



In Guyana, UNICEF works in partnership with multiple civil society actors, such as Blossom Inc, in order to have a direct impact on children and their families.

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Humanitarian Situation Report No. 1

Reporting Period
1 January to 31 December 2023

Children on the Move including Venezuelans, and other crisis-affected communities

HIGHLIGHTS

- Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) continued to face political, social, economic, and environmental crises. In 2023, increasing migration movements, violence, climate change, growing insecurity due to organized crime and an increase in energy and food prices continued to impact countries in the region, exacerbating people's exclusion and vulnerability and severely impacting children.
- In 2023, UNICEF's response in the ten countries of LAC¹ reached 105,219 children with child protection services, while 11,173 women, girls and boys accessed gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response intervention. Around 87,410 children gained access to education, while 147,764 children and mothers accessed sufficient quantity of safe water.
- In 2023, UNICEF received US\$36.3 million of its US\$160.5 million appeal. With US\$11.6 million of carry-forward funding, the appeal was 30 per cent funded. The results achieved would not have been possible without the continued support from key partners and the generous contributions from UNICEF's donors.

SITUATION IN NUMBERS

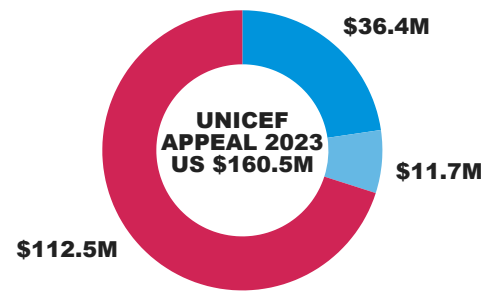


5,400,000
Children in need of humanitarian assistance



16,600,000
People in need of humanitarian assistance

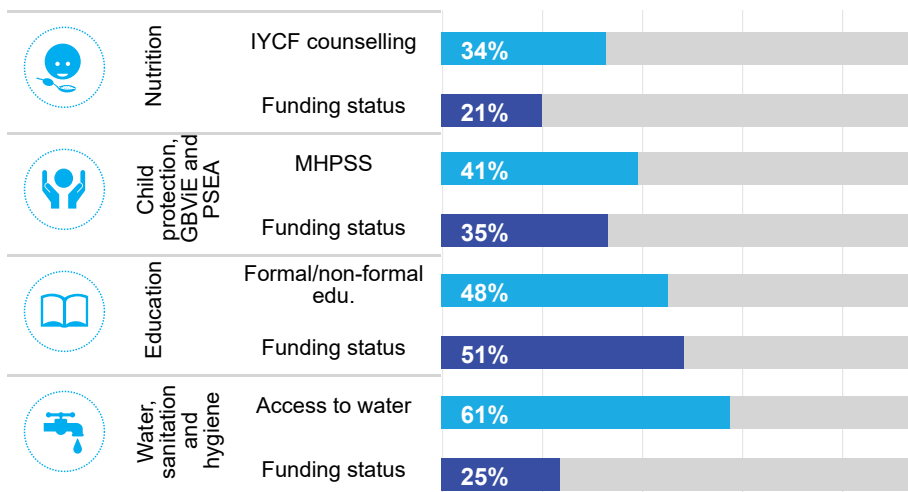
FUNDING STATUS (IN US\$)**



● Humanitarian Resources
● 2022 carry over
● Funding gap

** Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors

UNICEF RESPONSE AND FUNDING STATUS*



* UNICEF response % is only for the indicator, the funding status is for the entire sector.

FUNDING OVERVIEW AND PARTNERSHIPS

At the end of 2023, UNICEF's 2023 Humanitarian Action for Children (HAC) appeal for the Refugee and Migrant Response in LAC was 30 per cent funded (US\$48 million), including US\$11.6 million carry over from 2022 and US\$36.3 million received in 2023. This included generous contributions from the United States Bureau for Population, Refugees and Migration (BPRM) and the European Union (EU). Additional generous contributions were received from Education Cannot Wait (ECW), Norway, Poland, UNICEF National Committees and pooled Global Thematic Humanitarian funds.

Flexible and timely resources were critical to enable UNICEF supporting essential, evidence-based national humanitarian responses addressing immediate needs and mitigating longer-term impacts on vulnerable refugee and migrant children, including Venezuelans and other nationalities, and other crisis-affected communities in the LAC Region. Despite the contributions received, funding gaps remained, which limited the capacity to respond to needs and register progress against targets in critical support areas. Interagency coordination enabled effective emergency response.

UNICEF continued to work with national authorities, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), and other United Nations agencies, along with national and international Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and civil society organizations (CSOs), to ensure the rights of children and families on the move were protected. UNICEF's response is aligned with the Interagency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants 2023-2024 Regional Refugee and Migrant Response Plan and the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan for Colombia.

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

Countries in LAC continued to face multiple crises. In 2023, increasing migration movements, violence, climate change, growing insecurity due to organized crime and an increase in energy and food prices, continued to impact countries in the region, exacerbating people's exclusion and vulnerability and severely impacting children. In Brazil, a public health emergency was declared in the Amazon's Yanomami Indigenous Territory due to malnutrition rates, prevalence of malaria and stretched health services. In Colombia, according to the 2023 Humanitarian Response Plan, an estimated 7.7 million people, including 2.4 million children,² were in need of humanitarian assistance due to the impacts of internal armed conflict and extreme climate events. Children and adolescents faced many crises, including conflicts, displacement, human mobility and malnutrition. Furthermore, the El Niño phenomenon caused extreme weather events, including floodings and droughts, in several countries of the region, both in South and Central America.

Over the last decade, the LAC region has been home to one of the largest refugee and migration crises in the world, largely due to the protracted socioeconomic and political crisis in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. There are also smaller but significant movements of people within the region and extracontinental flows of migrants and refugees arriving in the region from Africa and Asia. The crisis generated by the outflow of migrants from Venezuela has led to about 6.5 million Venezuelan citizens living in Latin America and the Caribbean by November 2023,³ including a large number of children that require protection and assistance. Despite ongoing efforts by some governments in the region, refugee and migrant children continue to face substantial barriers accessing essential services, such as social protection, health, education and child protection, both in the transit countries and at their destinations.

Additionally, government authorities in host countries and communities struggle to meet the service and protection needs of migrant and local populations, causing additional strains on limited resources, as well as a generalized phenomenon of stigma and xenophobia towards the migrants.

Furthermore, tighter immigration measures taken by some of the countries create significant challenges. Migrants and refugees without official documentation find themselves stranded at border points without access to the most basic services. This leads them to be involved in nefarious practices (including informal low-paid work and sexual exploitation) or to travel along irregular pathways where they are exposed to violence, including gender-based violence, trafficking and smuggling, particularly affecting women and girls. Moreover, refugee and migrant children are highly vulnerable to protection risks including violence, psychosocial distress and exploitation.

SUMMARY ANALYSIS OF PROGRAMME RESPONSE BY COUNTRY

BOLIVIA (PLURINATIONAL STATE OF)

The Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela (R4V) estimated that 80,000 migrants and refugees were mainly transiting irregularly through Bolivia in 2023,⁴ which represents an increase in the transit population. The migratory flow includes Venezuelans and other nationalities, such as Colombians, Ecuadorians, Peruvians and non-continental populations, such as Haitians. From mid-year 2023, there has been a return flow from Chile to the north, mainly of Venezuelans and Haitians. At irregular border crossings, there are still perceptible physical risks of sexual violence and trafficking linked to criminal groups. Furthermore, migrants and refugees encounter significant obstacles to health care, facing limited access to medicines and barriers to register with the Unified Health System (SUS). The nutrition of children and lactating and pregnant women is also inadequate, as evidenced by high levels of anaemia and malnutrition. R4V partners indicate that 28 per cent of migrant and refugee children and adolescents do not attend school due to economic difficulties and differences in schedules, materials and documentation.

NUTRITION

Bolivia continues to be a transit country for migrants, which limits nutrition monitoring, especially for children, adolescents and pregnant women. As part of the UNICEF response, 92 girls and 77 boys under 5 years of age received micronutrients in the border towns of Desaguadero and El Alto and the City of La Paz. In 2023, 151 children underwent tests to measure the amount of haemoglobin in the blood. UNICEF provided iron-fortified food to 52 children who were diagnosed with anaemia. Furthermore, ferrous sulphate was given to more than 15 pregnant women during prenatal care. UNICEF also provided information about the importance of breastfeeding and complementary feeding to more than 70 women and men with emphasis on compliance with the recommendations made at the time of delivery of micronutrient powders and complementary foods. The results of the UNICEF study 'Diagnosis of the nutritional status of boys, girls, adolescents, pregnant women, and breastfeeding mothers' were presented to the Ministry of Health (MOH). The study shows that 6 per cent of Venezuelan migrant children aged 2–59 months have acute malnutrition and 65 per cent of children aged 6–59 months have either light, moderate or severe anaemia. Also, pregnant and breastfeeding women are affected by different types of malnutrition: overweight and obesity, underweight and anaemia. During 2024, the MOH will define actions to support

the nutrition and health of migrants with the support of UNICEF.

HEALTH

The health of the migrant population that enters Bolivia through Desaguadero is diverse. Some migrants have acute health problems and several have chronic diseases, many of which were resolved at this border point. However, some severe cases were treated in centres in La Paz and El Alto that address more complex health cases. UNICEF's intervention consisted of hiring a doctor based at the point of care to provide primary health care services to migrants. In addition, coordination between the point of care and the health centre was facilitated. In the case of migrants who required specialized treatment at another level of care, UNICEF provided support for reference and counter-reference from the point of care and the health centre, including aid in the transportation and follow up for patients. This coordination work facilitated health care for several migrants who required specific treatment for diagnosed illnesses.

During the reporting period, 200 children (86 girls and 114 boys) were treated for acute respiratory problems, diarrhoea, altitude sickness, trauma and other conditions at the point of care and the health centre. Some of these cases were referred to and treated at other more specialized health centres in La Paz and El Alto cities. Additionally, 93 women received comprehensive sexual and reproductive health care, and 16 pregnant women were provided with prenatal care and basic information on essential practices and general measures to prevent diseases.

WASH

In 2023, with the support of UNICEF, 1,200 migrants (400 girls, 400 boys and 400 adults) accessed essential hygiene supplies, including menstrual health and hygiene items, through a dedicated kiosk within the migrant support centre at Pisiga, on the border with Chile, where individuals could select items according to their specific needs. Additionally, UNICEF reached 754 students from the host population of Pisiga (consisting of 303 girls and 343 boys aged 5–12, as well as 56 girls and 52 boys aged 12–18) with hygiene supplies, including menstrual health and hygiene products. The supplies were delivered directly at the schools. UNICEF also provided information and menstrual health and hygiene supplies to 133 girls and women from the host population in Pisiga.

EDUCATION

During the reporting period, UNICEF provided educational materials to 207 migrant and refugee children (107 girls and 100 boys) in La Paz, El Alto and Cochabamba. In addition, UNICEF reached 66 migrant and refugee children (36 girls and 30 boys), including 48 with irregular migration status, with technical and administrative assistance to access, continue and conclude their studies in the formal education system. Through UNICEF-supported activities, 46 schools located in La Paz (33), El Alto (2) and Cochabamba (11) have received training on effective inclusion of Venezuelan migrant children and the prevention of xenophobia and discrimination, reaching 405 teachers (282 females and 123 males), as well as 1,227 primary and secondary students (614 girls and 613 boys). Additionally, 547 parents, guardians and members of school boards and community social education councils participated in these awareness-raising processes. UNICEF supported the drafting of a ministerial resolution on the subsystem of regular education (Ministerial Resolution 001/2024) as part of advocacy efforts to make documentation requirements more flexible to effectively incorporate all children and adolescents into the regular education system.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

In 2023, UNICEF response interventions focused on three border points (Pisiga, Guayaramerín and Desaguadero) and three capital cities (La Paz, Cochabamba and Santa Cruz). UNICEF interventions supported 1,433 migrant and refugee families, reaching 1,703 children with a holistic approach. At the Guayaramerín and Pisiga border points, 915 migrant and refugee families caring for 824 children (434 girls and 390 boys) received critical support for safe migration, which included information on the process to access legal migration status, psychosocial support and referral to services, particularly to health, education and protection services. In Santa Cruz, La Paz and Cochabamba, 518 families caring for 879 children (461 girls and 418 boys) received comprehensive support, such as legal guidance for migration regularization, access to health services and information on parenting skills.

