal relocation of refugees to safer areas of the country will be provided in a more systematic, structured and effective manner with the engagement of HIAS as a new Implementing Partner. It is expected that these new activities will be done with additional external funds, with only a minimal contribution from ROVEN's operational budget.

Goal No. 2: Promote and support local integration of refugees and self reliance and enjoyment of basic rights for persons of concern to UNHCR, as the best durable solution and a protection tool in the Venezuelan context, stimulating the inclusion of refugees and persons of concern in government programmes and services, the agreements with community based actors and continue supporting community based projects³

There continue to be opportunities for socio-economic integration in Venezuela. It is foreseen that access to social programs implemented by the Venezuelan government such as subsidized food, primary healthcare and education, will remain unchanged in 2008-2009. However, this needs to be further promoted to ensure that asylum seekers, refugees and persons of concern have consistent and systematic access to the above named services. Also, improvements in the documentation of asylum seekers and refugees will allow them to have access to other social programs such as micro-credits, funds for communal cooperatives, access to land, vocational training and higher education.

From a protection point of view, the promotion of PACI projects, including micro-credits, in border communities will still constitute an important strategy in improving the protection situation and the enjoyment of basic rights of asylum seekers, refugees and persons of concern and in helping Venezuelan host communities cope with the arrival of refugees in the spirit of the *fronteras solidarias* of the Mexico Plan of Action. UNHCR will continue encouraging the participation of other agencies of the United Nations system in community based projects. Additional resources of these agencies will improve the quality and diversity of the PACI projects.

In 2008, the first group of recognized refugees (aprox. 217 cases) who arrived in Venezuela in 2003, will become eligible to apply for Venezuelan nationality. As stated in Venezuelan legal instruments, individuals may become Venezuelan nationals upon the completion of 5 years of uninterrupted legal residency in the country. In order to promote this durable solution (for 2008 and beyond), UNHCR will coordinate with the CNR and the ONIDEX on the procedures for refugees to submit their applications for nationality. It will also disseminate information to refugee communities about the corresponding procedures and will provide refugees with individual legal advice on procedures for nationality.

³ In accordance with GSO 5, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4; GSO 3, 3.2, 3.5 and Bureau's Strategic Objectives 5, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 3, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, and 3.4.

In the case of Peru and in view of the removal from the Peruvian Law of the requirement that foreigners should renounce to their nationality in order to obtain Peruvian nationality, UNHCR will continue promoting this durable solution.

Goal No. 3: Strengthen protection networks by diversifying UNHCR interlocutors, by establishing and reinforcing a closer relation with other government and non-governmental institutions, in order to ensure that asylum seekers and refugees enjoy basic human rights without discrimination⁴

The strengthening and consolidation of protection networks and alliances will remain in 2008 and 2009 as an important activity in order to increase political support and operational capacity and to attend the specific needs of women, children, adolescents and the elderly. Networks and alliances will continue including with government actors, the Church, civil society organizations and universities. In 2008 and 2009, UNHCR will continue to play a leadership role in the coordination of activities amongst various organizations, such as the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) and the International Organization for Migrations (IOM).

Building on the renewed efforts in 2007, UNHCR's public information and external relations strategy for 2008-2009 will focus on promoting coverage by international, regional and national media of the plight of refugees and other persons of concern in Venezuela, increasing the already successful visits by international media representatives to host communities and the populations of concern, and increasing UNHCR's public presence through broadcasting public awareness campaigns. With this renewed strategy, in full cooperation with the Bureau and the Regional PI hub in Colombia, ROVEN expects to raise awareness amongst the general public, especially in host communities, about refugee issues; and give visibility to UNHCR's operations in order to gain support from potential donors and enhance support from high level government authorities, not only for ROVEN's programs in Venezuela, but also for the regional and global priorities of the organization.

UNHCR will continue promoting new relationships and agreements with cities, municipalities, states and even community councils. Under the constitutional reform process in Venezuela plans, the national government plans to infuse a substantial amount of additional resources to the local community level. UNHCR will seek to tap these resources for those communities where there are substantial number of persons in need of international protection along the border, such as the current joint programme in effect with UNDP and the Governor's Office in Táchira (a USD \$300,000 education and sanitation project). In addition, the impact and effect of the "City of Solidarity" Memorandum of Agreement signed with the Mayor's office in Maracaibo in June 2006, through which asylum seekers and refugees were formally included as beneficiaries of the city's social programs, will be replicated by promoting and formalizing new agreements in other border States and cities in the spirit of the *Cities of Solidarity* of the Mexico Plan of Action.

Also part of this renewed protection strategy, UNHCR will continue strengthening relations, both at Caracas and the field, with other government actors besides the CNR such as the military, the Ministry of Interior, the District Attorney's Office, the National Office for Identification and Foreigners (ONIDEX for the Spanish *Oficina Nacional de Identificación y Extranjería*), Ombudsman's office and the National Assembly. In order to monitor and implement community based projects, UNHCR will establish relations at the local and regional level with the Communal Councils (*Consejos Comunales*), a community based structure that is gradually gaining influence and empowerment in the new governance systems of Venezuela. National authorities are increasingly providing significant financial support to these Councils in order to manage, implement and monitor their own public policy projects to satisfy local community needs. UNHCR will establish stronger linkages with these *Consejos Comunales* in areas with significant presence of asylum seekers, refugees and persons of concern, who in some cases are also members of the *Consejos Comunales*. UNHCR will seek to provide the *Consejos Comunales* with technical advice in the designing and implementation of larger infrastructure projects that could have a better impact in such communities.

⁴ In accordance with GSO 6, 6.3, 6.4; GSO 8, 8.1,8.2 and Bureau's Strategic Objectives 6, 6.1, 6.2, 8, 8.1, and 8.2.

