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COMMUNITY STABILIZATION ACTIVITY (CSA)

Helping address increased migration to Colombia from Venezuela.

OVERVIEW

The Community Stabilization Activity (CSA) provides technical assistance to the Government of Colombia (GOC) to address increasing migration from Venezuela. The influx of Venezuelan migrants to Colombia has placed pressure on public systems, like health and education, especially in conflict-affected regions near the border with Venezuela. Many municipal and departmental governments in these regions lack the institutional capacities and funding needed to serve their constituents, and the sudden influx of migrants has further overwhelmed these government actors. Recognizing these challenges, CSA helps receptor communities integrate migrant populations and works with the GOC to develop and implement a comprehensive mass migration public policy. CSA is also helping the GOC implement the Temporary Protection Status for Venezuelans (EPTV) registry process that will enable registered migrants to access public services and to work legally. CSA is being implemented in 15 departments and it runs from August 2018 to April 2022.

PHOTO BY THE ORGANIZATION FOR INTERNATIONAL MIGRATION

COMPONENTS

DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE ASSISTANCE STRATEGY

CSA strengthens GOC capacities to provide humanitarian assistance and to implement documentation processes for Venezuelan migrants in a timely manner. CSA supports the GOC's effort to develop and implement mass migration public policies and mechanisms, like the EPTV registry process. The activity is also helping local governments respond to migrant and host community public services needs and is piloting one-stop service shops for migrants.

PROMOTING SOCIO-ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL INCLUSION

CSA encourages the GOC, municipal governments, civil society organizations and the private sector to work together to identify socio-economic and cultural inclusion opportunities for migrants. CSA also develops communication campaigns against xenophobia, discrimination, and exploitation in receptor communities.

IMPROVING MIGRANT ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

CSA facilitates migrant and host communities' access to basic medical services by organizing mobile health brigades, developing healthcare events, and working with public hospitals and clinics to improve care. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CSA improved individuals' access to care through virtual medical consultations and direct assistance to homes when needed.

RESULTS

- Engaged 62 people in xenophobia, discrimination, and exploitation prevention activities;
- Helped 14,923 individuals access healthcare through a health insurance strategy for migrants;
- Enabled 5,641 individuals to receive basic healthcare services through extra-mural health days;
- Assisted 198 individuals to access resources needed to create and/or strengthen their businesses;
- Supported *Migración Colombia's* hiring of 187 public officials to implement the EPTV registration process;
- Trained 1,270 migrants in psychosocial support, entrepreneurship planning, and investment projects;
- Engaged 329 Venezuelan migrants, Colombian returnees, and host community members in the job skills training;
- Provided essential physical and emotional care services to 35,534 Venezuelan migrants and host community members;
- Worked with Colombian Attorney General's Office to design and implement the Local Migration Policy Monitoring Tool; and
- Trained 443 public officials, 376 Venezuelan migrants, and 279 businessmen on Colombian labor legislation and access to employment through workshops.