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IMPROVED LIVELIHOODS FOR VENEZUELAN 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

- 1,070 Venezuelan migrants have received professional training and occupational certification in information technology, pedagogy for higher and basic education, customer service, and credit counseling.
- 1,617 Venezuelan migrants are participating in the employability strengthening program to increase their chances of obtaining formal employment.
- 117 Venezuelan migrants inserted in the labor market.
- 100 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.
- 250 Venezuelan-owned companies have been strengthened in business capabilities.
- 65 Venezuelan entrepreneurs have received formal loans granted by XCapital-UnoCredito.
- 176 regional and sectoral public officials trained and made aware of the migration phenomenon.
- 7 regional governments, 12 local governments and 3 national government sectors involved in the project.
- 19 Agreements with public and private institutions signed and 3 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.
- 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 the 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)

COMPONENT DURATION: February 19, 2021 to February 18, 2023

USAID FUNDING: \$2,000,000

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

COORDINATOR'S NAME: Jaime Chang

TELEPHONE: +51 972 520 175

EMAIL: jachang@usaid.gov