Moreover, UNHCR will also continue fostering its relations with non-governmental institutions and universities.

○ **Planning Figure Table**

Planning Figures – VENEZUELA				
Population	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009
Refugees	3.520	1.168	1.619	2.120
Asylum seekers	4.740	10.564	13.381	16.726
Others of concern	30.000	240.437*	280.874*	337.049
Total	38.260	252.169	295.874	355.895

Planning Figures – PERU				
Population	Dec. 2006	Dec. 2007	Dec. 2008	Dec. 2009
Refugees	1.131	1.079	1.200	1320
Asylum seekers	292	740	1.200	1680
Others of concern				
Total	1.423	1.819	2.400	3.000

○ **Partnership and Collaboration**

Venezuela

Implementing Partners

Organization	Roles
JRS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Covers assistance activities as well as the implementation of PACI (including micro-credit activities) in Alto Apure (El Nula and Guasqualito)
Caritas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Implementation of PACI in Guasqualito, Táchira, Machiques. ▪ Assistance to asylum seekers in Táchira, Machiques and Caracas (orientation, legal advice, material assistance, medical and education needs). ▪ Registers asylum seekers, and conducts preliminary interviews in San Cristóbal, Machiques and Caracas ▪ Implementation of micro-credit activities in Machiques, Táchira and Caracas.
CISP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal counselling, water systems, micro-credit activities and psychosocial assistance in Apure and Táchira.
Comisión Justicia y Paz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal Counselling, CM assistance, awareness in Maracaibo.
HIAS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Psychosocial counselling in Caracas and Maracaibo (2008-2009)

Other Partners

FUDEP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Development of a micro-credit scheme (Caracas, Maracaibo, Táchira and Machiques)
Norwegian Refugee Council	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal counselling in Apure, shelter projects in Táchira, legal support in Maracaibo.
Red Cross (Zulia Section)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Legal assistance to asylum seekers and refugees and distribution of assistance kits in Zulia.
Fundación Buena Nueva	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Psychosocial assistance and human rights activities in one neighbourhood of Maracaibo.
Red Orgánica Comunidad en Movimiento	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Educational projects in Maracaibo.
Universidad de Los Andes (ULA), Universidad Nacional Experimental del Táchira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An agreement has been drafted between these universities and UNHCR for the involvement of their students in UNHCR and partner agency projects in Tachira. The agreement will be signed in the first semester of

(UNET), Universidad Católica del Táchira (UCAT)	2007.
Universidad de los Llanos (UNELLEZ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An agreement has been drafted between this university and UNHCR for the involvement of their students in UNHCR and partner agency projects in Apure. The agreement will be signed in the first semester of 2007.
Universidad del Zulia (LUZ)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ An agreement has been drafted between this university and UNHCR for the involvement of their students in UNHCR and partner agency projects in Zulia. The agreement will be signed in the first semester of 2007.
Red Venezolana sobre Violencia contra la Mujer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Women related projects in Zulia.

Government partners

Organization	Roles
Ministry of Defence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Participation of UNHCR in 3 major human rights training activities to military commanders in the border states of Apure, Táchira, Zulia, and eventually Amazonas.
Ministry of Interior and Justice	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Staff training by UNHCR on salient aspects of international refugee law.
Ombudsperson's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Human rights, prevention and response to SGBV in Venezuela. ▪ Staff training and advocacy by UNHCR in Apure, Táchira and Amazonas.
National Commission for Refugees (CNR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training by UNHCR on salient aspects of international law. ▪ Technical advice and support.
Regional Technical Secretariats (STRs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Training by UNHCR in Zulia, Táchira and Apure on salient aspects of international refugee law. ▪ Technical advice in Táchira, Zulia and Apure ▪ Reception of asylum applications in Táchira, Apure and Zulia
Táchira Governor's Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study phase of an interagency program (UNHCR and UNDP) for sanitation activities in Ureña, Táchira, valued at USD 300,000 additional funds. ▪ Supports the transportation of asylum seekers to Táchira's Technical Secretariat.

United Nations System

Organization	Roles
UNICEF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Supports the Jesuit Refugee Service in Apure ▪ Strengthening of the child protection system and survey on childrens' needs focusing on the border area. ▪ Assistance to indigenous communities in Puerto Ayacucho and Northern Zulia promoting bicultural values and including bilingual projects.
UNFPA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Technical assistance to UNHCR operations ▪ Gender related projects ▪ Joint programme (reproductive health and SGBV) in Ureña, Táchira State.
UNDP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Study phase of a joint programme on sanitation/water treatment in Ureña, Táchira.
IOM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Projects benefiting migrants and Colombians of UNHCR's concern (assistance kits)
UNIFEM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Joint programme (reproductive health and SGBV) in Ureña, Táchira State. ▪ Survey on displaced women on the Colombian Venezuelan border (Norte de Santander/Táchira)

Peru

Implementing Partners

Organization	Roles
CCPM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Humanitarian assistance, legal advice, presentation of cases to the CEPR. ▪ Administration of the conflict prevention project funded by UK.
PCS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ In charge of the administrative aspect of UNHCR's consultancy tasked with the direct follow up of UNHCR activities in Peru (in close coordination with CCPM), SGBV project in Lima, Tumbres and Iquitos

Government partners

Organization	Roles
Special Refugee Commission (CEPR)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Training by UNHCR staff on salient aspects of international law.▪ Technical advice and support.
Ombudsman Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Eligibility and refugee documentation▪ Referral of cases to the CEPR.

