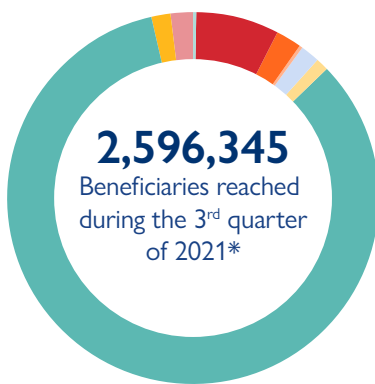


This report series aims at providing a summary of IOM's response and main achievements in the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) region from July to September 2021 thanks to the contributions and engagement of donors and partners.

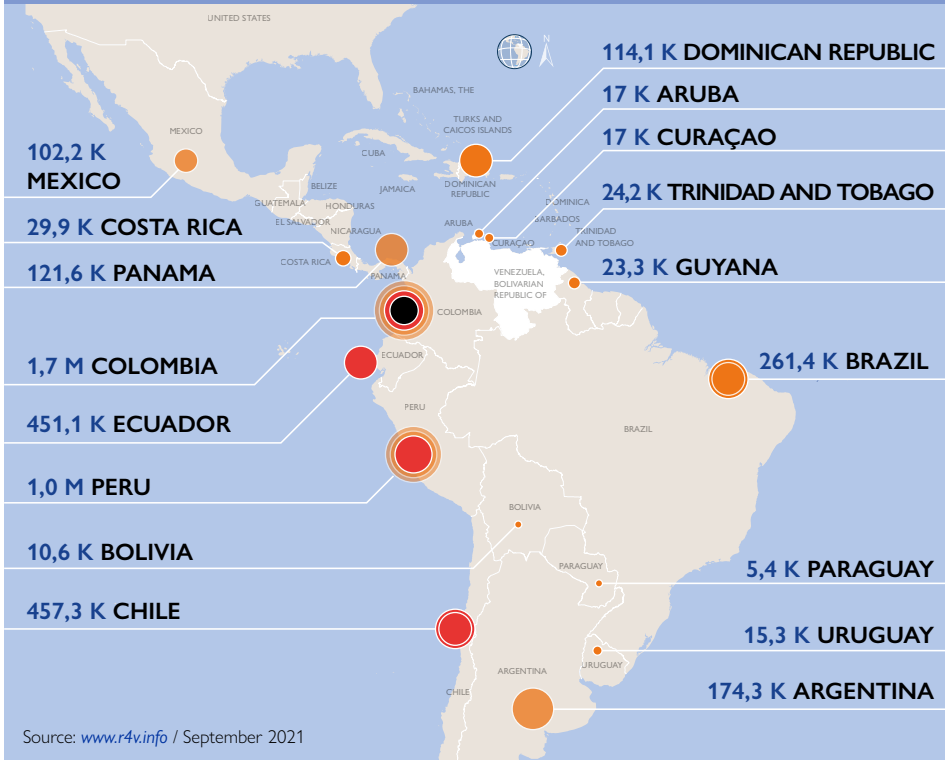
## REGIONAL RESPONSE<sup>1</sup>

The IOM Regional Response to the Venezuela Situation takes place across 17 IOM Missions operating under the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP). Between July and September 2021, IOM was able to provide the following services to beneficiaries per RMRP sector, as illustrated below:



\* Not unique beneficiaries and including people reached in Ecuador through multimedia regularization campaigns.

