



## Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) Crisis Response Plan 2020

### 2020

#### Funding Required

\$27,462,885

#### People In Need

7,000,000

#### Target Beneficiaries

178,000

#### IOM Vision

IOM aims at scaling up the provision of an effective emergency and protection assistance to the people in need in Venezuela complementing the actions of other UN agencies and non-governmental organizations. In order to meet the evolving needs of vulnerable people on the move and the communities, IOM seeks to expand its operational capacity in new areas in the country and broaden its crisis interventions through improving access to basic services, building resilience, provision of livelihood assistance, and mitigating and preventing protection risks.

#### Context Analysis

Venezuela is facing a humanitarian crisis, driven by ongoing political instability, a deteriorating socioeconomic situation and growing insecurity and violence. As of December 2020, more than 4.8 million people had left the country, seeking humanitarian assistance, protection and access to basic services and job opportunities abroad, with over 3.7 million in the region alone. According to the HNO 2019, it is estimated that more than 7 million people are in need of some form of humanitarian assistance within Venezuela, a number that is expected to highly increase in 2020. Almost all Venezuelans are affected by extraordinary hyperinflation and a collapse of real salaries, shortages of food and medicines, lack of education and health services, and

deterioration of basic infrastructures including water, electricity and public transportation. Drastic reductions in production capacities in the agricultural, pharmaceutical and other sectors have further aggravated the limited availability of basic goods and supplies, in addition to constant power cuts. There is also a significant internal movement towards border areas to access services and basic items from neighbouring countries. It is estimated that more than 3 million people are making pendular movements between Colombia and Venezuela in 2020.

Please also see IOM's [Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela 2020](#) for more information.

## Coordination

As part of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), IOM will continue to coordinate its activities with all UN agencies and national and international organizations, as well as local authorities and civil society organizations in all targeted states. IOM aims to expand joint programming with other partners, to ensure that humanitarian and development efforts are synergized, avoid duplication of efforts and strengthen accountability. In addition, IOM will continue to actively participate in cluster meetings and activities, such as Shelter/NFI and Protection. IOM will continue to engage with local actors and will continue to work closely with all key stakeholders in order to ensure that actors have safe, sustainable and unhindered access to populations in need.

## IOM Capacity

The IOM's office in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela was established in 1953 and has been functioning since then. During the last year, IOM's structure within the country has drastically expanded and currently has operational presence in border areas (States of Apure, Zulia, Bolivar and Táchira). Given its field presence, IOM is currently providing life-saving assistance to people in-country, including accommodation assistance, distribution of non-food items and hygiene kits, health assistance, capacity building to local partners to increase their knowledge on humanitarian assistance, as well as providing livelihood mechanisms for Venezuelans.

Inside Venezuela, IOM has been working with local partners in border areas for the last 15 years, building their technical capacity to respond to the needs of affected populations in areas where there is no other operational presence. In addition, IOM is currently the only organization in Venezuela implementing a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility. In coordination with the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), IOM has also recently rolled out the first Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) pilot baseline assessment, with the aim to provide a more accurate picture of the mobility of the Venezuelan population to partners in order to mobilize and direct resources to reach the most vulnerable populations.

### Objective

### **Saving lives and protecting people on the move**

\$24,207,945

**Funding Required**

178,000

**Target Beneficiaries**

Vulnerable people and communities in need, with particular focus on women, girls, elderly and people with disabilities.

## **Shelter and settlements**

### **Funding Required**

\$10,015,200

Building on previous assistance provided, IOM will strengthen its shelter/non-food items (NFI) intervention to improve living conditions of vulnerable people in the border areas of the country such as Zulia, Sucre, Táchira, Apure y Bolívar. In order to do so, IOM will:

- Improve and manage transit and temporary accommodation centres in the targeted states for the provision of multi-purpose assistance to vulnerable Venezuelans. Improvements will include including the rehabilitation of rooms, bathrooms, kitchens, common spaces, along with provisions of equipment, light refurbishments, painting and conditioning spaces.
- Once rehabilitated, the transit and accommodation centres are finalized, IOM will provide assistance through different services, including accommodation, access to sanitation facilities, provision of meals, and access to rest areas and common spaces.
- Strengthen the capacity of local partners through the provision of trainings on shelter management and standards, protection mainstreaming and humanitarian standards, among others.
- Provide assistance to vulnerable households who host extended family, especially to those who live in overcrowded houses, through the improvement of their living space, provision of materials and equipment.
- Distribution of NFI kits, including infancy and travel kits, in transit and temporary accommodation centres and communities. The content of the kits will be decided in coordination with the Shelter/NFI cluster to ensure a standardized response.

## **Protection**

### **Funding Required**

\$4,941,720

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Establish and manage safe spaces in communities with high rates of reported protection incidents and risks, in order to socialize and re-build their social networks, receive social support, acquire contextually relevant skills, and receive information on issues relating to women's rights, health, and services. In addition, IOM will provide access to safe specialized multi-sectoral case management services to gender-based violence (GBV) survivors, victims of trafficking (VoT) and any other form of exploitation and/or abuse in the safe spaces. A clear referral system to specialized services will be in place in

coordination with other protection actors in the targeted areas.

