

# VENEZUELA REGIONAL CRISIS

FACT SHEET #5, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

SEPTEMBER 11, 2018

## NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

**2.3 million**

Estimated Venezuelans Outside of Venezuela  
UN – June 2018

**1.1 million**

Estimated Venezuelans and Colombian Returnees in Colombia  
GoC – June 2018

**414,000**

Venezuelans Sheltering in Peru  
GoP – August 2018

**250,000**

Venezuelans Sheltering in Ecuador  
GoE – August 2018

**611,000**

Estimated Food-Insecure Venezuelans and Returnees in Colombia  
UN – April 2018

## HIGHLIGHTS

- U.S. Ambassador to Peru Krishna R. Urs announces \$500,000 in USAID funding to support Venezuela regional crisis response health activities in Peru
- Health actors record additional confirmed measles and diphtheria cases in Venezuela, as well as the continued regional spread of measles
- Host governments continue to reevaluate immigration policies in light of ongoing population movements

## HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA <sup>1</sup>	\$16,881,529
USAID/FFP <sup>2</sup>	\$6,000,000
State/PRM <sup>3</sup>	\$23,916,212
<b>\$46,797,741</b>	

## KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The influx of vulnerable Venezuelans into Peru continues to strain local services and result in increased humanitarian need. On August 28, the Government of Peru (GoP) declared a 60-day state of emergency in three districts along the Ecuador–Peru border in response to health and sanitation needs related to the Venezuela regional crisis. On September 6, Ambassador Urs announced \$500,000 in USAID/OFDA funding to support critical health services for vulnerable Venezuelans and Peruvian host community members to address growing needs.
- Public health concerns persist throughout the Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region, including the ongoing spread of measles. As of late August, the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) confirmed measles cases in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, many of which were associated with the ongoing outbreak in Venezuela. PAHO recorded nearly 4,300 confirmed measles cases in Venezuela from the commencement of the outbreak in July 2017 to late August 2018.
- As Venezuelans continue to flee deteriorating economic and political conditions in Venezuela, countries around the region are reexamining immigration restrictions and protocols. On August 25, the GoP enacted new immigration measures requiring Venezuelans to present a valid passport to enter the country, following a similar announcement by the Government of Ecuador (GoE). However, the GoP plans to allow for some exceptions to the new regulations, according to international media. Additionally, on September 4, representatives from 11 Latin American governments, including Ecuador and Peru, signed a joint declaration stating that the governments will allow Venezuelans to enter their countries with expired travel documents.

<sup>1</sup> USAID's Office of U.S. Foreign Disaster Assistance (USAID/OFDA)

<sup>2</sup> USAID's Office of Food for Peace (USAID/FFP)

<sup>3</sup> U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

## CURRENT EVENTS

- On August 10, Colombian Minister of Foreign Affairs Carlos Holmes Trujillo announced that the Government of Colombia (GoC) plans to request that the UN designate a special envoy to coordinate humanitarian assistance efforts in response to the Venezuela regional crisis.
  - On August 31, the European Union (EU) announced approximately \$40 million in support for humanitarian assistance efforts in response to the Venezuela regional crisis. The assistance will support health care, nutrition, and water interventions for crisis-affected individuals inside Venezuela, as well as Venezuelans and host community members in other countries in the region, according to EU officials.
  - On September 4, representatives from 11 Latin American governments—including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay—signed a joint declaration agreeing to allow entry to Venezuelans arriving in their countries with expired travel documents. Passports and other official identification documents remain difficult to obtain in Venezuela due to corruption, high demand, and supply shortages, according to international media. The reports follow two days of meetings in Ecuador’s capital city of Quito to discuss information sharing and improving coordination in response to the Venezuela regional crisis.
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## REGIONAL

- PAHO has recorded nearly 4,300 confirmed measles cases in Venezuela from the commencement of the outbreak in July 2017 to late August 2018, including more than 1,700 confirmed cases recorded from late July 2018 to late August 2018 alone. Health authorities have also recorded measles cases in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru, many of which are associated with the ongoing outbreak in Venezuela. As of late August, PAHO had reported more than 1,200 confirmed measles cases in Brazil, representing a nearly 83 percent increase from the nearly 700 confirmed cases reported in the country as of late July; health actors reported more than 97 percent of the cases in Brazil’s Amazonas and Roraima states along the Brazil–Venezuela border. USAID/OFDA continues to support PAHO across the region to enhance existing government health systems aimed at preventing, detecting, and controlling the spread of infectious diseases.
  - On September 6, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) announced a regional emergency appeal for 7.4 million Swiss francs—approximately \$7.6 million—to support National Red Cross Societies to augment humanitarian activities in response to increasing populations movements in the region, including initial support for 200,000 people throughout Argentina, Brazil, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago, and Uruguay for 12 months. IFRC plans to focus assistance on health, livelihoods, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance.
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## BRAZIL