○ **Assumptions and Constraints**

- Increasing violence and insecurity in border communities where refugees, asylum seekers and persons of concern are mainly located will continue to impact the delivery of protection. The security situation has led to a heavy militarization of those communities. Both security issues and militarization of border areas continue to be the major challenges to the work of UNHCR. Particularly in Apure, military confrontation amongst irregular armed groups from Colombia is likely to continue and intensify.
- The number of Colombians seeking safety and refuge in Venezuela will increase due to the deterioration of the Colombian conflict. For political and operational reasons, and despite the fact that the CNR is making some progress in the determination of refugee status, it is not likely that the CNR will be able to cope satisfactorily with the increasing number of refugee applications which will be submitted in 2008-2009. Likewise in Peru, the increasing numbers is threatening to collapse the CEPR if significant changes are not urgently introduced in the system, including full time dedication on the part of the MFA members to do the job.
- Particularly in Alto Apure, the practice of the military of confiscating UNHCR protection letters given to asylum seekers has posed a major constraint, leaving many of them without any documentation. According to national legislation, documentation should be issued to all asylum seekers but the STRs continue to face several challenges in regards to registration issues and documentation of asylum seekers and refugees and other related responsibilities.
- UNHCR's gradual disengagement from the processing of individual cases, including registration, will allow more resources to be dedicated to the monitoring of border areas as well as implementation of community based projects (PACIs).
- Security issues are an important priority for authorities as incidents of criminal activity are reportedly increasing in Táchira. This makes it difficult for refugee issues to remain high on the political agenda. Also, security concerns have an influence on the attitude of authorities towards asylum seekers and refugees, as there are some tendencies to associate persons of concern with criminal activities and irregular Colombian groups.
- Despite the fact that UNHCR has an established presence in the rural border areas of Venezuela since 2001 and has conducted continuous awareness raising and protection training activities, some state officials, including National Guard and ONIDEX, are unaware of the procedures that exist for applying for refugee status.
- Creating confidence with the authorities concerning the role and presence of UNHCR is difficult at times due to the highly politicized climate that permeates in Venezuela, as well as the on-going challenges and disagreements of the government with the larger UN system, especially the UNSC.

○ **Potential for Durable Solutions and Phase Out**

Given the lack of conditions for voluntary repatriation to Colombia in the short and mid term, and the reduced possibilities for resettlement (particularly through restrictions by some resettlement countries), UNHCR has sought to advance durable solutions for refugees and persons of concern by promoting local integration, through supporting documentation for refugees and asylum seekers, humanitarian assistance, implementation of Protection, Community Support and Integration projects (PACI) and the establishment of micro credit schemes in communities along the Colombia-Venezuela Border. An objective analysis of the current political and security situation of Colombia and its future trends clearly shows that there are no possibilities for a phase down, let alone a phase out strategy in 2008 and 2009 vis-à-vis the program in Venezuela.

- **Summary Management Strategy for UNHCR**

ROVEN's main management goal will be to reinforce of UNHCR's presence and monitoring capacity in border areas in order to provide efficient and effective protection assistance to the refugee population. In addition to the main office in Caracas, UNHCR has established over the past years a Field Office in San Cristobal (Táchira State) and two Field Units in Guasualito and Maracaibo (Apure and Zulia States, respectively). Given the deteriorating situation in the Colombian Departments of Vichada and Guainia, and subsequent to the recommendations of a joint monitoring mission with UNDP in 2006 to Amazonas State, UNHCR will gradually increase its presence in the area known as the "middle Orinoco" and south by initially by deploying a NUNV (protection) in 2008 and subsequently proposes in 2009 to open a FU in the sensitive area of Puerto Ayacucho, Amazonas. The initial deployment will be done through a co-location agreement with UNICEF, who has had a small office in this area for years. Also, an additional NUNV protection post in San Cristobal will be created in order to cover the area of Sur del Lago (Zulia), where the number of new arrivals is on the rise, in addition to a growing number of persons of concern who have opted to relocate from other border areas and settle there. As explained above, a FU in Puerto Ayacucho will be established only in 2009. The minimum staffing structure is foreseen as follows: 1 P2 Field Officer (Protection), 1 NUNV (field programme) and 1 G2 driver.

Conscious of the need to improve the operations/ABOD/Staff ratio, no UNHCR post will be created in 2008. Nevertheless in order to strengthen core units of the Regional Office in Caracas, and with a minimum impact of the above mentioned ratio, in order to ensure adequate administrative support including wider responsibility, accountability and enhancement of functions given the steady growth of needs and responsibilities, the office will be slightly restructured through the upgrading of the following posts, which are required and absolutely justified: Programme Assistant (G6) to Senior Programme Assistant (G7) and Admin/Finance Clerk (G4) to Senior Admin/Finance Clerk (G5).

Also in 2008, an additional NUNV protection post, will be created to cover El Nula in Apure, in lieu of the work previously carried out by the JRS which, starting in 2008, will no longer be working as UNHCR's IP.

In terms of a financial summary for staffing costs, there is an overall savings in Venezuela of USD 23,197. The increases in the ABOD for Venezuela consist mainly in the purchase of one vehicle in 2008, and one vehicle in 2009 to cover the extensive border, and support field offices in ensuring that both security and operational needs are met. Compared to previous years, fixed costs for office rental in Caracas, Maracaibo and San Cristóbal account for a substantial part of the ABOD increase in 2008 and 2009. Similarly, the incorporation of the Field Security Officer in San Cristóbal, and in the context of the recommendations of the FSS/Geneva and the UNDSS/NY missions, staff travel and administrative costs have also been impacted upwards. It is also important to note that the increases in the ABOD for Venezuela are mainly due to the expected inflation rate of 14% (as estimated by the Government, most private observers expect closer to 17% in 2007), the purchase of two vehicles to cover the extensive border area, and the support to field offices ensuring that both security and operational needs are met. The administrative budget for Venezuela for 2008 is estimated at USD 554,789.01 and USD 71,787 for security and for 2009 is estimated at USD 623,398 and USD 104,856 for security.

