



Photo: OCHA Venezuela



**5.2
MILLION**
PEOPLE TARGETED



**\$720
MILLION**
FUNDING REQUIRED
IN 2023

PEOPLE TARGETED



56% WOMEN
44% MEN
24% GIRLS
22% BOYS
9% OVER 60s

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES



12% OF THE TARGET POPULATION
(6.7% WOMEN)

PARTNERS AND PROJECTS



138 PARTNERS
196 PROJECTS

GEOGRAPHIC FOCUS



8 STATES

PLAN OVERVIEW

The Humanitarian Response Plan 2022-2023 promotes a multi-sectoral response that puts people at its centre in a comprehensive, coordinated and inclusive approach. In 2023, we will continue to work on the development of activities with impact that promote complementarity and sustainability, and thus contribute to reducing humanitarian needs. The Plan has six priority areas: population health; nutrition and food security; access to basic services; access to education; protection risks; and human mobility.

Progress will continue to be made through a more focused response at the municipal level, integrating capacity building and resilience as a way of working, promoting gender equality, localisation and the humanitarian-development nexus to leave no one behind. Also, taking into account lessons learned from the 2022 flood response, preparedness and response activities to sudden onset emergencies will be given greater prominence, at both national and local levels.

OBJECTIVES

- 1 To contribute to the well-being of prioritized population by age group, gender, and diversity through a multisectoral humanitarian response and from a rights-based approach**
 - 1.1** To reduce the vulnerability of prioritized population to mortality and morbidity risks from communicable, non-communicable, and mental health diseases by improving their access to essential health goods and services, safe water and sanitation, food, protection, and psychosocial support and ensuring decent living conditions, integrating gender, age, and diversity approaches
 - 1.2** To promote the comprehensive well-being of children and adolescents and the most vulnerable women through food security interventions, access to sexual and reproductive health services, including maternal and child health and nutrition, and access to education
- 2 To reduce vulnerability and strengthen recovery capacities and resilience of prioritized population by age group, gender, and diversity**
 - 2.1** To reinforce the food security of the most vulnerable people, improving their access to food and supporting the restoration, maintenance, and protection of livelihoods through gender, age, and diversity approaches
 - 2.2** To improve equitable and continuous access to essential goods and services of water and sanitation, education, electricity, alternative energy sources, and temporary shelter, as well as access to the required legal documentation for the most vulnerable populations, with the necessary quantity and quality, considering gender, age, and diversity approaches
 - 2.3** To strengthen institutional and community capacities to prevent, mitigate, and respond to adverse events of natural or anthropogenic origin
- 3 To strengthen institutional and community mechanisms to prevent and mitigate the protection risks of prioritized population, in accordance with humanitarian principles and respect for human rights**
 - 3.1** To prevent and mitigate protection risks faced by the prioritized population and guarantee effective access to rights
 - 3.2** To prevent and mitigate risks associated with gender-based violence, with an emphasis on sexual exploitation and abuse
 - 3.3** To prevent and mitigate violence, abuse, neglect and exploitation of children and adolescents

KEY FIGURES 2023



5.2M

PEOPLE TARGETED



\$720M

FUNDING REQUIRED



138

ORGANISATIONS*



196

PROJECTS*

CLUSTERS	TARGET POPULATION		FINANCIAL REQUIREMENTS	HUMANITARIAN PARTNERS	PROJECTS
	Men	Women			
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	4.6M		102.5M	62	70
Health	3.5M		173.7M	44	54
Protection	2.8M		33.4M	66	82
Child Protection	1.3M		31.2M	65	68
Proteccion - Gender-Based Violence	0.6M		36.6M	71	77
Food Security and Livelihoods	2.0M		183.2M	62	71
Education	1.5M		69.3M	46	52
Nutrition	0.5M		24.1M	43	39
Shelter, Energy and NFIs	0.3M		54.0M	31	38
Logistics and Coordination			11.7M	21	12

