

CHILE


 REFUGEES AND
 MIGRANTS IN CHILE

457,324

 PEOPLE REACHED
 IN 2021*

29,568


FUNDING SITUATION**

REQUIREMENT: USD 46.1M

Situation

- By the last week of March, Chile was reporting more than [6,000 active COVID-19 cases per day](#), and the Government announced a return to complete quarantine (phase 1) for most of the country, putting some 42 municipalities and more than 14 million people under [strict quarantine measures](#). Flights abroad will be restricted for 30 days during the month of April, both for Chilean citizens and foreign residents. To continue its immunization work during this pandemic, Chile has ordered [90 million doses of vaccines](#), more than enough to immunize its 19 million citizens, out of which more than [30 per cent of the population had received one or more doses by the end of March](#).
- Partners reported that refugees and migrants were using other unofficial border points to enter the country from Bolivia to avoid the strict control measures put in place in Colchane, entering instead through cities such as Ollagüe, Tocopilla, and Pedro de Atacama to reach Calama. In interviews with partners, Venezuelans expressed fears of approaching the authorities out of a belief that they could be deported, based on experiences of other Venezuelans and also based on the latest announcements as announced by the Chilean authorities. As a result, many Venezuelans were reported to be sleeping on the streets and avoiding entering into transitory quarantine shelters (*residencias sanitarias*) out of fear of being identified and expelled.
- The Government launched an [online regional campaign against irregular migration](#), with a specific focus on cities like Tacna and Lima (Peru), La Paz (Bolivia), Quito (Ecuador) and Bogotá (Colombia) in the Andean corridor, which are frequently used by Venezuelans traveling to Chile. The main campaign video warns against entering Chile irregularly, shows military border monitoring, and emphasizes how Chile is preparing new flights to expel people who entered the country irregularly.
- Under the framework of the *Vuelta a la Patria* Plan, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs from Venezuela confirmed that [202 nationals returned from Chile in March](#).
- Another ruling issued by the Court of Appeals of Iquique accepted in favour of five Venezuelans who entered Chile through unauthorized border points was challenged by the Government before the Supreme Court and [this time it was confirmed by the Supreme Court in favour of the Government](#). The Supreme Court considered that the administrative acts with which the deportations were decreed were within its powers.

Response

- During March, R4V partners assisted refugees and migrants with food and non-food items** (incl. hygiene kits) in the critical areas of Colchane and Huara, **in the north of Chile**.
- Partners also provided legal **orientation and conducted a registration of refugees and migrants' families settled in the central park of Iquique**. The registry allowed partners to identify urgent needs and coordinate referrals to local shelters or transitory quarantine centers and, in some cases, to offer humanitarian transportation within the country to those with families and friends in other parts of Chile.
- In **Santiago**, partners are also distributing food and hygiene boxes and **supporting livelihoods-oriented assistance for refugees and migrants from Venezuela**, with the goal of ensuring their effective inclusion in economic recuperation efforts in Chile, transitioning from a COVID-19 humanitarian-focused response to a post-COVID-19 recovery one, in close coordination with the private sector and municipalities.
- R4V partners celebrated the first plenary session of the year with partners presenting the Refugee and Migrant Response (RMRP) 2021**. Sector leads presented their work plans and strategic priorities for their work in 2021, and partners provided updates on the situation of population flows in the north of the country over the past months. Meanwhile, the 2021 Plan was also presented to the Chilean Ministry of Foreign Affairs.



PEOPLE REACHED*



Health

0


Education

0

 Food
 Security

2.244


Integration

228


CBI

0


Protection

2.822


Shelter

430

 Hum.
 Transp.

15


WASH

1.564