Familia Segura Call Centre, launched by UNICEF in 2020 and operated by volunteers, played a pivotal role in delivering mental health service and violence prevention for 524 people, among them 195 children (106 girls and 89 boys). Noteworthy progress was achieved through the empowerment of 490 children and adolescents (262 girls and 228 boys) and 857 adults (472 women and 385 men) with knowledge and skills for PSEA and to prevent GBV. Furthermore, 151 public officers and protection system personnel (121 women and 30 men) participated in online training sessions to address GBV specifically in migratory contexts.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

In 2023, UNICEF implemented a cash transfer intervention for Venezuelan migrant families who wish to stay in the country. The intervention, designed to support the nutritional needs of Venezuelan migrant families, reached families with a payment of 600 bolivianos (approximately US\$86) through supermarket vouchers, made in two monthly payments of 300 bolivianos each. The beneficiaries were chosen using a checklist tool, which evaluated the degree of vulnerability of families in terms of their social, protection and migratory status. Priority was given to the most vulnerable migrants, including pregnant women, the elderly, children, people with disabilities and other especially vulnerable groups. During the reporting period, 312 migrant families of La Paz and Santa Cruz de la Sierra received and utilized the two monthly supermarket vouchers. A total of 617 children (371 girls and 246 boys) in 6 municipalities (La Paz, El Alto, Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Cotoca, Warnes and Montero) benefited from the intervention.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

In 2023, the interagency initiative U-Report Uniendo Voces reached 1,158 people registered on the platform, including 230 Venezuelan adolescents and young migrants (150 female and 80 male). There were 420 interactions with the infobot and 456 participants in the four polls conducted. UNICEF also managed the U-Report Uniendo Voces Peru, which registered 1,433 migrants. As part of the strategy to prevent discrimination and xenophobia, eight integration events were held between migrant and host communities in six cities, with sports, cultural and gastronomic activities, with the participation of 2,207 Venezuelan and Bolivian people.

UNICEF, with the International Organization for Migration (IOM), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), held three workshops to raise awareness on the ethical

treatment of migration-related information. A total of 94 journalists and communication students participated in the workshops. A series of focus groups with migrants in two cities, with 43 participants, were conducted as a pilot of AAP actions, which served as a starting point for advocacy that achieved, among other things, the approval of a regulation to facilitate the entry of children into the education system. A successful pilot test of a survey on perceptions of the migration response to migrants in transit through Bolivia was conducted, and this survey tool will now be used more widely starting in 2024.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNICEF is an instrumental partner of the R4V platform in Bolivia. As part of the United Nations system, with IOM and UNHCR, key humanitarian response actions were implemented through civil society organizations. UNICEF still has co-leadership of the basic needs (nutrition, food security, shelter, WASH and humanitarian transport) and health sub-sectors. In 2023, UNICEF promoted cross-cutting approaches, such as AAP. The R4V platform helped to establish interagency feedback mechanisms. UNICEF is part of the effort to promote the protection of the rights of migrant and refugee populations with different governmental agencies. In December 2023, UNICEF and other agencies promoted the re-articulation of the Redes Solidarias platform for coordination with the ministry of foreign affairs.

BRAZIL

In 2023, UNICEF secured the continuity of multi-sectoral services to nearly 34,000 (70 per cent children) Venezuelan migrants and refugees through meaningful interventions in the areas of health, nutrition, WASH, child protection, education and social protection, while expanding partnerships with state and municipal governments in Roraima and Amazonas. Despite an increase in the influx of migrants during the first semester, UNICEF succeeded in addressing the immediate needs of children, adolescents and their families and strengthening its support to local public authorities for inclusive social policies. Particular emphasis was placed on supporting the inclusion of indigenous migrants and refugees from Venezuela through participatory approaches and consultation.

In response to the Yanomami indigenous population health crisis, UNICEF is a strategic partner of the Special Indigenous Health Secretariat (SESAI). UNICEF contributed significantly to the Government-led response by supporting the treatment of children with acute malnutrition and improving access to WASH services in 35 priority communities and health care facilities. This included technical support and the donation of supplies, materials and equipment to improve safe and sustainable services. In the same Yanomami territory, UNICEF worked with the Social-Environmental Institute and the indigenous organization Hutukara to develop an innovative alert system, which consisted of identifying the main risks faced by communities and structuring a communication system to alert local authorities.

NUTRITION

During 2023, through UNICEF supported activities benefiting children on the move, 6,138 malnutrition screenings were performed for children 6–59 months living in shelters and informal settlements in Roraima. As a result, 1,256 children (29.2 per cent) were identified with some level of wasting, either moderate (22 per cent) or severe (7.2 per cent) and received nutritional supplementation to treat wasting and improve overall nutrition. Infant and young child feeding (IYCF) counselling was provided to 4,303 caregivers. As part of strengthening the Family Health Strategy, 367 community health

workers received complementary training about child growth, early childhood development monitoring and nutritional surveillance.

In 2023 the Government of Brazil declared a public health emergency for the indigenous Yanomami territory, citing the worsening of indigenous health in the previous years. UNICEF rapidly positioned in response by providing technical support in high-level decisions and operationalizing a nutritional recovery centre, which resulted in 631 children recovering from severe wasting and 12,000 people benefiting from WASH improvement. UNICEF also supported five Special Indigenous Health Districts (DSEIs) during the severe drought in the Amazon and DSEI Xavante, which faced a high child mortality rate. In addition, UNICEF established a cooperation agreement with the Indigenous Health Secretariat of the MOH to plan strategic actions for promoting indigenous health and nutrition and to address recurrent climate emergencies.

HEALTH

UNICEF supported the Municipal Health Secretariats of Boa Vista and Pacaraima in the promotion of culturally sensitive and integral inclusion of Venezuelan refugees, migrants and indigenous people living in urban contexts into the local primary health care facilities. UNICEF supported the planning, organization and implementation of vaccination campaigns, including COVID-19 and routine vaccination, benefiting 36,426 children, adolescents and women. At the Brazil-Venezuela border, UNICEF collaborated with other actors to strengthen vaccination efforts and provide primary care services within the shelters of Operation Welcome and in neighbourhoods of Boa Vista with migrant population, supporting the public health system's Family Health Strategy by training 367 community health agents.

WASH

In Roraima, UNICEF's initiatives have positively benefited over 34,000 migrants and refugees (46 per cent children). These efforts included the provision of WASH services in shelters, informal settlements and indigenous migrant communities through UNICEF support activities, such as ensuring sufficient water supply and access to sanitation facilities, promoting personal and environmental hygiene, addressing menstrual hygiene and solid waste management and providing essential supplies for cleaning and disinfection. Throughout the year, UNICEF led the WASH sector of the R4V platform and laid the ground for enhanced involvement of local governments in basic service delivery and greater cross-sector interventions with health, nutrition, social behaviour change, education and child protection.

In 2023, greater focus was given to indigenous communities through the implementation of WASH projects benefitting health care facilities and communities in the states of Amazonas, Roraima and Amapá based on epidemiological data and assessments conducted by the Special Indigenous Health Secretariat (SESAI), along with needs assessments conducted in the territory. Climate-resilient WASH solutions, such as the use of renewable energy through solar pumps in 23 water systems, were prioritized. UNICEF partnered with the Brazilian government at the national level by collaborating with SESAI and supporting the emergency response to the Yanomami indigenous population. UNICEF participated actively to the SESAI-led emergency response to improve access to WASH services benefitting over 12,000 people in 14 priority communities and 26 health care facilities.

EDUCATION

The increased migratory flow required additional efforts by the Education programme, reaching 12,330 children and adolescents (6,101 girls and 6,229 boys), allowing them to access formal and

non-formal education and inclusive early learning. The 2023 enrolment campaigns reached 1,534 out-of-school students, advocating with the school system for additional slots. While reinforcing the Super Panas at Schools' strategy to become a standardized approach, UNICEF advocates with Ministry of Education for improved public infrastructures and inclusive public policies. Meetings with the Presidency Secretary Office and the Ministry of Education highlighted the need for urgent investments to support a sustainable response and a resilient education sector, which includes tailored interventions for indigenous populations.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

In close coordination with the new national government and local protection systems, UNICEF reached 5,877 children and adolescents (2,994 girls and 2,883 boys) with individual protection case management and referrals to specialized services. UNICEF and partners identified 599 unaccompanied, 2,334 separated and 1,048 undocumented children and provided support for their case management, documentation, referrals, family reunification and alternative care. With the Súper Panas approach, UNICEF and partners provided psychosocial support to 20,922 children, adolescents and caregivers while reinforcing advocacy and technical guidance work in the leadership of the child protection subsector of the R4V Platform. UNICEF published two technical guides (Protection of UASC and Protection on the VAC Response) with the support of the national government.

The Yanomami humanitarian crisis revealed numerous reports of violence against the children of these affected communities. In response, in 2023, UNICEF trained over 100 indigenous leaders and professionals from the child protection network of Amazonas' state on the subject of violence prevention and response; developed a methodology and began implementing an assessment of the situation of the violence against Yanomami children; and created local safe spaces and accessible reporting channels for sexual exploitation and abuse, based on the training of young communicators from the communities, reaching more than 500 children.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

UNICEF led the implementation of two Social Registry posts at border triage facilities, coordinating with the Ministry of Social Development, United Nations agencies, civil society organizations and state and municipal governments. Since the launch of the first post in June 2023, 2,721 Venezuelan migrant families have been registered in Cadastro Unico, the main gateway to national social services, allowing them to benefit from cash transfer programmes and other social services. Post-launch, UNICEF provided technical support to adjust the workflows and develop communication materials in Spanish and Portuguese so the posts could achieve their full operational potential and increase the average number of families registered each month.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

UNICEF provided life-saving information to over 56,000 people through digital and interpersonal approaches at the border, transit points and communities. Networks of young community mobilizers collected feedback and alerted UNICEF to challenges, such as the number of unvaccinated children or the presence of open defecation, triggering timely programme responses. Refugee and migrant delegates assessed and spoke about the perspectives of

Venezuelans in Brazil in the National Youth Conference, organized by the federal government, using the U-Report *Uniendo Voces* tool. UNICEF kept working to build implementing partners' capacity on AAP, with almost 3,000 people participating in feedback and accountability mechanisms during the year.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNICEF was a leading agency in the nutrition, education and WASH sectors and the child protection subsector within the R4V platform, promoting cross-sectoral and interagency efforts. UNICEF also participated in the Communication with Communities and Indigenous Working Group, collaborated with the Information Management Support Group and worked to improve implementing partners' capacity on AAP. UNICEF has strengthened partnerships with local stakeholders (e.g., the Council of Secretaries of Health from Roraima and the Municipal Health and Human Rights and Citizenship Departments from Boa Vista, Pacaraima and Manaus). At the national level, UNICEF actively participated in the National Conference on the Health of the Migrant Population and coordinated actions with the ministries of human rights, social development and justice. An important innovation was the launch of the UNICEF Seal+ in Roraima, a pilot project with 15 municipalities aiming to integrate refugees, migrants and indigenous people within the UNICEF Seal strategy. UNICEF was also a key partner in the response to the Public Health Emergency in the indigenous Yanomami territory, providing technical support in high-level decisions, operationalizing an innovative nutritional recovery centre and providing assistance in WASH and nutrition, in coordination with the Emergency Operation Centre of the ministry of health and indigenous organizations.

