


Trinidad & Tobago


May - June 2023

Key Figures

 **28,649** Refugees and asylum-seekers live in Trinidad and Tobago:


 Nearly **50 per cent** are women. (Approximately 14,200)

 Over **50 per cent** are men. (Approximately 14,450)

 **24 per cent** are children (3,361 girls and 3,374 boys aged 0 to 17).

 **86 per cent** are asylum-seekers.

 **3,411** are refugees.

 **956** are others in need of international protection.

Context

Trinidad and Tobago hosts over 28,000 asylum-seekers and refugees from 42 countries. UNHCR works with the Government and partners to provide support, assistance, and protection to forcibly displaced people.

On 1 June, Trinidad and Tobago's Permanent Representative to the UN was elected president of the seventy-eighth Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). This marks the first time a nominee from this country has been elected for this position.

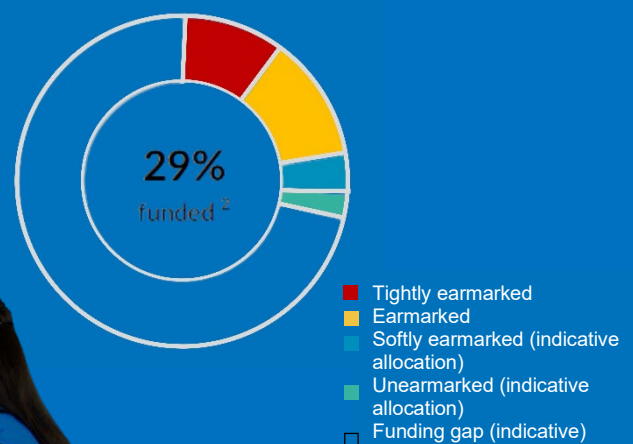
The Ministry of National Security extended work permits for Venezuelans registered under the Migrant Registration Framework (MRF) until 31 December. The Ministry invited individuals to process their permit renewals and update their registration cards.

Following World Refugee Day (WRD), the Minister of National Security stated that the 2014 national refugee policy needs review and would be difficult to determine a specific timeframe for its implementation.

UNHCR participated in the Archdiocese Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (AMMR)'s Community Aid and Relief Day, a rebranding of last year's Refugee Days. UNHCR conducted focus group discussions, key informant interviews, counseling sessions, and screenings of the Challengers film.

Regional funding Overview

as of 27 April 2023



\$55.4 million

UNHCR's financial requirements 2023

¹ Financial requirement for the Panama MCO in 2023 including requirements for the operations and activities in Aruba, Belize, Cuba, Curaçao, Guyana, Nicaragua, Panama, Suriname, and Trinidad and Tobago.

² The percentage funded is indicative.



UNHCR RESPONSE

UNHCR works with the Government, other UN agencies, and partners to assist and protect refugees and asylum-seekers in Trinidad and Tobago. UNHCR works with five partners: Living Water Community (LWC), Family Planning Association (FPATT), Rape Crisis Society (RCS), La Casita, and Pan-American Development Foundation (PADF).



Protection | UNHCR trained 65 police officers on international protection and UNHCR's mandate. UNHCR, through Living Water Community (LWC), provided legal assistance to 101 asylum-seekers and refugees on international protection and access to rights. As of June, UNHCR has counselled over 260 people.



Health | UNHCR, through Family Planning Association (FPATT), assisted over 200 refugees and asylum-seekers with sexual and reproductive health services. UNHCR, through its partner, the Rape Crisis Society (RCS), provided mental health and psychosocial support (MHPSS) and counselling sessions to 88 refugees and asylum-seekers, particularly those who have experienced severe trauma as a result of gender-based violence (GBV), human trafficking, exploitation, and discrimination.



Cash-based Interventions and Assistance | UNHCR provided multi-purpose cash assistance to 57 refugees and asylum-seekers to cover their basic needs, reaching 13 households.



Registration | UNHCR provided first-time access to documentation to over 2,018 asylum-seekers. After conducting refugee status determination (RSD) interviews in May and June, UNHCR recognized 23 refugees and submitted 45 cases for resettlement.



WORLD REFUGEE DAY IN TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

UNHCR organized a sports and family day in Arima with the participation of over 200 people, including the High Commissioner of Australia, the Minister for Planning and Development, and the Mayor of Arima. The Agency also organized a cultural event where refugees and asylum-seekers could showcase their products, culinary skills, and talents to some 200 people that attended the exposition.

UNHCR Panama MCO wishes to convey a special thank you to its donors: the United States of America, the European Union, Guyana, and the UN Programme on HIV/AIDS. We also thank the fundamental support provided by donors who have contributed to UNHCR with unearmarked and softly earmarked funds: Belgium | Canada | Denmark | France | Germany | Ireland | Japan | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | private donors in Australia, Japan the Republic of Korea, and Spain.

For more information:

Philippa Candler, Representative, candler@unhcr.org

Viola Eleonora Bruttomesso, Associate Communications Officer, bruttome@unhcr.org

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UNHCR's presence in Trinidad and Tobago

