

Southern Cone



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS
IN THE SUBREGION
235,000



PEOPLE REACHED WITH SOME
FORM OF ASSISTANCE*
11,635



FUNDING SITUATION**
2%
FUNDED: **0.9 MILLION**
REQUIREMENT: **41.7 MILLION**

Situation

- **Argentina's** deadly [COVID-19 second wave showed no sign of slowing](#), after another record-breaking week of infections and fatalities. The country's daily caseloads were regularly surpassing 30,000 over the last weeks of May. According to official data, occupation of intensive care units (ICUs) nationwide stood at 77.1 percent by the end of the month. President Alberto Fernández announced a nine-day lockdown on 21 May until midnight on 30 May, declaring Argentina is in "the worst moment" of the pandemic. In **Bolivia**, the [third wave of coronavirus infections hit](#) after registering a daily average of 2,000 to 3,000 cases in May. Hospitals were overcrowded in several cities, forcing authorities to apply new restrictions while the COVID-19 vaccination campaign proceeded slowly. The most affected regions were Santa Cruz, to the east; Cochabamba, a central region; Oruro, to the west, and La Paz, in which restrictive measures were taken. Despite some cases of refugees and migrants in vulnerable irregular situations having received the vaccine, there is still no established mechanism which facilitates their vaccination. **Paraguay ranked first in the world for the worst death rate due to COVID-19 at the end of May**, surpassing Uruguay on the list of nations with the most deaths per million inhabitants. This month was the deadliest of the pandemic, and even exceeded the death toll during all of 2020. President Mario Abdo announced the extension of sanitary measures until 7 June. **Uruguay surpassed 4,000 COVID-19 deaths** on 26 May, making it the country with the highest number of deaths caused by the virus in the world during May, even though 47 per cent of the population had already received a dose of a vaccine, and 28 percent had received both.
- In Desaguadero, on the **Bolivian-Peruvian border**, refugees and migrants who enter Bolivia at night-time are not being reached with humanitarian assistance. Migration controls by the authorities reduced their intensity, but on the other hand, the local community's xenophobia towards Venezuelans persists. On the **Bolivian-Argentinian border**, migratory controls on both sides are almost non-existent. At the **border with Paraguay (Villamontes)** a steady but low number of refugees and migrants crossing through this border is reported by partners and those who do cross, cross through irregular routes in the forests, in unsafe conditions. In **Pisiga (border with Chile)** the flow of Venezuelans exiting Bolivia towards Chile continues steadily. . During May, partners reported **56 refugees and migrants who entered Argentina via La Quiaca (Jujuy), border with Bolivia**. Reduced flows were reported by partners in Puerto Iguazu, border with Brazil.

Response***



ARGENTINA: ADRA, APdeBA, CAREF, Enseña x Argentina, FCCAM, INICIA, IOM, Jesuit Migrant Service, MIRARES, Red Cross Argentina, UNHCR.

BOLIVIA: Caritas Bolivia, Caritas Cochabamba, Caritas Switzerland, IOM, Munasim Kullakita Foundation, UNHCR, We World GVC, World Vision.

PARAGUAY: IOM, Semillas para la Democracia, UNHCR.

URUGUAY: Idas y Vuelgas, IOM, SEDHU, UNHCR.

- In **Argentina**, R4V partners provided refugees and migrants with socio-legal assistance, individual psychotherapy, emotional support group sessions, while also providing training sessions and seed capital to entrepreneurs. Winter clothes, other NFIs, food kits, shelter, humanitarian transport and multipurpose cash transfers were also delivered to the most vulnerable.
- In **Bolivia**, partners provided hygiene supplies and medicines to refugees and migrants, as well as winter clothes, other basic household items, school materials, cash, shelter and humanitarian transportation. Several workshops were carried out with refugees, migrants and host communities to address issues related to GBV and child protection.
- In **Uruguay**, the National Refugee Commission recognized 22 Venezuelans as refugees in May. Partners met with the Deputy of Rivera to promote COVID-19 vaccines among people without documentation who reside in Rivera. Partners delivered food, referred refugees and migrants for psychological care and built the capacity of entrepreneurs. In Chuy, refugees and migrants were assisted with clothes, food, shelter and games.
- In **Paraguay**, refugees and migrants were assisted with shelter, cash assistance and integration support.



Food Security
1316

Hum. Transp.
151

Health
892

Education
53

Integration
423

WASH
2405

Protection
2559

Shelter
1651

CVA
3228