

VENEZUELA REGIONAL CRISIS

FACT SHEET #2, FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2018

JUNE 28, 2018

NUMBERS AT A GLANCE

1.1 million

Estimated Venezuelans and Colombian Returnees from Venezuela Sheltering in Colombia
GoC – June 2018

343,300

Venezuelans Entering Ecuador Since January 2018
UNHCR – May 2018

40,000

Estimated Venezuelans Sheltering in Brazil
UNHCR – March 2018

611,000

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

909,000

Estimated Venezuelans and Returnees in Need of Health Assistance in Colombia
UN – April 2018

HIGHLIGHTS

- Deteriorating economic and political conditions in Venezuela continue to drive large-scale migration to neighboring countries
- UN releases addendum to Colombia HRP, requesting an additional \$102.4 million to respond to Venezuela regional crisis-related needs in Colombia
- U.S. Vice President Pence announces \$9.6 million in U.S. Government humanitarian assistance for Venezuela regional crisis response efforts

HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018

USAID/OFDA	\$4,080,174
USAID/FFP	\$3,000,000
State/PRM ¹	\$23,916,212
\$30,996,386	

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

- The economic and political crisis in Venezuela continues to drive large-scale migration to neighboring countries, relief actors report. As of mid-June, the Government of Colombia (GoC) estimated that nearly 1.1 million people—including Venezuelans and returning Colombians—had arrived in Colombia from Venezuela since early 2017.
- To address the humanitarian needs of Venezuelans in Colombia, the UN released an addendum to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP) for Colombia in early May 2018. The HRP addendum requests an additional \$102.4 million to respond to the needs of the nearly 1.2 million people in Colombia—including Venezuelans, returning Colombians, and host community members—who require humanitarian assistance due to the Venezuela regional crisis.
- On June 26, during an official visit to Brazil, U.S. Vice President Michael R. Pence announced \$9.6 million in additional U.S. Government humanitarian assistance for emergency response efforts related to the Venezuela regional crisis. The newly announced response funding includes \$8.1 million from State/PRM to support the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to provide shelter and protection assistance, build host government capacity, and improve tracking of migration flows across the region, as well as \$1 million from USAID/FFP for the UN World Food Program (WFP) to distribute emergency food vouchers to Venezuelans sheltering in Ecuador.

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

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

¹ U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM)

CURRENT EVENTS

- Ongoing disease outbreaks in Venezuela continue to contribute to increased public health concerns in Brazil, Colombia, and other countries throughout the region. As of late May, health officials had recorded approximately 2,150 confirmed measles cases in Venezuela since July 2017 and nearly 1,100 confirmed diphtheria cases in Venezuela since July 2016, according to the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO). In northern Brazil's Roraima State, health authorities confirmed 84 measles cases between January and early June; 58 of the cases—or approximately 69 percent—were identified in Venezuelan patients, PAHO reports. Meanwhile, health authorities in Colombia recorded 26 confirmed measles cases between mid-March and early June, 17 of which were imported from Venezuela, and nine of which were due to secondary transmission or other reasons related to importation. In Ecuador, health authorities recorded 12 confirmed measles cases, including 10 cases in Venezuelan patients, between late March and early June. Health authorities in northeastern Colombia's La Guajira Department had also confirmed two diphtheria cases associated with the Venezuelan diphtheria outbreak as of late May.
 - In response, relief actors are coordinating with relevant government authorities throughout the region to bolster disease surveillance efforts, mitigate public health risks, and respond to emergency health needs among vulnerable populations.
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BRAZIL

- As of late May, more than 4,000 people were sheltering in nine temporary shelters in Roraima managed by the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in coordination with the Brazilian Army, the UN agency reports. UNHCR estimates that as many as 7,000 people in Roraima require emergency shelter assistance.
 - In recent weeks, USAID/OFDA partner the Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) commenced distributions of relief items—including blankets, clothing, cooking sets, hygiene supplies, mattresses, and water containers—to people in emergency shelters in Roraima. From June 12–13, the organization distributed individual hygiene kits and other relief commodities to the estimated 320 Venezuelans sheltering in the Tancredo Neves shelter in Roraima's capital city Boa Vista. To complement hygiene kit distributions, the organization is additionally conducting hygiene promotion sessions for shelter residents. With \$500,000 in USAID/OFDA support, ADRA aims to reach more than 4,600 people in Roraima with water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) assistance in the coming months.
 - With other donor support, ADRA recently established a health clinic in Boa Vista's Cambará neighborhood to increase access to primary health care and dental care services for vulnerable Venezuelan populations. In addition, the organization is supporting a safe space for residents of the New Canaan shelter, where Venezuelans sheltering at the site can participate in crafts, such as fabric weaving, and other income-generating activities.
 - In response to the Venezuela regional crisis, State/PRM partner IOM has activated its Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM)—a system to track and monitor displacement and population mobility—in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Results from DTM data gathered in Roraima's Boa Vista and Pacaraima municipalities between January 25 and March 8 indicate that 67 percent of Venezuelans arriving in northern Brazil left Venezuela due primarily to poor economic conditions and a lack of employment opportunities, while 22 percent of arrivals left due to a lack of access to food and medical services. Of the approximately 3,500 Venezuelans surveyed, 65 percent indicated interest in participating in the Government of Brazil's voluntary relocation program, which facilitates air transport from the country's border region to other areas of the country to ease pressure on social services in northern Brazil, whereas 52 percent reported the desire to eventually travel onward to another country. The DTM report additionally indicated that, while 40 percent of individuals surveyed reported receiving some type of assistance—primarily food commodities—to meet basic needs, 37 percent of individuals surveyed reported eating fewer than three meals per day.
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COLOMBIA

