

A woman is pushing a metal luggage cart filled with large blue IOM (Organização Internacional para as Migrações) bags and maroon suitcases. The bags have the IOM logo and 'ONU MIGRAÇÃO' printed on them. In the background, an IOM staff member wearing a cap and a face mask is visible. The scene appears to be an airport or a transit point.

# IOM STRATEGIC RESPONSE AND RECOVERY PLAN FOR COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN 2021





29

TARGETED COUNTRIES  
IN LATIN AMERICA AND  
THE CARIBBEAN

USD 191,552,729

IOM'S FUNDING REQUIREMENT FOR LATIN AMERICA  
AND THE CARIBBEAN IN STRATEGIC RESPONSE TO AND  
RECOVERY FROM COVID-19 FOR THE YEAR 2021<sup>1</sup>

## I. SITUATION OVERVIEW: COVID-19 IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

### I. CONTEXT – ONE YEAR ON SINCE THE BEGINNING OF THE PANDEMIC

Since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, Latin America and the Caribbean has been one of the most impacted regions worldwide. As of 1 June 2021, 32,845,788 cumulative cases, approximately 19% of all infections recorded globally, despite only accounting for about 8.4% of the total global population<sup>2</sup>. The mortality figures follow a similar trend. The region has witnessed 1,033,629 deaths from COVID-19 up until June 2021, almost a third of all deaths

observed worldwide<sup>3</sup>. Countries, such as Brazil, Peru, Colombia, Ecuador, and Mexico all experienced severe outbreaks. As of early June 2021, for example, Brazil recorded the third highest number of cumulative cases (16,471,600) and second highest death toll (461,057) globally.

Currently, most national governments in the region have initiated COVID-19 vaccination campaigns. Although some successful efforts have been conducted, the speed at which immunizations occur in the region remains widely insufficient<sup>4</sup>. Most countries,

<sup>1</sup> Funding requirements also include requirements for the IOM Office of the Director General's Special Envoy for the Venezuela Situation.

<sup>2</sup> [covid19.who.int/info/](https://covid19.who.int/info/)

<sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>4</sup> Chile being a notable exception.



particularly in Central America and the Caribbean, rely almost exclusively on COVAX Facility<sup>5</sup> to access vaccines to conduct national immunization efforts<sup>6</sup>. Nations that managed to negotiate directly with suppliers are struggling with supply restrictions, as unequal access to doses and restriction of exports in manufacturing countries pose further challenges to vaccination efforts. In South America, even countries with successful immunization campaigns, such as Chile, are now facing lockdowns and restrictive measures due to the rapid rise of cases, attributed by some experts to the P1 variant of the virus that is now present in all countries in South America and some in Central America<sup>7</sup>.

Latin America's socio-economic recovery from the pandemic crisis is lagging compared to the rest of the world and the economy is not expected to return to its pre-pandemic levels until 2024, according to an estimate from the International Monetary Fund

(IMF). The region's economy contracted by 7.0 percent in 2020, exceeding the global economy's slowdown of 3.3 percent. Poverty is estimated to have increased by 19 million people, and inequality has also risen, with women and low-skilled workers struggling the most. Income per capita is not expected to reach pre-pandemic levels until 2024 and tourism-dependent economies in the Caribbean and Latin America in general will also likely not recover before 2024 due to the slow resumption in travel. Further, the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 is compounded by natural disasters, such as drought, hurricanes, and volcanic eruptions. In Central America and the Caribbean, this scenario exacerbates inequalities and challenges faced by the region in terms of socioeconomic recovery. Lastly, ongoing conflict in the region, as observed in Colombia, for example, might pose subsequent challenges to robust socio-economic recovery in the aftermath of the pandemic<sup>8</sup>.