## VENEZUELAN MIGRANTS AND REFUGEES



### Education



**1,348**

Number of beneficiaries of education activities



**8**

Countries



**8**

School kits provided



### Food Security



**35,519**

Number of beneficiaries of food security activities



**16**

Countries



**3,185**

Food baskets distributed



**33,828**

Meals distributed



### Health



**10,799**

Number of beneficiaries of health activities



**8**

Countries



**3,491**

Individuals assisted with Psycho-social support



**1,491**

Healthcare providers trained

1. Results of regional RMRP projects from July to September 2021.



## Humanitarian Transportation



**899**

Number of beneficiaries of humanitarian transportation activities



**6**

Countries



## Integration



**7,782**

Number of beneficiaries of integration activities



**16**

Countries



**312**

Individuals who participated in entrepreneurship activities



**1,239**

Individuals reached with anti-xenophobia and anti-discrimination campaigns



## Multipurpose CBI



**5,389**

Number of beneficiaries who received multipurpose CBI



**6**

Countries



## Protection



**2,518,209**

Number of beneficiaries of protection activities



**15**

Countries



**764**

Individuals supported with documentation and regularization processes



**28,873**

Individuals assisted with orientation on social services



## Shelter



**7,859**

Number of beneficiaries of shelter activities



**15**

Countries



## WASH



**8,541**

Number of beneficiaries provided with WASH services



**5**

Countries



**2,514**

Hygiene/dignity kits distributed



## Common Services



**14**

Countries

**DTM**

**25**


DTM field data collection rounds conducted

**DTM**

**19**

DTM reports published

## KEY OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in world - 5.7 million  
 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in LAC - 4.6 million

### Mexico - 102,200

IOM launched the second edition of the Handbook for Migrant Entrepreneurship, in a virtual event held on Facebook. The Handbook aims at providing essential information about how to start a business, such as how to identify an appropriate tax regime, how to prepare a business plan and how to verify if the business plan is viable. IOM reached a total of 1,200 people between 25 and 34 years old. This activity not only helps to inform the Venezuelan community on how to start a new venture, but also to learn about the type of actions that could be developed in the future. Follow up questions, raising from interactions with the Venezuelan community, include the creation of a seed capital fund to benefit entrepreneurship initiatives among the Venezuelan migrant population.

### Dominican Republic - 114,100

Within the framework of the Migratory Normalization Plan for Venezuelan citizens in the Dominican Republic, and with the intention of giving visibility to the contribution made by the economic and labor integration of this migrant population to the country, IOM organized a photographic exhibition to portray the faces of Venezuelan migrant teachers in multiple spaces and disciplines. Under this initiative, IOM collaborated with two Venezuelan migrant photographers who contributed their lenses and their work, as well as with the Agora Mall - the largest and most visited shopping center in Santo Domingo - which lent both the exhibition space for 15 days as well as the panels used, and which supported the organization of side activities for the public of the Mall, in the form of storytelling for children and a mobile photography workshop. A collective of Venezuelan artists designed and organized the virtual exhibition: <https://awacultura.com/caminos-de-aprendizaje>.

### Aruba - 17,000

In an effort to increase environmental awareness and to promote the integration of migrants and refugees in environmental and communities' activities in Aruba, IOM and ScubbleBubbles Aruba hosted a beach cleanup with vulnerable Venezuelan migrants, refugees, and host communities. Beneficiaries included Venezuelan youth from 16 years old and up and aimed at encouraging nature preservation and environmental responsibility.

### Costa Rica - 29,900

Between July and September, food cards were delivered to vulnerable Venezuelan migrants and refugees. These cards, unlike traditional food baskets, allow people to purchase fresh products directly from the supermarket according to their nutritional needs. A total of 77 of these cards were delivered, benefiting 217 people. The cards amounts were assigned according to the level of urgency, the particular conditions and the number of people in each household. Hygiene kits with basic personal hygiene products were delivered along with the cards.

### Panama - 121,600

The COVID-19 pandemic caused an unprecedented increase in pre-existing vulnerabilities, presenting new challenges for international migrants, 48% of whom are women. In response, IOM and the National Women's Institute began a specialized course on Gender and Migration, aimed at 60 officials working with Venezuelan migrant women, including personnel from the Centers of the National Women's Institute (CINAMU) and members of the National Committee Against Violence against Women (CONMIVU). The objectives of the course include 1) the provision of theoretical and practical information on gender and migration, and 2) to strengthen the capacities of professionals from different disciplines who provide direct assistance at CINAMU to women victims of gender-based violence (GBV), including Venezuelan women, on issues related to gender and migration, as well as the specific care needs of migrant women and the services available to meet those needs.



### Curaçao - 17,000

IOM supported the Springplank school with a donation of 12 tablets and two projectors. The school accommodates young migrant Venezuelan children with the aim to prepare teenagers through intensive language training and integration. The school offers a transition period for young migrant students that are unable to keep up due to insufficient command of Papiamentu and Dutch. This activity is an extension of the Dutch program course at the Prins Bernhard school. If the children from the Prins Bernhard school are still struggling with the Dutch language, they will be transferred to the Brion school. The Springplank school offers more than just integration, the school emphasizes language education. The school contributes to the development of students into independent people who can fully function in an increasingly dynamic society. Currently, 30 Venezuelan teenagers are participating in the school.

