

Covid-19 Situation Peru

24 April, 2020

Situational Context

The Government announced the extension of the National Emergency and curfew until 10 May. COVID-19 cases are on the rise with over **20,900** and over **570** deaths up to date. Also, a shortage of ICU (intensive care unit) beds was reported. The President announced hospital facility improvements during the week to cope up with the rise in the curve expected to peak in May.

The Ministry of Labour in coordination with the Ministry of Health proposed a health protection protocol for food-delivery workers when authorized to resume operations. Many refugees and migrants are known to perform these tasks.

A humanitarian transportation programme to return vulnerable Peruvians in different regions in Peru to their homes was announced earlier this week. Vulnerable cases have been prioritized i.e. children, pregnant women, the elderly, persons with disabilities, who would have to stay in government-supported quarantine services for 14 days. Refugees and migrants do not qualify for this humanitarian transport.

Asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants situation



The National Superintendency of Migration informed that **foreigners with pending regularization formalities will be considered as regular during the Emergency with no sanctions or fines imposed.** The expiration date for Temporary Stay Permits (PTP for its acronym in Spanish) will be also extended until the Emergency is over and the migratory situation can be regularized.



The Government has enacted new health regulations that grant temporary access to **State Health Insurance coverage (SIS for its acronym in Spanish) for refugees and migrants suspected or positive of COVID-19.** They must present their Identity Document, passport, PTP, asylum-seeker card or any other document that proves their identity. This temporary coverage will be in force until the final discharge of the COVID-19 diagnosis.



UNHCR supported the Ministry of Health with five additional **Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) installed in the Maria Auxiliadora Hospital in Lima,** which will be used to enhance the capacity of the pediatric and obstetric emergencies, as the facilities are currently overwhelmed due to the increased number of COVID-19 cases.



Femicides are on the rise due to the proximity of survivors to violent perpetrators in quarantine and reduced access to emergency services. UNHCR is supporting Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) cases, including the family of a Venezuelan victim of femicide. UNHCR is working in close collaboration with the Government and Justice services on the case.



In Tacna, UNHCR coordinated with the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP for its acronym in Spanish) Women's Emergency Centre (CEM for its acronym in Spanish) to develop a communications' tree with key institutions for the dissemination of **SGBV prevention information,** focusing on a communication method through community leaders.

UNHCR Peru Funding Update (As of 14 April 2020)

\$35.6 million

UNHCR financial requirements 2020



For more information: reporting.unhcr.org

Here's how UNHCR supported the installation of the Refugee Housing Units together with the Ministry of Health in Lima to improve the hospital's capacity.

[WATCH HERE](#)



Photo: Ivet Ruiz

UNHCR Response

The state of National Emergency and curfew has been extended for the fourth time, meaning almost two months of interrupted economic activity and mobilization restrictions across the country. Cases of refugees and migrants at risk or already evicted unable to generate income to pay rent are on the rise. Some families have been referred to UNHCR as they are already living in the street due to evictions, which do not follow the due legal process. UNHCR is working with the Ombudsman's office to coordinate measures to avoid unauthorized police intervention in the evictions and to create an internal referral pathway for cases at risk of homelessness.

COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS FOR THE EMERGENCY

To help refugees and migrants be informed of the different COVID-19 measures and procedures to follow, communications materials were developed by R4V on [labor rights](#), [basic services](#) and [public mobility](#)

Remote support

-New COVID-19 Remote Registration processes of persons of concern have been established for UNHCR partners. **Over 2,800** persons have been registered so far. Moreover, an UNHCR Surge Team has been established to support partners with full registration and evaluation of the **most vulnerable cases that will receive life-saving Cash-Based assistance**.

-Some **9,800 general orientations** were given through the hotlines by UNHCR and partners CAPS, Caritas, Encuentros, HIAS, Plan International and PROSA since the start of the Emergency. Of the total number of calls, over 570 received specialized legal orientation.

Humanitarian cash-based assistance



Over 7,500 highly vulnerable cases, i.e. some 2,400 families have received emergency Cash-based assistance since the Emergency Started



UNHCR continues working on new agreements to enhance support as well as to **increase the CBI transfer-limit amount** and thus benefit more vulnerable families.



With UNHCR's support by 31 March **seven new accounts of partners were activated to benefit more families**. Now seven accounts are operating to reach more persons of concern for cash-based assistance.

