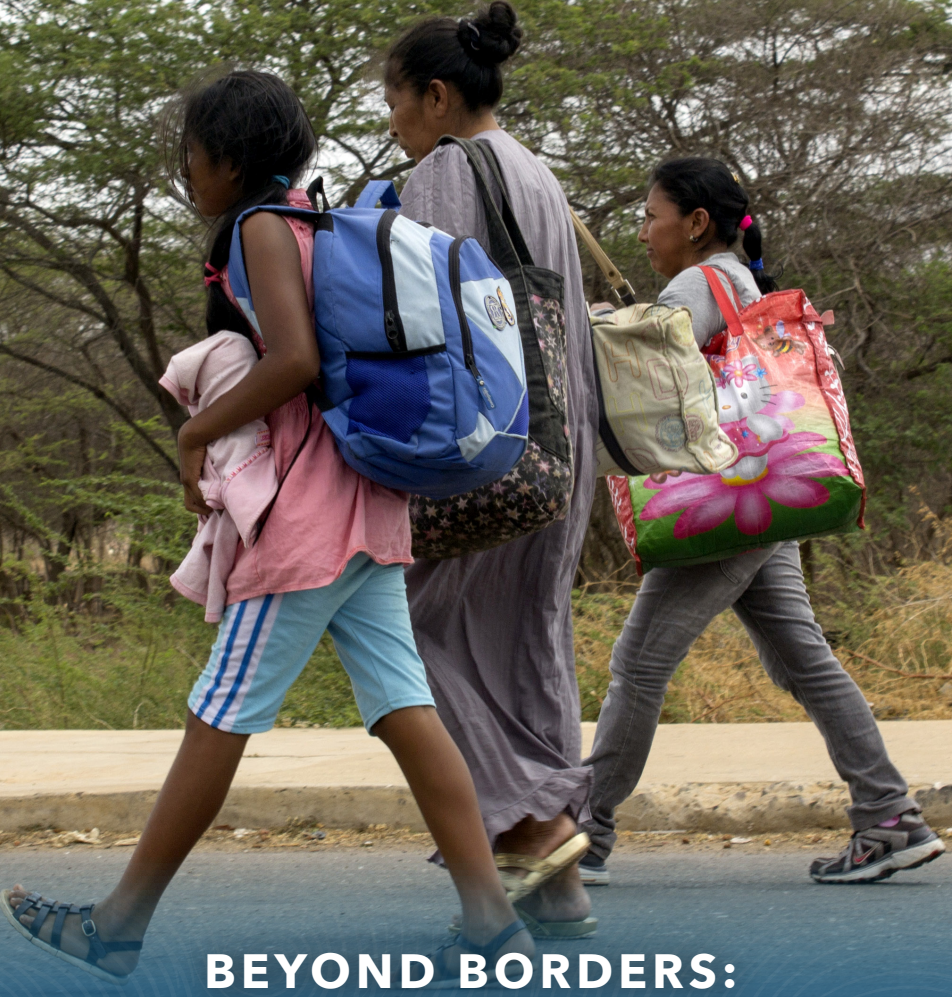


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BEYOND BORDERS:

A LOOK AT THE VENEZUELAN EXODUS



Around

3.7 million people

have fled Venezuela's deteriorating social and economic conditions, according to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

About

80% of the migrants

and refugees are in other Latin American and Caribbean countries

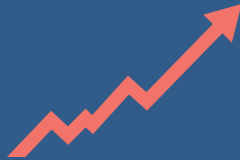
Unprecedented migration in magnitude and speed

Once the wealthiest country in Latin America, Venezuela is going through one of the region's worst economic crises in recent history. It is now the poorest country in the Western Hemisphere. Migration accelerated rapidly in 2018, with some countries reporting twice as many migrants coming in as compared with a year earlier.

Economic and social conditions continue to deteriorate rapidly



Declining oil production and exports



Projected inflation of **10 million percent** in 2019 (IMF)



89% of the population is estimated to live in poverty (ENCOVI 2018)



The average Venezuelan **lost 10 kilos** in body weight in 2017 (ENCOVI 2017)



Infant mortality rose to **26 per 1,000 live births** in 2017 (WDI)



89 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants the highest in the region and is almost three times that of countries at war (ENCOVI 2018)



Second largest influx of migrants and refugees globally

After Syria – where **5.7 million people** are registered refugees (UNHCR 2019) – the Venezuelan migration is the largest displacement crisis in the world.