Finally, UNHCR will continue to require the support of the Bureau on all operational aspects, the support of the Field Security team in order to achieve the goals set, the support of ITTS in order to ensure adequate telecommunications and the support ESS/EPRS for technical assistance in contingency planning.

Part Two - RBM Results Tables by Programme

- Summary Table for the Programme showing overall Budget and Sectoral Budgets
- Sectoral Tables showing Sector Objectives, Baselines, Targets, Specific Links to GSO Sub-Objectives and Targets, Summary Budgets by target for implementing partners and UNHCR

Country (or Sub-Region)	Venezuela and Peru
--------------------------------	---------------------------

Population of Concern/ Theme # 1	O: Legal Assistance/protection, B: Transport/Logistic, C: Domestic Items/Household Good, F: Health/Nutrition, H: Community Services, I: Education N: Income Generation, P: Agency Operational Support.	Relevant Project(s):	
Overall Goal (s)	<p>a. Persons of concern for UNHCR have access to effective protection and assistance, particularly in border areas, through the promotion of <i>Borders and Cities of Solidarity</i>.</p> <p>b. Legal and institutional frameworks respond to protection needs of persons of UNHCR's concern.</p> <p>c. Networks and alliances are strengthened to increase political support and operational capacity.</p>	Budget for the Programme	
		2008	2009

Sector Objective(s)⁵ O	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. Ensure that persons of concern to UNHCR continue to have access to refugee procedures.</p> <p>2. Enhance national mechanisms to ensure that refugees are provided protection in accordance with international standards.</p> <p>3. Expand protection networks reinforcing a culture of human rights and conflict prevention with stakeholders.</p>	<p>Venezuela: Refugee law was adopted in 2001 and the rules of procedure governing the implementation of the law were formally published on 28 July 2003. Despite of some progresses in the area of documentation, still many asylum seekers and refugees lack documents. UNHCR is still providing asylum seekers with UNHCR certificates. The CNR continues to have a significant backlog of cases pending for decisions (505 recognized refugees compared to 7.315 pending applications)</p> <p>Peru: Refugee law was adopted on 17 October 2002 containing procedures for both individual refugee cases and refugee group inflows. The challenge ahead is to create institutional capacities to implement the law, particularly in areas bordering Colombia. The CEPR is not yet providing official documents to asylum seekers. Security conditions in border areas are deteriorating.</p>	<p>1. Ensure that persons of concern to UNHCR continue to have access to refugee procedures.</p> <p>2. Enhance national mechanisms to ensure that refugees are provided protection in accordance with international standards.</p> <p>3. Expand protection networks reinforcing a culture of human rights and conflict prevention with stakeholders</p>	<p>There will be an increase of 45% in the number of persons seeking asylum in Venezuela and Peru, meaning that more people will have access to refugee status determination and will be protected.</p> <p>There will be an increase of 50% in the cases decided by CNR in Venezuela and CEPR in Peru meaning that the institutional response is being strengthened and more effective protection is provided.</p> <p>60% more refugees and asylum seekers will be documented by the Venezuelan and Peruvian government, meaning less cases of mistreatments by the police and military authorities, less risk of <i>refoulement</i>, more freedom of movement, and more access to services and durable solutions</p> <p>A decrease of reports of mistreatments, <i>refoulement</i> and denial admission in the border areas of Venezuela and Peru, meaning that Venezuela and Peru became progressively safer countries of asylum.</p> <p>More organizations sensitized and supporting the protection of refugees, meaning that civil society will increase its capacity of to respond to refugee and</p>

⁵ Maximum 3 objectives per sector

			<p>asylum seekers' protection needs.</p> <p>Through the promotion and facilitation of naturalization process, there will be more access to local integration as a durable solution for refugees.</p> <p>As a result of a survey that will be conducted in 2007, the border monitoring will be enhanced.</p>
--	--	--	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006 ⁶	Link to GSO ⁷	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
Six denial entry to territory were reported in Venezuela. No <i>refoulement</i> cases were reported in Peru, but 8 cases had to appeal for no <i>refoulement</i> .	1.1 1.3	Absence of denied admission to territory or <i>refoulement</i> cases in Venezuela and Peru	Absence of denied admission to territory or <i>refoulement</i> cases in Venezuela and Peru			Absence of denied admission to territory or <i>refoulement</i> cases in Venezuela and Peru		
In Venezuela, 8,474 refugees and asylum seekers were registered by UNHCR (720 refugees and 7,754 asylum seekers) and 57% of them were documented. In Peru, 1,399 refugees and asylum seekers were registered by the Government, and 60% of them were documented.	1.1 1.4 4.4	75% of asylum seekers and refugees are documented. Governmental registration system will improve with the technical support provided by UNHCR UNHCR will increase its capacity to monitor the displacement and security situation in the Venezuelan-Colombian border throughout the reinforcement of Guasualito's field office and the placement of field presence in Puerto Ayacucho (Amazonas state) and Sur del Lago (Zulia state).	80% of asylum seekers and refugees are documented. Governmental registration system will improve with the technical support provided by UNHCR UNHCR will increase its capacity to monitor the displacement and security situation in the Venezuelan-Colombian border throughout the reinforcement of Guasualito's field office and the placement of two			90% of asylum seekers and refugees are documented. Governmental registration system will improve with the technical support provided by UNHCR UNHCR will increase its capacity to monitor the displacement and security situation in the Venezuelan-Colombian border throughout the reinforcement of Guasualito's field office and the placement of one additional field office in Puerto Ayacucho (Amazonas state) and the strengthening of FOSC with a NUNV to cover Sur del Lago (Zulia state).		