CHILE

There are more than 1.6 million migrants in Chile. This represents an increase of 3.9 per cent over the 2022 figures and includes 210,521 migrant children and adolescents living in Chile, or 13 per cent of the estimated total number of migrants.⁵ Mixed migratory flows continue in the north of Chile, and in the face of this situation, public opinion and opposition political parties have pressured the government to enact more coercive measures. As a result, the government has disseminated a security-related narrative, continued with military control of the borders with Peru and Bolivia and put in place a more agile programme of migrant expulsions.

Regarding the demands for humanitarian assistance for children on the move, UNICEF has identified needs in child protection, food security, cash transfers and humanitarian transportation. Accordingly, UNICEF deployed a humanitarian programme that includes technical assistance to national and local authorities to strengthen state systems for comprehensive protection in the context of children on the move. UNICEF has also maintained agreements with five NGOs, providing timely response in child protection, education, health, nutrition and WASH. UNICEF has collaborated with other United Nations agencies, leading to an interagency response in the areas of AAP and PSEA. In 2023, UNICEF reached 14,278 people in northern Chile, of which 7,605 were children on the move.

NUTRITION

UNICEF contributed to the nutritional assessment of migrant children in the Tarapacá, Arica and Parinacota regions, attending to 521 children aged 6–56 months to identify 61 cases of child malnutrition (29 girls and 32 boys). The initiative was developed with World Vision as implementing partner and included nutrition workshops for caregivers and nursing mothers, ultimately benefitting 299 infant caregivers with nutritional counselling. Additional actions included

nutritional screening of children, adolescents and pregnant women, referrals to local health services in cases of malnutrition, referrals of pregnant women to health centres for evaluation and necessary controls, and workshops on complementary feeding and breastfeeding for families in the Lobito Shelter for Migrants and Refugees. UNICEF has emphasized the importance of children having access to adequate nutrition, including the promotion of breastfeeding. For this reason, a breastfeeding room was installed in Lobito, a work commitment with the Regional Presidential Delegation, which was designed and equipped under state health regulations, incorporating the vision of the State Health Service in humanitarian action.

HEALTH

In 2023, UNICEF, through a health team composed of a nutritionist and a midwife, supported the referral of 432 people (132 girls, 90 boys and 210 women) from Lobito to health centres in Iquique, so that children, adolescents and their families could obtain specialized medical care and manage the provisional identification number (NIP) for health purposes. In Arica, the NIP has been obtained quickly through the local health service, and a similar system has been implemented in Tarapacá. The midwife gave workshops on sexual and reproductive health and menstrual hygiene to girls and women housed in the Lobito shelter. The complex public health scenario in the Tarapacá region was a limiting factor for the referrals when people need medical attention. There are long waiting lists, and the people housed in the Lobitos shelter do not have transportation facilities. Therefore, UNICEF concluded that contributions to health might better be achieved through advocating for improvement of the public health system and encouraging the delivery of direct public health benefits to the population on the move.

WASH

In 2023, UNICEF's implementing partners' interventions in WASH focused on the regions of Arica, Parinacota and Tarapacá. This led to the recovery of two hand washing points, access to sufficient water, and 1,339 children and adolescents benefitting from educational and safe spaces. A total of 3,968 hygiene kits differentiated by sex and age were delivered, in addition to 397 menstrual hygiene kits for girls and women. In Alto Hospicio, a septic tank was installed to facilitate access to safe latrines in the temporary learning space installed there. In the Arica and Parinacota region, laundry services, showers, latrines and hydration points were provided in a safe space, benefitting 312 girls and 308 boys. In addition, within the framework of a regional agreement between UNICEF and the Stockholm International Water Institute, terms of reference have been established to gather information on the WASH services available to children and their families in the informal settlements of Alto Hospicio, to influence relevant authorities to improve the living conditions of migrants who intend to remain in the country.

EDUCATION

During the reporting period, the temporary learning space in Lobito was reinforced, and a new temporary learning space was implemented in a camp in Alto Hospicio. A total of 3,255 children and adolescents were served in the temporary learning spaces and in non-formal education. In addition, 826 school kits were distributed to migrant children and adolescents. The Ponte al Día Programme implemented with World Vision also reached 460 children in three educational establishments in Iquique and one educational establishment in Alto Hospicio.

UNICEF collaborated with Fundación Integra, supporting the proposal Jardín mi Primera Acogida in Lobito, through which the Jesuit Migrant Service trained 83 education professionals in the

Tarapacá Region on migration regularization and intercultural issues. Facing an overloaded system with a lack of available places, UNICEF collaborated with the ministry of education to facilitate the enrolment of children and adolescents in the local education system. In response to the contingency, the education cluster was activated within R4V, co-led with UNESCO. UNICEF reinforced the necessary adaptation of the systems to the context of the migration emergency, adhering to the minimum standards of the Inter-Agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE) to avoid possible programmatic deviations in the initial educational reception projects.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

In 2023, UNICEF led local protection system enhancement and coordination mechanisms for addressing risks in emergencies, particularly in response to the northern migration crisis. Leading the child protection subsector in Working Group for Refugees and Migrants (GTRM) Tarapacá, UNICEF facilitated mental health and psychosocial support for 14,278 people in need (including 3,784 girls and 3,821 boys). UNICEF established strategic partnerships with Jesuit Migrant Service to promote the regularization of children on the move in the country, ensuring their access to health and education, as well as safe spaces for proper living and exercising their rights. For UASC, it advocated for the proper implementation of the protocol for the protection of UASC in the context of migration and/or in need of international protection, in effect since 2022, and managed a specialized interview space for this purpose at the border, reaching 133 children.

Regarding GBV, periodic workshops were held to meet the needs of women and adolescents, providing safe spaces for listening and respect along with playful and practical activities in Arica during 2023. Content such as respectful parenting, expression of emotions, types of violence and empowerment were addressed. This activity also led to a referral to the National Women's Service for a case of GBV, with the respective accompaniment and follow up. In the Lobitos Shelter, psychosocial support guidance and accompaniment are provided on issues of rights promotion and violence prevention. When conflict or reports of GBV occur within the shelter, the protocol is activated, first aid is provided and the Presidential Delegation is informed, who follow up using the complaint protocol with the consent of the affected person. During 2023, UNICEF co-led (with UNHCR) five PSEA trainings reaching a total of 66 humanitarian workers in Tarapacá region.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

In 2023, UNICEF has focused on two areas of social protection for the population on the move. First, UNICEF has worked on the process of linking migrants with social services, such as identification, health and education. Second, UNICEF has advocated for efforts to promote the registration of migrants in the Social Household Registry and ensure that the population on the move, regardless of their immigration status, has access to primary health and education for children. This requires that they be linked to these services through collaboration with other social workers and professionals. UNICEF has supported this link in the temporary reception centres (CAT) in Colchane and Iquique, in the northern region of the country where the main migratory entries to the country occur.

The Social Household Registry (RSH) is the gateway to social protection in Chile. Families are assessed to define their socioeconomic vulnerability bracket, which determines access to social protection benefits, including monetary transfers directed to children. However, to be part of the RSH, people need to have an identification number, which typically requires a regularization

process of around two years. UNICEF has advocated for creating a mechanism that allows migrants to be incorporated into the RSH and have access to social protection regardless of their immigration status. UNICEF has specifically targeted its advocacy toward the Ministry of Social Development and Family, who administer the RSH and the delivery of social protection; the Ministry of Education, who require that students belong to the RSH to receive benefits such as school meals; and the National Migration Service, which oversees the regularization of the migrant population. Currently, progress is being made in the incorporation of migrant children in irregular situations, independent of their parents. While not completely resolving the issue, this represents progress so that children on the move receive social protection. In Chile, the government does not provide cash transfers in the context of the migration crisis. In this context, UNICEF has strongly supported actions of inclusion through its collaborative work with the Undersecretariat for Children (MSDF), the National Migration Service and other relevant actors. However, actions related to cash transfers are not prioritized in the humanitarian response at the moment given the institutional context at the national level.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

Throughout the execution of the humanitarian response, information and comments have been collected through query and suggestion boxes, complaint books and field monitoring, reaching 1,331 people. These results showed the satisfaction of the population with the projects, particularly with regard to the ease of delivery of humanitarian aid, the completion of migration procedures and protection services and referrals to specialized services. However, more spaces for dialogue were recommended. In terms of AAP, the interagency efforts to carry out feedback and reporting mechanisms in the Lobitos shelter are noteworthy, considering the participation of IOM, UNHCR and the Presidential Delegation of Tarapacá.

UNICEF is working on a transversal plan with all implementing partners that includes activities and commitments to receive information on the execution of the projects, through focus groups for adolescents and adults, accountability systems, satisfaction surveys and activities to connect with the host community to reinforce the accountability mechanism. The feedback and accountability system for the affected population involves all its implementing partners, focusing on quality, satisfaction, use and relevance. The family characterization system, derived from the single registration form, is another significant contribution. It allows people to provide data only once for all projects, avoiding re-victimization. Another transversal action is the consolidation of the Information Management Committee, composed of Monitoring and Evaluation and its executing partners, which facilitates the management of knowledge and information relevant to the migration emergency. Likewise, the link with the host community has been key, reaching 657 people. And for the community in general, access to services has been encouraged through multiple prevention messages, reaching 2,221 people in 2023.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF collaborated on the organization of the GTRM Tarapacá (Working Group for Refugees and Migrants - R4V: Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants), fostering a close partnership between the government, municipalities, NGOs, and United Nations agencies. In Arica, UNICEF is involved in the Regional Migration Board, which coordinates governmental, judicial and civil responses to support migrants. At the national level, within

the R4V Platform, UNICEF, along with UNESCO, leads the education sector group and the child protection subgroup with World Vision. UNICEF also is part of the United Nations system migration group lead by the Resident Coordinator.

At the national level, UNICEF established joint work plans with the Undersecretariat of Childhood, the Ministry of Education, and the National Migration Service to strengthen the response and ensure coherence with institutional frameworks. In collaboration with state services, local partnerships were formed with the regional Ministry of Social Development and Families, Health Service of the Tarapacá region, Children's Ombudsman, the Local Office of Childhood (OLN) in Alto Hospicio and Colchane, and the Family Court of Iquique, advocating for the rights of migrant children.

COLOMBIA

According to Migración Colombia, as of August 2023, 2,875,743 Venezuelan migrants were in Colombia, of which 18 per cent were in an irregular situation. According to the official figures, during 2023, 530,000 migrants of more than 100 nationalities have transited through the country. Of these, 450,000 left through Necoclí and Turbo for the United States, of which approximately 90,000 were children, highlighting the need for protection of children and adolescents and access to WASH, nutrition and education services. On November 13, 2023, the Colombian Ombudsman's Office issued an alert due to the increase of irregular migrants of different nationalities on the San Andres-Central America route. So far this year, authorities have rescued 392 people, 89 of them minors.

The government's Total Peace initiative aims to sign new peace agreements with armed groups and seeks a less prohibitive approach to drug policies. Despite these efforts, Colombia grapples with epidemics, armed conflict and displacement. About 7.7 million people need humanitarian assistance, with 3.1 million in acute need.⁶ Displacement increased by 50 per cent from 2021, and armed conflict poses risks to 7.2 million people in rural areas. The UN verified 316 grave violations against children from January to September 2023, continuing a four-year trend of increases.

In 2024, the El Niño phenomenon is expected to impact nearly all Colombian departments, potentially affecting over 9.3 million people. The most significant effects are predicted in the Caribbean and Andean regions, as well as some Pacific coast departments. In these areas, 2.9 million people in 124 municipalities across 16 departments are at high risk from El Niño.

NUTRITION

Nutrition actions were implemented with local hospitals through the provision of extramural and intramural health and nutrition services in Norte de Santander, Arauca and La Guajira, which guaranteed access to health and nutrition services for 8,051 children, 92 per cent of whom were Venezuelan nationals. Of the total number of children reached, 4,553 children aged 0–59 months were screened for acute malnutrition. This led to identifying 28 children with severe acute malnutrition that were admitted for treatment and 1,595 children who received micronutrient powders in line with the national guidance for the prevention of malnutrition. In addition, 2,577 caregivers of children aged 0–23 months received advice on breastfeeding and infant feeding, and 1,458 Venezuelan pregnant women had access to comprehensive care in accordance with the national standards of maternal and perinatal care, including laboratory tests, iron and folic acid supplementation and interdisciplinary care. Challenges for follow up with children with acute malnutrition include low access to health services and the mobility of the migrant population.

