Factsheet Nº 1 14 February 2021



CONTEXT

A second wave of positive cases of COVID-19 has been confirmed in Peru by the Government and a new lockdown was introduced. Among the mitigation measures, there is an earlier curfew, one hour per day per person to circulate, vehicle restriction on Sundays, and beaches closures. Police and military presence in the streets have been increased to ensure compliance.

On 26 January, 54 military tanks and some 1,200 troops of the Peruvian army were deployed at the Peruvian-Ecuadorian borders to <u>"reinforce control actions at the different irregular access</u> points of foreigners into Peru". The area <u>"has become the main access point used by some organized</u> groups to charge money for those who want to enter the country irregularly." UNHCR followed up closely on the situation and provided caminantes with legal orientation as well as water, food kits and core relief items, such as masks and alcohol.

A bill of law submitted in Arequipa by Grupo Parlamentario Nueva Constitución proposes that foreigners in an irregular situation, those who lack required documentation to submit to the Migration Office, or those who committed crimes must be deported, while only those with passports, and criminal records may be allowed in the country. As elections approach, other bills of law on similar grounds may be expected.

On 8 February, President Sagasti announced the arrival of 300,000 doses of COVID19 vaccines by Sinopharm for 150,000 health professionals in Lima, Callao and the regions. The Ministry of Health has already carried out distributions in 12 regions. The government has informed that foreigners will be considered in the national vaccination plan.

On 14 February, the Minister of Foreign Affairs Elizabeth Astete resigned after confirming being vaccinated against COVID-19, on a rising scandal over the revelation that government officials received the vaccine well before the general public. The Minister of Health Pilar Mazzetti also stepped down. The recently appointed Ministers are Oscar Ugarte of Health and Allan Wagner of Foreign Affairs.

UNHCR PERU FUNDING UPDATE

As of 9 February 2021

UNHCR's financial requirements 2021:



\$60.9 million

Tightly earmarked

Earmarked

Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)

Unearmarked (indicative allocation)

Funding gap (indicative)

HIGHLIGHT

Podcast Series by UNHCR, Amnesty International and RPP News

A series of four podcasts to promote integration among the refugee and migrant populations and the host community have been launched by UNHCR Peru with partner Amnesty International and RPP Peruvian News Agency. Listen to the <u>first episode</u> <u>here</u> and the <u>second one here</u>.

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ASYLUM-SEEKERS, REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS SITUATION

The Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR for its acronym in Spanish) announced the **extension of the asylum-seeker document and work permit until 30 June 2021**, to guarantee protection, as mobility restrictions continue in place.

The most recent border monitoring exercise in Tumbes showed that despite border closures, **some 900 people** seem to be entering Peru daily. **Over 84 per cent** have special needs: people with chronic or critical diseases, people with disabilities, unaccompanied or separated children and pregnant or lactating women. **Some 50 per cent** paid to enter Peru through informal crossings. Only **6 per cent** had a passport, while **11 per cent** had no identification document. Also, **98 per cent** had no migratory status in Peru. At the time of inquiry, **64 per cent** wanted to seek refugee status with the majority not knowing how to proceed within the current context.

Some 49,830 orientations on shelter, protection, education and documentation have been registered in proGres, since the start of the Emergency. Among the main unmet needs identified, there are basic needs, access to health and other essential services, as well as lack of legal documentation. UNHCR is supporting migration authorities in promoting the <u>pre-registry for</u> regularization of people in an irregular situation by sending mass SMS information to internal databases. So far, some **240,000** have been registered.

In January, UNHCR in cooperation with the Municipality of Lima, organized the entrepreneur fair "Panas y Causas" to boost the economy and improve entrepreneurs' income. More than **200 entrepreneurs** from the local and refugee and migrant populations were able to sell their products. Unfortunately, due to new mobility restrictions to mitigate the spread of COVID-19, it had to be suspended as of February. An online catalogue has instead been produced and entrepreneurs advertised on social media, including #TuCausaEsMiCausa.