## II. RISKS AND NEEDS OVERVIEW

Following numerous measures instituted by governments to curb the spread of the virus, including lockdowns, border closures, and “stay at home” orders, it has become abundantly clear that migrants have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 measures. According to the World Health Organization (WHO), migrants in the Americas have sustained the largest impact of COVID-19 on their daily lives, scoring higher on that dimension than any other region in the world<sup>9</sup>. The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic intersects with migrants' vulnerabilities, especially to human trafficking and other types of human rights violations, transforming the modus operandi of criminal networks, through digital media, for example the institutions and other stakeholders to properly identify and provide comprehensive assistance services to Victims of Trafficking (VoTs). Additionally, for migrants,

refugees, returnees, internally displaced populations (IDPs), indigenous people and vulnerable host communities, access to formal health services persists as an issue, as the existing health systems remain fragmented, and some essential services have been disrupted because of the pandemic<sup>10</sup>. Particularly for migrant children, the pandemic has affected their access to basic needs, such as food, shelter, and housing, as well as education along the mobility continuum<sup>11</sup>. In some cases, family reunification has also been interrupted due to changing restrictions, which has particularly impacted migrant children's mobility and well-being.

Multiple COVID-19 prevention measures have also posed significant impacts on the patterns of movements throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. The region saw a significant increase in contingents of stranded migrants, following sudden border closures that interrupted migration flows and caught

<sup>5</sup> COVAX is co-led by the Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Gavi and the World Health Organization (WHO) alongside key delivery partner UNICEF. Its aim is to accelerate the development and manufacture of COVID-19 vaccines, and to guarantee fair and equitable access for every country in the world. [www.gavi.org/covax-facility](https://www.gavi.org/covax-facility)

<sup>6</sup> Multiple countries in Latin America have also included Sputnik V in National Vaccination Plans.

<sup>7</sup> [www.paho.org/en/documents/paho-covid-19-daily-update-5-april-2021](https://www.paho.org/en/documents/paho-covid-19-daily-update-5-april-2021)

<sup>8</sup> IOM. “Colombia Crisis Response Plan 2021”. January 2021.

<sup>9</sup> WHO. Apart Together Survey. Page 21. December 2020.

<sup>10</sup> OCHA. “Humanitarian Needs in Northern Central America”. Page 6. November 2020.

<sup>11</sup> OECD. “What is the Impact of the COVID-19 on Immigrants and their Children?”. October 2020.





many migrants unprepared. The issue was particularly present in Panama, Costa Rica, and Colombia, for example, countries that typically observe the presence of extra-regional migrants, including Venezuelans, travelling to North America. Internal mobility has also been impacted by COVID-19 restrictions, with certain countries reporting return movements from cities to rural areas. Further, internal displacement in countries such as Colombia, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador is increasing due to the combined factors of continued gang violence, human rights violations, and sudden disasters, all aggravated by COVID-19 measures and restrictions. The incidence of migrants returned by governments in the region was also substantially higher following the pandemic, as border closures and increased controls in crossing areas led to more irregular migrants having entry denied. Altogether, parts of the region currently face a humanitarian crisis caused by political instability, social and economic unrest, deep inequality, and saturated health systems caused by COVID-19. With the preventive closure of official borders, migrants are using unofficial crossings and new routes, which exacerbates protection and health risks and creates acute humanitarian needs for food, non-food items, shelter or accommodation, and health and safety information.

The COVID-19 pandemic has shown clear signs of its long-term negative impact on national economies in Latin America and the Caribbean and how this is disproportionately affecting the socioeconomic integration of migrants and other vulnerable populations. Reintegration efforts targeting returnees have been insufficient, as labor markets, already hurt by a sequence of lockdowns, experienced a limited ability to absorb workers. Further, across Latin America, most of the economically active population, especially migrants, are engaged in informal labor markets<sup>12</sup>. In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, this has led to an inability to access social security mechanisms tied to formal employment, but it has also further aggravated the socio-economic situation of migrants working in the informal sector in the region, with direct, negative impacts on their hosting communities too. In the aftermath of the pandemic, in the absence of sufficient and meaningful livelihood alternatives, further irregular migration flows to destinations like the United States and Europe are already under way, emerging as the most viable solution. In a context of changing human mobility systems and restrictions, people may revert to unsafe migration practices that lead to smuggling, trafficking, and exploitation<sup>13</sup>. Lastly, humanitarian risks faced by migrants and refugees are increasing with intensified hurricanes and other natural disasters, which are now causing additional humanitarian needs in these communities that are already facing complex challenges due to COVID-19<sup>14</sup>.

