IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS FOR VENEZUELANs IN PERU

The more than one million Venezuelans residing in Peru left their country in pursuit of a better life, including access to a decent livelihood. This pursuit can be difficult, especially in the context of the pandemic. USAID supports activities that facilitate the economic insertion of Venezuelan migrants and refugees as well as local populations. This activity, implemented by the local non-governmental organization CEDRO, is mainly focused on the cities of Lima, Arequipa and Trujillo, where the largest populations of Venezuelan immigrants reside, but it also covers regions of the Mancomunidad Regional de los Andes, where they look to enhance the positive effect of skilled migration.

HOW DOES THE ACTIVITY WORK?

1. **Certification / Accreditation:** Through partners such as UNIVERSIDAD DE LA SALLE, IDAT, CISCO and other partners and allies from the public and private sector, CEDRO facilitates training and / or certification of qualifications for Venezuelans.

2. **Job placement:** CEDRO focuses on placing Venezuelans in formal employment opportunities. This will be achieved by approaching the private sector (companies and associations) and public institutions, seeking an effective relationship of the program with the existing gaps in the market.

3. **Small business strengthening:** Venezuelan-owned small businesses are strengthened through the capacity building program tailored to the needs of the entrepreneur. This program provides training on
a variety of topics; articulates entrepreneurs with mentors; help with licensing and other bureaucratic/administrative matters; and, in some cases, it will provide seed capital to promising companies.

RESULTS ACHIEVED

- 1,413 Venezuelan migrants have received professional training and occupational certification in administrative management, customer service, digital skills to improve employability, knowledge of Microsoft office essentials, video editing, mobile applications, and cybersecurity.
- 1,662 Venezuelan migrants are participating in the employability strengthening program to increase their chances of obtaining a formal job.
- 239 Venezuelan migrants inserted in the labor market.
- 188 companies and public institutions contacted with the aim of reaching agreements to improve the employability of the Venezuelan population in Lima, Trujillo, Arequipa, Cusco and Lima.
- 550 Venezuelan-owned companies have been strengthened in business capabilities.
- 83 Venezuelan entrepreneurs have received formal loans granted by Financiera Confianza.
- 176 regional and sectoral public officials trained and made aware of the migration phenomenon.
- 7 regional governments, 16 local governments and 3 national government sectors involved in the project.
- 23 Agreements with public and private institutions signed and 2 new strategic alliances in process, to finalize inter-institutional cooperation agreements for the benefit of the Venezuelan community in Peru.
- Coordination with the ILO and 3 National Workers’ Centers to support regulatory changes and the submission of labor migration agreements pending ratification by Peru; namely: Conventions 97 (Rev.) and 143 of the ILO.
- Articulation with the Employment Centers of Metropolitan Lima, with whom massive labor fairs have been co-organized in districts with an important Venezuelan migrant community.
- Articulation with the National Program Your Company, with whom awareness workshops are planned on the benefits of formalization.
- Law proposals before the Congress of the Republic (through the Office of Congressman Edward Málaga) to promote equal treatment of Venezuelan migrants in matters of income tax, a more adequate regulation of hate crimes and the revision of the 20% as a maximum limit for hiring foreign personnel, especially in small and micro-enterprises.
- Regular participation in instances of the R4V, GTRM Peru (Protection, Livelihoods and Integration Group) and the MTIGM (Intersectoral Migration Management Table, in the Health and Socioeconomic Integration Group).

PROJECT INFORMATION

IMPLEMENTER: Centro de Información y Educación para la Prevención del Abuso de Drogas (CEDRO)

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LOCATION: Perú (Lima, Arequipa, Trujillo and Mancomunidad Regional de los Andes)

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