

Humanitarian actors responded to **more than 40,000 arrivals** at the northern border in **Tumbes**, ahead of the introduction of a humanitarian visa on 15 June for Venezuelans wishing to enter Peru.

A week after the introduction of the humanitarian visa for Peru, on 22 June, the response was also increased in **Tacna**, where a large number of persons started gathering in front of the Chilean consulate to obtain the newly introduced tourist visa.

There are currently more than **850,000 Venezuelan citizens** in the country, a majority of which are living in Lima. Nevertheless, increasing numbers are being reported in other regions of the country.

## KEY FIGURES

### Above 850,000

Venezuelans living in Peru

### Above 285,000

Asylum claims

### Above 490,000

Applications (granted and in process) to the PTP (Permiso Temporal de Permanencia)

### Almost 1,420,000

Venezuelans arrived in or transited through Peru since 2017



Figure 1 Arrivals and departures of Venezuelan refugees and migrants (2017-2019)

## OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

While Peru is the second country of arrival of Venezuelans worldwide, after Colombia, it has become the main host country for Venezuelans seeking asylum.

The requirement of a humanitarian visa to enter Peru was implemented on 15 June. The visa is free of charge, but needs to be obtained in Venezuela, Colombia or Ecuador and requires the presentation of apostilled Venezuelan criminal records. A number of individuals, under the concept of “humanitarian exceptions”, are still allowed to enter Peru due to high vulnerability criteria such as persons with illness or disability, pregnant women and persons above 60 years of age, as well as some family reunifications. On 23 June, it was established that the Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR) office in the Binational Assistance Border Centre (CEBAF) would start deciding on asylum claims presented at the border through an accelerated procedure. Only individuals meeting the criteria of the 1951 Geneva Convention have asylum claims admitted and are allowed to enter Peru. While a decision can be reconsidered by the Commission, no appeal instance through a second body is yet available at the border.

On 22 June, the Chilean government introduced a new tourist visa for Venezuelan citizens. This visa, one of two options to enter the country with the already existing “Democratic Responsibility Visa”, can be requested in any Chilean Consulate. In the days following 22 June, Chile provided direct transport from the border complex in Chacalluta to their consulate in the city of Tacna for Venezuelans who needed to obtain a visa.

## RESPONSE OVERVIEW AND FUNDING UPDATE

### Area of Intervention 1: Direct Emergency Assistance

A total of 13 organizations are providing direct emergency assistance to cover the basic needs of the target population. This intervention includes, among others, support through food, shelter, humanitarian transport and non-food items. Direct emergency assistance is particularly focused on new arrivals in the region of Tumbes.

#### Tumbes response

The introduction of a new humanitarian visa to enter Peru on 15 June had a significant impact on the humanitarian response in the country. Arrival flows at the Binational Assistance Border Centre (CEBAF), at the northern border with Ecuador, rose from an average of 1,800 in May to 3,000 ahead of the introduction of the humanitarian visa, with a peak of more than 8,000 arrivals on 14 June. After a few days of further arrivals, numbers have since steadily declined and, in the last seven days of the month, the average is less than 400 per day.



Figure 2 New arrivals at the CEBAF, Tumbes

A contingency plan was activated by the local coordination group in Tumbes between 10 and 18 June. A total of 17 humanitarian organizations and seven government institutions were involved in the response.

During the activation of the contingency plan, the following assistance was provided:

<p> <b>Health</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1,000</b> Persons assisted through medical posts</li> <li><b>800</b> Persons assisted on sexual and reproductive health</li> <li><b>400</b> Persons received psychosocial support</li> </ul>	<p> <b>Food</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>12,000</b> Hot meals distributed</li> <li><b>3,800</b> Cold meals distributed</li> <li><b>600</b> Beneficiaries of food support through CBI</li> </ul>
<p> <b>Shelter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1,500</b> Persons hosted in hotels in Tumbes</li> <li><b>400</b> Persons hosted in tents in the CEBAF</li> <li><b>400</b> Mothers with children housed in Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) in the CEBAF</li> </ul>	<p> <b>NFI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5,500</b> Baby kits distributed</li> <li><b>2,300</b> Higiene kits distributed</li> <li><b>2,200</b> Children clothing kits distributed</li> </ul>
<p> <b>Nutrition</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1,800</b> Persons supported by nutrition experts</li> </ul>	<p> <b>CBI</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>56,000</b> USD transferred to over 900 persons</li> </ul>
<p> <b>WASH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>20,000</b> Liters of water distributed</li> <li><b>3,200</b> Persons with access to showers</li> </ul>	<p> <b>Transport</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5,500</b> Persons transported between the CEBAF and Tumbes</li> <li><b>1,200</b> Persons transported at interprovincial level</li> </ul>
<p> <b>Information Management</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>5</b> Statistical reports shared (500 interviews)</li> <li><b>4</b> Situation Reports on the ongoing situation</li> </ul>	