<sup>12</sup> Sistemas de Información Sobre Mercados Laborales, IOM 2019:IX, see: [www.programamesocaribe.iom.int/sites/default/files/informe\\_regional\\_final.pdf](http://www.programamesocaribe.iom.int/sites/default/files/informe_regional_final.pdf)

<sup>13</sup> A Central American forecasting organization is predicting that 17 tropical storms that may affect the region will form in 2021 and eight will become hurricanes, although they will be less intense than those registered in 2020. [www.ticotimes.net/](http://www.ticotimes.net/)

<sup>14</sup> This is particularly clear in the cases of hurricane Iota and Eta in 2020.





## II. FROM RESPONSE TO RECOVERY

Building on the results of the [2020 Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan](#), IOM's approach in 2021 is to implement a robust Strategic Response and Recovery Plan (SRRP) which encompasses life-saving assistance and response to humanitarian needs, initiatives to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on migrants and societies, as well as support to recovery and resilience integrating

longer-term sustainable development planning applying the Humanitarian-Development-Peace Nexus approach. The following section highlights the strategic objectives under which IOM seeks to address COVID-19 response and recovery in 2021, in line with the achievements and lessons learned from IOM's work in 2020 and contextualized to Latin America and the Caribbean.

### STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

#### ENSURE CONTINUATION OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES, MITIGATE RISKS AND PROTECT DISPLACED PERSONS, MOBILE POPULATIONS AND HOST COMMUNITIES

By working to provide life-saving humanitarian support and protection assistance for beneficiaries in Latin America and the Caribbean, IOM will contribute to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations and ease the burden on existing social protection mechanisms in the region. By targeting the most vulnerable groups, IOM will help ensure vulnerable groups are included in response and recovery efforts implemented by governments.

**90,854,481 USD**  
TOTAL LAC APPEAL FOR  
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 1

#### 1.A. MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CRISIS-AFFECTED POPULATIONS

- Continue supporting the establishment, expansion, and improvement of COVID-19 compliant quarantine and isolation centers, while coordinating and disseminating information on preventive COVID-19 measures in shelters and providing hygiene and cleaning materials to mitigate the risk of contagion.
- Provide hygiene kits, personal protective equipment (PPE), and non-food items (NFI) to migrants, displaced populations and host communities in densely populated areas where people are at higher risk of contracting COVID-19.
- Conduct community-based disaster risk management activities with a focus on COVID-19 mitigation and prevention, targeting at-risk communities already vulnerable by pre-existing issues, such as natural disasters.





IOM Colombia

## 1.B. SECURE LIFE-SAVING ASSISTANCE AND ACCESS TO CRITICAL SERVICES

- Continue the provision of life-saving humanitarian and protection assistance through provision of non-food items, shelter support, and other needs-based life-saving interventions in densely populated urban areas and displacement sites, including WASH assistance and life-saving information to vulnerable communities.
- Support the expansion of other income-generating activities to mobile populations affected by COVID-19 through cash-based interventions (CBI), ensuring socio-economic support and economic recovery in the aftermath of the pandemic.

## 1.C. PROVIDE PROTECTION AND ASSISTANCE, REDUCE PROTECTION-RELATED RISKS AND VULNERABILITIES AND COMBAT XENOPHOBIA

- Support the continuation of existing protection mechanisms in the region, either through direct assistance or through referral

to relevant services, focusing specifically on mitigating risks linked to the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Conduct anti-discrimination and anti-xenophobia campaigns, promoting social cohesion with a focus on migrants, displaced populations, and host communities.
- Develop and disseminate information, education, and communication materials that are tailored to the COVID-19 context and focusing on protection needs, such as countertrafficking and community-based care.
- Develop and implement mental health and psychosocial support tools targeting vulnerable migrants significantly affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Engage in capacity-building with national counterparts and local stakeholders to boost protection capabilities on the ground, focusing on supporting populations disproportionately affected by COVID-19.

# STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2

## SCALE UP ESSENTIAL PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES AND PROMOTE MOBILITY-SENSITIVE HEALTH SYSTEMS

IOM will continue mitigating the impact of COVID-19 pandemic specifically focusing on the most vulnerable through the provision of life-saving essential Healthcare services, such as immunization, and by strengthening health systems, including enhancing the integration of health and border management systems to prevent, detect and respond to COVID-19 and other public health threats at points of entry.