In areas impacted by the armed conflict with a high presence of

indigenous and Afrodescent groups, nutrition actions have focused on the provision of extramural and intramural health and nutrition services with local hospitals and the design of SMART surveys for the departments of Chocó, Vichada and La Guajira. During the year, access to nutrition services was guaranteed to 5,798 children aged 6–59 months who were screened for acute malnutrition, of whom 2,628 received micronutrients according to the national standard. Of the children with acute malnutrition, 64 per cent were identified with moderate acute malnutrition and 36 per cent with severe acute malnutrition. As a result, 10 per cent of the children recovered their nutritional status, 17 per cent are under control, 70 per cent are in active search and the remaining 3 per cent required hospitalization.

HEALTH

The main health focus is the provision of basic health services to children, adolescents and pregnant and lactating women, complying with the Colombian guidelines for growth and development care, vaccination, prenatal care, psychology, health education and general odontology. As part of the children on the move response, in Norte de Santander, Arauca and La Guajira, 19,456 children and women have received basic health services (83 per cent girls and boys and 17 per cent migrant women). A total of 9,373 children were vaccinated according to national guidelines, including 2,604 who were vaccinated against measles. In addition, 1,321 people participated in the accountability mechanisms supported by UNICEF. Due to the mobility of the migrant population, follow up for prenatal care continues to be a challenge.

In Chocó, Vichada and La Guajira, UNICEF supported access to basic health services of 12,042 people (89 per cent girls and boys and 11 per cent women) in response to the other crises. A total of 3,384 children were vaccinated according to national guidelines, including 1,452 who were vaccinated against measles.

Approximately 60 per cent of the care was directed to children in early childhood and pregnant women, population groups with greater follow-up needs to identify and mitigate risks in a timely manner, in accordance with the provisions of basic health care. Pregnant women and children in early childhood received an average of two consultations per month by professionals in medicine, nutrition, nursing, psychology, social work, dentistry, paediatrics and gynaecology. Considering the available health services for the Colombian population affected by the armed conflict in dispersed and difficult-to-access rural areas, monitoring prenatal care continues to be a challenge.

WASH

WASH actions focused on recognizing and ensuring the right to water and basic sanitation; the elimination of faecal contamination and open defecation; adequate hygiene, including menstrual health; and the right to enjoy a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. UNICEF carried out actions in the departments of Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, La Guajira, Nariño, Norte de Santander and Vichada and the Urabá region that benefited 52,099 migrants and host communities, including 18,239 children and 1,016 people from ethnic communities. In Necoclí, 40,390 people were benefited by the delivery of hygiene supplies from the humanitarian tent Somos un Mundo. Despite these actions, important gaps remain in the access to basic sanitation alternatives, especially in rural and dispersed areas of the country with a high prevalence of indigenous and Afro-descendant communities. This situation also affects informal settlements of internally displaced persons due to conflict and migration. UNICEF advocated with sectoral partners and donors on several occasions to mobilize the sanitation response. At the same time, there are still gaps in access to information about water, sanitation and hygiene conditions in rural and dispersed rural areas of the country, especially in relation to the access to and quality of

associated goods and services. UNICEF is currently working in partnership with the NGOo 3iSolutions to develop a community base system to identify needs and prioritize actions.

UNICEF has responded to emergencies caused by armed conflict, natural events and other internal conflicts by rehabilitating 42 educational institutions and reaching 30,758 people, which includes more than 5,000 school-age children and 3,430 people from ethnic communities. UNICEF has led the WASH response through the WASH cluster and the WASH sector, strengthening the capacities in response to the 39 partners that make up the WASH cluster, through five Territorial Roundtables and two Sectoral Groups that operate at the national level, as well as by strengthening the accountability of the humanitarian response, according to the 6+1 Basic Coordination Functions. In general terms, progress is being made in the response to humanitarian needs in armed conflict and in anticipatory actions and preparedness for the impacts of the El Niño phenomenon, volcanic eruptions and the emergency-development nexus in safe sanitation, among others.

EDUCATION

As of September 2023, 620,266 Venezuelan children (313,449 girls and 306,817 boys) were enrolled in schools in Colombia, which represents a 6 per cent growth compared to the enrolment of 2022. However, the education sector and the education cluster identified that challenges persist; 48 per cent of Venezuelan students in Colombia (about 294,635 children and adolescents) are classified as irregular in the school system because they do not present a valid identity document in the enrolment system.

UNICEF reached more than 33,000 girls, boys and adolescents with early childhood development services to promote their education and learning development in different humanitarian environments, such as transit routes, border areas, beach situations or to complement state services or other cooperation actors. Through 17 mobile teams that are part of the PIO Te Busca strategy, 13,617 children were reached by actions to promote early childhood development based on learning through play, art and literature. The strategy was implemented in 30 itinerant spaces, 25 schools and 5 hospitals in 7 departments of the country. Priority was given to hospitals since they are the first contact with institutional actors for the early childhood migrant population.

As part of the Education in Emergencies response to armed conflict and climate variability, UNICEF implemented a training course on emergency preparedness, prevention and response, with analysis of multiple effects and responses adapted to the type of emergency, reaching 1,449 teachers and 29,000 students in eight Departments. The programme includes actions in the promotion and prevention of mental health, school risk management and curricular flexibility, with emphasis on the foundational competencies of reading and writing. During 2023, to strengthen the education system, UNICEF provided technical assistance to eight education secretariats in school risk management plans and adapted ten community learning spaces. By 2024, UNICEF expects to transfer the work to the ministry of national education and scale the actions to the schools with the highest emergency risk indexes.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

The children in emergencies protection strategy, due to the migratory context, was prioritized in the territories most at risk: Chocó, Antioquia, La Guajira, Norte de Santander, Arauca, Vichada and Nariño. Humanitarian actions were implemented to provide mental health and psychosocial support, enable protective spaces, identify risks and activate state protection services. In addition, the strategy sought to promote safe behaviours, based on key messages, to prevent risk due to the armed conflict in territories, prevent and

respond to GBV and attend to specific protection needs. Overall, 9,700 children and adolescents were reached (38 per cent girls and 62 per cent boys).

The Te Acompaño project has identified 1,359 unaccompanied children and adolescents in humanitarian contexts (37 per cent girls and 63 per cent boys). This consists of mobile teams of professionals linked to the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare who identify these children at risk and activate the State's protection routes located in Necoclí, Acandí (border with Panamá), La Guajira, Nariño, Norte de Santander and Arauca.

Regarding the PSEA response, technical support was provided to 28 implementing partners, with 24 partners improving their institutional capacities in investigation, victim assistance and risk management. The country office transferred the protocol and roadmap for SEA victims' assistance to 15 implementing partners that was adapted accordingly with the country context. These partners are implementing projects in partnership with UNICEF in the departments of Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, Bolívar, Caquetá, Cauca, Cesar, Chocó, La Guajira, Nariño, Norte de Santander and Valle del Cauca. A SEA risk assessment tool was also developed for WASH programme interventions. Additionally, in collaboration with eight United Nations agencies, UNICEF implemented a PSEA and AAP interagency mechanism under the Central Emergency Response Fund Programme in four departments and nine municipalities, focusing on communities at risk due to armed conflict and limited institutional capacities.

UNICEF reached 9,998 children and adolescents in emergencies situations due to armed conflict) and natural disasters (38 per cent girls and 62 per cent boys). The children and adolescents participated in mental health and psychological support actions through community-based activities and received key protection messages to promote safe behaviours, strengthening their capacities for protection and prevention of violence in the departments of Antioquia, Chocó, La Guajira, Norte de Santander, Arauca, Vichada, Nariño and Cauca. These activities also included engaging 9,700 parents and caregivers. Humanitarian actions were implemented to create community routes to identify threats and activate state protection services and promote safe behaviours, based on key messages.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

In 2023, the Government of Colombia redesigned the main cash transfer programme to overcome poverty. Starting in 2024, it is expected to improve its targeting and expand coverage to reach all families living in extreme poverty, including regularized migrants. This process of change in targeting is based on the initial implementation of the Social Household Registry, in which UNICEF has been a partner of the National Planning Department (DNP). In the following year, modules for situational analysis and cross-checking supply and demand will be designed with an emphasis on vulnerable children and migrant families and a goal of making access to social protection more equitable.

In 2023, UNICEF provided technical assistance in the planning and design of risk and disaster management plans in 7 departments and 14 municipalities through a diagnosis of Disaster Risk Management and Climate Change with a Children's Approach in each territory. In addition, UNICEF provided support for the construction of Risk Management Plans with a Children's Approach and sensitization of the Child Participation Committees and leading officials in this area. These actions were implemented together with 93 public, private and international cooperation institutions, with the participation of 227 public officials at different levels.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

During 2023, as part of the humanitarian response in the Darién region, protection messages were delivered in the municipality of Necoclí to 22,385 families through the initiative humanitarian tent Somos un Mundo. In La Guajira, UNICEF worked with the Wayuu Women's Force, a community-based ethnic organization, to promote community dialogues to generate access to information for the migrant and host population. This promoted community capacity-building processes to prevent violence against children. In 2023, the incorporation of local accountability teams in five UNICEF field offices (Choco, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Necoclí and Atlántico) is noteworthy, which strengthened the inclusion of cross-cutting accountability actions in the territorial humanitarian response. In addition, UNICEF maintained constant communication with the communities, generating decentralized agreements in the territories during the implementation of the interventions and favouring community-orientation when implementing accountability actions for the affected population.

In 2023, priority was given to coordinated work in the communities of Chocó and Nariño to strengthen their capacities in the principle of accountability and the policy of PSEA. UNICEF generated spaces for dialogue where the communities could make demands of the humanitarian actors and participate more in the development and implementation of the response actions and the protocols to activate routes in the face of identified risks or cases of PSEA (mainly in the ethnic population). Additionally, in coordination with the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), UNICEF implemented the Somos Enlace strategy in 2023 to focus on humanitarian access. More than 400 people participated in this strategy, reaching more than 14,000 people through community media. The result of the strategy shows the need for more information in the communities. It also highlights the opportunity to strengthen spaces for consultation and community participation in needs assessments and project development before the implementation of the actions by the humanitarian actors.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNICEF actively participated in national and local coordination mechanisms, such as the Interagency Group on Mixed Migration (GIFMM), local coordination teams, and respective clusters or sectoral work groups. UNICEF leads in areas such as WASH and education and co-leads groups focused on children, maternal and child health, and food security and nutrition. Notable achievements include participating in needs assessment exercises to inform the updating of 2024 response plans and activating response plans for emergencies, such as the Nevado del Ruiz Volcano eruption, the El Niño Phenomenon and winter waves. As the leader of the cluster for education in emergencies, UNICEF is actively involved in strengthening the capacities of seven local educational groups in information management through its implementing partner 3iSolution (former iMMAP) in Chocó, Nariño, Arauca, Atlántico, Magdalena, Norte de Santander and La Guajira. UNICEF continues to strengthen its leadership in the Child Protection Area of Responsibility (CPAoR) and the child protection sub-cluster of the GIFMM. The coordination team has conducted four training activities focused on mental health and psychosocial support, reaching around 100 humanitarian and institutional actors. In partnership with the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare, the coordination team is organizing a national-level workshop to enhance the institutional response to unaccompanied and separated refugee and migrant children.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

During the reporting period, the deepening political, humanitarian and security crisis in Haiti has heightened tensions with the Dominican Republic. In 2023, the Dominican Republic government implemented measures, such as the construction of a border wall, and increased military presence and stricter control of irregular migration. A diplomatic crisis over the division of water resources since mid-2023 led to a border closure, impacting binational relations. Despite the reopening, challenges persist, negatively affecting people on the move. Deportations to Haiti surged, totaling 120,000 since January 2022 and disproportionately affecting women and children, with 1,800 separated and unaccompanied children. UNICEF and its partners, including UNHCR, address cases of wrongful deportations and emphasize support for unaccompanied children, separated families and those needing international protection or nationality solutions. Detainees face unsanitary conditions, heightening the risk of cholera spread, especially in the newly reopened detention centre in Dajabón. In this challenging context, UNICEF remains focused on providing essential humanitarian aid, advocating for the release of children detained and prioritizing children's best interests. This includes advocating for improvements in detention conditions, such as access to basic water, sanitation and hygiene solutions.