### Trinidad & Tobago - 24,200

In collaboration with the local NGO Trinidad and Tobago/Venezuela Solidarity Network (TTV SOLNET), IOM implemented the project "Empowering Venezuelan Migrants through Skills and Business Development", aimed at empowering and raising capacities of Venezuelans through education and livelihood projects that can enable them to have a dignified, self-sustained and safe life. Between July and September, a total of 121 persons graduated from makeup artistry, pinata, decorations and sewing courses. Social media marketing workshops, counter-trafficking, and empowerment sessions were also incorporated. Post-course reviews revealed that 93% of those participating stated that the course gave them tools to start an enterprise to generate income and 100% were interested in enrolling in another course. Graduates also reported feeling a sense of pride and happiness to learn and belong to a group with similar interests. Due to the success of the initiative IOM plans to scale up activities with TTV SOLNET.

# KEY OPERATIONAL HIGHLIGHTS

 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in world - 5.7 million  
 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in LAC - 4.6 million

## Colombia - 1.7 M

With the support of USAID, IOM has supported the implementation of the Temporary Protection Statute for Venezuelan Migrants, a migration regularization measure that will grant a special protection permit for the next 10 years to Venezuelans residing in Colombia. IOM is supporting the hiring of 500 officials for Migración Colombia (the Colombian migration authority) to facilitate the registration of irregular migrants among the more than 1.7 million Venezuelans in Colombia. The support also includes the provision of the necessary supplies to facilitate registration, as well as technological and logistical equipment.

## Guyana - 23,300

IOM had the privilege of participating in a medical operation with Guyana Medical Relief, the Ministry of Health of Guyana, the Central Islamic Organization of Guyana and the U.S. Embassy's Humanitarian Assistance Program (HAP). The operation was held in Mabaruma and Port Kaituma, and reached approximately 3,762 people, including Venezuelan migrants and refugees community members. Beneficiaries received ophthalmology, dental care, ultrasounds, HIV testing, family planning and COVID-19 assistance. IOM specifically targeted those women who requested contraceptive implants to improve family planning.

## Ecuador - 451,100

With generous support from PRM, the IOM Center for Attention to Migrants, Orientation and Reference (Centro AMOR, in Spanish) handed over 200 tablets and 200 COVID-19 prevention kits to Venezuelan migrant and refugee families and host community members in Quito. The delivery will reduce the school drop-out rate and improve access to virtual education and protection against COVID-19. IOM has also implemented activities designed with a gender, intergenerational and intercultural focus with the aim of creating common spaces between migrants and host communities. The activities were developed in seven cities, promoting equality of human rights, intercultural dialogue and ultimately inclusion.

## Brazil - 261,400

IOM offered medical and psychological consultations to Venezuelan migrants and refugees and Brazilian indigenous people at the Tarau Paru community in Pacaraima, a Brazilian city bordering Venezuela. Besides its local population, the Tarau Paru hosts over 500 Pemón indigenous people from Venezuela. In support to the local health care system, IOM's medical teams offered medical evaluations, as well as referrals to medical examinations, including STI testing and COVID-19.

## Peru - 1.0 M

As part of its humanitarian assistance activities on the northern border, between July and September 2021, IOM assisted Venezuelan migrants and refugees during their journey through the Tumbes region. Hygiene kits were delivered to 7,137 people and COVID-19 protection kits to 327 individuals, which will guarantee access to basic personal hygiene and protection supplies to prevent COVID-19. Likewise, IOM managed the Mobile Assistance and Orientation Points, through which basic medical care was provided to 1,145 people and orientation on access to rights to 1,571 Venezuelan migrants and refugees, thus contributing to reduce the risks of GBV, human trafficking, and smuggling of migrants.

## Paraguay - 5,400

IOM provided assistance to 16 families through the Regional Protection Mechanism. Families received support to cover their vital needs related to housing, food and personal hygiene and household supplies. Families also received seed capital and other support related to launching micro-enterprise plans. In addition, families with children and adolescents of school age received school supplies, as well as those who needed health support received coverage of specialized medical exams and transport services. Of the 16 families supported, nine live in the city of Asunción and seven in different cities of the Central Department. The average age of the family members was 39 years, 81% of whom were women and 19% men.