**52,825,068 USD**  
TOTAL LAC APPEAL FOR  
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 2





IOM Haiti

Further, IOM will continue promoting equitable access to vaccines for vulnerable populations, by providing technical and administrative support to the national counterparts, by conducting social mobilization activities as well as continuous monitoring of access to vaccines for migrants. Also, IOM will continue advocating for migrant inclusion in vaccine planning and roll-out, including in humanitarian settings and regardless of the legal status of the migrants.

## 2.A. PREVENT, DETECT AND RESPOND TO COVID-19 AND OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH THREATS IN COMMUNITIES AND AT BORDERS

- Conduct programs to prevent, detect and respond to COVID-19, through initiatives to enhance existing disease surveillance systems, including community-based disease surveillance, with a special focus on points of entry and border communities.
- Ensure continuity of essential health care, including provision of life-saving primary health services, procurement of critical medicines and medical supplies, PPE and the improvement of existing health infrastructure.
- Continue to implement risk communication and community engagement activities, targeting mobile communities and focusing on messages on hygiene and other relevant infection prevention mechanisms.
- Ensure support to national laboratories and other institutions providing diagnostic capacity for detection of COVID-19, by means of logistical assistance and/or capacity-building.
- Boost surveillance, health screening, and capacity in border areas and points of entry (POE), supporting local authorities in the implementation of border management protocols that consider infection prevention.
- Supply health and clinical settings in key areas with personal protective equipment and other relevant medical supplies needed to prevent infection by COVID-19.

## 2.B. PROMOTE EQUITABLE ACCESS TO VACCINES FOR VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

- Continue promoting equitable access to vaccines for vulnerable populations, by providing technical and administrative support to the national counterparts, conducting social mobilization activities and contributing to communicating the importance of immunization while addressing hesitancy amongst migrants.
- Advocate for migrant inclusion in vaccine planning and roll-out, including in humanitarian settings and regardless of migrant's legal status.
- Support the collection of data and implementation of data analysis systems to boost vaccination capabilities in the region.
- Provide logistical and technical support for COVID-19 vaccine supply chains in the region, enabling cold chain solutions, storage, supporting national counterparts in mass vaccination efforts, including with the provision of transportation solutions, ensuring all populations of concern are included.

## 2.C. STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS TO PROMOTE ACCESS AND INCLUSION

- Strengthen the health systems by improvement of infrastructure, increasing health capacity and developing policies that ensure an inclusive health system recovery and provision of comprehensive health services.
- Reinforce health systems by facilitating the adoption of mobility-friendly mechanisms, such as telemedicine, virtual consultations and transfer of knowledge.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3

### MITIGATE THE LONGER-TERM SOCIOECONOMIC IMPACTS OF COVID-19, CONTRIBUTE TO RESTARTING HUMAN MOBILITY AND EMPOWER SOCIETIES FOR SELF-RELIANCE

To strengthen the resilience of affected populations, achieve long-term socioeconomic recovery and contribute to sustainable development in Latin America and the Caribbean, IOM will focus its actions under this strategic objective to mitigate the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 on migrants, displaced persons and communities, promote social cohesion by using conflict-sensitive approaches and empower societies to recover better. IOM will also promote more durable approaches to address the barriers to solutions for displaced persons as well as safe and regular migration by supporting the relaunch and strengthening of international mobility systems and labor migration partnerships in the region, in recognition of their important role for socioeconomic recovery.

**43,507,545 USD**

TOTAL LAC APPEAL FOR  
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 3



#### 3.A. STRENGTHEN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, IMMIGRATION SYSTEMS AND BORDER CROSSING MECHANISMS TO MITIGATE THE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC ON HUMAN MOBILITY

- Support the post-pandemic recovery of global mobility through the accelerated digitalization of admission and stay procedures, with a focus on inclusive solutions and assistance for migrants in vulnerable situations.
- Include public health considerations into Integrated and Coordinated Border Management approaches, training and tool and humanitarian border management programming in support of safe and inclusive cross-border human mobility.
- Provide technical support to regularization procedures with appropriate public health measures.
- Enhance access to regular migration pathways impacted by COVID-19 by adapting processing capacities and providing resources to ensure timely support for all migrant groups.
- Address misinformation and vulnerabilities exacerbated by the pandemic, including those related to immigration and visa systems.
- Support skill-based labor mobility schemes and cooperation, addressing gaps revealed by the COVID-19 pandemic with a particular focus on workers in essential sectors.
- Strengthen linkages between pre- and post-arrival migrant orientation and training services.

