



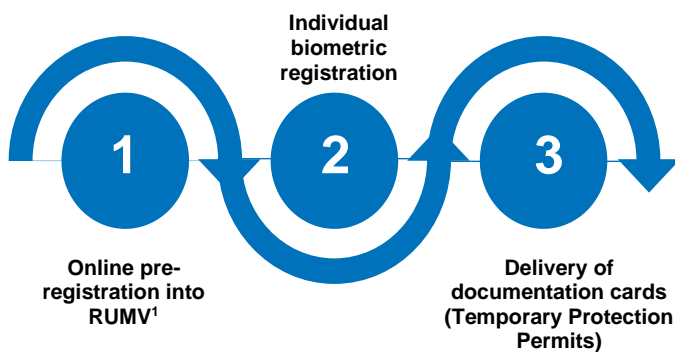
Temporary Protection Status in Colombia

November 2021

“In the current context, the decision to regularize hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans has even greater relevance. In addition to the legal protection for the Venezuelan population, registration will allow for a wider coverage of the COVID-19 vaccination.”

- Filippo Grandi, UN High Commissioner for Refugees

The Government of Colombia announced on 8 February 2021 a **ten-year temporary protection status (TPS)** for over 1.8 million Venezuelans currently living in the country and those entering via official checkpoints over the next two years. Complementary to international protection, the TPS provides Venezuelans with documentation and access to rights, and hence a chance to integrate locally. This groundbreaking initiative is expected to benefit over 2.1 million Venezuelans over the next decade. The TPS comprises three steps:



1.8M

Venezuelans in Colombia



1.6M

Pre-registrations in the National Registry for Venezuelan Migrants (RUMV)
 (profiling exercise completed)



750,000

Bio-metric registrations



12,000

Temporary Protection Permits delivered

On 8 October, President Duque delivered the first Temporary Protection Permit (TPP) to Oscar Soto, a Venezuelan engineer who fled his country in 2017. Over 2,000 Venezuelan children between the ages of 0 to 7 years old also received their TPP in October.



Progress Report

Co-leading the Inter-Agency Group on Mixed Migration Flows (GIFMM in Spanish), UNHCR has developed an action plan to support the implementation of the TPS in close coordination with communities, partners, and government authorities

Pillar 1: Support TPS implementation

Main achievements:

- **15 mobile 4x4 units** donated to Migración Colombia on 18 November 2021 to facilitate biometric registration in remote areas and hard-to-reach communities.
- **2 million plastic TPP identity cards** printed and distributed with support from UNHCR and UNDP.
- Over **47 communication products** published, and 28 public information items (banners) installed in public transport systems in major cities, such as Bogotá, Cali and Medellín with support from UNHCR for Migración Colombia's **Visibles** campaign.
- **Capacity building workshops** for representatives of Migración Colombia and local and national delegates of the Ombudsperson were organized to raise awareness on international protection and measures to minimize xenophobia.



Pillar 2: Facilitate access to TPS

Main achievements:

- **60 community outreach volunteers** trained and supported (including with a monthly stipend and transport fees) to facilitate access to the TPS, especially for people with specific needs.
- **59 Information and Orientation Points (PAO in Spanish)** reinforced and 11 mobile PAOs established to reach Venezuelans in remote area and in hard-to-reach communities.
- **National Call Center (LAN in Spanish)** established with NRC to provide all people of concern to UNHCR with access to information on rights and services via a toll-free number that has countrywide coverage.
- **Network of legal clinics** expanded in collaboration with 30 universities and mobile brigades established to reach people of concern in remote areas and hard-to-reach communities in Chocó, Sucre, Casanare, Valle del Cauca, and Norte de Santander.
- **IT equipment** (230 SIM cards, 400 tablets and 69 printers) distributed to partners and Venezuelan NGOs. Evaluation of **ICT connectivity** conducted in 40 sites. **200 identified locations** to benefit from better connectivity over the next two years thanks to equipment donated by Cisco and Ericsson Response.

59 Information and Orientation Points (PAOs)



Pillar 3 – Expand reception and assistance capacity

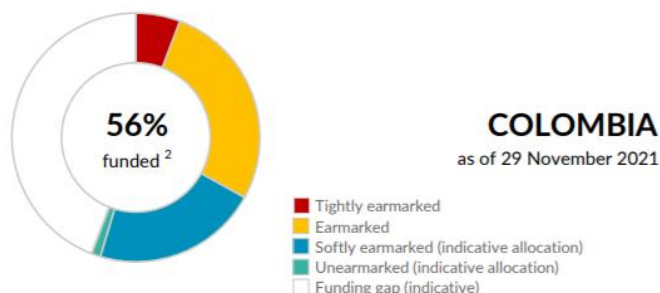
Main achievements:

- New **transit centre** opened in Los Patios in Norte de Santander on the walking route (ruta de caminantes in Spanish) with capacity to process 362 people per day. The Integrated Assistance Center (CAI in Spanish) in La Guajira was also re-capacitated to accommodate the short-term transit of 350 people per day.
- **US\$3.5M in cash-based assistance (CBI)** for 10,000 families (30,000 people) delivered directly and via 17 implementing partners, reaching 30,000 individuals (10,000 families).
- **92,766 core relief items (CRIs)** distributed, including hygiene kits, blankets, tents and solar lamps.
- **21 Support Spaces** reinforced in 11 departments and a new Support Space opened in Puerto Carreño, Vichada.
- **8 Safe Houses** offering protection services with a focus on psychosocial support and assistance for survivors and those at risk of gender-based violence.

Funding Update

UNHCR's financial requirements for 2021:

\$124.4 million



With the support of the following organizations and private sector partners: L'Oréal Fund for Women | Major League Baseball Players Trust | Olympic Refugee Foundation | Private donors Australia | Private donors Germany | Private donors Italy | Private donors Japan | Private donors Republic of Korea | Private donors Spain | Private donors Sweden | Spain for UNHCR | Sweden for UNHCR | Swedish Postcode Lottery | UK for UNHCR | USA for UNHCR | Viva Air Foundation | Other Private Donors

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LINKS

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