## Bolivia - 10,600

Together with the Bolivian Ministry of Health and Sports, IOM implemented an Enrollment Campaign to the Unified Health System for the Migrant Population, which will allow migrants to access comprehensive and free health services in public health facilities. Through the campaign, enrollment points for the Unified Health System were set up in 24 municipalities in Bolivia's nine departments. A total of 5,304 people were registered, mainly Venezuelan migrants and members of host communities. In accordance with the provisions of Law No. 1152 on Comprehensive Health Services, migrants of all ages with a residence permit in Bolivia, children under five years of age, pregnant women, women requiring sexual and reproductive health care, people over 60 years of age and people with disabilities, regardless of their migratory status, were able to register.

## Uruguay - 15,300

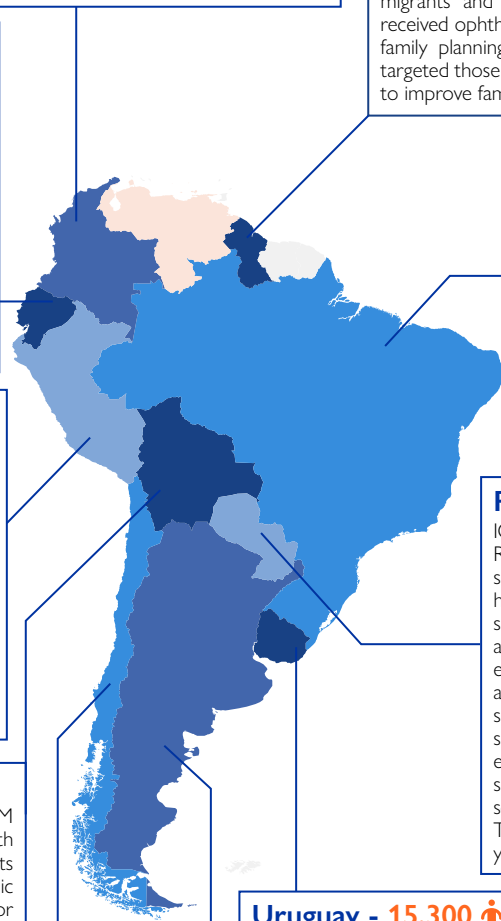
Between July 6th and August 13th, IOM and UNICEF conducted the fourth round of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) Survey in the departments of Rocha and Rivera, with the aim to understand the current general situation regarding access to services, inclusion, needs and impacts of COVID-19 on the migrant population, especially the Venezuelan migrant population, children and adolescents. The survey included 15 virtual semi-structured in-depth interviews with key actors. Key findings identified housing and employment as some of the most critical dimensions among the migrant population. In the coming weeks, the DTM report will be disseminated to the national senate chamber, published in national media channels as well as shared in IOM media and social media networks.

## Chile - 457,300

IOM has been supporting the field and virtual operations of the Chilean Catholic Institute of Migration (INCAMI) which provides information and migration legal advice to Venezuelan migrants and refugees in different communities of the Metropolitan Region. By funding professionals specialized in migration counseling and socio-economic integration, it has been possible to support 360 people with information in the communities of Lampa, Pudahuel, Cerro Navia, La Pintana, Melipilla, San Felipe, Renca, Lampa, Peñalolén and Providencia. In addition, IOM delivered 8 computers, 5 tablets, 3 portable printers and wireless mice to INCAMI that will allow operations to return to the field once the quarantine measures are lifted in the capital, facilitating the delivery of printed documentation to those most in need. Humanitarian assistance was provided to refugees and migrants in Iquique just after the violent incident of September (provision of NFI kits, food assistance and shelters that were intensified after the incident + strengthening of support spaces).

## Argentina - 174,300

With generous support from PRM, IOM has established alliances with the Asociación Civil Alianza Por Venezuela, the Association of Venezuelan Psychologists in Argentina (PSICOVEN), as well as with the Asociación Psicoanalítica de Buenos Aires (APdeBA) in the field of mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) for the implementation of various activities aimed at migrant adults, children, adolescents and elderly. IOM works with a variety of tools, such as writing workshops, film forums, artistic expressions, support for job search and placement, medical accompaniment to migrants going through serious illnesses, support to migrant families with sons and daughters with autism, support groups, among others. In addition, IOM offers opportunities for capacity building of mental health professionals who work and serve the migrant population, including through various training courses, supervision of professional practice and workshops. Between August and September, 21 activities contributed to the psychosocial wellbeing of 486 people, of whom 405 were women.