- The GoC estimates that nearly 1.1 million people from Venezuela—including more than 442,000 Venezuelans lacking proper documentation, 377,000 Venezuelans with proper documentation, and 250,000 Colombian returnees—were sheltering in the country as of mid-June 2018, according to results from a nationwide registration of Venezuelans

residing in Colombia. The GoC conducted the registration campaign, which lasted from early April through mid-June, through nearly 1,020 registration points in 30 departments and 413 municipalities.

- In early May, the UN Humanitarian Country Team in Colombia released an addendum to the 2018 HRP, estimating separately that approximately 1.2 million individuals in the country—including approximately 940,000 Venezuelans, 178,000 Colombian returnees, and 71,000 host community members—will require humanitarian assistance in 2018 due to the Venezuela regional crisis. The revised estimated population in need as a result of the crisis represents a 70 percent increase from the 700,000 Venezuelans in need identified in the 2018 Colombia HRP released in January, which did not include estimates of host community members or returnees affected by the crisis.
- In response to the increase in assessed humanitarian need, the HRP addendum requests an additional \$102.4 million to assist approximately 500,000 vulnerable people through December 2018. More than \$47.3 million of the total amount requested would provide emergency food and nutrition assistance for approximately 371,000 of the 611,000 people projected to be food-insecure through December 2018 due to the Venezuela regional crisis. Other priority needs among vulnerable populations in Colombia include health, livelihoods, protection, shelter, education, and WASH assistance, as well as pathways toward regularized legal status. In addition, Colombian returnees require reintegration support and documentation confirming nationality, which grants access to education, employment, health care, and other basic services.
- Colombia's Arauca, La Guajira, and Norte de Santander departments, located along the border with Venezuela, remain among the areas most severely affected by the crisis, having received the highest population influx from Venezuela to date, according to the HRP addendum. Although other border departments—including Boyacá, Cesar, Guainía, and Vichada—are hosting fewer people arriving from Venezuela, the influx is overwhelming already constrained social services and exacerbating humanitarian needs among new arrivals and host communities in these areas. In addition, humanitarian actors have identified unmet needs in interior areas, including Antioquia, Atlántico, Bolívar, Magdalena, Santander, and Valle de Cauca departments, as well as the capital city Bogotá—particularly among Venezuelans sheltering in urban and semi-urban areas with high poverty rates.
- To date in FY 2018, USAID/OFDA and USAID/FFP have provided \$5.5 million to respond to humanitarian needs related to the influx of Venezuelans into Colombia. This assistance includes emergency food and health assistance, safe drinking water, seeds and training to help households grow and sell food, and support for small businesses to help create job opportunities in Colombia communities hosting Venezuelans. In addition to the newly announced contribution to IOM, State/PRM is also supporting UNHCR with \$12 million in regional humanitarian response funds, including \$3 million earmarked by the UN agency for programs assisting Venezuelans in Colombia.

ECUADOR

- More than 343,300 Venezuelans entered Ecuador between January and May 2018, UNHCR reports. In comparison, 287,000 arrivals from Venezuela to Ecuador were recorded during all of 2017, according to the UN agency. Of the 2018 arrivals, approximately 90 percent entered Ecuador via the Rumichaca Bridge, which links Ecuador's Carchi Province with Colombia's Nariño Department.
- Relief actors report that many vulnerable Venezuelans arriving in Ecuador are in need of emergency food, health, and nutrition assistance. State/PRM partner UNHCR is providing relief assistance to Venezuelans transiting across the border to Ecuador; from May 15–17, a period during which daily arrivals peaked at nearly 5,000 persons, the UN agency distributed 4,000 water bottles, 4,000 biscuits, and 300 hygiene kits, among other relief items. UNHCR also provided cash-based emergency shelter assistance to nearly 60 households stranded at border points during the same period. In addition, USAID/FFP partner WFP is providing emergency food vouchers to approximately 2,770 food-insecure Venezuelans in Ecuador. The food vouchers—designed to meet more than 40 percent of monthly food needs—allow Venezuelans to access healthy and nutritious foods, while supporting local markets whenever possible.

