

Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN THE SUBREGION
239,000



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME FORM OF ASSISTANCE
6,559



FUNDING SITUATION
TBC REQUIREMENT: 46.7 MILLION

Situation

- At the end of March, the government of **Argentina** announced that [entry requirements to the country would be normalized to pre-pandemic conditions](#). Border crossings will be reopened and a sworn statement will be required from residents and non-residents and COVID-19 insurance for international tourists. The new measures would imply the elimination of the requirements for negative PCR tests and a certificate of vaccination against COVID-19 for entry into Argentina. In **Bolivia**, a decrease in COVID-19 infections was [reported](#) at the end of March, and there was a 10-fold reduction in the fatality rate compared to the first wave. Despite the improvement in indicators, the government continued to encourage the population to maintain biosecurity measures and to get vaccinated. In **Paraguay**, it was [announced](#) that the decree that established restrictions to contain the spread of the virus would not be extended in the face of a decline in the numbers of infections and deaths. However, the requirements to wear a mask in closed places and to present a vaccination card to enter the country remained in place. As of 23 March, 80 percent of the population in **Uruguay** had received at least two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine. A decree was issued that allows entry into the country with a rapid antigen test and removed the obligation of a PCR test. The Ministry of Public Health (MSP) analyzed data on the pandemic that marked a downward trend and [contemplated the possibility of decreeing the end of the pandemic](#).
- On 14 March, the Chilean Government signed a decree to extend the State of Exception in the northern part of the country, highlighting that [“the conditions that justified it in the first place are still in force”](#) in order to respond to the current refugee and migration situation. The military and police continue to be deployed to the border to prevent the entry of refugees and migrants through irregular border crossings. According to R4V partners, despite the extension of the State of Exception in Chile, the military deployment, adverse weather conditions and an increase in trafficking networks and protection incidents in that area, refugees and migrants continue to try to reach Chile by crossing irregularly from Peru to Bolivia and from **Bolivia to Chile**. Situations have been identified in which human traffickers leave refugees and migrants abandoned in the middle of the Chilean-Bolivian altiplano. **R4V partners in Pisiga indicated that almost 300 people passed daily from Pisiga (Bolivia) to Colchane (Chile) during March**, including an estimated 32 percent children and infants and 4 percent older adults, and that compared to previous arrivals, these groups were identified to be in extremely vulnerable situations.
- In recent weeks there has been a **slight increase in flows from the Bolivian Chaco to Paraguay**. The Paraguayan authorities [reported the disappearance of a Venezuelan national](#) who attempted to enter from Bolivia to Infante Rivarola and noted the arrival of family groups in precarious economic conditions and with children and infants who do not have a complete vaccination schedule.

- 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 Vueltras, IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF.

- In **Argentina**, R4V partners carried out financial inclusion activities including workshops on opening bank accounts and social security benefits, in addition to providing support to access banking systems. Emergency assistance activities also continued, particularly in humanitarian transportation, food security and protection, including psychosocial support.
- In **Bolivia**, R4V partners provided hygiene kits, shelter kits, medicine kits, food baskets and shelter support for vulnerable Venezuelan families. Partners also provided information on migratory regularization procedures support to access documentation. Refugees and migrants also received access to communications equipment, in facilities with telephones and internet services.
- In **Paraguay**, capacity-building activities were held for key actors working with survivors of gender-based violence (GBV). R4V partners organized migratory regularization days (where different documents could be processed) and community service days (where public institutions provided the population with access to social services).
- R4V partners in **Uruguay** held informative workshops to assist refugees and migrants from Venezuela and capacity-building sessions for government officials on the integration of children and adolescents into education systems and social protection programmes. Audiovisual products were developed to make visible the support provided to refugee and migrant entrepreneurs. Partners also supported family reunifications in situations of vulnerability.



Food Security	Hum. Transp	Health	Educ.	Integr.	WASH	Prot.	Shelter	CVA
55	-	78	-	199	54	5203	484	-

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*From 01/03/2022 until 31/03/2022 | **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.