

A Greater Humanitarian Response in 2021

+ Actions — Words



Venezuela Refugees and Migrants

Updated: March 2021

NORWEGIAN
REFUGEE COUNCIL

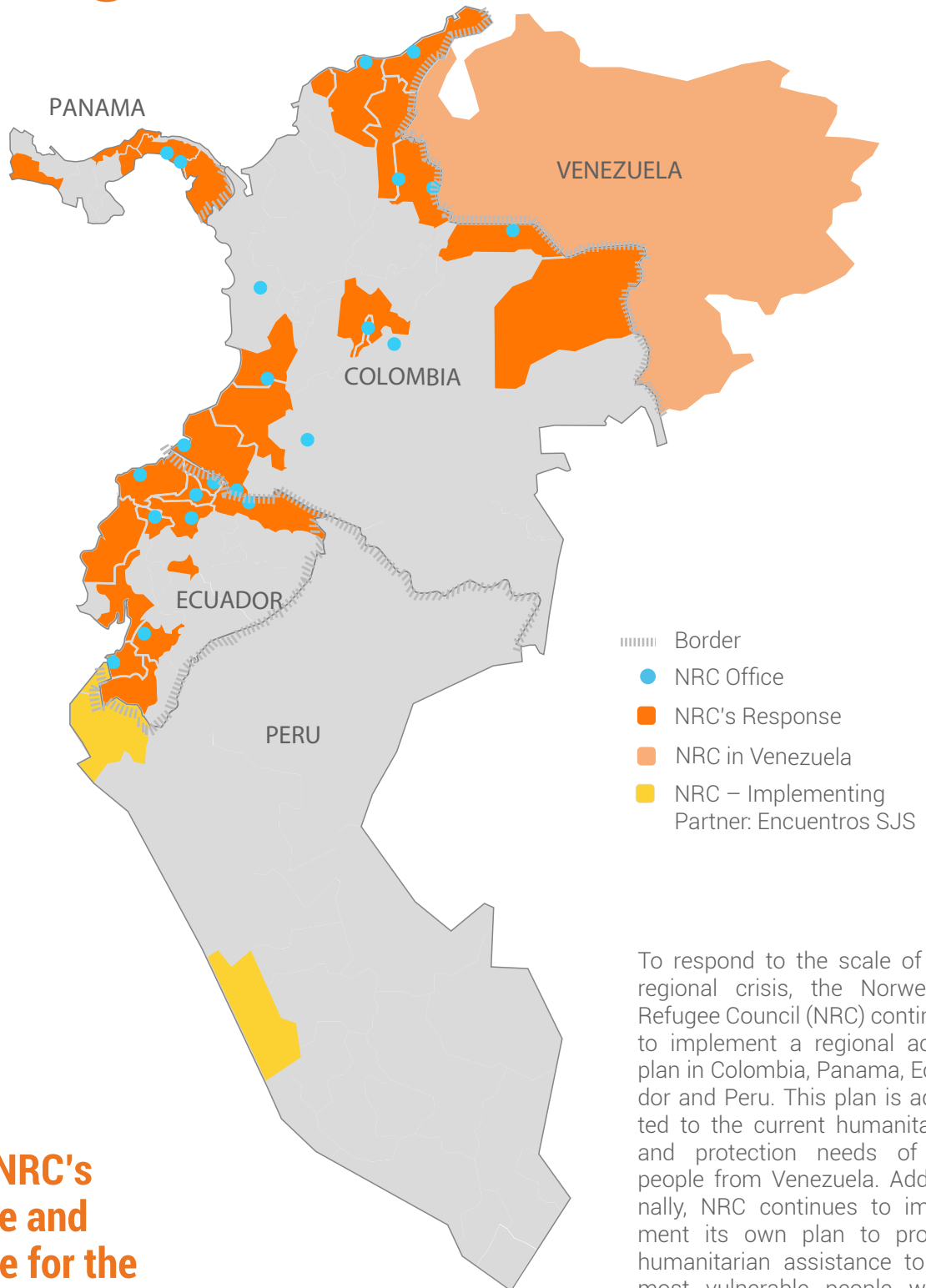
NRC

The people from Venezuela and from the host communities that we work with are strong, dignified and resourceful. Most have the capacity to look after themselves and each other.