- On August 22, President of Brazil Michel Temer and Governor of Roraima Suely Campos extended the state of emergency in Roraima for an additional 180 days, in response to the increased influx of Venezuelans. The announcement, which extends emergency assistance measures for Venezuelans first approved in February, allows the Government of Brazil (GoB) to transfer additional resources to the state to mitigate the impact of the crisis, including support for the state’s public health, education, and social assistance services. In addition, Governor Campos has requested the GoB reimburse the state \$44 million for health, education, and public safety expenses incurred by the local government due to the influx of Venezuelan arrivals. Governor Campos also requested national security personnel and police vehicles to reinforce public security in the state’s capital city of Boa Vista, as well as additional ambulances to support health care needs.
- On August 17, USAID staff met with UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF) representatives in Boa Vista to discuss child protection concerns. The majority of arriving Venezuelan children are entering Brazil without official documentation, including passports, birth certificates, vaccination cards, or any other official confirmation that the adults accompanying them are their legal guardians, according to the UN agency. UNICEF currently operates four child-friendly spaces

(CFS) in Roraima, including a CFS located at the triage center near the Brazil–Colombia border, which collectively assist an average of 1,000 children per month.

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## COLOMBIA

- The diphtheria outbreak in Venezuela continues to contribute to increased public health concerns in Colombia, where health authorities had confirmed eight diphtheria cases—including three deaths—associated with the outbreak in Venezuela between mid-March and mid-August. Of these, five diphtheria cases were reported in La Guajira Department, while the remaining three cases were reported in Norte de Santander Department. Health actors reported that two cases were arrivals from Venezuela and six cases spread via secondary transmission in areas with high concentrations of recent arrivals from Venezuela. USAID/OFDA partners support health care assistance to vulnerable Venezuelans and host community populations in Colombia.
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## ECUADOR

- On August 18, the GoE enacted new immigration measures requiring Venezuelans to present a valid passport to enter the country, a policy decision expected to substantially limit the number of Venezuelans eligible to enter Ecuador, according to international media. Previously, Venezuelans were allowed entry to Ecuador after presenting only their Venezuelan national identification card. On August 24, in response to a request from the GoE Office of the Ombudsman, an Ecuadorian court issued a 45-day suspension of the GoE's new immigration requirement, ruling that the new measures were inconsistent with pre-existing domestic immigration law and the right to request asylum.
  - Venezuelans continue to enter Ecuador both with the intention of staying in the country and transiting to other countries in the region, according to relief actors. Approximately 20 percent of Venezuelans arriving in Ecuador remain in the country, while the rest transit onwards to other countries in the region, according to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). As of early August, approximately 4,000 Venezuelans were entering the country per day, bringing the total number of Venezuelans entering the country since January to more than 545,000 people, according to UNHCR. As of mid-August, more than 250,000 Venezuelans were sheltering in Ecuador, many of whom require humanitarian assistance, the GoE and relief actors report.
  - Between April and May, State/PRM partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) surveyed approximately 2,450 migrants—nearly 95 percent of whom were Venezuelans—sheltering in Quito, one Colombia–Ecuador border crossing location, and one Peru–Ecuador border crossing location. Of the nearly 1,000 people surveyed at the Colombia–Ecuador border, more than 20 percent reported their intention to remain in Ecuador, while approximately 72 percent reported their intention to transit to Peru. Of the 650 Venezuelans surveyed in Quito, more than 70 percent reported earning less than Ecuador's monthly minimum wage and approximately 15 percent reported not having regular access to food. Finally, nearly 60 percent of Venezuelans sheltering in Quito reported having experienced discrimination, including 34 percent who reported having experienced acts of physical, sexual, or verbal violence in Ecuador.
  - With support from USAID/FFP, the UN World Food Program (WFP) continues to provide emergency food assistance to Venezuelans, Colombians, and vulnerable host community members in Ecuador. In July, WFP provided emergency food vouchers—valued at nearly \$440,000—to more than 19,700 food-insecure people in Ecuador.
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## PERU

- On August 25, the GoP enacted new measures requiring Venezuelans to present a valid passport to enter the country, while still allowing some exceptions to the new measures, according to international media. On August 28, the GoP declared a 60-day state of emergency in Agua Verdes, Tumbes, and Zarumilla districts, Tumbes Region, along the Ecuador–Peru border, in response to health and sanitation needs related to the influx of Venezuelans entering the

country. Venezuelans entering Peru remain in need of emergency health and nutrition assistance, according to PAHO. As of late August, approximately 414,000 Venezuelans were sheltering in Peru, GoP authorities report.