However, the Venezuelan exodus has mobilized just a fraction of the international support received by countries affected by comparable or even smaller crises. The Regional Refugee and Migrants Response Plan launched an appeal for **US\$737 million dollars** in December 2018 to tackle the crisis. **Only US\$73 million dollars** have been mobilized as of April 4, 2019 (UNOCHA/FTS).



Around

3.7m

total Venezuelan refugees
and migrants in the world

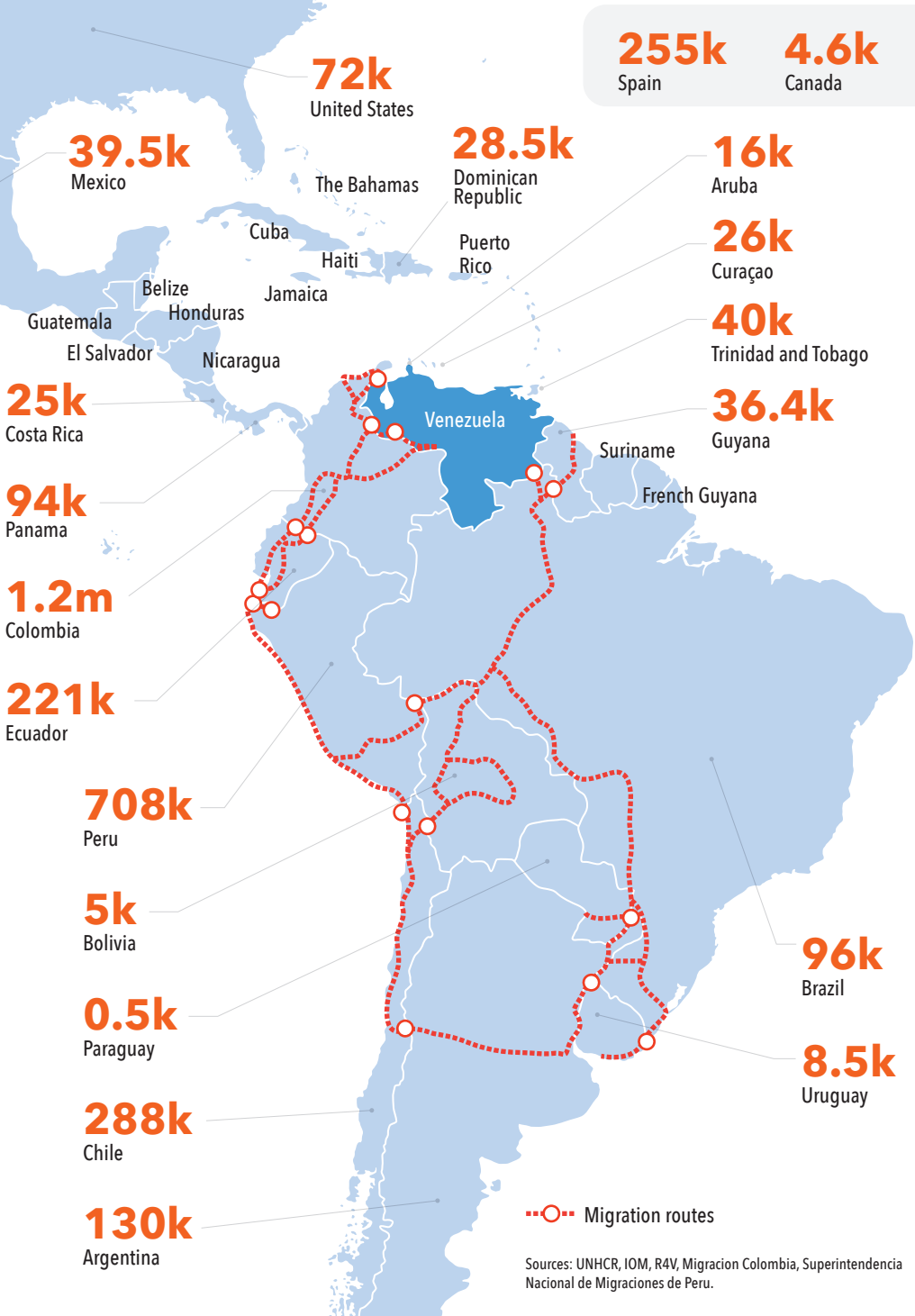


About

80%

of Venezuelan refugees and
migrants are in Latin America
and the Caribbean

Regional solidarity in the face of an unprecedented migration



---○--- Migration routes

Sources: UNHCR, IOM, R4V, Migración Colombia, Superintendencia Nacional de Migraciones de Peru.