### Tacna response

From 22 June, up to 800 Venezuelans started gathering in front of the Chilean consulate in Tacna, southern border, to process their applications under the newly introduced tourist visa. These persons were found to be in a situation of particular vulnerability due to lack of food, water and sanitary facilities in the consulate area. Furthermore, the available shelter and communal accommodations in Tacna are not sufficient to host most people, and cannot be made available for a protracted number of days.



Figure 3 Distribution of baby formula and NFIs in Tacna.

The response included the following:



#### Food

1,600 Food kits provided



#### NFI

350 Blankets distributed



#### Transport

1,000 Seats provided



#### Shelter

850 Sleeping spaces provided (cumulative)



#### CBI

11,000 USD transferred to over 150 persons

Reported gaps in the response outside the Chilean consulate, during the reporting period, included the lack of a child-friendly space, the setup of a water distribution point and connectivity spots to work on visa applications. Additionally, the current response in all sectors was not sufficient, nor could be considered sustainable should the situation continue.

In addition to this, on 28 June partners also supported the Chilean consulate in the distribution of baby formulas and NFI items to parents with small children.

## Area of Intervention 2: Protection

Seventeen organizations are working on the protection response, supporting groups with specific needs and strengthening activities for the reduction and prevention of protection risks, including Gender-Based Violence (GBV), Prevention from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and human trafficking.

### Tumbes response

During the response in the CEBAF in Tumbes, partners and outreach volunteers have been providing **orientation to persons of concern**, identifying vulnerable cases and referring them to appropriate services as needed. With a view to providing shelter to those persons of concern stranded at the crossing point to wait for an entry permit, partners also installed **17 Refugee Housing Units** at the border centre, where they have been hosting between 80-90 mothers with babies (0-2 years old) and unaccompanied minors every night.

During the activation of the contingency plan, partners provided 9,000 orientations, hosted 4,100 persons in safe and child-friendly spaces and attended 1,500 SGBV cases. Between 15 and 20 June, partners identified **50 unaccompanied children** in Tumbes and are working in coordination with competent authorities to follow up on these cases. Visits have been carried out to the two local children's care homes to monitor conditions, provide hygiene kits and support. One care home, with regular capacity for 10 children, was hosting almost 30 in the midst of the emergency. There continues to be a need to strengthen referral pathways and capacities of humanitarian agencies and authorities at CEBAF.

Partners also provided both **financial and technical support to the CEPR and the Migration Authorities** to increase capacities and accelerate processes. The CEPR office in the CEBAF has been supported with the deployment of personnel to the border, additional printers and other materials. Partners have been carrying out advocacy on individual cases and provided technical advice to continue strengthening the asylum system.

Partners have also been carrying out advocacy in relation to the new **humanitarian visa**, making sure that persons of concern are properly informed about the requirements and that these are applied correctly. Partners have also been advocating for increased capacity in terms of procedures in the consulates in Ecuador.

### Tacna response

Partners scaled up and adapted the response in Tacna before the introduction of a new tourist visa by sending additional staff and setting up an **information kiosk** at the bus terminal. A **transportation service** from the border complex to Tacna city was also set up, including referrals to required services for those unable to enter Chile. In early June, a **Protection Monitoring** exercise was carried out. In Tacna, the exercise highlighted a high percentage of persons of concern rejected at the Chilean border, as well as an increase in the number of individuals who reported feeling discriminated and who had to recur to begging during their displacement and after their arrival in Peru. The exercise was also conducted in Lima, Tumbes, Cusco and Arequipa.

Vulnerable cases were systematically identified for referral to appropriate services. Separate coordination meetings were held with the Special Child Protection Unit (UPE) to enhance coordination related to **unaccompanied and separated children** (UASC). In these meetings, the lack of adequate alternative care options for UASC was highlighted as the main gap in service provision. A visit to the two local children's shelters revealed that only one meets required standards, whereas the other one, a private children's home, does not. Partners have begun mapping alternative shelter options for UASC and will share the results with relevant actors.