⁶ Problems that require a multi-sectoral response should be planned and budgeted for in each relevant sector. For each core problem/ area of focus indicate the source of the baseline information, (Participatory Assessment (PA), Standards and Indicator Report (SIR), Annual Protection Report (APR), Joint Food Assessment (JFA), Other Assessments (OA)

⁷ Indicate the specific numeric reference to GSO Sub-Objectives, e.g. 2.1, 3.1, etc.

			more field offices in Puerto Ayacucho (Amazonas state) and Sur del Lago (Zulia state).					
Asylum seekers have access to RSD. However, in Venezuela the average process in time between submission and decisions are 365 days or more. In Peru, the decisions are taken, in average, in 180 days.	2.1 2.3 2.6 2.4	The RSD process will be more operational according to the standards set out in the refugee law. Regarding the reform of the Venezuelan refugee law, UNHCR will work with CNR to bring its advice about international refugee standards. Training activities about international refugee law, but also about trafficking, statelessness, and nexus between migration and refugees will be ongoing due to the continue turnover of Governmental officials. Others key actors such as military and ombudsman officers will be trained	The RSD process will be more operational according to the standards set out in the refugee law Training activities about international refugee law, but also about trafficking, statelessness, and nexus between migration and refugees will be ongoing due to the continue turnover of Governmental officials. Others key actors such as military and ombudsman officers will be trained.			The RSD process will be more operational according to the standards set out in the refugee law Training activities about international refugee law, but also about trafficking, statelessness, and nexus between migration and refugees will be ongoing due to the continue turnover of Governmental officials. Others key actors such as military and ombudsman officers will be trained.		
Asylum seekers and refugees have access to basic public services and social plans, in spite of the lack of documentation of some of them. Local integration is a spontaneous process that is being experienced especially by Latin American refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR supported the family reunification of 3 cases in Venezuela	5.1 5.2 5.3	Durable solutions, particularly, access of refugees and asylum seekers to local integration, self reliance and the enjoyment of basic rights and the social programs of Government are consolidated. Facilitation of voluntary repatriation and resettlement as the only durable solution for exceptional individual cases.	Durable solutions, particularly, access of refugees and asylum seekers to local integration and the social programs of Government are consolidated. Facilitation of voluntary repatriation and resettlement as the only durable solution for exceptional individual cases			Durable solutions, particularly, access of refugees and asylum seekers to local integration and the social programs of Government are consolidated. Facilitation of voluntary repatriation and resettlement as the only durable solution for exceptional individual cases.		

<p>and 1 case in Peru, but normally family reunification of Colombians happens without the intervention of UNHCR.</p> <p>UNHCR submitted 26 cases for resettlement from Venezuela. Most cases were submitted for legal and physical protection needs and women at risk criteria</p>								
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				295.484,10			244.201,74	

Sector Objective(s) B	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. To ensure that all logistic arrangements to support voluntary repatriation are properly put in place.</p> <p>2. To ensure the documentation of asylum seekers and their participation in RSD hearings in Lima</p> <p>3. To ensure asylum seekers or refugees whose safety is at risk are relocated into other areas of Venezuela.</p>	<p>Given the worsening of the Colombian conflict particularly in the areas bordering Venezuela from where most refugees have originally fled, only very few persons opt to repatriate.</p> <p>Illegal armed Colombian groups have been increasing its presence on the Venezuelan side of the border propitiating fear in some of the Colombian asylum seekers who need to be relocated into other areas of Venezuela.</p> <p>When requested by the Peruvian Eligibility Commission, asylum seekers have to travel to Lima in order to undergo RSD procedures.</p> <p>Due to security reasons asylum seekers often need to be relocated to Lima or other southern provinces with a view to be resettled.</p>	<p>1. To ensure that all logistic arrangements to support voluntary repatriation are properly put in place.</p> <p>2. To ensure the documentation of asylum seekers and their participation in RSD hearings in Lima</p> <p>3. To ensure asylum seekers or refugees whose safety is at risk are relocated into other areas of Venezuela.</p>	<p>- 100% of refugees opting for voluntary repatriation, returned to their country of origin in conditions of safety and dignity.</p> <p>-100% of asylum seekers attended and participated in their RSD procedures.</p> <p>- 100% of asylum seekers/refugees whose life was at risk in border areas are now living in safety in other areas of Venezuela.</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
No refugees opted for voluntary repatriation in Venezuela. In Peru one person was voluntary repatriated	5.1	100% of refugees opting for voluntary repatriation, returned to their country of origin in conditions of safety and dignity.	100% of refugees opting for voluntary repatriation, returned to their country of origin in conditions of safety and dignity.			100% of refugees opting for voluntary repatriation, returned to their country of origin in conditions of safety and dignity.		
Considering that increasing numbers of asylum seekers were associated with human rights and/or political activities in the country of origin, there is a growing demands of relocation to others areas in Venezuela as they perceive treats and persecution at the border.	9.1	100% of asylum seekers/refugees whose life was at risk in border areas, are now living in safety in other areas of Peru or Venezuela.	100% of asylum seekers/refugees whose life was at risk in border areas, are now living in safety in other areas of Peru or Venezuela.			100% of asylum seekers/refugees whose life was at risk in border areas, are now living in safety in other areas of Peru or Venezuela.		