NUTRITION

Children and pregnant or lactating women face extreme conditions once they are held in the migration triage detention centres. To improve rights, access and conditions, in partnership with the Dominican Red Cross, UNICEF delivered 14,863 food rations to the Haitian migrant population in two targeted detention centres in two border provinces. Additionally, UNICEF's advocacy efforts with the Community Kitchens from the Dominican State (Comedores Económicos del Estado Dominicano or CEED) led to an increase in daily food rations delivered, reaching up to 70–100 daily food rations in these two detention centres in 2023.

WASH

UNICEF, in partnership with Dominican Red Cross, supported the installation of WASH solutions for Haitian migrant population in process of deportation in two detention centres in the border provinces of Dajabón and Elias Piña, improving access to water and sanitation through the construction of latrines, sinks and osmosis-treated water points. An estimated 81,800 people have accessed these WASH facilities, with 74,400 and 7,400 in Dajabon and Elias Piña respectively. Further, UNICEF supported the delivery of 5,879 personal and menstrual hygiene kits and 1,500 reusable bottles to prevent solid waste accumulation. In addition, hygiene promotion and cholera prevention activities reached 68,908 people.

EDUCATION

To improve education access for the school-age migrant population lacking documentation, UNICEF has provided technical assistance to the ministry of education on the development and approval of a protocol for the inclusion of migrant children and adolescents in the formal education system. The protocol is currently under technical review by the ministry, and UNICEF continues to advocate for its approval and implementation. The number of children with a Haitian background enrolled in public schools increased from 2022 to 2023, while the opposite happened with Venezuelan children. Despite the adverse context, 750 migrant children benefited from education kits delivered by UNICEF through implementing partners and community-based organizations.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

In 2023, UNICEF supported 5,931 children and adolescents (2,515 female and 3,416 male), including 1,784 unaccompanied children. Notably, 263 children (92 female and 171 male), including 93 children of mixed couples with a foreign mother and Dominican father, were prevented from deportation and successfully reunited with their families in the Dominican Republic, while 1,207 unaccompanied children (211 female and 996 male) were transferred to Haitian authorities for reunification. Additionally, 91 pregnant and nursing women detained by immigration authorities were returned home, avoiding arbitrary expulsion and family separation.

Through UNICEF's advocacy and support, the Consejo Nacional para la Niñez y la Adolescencia (CONANI) approved a protocol for the protection and assistance of children on the move. Strengthening its team, CONANI, with UNICEF support, added five members to prevent the detention and arbitrary deportation of children. UNICEF opened nine child-friendly spaces, serving 1,789 children, offering diverse services, such as community group activities dedicated to psychosocial support, and the identification of other protection needs, such as education support, legal documentation access and referrals for specialized protection, health or education services. Individual psychosocial services were provided to 125 people affected by migration through the partner ISAMT.

UNICEF assisted 108 Venezuelan children in obtaining their legal status in the Dominican Republic by November 2023. Utilizing the communication platform Globalízate, UNICEF delivered information to the migrant population on documentation, education and protection services, gathering 143,575 impressions. The platform directly assisted 2,110 individuals in accessing legal identity documentation, immigration regularization, education and referrals to financial assistance services for health or documentation. Unfortunately, due to the diplomatic crisis involving the water resources, the Dominican government ceased to issue visas and work permits for Haitians living in the Dominican Republic. All the cases supported by UNICEF and partners have had their processing suspended. Furthermore, in 2023, two PSEA training workshops were held for community facilitators and other staff of implementing partners, reaching 31 people.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

To continue its evidence-based work during 2023, UNICEF conducted two consultations with the beneficiary population. The first one focused on analysing the humanitarian needs of the migrant population, including children, which assessed 273 children, adolescents and adult beneficiaries. The second consultation focused on an evaluation of satisfaction with the services delivered, with the participation of 174 children, adolescents and adults. The results confirmed the relevance of supporting access to regularization and legal identity. Results also highlighted the importance of UNICEF's work on violence prevention in schools. Children and adults participating in the surveys expressed high satisfaction with the assistance received, with some beneficiaries indicating the need for greater access to in-person assistance and printed information, education and communication materials.

ECUADOR

The R4V indicates that Ecuador hosts an estimated 474,945 Venezuelan refugees and migrants. Most of them are concentrated in Pichincha, Guayas, Manabí and the Northern border of Ecuador.

Since September 2022, when the Decree 436/22 issued by the government came into effect, a broad immigration registration process has been available to refugees, including those who entered irregularly and meet the requirements for regulation. As a result, until October 2023, the state has issued permanent certificates to 201,708 refugees, VIRTE status (Visa de Residencia Temporal de Excepción para Ciudadanos Venezolanos) to 85,076 refugees and Ecuadorian identity cards to 70,078 people. Even though the Government of Ecuador has been struggling to promote its institutional framework and initiatives to improve socioeconomic inclusions, many of the refugees and migrants are still facing the challenging situations due to a lack of access to the migration process, public and financial services, knowledge about labour rights, and recognition of professional titles. According to the 2023 Joint Needs Assessment, within the National R4V Platform framework, in Ecuador the primary needs faced by the refugee and migrant households include: food (81.6 per cent), shelter (67.1 per cent), employment (57.5 per cent) related assistance and medical services (31.8 per cent). As for children and adolescents in the households surveyed, 79.6 per cent of those between 5 and 17 years of age attend school, while 33.2 per cent of children under 5 years of age are part of early childhood development services or pre-primary education. In the health area, 75.1 per cent of households with children under 5 years of age mentioned they have their vaccine schedule (non-COVID) up to date.

In June 2023, approximately 1,900 people were displaced in temporary shelters after the heavy rainfalls that triggered flooding and overflow of the Tiaone river in Esmeraldas. UNICEF initiated a humanitarian response by providing safe drinking water, hygiene supplies and child protection and gender-based violence (GBV) prevention in official shelters. Due to the potential effects of El Niño-Southern Oscillation, UNICEF has proactively prepared contingency plans and emergency preparedness measures to ensure that immediate and efficient lifesaving and intersectoral interventions are available for the most at-risk population potentially affected. Likewise, an increase in the number of armed groups and armed non-state actors in Ecuador carrying out illicit activities has led to an insecure situation and lack of community protection especially in coastal and border provinces. Local criminal gangs, such as Los Choneros and Los Tiguerones, have been extending their control of a territory and power by strengthening their ties with international criminal organizations, such as the Sinaloa and Jalisco Nueva Generación cartels and Albanian mobs. The government has responded with multiple declarations of states of emergency by lifting restrictions for carrying weapons and providing extra ammunition to the police, but stability has not been restored. This has severely affected the situations of women and children in these communities. Families are moving to other cities or leaving the country by land to escape the violence. Children are leaving school since they feel that a school is a no longer safe place. Adolescents are being recruited by these criminal gangs. There has been an alarming rise in homicides by 500 per cent in adolescents aged 15–19 years since 2019.

NUTRITION

The UNICEF health and nutrition programme worked closely with the education programme in implementing healthy habits strategies across the 32 schools in seven provinces. The strategy seeks to support healthy eating, promote physical activity and improve hygiene and care practices among school-aged children and adolescents. As a result, this strategy has reached 4,125 school-aged children and 4,015 adolescents, including 271 migrant and refugee school-aged children and 264 adolescents.

In October, the UNICEF country office presented its nutrition emergency strategy in response to the migration crisis during the

period 2018–2019 at the Congress of the Latin American Society of Nutrition that took place in Cuenca. The strategy was based at border crossings between Ecuador and Colombia and was comprised of 1) nutrition evaluation of children under 5 years of age; 2) provision of food supplements; 3) breastfeeding friendly spaces; 4) cash-based interventions; 5) donation to the MOH of medicines to treat diarrhoeic and respiratory illnesses; and 5) provision of baby-kits. During the implementation of the strategy, UNICEF benefited over 6,000 children under 5 years of age.

HEALTH

The overall health programme strategy includes the migrant and refugee population. The activities related to implementing community-based surveillance strategies resumed in November 2023 and focused on supporting adequate maternal, child and adolescent health in vulnerable communities of Guayaquil. Amid the challenging context, UNICEF continued interagency coordination with the Working Group for Refugees and Migrants (GTRM) and R4V to facilitate interventions in health and nutrition sector.

WASH

UNICEF's WASH component implemented strategies to facilitate access to safe water and sanitation and promote proper hygiene practices to migrant populations and their host communities, benefitting nearly 80,128 people. UNICEF prioritized optimal WASH environments for children and adolescents by improving infrastructure in 53 schools, benefitting over 65,000 students in Pichincha, Azuay, Manabí, Guayas and Esmeraldas provinces. Additionally, UNICEF supported the promotion of menstrual health hygiene, both in training and supply provision. In 2023, UNICEF's programme benefited 2,971 women and adolescents, reaffirming its commitment to promote healthy environments and wellbeing of communities.

In response to the humanitarian crisis following the floods in Esmeraldas in June, UNICEF led a call to action supported by national and local authorities, other United Nations agencies and implementing partners within the WASH emergency cluster. The initiative aimed to enhance interagency cooperation and conduct a mapping assessment (needs, capacities and resources) for emergency response at the local and community levels. UNICEF mobilized resources in a timely and predictable manner, directing them towards the most at-risk population. In close coordination with the local government and implementing partners, UNICEF provided technical assistance and resources to the affected population in temporary shelters. Likewise, UNICEF has worked hand in hand with the national government by providing technical assistance to its institutions and collaborating in the development of laws and standard.

EDUCATION

With support from the Education Cannot Wait global fund for education in emergencies and protracted crises, UNICEF continued an intervention to increase access to formal and non-formal education for children and adolescents, including the migrant population. As a result, in 2023, a total of 45,327 girls and 43,548 boys from formal and non-formal education participated in remedial and pedagogical acceleration programmes in seven provinces. These activities focused on supporting the cases of children and adolescents and their families with education inclusion and educational support and the promotion of face-to-face teaching to strengthen pedagogical reinforcement and narrow educational gaps. During the reporting period, 3,620 teachers and educational personnel (2,534 females and 1,086 males) were trained to scale up their knowledge and teaching skills to address children's learning

needs in the 71 selected schools of the seven prioritized territories (Azuay, Carchi, El Oro, Guayas, Imbabura, Manabí and Pichincha). In addition, the acceleration programme improved access to formal and non-formal education for 6,651 children and adolescents (3,392 girls and 3,259 boys). To enhance educational continuity in emergency and conflict situations, UNICEF coordinated the education cluster and the interagency Working Group for Refugees and Migrants (GTRM) to diagnose the main causes of dropping out of schools in provinces like Esmeraldas and Guayas that are affected by violence and insecurity.