UNHCR Response

KEY ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2020

REMOTE SUPPORT

- Since the start of the emergency and up to December 2020, UNHCR answered over 70,000 calls and messages via the free-toll hotlines to offer orientation and assistance in protection, education, documentation, and shelter.
- Over 9,000 protection cases were followed-up in 2020 through specialized case management services of UNHCR and partners since the start of the Emergency.
- Some 50,000 filed their asylum requests online thanks to the close collaboration between UNHCR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs



HUMANITARIAN CASH-BASED ASSISTANCE (CBI)

- Since the start of the Emergency, over 53,000 people received CBI through partners Aldeas Infantiles, Caritas, Encuentros and HIAS supported by UNHCR for some 3.5 million dollars.
- As part of the livelihood strategy, some 1,480 people participated in workshops led by UNHCR to strengthen capacities to access employment, learn about their rights and complaint mechanisms to report exploitation and abuse in the labor market.

BASIC NEEDS AND SHELTER

- During the quarantine period, over 1,000 refugees and migrants were assisted daily, at the maximum capacity of supported shelters since March 2020. In 2020, over 220,000 food rations were provided in 23 shelters, hotels and temporary centres in Arequipa, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.
- More than 40,000 kits were distributed by UNHCR and partners, including kits with food, hygiene, winter and baby product, as well as those to cover SGBV survivors' needs.

🟶 HEALTH

- Over 9,400 specialized mental health consultations and some 2,940 psychosocial support activities were provided through partners ACF, CAPS, Caritas, IFRC, HIAS Plan International, San Pablo Catholic University, Scalabrinians, and PROSA in 15 cities including Callao, Cuzco, Lambayeque, Lima, Madre de Dios and Tumbes.
- UNHCR and partners have carried out over 660 HIV/AIDS consultations through partner PROSA in Tumbes.
- Some **2,880** primary health orientations were carried out in Lima and Tumbes by UHCR and partners.
- Over 125 RHU were donated to 67 hospitals and clinics in Peru to enhance the capacities of the national health system. Also, together with the Ministry of Health, UNHCR supported some 1,200 Venezuelan health professionals to join the ranks.

THANK YOU, CANADA FOR YOUR KIND SUPPORT

To improve the capacity of the Peruvian health system, a project financed by Canada and implemented by UNHCR, seeks to integrate 250 Venezuelan health professional doctors, nurses, and psychologists to fight the pandemic. The inclusion of this professionals will favor safe access to inclusive health services for host communities and for refugees and migrants.

CAMPAIGNS' HIGHLIGHTS

Over **2M** people reached via activities on **Facebook and Instagram**.

The **CasaTalentos Contest** for World Refugee Day was a complete success, reaching over **837,000** and some **85,000** interactions.

Alianza Lima and UNHCR signed an agreement to work together for solidarity and integration. The <u>launch video</u> has over 200,000 views. Under this program supported by the Netherlands, 50 coaches shared training sessions to promote integration and peaceful coexistence reaching over 600 players at the club.

#TuCausaEsMiCausa #SOLiDARiDADAZUL





WATCH OUR 2020 RESULTS VIDEO HERE

COORDINATION

UNHCR is co-leading the emergency coordination response for refugees and migrants through the **GTRM** composed by over 80 partners including donors, together with IOM. The GTRM is coordinating with the recently activated Humanitarian Network and has been holding bi-monthly coordination meetings on Cash Based Interventions (CBI), protection, health, information management and communications, as well as basic needs (shelter, food security and food distribution) with all sector leads to operationalize and channel assistance.

Latest Covid-19 Response Dashboard To read the latest dashboard about the COVID-19 Response access here

Previous Updates

To read previous updates please access here

Read R4V Updates here:

GTRM Perú - 5W Tumbes Diciembre Reporte de Situación Tumbes Reporte de Situación Tumbes Nº 2 GTRM Perú - Mapeo presencia 5W Diciembre

Peru Operation: UNCHR and partners

