



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS  
IN THE REGION  
**265,000**



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME  
FORM OF ASSISTANCE\*  
**27,166**



FUNDING SITUATION\*\*

**61.8%** REQUIREMENT: 24.1M

## Situation

On 12 October, the U.S. Government announced a new Migration Process for Venezuelans. Since the announcement, Venezuelans who cross irregularly the United States land border with Mexico are now subject to the provisions of the so-called Title 42 Order and, upon apprehension, subject to immediate expulsion back to Mexico. In parallel, the U.S. authorities announced a new humanitarian parole programme which would allow up to 24,000 eligible Venezuelans to enter the United States (U.S.) for a period of 2 years, with the ability to apply for work authorization. The eligibility criteria include, among other requirements, a "qualified supporter" in the U.S. to initiate the application who can demonstrate the ability to provide financial support during the 2-year parole period and who has a lawful status in the U.S. As a result of the inclusion of Venezuelans in Title 42 policy, it has been recorded a change in migration flow, with Venezuelans stranded in Panama and Costa Rica.

### Costa Rica:

- On 12 October, the Government of Costa Rica announced it will facilitate the transit of Venezuelans through the country. The plan includes buses that will take Venezuelans through an eight-hour journey from Paso Canoas in the south border to Peñas Blancas in the north. The bus ticket price will be at CRC 17,000, equivalent to USD 27. The Temporary Attention Centre for Migrants (CATEM) is receiving Venezuelans in vulnerable situation who are undergoing the journey towards the northern border.
- Media sources reported that shelters accommodating Venezuelans in situations of homelessness were at maximum capacity.
- The Migration Authority, as of 14 October, announced that asylum must be requested by Venezuelans upon an appointment through a Call Centre.
- On 20 October, the Embassy of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela in Costa Rica, recognized by the government of Costa Rica, announced the issuance of safe-conduct to Venezuelans without or with an expired passport so they can return to Venezuela either through Colombia or Panama. There are restrictions for those who have the temporary protection permit from Colombia.

### Mexico:

- On 10 September, more than 300 Venezuelans crossed the border through the Bravo River. In the Southern region, refugees and migrants from Venezuela were identified in Tapachula, Chiapas and San Pedro Tapanatepec, Oaxaca. In the state of Chihuahua, a provisional camp for Venezuelans was created in Ciudad Juárez.
- The National Institute for Migration in Baja California, Chihuahua, Coahuila, Sonora and Tapachula reported an increasing number of Venezuelans without a regular migration status. In the municipalities of Apizaco, Tlaxcala and Puebla, new arrivals of Venezuelans were registered and detention by Mexican migratory authority reported.
- On 19 October, a group of approximately 50 Venezuelans temporary blocked the New Matamoros Bridge in the state of Tamaulipas, which borders Texas, to demand that U.S. authorities allow them to return to their territory, from where they had been deported, in order to apply for asylum.
- The series of measures announced by the U.S. on 12 October generated an increase in the demand for humanitarian services in the border areas, as well as in Mexico City. Among the main response actions implemented by R4V partners



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are capacity building in shelter operations, provision of information to the population for their decision-making process, protection and legal counselling among others. It has been observed that a significant number of the population want to return to their country of origin and has approached the Venezuelan embassy in Mexico to do so. The expulsions from the U.S. to Mexico have caused shelters throughout the country to exceed their capacity. As a result, concerns have been raised regarding the challenges to provide basic services and food and the protection risks faced by Venezuelans in situation of homelessness.

### Panama:

- In September, the number of people crossing the Darien Gap surpassed all records, with more than 48,000 crossings in total, 38,399 were refugees and migrants from Venezuela, with most lacking the means to continue their journey north. Security incidents along the route continue, making refugees and migrants an easy target of gender-based violence and human trafficking.
- During the first two weeks of October, some 2,000 to 3,000 persons crossed the Darien daily, with Venezuelans representing 70 per cent of the total. However, since the announcement of the U.S. regarding new migration policies for Venezuelans, the trend drastically changed, with an average of 600 persons arriving per day in the last week of October. In this month, 40,593 Venezuelans crossed the Darien region. Those stranded in the country were relocated to Migratory Reception Centres and temporary shelters, where protection needs are assessed, and humanitarian assistance is provided.
- Panama started receiving stranded migrants coming from Costa Rica in the Los Planes de Gualaca in the Province of Chiriqui, some with an interest to stay in the country, but most of them with the intention to return to their country of origin. While they are waiting to resolve their situation, the majority are remaining in a temporary shelter located in the industrial area of Panama City.
- The National Migration Service, in order to assist in the repatriation of Venezuelans, authorized the use of laminated IDs from Venezuela (cedula) by Venezuelans who can afford their own plane tickets or will travel through humanitarian flights.
- Panama received a visit from the commander of U.S. South Command, including a mission to the Darien Gap with the Panamanian Minister of Security to address the refugee and migrant flow in the region. The Minister of Security announced that 300 border police units will be sent to the border area with Colombia, in order to strengthen the surveillance and counter any security threats to the communities located in the border area.