## Area of Intervention 3: Socio Economic and Cultural Integration

Socio-economic and cultural inclusion is currently covered by 13 organizations mostly in Lima and Tumbes. The work also focuses on promoting the peaceful coexistence of refugees, migrants and host community.

The new initiative *"El Balón No Tiene Banderas"* was inaugurated in the San Juan de Miraflores and San Juan de Lurigancho districts of Lima, to last six months. With the support of the community and municipal authorities, the goal of the initiative, framed within the *#TuCausaEsMiCausa* campaign, is to encourage the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in local communities through socio-sportive activities.

In the San Martín de Porres district of Lima, where one out of five inhabitants is Venezuelan, the *"Oportunidades sin Fronteras"* (Opportunities Without Borders) initiative is in progress. Its main goal is to promote social cohesion in all forms, but with special emphasis in the economic autonomy of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In this district, a local diagnostic on labour demand and work profiles, to be finalized in October 2019, has been also initiated.



Figure 4 Children taking part in the #ElBalónNoTieneBanderas initiative

During the reporting month, a working group on **community integration**, composed of 12 organizations, was formed in San Martín de Porres and in the district of Lima.

In Lima, partners, together with the Lima Metropolitan Regional Office (DRELM), trained over 150 headmasters and teachers from more than 50 educational institutions, in intercultural issues, integration and psychological first aid.

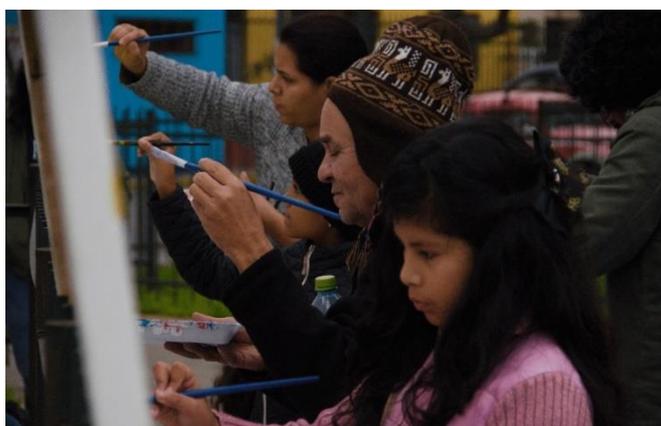


Figure 5 Peruvians and Venezuelans painting a mural in preparation for the publishing of the "Faces of the Venezuelan Migration in Lima" study.

During the reporting month, major progress was made in various studies, particularly for data gathering and analysis.

The study from the National Institute for Statistics (INEI) on the life conditions of the Venezuelan population living in Peru ([ENPOVE](#)), carried out with the support of various organizations, was published. Additionally, some organizations are involved in the publication of a new study titled *"Faces of the Venezuelan Migration in Lima"*, which will provide a sociodemographic profile of the Venezuelan population, including information on the overall labour, health, and migratory situation.

Furthermore, an analysis of the impact of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the labour markets of Lima, Piura and Arequipa is close to completion. This study will allow the identification and establishment

of a “road to labour insertion”, which in turn is set to facilitate a shift from the informal economy to the formal economy for both Venezuelan and local populations.

In Cusco, partners held a session with local and Venezuelan adolescents. This activity is part of a large number of sessions aiming at building up and empowering the capacities of young promoters of human rights and to prevent Sexual and Gender-Based Violence.

On 29 June, for LGBTI Pride Day, partners organised activities in both Tumbes and Lima, including the setup of a group composed of refugees and migrants, including Venezuelans, Colombians and others, and Peruvians to march in the Pride Parade.

