

The Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) continues to be concerned about the impact of the global spread of Coronavirus on vulnerable refugees and internally displaced people (IDPs). We are stepping up our efforts to both prevent and minimize its impact by adapting our programme to existing and new humanitarian needs of the affected communities.

Country updates:

Colombia: NRC continues to pilot different modalities of delivering cash assistance to vulnerable Colombians and Venezuelans across the country that are adapted to the realities of each area in which we operate. We continue to provide humanitarian aid to people affected by the armed conflict. Food baskets have been distributed in collaboration with local authorities and partners. Given the COVID-19 pandemic and prevailing conditions in Venezuela, we are concerned about the rising number of returning refugees and migrants. We have been delivering information on COVID-19, associated risks, as well as emergency assistance to Venezuelans stranded on the way back.

Ecuador: We established a communication system using phone calls where migrants and refugees can communicate to receive legal information and referrals to service providers. The number of venezuelans and colombians requesting our help has increased, many argue that they cannot afford to eat or pay for a safe place to live. We continue to distributed cash-based humanitarian assistance that allows the most vulnerable people to access to housing, or purchase the local food, products and services they need.

El Salvador: Our legal and education teams continue to provide cash transfers to ensure that displaced persons can access shelter and basic needs. We also continue to provide legal aid via telephone.

Honduras: Our team continues to provide legal aid via telephone calls. We have also delivered cash assistance in San Pedro Sula and Tegucigalpa. As for education activities, we have been complementing our existing programmes with daily exercises and games for children, sent via mobile phones. Along with the shelter cluster in Honduras, we are carrying out a shelter needs assessment.

Panama: We continue to provide our Information, Counselling and Legal Assistance services online and via telephone. Our legal team also attends cases of rights violations in person. In the Darien, NRC has been providing legal assistance to migrants interested in starting the asylum process in Panama via phone. However, many people remain anxious to carry on their journeys to Costa Rica. Humanitarian access continues to be a challenge in Panama, as we are yet to receive our safe-passage exemption documents.

OUR DONORS:



OUR PARTNERS:

Alcaldía de Villavicencio, Gestora Social de la Alcaldía Municipal De Belén, UNHCR, Aldeas Infantiles, DRC, Red Trans, Adoratrices, ASOFAMIPREC, Fundación EUDES, Fundación Lazos de Dignidad, Fundación Social Crecer, Secretaría de Salud de Bogotá, Secretaría de Inclusión Social, Diócesis de Chiquinquirá, Albergue Annie, Alcaldía Municipal de Quibdó, Alcaldía Municipal de Tumaco, Alcaldía Municipal de Cali, Pastoral Social.

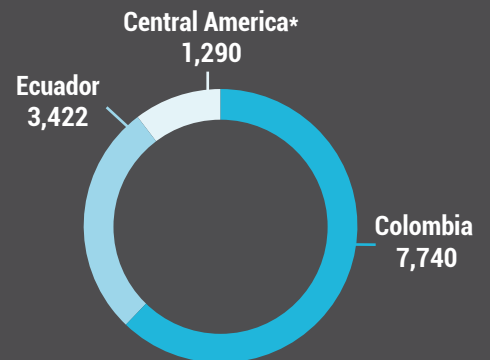
**NRC has assisted
12,452**

(1 to 15 Apr)



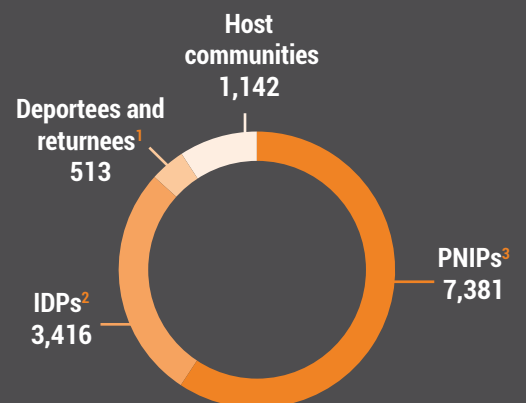
23,711 people have been assisted during the new COVID-19 crisis. (17 Mar to 15 Apr)

People assisted



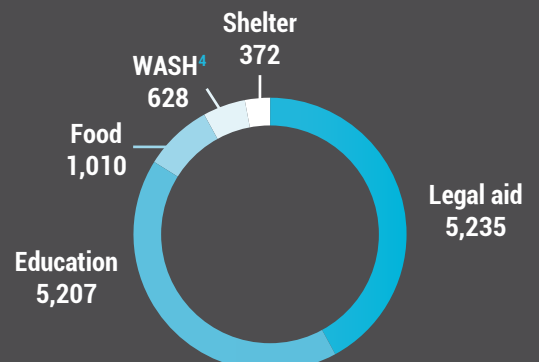
*Central America: Panama, Honduras, El Salvador

People of interest assisted



- 1. With needs of protection
- 2. Internally displaced people or at risk of displacement
- 3. People in need of international protection

Humanitarian response



4. Water, sanitation and hygiene