- Strengthen the capacities of community leaders and other GBV front line actors to provide quality response services and referrals to survivors, with improved standardization processes and tools.
- Facilitate access to documentation and life-saving information to the vulnerable population. Life-saving information related to protection risks and its mitigation will be disseminated and shared in transit and temporary accommodation centres, as well as in communities. This will include information on prevention of GBV, trafficking and smuggling, sexual and labour exploitation and other forms of abuse. In addition, IOM will provide vulnerable Venezuelans with information and orientation on access to documentation in the country.
- Build a safer environment in local communities through sensitization campaigns on risk prevention and mitigation of GBV, trafficking, and other forms of exploitation and abuse in areas of origin and transit in order to reach out to groups of different age, gender, and vulnerabilities.
- Provide protection assistance to vulnerable households, including single head of households and the large number of elderly and children population whose main financial providers have left the country and are currently in a very vulnerable situation. Protection assistance provided through this activity will be tailored depending on the needs of each household.

## **Provision of water, sanitation and hygiene in emergencies**

### **Funding Required**

\$3,826,641

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Improve sanitation and access to safe drinking water for vulnerable people through the rehabilitation of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services in communities in need, ensuring that the assistance meets the minimum Sphere standards.
- Facilitate access to hygiene through the distribution of hygiene kits, including menstrual hygiene management (MHM) kits, for the vulnerable population, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls in reproductive age, aiming at improving the living condition and wellbeing of the targeted population. The content of the kits will be decided in coordination with the WASH Cluster to ensure a standardized response. Beneficiaries receiving such kits will receive training on the proper use of those hygiene items that are unfamiliar to the affected population but are required to protect them from key health risks.
- Strengthen communities hygiene behaviour through hygiene promotion activities, including posters, focus-group discussions, awareness campaigns and dissemination of information, education and communication (IEC) materials in targeted areas.

## **Displacement Tracking for Humanitarian Response**

### **Funding Required**

\$1,235,805

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of the Venezuelan population in the country through the regular collection analysis and dissemination of data by the Mobility Tracking Matrix (MTM). Data collected will respond to the in-country information gaps on internal mobility dynamics and evolving needs of affected populations, including pendular movements between Venezuela and neighbouring countries. Information will be collected through multiple methodologies (key informants level, household level, and individual level) both in urban and rural areas and aggregated to the state level. In Venezuela, the MTM products will include maps, dashboards, narrative reports and raw data which will be shared with humanitarian partners on a regular basis.
- Conduct rapid assessments in the event of a sudden population movement in the country.

In 2020, IOM aims at achieving a national comprehensive MTM coverage by establishing ten hubs in different states: Capital District, Tachira, Bolivar, Apure, Anzoátegui, Falcón, Portuguesa, Guarico, Merida, y Zulia.

## **Health Support**

### **Funding Required**

\$3,898,579

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Improve primary health care by establishing and deploying health mobile teams in communities in need. The teams will conduct health assessments and provide emergency assistance, first aid support and referral pathways. Additionally, activities on health promotion and prevention of diseases will be organized.
- Support the provision of equipment and medicines in primary health facilities in the communities.
- Enhance the capacities of health workers and community leaders in order to strengthen their knowledge on health-related issues of the vulnerable population.
- Conduct raise awareness campaigns on health promotion and prevention of HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis, communicable diseases, and sexual and reproductive health (SRH) related issues in identified communities.
- Promote access to safe and quality health services for survivors of GBV and victims of trafficking, including safe referrals to additional social care.

## **Mental health and psychosocial support in humanitarian response**

### **Funding Required**

\$290,000

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Provide mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) services to vulnerable people and communities, both at the community and individual level. This includes counselling, provision of emotional support, community-based activities, GBV sensitization, and focused group discussions.
- Strengthen community social networks where communities in need can participate in cultural and recreational activities including creative, art-based and socio-cultural and sports activities.
- Work on integrated forms of psychosocial support and livelihood activities, in order to promote positive coping mechanism and resilience skills among vulnerable persons, with a community approach. Vulnerable groups will be involved in activities that decrease the stress of the beneficiaries involved, increase their self-esteem and improves their sense of control over their lives.
- Strengthen the capacities of social workers and community leaders to promote access to mental health and improve the provision of MHPSS support.
- Conduct psychosocial support assessments through the engagement of the communities to identify needs, resources and key stakeholders.
- Improve access to MHPSS services for vulnerable people, through the identification and establishment of referral pathways.

## Multi-sectoral support

### Funding Required

\$0

Includes funding which supports multi-sectoral interventions or cannot be attributed to a specific activity area.

Objective

### **Driving solutions to displacement**

\$3,254,940	15,000
<b>Funding Required</b>	<b>Target Beneficiaries</b>

Vulnerable people and communities in need, with particular focus on women, girls, elderly and people with disabilities.

## Durable Solutions

### Funding Required

\$3,254,940

IOM plans to carry out the following activities:

- Promote resilience of vulnerable people in Venezuela with community-based activities that foster small scale agricultural production in identified communities. IOM will provide seeds, material and technical assistance to generate positive livelihood mechanisms for families in affected communities with high food vulnerability. This will promote positive coping mechanisms and resilience skills among vulnerable persons with a community approach

while increasing food security.

- In order to strengthen social cohesion, promote self-help in communities while improving adaptation and resilience strategies, IOM will also expand its livelihoods programming through the development of community-driven initiatives and alternative livelihoods. Activities will be decided in coordination with the communities and depending on their needs.

## **OPERATIONAL PRESENCE**

**6**

**International staff and affiliated work force**

**15**

**National staff and affiliated work force**

**8**

**IOM Field Offices**