To strengthen emergency response, UNICEF periodically monitored the situation through information gathered from the school dropout Early Warning System that aims to address concerns and needs in schools. In addition, school supplies, such as educational kits, were delivered to children and adolescents, benefitting a total of 6,651 girls and boys who returned to school. UNICEF also gathered strategic information about the situation of the educational community, with a special focus on the migrant population, to identify the primary needs for the educational environment and educational continuity of the students in vulnerable situations.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

UNICEF continued holistic and comprehensive support to people on the move, with a special focus on separated and unaccompanied children and adolescents in the provinces of Carchi, Imbabura, El Oro, Guayas, Manabí, Orellana, Esmeraldas and Sucumbíos. In comprehensive support spaces, UNICEF provided the population in need immediate protection and assistance with specialized care, such as case management, regularization processes, identification cards, essential lifesaving information and protection routes. In total, 49,395 people benefited from this support. In 2023, a total of 5,295 refugees and migrants (71 per cent children and adolescents) benefited from financial and legal assistance to obtain documentation, such as humanitarian visas and Ecuadorian ID cards, so that they could complete their regularization process. In addition, 31,686 refugee and migrant children and adolescents at risk were assisted with comprehensive and specialized care processes, including psychosocial support, case management and referral to protection routes. A total number of 16 unaccompanied children and adolescents were provided with shelters in the provinces of Pichincha and El Oro, and 700 cases of separated children and adolescents received specialized and effective psychosocial response. Finally, 3,024 public officials and 3,345 caregivers were trained on topics related to child protection, care measures and the rights of refugees and migrants in Carchi, El Oro, Guayas, Manabí, Imbabura and Sucumbíos. The Government of Ecuador has made significant efforts to regularize foreign nationals, including those who entered the country through official and unofficial border points, ensuring access to child protection system and services, which will continue until April 2024. However, there are still significant challenges to its application in the field, such as ineffective local child protection systems that do not fully support the unaccompanied adolescents in transit, or the strict requirements for Venezuelan migrants to show hard-to-obtain documents.

In June, Esmeraldas was affected by floods that caused severe situations for children, adolescents and their families. As part of the integrated response of the Humanitarian Country Team, UNICEF played a crucial role in the protection of children's rights in the emergency context. In collaboration with the Esmeraldas municipality, UNICEF worked on implementing child protection measures in seven existing shelters and three communities. Through a diagnostic assessment, UNICEF identified critical areas of attention and held workshops and support groups with the participation of more than 255 affected people, including children, adolescents and adults.

In addition, 47 public servants and local actors benefited from GBV prevention and child protection training, which improved their capacity to deal with critical cases. In child-friendly spaces, 429 children and adolescents participated in fundamental rights, self-knowledge and self-care workshops. In addition, UNICEF worked in the territory to strengthen community capacities to respond to violence by armed groups and child recruitment. These initiatives involved adolescents in psychosocial accompaniment, empowerment and knowledge transfer processes to generate life skills in the community. Through culture of peace tools and protection routes focused on the inclusion of the human mobility community and the LGBTIQ+ community, UNICEF reached 1,200 children and adolescents in Esmeraldas, Manta and Tulcán, contributing to the development of diverse life projects free from discrimination and violence.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

UNICEF continued the implementation of the multipurpose cash transfer programme to protect vulnerable Venezuelan migrant and refugee children and their families, reaching 1,334 beneficiaries (425 girls, 417 boys, 323 females and 169 males). In 2023, UNICEF's intervention included the continuous accompaniment of families to access early childhood, health and nutrition, education and child protection services. UNICEF provided special assistance to the unaccompanied and separate children and adolescents by implementing a comprehensive model, which includes cash transfer, access to social services, regularization process, vocational training and permanent accompaniment to develop and follow up their life-planning goals.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

UNICEF has strengthened its response mechanisms through emerging chatbots to encourage children on the move to speak out and receive information on education, protection against sexual violence, immigration regularization, housing, health and mental health. The U-Report On The Move survey about the situation of migrants and refugees in Ecuador received 740 responses. Messages about the regularization process disseminated on social media reached 8,297 people on Instagram, 109,527 on Twitter and 1,604,137 on Facebook. In addition, comprehensive support spaces are equipped with feedback and complaint boxes available to every user. Local interagency coordination allows the management and response to feedback provided by the users. Moreover, independent surveys have been carried out in education and protection interventions to assess the satisfaction with the services provided. Likewise, third party monitoring of the cash transfer intervention includes specific questions to assess the quality and relevance of the intervention.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNICEF continued to work under the R4V coordination mechanism led by IOM and UNHCR. In addition, UNICEF spearheaded the WASH and education working groups and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. The Humanitarian Country Team was activated in response to the flooding in Esmeraldas and for preparedness to tackle the possible consequences of El Niño. In response to the climatic events, UNICEF activated the national WASH working group and conducted an initial field mission to support local efforts and assess response gaps. In coordination with implementing partners,

UNICEF provided WASH supplies and support for child protection and GBV efforts in shelters through visits to the affected areas. Furthermore, the WASH working group gathered the first emergency meeting to create resources mapping and contingency planning in response to Esmeraldas, which was severely affected by floods in June. Finally, the Child Protection Area of Responsibility coordinated actions with government institutions to promote referral pathways and case management protocols.

GUYANA

SITUATION OVERVIEW AND HUMANITARIAN NEEDS

The Government of Guyana reports that there are approximately 21,782 Venezuelan migrants registered in the government's database. Over 70 per cent of migrants have registered in the hinterland regions where support is constrained due to capacity challenges, such as infrastructure and the mobility of migrants. The Government of Guyana reported in the Voluntary National Review of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that the increase in migrants has exerted pressure on existing systems and resources.⁷ The IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) exercise in 2023,⁸ which focused on Indigenous migrants, found that among this group the top three reasons for respondents leaving their home country were food shortages, lack of employment and rising market prices. The top three reasons for choosing Guyana as a destination country were to find work, earn a higher income and obtain health care. UNICEF continues to work toward the coordination and collaboration that is needed to strengthen state and non-state support and the joint delivery of programmes. All sectors need support to cater to the increase of migrants and meet basic needs, especially in interior communities where services have traditionally been limited or non-existent.

NUTRITION

UNICEF is currently working with its implementing partners to gather comprehensive data on the nutritional status of migrants to adequately address the nutritional needs of migrant children and host communities. In 2023, UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MOH) to conduct a nutritional assessment in villages in Region 1 with a focus on migrant children. The data is being analysed and will be used to inform future interventions, especially for migrants. In 2024, UNICEF will build and expand on the activity by providing further support to the MOH to conduct a nutrition assessment among migrant and local children aged 0–4 years in regions 1, 7, 8 and 9. Learnings from the assessment in Region 1 will be used to improve the assessment tool and methodology.

HEALTH

The Government of Guyana continues to provide free public health care for all migrants, including access to life saving vaccines, antenatal care and adolescent health. To improve services, UNICEF is continuing to support the ministry to strengthen the health system with a greater emphasis on the hinterlands, where limited facilities and disinformation hinder vaccine uptake. This will benefit both migrants and host communities. In 2023, UNICEF procured 30 solar refrigerators to safely store vaccines in areas with no electricity. Immunization outreach was also carried out in the hinterland regions to target migrants and ensure that vaccines were reaching the remote and hard-to-reach areas.

WASH

UNICEF collaborated with the Guyana Water Inc. (GWI) on a WASH

programme for migrants and host communities, which aimed to increase access to safe drinking water through the construction of rainwater harvesting facilities, provision of water facilities and extension of water supply systems, benefiting 3,650 persons, including children in remote regions. Sanitation facilities were also constructed, aimed primarily at curbing open defecation practices in migrant settlements, benefiting 2,600 persons. The Government of Guyana has reported that the increase in migrants, particularly in hinterland border communities, continues to be a challenge to some of their host communities and exert pressure on existing systems and resources for the provision of basic services, including WASH.

EDUCATION

UNICEF partnered with the ministry of education's Migrants Education Support Unit and Schools Welfare programme to provide mentorship and gender-responsive counselling to 154 adolescents aged 12–19, 64 per cent of which were girls. Access to quality early childhood development (ECD) was increased in Guyana through the provision of 200 ECD kits, which benefited of approximately 10,000 children, including migrant children and children in host communities. These resources will support the development and social interaction of children aged 0–4.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

A high demand for child protection services continues, in order to provide support to respond to cases of child sexual and other types of violence, abuse, exploitation and neglect, especially for interior locations of Regions 1, 7,8 and 9. To date, over 1,000 persons have benefited from services for reporting, with a main target of at least 60 per cent girls and women. The government has indicated a willingness to accelerate mobile services in birth registration and legal aid, but there is a financial constraint based on the demands of other sectors. UNICEF continues to advocate for access to services to respond to migrants.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

In support of all constitutional agencies in Guyana, including the Civil Defence Commission, UNICEF, in partnership with the ministry of finance, provided strategic information and Value for Money (VfM) support for over 50 persons in the months of June, July and September. The outputs of these sessions included a partners' self-assessment that was used to inform further capacity strengthening; draft VfM calculation sheets; and advocacy with constitutional agencies for a social protection strategy and size estimates for vulnerable and disadvantaged populations, including children, children with disabilities and migrants. UNICEF provided food assistance for vulnerable migrant families consisting of 500 food packages that were distributed with local partners, benefiting an estimated 3,000 persons, including over 1,000 children.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

UNICEF continued to support the ministry of health's efforts for COVID-19 vaccine uptake in hard-to-reach areas in the hinterland where there is high resistance to vaccines. UNICEF engaged an NGO called Hope Foundation that used edutainment to reach migrants and host communities with messages that provided accurate information on COVID-19 and other vaccines, STIs, menstrual hygiene management and life skills, among other areas. As part of the engagement, over 300 migrant and host children were provided with school supplies, nutrition hampers and hygiene

supplies.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

The government has maintained an open-door policy to all migrants coming from Venezuela and continues to lead in the coordination efforts through a multi-agency task force called the National Multi-Agency Coordinating Committee on Migrants from Venezuela, which is led by the ministry of foreign affairs and the ministry of parliamentary affairs and governance. UNICEF is a key member in the multi-agency coordinating committee to address the needs of migrant children from Venezuela and host communities. UNICEF is also a part of the UN Guyana Migration Working Group, established in 2023, which aims to create a space for United Nations agencies to examine issues pertaining to migration and the movement of people and strengthen internal coordination and collective response to migrants, refugees and forcibly displaced people. The United Nations Resident Coordinator requested that other United Nations agencies work with UNICEF to leverage its multisectoral capacities, presence and convening role with several key ministries on the approach to migrants in the country.

PERU

In 2023, the flow of migrants and refugees continued through the various borders (Tumbes, Tacna and Puno), with a daily average of 830 arrivals and 612 departures (88 per cent Venezuelans, 5 per cent Colombians, 5 per cent Haitians, 1 per cent Ecuadorians and others), of which 23 per cent are children and adolescents.⁹ The main transit point is the northern border in Tumbes, where the migrant population uses irregular crossing points that expose them to multiple risks of insecurity, trafficking and violence. Due to violence in Ecuador, which has affected migration flows, the entire border area with Ecuador is currently under a state of emergency and military guard. Key needs of the migrant population include access to safe water, food, health services, shelter, transportation and hygiene items, including menstrual products. With 60 per cent of the Venezuelan population registered with the National Superintendence of Migration (SNM) in an irregular migratory situation, regularization of migratory status remains a priority, as well as measures to promote inclusion and reduce discrimination and xenophobia.

NUTRITION

UNICEF has carried out nutrition related activities targeting migrants in transit and settled populations. During the reporting period, 56 social actors and community leaders that were trained in nutrition subsequently conducted active search and home visits to identify and assist children at risk of acute malnutrition or confirmed to have acute malnutrition. Also, 1,519 pregnant women and lactating mothers received nutritional counselling at fixed points of attention for the population in transit. In addition, 3,302 children under 59 months of age were screened for acute malnutrition. Of these, 163 children aged 6–59 months were diagnosed with risk of acute malnutrition and 48 with acute malnutrition, subsequently receiving a concentrated liquid nutritional supplement. Concurrently, 1,143 refugee and migrant children aged 5–11 years received nutritional support kits. In health centres, 9,482 children aged 6–59 months were registered for nutritional screening, resulting in the identification of 463 cases of risk of acute malnutrition and 94 cases of acute malnutrition. Remarkably, 185 children managed to recover from their compromised nutritional status.