But for those who have lost everything and are affected by the impacts of the crisis in Venezuela and the pandemic, it can be difficult to maintain a sense of dignity and hope. This is why our staff, **over 200 people across Colombia, Ecuador and Panama continue to work during the crisis to provide relief and promote options for integration.**

**“Rights Respected,
People Protected”**

Upholding dignity across the region



Map of NRC's presence and response for the regional Venezuela crisis.

To respond to the scale of this regional crisis, the Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) continues to implement a regional action plan in Colombia, Panama, Ecuador and Peru. This plan is adapted to the current humanitarian and protection needs of the people from Venezuela. Additionally, NRC continues to implement its own plan to provide humanitarian assistance to the most vulnerable people within Venezuela.

In 2020 we assisted
355,486

Venezuelan migrants and refugees and persons from host communities in Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

Our organisation provided assistance to **355,486** unique beneficiaries and delivered more than **675,826** services across the region. We provided assistance in 6 sectors, worked on communication and information campaigns, and advocated for rights to be respected.



Cash transfers

In times of crisis, cash-based humanitarian assistance enables people in need to buy food, hygiene products or pay rent. NRC makes electronic transfers through different means (such as smartphones or electronic payment cards) to migrants, refugees and host communities. We also provide vouchers, coupons or cards that can be exchanged for a specific amount of goods and services.



Education

We ensure that migrants and refugees continue to learn, despite the distancing measures imposed due to the pandemic. We continue to work with schools in order to reach people with educational materials and kits. We identify challenges and solutions to ensure continuity of education. Those out of school should not be neglected in this context.



Legal Assistance

NRC continues to provide reliable and up-to-date information on access to documentation, including the refugee status determination procedure and other regularisation mechanisms. We also provide information and guidance so that migrants and refugees can claim and exercise their rights. As many face particular challenges in accessing their rights to housing, we work with justice mechanisms –from traditional and state mechanisms to collaborative resolution mechanisms- to help resolve housing disputes and prevent evictions.



Livelihoods and food

When migrants and refugees do not have access to food supplies, NRC provides food assistance. We promote livelihood strategies that protect, restart and strengthen the ability of individuals and households to earn a living. The inclusion of host communities in this response is key to preventing discrimination and xenophobia.



Shelter

NRC promotes access to safe spaces, ensuring protection, privacy and dignity. In specific situations and where we have added value, NRC improves and prepares shelters, builds temporary spaces for schools, sanitation facilities and community infrastructure, and provides necessary items for shelters. We provide accommodation solutions in order to guarantee health, and physical and social protection.



WASH

Without sufficient safe water for drinking and personal hygiene, it is difficult to stay healthy and combat the pandemic. We provide infrastructure and equipment for access to water and water treatment, as well as hygiene and sanitation kits. We also teach good hygiene practices and we help displaced families to achieve better living conditions and greater dignity. Hand washing facilities continue to be installed in places where the Venezuelan population is located.

7.8^{USD} million

was given to NRC to respond to the situation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants

In 2020, NRC requested 19 million USD to respond to the Venezuelan refugee and migration crisis in Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

Our impact

We are efficient in emergencies. NRC received 3 USD million less in 2020 compared to 2019. We assisted 53,148 in 2020 more people compared to 2019.

6 out of every 100 activities

were implemented by NRC within the GIFMM Coordination Platform in **Colombia** (which includes 73 organisations).

1,454

activities carried out in Colombia to respond to the needs of Venezuelan migrants and refugees and their host communities.

We delivered **168,605** services in Ecuador to respond to the needs of Venezuelan migrants and refugees and their host communities.



In 2021, we need greater resources to grow our impact and quality work.

NRC's strategic response in 2021

A prolonged emergency affected by a sudden Covid19 crisis. Despite the ongoing pandemic, we have continued to provide assistance for those who continue to walk and for those who are willing to stay in the host countries.

In 2021 we expect to delivered more than 700,000 services to Venezuelan migrants, refugees and persons from host communities in Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

Providing cash and vouchers on both sides of the borders in addition to cross border case referral is becoming an important aspect of the response.

NRC aims to expand its contribution to durable solutions through developing livelihood programme as well as social integration approach.

In case of a large sudden influx of people on the border, improved contingency planning will be conducted – this will also include the situation in Ecuador and Peru.

Prevent and provide assistance to Venezuelans affected by the conflict and violence in Colombia will be key.