Addressing migration challenges

A recent World Bank study estimated that service provision to migrants alone, excluding infrastructure and facilities, could **cost Colombia up to 0.4 percent of its GDP in 2018 (WB, 2018)**. The short-term cost for Ecuador and Peru could also be high, adding pressure to already constrained fiscal environments. However, the same analysis for Colombia, as well as international literature, suggest that **countries can benefit from migration, if well managed**.



Latin American and the Caribbean countries are responding to the Venezuelan crisis. According to UNHCR and IOM, by March 2019 over **1.3 million Venezuelans in the region had some sort of regular migratory status** through

instruments such as the Colombian and Peruvian special permits of stay. The Colombian government has also set up a border management unit under the presidency to coordinate policy making and programming. At the regional level, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru have taken a lead in coordinating regional efforts.

"I want my baby to be fed so I no longer have to come to the hospital. I want to see her healthy and strong."

Rioacha,
Colombia.

Three common factors are shaping the response of countries across the region to the growing migration and refugee crisis:



- the **fiscal constraints** limiting governments' capacity to provide public social and infrastructure services to the rapidly growing number of users and beneficiaries;



- the **legal and policy frameworks** for accommodating migration flows;



- and the **geographic-territorial and sectoral impact** of the migration and the corresponding investment priorities.

The World Bank Group Areas of support



Analysis

- Share global experience and support host countries in defining the scope and scale of the economic and social impact of migration
- Provide an integrated framework for response



Technical assistance

- Support host countries in developing effective policies and programs to manage migration
- Just-in-time consultations and knowledge sharing with global experts in refugee crisis management



Financial support

- Financing solutions to support investments and policy reforms
- Specific instruments (e.g. GCFE) for middle-income countries facing refugee crises



Convening power

- Facilitating partnerships and joint responses between key stakeholders including government, UN agencies, and the private sector



The Global Concessional Financing Facility

The Global Concessional Financing Facility (GCFE) is a financial intermediary fund created specifically to help middle income countries impacted by the influx of refugees through the provision of concessional financing and improved coordination for development projects that benefit refugees and host communities.

Under this mechanism, countries provide contributions to the GCFE to provide concessional financing for projects that have a demonstrated objective of supporting impacted and vulnerable populations allowing benefitting countries to access affordable and more sustainable financing to address refugee crises.

To date, two Latin American countries have approached the GCFE, expressing their interest in joining the facility as benefitting countries given the significant number of migrants and refugees they are hosting.

January

Colombia was unanimously approved as a benefitting country by the GCFE Steering Committee

February

Colombia received GCFE financial support to accompany the planned World Bank's second Fiscal Sustainability, Competitiveness and Migration Development Policy Financing

Ecuador expressed its interest in joining the GCFE. Its candidacy is being evaluated

Our response across the region



Peru

Migration impact analysis, including national survey of the Venezuelan population with the support of the WB and UN agencies.



Colombia

Migration impact assessment completed in November 2018, informing a national response policy to Venezuelan migration (CONPES 3950) and the National Development Plan. US\$980,000 was mobilized for technical assistance. US\$750 million Development Policy Operation (DPO) is under preparation, with a focus on supporting policy measures for the registration of migrants, the regularization of 260,000 migrants (facilitating access to social services and employment), and the adoption of a national policy framework for migration response.



Ecuador

For a national survey on the impacts of migration on host and migrant communities, the WB and Telefonica partnered to use big data and other innovative technologies that leverage cell phone data to estimate the areas of residence of migrants in the country. The WB is developing a medium-term strategy for supporting Ecuador, and it is expected to include budget support and investment project funding to respond to the increased demand.

At the regional level, the WBG is coordinating with the UN's Inter-Agency Regional Platform and providing technical assistance for analysis, strategic planning and operational response.



Brazil

The IFC and UNHCR joined forces to promote private sector solutions to foster economic and social integration by providing housing, create jobs and facilitate financial inclusion for refugees.