UNHCR Response

Solutions to COVID-19

Basic Needs and Shelter

Over **20,000** food rations for shelters and individuals have been provided since the beginning of the Emergency. Also, more than **70 children under five** have received complementary food support and three virtual child friendly spaces in shelters in Lima have benefited some **50 children** by partner Action Against Hunger and supported by UNHCR

Some **530 persons** are receiving shelter and daily food support in 13 shelters in Lima, one shelter in Tacna and two hotels in Tumbes by UNCHR. Additionally, in Tacna, some **170 diapers**, over **110 baby kits** and some **60 sanitary towels** were distributed to shelters of the Tacna Regional Government hosting vulnerable Haitians, Venezuelan and Peruvian families.



Families in Tacna receive food kits.

In Arequipa, some **75 refugees and migrants** were referred to local faith-based organizations to receive food baskets in their planned distribution.

Health

-The government health services are expanding their response capacity in **Tacna**, at the Chilean border, the Regional Government opened an auditorium as a quarantine space for people diagnosed with COVID-19. **Over 40 cases** have been reported in Tacna so far, all Peruvian nationals.

-In **Tumbes**, facility capacities were announced to be improved by the Regional Health Directorate (DIRESA for its acronym in Spanish) in coordination with the Central Government.

-In Tumbes, some **60 refugees and migrants** have received access to HIV/AIDS tests by PROSA.

-Some **530 people** received socio-emotional and mental health support through partners Action Against Hunger, CAPS and IFRC, out of which in Lima and Tumbes some 160 have received both health and mental health support since the beginning of the Emergency through UNHCR's partner PROSA.

Coordination

UNHCR is co-leading the emergency coordination response for refugees and migrants through the **Working Group for Refugees and Migrants** (GTRM for its Spanish acronym) composed by 70 partners including donors, together with IOM. The GTRM is coordinating with the recently activated Humanitarian Network and has been holding daily emergency coordination meetings on Cash Based Interventions (CBI), protection, health, information management and communications, as well as with all sector leads to operationalize and channel assistance.



The **#TuCausaEsMiCausa** solidarity campaign has launched eight live online workshops during the quarantine dictated by Peruvian and Venezuelan volunteers who offer their time to share activities such as yoga, music, arts, handcraft, etc. to provide new online meeting points for integration purposes weekly. So far, these workshops over 7,500 have participated. [See more](#)

For more information please download R4V Materials on the Emergency State [see](#)

To read previous updates please access [here](#)

To read GTRM COVID's response until 14 April access [here](#)

Peru Operation: UNHCR and partners 2020

Presence
 ● UNHCR Office ● Field Office ● Presence

Activity
 Protection (childhood, SGBV, legal orientation, community prt. psychosocial support, access to territory and border monitoring.)
 Shelter
 Health / HIV AIDS
 CBI
 Reg. and documentation
 Advocacy
 Local integration
 Livelihoods

TUMBES (7)

CAPS
 Obudsman's Office
 Encuentros
 IFRC
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Plan International
 PROSA

PIURA (2)

Obudsman's Office
 Encuentros

TRUJILLO (1)

Obudsman's Office

LIMA (12)

Aldeas Infantiles
 Scalabrinianos Association
 Action Against Hunger
 CAPS
 Obudsman's Office
 Encuentros
 IFRC
 HIAS
 Ministry of Foreign Affairs
 Plan International
 PROSA
 Pontifical Catholic Univ. of Perú

ICA (1)

IFRC

AREQUIPA (4)

Obudsman's Office
 Encuentros
 IFRC
 Aldeas Infantiles

CUZCO (4)

Aldeas Infantiles
 Caritas Cuzco
 Obudsman's Office
 Plan International

TAMBOPATA (3)

Caritas del Perú
 Obudsman's Office
 IFRC

PUNO (1)

Obudsman's Office

CHUCUITO (1)

Directa (Zepita District)

TACNA (5)

Scalabrinianos Association
 Obudsman's Office
 Encuentros
 IFRC
 Plan International

Key Figures 2020

Some **862,000**¹
 Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Peru

Some **1,230**¹
 Refugees

Some **482,500**²
 Asylum-seekers

1. Figures from the Superintendence of Migration (up to January 2020)
 2. Figures according to the Special Commission for the Refugees (CEPR) up to date

RESPUESTA A VENEZOLANOS
 Plataforma de Coordinación para Refugiados y Migrantes de Venezuela
[www. R4V.info](http://www.R4V.info)

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