- Advocate and support the development of long-term policy solutions and cooperation mechanisms for labor migration and skills mobility arrangements for socio-economic recovery, ensuring respect for international human and labor rights standards and the principles of ethical recruitment.

#### 3.B. INCLUDE AND EMPOWER PEOPLE ON THE MOVE TO SUPPORT SOCIOECONOMIC RECOVERY

- Provide policy support and capacity development to national/ local governments to ensure migrants are part of recovery planning and implementation, including policy solutions for upskilling and reskilling of migrants and promotion of multi-stakeholder engagement on inclusive recovery policies.
- Engage the private sector and other relevant stakeholders to promote ethical recruitment and protection of migrant workers throughout recovery efforts.
- Promote the health and well-being of migrant workers during recruitment and migration, including through access to social protection and rights protection.
- Support diaspora engagement and mobilization for recovery, in cooperation with governments and other partners.
- Support policies to keep remittances flowing and ensure migrants' access to financial and digital services.
- Support entrepreneurship and youth empowerment through mentorship and donations.





- Facilitate cross-border trade through capacity development, upgrade of border infrastructure and support to cross-border traders to maintain essential flow of people and goods at borders.
- Support micro-, small- and medium-sized enterprises to rapidly resume operations and generate job opportunities, combined with access to education and skills development to adapt to local contexts and needs and promote durable solutions and community stabilization in nascent industries responding to the COVID-19 response.
- Support (re)integration and social cohesion to diverse communities to recover from COVID-19 and connect returnees with local economies, while addressing their social and psychosocial needs, at individual, community and structural levels.

### 3.C. MITIGATE NEW OR EXACERBATED COMMUNITY TENSION AND CONFLICT RELATED TO COVID-19

- Strengthen the relationship between local governments and communities to contribute to mitigating the likelihood of rising tensions or conflict related to COVID-19.
- Build trust among communities and local stakeholders through communication, messaging and reconciliation platforms for COVID-19 interventions in areas where local governments, especially health services, lack the necessary trust by the local population to be effective.
- Counter rumors and misinformation associated with the virus, as well as negative sentiments against vulnerable groups.
- Strengthen trust and participation in border communities to strengthen preparedness and response capacities.

## STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

### INFORM RESPONSE AND RECOVERY EFFORTS BY TRACKING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON MOBILITY AND PEOPLE ON THE MOVE AND STRENGTHEN EVIDENCE-BASED DECISION-MAKING THROUGH DATA

One of the key elements in response and recovery efforts is information and data. By obtaining and producing evidence-based information and data to inform response and recovery actions implemented IOM will support these stakeholders in decision-making. To best support recovery and response efforts, IOM will continue to track the impact of COVID-19 on human mobility and strengthen evidence-based decision-making through targeted data collection and assessment, migration data capacity development and other methods. This will also support the achievement of the other Strategic Objectives outlined in the SRRP 2021.

**4,365,635 USD**  
TOTAL LAC APPEAL FOR  
STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE 4

#### 4.A. ENSURE A WELL-COORDINATED, INFORMED AND TIMELY RESPONSE AND RECOVERY THROUGH MOBILITY TRACKING SYSTEMS AT THE COMMUNITY, NATIONAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS

- Continue the maintenance and strengthening of the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)<sup>15</sup>, which will build regional capacity for analysis and production of data and research on mobility flows and post-COVID-19 economic opportunities, among other relevant topics.

<sup>15</sup> The Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) gathers and analyzes data to disseminate critical multi layered information on the mobility, vulnerabilities, and needs of displaced and mobile populations that enables decision makers and responders to provide these populations with better context specific assistance. It is designed to capture, process and disseminate information to provide a better understanding of the movements and evolving needs of displaced populations, whether on site or en route regularly and systematically.