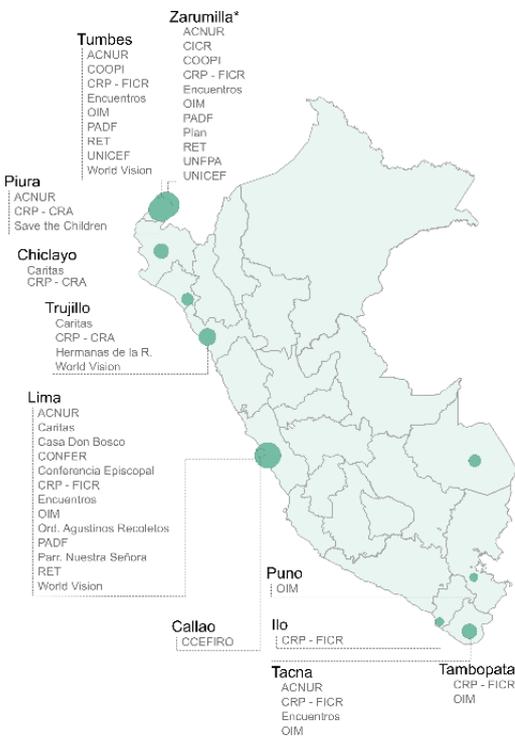
**World Refugee Day (20 June)**

In Lima, Venezuelan and Peruvian musicians of the Lima Symphony Project surprised hundreds of people at the Lima Bus Station with a musical flash mob to celebrate World Refugee Day. The orchestra welcomed Venezuelans who were arriving, while also thanking Peruvians for their hospitality.

In Tumbes, partners celebrated World Refugee Day with 200 locals and Venezuelans with an activation event aimed at reproducing the experience of what it means to be a refugee who is forced to flee his/her country and seek international protection. In Tacna, students, partners, Migration officials and the Ombudsman’s Office joined in a sensitization demonstration to commemorate World Refugee Day.

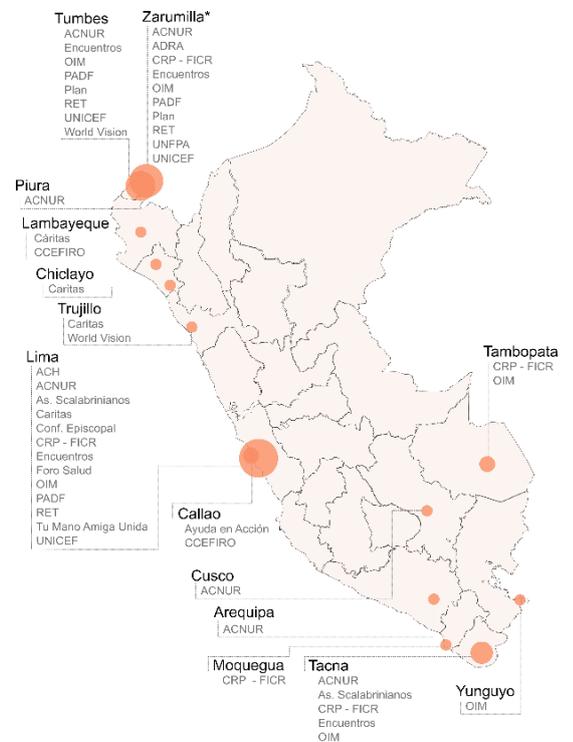
In Arequipa dozens of Venezuelans were invited to an “Arepada” held by partners. The Prosecutor’s Office invited partners, the Ombudsperson’s Office, Migration officials and authorities from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to share their views on the rights, opportunities and challenges of refugees. Students from all universities in Arequipa then shared their ideas to promote integration and access to basic rights for refugees.

**Operational presence by Areas of Intervention**



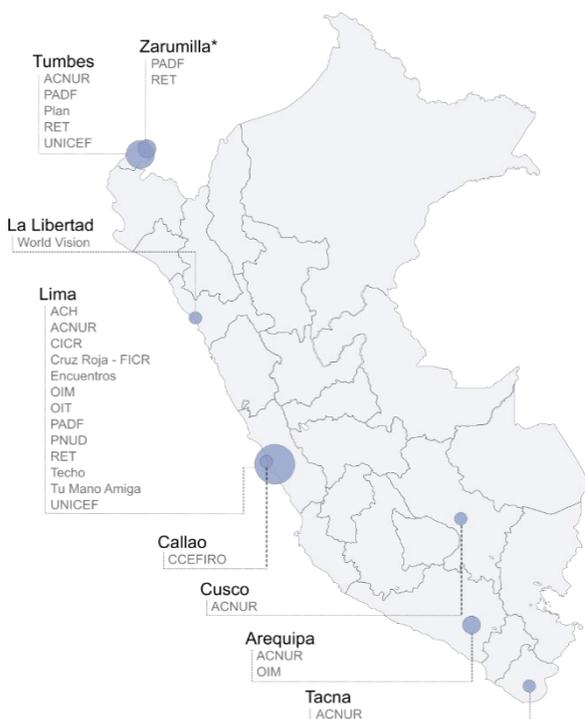
\*Incluye respuesta en el CEBAF.

