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ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF VENEZUELAN MIGRANT AND REFUGEES UNDER DECENT WORK CONDITIONS

Latin America & the Caribbean face the most significant migratory crisis in its history. The International Labor Organization (ILO) is leading efforts related to socio-economic integration of Venezuelan migrants and refugees. USAID is supporting ILO's programs in Ecuador and Peru.

The United Nations has assembled a broad coalition of international and local organizations to implement an integrated response to the crisis articulated in the Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP), which is built around four pillars: 1) humanitarian assistance; 2) protection; 3) socio-economic and cultural integration; and 4) strengthening the capacity of the host governments. ILO launched a two-year “Economic Integration of Venezuelan Migrants and Refugees Under Decent Work Conditions” activity in support of pillar two. USAID’s goal within the context of the Venezuela crisis, is to support activities that seek to facilitate the economic-financial insertion of migrants and refugees.

HOW DOES THE PROJECT WORK?

The project will collectively contribute to the insertion of Venezuelans into the labor market by a) improving structural conditions for migrants' socio-economic integration; b) engagement with the ministries of labor to facilitate migrants' labor market insertion; and c) improved working conditions for migrants through dialogue and collaboration among government, labor organizations and businesses.

WHAT RESULTS ARE EXPECTED?

- One socioeconomic characterization and labor study profile of the Venezuelan population settled in targeted provinces of the two selected countries.
- One study, by country, on the characterization of the economic dynamics of the intervention areas identifying economic activities and/or value chains with the highest potential for employment creation.
- Transfer of knowledge in entrepreneurship under the “training of trainers methodology” focused on public sector local economic development agencies, regional labor ministry offices and other local actors so as to promote their sustainability through local capacity building.
- Entrepreneurship training and provision of seed capital to 1,200 micro-enterprise owners (Venezuelan and local) in Peru and Ecuador.
- One analysis, by country, of current legislation, barriers for access, gaps and challenges for linking the target group with the national social protection system that will result in the development of policy recommendations for migrant workers' access to these systems.

PROJECT INFORMATION

IMPLEMENTER: International Labor Organization (ILO)

DURATION: November 1, 2019 – October 31, 2021

USAID FUNDING: \$4,000,000

LEVERAGE by ILO: \$2,000,000

LOCATION: Ecuador (Cuenca, Manta and Santo Domingo) and Peru (Arequipa, Lima, Piura and Trujillo)

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