



UNHCR Reporting on Refugees

Media workshop
Aruba 2019

About UNHCR

- Established by the UN General Assembly in 1950
- UNHCR is neutral, humanitarian and apolitical
- Provides protection and assistance to the world's refugees, internally displaced people and people who are stateless
- 130 countries, staff of almost 11,000

68.5 million

(2017)

Total number of men women and children displaced by war, persecution, and discrimination around the world

- **25.4 million** refugees
- **3.1 million** asylum-seekers
- **40 million** IDPs
- **10 million** stateless people



Protection is paramount



Who is a refugee?

- A person who was forced to flee his or her home country.
- A refugee fears persecution based on one of five grounds (race, religion, nationality, political opinion, membership in a particular social group).
- Under the 1951 Refugee Convention the primary obligation of States is to not send refugees back to country of persecution.

Cartagena Declaration 1984

- Broadens the definition of refugee
 - external aggression
 - occupation
 - foreign domination
 - events seriously disturbing public order

- Specific to the Americas

What is an asylum-seeker?

- Someone who has fled their country and whose claim to refugee status is being assessed
- Considered to have the same international protection needs as a refugee
- When there is a mass influx, refugee status can be automatic or *Prima Facie*



Other POCs

- **Statelessness:** A person who is not considered a citizen or national of any country
- **Internally displaced persons:** Someone who has been forced to flee, but who remains inside their own country



Who is a migrant?



- Someone who has left their country freely and not because of direct threat or violence
- Could safely return home and be protected by their own government
- Increasingly politically-charged term and often conflated with “refugee”

Three durable solutions

- Local Integration
- Resettlement
- Voluntary Repatriation

Growing needs, new approaches

- Global Compact on Refugees
 - Ease pressure on host countries
 - Build self-reliance of refugees
 - Expand access to third-country solutions
 - Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity.

Displacement in the Americas

Nicaragua

Political and social crisis erupted last year

- 62,000 fled
- 55,000 to Costa Rica



Colombia Situation

8.8 million
victims of armed
conflict

7.8 million
internally displaced persons

5,950
displaced persons in 2019

50,532
Colombian refugees
in Ecuador by the
end of 2018

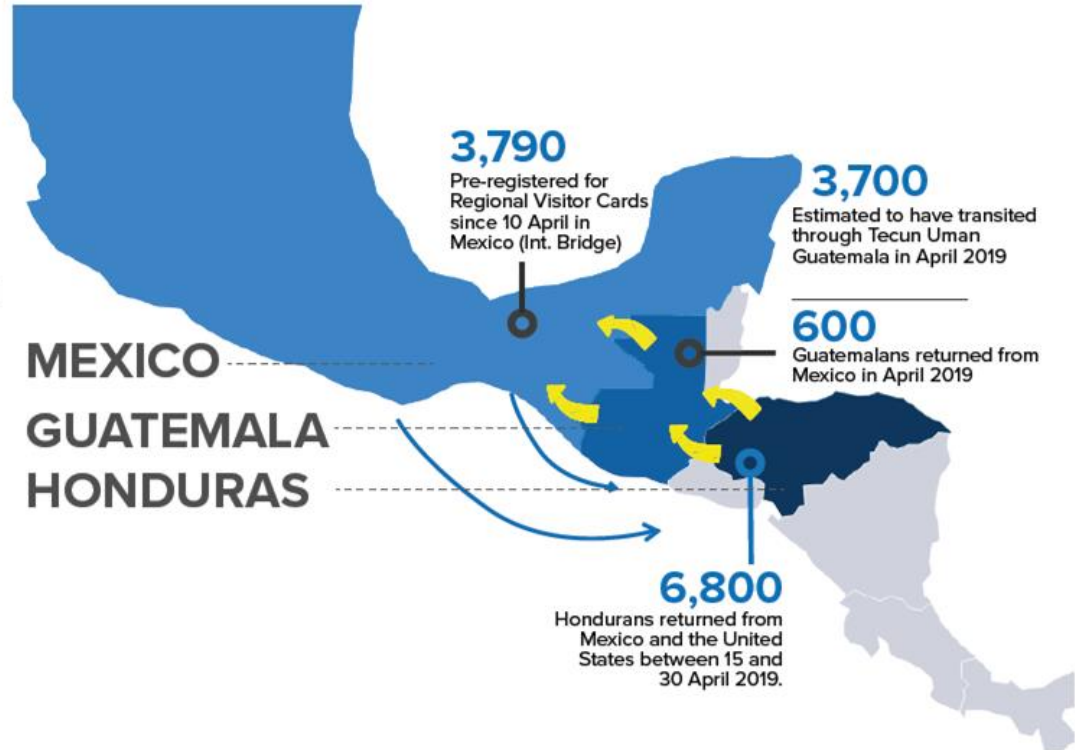
10,029
Colombian asylum
seekers in Ecuador
by the end of 2018