During the pandemic, NRC has adapted its emergency response in border, transit and urban areas where Venezuelans are arriving and settling, as well as in territories with few humanitarian actors, across Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru. We work with host communities and local networks that provide services and assistance to the population.

Adjusted priorities

“I lost my family on the way, I was robbed and I need help.”

(a child told NRC. He walked from Cúcuta to Bogotá to reunite with his family. He has not seen his parents since the pandemic began).

We need more resources today so that we built the nexus with tomorrow. After 7 years of continuing and increasing displacement, NRC will consider a combined response that can be suitable for combination of protracted crisis and emergency. First, taking into consideration the deteriorating situation as a consequence of the pandemic it will be increasingly important to scale up the emergency response in Colombia, Ecuador, Panama and Peru. Secondly, we will further implementing a durable solution approach for the Venezuelan population that has the intention to remain in the host countries.

“Our needs will not be solved with a vaccine, we also need education and work to stop begging in the street”.

Providing help to those on the move remains vital. Venezuelan people continue to cross borders through informal routes, which expose them to protection risks and increases the possibility of contagion. In addition, many continue to travel between cities in search of better living conditions. With the borders closed, in 2021, NRC is assisting 10% more “walkers” on a daily basis than in 2020.

“We have been walking for more than 100 kilometers without finding any help. Nobody prioritizes us, neither the government nor the organizations.”

We need to commit to prioritising and providing shelter and protection. Through our digital channels, we receive more and more requests for support related to accommodation. During the pandemic, **4 out of 10** people who have received money transfers from NRC have used the money to pay for accommodation.

“We fled because they threatened us. The guerrillas only wanted to recruit our Venezuelan children. We lost everything again”.

NRC will work to increase the funds allocated to the flow of people in need of international protection and with specific protection needs from Venezuela by expanding the portfolio to donors.

Your support will continue to make a difference

“The urgent funding needed should not only be allocated to guarantee access to rights on an equal and non-discriminatory basis, but also to contribute and develop a large social safety network in those host countries that continue to demonstrate their solidarity” Jan Egeland, Secretary General of the Norwegian Refugee Council at the he annual Venezuela Pledging Conference 2020.



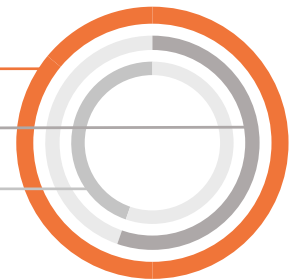
Funding

- Funding required (million USD)
- Funding received (million USD)
- Unmet requirements (million USD)

28.2

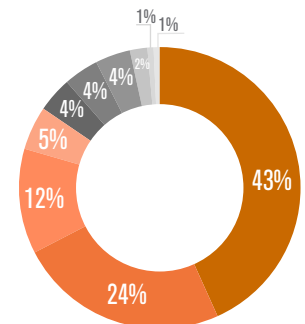
15.6

12.6



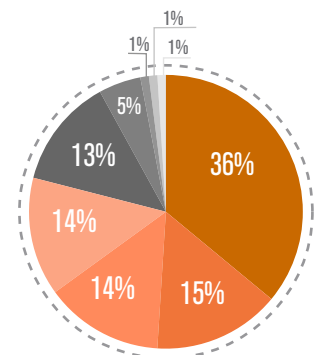
Donors (funding received)

- | | |
|---------|------------------------------------|
| ■ BHA | ■ LEGO |
| ■ BPRM | ■ NFMA |
| ■ ECHO | ■ ECW |
| ■ UNHCR | ■ FORD FOUNDATION |
| ■ SIDA | ■ NETHOPE / PLURALSIGHT/ MICROSOFT |



Our core competences (In accordance with the funding received)

- | | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------|
| ■ ICLA | ■ PROTECTION |
| ■ CASH TRANSFERS | ■ ADVOCACY AND COMMUNICATION |
| ■ EDUCATION | ■ CAMP MANAGEMENT |
| ■ SHELTER & WASH | ■ INNOVATION |
| ■ LIVELIHOODS & FOOD SECURITY | |



This year we are requesting an additional **\$28.2 million USD**. This would enable us to invest **43% of the 2021** budget into the livelihoods sector and assistance through cash transfers, providing for essential projects to contribute towards the economic recovery from the pandemic and hence contribution to durable solutions and local integration.

Thank you to our donors



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