### Response



FOOD  
SECURITY

- In **Costa Rica**, 499 refugees and migrants from Venezuela received food assistance in the form of food kits (in kind) supplemented with hygiene kits or cards for the purchase of food in authorized supermarkets.

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\* From 01/01/2022 to 31/10/2022 | \*\*Source: FTS Website



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## HEALTH

- In **Mexico**, R4V partners maintained the payment of prescribed medicines, medical devices, and orthopedic equipment, medical consultations, or exams through the support of a local diaspora implementing partner. Eighty-eight refugees and migrants benefited: 62 adult women, 18 adult men and 8 minors.
- In **Costa Rica**, 973 Venezuelans benefited from interventions under the Health Sector. Of these, 817 Venezuelans received health insurance under the agreement between the Costa Rican social security entity and a R4V partner.



## EDUCATION

- In **Mexico**, R4V partners provided financial support for the certification or recognition of university degrees to the Venezuelan population. Eight refugees and migrants benefited: 5 adult women and 3 adult men.



## SHELTER

- In **Mexico**, R4V partners provided shelter to 1,837 Venezuelans in several locations: Chiapas, Tabasco, Tlaxcala, Chihuahua, Veracruz, Tamaulipas, Baja California, Nuevo León, Coahuila and Sonora.



## WASH

- In **Costa Rica**, 424 Venezuelans received family hygiene kits with basic supplies, and 21 minors received diapers.



## INTEGRATION

- In **Panama**, 109 refugees and migrants from Venezuela (56% women) were supported through self-employment/entrepreneurship initiatives and social cohesion activities.
- In **Costa Rica**, 72 Venezuelans received training in soft skills, legal empowerment, and financial education and 74 in short courses and other technical courses to improve their professional profile. Sixty-five Venezuelans were supported with livelihood diagnostics to identify their occupational profile and received information on the process of homologation and validation of degrees. Furthermore, 22 received training in business management and the opportunity to apply for seed capital.
- In **Mexico**, seven Venezuelan students were awarded with DAFI (Albert Einstein German Academic Refugee Initiative) scholarship for an undergraduate degree. Two beneficiaries shared their testimonies during the commemorative event to mark the 30th anniversary of the DAFI programme jointly organized by R4V partners, the German Embassy in Mexico



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and the National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM) in October. The [event](#) was live broadcasted on Youtube and the social networks of the UN System in Mexico and the Law Faculty of UNAM.



MPC

- In **Panama**, 129 Venezuelans received support to cover basic needs, such as rent debts.
- In **Costa Rica**, 103 Venezuelans received cash assistance as emergency support and due to their vulnerable situation. Twenty-one Venezuelans were referred to the Mixed Institute for Social Assistance (IMAS) for social protection assessment.
- In **Mexico**, 93 asylum seekers and migrants from Venezuela received multi-purpose cash grants during September and October to meet their basic needs such as food, household and domestic products, as well as to cover housing and utility bills. An additional 25 Venezuelans received sectoral cash and voucher assistance (CVA) addressing protection related risks, including contingency top-up for COVID-19 effects.













PROTECTION

- In **Panama**, a total of 2,004 Venezuelans received protection general services and 132 people received information about the asylum system in Panama.
- In **Costa Rica**, 521 Venezuelans received legal assistance in migration and refugee matters to determine their migratory regularization status in the country. In addition, the protection needs of 86 Venezuelans were assessed and 11 Venezuelans participated in community group processes based on age and gender.



GBV

- In **Panama**, 2,297 Venezuelan children received timely specialized protection services at the border, while 25 received information regarding GBV mitigation, protection and response.
- In **Costa Rica**, two Venezuelans were assessed and referred to judicial response services or GBV support networks.

PEOPLE REACHED*	Education	Food Security	Health	Integration	Shelter	WASH	Protection	GBV	MPC
									
582	2,157	1,140	1,145	2,250	1,364	15,092	23	1,534	