North of Central America

367,000 people of concern to UNHCR in Central America

349,000 refugees and asylum seekers from North of Central America worldwide

18,145 asylum seekers in Mexico since January 2019



Venezuela situation

3.9 million

Venezuelans living abroad

3.1 million

are in Latin America and the Caribbean

464,229 registered asylum seekers by end 2018

227,325 in Peru

81,800 in Brazil

81,000 in the United States

3,000-5,000 people flee each day

1.4 million have some form of legal stay





Coffee break

Venezuela situation and the Caribbean

Regional Response



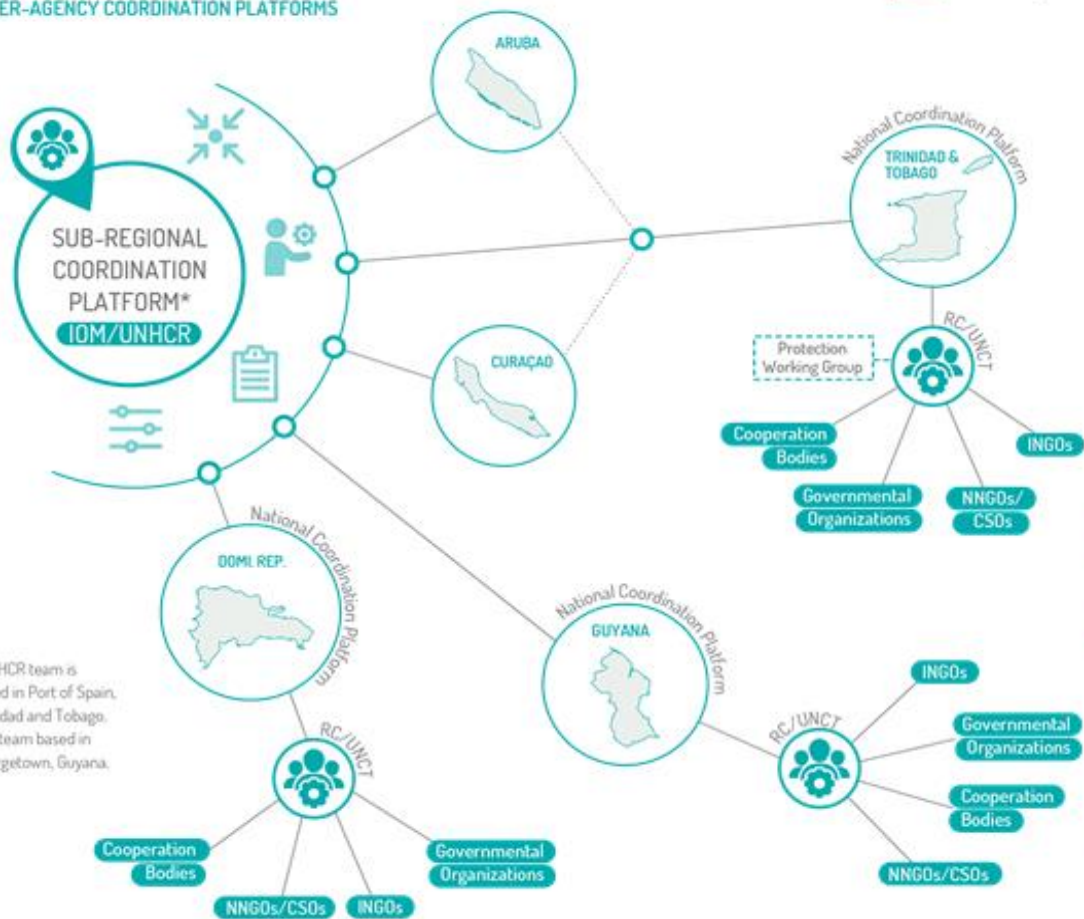
**RESPONSE FOR
VENEZUELAN**

Coordination Platform for
Refugees and Migrants
from Venezuela

<https://r4v.info/en/situations/platform>

R4V - CARIBBEAN

STRUCTURE OF THE SUB-REGIONAL AND NATIONAL INTER-AGENCY COORDINATION PLATFORMS



Monthly and ad hoc meetings in each country

The National Coordination Platforms are a coordination mechanism that brings together UNCT member organisations and various governmental, non-governmental, and international organisations of the civil society or other international cooperation bodies.