Many asylum seekers fleeing from Colombia or Colombians crossing the border from Ecuador are in need of transport assistance to Lima in order to have access to RSD.	1.1	100% of asylum seekers attended and participated in their RSD procedures.	100% of asylum seekers attended and participated in their RSD procedures			100% of asylum seekers attended and participated in their RSD procedures		
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				4.740,25			4.740,25	

Sector Objective(s) C	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. Provide assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in order to contribute to their survival, during a maximum of three months, according to the UNHCR assistance criteria.</p> <p>2. Swiftly respond to emergency influxes by proving humanitarian assistance</p>	<p>Most asylum seekers /refugees in the region who arrive at border areas of the asylum countries are generally in very poor conditions, and don't have basic household equipment and means of survival.</p> <p>Recent trends have shown that many asylum seekers in the border have moved inland towards urban areas which require more support for basic shelter given the expensive shelter costs in these areas. In addition, the price of basic assistance items has significantly increased during 2006 which has augmented the cost of assistance kits. During 2006, UNHCR' IPs in Tachira, Machiques, Maracaibo and Apure have received additional contributions from other donors (IOM, CISP) addressed to food and non food items assistance kits. For 2007, this support is expected to continue by IOM.</p> <p>Lack of adequate personal documents also hinders fast access to the labour market.</p>	<p>1. Provide assistance to refugees and asylum seekers in order to contribute to their survival, during a maximum of three months, according to the UNHCR assistance criteria.</p> <p>2. Swiftly respond to emergency influxes by proving humanitarian assistance</p>	<p>- 80% of refugees and asylum seekers are able to cover basic needs.</p> <p>-100% of persons arriving within emergency influxes are able to survive during the emergency phase</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
<p>The overwhelming majority of asylum seekers arrived to Venezuela in very poor conditions. The economic situation in border areas is very difficult with precarious public services and lack of employment, both in rural and urban areas</p>		80% of refugees and asylum seekers are able to cover basic needs.	80% of refugees and asylum seekers are able to cover basic needs.			80% of refugees and asylum seekers are able to cover basic needs.		
		70% of refugees and asylum seekers are living in shelters (minimum standards) similar to the local population	75% of refugees and asylum seekers are living in shelters (minimum standards) similar to the local population			75% of refugees and asylum seekers are living in shelters (minimum standards) similar to the local population		
	4.2	100% of persons arriving within emergency influxes are able to survive during the emergency phase	100% of persons arriving within emergency influxes are able to survive during the emergency phase			100% of persons arriving within emergency influxes are able to survive during the emergency phase		
Sub-Totals								

Total Budget for the Sector		154.091,47		199.806,29
------------------------------------	--	------------	--	------------

Sector Objective(s) F	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. In Venezuela and Peru, ensure that serious health implications are treated in public hospitals unless adequate treatment is only available in the private sector.</p> <p>2. Emergency preparedness: Ensure an adequate health response in the case of emergency influxes with other institutions including WHO, Red Cross, Armed Forces.</p> <p>3. In Venezuela, ensure that selected health clinics at the local level in remote border communities with high concentration of Colombian persons of concern to UNHCR are better equipped and more efficient.</p>	<p>Most asylum seekers and refugees have received poor medical attention in their country of origin. Despite that in Venezuela, all residence including persons of concerns have access to health public services, communities along the border with Colombia frequently lack public health services or these are poorly equipped. The presence of increased numbers of Colombians pose additional burden on these services. The most common diseases are: measles, diarrhoea, acute respiratory infections, malnutrition and malaria. The factors which increase the risks and which should be addressed in any emergency response include an unfamiliar environment, insecurity, overcrowding, inadequate quantity and quality of water, poor environmental sanitation, inadequate food supply and shelter. In Peru refugees and asylum seekers have to pay health services just like any Peruvian.</p>	<p>1. In Venezuela and Peru, ensure that serious health implications are treated in public hospitals unless adequate treatment is only available in the private sector.</p> <p>2. Provide psychological counselling to asylum seekers and refugees in need of mental health assistance in Caracas.</p> <p>3. In Venezuela, ensure that selected health clinics at the local level in remote border communities with high concentration of Colombian persons of concern to UNHCR are better equipped and more efficient.</p>	<p>- No cases of refugees being rejected from national health services.</p> <p>- A 100% of women seeking preventive gynaecological treatment/assistance are treated in public hospitals or supported for their treatment in private clinics if needs be.</p> <p>- All PTS/mental health cases requesting psycho-social counselling to UNHCR's IP and the families with whom these cases lived improve their quality of life.</p> <p>- 6.000 persons of concern supported with health / sanitation PACI projects in host communities.</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
<p>In Venezuela and Peru there is not discrimination to foreign and refugees regarding access to public health services. However, these services are precarious, poorly equipped and are scared often medicines.</p>	3.1	A 100% of women seeking preventive gynaecological treatment/assistance are treated in public hospitals or supported for their treatment in private clinics if needs be.	A 100% of women seeking preventive gynecological treatment/assistance are treated in public hospitals or supported for their treatment in private clinics if needs be.			A 100% of women seeking preventive gynaecological treatment/assistance are treated in public hospitals or supported for their treatment in private clinics if needs be.		
	4.2	<p>Emergency preparedness:</p> <p>- Level of mortality (0.3 to 0.5 per 10.000 per day) and morbidity are kept within acceptable standards.</p>						

		7.000 of direct beneficiaries of health / sanitation CSIP projects, including UNHCR person of concern and local population residing in host communities.	7.500 of direct beneficiaries of health / sanitation CSIP projects, including UNHCR person of concern and local population residing in host communities.			8.000 of direct beneficiaries of health / sanitation CSIP projects, including UNHCR person of concern and local population residing in host communities.		
	3.2	At least 40% of the beneficiaries of health / sanitation PACI are Colombians.	At least 40% of the beneficiaries of health / sanitation PACI are Colombians.			At least 40% of the beneficiaries of health / sanitation PACI are Colombians.		
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				132.003,77			143.698,26	