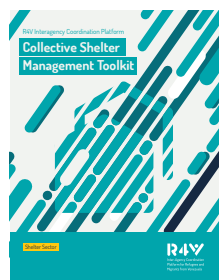
## REGIONAL HIGHLIGHTS



Inter-Agency Coordination  
Platform for Refugees and  
Migrants from Venezuela

**RMRP 2022 planning:** In its capacity as co-leader of the Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for the regional response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, IOM has co-lead with UNHCR, the development of guidance materials for the RMRP 2022 planning process, as well as the development of population projections and People in Need (PIN) figures for 2022. For the first time, the RMRP planning guidance - also includes dedicated guidance on PSEA and AAP, two cross-cutting themes led by IOM. In August, all regional sectors finalized their sector objectives and indicators in extensive consultations with their counterparts across the 17 RMRP countries. IOM also led on planning framework for sectors in which it is co-lead, including co-lead of the integration, shelter, humanitarian transportation sectors, and sub-sector on trafficking and smuggling. Also, in its capacity of appealing organization to the RMRP, IOM has submitted its plan of activities for the RMRP 2022.

**17<sup>th</sup> Regional Platform meeting:** On September 7<sup>th</sup>, the Regional Interagency Coordination Platform for the response for Venezuelans (R4V), which is co-led by IOM together with UNHCR, held its [17<sup>th</sup> regional meeting](#) with all members and stakeholders. The discussions centered around current regional developments, including the considerable efforts made by some host country governments towards increased inclusion. The meeting was moderated by the IOM Special Envoy for the Regional Response for the Venezuelan Situation (hereafter referred to as DG's Special Envoy) and UNHCR's Regional Director for the Americas. Among those presenting were PRM, as the biggest donor of the regional response, WFP, the World Bank and the governments of Mexico and Brazil, the latter focusing on concrete examples for the inclusion of refugees and migrants from Venezuela. In addition, R4V members were informed and updated about the process for activity submission as part of the [planning for the 2022 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan \(RMRP\)](#), which has now fully moved into the validation phase of the activities submitted by all R4V partners.



IOM as co-lead of the R4V Shelter Sector along with UNHCR and NRC developed and published the [R4V Collective Shelter Management Toolkit](#). The document is the first interagency guide within the Shelter Sector done in consultation with the 51 sector members in different countries. It consists of a review of Shelter, Settlements and CCCM literature and cases studies for direct application of implementation of collective shelter management RMRP projects adapted to the region. The document is built around the three main phases of a collective site management (opening, day-to-day maintenance, closing). The core elements of the Toolkit are SOPs and highlights of good practices in the region. Also, collective shelter managers and directors, and national shelter focal points from Guyana, Argentina and Chile have been trained on the use of the Toolkit. This pilot training is expected to be replicated in other countries in 2021 and 2022. The Toolkit is also available in [Spanish](#).



The Regional Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) Community of Practice (CoP), co-led by IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF, finalized a series of tools underlined as necessary in the regional PSEA mapping exercise conducted in 2020. As a result, the R4V Platform now has a harmonized [PSEA Module](#) which can be deployed to train personnel of R4V member organizations. In addition, the CoP finalized the R4V SEA risk assessment methodology – an instrument to conduct collective exercises to form a comprehensive picture of SEA risks and response capacities in the context of R4V responses in a particular geographic location. The assessment seeks to understand how the response, as a whole, is addressing SEA risks, as well to provide findings and recommendations to promote safer programs and to improve R4V partners' capacity to protect affected communities from SEA. Both tools are expected to be piloted before the end of 2021.



**First meeting of the Quito Process, Brasilia Chapter:** On August 31<sup>st</sup> the DG's Special Envoy and the UNHCR Director for the Americas and all member states of the Quito Process participated in the first meeting of the Chapter VIII, under the Pro Tempore Presidency of the Federative Republic of Brazil. The representative of Brazil presented the objectives of the new areas of work and the three priorities of the Agenda for this Chapter: 1) host communities, 2) youth, and 3) vulnerable populations. The DG's Special Envoy recognized and thanked the great work done under the Presidency of Peru and congratulated Brazil for the important and strategic topics chosen for the new Chapter which promote inclusivity and permit to strengthen collaboration with local governments. He also renewed the strong commitment of IOM in the areas of counter trafficking, orientation and reception centers, family reunification, socio economic integration and protection of children and adolescents as well as the technical support to the Technical Secretariat.