Objectives

To promote the **coordination** of the RMRP activities aiming to ensure the **recognition and protection** of refugees, the **protection** of migrants, and jointly deliver an effective and efficient **humanitarian response** to their material needs, in complementarity and reinforcing the country's government's response.



Tasks and Responsibilities

- Establish and facilitate coordination activities to support service delivery;
- Apply and promote standards, guidelines and good practices, including capacity building;
- Undertake relevant emergency preparedness actions;
- Develop common messages and consensual opinions to advocate on behalf of affected populations;
- Ensure accountability to affected populations, including Communication with Communities;
- Monitor the implementation of programs/projects funded under the joint plan;
- Act as the focal point for communication and coordination with the Sub-Regional Coordination Platform.



RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELAN

Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

KEY FIGURES (as of April 2019)



Over **146,900** Venezuelans arrived in the Caribbean sub-region since 2015.¹



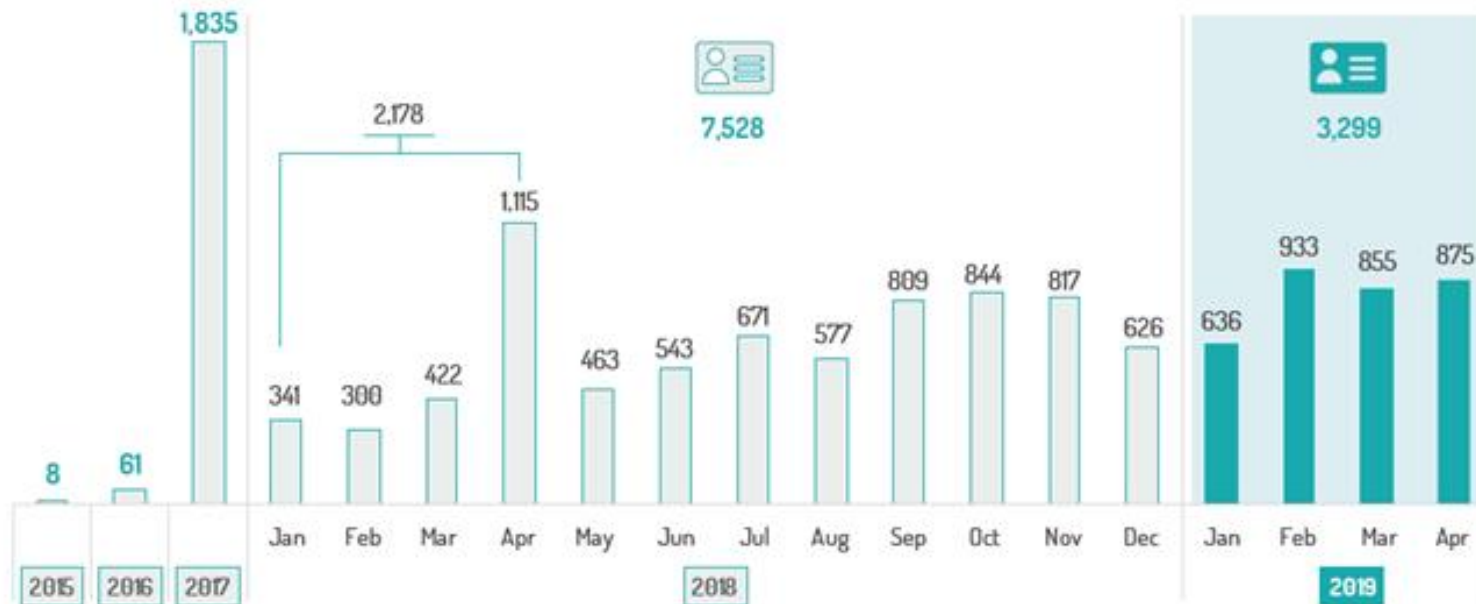
12,731 Registered Venezuelan asylum seekers in the Caribbean sub-region since 2015.²



RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELAN

Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

No. of registered Venezuelan asylum seekers (2015 – Apr 2019).



¹ Caribbean sub-region operational planning figures end of 2018. Source: RMRP Jan-Dec 2019.