HEALTH

UNICEF provided a comprehensive adolescent health package that included nutrition, mental health screening and physical assessment to 1,667 adolescents (1,047 refugee and migrant population and 620 Peruvian host population). Four community health fairs covering primary and adolescent health services, immunization and nutrition were also attended by 1,160 people. To strengthen primary health care services, 142 health technicians from nine priority health facilities have received training in the management and maintenance of cold chain equipment. Additionally, 59 nurses strengthened their immunization management, organisation and evaluation skills. UNICEF also implemented mobile health brigades to reduce immunization gaps. Overall, UNICEF supported the administration of 2,269 doses of vaccines for children under 5 years of age, 284 doses of HPV vaccine and 4,994 doses of COVID-19 vaccine. UNICEF donated 50,000 zinc tablets to 42 health facilities in Tumbes to improve emergency response capacity for the prevention and treatment of acute diarrhoea. To prevent vector-borne diseases, 2,000 families were reached with prevention activities through three waste disposal campaigns in three districts, and 46 community health workers strengthened their dengue prevention skills.

WASH

UNICEF continues to manage the Point of Assistance and Orientation (PAO) in Tumbes, which provides comprehensive services, such as access to water, information and nutritional assessment, to ensure access to safe water and sanitation for people on the move. In this PAO, WASH infrastructure was expanded to include three drinking water points, a toilet for people with disabilities, a module of showers and toilets (with two toilets for children) and a laundry area. A total of 28,620 people were assisted in 2023, of whom 27,722 were migrants and 898 were members of host communities. UNICEF also rehabilitated WASH infrastructure in 10 schools in Tumbes that migrant children attend and provided workshops on WASH, solid waste management and dignified management of menstruation, reaching 480 migrant students and 6,138 Peruvian students. Additionally, health workers from seven prioritised health facilities in Tumbes were trained in solid waste management, cleaning and disinfecting critical areas of health facilities and the WASH FIT methodology was implemented. Over 2,400 hygiene, menstrual management and vector control kits were distributed to children, adolescents and their families. Finally, coordination with other key actors in the WASH sub-sector of GTRM Tumbes is ongoing.

EDUCATION

UNICEF worked to increase educational opportunities for children on the move, in close coordination with the ministry of education, focusing on transit areas and areas with high concentrations of migrant populations. In Tumbes in 2023, 1,034 children participated in learning recovery sessions, 2,010 children received school kits, 10 temporary classrooms were installed for the benefit of 293 students, and 406 school enrolment places for migrant children were managed. Despite these efforts, full and permanent enrolment of children in regular schools is hampered by the continuous movement of migrant families in the country. Therefore, UNICEF advocates for flexible modalities for children on the move. The learning recovery sessions were key to improving the inclusion of migrant children, while additional incentives for them to participate in the learning sessions were considered.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

UNICEF has provided technical assistance to the National Superintendence of Migration in the process of regularization of migrants and implemented activities with partners, leading to 16,164 people that started the regularization process and 5,244 people (2,458 children and adolescents) that received documentation from January to November. Additionally, 8,746 migrant children received UNICEF-supported psychosocial activities in Tumbes and 501 children in Tacna, and a total of 2,268 mothers, fathers and other caregivers participated in positive parenting activities. UNICEF also supported a total of 659 unaccompanied and separated children. InfoContigo, the UN interagency ((IOM, UNHCR, UNICEF and WFP) communication platform for migrants and refugees was officially launched in June. The platform is meant to provide humanitarian assistance and information on available services and receive complaints and reports on misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse. UNICEF trained 81 new personnel, 104 implementing partners, and 15 personnel of InfoContigo. Also, UNICEF implementing partners trained 414 personnel of their institutions on PSEA. In addition, 300 adolescent migrants (210 women and 90 men) were reached with a GBV prevention programme. In collaboration with the Aurora programme of the ministry of women and vulnerable populations, 201 service providers (126 women and 75 men) from women's emergency centres in the regions of Tumbes, Lambayeque, La Libertad, Piura and northern Lima were provided specialized training to strengthen their work with children and adolescents who have survived GBV. Furthermore, 200 professionals, humanitarian actors and government counterparts were trained in the Core Commitments for Children in humanitarian action on gender equality and the prevention of GBV.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

UNICEF implemented a multi-purpose cash transfer programme for households with children, adolescents and pregnant and lactating women in the three provinces of Tumbes and the city of Mancora, in Piura. Priority was given to households with a disabled member and single-parent households. The beneficiary households received a monthly cash transfer for a period of three months to cover their most urgent needs. The value of each transfer is established according to the minimum expenditure basket (MEB) for migrant families set by the Cash Based Interventions (CBI) subgroup of the GTRM. The first transfer is US\$105, the second US\$174 and the third US\$238. In the case of families with children with disabilities, the transfers are increased by 25 per cent, to US\$132, US\$217 and US\$276 respectively. These households also received guidance on how to access public services to protect children and adolescents from violence, abuse and exploitation. The programme reached 443 households with 1,426 people (882 children and adolescents). All received the key message to promote care practices, and 150 children, adolescents and pregnant and lactating women were referred to social services in areas such as health and protection.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

The initiative *Uniendo Voces for Migrants and Refugees in Transit* in Tumbes was carried out as a first experience in coordination between UNICEF Country Offices in Peru and Bolivia. It reached 3,808 people with messages about access to services between Tumbes and Tacna. During the reporting period, support was provided to programme teams and partners in the implementation of the AAP principle. Surveys were developed for each programme

area and other accountability mechanisms were used, such as suggestion boxes (emotion boxes) for children and adolescents and mailboxes for adults. The experience of the AAP pilot included the integration of Technology for Development (T4D) using Microsoft Forms with implementing partners, which allowed for greater efficiency and transparency in data collection, hosted on the UNICEF corporate platform. A total of 4,860 surveys were completed in Tumbes, Piura and Lambayeque, in compliance with data protection and privacy guidelines. In addition, more than 2,000 people participated in WASH community activities, 10,000 people were reached with migration regularization messages, and 150 youth and adult leaders in Tumbes participated in capacity building activities.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF is an active member of the IOM and UNHCR-led Working Group on Refugees and Migrants, where it co-leads the sub-groups on education, WASH, child protection and nutrition at the national and local levels. UNICEF participated in the joint needs assessment exercise for updating the 2024 national migration response plan.¹⁰ There is also close coordination and technical assistance with government agencies, local and regional authorities, United Nations agencies and other organizations. In addition, UNICEF has worked with Venezuelan community-based organisations in Tumbes to help integrate them into the local community.

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

There were some developments for children on the move in Trinidad and Tobago in 2023. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago initiated steps to remove the legal and administrative barriers that prevent children from accessing the national education system at the primary level. During the year there were several rulings and policies impacting children on the move. In addition to the High Court ruling on the 1951 Refugee Convention, there was a policy implemented and a ruling on deportations. This has had a significant impact on the rights of the child to live with their family. The removal of legal and administrative barriers will have a positive impact on children that were part of the 2019 Registration Framework and have been living in the country for more than three years. However, more than 50 per cent of children will continue without access to education. Due to the compound effects of a lack of access to education and the pressure to generate income, adolescents have been identified in dangerous forms of labour and as victims of exploitation.

NUTRITION

Round 6 of the Caribbean Food Security and Livelihoods Survey¹¹ highlights that there is still a 10 per cent food inflation compared to 2022. As a result, in 2023, migrant parents still expressed concern over increases in food prices. In this context, the post distribution monitoring survey for Programme TEEN (*Transferencia en Efectivo para la Educación de los Niños*) found that cash transfers are used mostly for food, education and transportation. Additional information on age disaggregation could provide deeper insights into how nutritional counselling and cash support are improving nutritional outcomes for young children, particularly those in the care of the nearly 500 parents and caregivers (461 females and 7 males) who received nutritional counselling. A total of 33 pregnant and lactating women participated in webinars organized in partnership with Mamatoto and the Breastfeeding Association of Trinidad and Tobago to support women in sustaining breastfeeding.

EDUCATION

In 2023, the Government of Trinidad and Tobago took steps to

remove the legal and administrative barriers that prevent almost 6,000 children on the move from accessing the national education system. Of these, one third are accessing non-formal early learning to primary education (1,063 girls and 954 boys) through Equal Place, a joint temporary initiative implemented by LWC with support from UNICEF and UNHCR. Secondary education remains inaccessible to adolescents on the move. Subsequently, a strategy to scale-up online secondary education resulted in reaching double the number of adolescents (583 total, consisting of 316 females and 267 males) than in the previous year. The government's decision came as a result of advocacy and the leveraging of opportunities within the programming context. A phased-approach strategy for the integration into primary education was developed through the Education Working Group (EWG) led by UNICEF. Following the parameters established by the government, 170 students (88 girls and 82 boys) were identified to be part of the first cohort. Preparation for additional cohorts has started with the training of 30 teachers and facilitators from different learning spaces to provide the national curricula that utilizes methodologies for teaching English as a Second Language.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

The partnership with national authorities and the Catholic Commission for Social Justice (CCSJ) demonstrated how strengthening systems at both national and community levels continues to yield greater results for all children in both development and humanitarian contexts. A partnership with the Archdiocese Ministry for Migrants and Refugees (AMMR) resulted in providing 27 unaccompanied and separated children (12 girls and 15 boys) with comprehensive services to support their well-being and ensure fulfilment of their basic needs, including family reunification, family and community-based alternative care options and referrals to other services. Child-friendly spaces continued to provide education, play and psychosocial services, while over 1,500 persons received GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response services. As part of UNICEF's capacity development strategy, several implementing partners enhanced their PSEA policy, reporting mechanisms and disciplinary procedures to respond to allegations of sexual abuse or misconduct.

SOCIAL PROTECTION AND CASH TRANSFERS

In 2023, families with young and school-age children on the move received an integrated service package that provided nutritional counselling, early learning and education, gender-based violence risk assessment and prevention, parenting skills, psychosocial support and risk communication. Nearly 500 children under five (271 girls and 213 boys) benefited from early learning and school readiness activities. A total of 246 households with adolescents studying online benefited in 2023 from the cash grant Programme TEEN. This programme provided multipurpose cash to households to enable access to educational materials and other basic needs. Eligible households received three payments during the school year. The delivery modality was a Visa gift card that provides beneficiaries with access to point-of-sale machines and ATMs nationally, a feature appreciated by the migrant population since most are unbanked due to legal barriers. The transfer provides TT\$1,350.00 (US\$200) to households with one child, TT\$2,025 (US\$300) to households with two children and TT\$3,037 (US\$450) to households with three or more children.

As part of strengthening the national child protection system, UNICEF, the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (CATT) and the Catholic Commission for Social Justice (CCSJ) provided 27 unaccompanied and separated children with a comprehensive alternative care service package that includes cash support. The households providing alternative care received a monthly pre-paid Visa card, with transfer values of TT\$1,300 (US\$190) for one child,

TT\$1,560 (US\$230) for two children, TT\$1,760 (US\$260) for three children and TT\$1900 (US\$280) for four or more children. The values used for the cash programme mirror those provided by the national social protection system (Public Assistance Grant) for families living in poverty or facing socioeconomic hardship.

SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOUR CHANGE (SBC), ACCOUNTABILITY TO AFFECTED POPULATION (AAP)

During the reporting period, UNICEF expanded the use of the AAP mechanism to inform and strengthen its programming. For example, UNICEF conducted four rounds of student experience surveys. The results were analysed by an implementation mechanism comprised of DAWERE, LWC, the Pan American Development Foundation (PADF) and UNICEF. To close the feedback loop, UNICEF conducted townhall meetings with adolescents to provide additional opportunities for feedback, leading to the identification of eight topics for improvement. As a result of this implementation mechanism, PADF shifted resources to hire an education coordinator who will work to support adolescents achieving the readiness they need for online learning. Similarly, the analysis of the student experience survey has informed other changes needed for the successful implementation of online learning. The third-party monitoring led to the identification of areas of programme improvement related to communication with the population regarding services and how to access them.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP AND COORDINATION

During the reporting period, UNICEF led the child protection, education and cash working groups embedded in the Interagency Coordination Platform, R4V. In this capacity, UNICEF generated key evidence and provided technical expertise on the Minimum Expenditure Basket for migrants that can be used by other stakeholders of the Cash Working Group to inform transfer values and ensure complementarity and sustainability of interventions. UNICEF's technical leadership provided stewardship to the elaboration of a phased approach to the integration of children on the move into the national education system. The first phase included the identification of children eligible based on registration status and English language competency. In addition, UNICEF led the EWG in drafting technical recommendations on the documentation that will be required for enrolment of children on the move into national schools. As part of preparation for subsequent phases of integration, UNICEF coordinated a training in child-friendly and other learning spaces to support the acquisition of English as a Second Language for children on the move.