PERU

- Official figures indicate that more than 300,000 Venezuelans are currently sheltering in Peru, with increasing numbers of Venezuelans entering the country from Ecuador on a daily basis, according to UNHCR. Meanwhile, the number of Venezuelans departing Peru via the southern border with Chile decreased by more than 80 percent in recent months, from more than 10,215 exits in April to approximately 1,960 exits in May, indicating that Peru is likely serving as the final destination for many Venezuelans transiting through Colombia and Ecuador. In response to the influx of Venezuelans, Government of Peru migration authorities are issuing work permits to Venezuelans with pending temporary residence permit applications. Additionally, the primary migration office in the capital city Lima has increased its operating hours to provide services on a 24-hour basis to accommodate the increasing numbers of Venezuelans.
- With State/PRM support, UNHCR and implementing partners are providing assistance—including dignity kits and other relief commodities—at a binational border assistance center located along the border with Ecuador in Peru's Tumbes Region, where an estimated 2,000 Venezuelans arrive on average each day. The UN agency has also established a hydration point at the center to increase access to safe drinking water for arriving Venezuelans. In conjunction with IOM, UNHCR is additionally working to provide legal counseling and facilitate Venezuelans' access to documentation and protection services throughout Peru.

OTHER HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

- On June 7, the European Commission announced a contribution of €5 million—approximately \$5.79 million—in humanitarian aid for Venezuela regional crisis response efforts. The assistance will provide food, health, nutrition, protection, and WASH support for vulnerable populations, primarily within Venezuela.
- On May 14, the Government of Canada announced a contribution of 1.3 million Canadian dollars (CAD)—approximately 980,000 U.S. dollars (USD)—to WFP and Action Against Hunger to address food security and access to clean water and sanitation in areas of Colombia hosting Venezuelans and Colombian returnees. Since 2017, the Government of Canada has provided 2.21 million CAD—approximately 1.67 million USD—in humanitarian funding to help meet the needs of vulnerable populations affected by the Venezuela regional crisis, including in Venezuela and in areas of Colombia hosting 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 is straining the capacity of services, particularly in border areas of Colombia and Brazil. Recent assessments indicate food, health care services, nutrition assistance, 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.
- In addition to supporting ongoing regional response activities, USAID and State/PRM staff based in Washington, D.C., and throughout the region are monitoring the humanitarian situation in close coordination with U.S. Government (USG) and relevant host government counterparts.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL CRISIS RESPONSE IN FY 2018¹

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/OFDA			
COLOMBIA			
Implementing Partners	Agriculture and Food Security; Livelihoods; Protection; WASH	Arauca, La Guajira, Norte de Santander	\$2,739,028
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
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$3,502,028
BRAZIL			
ADRA	Shelter and Settlements, WASH	Roraima	\$500,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$500,000
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			
iMMAP	Humanitarian Coordination and Information Management	Regional	\$78,146
TOTAL USAID/OFDA LAC FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$78,146
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$4,080,174
USAID/FFP			
COLOMBIA			
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$2,000,000
ECUADOR			
WFP	Food Vouchers	Countrywide	\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/OFDA FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$1,000,000
TOTAL USAID/FFP FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$3,000,000
TOTAL USAID HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$7,080,174
State/PRM			
BRAZIL			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,200,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,600,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN BRAZIL FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$4,800,000
COLOMBIA			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$3,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COLOMBIA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$5,000,000
COSTA RICA			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$350,000

TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN COSTA RICA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$350,000
ECUADOR			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$718,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN ECUADOR FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$918,000
MEXICO			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$250,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN MEXICO FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$250,000
PANAMA			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$727,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$200,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN PANAMA FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$927,000
PERU			
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$1,231,000
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,400,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN PERU FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$3,631,000
TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO			
UNHCR	Multi-Sector Assistance	Countrywide	\$2,000,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$2,000,000
LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN			
Implementing Partners	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$500,000
IOM	Multi-Sector Assistance	Regional	\$2,224,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM LAC FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$2,724,000
TOTAL STATE/PRM FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$20,600,000
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2018			\$27,680,174
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE VENEZUELA REGIONAL RESPONSE IN FY 2017–2018²			\$30,996,386

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of June 28, 2018.

² The total USG funding figure includes \$3,316,212 in FY 2017 State/PRM funding to UNHCR to assist Venezuelans throughout the Latin America and Caribbean region.

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.
- 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, dietary, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: www.cidi.org or +1.202.661.7710.
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at 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>