² The chart shows the monthly registration of new Venezuelan asylum-seekers in the Caribbean sub-region from 2015 to 30 Apr 2019. Figures by month are not cumulative.



RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELAN

Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

Caribbean Sub-Regional Refugee & Migrants Response Plan - Summary Figures

Dominican Republic



Trinidad and Tobago



Guyana



Aruba



Curaçao



35

Appealing Partners*



177K

Refugees & Migrants in Need



141K

Refugees & Migrants Targeted

25K

Target Host Community



35M

Financial Requirements

* FAO | ILO | IOM | PAHO | Save the Children | UNAIDS | UNESCO | UNFPA | UNHCR | UNICEF | UNODC | UNWOMEN | WFP

Refugees and migrants from Venezuela

[JSON](#)

This figure represents the sum of Venezuelan migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers reported by host governments. It does not necessarily imply individual identification, nor registration of each individual, and may include a degree of estimation, as per each government's statistical data processing methodology. As numerous government sources do not account for Venezuelans without a regular status, the total number of Venezuelans is likely to be higher.

3,891,153

Last updated 20 May 2019

People with regular status including resident permits

[CSV](#) [JSON](#)

1,459,426

Last updated 31 Mar 2019

Source - Government

Breakdown per country

[JSON](#)

Location name	Source	Data date	Population	
Colombia	Government	31 Mar 2019	45.9%	669,587
Chile	Government	31 Dec 2018	14.3%	208,167
Peru	Government	31 Dec 2018	13.1%	191,401
Argentina	Government	31 Dec 2018	8.7%	127,152
Ecuador	Government	31 Dec 2018	6.7%	98,000
Panama	Government	31 Dec 2018	4.2%	61,200
Mexico	Government	30 Jun 2018	3.3%	48,000
Brazil	Government	31 Dec 2018	2.7%	39,771
Uruguay	Government	31 Dec 2018	0.8%	11,605
Costa Rica	Government	31 Oct 2018	0.1%	2,150
Canada	Government	28 Feb 2018	0.1%	1,817
Paraguay	Government	22 Apr 2018	0.0%	576

Asylum-seekers from Venezuela (Global)

[CSV](#) [JSON](#)

464,229



Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform

The Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform was established pursuant to 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 at addressing the protection, assistance and integration needs of both refugees and migrants from Venezuela in affected Latin American and Caribbean states. It complements and strengthens national and regional responses of governments, consistent with the principles outlined in the New York Declaration for Refugees and Migrants. The Platform focuses on regional strategy and country-specific support, information management, communication (messaging and reporting), and resource mobilization. Currently the Regional Platform has 41 participants, including 17 UN agencies, 15 NGOs, five donors, two international financial institutions and the Red Cross Movement. The Regional Platform is being replicated at country levels through the establishment and strengthening of local coordination mechanisms, in close collaboration with host Governments. Taking into account participants in the national platforms, more than 170 actors collaborate in this coordinated regional response. They collaborate through several

Aruba

Protection of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Aruba

- The Government of Aruba recognizes the 1967 protocol to the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees
- The Government is responsible for receiving claims for asylum, determining if the person is a refugee, and granting legal status
- Recognized refugees have rights under Aruban and international law, and also the obligation to respect the laws of Aruba



Areas of intervention (RMRP)

Direct emergency assistance

Refugees and migrants are provided with life-saving goods and services

Protection

Refugees and migrants enjoy rights and protection

Socio-economic and cultural integration

Refugees and migrants are socially, economically, and culturally integrated in empowered communities

Strengthening the capacity of host government

Government institutional capacity to manage situations of refugees and migrants from Venezuela, is strengthened



RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELAN

Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

- Cash-based assistance
- Coordination
- Education
- Food Security/ Nutrition
- GBV/Child Protection
- Health
- Info Managt.
- Multi-Sector
- Other*
- Protection
- Shelter/NFIs
- WASH

*Activities pertaining to social inclusion, communication, etc. are under the "Other" sector.

NOTE: Some of the sectors listed under "Organizations by sector" are not presented in the country maps as geographic information are not available.

ARUBA



2 ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATIONS BY SECTOR*

- UNHCR/HIAS
- UNHCR/HIAS
- UNHCR/HIAS
- UNHCR/HIAS

*Sectors cover all regions.