Figure 6 Operational presence for Area 1 in Peru (May 3W exercise).



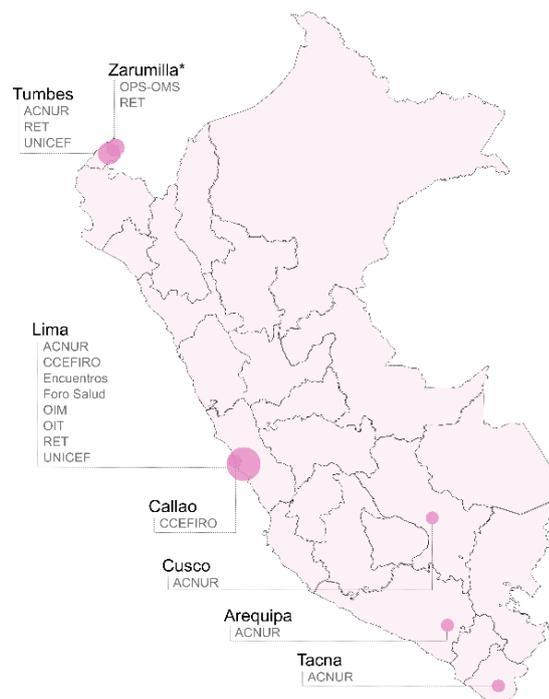
\*Incluye respuesta en el CEBAF.

Figure 7 Operational presence for Area 2 in Peru (May 3W exercise).



\*Incluye respuesta en el CEBAF.

Figure 9 Operational presence for Area 3 in Peru (May 3W exercise).



\*Incluye respuesta en el CEBAF.

Figure 8 Operational presence for Area 4 in Peru (May 3W exercise).

## COORDINATION

A total of 43 organizations, coordinated by the national coordination platform for Peru (GTRM) offer assistance to these persons in 11 departments and 15 provinces around the country, with a particular concentration in the capital Lima and in the north at the border with Ecuador (Tumbes and Zarumilla) where the CEBAF is based. Local and international organizations are also present on a smaller scale in Tacna (five), Piura (three), Trujillo (four), Tambopata (two), Arequipa (two), Callao (two), Chiclayo (two), Lambayeque (one), Puno (one), Cusco (one), Ilo (one) and Yunguyo (one).

Coordination efforts during the month of June focused on supporting the scaling up of operations in Tumbes, during the activation of the contingency plan. Partners provided additional staff and resources, and the existing capacity and overall response was tracked and monitored on a regular basis. During the response, four situation reports were shared internally with GTRM members to highlight the ongoing situation and activities. An external document was also shared after the contingency plan was deactivated, to quantify the overall response and identify remaining gaps. Lessons learnt were identified during the different meetings.

## PLATFORM PARTNERS

Acción contra el Hambre | ACNUR | ADRA | Amnistía Internacional | ASOCIACION CCEFIRO | Asociación Scalabrinianos | Ayuda en Acción | Capellanía de migrantes venezolanos de la diócesis de Lurín | Care | Caritas | CICR | Conferencia Episcopal Peruana | Consejo Interreligioso - Religiones por la Paz | Cooperazione Internazionale COOPI | Cruz Roja Española | Cruz Roja Peruana | Encuentros | FICR | FORO SALUD Callao | IDEHPUCP | ILLARI AMANECER | LWR | OCHA | OIM | OIT | ONU voluntarios | ONUSIDA | OPS/OMS | Oxfam | PADF | Plan International | PNUD | Progetto mondo mlal | PROSA | RET international | Save the Children | TECHO | UNESCO | UNFPA | UNICEF | UNODC | WFP | World Vision.

For more information, please contact:

**Mattia Zanazzi**, Information Management Officer, **UNHCR**, [zanazzi@unhcr.org](mailto:zanazzi@unhcr.org)

**Julio Gutierrez**, Information Management Officer, **IOM**, [julgutierrez@iom.int](mailto:julgutierrez@iom.int)

**Margarida Loureiro**, Senior Interagency Coordinator, **UNHCR**, [loureirm@unhcr.org](mailto:loureirm@unhcr.org)

**Ernesto Carbajal**, National Platform Liaison Coordinator, **IOM**, [ecarbajal@iom.int](mailto:ecarbajal@iom.int)