- Enhance relevant data collection tools and methods to support regional partners such as the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), health authorities, and Clusters/sectors and inter-cluster/inter-sector coordination mechanisms, facilitating better data exchange and having evidence-based response and assistance.
- Monitor and assess the situation and needs of migrants, displaced populations, including IDPs, and other crisis affected populations inside and outside camps or camp-like settings impacted by COVID-19, ensuring their needs are taken into account in the overall response.

#### 4.B. STRENGTHEN GLOBAL KNOWLEDGE OF THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON HUMAN MOBILITY

- Enhance country levels mobility restrictions mapping for points of entry and in-country locations with restrictive measures in place, and report on different points assessed.
- Monitor, analyze, and report on international travel restrictions, changes in immigration and visa procedures, labor mobility and visa related measures, and public health related mobility measures being imposed by/and on countries in the region.
- Conduct inflow and outflow mapping using the DTM's existing flow monitoring operations with an emphasis on movements within, to and from countries with higher prevalence of COVID-19.
- Implement data and research-related initiatives to provide timely quality evidence to migration policymakers to support adjusting to evolving pandemic dynamics, including by exploring the potential of using alternative data sources and sharing existing practices on promoting fact-based and data-driven

migration discourse, policy and planning through the UN Network on Migration.

- Conduct research and produce statistical snapshots on the impact of the pandemic on migrant protection and assistance, including return and reintegration, migration patterns, criminal networks, cost for services, incidents of violence, exploitation and abuse, and apply learning in programming and future crises.

#### 4.C. SUPPORT AND INFORM THE MEDIUM-AND LONGER-TERM EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT OF COVID-19 AT THE INTERNATIONAL, NATIONAL AND LOCAL LEVELS THROUGH DATA PROVISION AND ANALYSIS

- Conduct surveys, assessment and studies on the impact of COVID-19 on population and societies in different contexts, particularly on the situation of migrants, displaced populations and other vulnerable groups in critical policy areas to leverage human mobility for transition and inclusive and sustainable recovery, including through disaggregated data.
- Strengthen migration data gathering systems to ensure continuity of data collection, enhancement of analysis and forecasting capacities of governments and other partners for COVID-19 recovery.
- Incorporate labor market assessments, surveys or other forms of labor market data collection to complement DTM efforts, leading to the development of recommendations for governments to which labor sectors present the greatest opportunities for employment for migrants and refugees in a COVID-19 recovery context.



IOM El Salvador

### III. CROSS-CUTTING PRIORITIES AND COMMITMENTS

The SRRP for Latin America and the Caribbean follows IOM's global cross-cutting priorities and commitments, which include the following:

- A people centred approach where participation and accountability to affected populations (AAP) is at the centre of its operation; ensuring the affected population is the core of the humanitarian and recovery programming.
- Committing to international agreed upon core humanitarian principles through IOM's Principles for Humanitarian Action (PHA) that aim to promote and respect the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality and independence, while aiming to ensure full respect for the rights of the individual in accordance with the IASC definition of protection.





- c) The work under the SRRP 2021 will continue to support UN efforts to achieve green and sustainable recovery from the pandemic, including assessment of environmental risks.
- d) IOM will continue to apply a gender sensitive approach to identify inequalities and incorporate protection and gender lens' in the assistance delivery to ensure the participation of all migrants and host communities, while empowering the most vulnerable.
- e) IOM will continue to implement activities ensuring safe inclusion of the disabled population in all life-saving and protection assistance and socioeconomic recovery services.
- f) IOM in Latin America and the Caribbean will work towards ensuring need-based, conflict-sensitive and principled humanitarian, development and peace actions that are based on shared risk-informed, gender-sensitive analysis, while supporting linkages and collaboration from humanitarian assistance through recovery actions and addressing the root causes of tensions and conflicts.

## IV. IOM REGIONAL CAPACITY TO RESPOND TO COVID-19

IOM works with governments and partners to ensure that migrants — in regular or irregular situations, returnees, displaced persons, and vulnerable communities are included in efforts to mitigate and combat the negative impact of the pandemic. In view of COVID-19, IOM's regional response for Latin America and the Caribbean focuses on reaching the vulnerable and on building operational capacities to address the mobility dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic.