**IOM and the Latin American Faculty for Social Sciences (FLACSO):** The Office of the Special Envoy (OSE) participated, on August 11<sup>th</sup>, in the first online dialogue organized by IOM and FLACSO on Venezuelan Diaspora, with the financial support of the Spanish Cooperation Agency (AECID). Speakers of the event included representatives from the IOM Regional Office for South America, OSE, FLACSO and AECID. This dialogue gave the opportunity to over 100 participants of the FLACSO-IOM capacity building initiative to engage with representatives from Venezuelan organizations, including the President of the Coalition for Venezuela and representatives from the Intercultural Association Miranda of Chile, the Venezuelan Union in Peru, and the Latin Vox Machine in Argentina. The event was attended by 120 participants and was streamed on [YouTube](#) with approximately 300 views.



On August 3<sup>rd</sup>, the **Migration Policy Institute (MPI) hosted the event "Mobilizing an International Solution to Support Venezuelan Migrants and Refugees"**: Participants included the DG's Special Envoy, the UNHCR Regional Director for the Americas and diaspora leaders, including the President of Coalición por Venezuela; the Senior Manager of Global Partnerships from Tent Partnership for Refugees; the Vice President of Alianza VenCr and the Co-founder and General Director of Efecto Cocuyo. Participants reflected on the short- and medium-term challenges facing Venezuelans, examined their protection and integration needs, and the role of the private sector in meeting these needs. The DG's Special Envoy drew on the 2021 Donors Conference's main resource mobilization and visibility outcomes, giving an overview of the RMRP sectors; the socioeconomic and integration needs, focusing on regularization, access to livelihoods and social cohesion; and on IOM's growing engagement with Civil Society organizations in LAC. IOM and MPI are strategic partners in generating knowledge and debates aimed at understanding the dynamics of human mobility and contributing to the formulation of inclusive and innovative public policies for the benefit of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the region.



IOM, including OSE, ROBA, and IOM Washington, the Organization of American States (OAS), and UNHCR participated in the **joint OAS-IOM-UNHCR Interamerican course on protection of displaced persons, migrants, asylum seekers, returnees with protection needs, stateless persons and trafficking victims in the Americas** that took place on 27 and 28 September. The IOM Washington Chief of Mission gave opening remarks, the OSE Integration Officer moderated a session on challenges and best practices regarding local authorities and their role in integration efforts, IOM's R4V Inter-Agency Coordinator participated on a panel on regional mechanisms to respond to migration and forced displacement, and IOM's Regional Specialist on Migrant Protection and Assistance for South America presented on Protection of Victims of Trafficking. The course was attended by approximately 140 participants and targeted officials from OAS Permanent Missions, Observers, and General Secretariat, as well as public civil servants from relevant national agencies and international and multilateral organizations.





**IOM and MPI launched their joint study *Socioeconomic Integration of Venezuelan Migrants and Refugees***: the cases of Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador and Peru. This MPI-IOM DTM product is the **second phase of the joint data analysis project**. The study analyzed the socioeconomic integration of Venezuelan migrants and refugees in South America using DTM data collected between 2017-2021 and other sources. This sociodemographic profile examines Venezuelans' levels of economic inclusion, education, access to health care, and social cohesion in the five countries that together host more than 70 percent of this migrant population worldwide. The launch event included introductions by the MPI President and the IOM Washington CoM, and the high-level panel included the DG's Special Envoy, the Director of the Brazilian National Secretariat of Social Assistance, the Director of the OAS Department of Social Inclusion, and the President of Unión Venezolana in Peru. The discussion was focused on the opportunities and challenges in supporting effective policymaking that would benefit both Venezuelan migrants and refugees and their host communities.

IOM is very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, contributing to national and regional initiatives. The following contributions are currently being implemented in the region during the reporting period:

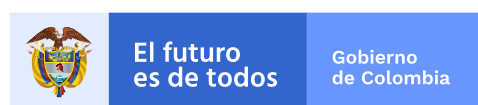


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For further information please contact the Programme Support Unit of the Office of the Special Envoy for the Regional Response to the Venezuela Situation at [VRTPSU@iom.int](mailto:VRTPSU@iom.int)