Sector Objective(s) H	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. Identify and support community needs including those of the vulnerable (children, adolescent, single women, women' heads of household) in host communities where persons of concern are settled.</p> <p>2. Respond to the communities needs identified during the participatory assessment exercise through the appropriate coordination of the PACI projects.</p> <p>3. To improve water supply conditions for human consumption and access to safe water in refugee host communities.</p>	<p>Most persons fleeing from the Colombian conflict are residing in impoverished host communities with poor public services particularly in remote and marginalized rural areas. Persons of concerns include children, single women and women's head of household as well as children and adolescent at risks of force recruitment.</p>	<p>1. Through the participatory assessment methodology identify and support community needs including those of the vulnerable (children, adolescent, single women, women' heads of household) in host communities where persons of concern are settled.</p> <p>2. Respond to the communities needs identified during the participatory assessment exercise through the appropriate coordination of the PACI projects.</p> <p>3. To improve water supply conditions for human consumption and access to safe water in refugee host communities.</p>	<p>- At least 70% of the host communities where significant numbers of persons of concern are settled and 100% of the vulnerable groups within the communities meet their basic and protection needs</p> <p>- 70 households count on improved water supply (human consumption) and sanitary conditions</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
<p>Persons fleeing from the Colombian conflict into Venezuela include children, adults, older people, women, head of household mostly of rural origin. However, lack of hard data on their situation makes it all necessary to identify special protection and assistance needs through the participatory assessment</p>	<p>3.3 3.5</p>	<p>At least 70% of the host communities where significant numbers of persons of concern are settled and 100% of the vulnerable groups within the communities meet their basic protection needs</p>	<p>At least 80% of the host communities where significant numbers of persons of concern are settled and 100% of the vulnerable groups within the communities meet their basic protection needs</p>			<p>At least 85% of the host communities where significant numbers of persons of concern are settled and 100% of the vulnerable groups within the communities meet their basic protection needs</p>		

methodology.								
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				442.562,44			480.119,82	

Sector Objective(s) I	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. Ensure that all refugee / asylum seekers girls and boys enroll in Primary and Secondary Education and that appropriate standards of education opportunities are maintained</p> <p>2. Support the public education system in order to ensure that asylum seekers and refugee children have access to, at least, the primary school system in remote border communities with high concentration of Colombian persons of concern to UNHCR.</p> <p>3. Ensure that adult refugees, who are unable to work in their field of working experience, acquire new/additional skills to enhance integration opportunities (Caracas and Lima).</p>	<p>While refugee and asylum seeker children (boy and girls) have free access to primary and secondary school in Venezuela, there is concern that very often they are deprived of attending school due to the need to contribute to the family income. Almost in all cases, particularly in rural areas, boys and girls are engaged in some sort of labour, either at the household level (mostly girls), in farm work or commercial activities.</p> <p>Asylum seeker children are not given school certificates when they complete their primary or secondary school.</p> <p>In the state of Zulia, there is evidence that in certain schools, the cultural sensitivities of indigenous children are not respected.</p> <p>A significant percentage of adult asylum seekers and refugees have difficulties in accessing the labour market, particularly in urban areas. In addition to the fact that asylum seekers are not allowed to work in Venezuela, many of them, in particular, former peasants, have no other labour skills.</p> <p>In Peru families have to pay a small registration fees for their children primary education regardless of their nationality.</p>	<p>1. Ensure that all refugee / asylum seekers girls and boys enrol in Primary and Secondary Education and that appropriate standards of education opportunities are maintained</p> <p>2. Support the public education system in order to ensure that asylum seekers and refugee children have access to, at least, the primary school system in remote border communities with high concentration of Colombian persons of concern to UNHCR.</p> <p>3. Ensure that adult refugees, who are unable to work in their field of working experience, acquire new/additional skills to enhance integration opportunities (Caracas and Lima).</p>	<p>- All refugee boys and girls within the age range of primary education attend school at a regular basis and eventually accomplish primary school.</p> <p>- Ensure that all primary schools located where most persons of concern are settled, are in acceptable conditions (according to standards of the ministry of education).</p> <p>- Employment rate increased by 20% among those refugees/asylum seekers who acquired new/additional skills.</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
100% of refugees were enrolled in primary school. Boys and girls enjoy equal access to education as the local population in Venezuela and Peru.	3.4	All refugee boys and girls within the age range of primary education attend school at a regular basis and eventually accomplish primary school.	All refugee boys and girls within the age range of primary education attend school at a regular basis and eventually accomplish primary school.			All refugee boys and girls within the age range of primary education attend school at a regular basis and eventually accomplish primary school.		
Most schools in remote areas are poorly equipped with precarious	3.4	Ensure that all primary schools located where most persons of concern are settled, are in	Ensure that all primary schools located where most persons of concern are			Ensure that all primary schools located where most persons of concern are settled, are in acceptable conditions		

infrastructure.		acceptable conditions (according to standards of the ministry of education).	settled, are in acceptable conditions (according to standards of the ministry of education).			(according to standards of the ministry of education).		
	3.4	Employment rate increased by 20% among those refugees/asylum seekers who acquired new/additional skills.	Employment rate increased by 20% among those refugees/asylum seekers who acquired new/additional skills.			Employment rate increased by 20% among those refugees/asylum seekers who acquired new/additional skills.		
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				78.927,31			93.811,20	

