COLOMBIA

Situation

- On January 17, Juan Francisco Espinosa was officially appointed as the new director of Colombia Migration.
- On January 20, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection issued Decree 64 of 2020\(^2\), which guarantees the affiliation of vulnerable population not included in the health system, including refugees and migrants with Special Permission to Stay (PEP, by its Spanish acronym) and Colombian returnees, prioritizing the affiliation of people in poverty, newborns, children and their families.
- From January 23 to 27, the Colombian Government created the fifth round of the Temporary Transit Permit (PIP-TT)\(^3\), a work permit that will be granted to Venezuelan refugees and migrants who have a formal job offer.
- On January 28, the Ministry of Labor issued the decree for the Special Stay Permit to Stay for the Promotion of Formalization (PEPFF, by its Spanish acronym)\(^3\), a formal job opportunity, through different modalities, and self-employment, by its Spanish acronym

Response

- **WASH:** >24,200 people accessed water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services daily at the various service delivery points and >14,400 people received key sanitation and hygiene kits and items.
- **Education:** >1,000 children and adolescent refugees and migrants accessed to non-formal and formal education in emergency services and 366 at school age were enrolled in national educational institutions.
- **Integration:** >4,400 people participated in community integration activities and >1,700 were supported to access employment and self-employment opportunities.
- **Multisector:** >11,500 people accessed telecommunications services, >8,500 received short-term support with temporary, individual and collective accommodation services.
- **Protection:** >10,100 people received protection services, particularly accompaniment and general orientation and management of particular cases, and >7,800 persons received services through Support Spaces.
- **Health:** >41,500 primary and physical health consultations and >3,600 emergency care consultations for refugees and migrants; >8,500 people received mental health care or psychosocial support.
- **Food Security and Nutrition:** >351,000 people received food assistance through different modalities, and self-support strategies were provided for >16,900 people.
- **Monetary transfers:** >15,000 people accessed multipurpose transfers via vouchers.

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**Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH)**

During the month of January, more than 43,000 beneficiaries received one or more services in water and sanitation through 11 partners and implementers of the RMRP, in 12 departments and 18 municipalities. Assistance was provided mainly in border departments, but also in transit departments such as Cauca, Meta, Santander and Tolima. The main actions of the sector provided daily access to water and sanitation services at service delivery points (health centers, shelters, canteens, schools, etc.) for more than 24,200 people, including 9,200 girls and boys who accessed these services in child development spaces. Likewise, sanitation and hygiene kits and key products were delivered to more than 14,400 people, considering the differential needs of women, girls, boys, pregnant women, among other profiles. Additionally, more than 4,300 people, including host population, accessed facilities and trainings on safe water and basic sanitation in their communities, and 548 received water and sanitation services at the community and institutional level.

**ORGANIZATIONS***:
Action Against Hunger | Capellanía OFICA | Caritas Switzerland (FAMIG) | IOM | Plan International | PUI and SI | Save the Children | Colombian National Red Cross Society | UNICEF | ZOA

*Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

**Education**

During the month of January, more than 1,200 beneficiaries received assistance through 8 RMRP partners and implementers, in 7 departments and 10 municipalities, mainly in the border departments and in the Caribbean region.

More than 1,000 children, refugees, migrants, returnees and members of the host communities accessed non-formal and formal education in emergency services, such as educational reinforcement and support activities, among other flexible education initiatives. Likewise, 366 children from Venezuela at school age were enrolled in national educational institutions, where they are accompanied in their educational process, and were provided with school kits.

**ORGANIZATIONS***:
Capellanía OFICA (NRC) | CISP | IOM | Plan International | Save the Children | UNICEF | World Vision

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

**Integration**

During the month of January, more than 11,100 beneficiaries received assistance through 12 RMRP partners and implementers, in 6 departments and 9 municipalities, the majority in the border departments. More than 4,400 people were reached through activities to promote social cohesion, such as community integration days. In addition, more than 1,300 people were
accompanies to access employment opportunities, and more than 400 participated in self-employment or entrepreneurship initiatives, including capacity building and delivery of productive inputs, among other actions.