PRIORITY POPULATION GROUPS

PRIORITISED GROUPS

AGE



Children



Adolescents



The elderly

GENDER



Women

DIVERSITY



People with disabilities



Vulnerable indigenous populations



Refugees in Venezuela



LGBTIQ+

VULNERABILITY INDICATORS



Living in rural/isolated areas, areas affected by or at risk of natural disasters or areas with insecurity



Communicable and non-communicable diseases lacking access to medicines and medical care, including people with HIV and COVID-19



Extreme socio-economic vulnerability and limited access to essential services



Lack of documentation

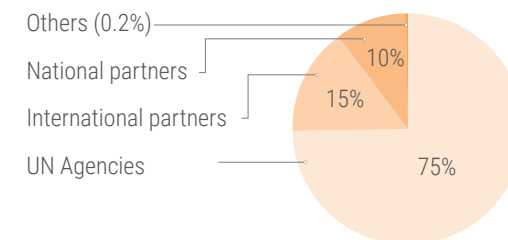


Food insecurity or malnutrition



On the move

FUNDING BY TYPE OF ORGANISATION



OPERATIONAL CAPACITY AND ACCESS

During 2022, humanitarian action in Venezuela expanded due to the consolidation of the presence of partner organisations. In 2022, response activities were reported in almost all municipalities. This has been partially facilitated by more focused funding, including from the Venezuela Humanitarian Fund, in hard-to-reach areas.

The 138 partners in the Plan will promote a multi-sectoral approach and look for complementaries to strengthen available capacities.

During 2022, relations with authorities were strengthened, particularly at the state and municipal levels, by establishing Technical Working Groups in eight states, facilitating coordination fora and bilateral engagement by the humanitarian community.

In total, 102 access incidents were reported in 2022 (NNGOs 38, UN 37 and INGOs 27). The main challenges include restricted access to fuel, administrative and bureaucratic impediments, insecurity in some parts of the country, and impediments related to climate, terrain, or lack of infrastructure, especially in remote areas.

* includes organisations and projects of the Venezuelan Humanitarian Fund.

Ensuring an inclusive and quality humanitarian response involves **mainstreaming cross-cutting issues by the Humanitarian Country Team and all humanitarian organisations.**

The articulation and synergy between the following work priorities will be strengthened:

CENTRALITY OF PROTECTION

The Plan prioritises the safety and dignity of people, as well as a do no harm approach. It ensures equal and safe access to essential services, implements accountability, participation and empowerment of affected people considering their gender, age and diversity. The Humanitarian Country Team's protection strategy seeks to prevent and respond to all forms of violence; ensure access to essential services and the full enjoyment of fundamental rights. Sustainable livelihoods and protection for people on the move will be promoted. All protection work will have a multi-sectoral and coordinated approach, will be gender-sensitive and inclusive and engage with relevant institutions.

GENDER EQUALITY

The Gender Equality Network will implement the Gender Roadmap that focuses on three areas: 1. Provide advice and technical support to humanitarian leadership and clusters to ensure gender mainstreaming in the Humanitarian Programming Cycle; 2. Build the capacity of humanitarian actors, and Gender Focal Points to promote gender equality in assessments, programming and monitoring. This will be done through training, toolkits and experience sharing; and 3. Advocate and share information for decision-making and funding through gender analysis, information products and key events. The HCT will include a representative from Women and LGBTIQ+ organisations in line with the [guidelines](#) on localisation and accountability to promote meaningful participation and transformative leadership.

PROTECTION FROM SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE (PSEA)

In 2022, the PSEA strategy focused on the expansion and strengthening of the Inter-Agency Network and its participation in coordination and decision-making forums, capacity building of staff and coordination with key actors and processes such as the Inter-Agency Contact Line. Despite progress, some challenges remain, which are reflected in the collective priorities of the Network and the Humanitarian Country Team's action plan. During 2023, the inter-agency work on PSEA will focus on risk analysis, participatory diagnosis, and community awareness raising taking into account age, gender, ethnicity and disability. The work will also focus on coordination between inclusive and accessible reporting mechanisms through

implementing the Inter-agency SEA Reporting Protocol, access to services and assistance and support to investigation processes in line with the victim-centred approach and coordination with public institutions.

ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED COMMUNITIES (AAP)

In 2023, the AAP Collective Framework will be reviewed in light of lessons learned from two years of implementation. The AAP Working Group, in collaboration with the PSEA Network and the Gender Equality Network, will focus its efforts on deepening partners' capacities; fostering the exchange of good practices; mainstreaming AAP in all phases of the humanitarian programming cycle (needs analysis, response planning and monitoring); and developing common tools that enable collective analysis of community voices and decision-making/prioritisation based on these voices, taking into account gender, age, ethnicity and disability. The Inter-Agency Contact Line of Contact will continue as a collective community feedback mechanism and an enabling platform for an effective and coordinated humanitarian response.

HUMANITARIAN AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS

In 2023, the Plan will continue to promote more sustainable projects and activities with significant and lasting results. Throughout 2022, humanitarian actors put great effort into providing technical assistance and capacity building. This has included training health and education personnel and rehabilitating basic infrastructure (including hospitals, school canteens, water purification plants). Humanitarian actors will continue providing tools and support for households and communities to strengthen their livelihoods. In this sense, the Plan's approach, articulated in the cluster plans, will further promote the humanitarian-development nexus this year, including actions contributing to Venezuela's progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

PROGRAMME PRIORITIES BY CLUSTERS

WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE



The WASH cluster will continue supporting Venezuelan institutions to ensure access to essential services in health facilities, schools, learning centres and protection centres. The cluster will prioritise access to critical services for the most vulnerable households and communities. The integrated approach continues to take precedence, enabling a more efficient response. In parallel, the cluster will strategically prioritise emergency preparedness and response activities. Also, the strategic strengthening of disaster risk reduction (DDR), preparedness and emergency response (EP&R) will be prioritized.

Regarding specific efforts to improve the technical quality of the collective response, the cluster plans to address Gender and Accountability issues internally and support the Accountability Framework (AAP) and the Gender Roadmap (both HCT initiatives). Likewise, in 2023, WASH actions will be reorientated towards a nexus approach and with specific efforts to strengthen localisation and sustainability.

FOOD SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS



In 2023, the food security and livelihoods cluster will continue with the sectoral priorities of food distribution for the most vulnerable people and the provision of agricultural, livestock and fisheries inputs for the production of nutritious food to strengthen and diversify livelihoods.

The cluster will also continue efforts to deepen the nexus between humanitarian and development activities and incorporate activities that support the prevention and risk reduction for sudden-onset emergencies. It will also strengthen partners' capacities to integrate gender into assessments and programming.

SHELTER, ENERGY AND NON-FOOD ITEMS



The cluster plan incorporates the construction, rehabilitation and expansion of spaces that address the most immediate needs in temporary shelter, critical services in health centres, education and protection for people affected by gender-based violence and human trafficking, and the promotion of sustainable socio-productive rural habitats.

Renewable energy and photovoltaic systems are proposed as means to address the most immediate needs of the population, taking into account gender, age, ethnicity and disability. Emphasis is placed on environmental sustainability and assistance to remote and indigenous communities, where the severity of needs is intensified.

The response also focuses on displaced people affected by sudden-onset emergencies and the strengthening the capacities of institutions that provide a response in this area. Capacity building on temporary shelter management, actions to build community resilience, and distribution of non-food items with gender considerations are planned.

* In addition to direct recipients, the cluster estimates 983,957 as a target for indirect recipients. Indirect recipients are those who benefit from interventions in community spaces that provide essential services.

PROTECTION including the areas of responsibility of Gender-based Violence and Child Protection



The cluster will continue providing specialised protection services, livelihoods, documentation, and capacity building of local communities, social actors and state institutions. The cluster will focus on inclusivity for all groups, such as LGBTQ+ people, women and children on the move. Access to specialised services for indigenous people, and those with disabilities, will be achieved by implementing the Service Mapping Communication Strategy. The cluster will also ensure the integration of the nexus approach in projects and activities.

