

Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform

The Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform was established following the request by the UN Secretary-General to UNHCR and IOM on 12 April 2018, to lead and coordinate the response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela. The Regional Platform aims address the protection, assistance, and integration needs of both refugees and migrants from Venezuela in affected Latin American and Caribbean states. Against this background, the Regional Platform developed the regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP) to **support and complement national authorities' efforts** across Latin America and the Caribbean, consistent with the principles outlined in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. This Regional Platform is complemented at country levels through the establishment and strengthening of local coordination mechanisms, in close collaboration with host governments. Dedicated national coordination platforms are already in place in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Costa Rica, and Panama, and inter-agency coordination is also ongoing in the Caribbean, Central America/Mexico, and Southern Cone sub-regions.

Currently the Regional Platform has **forty participants**, including 17 UN agencies, 14 NGO's, five donors, two international financial institutions and the Red Cross Movement. Participants collaborate through several coordination support **working groups** (on information management, communication / fundraising) and other more product-oriented working groups (support spaces, gender based-violence, communication with communities, and integration). Common population figures of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the region, became the main reference for governments, media, and other relevant stakeholders. Other examples of completed regional products by these working groups include the roll-out of a regional safe spaces network along key transit routes, common public information messages on the Venezuela situation, and anti-xenophobia campaigns. Strengthened regional coordination is foreseen on contingency planning/emergency preparedness, vulnerability targeting, assessments, and cash-based assistance.

Operationalizing the Refugee and Migrant Response Plan

| | | |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Projected population by December 2019 | People in need | Refugees and migrants targeted |
| 5.3 million | 3.6 million | 2.2 million |
| Host communities targeted | Funding requirements | Partners in 16 countries |
| 0.5 million | US\$ 738 million | 95 |

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Area of intervention 1 | Direct emergency assistance |
| Strategic outcome | <i>Refugees and migrants are provided with life-saving goods and services</i> |
| Area of intervention 2 | Protection |
| Strategic outcome | <i>Refugees and migrants enjoy rights and protection</i> |
| Area of intervention 3 | Socio-economic and cultural integration |
| Strategic outcome | <i>Refugees and migrants are socially, economically, and culturally integrated in empowered communities</i> |
| Area of intervention 4 | Strengthening the capacity of host government |
| Strategic outcome | <i>Government institutions capacity to manage situations of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, is strengthened</i> |

The RMRP was launched in Geneva on 14 December 2018. From January 2019 onwards, the Regional Platform, national coordination platforms and sub-regions, have focussed on operationalizing the RMRP. **Monitoring frameworks** and **financial tracking mechanisms** are being implemented, including through standard operating and reporting procedures.

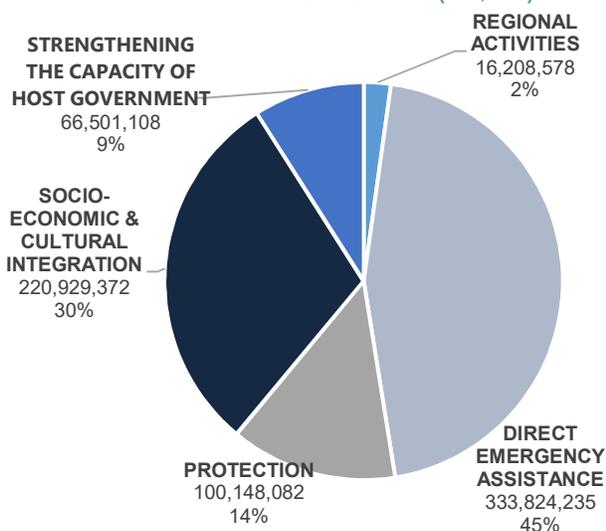
The first reporting cycle is currently being finalized and the January SitReps will provide initial indications on funding received and on progress towards the objectives of the RMRP per country/sub-region, as well as across the region.

Furthermore, in order to operationalize the appeal, a coherent **fundraising and communications strategy** is underway. Since its launch, extensive engagement with donors, has taken place so to mobilize resources for RMRP participants. Visits to donor capitals (e.g. Berlin, Brussels, Stockholm) were carried out and similar visits with key US-based donors are planned for February.

POPULATION PLANNING FIGURES



FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS PER AREA OF INTERVENTION (US\$ / %)



Update on the Quito Process

In line with the principles set out in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants, the RMRP seeks to complement and strengthen the national and regional responses of governments, in particular the **Quito Plan of Action**.¹ The Quito Plan of Action, endorsed by eight countries in the region, outlines main priorities of regional collaboration and harmonization efforts in the areas of access to territory, regularization, documentation, data management and information exchange, access to rights and services, social protection, and labour integration.

The Platform and the Joint IOM-UNHCR Special Representative for Venezuelan refugees and migrants, Mr. Eduardo Stein, are expected to provide key contributions to the implementation of the Quito Plan of Action in terms of technical assistance, information management and exchange, resource mobilization, and humanitarian diplomacy. **International financial institutions** such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Development Bank of Latin America are already engaged in this process, providing support to assess the fiscal impact and develop national response plans. These institutions are also contemplating the use of specific financial facilities to support affected governments. The World Bank has produced a study on the short- and medium-term impact and response strategy on population movement from Venezuela to Colombia, and similar studies are planned for Ecuador and Peru.² Furthermore, the Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFF), through the World Bank as its administrative secretariat, announced the eligibility of Colombia for concessional funding to respond to the needs of Venezuelans present in country. The next inter-governmental meeting on the Quito Plan of Action ('Quito III') is expected to take place in early April (to be confirmed).

¹ Action Plan of the Quito Process on Human Mobility of Venezuelan citizens in the Region (November 2018), available at: https://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/plan_de_accion_de_quito.pdf

² World Bank: Migration from Venezuela to Colombia : Short- and Medium-Term Impact and Response Strategy (November 2018), available at: <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/30651> .