**ORGANIZATIONS***:
ACDI/VOCA | Bethany | Caritas Switzerland (FAMIG) | FAO | GIZ (COSPAS) | ILO | PADF | UNHCR | UNICEF

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

**Multisector**

During the month of January, more than 11,700 beneficiaries received assistance through 20 partners and implementers of the RMRP, in 13 departments and 23 municipalities, in border and transit areas, and in the settlements of the population from Venezuela. More than 6,100 people received communication services, more than 8,500 persons received collective and individual short-term shelter, more than 1,800 people accessed non-food items (NFIs) via vouchers and in-kind (e.g. protection kits) and more than 1,100 people accessed humanitarian transport assistance.

**ORGANIZATIONS***:
Action Against Hunger | ADRA | Capellanía Ofica | Caritas Switzerland (FAMIG – Pastoral Social) | CISP | IOM | IRC | Lutheran World Federation | OXFAM (Fundación Mujer y Futuro) | PUI and SI | SJR Col | Colombian National Red Cross Society | SOS Children’s Villages | Tearfund | UNHCR (CORPRODINCO – DRC – Pastoral Social)

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

**Protection**

During the month of January, more than 28,000 beneficiaries received assistance through 38 partners and implementers of the RMRP, in 15 departments and 31 municipalities, both in border and transit departments and settlements of the population from Venezuela. More than 10,100 people received protection services, particularly accompaniment and guidance on access to rights and assistance routes, as well as case management. More than 7,800 people received services through support spaces. Similarly, more than 8,000 received specialized child protection services, including both case management and trainings for educational actors, among other activities.

More than 5,900 refugees and migrants received legal assistance, representation or advice. Lastly, more than 800 people received information, prevention and response services to gender-based violence, through community strengthening initiatives and guidance on protection routes, among other actions. Likewise, 364 people were trained in this matter.

**ORGANIZATIONS***:
Action Against Hunger | Bethany | Capellanía Ofica | Caritas Switzerland (Pastoral Social) | CISP (INTEROS) | Diakonie (CID – Fundación Tierra de Paz) | DRC | FUPAD | GIZ (Corporación Scalabrini) | Heartland Alliance | HIAS | IRC | NRC | OXFAM (Fuerza de Mujeres Wayuu – Fundación Mujer y Futuro) | Plan International | Save the Children | SJR Col | Colombian National Red Cross Society | Tearfund | UNHCR (CORPRODINCO – DRC – Pastoral Social)

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

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Feature story: "A new return"

Rafael* is the leader of a Sikuani indigenous community in Puerto Carreño, Vichada; he is 54 years old and a Colombian returnee. Ten years ago, he migrated to Venezuela in search of a better future for his children. “Back then I worked in agriculture and fishing, but I had no possibility to work anymore, nor to get food. At the same time, they changed the children’s school uniforms and it was difficult for me to buy the new uniform. I heard that in Venezuela they were helping with children’s uniforms, shoes and a bag full of school supplies, and as I wanted to give my children a better life, I decided to leave.”

Later on, given the situation in Venezuela, Rafael and his family had to return to Colombia. “We had to return here to look for new alternatives for my children, two older boys. There was no work for them there and they could not continue studying due to lack of resources.” Now, as a participant in a project implemented by Diakonie Katastrophenhilfe and Corporación Infancia y Desarrollo (funded by ECHO), focusing on protection, gender-based violence and legal orientation, Rafael’s family and community see new opportunities. Both his family and the community have benefited from the workshops provided within the framework of the project. Rafael and his family have been able to teach what they have learned to the people of their indigenous community. According to Rafael “everything leads to something good”.

*Rafael’s name has been changed in order to protect his identity.

Health

During the month of January, more than 60,000 beneficiaries received assistance through 26 partners and implementers of the RMRP, in 20 departments and 36 municipalities, both in border and transit departments and settlements of the population from Venezuela. More than 41,500 physical and mental primary care consultations and more than 3,600 emergency care consultations were carried out for refugees and migrants, including deliveries and neonatal care. In addition, more than 8,500 people received mental health care or psychosocial support. Regarding sexual and reproductive health, more than 3,200 actions of integral medical, prenatal and gynecologic care were performed.