Sector Objective(s) N	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
Support income-generation activities through micro-credit schemes in Venezuela and small grants in Peru, so that refugees and asylum seekers can achieve self-sufficiency.	<p>A difficult socio-economic situation in the countries of asylum, accompanied by increasing rates of unemployment, makes it difficult for refugees to obtain jobs in institutions/enterprises in the country of asylum.</p> <p>In the case of Venezuela, the lack of documentation seriously affects all Colombians in need of protection who cannot be hired legally by local employers. Thus, until the national authorities are not providing proper ID cards, ROVEN, in close co-operation with the agencies, will gradually have to step up its efforts to assist refugees in pursuing self-sufficiency alternatives.</p> <p>In Peru all asylum seekers are given work permits</p>	Consolidate the income-generation programme through micro-credit schemes in Venezuela and small grants in Peru, so that refugees and asylum seekers can achieve self-sufficiency.	<p>- At least 516 refugees and asylum seekers supported by micro-credits system in Venezuela.</p> <p>- At least 7 refugees and asylum seekers supported by small grants in Peru</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
52% of the refugees are living in extreme poverty conditions. More than 50% of head of household of UNHCR persons of concern have a job in Venezuela		At least 516 refugees and asylum seekers supported by micro-credits system in Venezuela.	At least 550 refugees and asylum seekers supported by micro-credits system in Venezuela.			At least 600 refugees and asylum seekers supported by micro-credits system in Venezuela.		
Asylum seekers don't have the right of work but some have been able to engage in gainful employment. In Peru asylum seekers have temporary work permits pending resolution		At least 7 refugees and asylum seekers supported by small grants in Peru	At least 10 refugees and asylum seekers supported by small grants in Peru			At least 15 refugees and asylum seekers supported by small grants in Peru		
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector					158.310,25		185.420,20	

Sector Objective(s) P	Current year situation	Objective for 2008 to 2009	Impact indicators
<p>1. Ensure that the IPs get the necessary admin, secretarial and operational support so that the project is implemented efficiently.</p> <p>2. Increase public awareness of refugee rights and obligations as well as asylum procedures in Venezuela.</p>	<p><u>In Venezuela</u> UNHCR's implementing partners are fully operational in Caracas, and in the three most important border states in terms of influx of victims of the Colombian conflict: Zulia, Tachira and Apure. In Zulia, Caritas has an office in Machiques. In Tachira, Caritas has an office in San Cristobal and in Apure, JRS has an office in El Nula and in Guasdualito, and Caritas has a small presence in Guasdualito. Caritas has its main office in Caracas. In late 2006, CISP signed a sub agreement with UNHCR. This Italian NGO is based in San Cristobal, Tachira and covers humanitarian activities in Tachria and Apure. Whilst in the Venezuelan border increasing importance of the refugees has drawn media attention and UNHCR has gradually disseminated information on refugee rights through PI campaigns, there is still a need to reinforce awareness campaigns as there is a negative image of persons of concern created by growing security incidents and irregular groups activities in the Venezuelan border areas.</p> <p><u>In Peru</u> UNHCR 's implementing partner (CCPM) has an office in Lima from where it covers the northern border with Ecuador given the increasing Colombian arrivals, crossing the border from that and the north eastern border with Colombia in the Amazonas. There is a growing impression that the country is being "narcotized" to certain extent to increasing numbers of Colombian influxes. According to UN official report out of the total production of cocaine in the Andean Region 30% is produced in Peru, second only to Colombia. Hence the need to develop awareness PI campaigns has become an utmost priority.</p>	<p>1. Ensure that the IPs get the necessary admin, secretarial and operational support so that the project is implemented efficiently.</p> <p>2. Increase public awareness of refugee rights and obligations as well as asylum procedures in Venezuela.</p>	<p>- Project delivery is fully operational</p> <p>- Articles and stories published/broadcasted in foreign and national media is increased by 20%</p>

Baseline situation for core problems/ areas of focus in sector as of end 2006	Link to GSO	Target end 2007	Target end 2008	Implementing Partner Budget for 2008 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2008 in USD	Target end 2009	Implementing Partner Budget for 2009 in USD	UNHCR Budget for 2009 in USD
Budget cuts particularly affected UNHCR's IP in Maracaibo. Being a very new agency it urgently requires a vehicle for monitoring purposes in remote border communities but UNHCR's difficult financial situation made it impossible to fulfil this requirement. All other agencies in Peru and Venezuela are fully operational albeit low salaries, particularly in Venezuela have led to continuous rotation of staff and to an understandable and regrettable scarcity of qualified staff.	10.4	All implementing agencies are fully operational	All implementing agencies are fully operational			All implementing agencies are fully operational		
	8.1	Consolidate UNHCR in the public eye as a fundamental institution regarding the defence and realization of refugee rights.	Consolidate UNHCR in the public eye as a fundamental institution regarding the defence and realization of refugee rights.			Consolidate UNHCR in the public eye as a fundamental institution regarding the defence and realization of refugee rights.		
Sub-Totals								
Total Budget for the Sector				401.470,81			391.348,18	

Part Three- Comprehensive Assessment of Needs per Programme⁸

- Contributions by the host government, refugee and/or local communities
- Financial contributions of partners

Programme	UNHCR	WFP (where applicable)	Operation- al partners	Imple- menting partners	Unmet needs	Total
08WLA401	1,667,590			332,605		2,195,000
Total						

Key Assumptions:

⁸ The purpose of this table is to provide an indicative picture of the overall needs of persons/ issues of concern to UNHCR and to show the important contributions of other partners. Compiling this information is limited by the challenge of trying to apply standards in the contexts in which UNHCR is working. UNHCR’s approach in preparing this table is to undertake standards-based assessments of need which take into account implementation capacity as well as what is reasonable in a given country context. The table includes the key assumptions underpinning the arrival at estimated financial requirements.