- On September 6, Ambassador Urs announced \$500,000 in USAID/OFDA funding to support PAHO to provide vaccinations and other critical health services to Venezuelans and vulnerable host community members in Peru, including bolstering local healthcare network capacity to better monitor, detect, and respond to outbreaks of infectious diseases. Critical health concerns persist in Peru, including cases of dengue fever, measles, and malaria, PAHO reports. PAHO’s activities will support existing disease surveillance activities conducted by the Tumbes Regional Office, which focus on the early detection of measles and diphtheria.
- Following the GoP state of emergency declaration, State/PRM partner UNHCR increased response activities at the largest Ecuador–Peru border crossing points in Tumbes, including the provision of drinking water, hygiene kits, health services, and recreational kits for children, as well as legal assistance to Venezuelans arriving in Peru. In addition, the GoP recently announced the completion of 20 temporary shelters for Venezuelans entering Peru in Tumbes; the shelters have the capacity to house approximately 500 Venezuelans.

## CONTEXT

- Deteriorating economic and political conditions—characterized by extreme hyperinflation and severe shortages of food, medicine, and health care—in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela since 2014 have contributed to increasing humanitarian needs and triggered an influx of Venezuelans into neighboring countries, including Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru.
- The population influx has increased in the past year and is straining the capacity of services, particularly in border areas of Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Recent assessments indicate that food, health care, and WASH support are among the most urgent humanitarian needs of Venezuelans, returnees, and host communities in border regions. The influx of people leaving Venezuela is also contributing to increased public health concerns throughout the region, particularly with regard to the spread of infectious diseases. More than 280,000 Venezuelans have applied for asylum globally since 2014.
- In addition to supporting ongoing regional response activities, USAID and State/PRM staff based throughout the region and in Washington, D.C., are monitoring the humanitarian situation in close coordination with relevant host governments, donor governments, and UN counterparts.

### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2018<sup>1</sup>

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>USAID/OFDA</b>			
<b>COLOMBIA</b>			
Implementing Partners (IPs)	Agriculture and Food Security; Health; Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management; Livelihoods; Multi-Purpose Cash Assistance; Protection; Shelter; WASH	Countrywide	\$14,808,519
UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA)	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Countrywide	\$263,000
PAHO	Health	Arauca, La Guajira, Norte de Santander	\$500,000
	Program Support Costs	Countrywide	\$154,524
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$15,726,043</b>

<b>BRAZIL</b>			
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA)	Shelters and Settlements, WASH	Roraima	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>			
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Regional	\$155,486
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA LAC FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$155,486</b>
<b>PERU</b>			
PAHO	Health	Countrywide	\$500,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA PERU FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$500,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$16,881,529</b>

<b>USAID/FFP</b>			
<b>COLOMBIA</b>			
WFP	Food Vouchers, Local and Regional Food Procurement	Countrywide	\$5,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$5,000,000</b>
<b>ECUADOR</b>			
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN ECUADOR FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$1,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$6,000,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$22,881,529</b>

<b>State/PRM</b>			
<b>BRAZIL</b>			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,600,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$4,800,000</b>
<b>COLOMBIA</b>			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$5,000,000</b>
<b>COSTA RICA</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$350,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COSTA RICA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$350,000</b>
<b>ECUADOR</b>			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$718,000

UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN ECUADOR FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$918,000</b>
<b>MEXICO</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$250,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN MEXICO FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$250,000</b>
<b>PANAMA</b>			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$727,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$200,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN PANAMA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$927,000</b>
<b>PERU</b>			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,231,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,400,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN PERU FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$3,631,000</b>
<b>TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$2,000,000</b>
<b>LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN</b>			
IPs	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$500,000
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$2,224,000
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM LAC FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$2,724,000</b>
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$20,600,000</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018</b>			<b>\$43,481,529</b>

#### USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2017

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
<b>State/PRM</b>			
<b>BRAZIL</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$936,292
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$936,292</b>
<b>CARIBBEAN</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$615,868
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM CARIBBEAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$615,868</b>
<b>COLOMBIA</b>			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,099,228
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$1,099,228</b>

COSTA RICA			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$118,624
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COSTA RICA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$118,624</b>
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$546,200
<b>TOTAL STATE/PRM LAC FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$546,200</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017</b>			<b>\$3,316,212</b>
<b>TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018</b>			<b>\$46,797,741</b>

<sup>1</sup> Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of September 6, 2018.

## PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at [www.interaction.org](http://www.interaction.org).
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed (often in the affected region); reduce the burden on scarce resources (such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space); can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
  - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: [www.cidi.org](http://www.cidi.org) or +1.202.661.7710.
  - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at [www.reliefweb.int](http://www.reliefweb.int).

USAID/OFDA bulletins appear on the USAID website at <http://www.usaid.gov/what-we-do/working-crises-and-conflict/responding-times-crisis/where-we-work>