With over 2,000 staff and 33 offices in the region, IOM benefits from a strong on the ground presence. This will ensure a coordinated, multi-sectoral, equitable, and timely response to the crisis into 2021 and beyond to halt further transmission of the disease, mitigate the pandemic's humanitarian and socioeconomic effects, and support affected communities to prepare for longer-term recovery from COVID-19. IOM has a demonstrated capacity to respond to the acute health and multisectoral needs of affected populations and communities of concern, while also implementing programs to mitigate and address the longer-term socio-economic impact of COVID-19. IOM's physical presence in the region in general and in border areas in particular gives the organization a distinct advantage in carrying out this type of work in a timely and people centred manner.

In the last year, IOM has successfully signed an agreement with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO/WHO) with the scope of scaling up coordinated interventions to support countries of the Americas in addressing health and migration issues. In addition,

IOM has contributed to improved capacities to continue working in a COVID-19 environment across partners such as other UN agencies, government authorities, civil society, Red Cross Societies, border and medical personnel. As part of the SRRP in 2020, IOM focused on strengthening partner capacity in shelter management during COVID-19. In addition, IOM successfully ensured that migrants, refugees, displaced persons, and communities are considered in public health planning through community engagement. For example, IOM Costa Rica, with the Ministry of Public Health, Costa Rica Social Security, and the School of Public Health, developed and coordinated a national health and mental health strategy, which included a focus on the socioeconomic and health situations of the migrant population.

Within the response to the Venezuelan situation, IOM is the co-lead of the Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform (known as R4V). The Platform coordinates the work of 159 implementing partners in response to the flows of migrants and refugees from Venezuela across 17 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean. R4V ensured a consistent response to the pandemic by including COVID-19 related activities in the 2021 Refugees and Migrants Response Plan, in line with IOM's existing programming in the region, operationalized through the four strategic priorities outlined above. Furthermore, in order to ensure a coordinated approach to vaccination across all countries, the R4V taskforce issued common messaging targeting migrants and refugees from Venezuela, as well as host governments across the migratory route.



In the framework of the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (RMRP), IOM has provided healthcare assistance, to the most vulnerable, rental support to migrants and refugees at risk of eviction through CBI, as well as distributed hygiene kits to improve the hygiene conditions and supported the cleaning and disinfection of temporary accommodations. In addition, IOM has distributed food and basic items and provided protection assistance including referral pathways and psychosocial support in line with COVID-19 prevention measures.

The achievements highlighted above, along with other initiatives led and spearheaded by IOM in the past year to support COVID-19 response and recovery position IOM as a key actor in the region. To learn more about IOM's work related to COVID-19 recovery and response, please see our global [Preparedness and Response Achievements Report for 2020](#).



This map is for illustration purpose only. Names and boundaries on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by IOM.