CURACAO



2 ORGANIZATIONS

ORGANIZATIONS. BY SECTOR

- UNHCR
- IOM
- NFI
- IOM

Humanitarian assistance in Aruba

- Provided by a range of civil society organizations including
 - Red Cross
 - HIAS
 - Caritas
 - religious organizations
 - private individuals
- Assistance is targeted to complement social assistance provided by the Government of Aruba



NO. OF ONGOING ACTIVITIES BY AREA OF INTERVENTION AND BY SECTOR (as of April)

 133
ONGOING ACTIVITIES*

 39
ORGANIZATIONS

 14
APPEALING PARTNERS

 25
IMPLEMENT. PARTNERS

Caribbean Response

Sectors	Aruba	Curacao	Dom. Rep.	Guyana**	Trinidad & T.	Grand Total
Cash assistance	1		1		1	3
Coordination	1		1			2
Education				4	3	7
Food Security			2	2		4
GBV/Child Protection				1	6	7
Health			5	1	3	9
Information Managt	2	1	3	4	1	11
Multi-sector			1	2		3
Nutrition					2	2
Other			2	1	7	10
Protection	8	7	28	10	9	62
Shelter/NFIs		1	7	2	2	12
WASH				1		1
Grand Total	12	9	50	28	34	133

No. of activities



RESPONSE FOR VENEZUELANOS

Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela

Area of Intervention	Aruba	Curacao	Dom. Rep.	Guyana**	Trinidad & T.	Grand Total
Ao11	2	2	15	16	11	46
Ao12	6	4	24	3	15	52
Ao13	1	1	4	3	3	12
Ao14	3	2	7	6	5	23
Grand Total	12	9	50	28	34	133

* The No. of ongoing activities in April is lower compared to what reported in March due to the double-counting of activities which was addressed in the current reporting period.

** Activities in Guyana include four activities outside the RMRP: three under Ao11 (Education), and one under Ao14 (Protection).

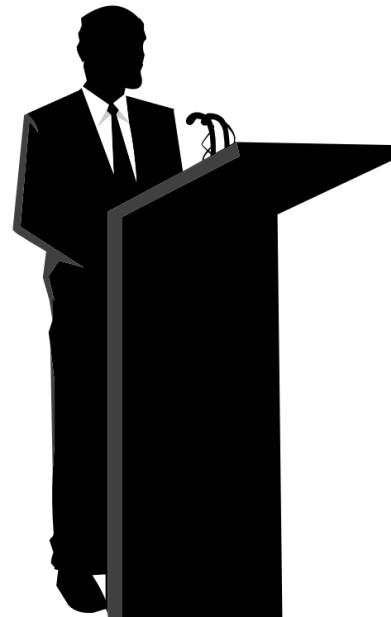
Reporting on refugees

Headlines



Two dimensions to refugee stories

- Human
- Political



Words matter

- Refugee, Migrant, Asylum Seeker, IDP
- Trafficker vs smuggler
- Non refoulement

Challenge hate speech

- Inflammatory buzz words include:
 - Swarm
 - Hordes
 - Masses
- Overuse of “xenophobia”, “racism”

Show humanity

- Why are they coming?
- What are the circumstances in the country they left?
- What are the current conditions and risks?
 - Exploitation
 - No schooling
 - Trauma
 - Sexual or gender based violence



Balance and transparency

- Include context
- Is an agenda being pursued?
 - Exaggerations
 - Stereotypes
 - Over-generalizations
 - Opinion stated as fact

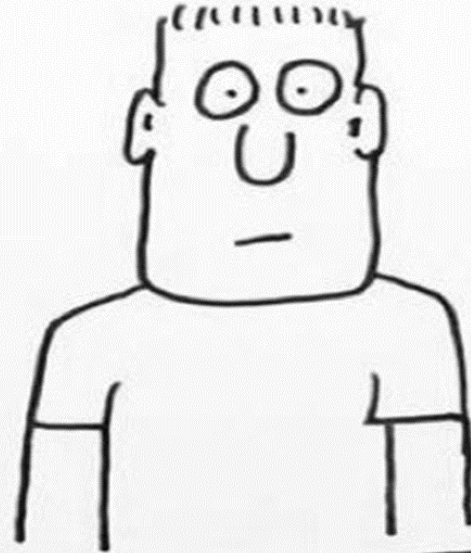
Truth

I think therefore
I am



Post-truth

I believe therefore
I'm right!



shovel

The compassionate interview



- Probable trauma
- Give yourself and your subject time
- How to deal with emotions

Ethical questions



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Exercises

Who's who

– Profiles



What to do?

BREAKING NEWS

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