The **Child Protection AoR** will continue to promote the prevention of and response to exploitation, abuse, neglect and violence against children and adolescents. It will seek to strengthen safe access to direct care services for children and caregivers, such as mental health and psychosocial support, legal support, and case management support. In addition, it will work to strengthen the mainstreaming of protection through capacity building for actors, disseminating key messages, promoting minimum standards and strengthening tools such as service mapping.

The **Gender-Based Violence AoR** strategy focuses on the survival and well-being of people at risk and survivors of GBV, through prevention, mitigation and multi-cluster response actions, considering the three main objectives. These include specialised GBV response assistance for physical, mental and psychosocial well-being; livelihood restoration; and strengthening the capacities of state institutions and communities to prevent and mitigate GBV risks.

HEALTH



The Health Cluster response will focus on strengthening maternal and child health services, sexual and reproductive health (SRH) management and GBV care. It will also improve access to integrated health, protection and WASH services in vulnerable, hard-to-reach indigenous communities in Venezuela.

Strengthening the integration of health service delivery networks, working together with partners and public health services, is also a priority. This includes the provision of primary health care and community-based interventions. The cluster also prioritises strengthening logistical capacities and supports smart, safe and green hospitals. Partners' capacities for gender mainstreaming in health services will be strengthened.

Epidemiological surveillance and health information management, field presence and support to the Expanded Programme on Immunisation will be strengthened, while also developing a comprehensive perspective for the infection control programme with a greater focus on quality of care.

EDUCATION



The Cluster will continue leading -in consultation with the Ministry of Education- on a comprehensive programme in public schools with collective multi-sectoral outcomes, facilitating geographic convergence and institutional complementarity amongst partners in prioritized states.

The focus of the response for 2023 remains on vulnerable children (0-3 years of age); children and adolescents (4-17 years of age) in risk of dropping out school or out of school, and vulnerable teachers. The activities will privilege a focus that strengthens quality teaching and learning recovery for students. At the programmatic level the focus will be on the return of children and adolescents, the links between education and livelihoods and disaster risk management and social-emotional learning.

Operations will reinforce partners' capacities to integrate a gender focus and centrality of protection with special emphasis on child protection.

NUTRITION



The cluster's response will improve maternal and child health and nutrition with an emphasis on the first 1,000 days of life. This will be done through a strategy of prevention, early detection and treatment of acute malnutrition in children under 5, and of underweight and micronutrient deficiencies in pregnant and lactating women.

In 2023, the sector will focus its advocacy on developing skills and knowledge at the community level to prevent acute malnutrition, involving and empowering community structures in adopting good practices for infant and young child feeding, hygiene, health and a diversified diet. Likewise, through the coordinated work of the cluster organisations, access to health and nutrition services at the community level will be strengthened and improved, together with public health network services, for both in- and outpatients for the management of acute malnutrition. Finally, partners' capacities in integrating gender in nutrition programming will be strengthened.

LOGISTICS AND COORDINATION



Based on the 2022 assessment of the logistical challenges for partners, in 2023, the cluster will strengthen working groups (on river transport and imports); create and strengthen working relationships with local actors, such as mayors' and governors' offices. The cluster will also support institutional counterparts in emergency preparedness activities and the integration of the logistics strategy within partner organisations will be promoted. The cluster will continue to raise awareness of critical concerns and gaps.

Humanitarian coordination priorities include:

- A people-centred humanitarian response that contributes to community resilience and promotes concrete results in protection and gender equality.
- Promoting an enabling environment with a humanitarian-development nexus approach.
- Promoting a multi-sectoral and complementary response, with greater coordination with authorities, to promote more significant impact and sustainability.
- Mobilising resources promptly to promote transformative actions for people's lives.
- Promoting preparedness and capacity building to ensure a high-impact response.