# V. FUNDING REQUIREMENTS FOR 2021

## FUNDING REQUIREMENTS BY COUNTRY AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVE

COUNTRY	OBJECTIVE 1			OBJECTIVE 2			OBJECTIVE 3				OBJECTIVE 4			TOTAL (USD)
	1A. Mitigate the impact of COVID-19 to crisis-affected populations	1B. Secure life-saving assistance and access to critical services	1C. Provide protection and assistance, reduce protection-related risks and vulnerabilities and combat xenophobia	2A. Prevent, detect and respond to COVID 19 and other public health threats in communities and at borders	2B. Promote equitable access to vaccines for vulnerable populations	2C. Strengthen health systems to promote access and inclusion	3A. Strengthen international cooperation, immigration systems and border crossing mechanisms to mitigate the impact of the pandemic on human mobility and ensure their future orientation	3B. Include and empower people on the move to support socio-economic recovery	3C. Migrate new or exacerbated community tension and conflict related to COVID-19	4A. Ensure well-coordinated, informed and timely response and recovery efforts through mobility tracking systems at the community, national and regional levels	4B. Enhance understanding of the global impact of COVID-19 on human mobility	4C. Support and inform the medium-and long-term efforts to address the socio-economic impact of COVID-19 at the international, national and local levels through data provision and analysis		
RO San Jose	2,516,800	5,254,500	2,233,200	2,648,000	790,000	1,930,000	353,000	3,041,000	127,500	439,000	205,000	770,000	20,328,000	
Regional Office		\$-	450,000.00	150,000	100,000	-	-	50,000	-	-	50,000	-	800,000	
Aruba	0	200,000	30,000.00	-	15,000	-	-	50,000	-	14,000	-	-	309,000	
Bahamas	300,000	0	75,000.00	20,000	105,000	-	10,000	120,000	-	45,000	80,000	50,000	805,000	
Costa Rica	413,800	265,000	260,000	290,000	370,000	250,000	175,000	480,000	80,000	80,000	-	10,000	2,673,800	
Belize	15,000	225,000.00	0	-	20,000	-	10,000	-	-	-	-	-	270,000	
Cuba		50,000	0	100,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	200,000	350,000	
Curacao	15,000	120,000.00	100,000.00	26,000	25,000	-	-	-	27,500	20,000	-	-	333,500	
Dominica	0	0	0	110,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	55,000	165,000	
Dominican Republic	100,000	400,000	0	227,000	-	-	-	507,000	-	-	-	-	1,234,000	
El Salvador	18,000	354,000.00	168,000.00	30,000	-	-	25,000	246,000	-	-	8,000	190,000	1,039,000	
Guatemala	130,000	425,000	405,200.00	-	-	-	15,000	-	-	-	20,000	40,000	1,035,200	
Guyana	50,000	50,000	150,000.00	180,000	15,000	-	100,000	200,000	-	30,000	-	-	775,000	
Haiti	180,000	1,123,400	0	250,000	-	1,400,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	2,953,400	
Honduras	200,000	400,000	250,000.00	50,000	25,000	-	18,000	-	-	-	17,000	50,000	1,010,000	
Jamaica	0	0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35,000	35,000	
Mexico	620,000	732,100.00	160,000.00	200,000	-	80,000	-	308,000	-	-	-	20,000	2,120,100	
Nicaragua	150,000	85,000.00	30,000.00	105,000	80,000	-	-	100,000	-	60,000	30,000	40,000	680,000	
Panama	125,000	400,000	150,000.00	745,000	20,000	-	-	880,000	20,000	50,000	-	-	2,390,000	
Suriname	0	100,000.00	25,000.00	15,000	15,000	-	-	-	-	20,000	-	-	175,000	
Trinidad and Tobago	200,000	325,000.00	0	150,000	-	200,000	-	100,000	-	120,000	-	80,000	1,175,000	
RO Buenos Aires	11,191,216	54,554,422	15,084,343	38,231,210	5,937,910	3,287,948	3,286,830	36,367,215	332,000	1,874,750	605,085	471,800	171,224,729	
Regional Office	0	0	150,000	50,000	40,000	60,000	50,000	150,000	-	200,000	50,000	50,000	800,000	
Office of the Special Envoy for the Venezuela Response	0	325,000	331,200	1,324,930	-	297,545	200,000	200,000	-	-	385,000	130,000	3,193,675	
Argentina	533,650	1,930,000	158,600	104,000	128,960	100,000	662,000	1,210,280	52,000	135,200	20,800	46,800	5,082,290	
Bolivia	366,800	294,140	216,500	190,000	140,000	75,000	160,000	470,000	-	150,000	-	90,000	2,152,440	
Brazil	230,000	3,200,000	800,000	3,100,000	-	2,650,000	1,000,000	1,500,000	-	-	-	-	12,480,000	
Chile	505,000	1,200,000	690,000	1,235,000	-	20,000	700,000	700,000	-	250,000	-	-	5,300,000	
Colombia	397,143	3,350,358	4,461,571	5,622,220	2,200,000	85,403	-	7,590,695	180,000	-	-	-	23,887,390	
Ecuador	31,748	8,352,162	1,417,305	3,493,910	543,140	-	151,830	18,921,140	-	370,550	74,285	-	33,356,070	
Paraguay	360,000	781,250	502,000	401,250	-	-	10,000	292,500	-	72,000	75,000	-	2,494,000	
Peru	62,400	29,970,235	5,070,404	16,195,500	2,885,810	-	50,000	4,627,600	100,000	50,000	-	100,000	59,311,949	
Uruguay	917,915	448,101	169,763	439,630	-	-	103,000	705,000	-	47,000	-	55,000	2,885,409	
Venezuela	7,786,560	4,703,176	1,117,000	6,074,770	-	-	-	-	-	600,000	-	-	20,281,506	





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