

# Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS  
IN THE SUBREGION  
**239,000**



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME  
FORM OF ASSISTANCE\*  
**4,030**



FUNDING SITUATION

REQUIREMENT: 46.7 MILLION\*\*

## Situation

As of 7 April 2022, the Government of **Argentina** [no longer required COVID-19 testing or proof of vaccination to enter the country](#), however, foreigners (including Venezuelans) must have travel insurance for the duration of their stay. In **Uruguay**, despite [a loosening of the requirements for entry – such as removal of the PCR requirement](#), migration authorities interpreted that [Decree 104/020](#) remained in force to authorize the entry of people with manifested needs for international protection who could not meet the ongoing health requirements (vaccination schedule or COVID-19 test). Therefore, contingency centers and the sanitary isolation protocols for refugees and migrants who arrived at the borders without said requirements remained open, until they could obtain a negative COVID-19 result. On 19 April 2022, **Paraguay** [updated its health requirements to enter the country](#) and people over 12 years old must present either a complete COVID-19 vaccination schedule or a negative PCR test. On 27 April, the Government of **Bolivia** issued a [regulation](#) related to health requirements for entry to Bolivia that will be applicable for nationals and foreigners arriving through land borders and airports, allowing any person with proof of a complete COVID-19 vaccination schedule or a negative PCR/antigen test entry to the country.

On 15 April, [the Chilean Government lifted its State of Exception in the northern part of the country](#) originally established to limit the irregular entry of refugees and migrants in four provinces bordering with **Bolivia** and Peru, but maintained its military deployments in the area. The end of the state of emergency coincided with the Chilean [Government announcement](#) that it would reopen as of 1 May 2022 all its borders with Argentina, Bolivia and Peru, which have remained closed since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic. Throughout April, the authorities in **Bolivia** carried out operations to detect foreigners living in the country in an irregular situation and apply the relevant administrative sanctions. According to observations by R4V partners, such operations were focused on the provinces of El Alto, Desaguadero-El Alto route, Trinidad, Santa Cruz, Cochabamba, Tarija and Chuquisaca. Partners also received inquiries from Venezuelans in an irregular situation who had been subject to the operations and who received warnings to regularize their situation in Bolivia. Likewise, R4V partners identified cases of Venezuelan refugees and migrants who were transferred from El Alto to the border with Peru, in the town of Desaguadero, and expelled from the country (i.e. on 5 April, [some 45 foreigners mostly venezuelans were expelled](#); while on 12 April, according to partners, some 25 refugees and migrants were expelled to Peru, including six children).

Response  
highlights\*\*\*



**ARGENTINA:** APdeBA, CAREF, FCCAM, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, MIRARES, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR. **BOLIVIA:** Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Cochabamba, Caritas Switzerland, IICAB, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, Scalabrini Foundation, UNHCR, UNICEF, World Vision. **PARAGUAY:** Semillas para la Democracia, IOM. **URUGUAY:** ADRA, Idas y Vueltas, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF.

In **Argentina**, R4V partners launched the campaign to promote the integration of refugees and migrants. The campaign will increase visibility of the reality of refugees and migrants in the country. Meanwhile, with the winter approaching, partners delivered warm clothes to some 300 refugees and migrants. In terms of integration, partners launched courses for refugees and migrants on home helping and customer service, and assisted refugees and migrants to open bank accounts. Mental health activities continued with the [Conexión Migrante](#) program in collaboration with Alianza x Venezuela and accompaniment groups.

In **Bolivia**, R4V partners set up a new information and assistance centre for refugees and migrants in Pisiga (at the border with Chile) where refugees and migrants can receive food and shelter kits, assistance contacting family members, temporary shelter, and assistance accessing protection and health services. R4V partners together with public institutions continued to disseminate information on regularization processes.

In **Paraguay**, R4V partners carried out capacity-building activities with border personnel to increase awareness on the inclusion of

refugees and migrants. A webinar was held for health officials on assistance guidelines for victims of trafficking, as well as a workshop for authorities and civil society on protection and trafficking of refugees and migrants.

R4V partners in **Uruguay** facilitated the reunification of three Venezuelan women who were separated since the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic.

PEOPLE REACHED*	Food Security	Hum. Transp	Health	Educ.	Integr.	WASH	Prot.	Shelter	CVA
	391	72	129	67	139	208	1747	774	444

For more information, please contact: José Manuel Cáceres – caceres@unhcr.org | Martina Gómez – margomez@iom.int

\*From 01/04/2022 until 30/04/2022 | \*\*Source: FTS Website | \*\*\*The list of partners per country include those who reported actions during the timeframe of this report and does not necessarily reflect all the partners that conform the National Platforms.