ORGANIZATIONS*:
Action Against Hunger | ADRA | AIDS Healthcare | Americas | Capellanía OFICA (IOM) | CISP | FUPAD | GIZ | Heartland Alliance | HIAS | Humanity and Inclusion | IOM | IRC | Malteser | Plan International | Save the Children | SJR Col | Colombian National Red Cross Society | UNFPA (GENFAMI – Halú) | UNHCR (Corprodinco – DRC – Humanity and Inclusion – Malteser – Pastoral Social) | UNICEF

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.
Food Security and Nutrition

During the month of January, more than 330,000 beneficiaries received food and nutrition assistance through 26 partners and implementers of the RMRP, in 13 departments, reaching people in a total of 46 municipalities, in border and transit departments and settlements of the population from Venezuela.

More than 300,800 people were reached through food assistance, including vouchers for more than 128,700 people, as well as the provision of hot meals served in community canteens for more than 139,600 people, 24,900 food rations for over 24,900 people and food kits for over 13,200 people transiting on foot (“caminantes”). Additionally, activities related to the promotion of self-sufficiency were carried out to 16,900 people. Agricultural tools, seeds and cultivation materials, including fertilizers and pesticides were provided in order to help people grow their own food on small agricultural plots, thus reducing their dependence on assistance. Finally, 2,100 women and 1,100 boys and girls, identified as especially vulnerable, were attended with specific nutritional interventions.

* This figure includes food support indicators which, due to their nature, may correspond to multiple assistances for the same beneficiary. The sector of Food Security and Nutrition with support from the GIFMM is constantly monitoring the calculations to avoid duplication of beneficiaries. Figures may change in future reports.

ORGANIZATIONS**:

** Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.

Multipurpose CBI

During the month of January, more than 15,000 beneficiaries received assistance through 10 RMRP partners and implementers, in 10 departments and 21 municipalities. These people were supported through various multi-purpose transfer initiatives through bonuses, such as cash for work, financial orientation activities and awareness raising on the use of money.

ORGANIZATIONS*:
Action Against Hunger | DRC | IRC | Mercy Corps | OXFAM (Fundación Mujer y Futuro) | Save the Children | UNHCR (DRC – Pastoral Social) | World Vision

* Those in parentheses correspond to implementing partners.
Local coordination

Local GIFMMs, as the territorial expression of the national platform, are spaces for strategic coordination of the operational response at the local level, working in close collaboration with the local authorities’ coordination mechanisms.

- In La Guajira, a rapid needs assessment for older people was carried out in the municipalities of Riohacha, Maicao and Uribia. 900 surveys were conducted in three days with members of the local GIFMM and the organization HelpAge International.
- The local GIFMM in Valle del Cauca provided technical support to the strategy of the Secretary of Social Welfare of the Municipality of Santiago de Cali, for the assistance to the Venezuelan population living on the streets.
- The local GIFMMs began the construction of their local workplans for the activities to be carried out during this year. Workshops to identify challenges, needs, and priorities were conducted in order to coordinate efforts for a greater impact and coverage in the response to the refugee and migrant population.
- The national GIFMM and local GIFMMs participated in the migration tables held in Nariño, Casanare, La Guajira, Norte de Santander and Atlántico, where the coordination structure of the GIFMM was explained to the new local authorities. Furthermore, the progress achieved during 2019 was presented and the main challenges to be addressed at the departmental level were discussed, as well as the need to include the refugee and migrant population in the departmental development plans.

GIFMM members

| Action Against Hunger | ACTED | ADRA | Aid for AIDS | Alliance for Solidarity | American Red Cross* | Americas | Ayuda en Acción | Bethany International | BLUMONT | Capellanía OFICA | CARE | Caritas Germany | Caritas Switzerland | Colombian National Red Cross Society | Diakonie | Doctors of the World | Doctors Without Borders* | DRC | FAO | German Red Cross* | Global Communities | Halú Foundation | Heartland Alliance | HelpAge International | HIAS | Humanity & Inclusion | IFRC* | ILO | iMMAP | IOM | IRC | Lutheran World Federation | Malteser International | Mercy Corps | Norwegian Red Cross | NRC | OCHA | OCR | OHCHR | OXFAM | PADF | PAHO/WHO | Pastoral Social | Plan International | Profamilia | RET International | Save the Children | SJR Colombia | SJR Latinoamérica y el Caribe | Solidarités International y Première Urgence Internationale | SOS Children’s Villages | Tearfund | Terre des Hommes - Lousanne | UN Habitat | Un Techo Para Mi País | UN Women | UNDP | UNEP | UNFPA | UNHCR | UNICEF | UNODC | War Child | WFP | World Vision |

67 members | *Observers only.

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