URUGUAY

According to the recent national census there are 61,800 foreigners living in Uruguay, with almost half of them having less than five years living in the country. In 2023, Uruguay remained a reception country, primarily for nationals of Venezuela, Cuba, Dominican Republic and Peru. However, families with children arriving in 2023 presented more vulnerabilities after long periods (of years even) in transit through the region. For children arriving with only one parent or other adult family member, regularization remains a huge challenge because both parents need to authorize the residence application of a child. To access to an identity document, many families with children apply for refuge as the only possible way to obtain a provisory identity document. However, the revision of a refuge application lasts on average two years, and to finally obtain the refugee status the authorization of both parents is still required,

meaning the child loses the identity document after that period. Access to affordable and decent housing solutions is another challenge for families arriving in the country. During 2024, UNICEF and partners plan to produce a report on the housing market for migrants, to provide families with accurate information on the available options and advocate for their inclusion in housing policies.

CHILD PROTECTION, GBVIE AND PSEA

In Montevideo, UNICEF efforts were focused on psychosocial support service for migrant children. The service provided support to 59 children and adolescents (31 girls and 28 boys) and 56 adults referents of the children (46 women and 10 men). The service consisted of a set of therapeutic sessions with a licenced psychologist for children and adolescents and a social worker who assisted families of children with access to documentation, health, education, housing and mental health services, among other pressing needs of migrant families. The number of sessions varied depending on each case. In addition, cultural and recreative activities were crafted for each child and adolescent to enhance their well-being and integration. Access to mental health and psychosocial support proved to be a highly in demand service for children on the move, both for children struggling to integrate within a host community or who have experienced violence and traumatic situation during the journey, as well as those whose families are planning to move again to a new country. In 2024, a service redesign will include new partners, such as the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES) and the Institute for Children and Adolescents of Uruguay (INAU), to transfer knowledge, lessons learned and capacities to the MIDES in this area. The plan is to diversify the services offered, adding to the one-on-one sessions, group sessions and peer groups both for adolescents and adult caregivers.

In Rivera municipality at the border with Brazil, a shelter named Casa Trampolín was inaugurated during the second semester for families with children on the move arriving to Uruguay. The shelter aims to provide not only a safe place to arrive for families with high vulnerabilities but also comprehensive support to facilitate access to documentation, social transfers, education, health and child protection services. The shelter has accommodated 8 families with 15 children and 14 adults since its opening in alliance with MIDES.

UNICEF carried out a training on PSEA with all United Nations agency staff in the country as part of the strategy to prevent and response to SEA. For the Rivera and Chuy border migratory offices, a flyer with practical information on regularization processes and access to social policies and child protection services was produced in alliance with IOM and UNHCR.

HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF actively participates in the protection sector of the R4V. UNICEF led the production of an advocacy document that compiles the most relevant difficulties that affect children on the move in terms of protection. Three main areas of concern emerged from the analysis: international reunification processes, access to regularization for children who are unaccompanied or with only one parent in the country, and trafficking and sexual exploitation of adolescents. Advocacy and capacity strengthening actions in those areas are planned for 2024.

REGIONAL HUMANITARIAN LEADERSHIP, COORDINATION AND STRATEGY

UNICEF Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (LACRO) provides direct support to Country Offices to respond to

the humanitarian needs of the most vulnerable migrants and refugees, as well as people affected by violence and displacement, including women and children, particularly unaccompanied and separated children, children with disabilities and those from indigenous groups. In 2023, LACRO closely monitored the situation through continuous communication with teams in the field, deployed significant expertise and carried out field visits to support the critical humanitarian response.

During the reporting period, UNICEF coordinated the regional nutrition sector and provided technical assistance to country offices and partners. This included technical support for the nutrition aspects of the migration response and for specific areas, such as the treatment of wasting, the dissemination of the latest World Health Organization (WHO) guidance and infant feeding in emergencies. As the sector lead agency, UNICEF led the development of the R4V Nutrition Advocacy strategy around nutrition in emergencies, with a focus on migration, to better highlight to key stakeholders the importance of the nutrition response to refugee and migrant vulnerable groups. Also, UNICEF embarked on a study on wasting to obtain a regional overview of the situation, trends and management capacity. UNICEF also led the development of a series of meetings to harmonize indicators to include in the R4V Joint Needs Assessment exercises and developed the Nutrition Needs Assessment Guidance that was then refined to include elements for the People in Need (PIN) estimation.

In 2023, UNICEF LACRO provided continuous technical support to Country Offices in the areas of child protection - GBVIE and PSEA. This included the development of tools, analysis of interventions, guidance on psychosocial interventions and transitory care, strengthening reporting mechanisms in PSEA, advocacy and knowledge management. In the context of the Quito Process Child Protection thematic group, UNICEF supported the identification and presentation of best practices in Colombia (mobile units for the identification of unaccompanied children) and Chile (humanitarian response). Also, during 2023, UNICEF and UNHCR supported the initiative led by IOM to develop a consular guide for the support of human trafficking victims. In the case of the South American Conference on Migration, UNICEF supported the identification of good practices for the protection of child migrants, led by IOM. From the Regional Subgroup for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, UNICEF continued to make progress in the elaboration of the interactive map on the services for the population throughout the region¹⁴ and the development of a field test in Ecuador, Honduras and Brazil.

UNICEF enhanced its regional monitoring capacities for migration flows across LAC by expanding its system to generate real-time data on children on the move and their access to services, including humanitarian assistance, particularly in the hot spots identified. This mechanism aims to: a) engage with migrants; b) serve as an early warning system for increased migration flows; and c) provide information on available services and their utilization along migration routes. Implemented in 2023 in Chile, Colombia, Panama, and Costa Rica, the mechanism offers insights into key characteristics of migration flows, such as the demographics of groups traveling with children and their service access. Currently, the mechanism has provided support to approximately 3,000 migrants, representing 16,000 individuals in travel groups, including children. Moreover, the mechanism furnishes real-time information via a chatbot on migration routes, geolocation data shared by migrants, and the quality of services received in humanitarian field operations, including data on service capacities and occupancy rates. In addition, LACRO promoted the integration of various data collection initiatives as part of IBC on human mobility.

UNICEF, as a grantee of the regional Multi-Year Resilience Project (MYRP), continued to work with its regional partners Save the

Children, UNESCO and Plan International to strengthen access to education for migrant and refugee children. In June, the Education Beyond Borders forum was held to promote the exchange of experiences and lessons learned among 18 countries in the region. In addition, with the support of UNICEF, the regional education coordination mechanisms were strengthened, technical tools were developed and disseminated, and the capacities of the Ministry of Education and other relevant MYRP stakeholders were strengthened. Advocacy achievements in several regional education forums were completed and ministries of education were involved in joint actions to respond to the migration crisis. In November, the Regional Workshop on Accelerated Education was held with the objective of strengthening the quality of Accelerated Education policies and programmes in the region. The workshop was attended by representatives from eight countries, including Ministries of Education, NGOs and the United Nations.

Furthermore, LACRO continued leading and providing technical assistance and capacity building for coordination, preparedness and information management to R4V WASH national platforms during the R4V programme cycle. During September 2023, the WASHLAC Group led by UNICEF, in collaboration with the Global WASH Cluster, carried out the WASH operation and leadership training in Panama, for the first time in the LAC region. The training had more than 20 participants, including government representatives from the WASH sector, humanitarian partners and coordinators of WASH national platforms and clusters from the countries of Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Peru. Also, the WASH team at the regional level, in collaboration with the WASH national and subnational coordinators and partners from Colombia, Honduras and Mexico UNICEF country offices, developed and published the field note on Innovative Hygiene Corner¹³ in Latin America in migration response. The results of this innovative practice, with personalized hygiene items distributed to populations on the move in hotspots in Colombia, Honduras and Mexico, has generated interest for replication at other migration affected countries during 2024.

Moreover, as co-leader of the R4V Cash Working Group, UNICEF conducted monitoring, capacity building and coordination of cash activities in the region. A three-day virtual learning event on the linkage between cash transfers and social protection systems was co-organized with CashCap, R4V and REDLAC. UNICEF participated in the R4V Sectoral Roundtables, a side event of the International Conference in Solidarity with Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela, representing actors working in cash and voucher assistance. In addition, UNICEF published a report on its support to shock-responsive social protection cases, which included the cash transfer programme to Venezuelan migrants in Ecuador.

AAP was reinforced in all the UNICEF country offices working on the migration outflow. As part of the capacity strengthening, three regional webinars were developed to promote experience exchanges where COs such as Colombia and Venezuela shared achievements and lessons learned in AAP. Tailored AAP technical assistance was delivered for Bolivia, Brazil and Trinidad and Tobago to boost their AAP strategies and for Peru and Chile to develop their AAP action plans for the migration response. Moreover, U-Report Uniendo Voces continued its implementation in partnership with OIM and UNHCR in Ecuador, Brazil, Bolivia and Peru. Through this AAP mechanism, 19,287 U-Reporters were involved (35 per cent more than in 2022), and 17 surveys were launched on diverse topics such as immunization, education, gender, protection and mental health, and the feedback collected was helpful in fine tuning sectoral responses.

In 2023, UNICEF at the regional level has provided technical support to country offices to implement gender-responsive humanitarian programming in accordance with the IASC Gender Handbook and

the IASC Guidelines for GBV Interventions in Humanitarian Settings. During the reporting period, LACRO carried out a regional network meeting with all gender officers from the region and two virtual trainings for UNICEF staff focused on Gender in WASH and GBV in Health response in humanitarian settings. In addition, LACRO conducted a training of trainers on the regional model for implementing GBV support services for girls and adolescent girls on the move. Twenty GBV and child protection service providers and frontline workers enhanced their capacities on methodological principles, criteria and processes for providing psychological and social support and accompaniment required by girls and adolescent girls on the move who have survived GBV. Also, UNICEF developed two new guides focused on promoting the social inclusion of refugee and migrant girls and adolescent girls in destination countries and the care and psychosocial accompaniment of LGBTQI+ adolescent survivors of GBV in contexts of human mobility.

UNICEF launched the Child Alert Report¹² that highlights that one in four migrants is a child and emphasizes the needs of the children on the move, such as programmes that are family-oriented and differentiated by age and gender and policy responses that prioritize family unity, the best interests of the child and access to life-saving services. In coordination with the UNICEF Colombia, Guyana and Peru country offices, UNICEF launched a microsite¹⁵ dedicated to disseminating stories of integration and inclusion of migrants in host communities, such as Ruben's story (about adolescent migrants who do not attend school), Carla's story (about a migrant who suffered gender-based violence), and Dairily and Juan David's story (about migrants who are actively involved into their host country through music and the arts). UNICEF continues to support communication efforts in the context of the R4V platform, including by disseminating human interest stories through multimedia assets and social media campaigns.

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES AND EXTERNAL MEDIA

HUMAN INTEREST STORIES

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- [Brazil] Pregnant women receive support and care at shelters in Roraima <https://www.unicef.org/brazil/en/node/9261>
- [Brazil] I feel a deep connection with the Yanomami people <https://www.unicef.org/brazil/en/stories/i-feel-deep-connection-yanomami-people-if-they-were-my-own>
- [Ecuador] In education, Zharick found the path to her dreams <https://www.unicef.org/ecuador/en/stories/education-zharick-found-road-her-dreams>
- [Ecuador] It's never too late to learn <https://www.unicef.org/ecuador/en/stories/it%C2%B4s-never-too-late-learn>
- [Peru] Migrate and fight the floods <https://www.unicef.org/peru/blog/migrar-y-resistir-las-inundaciones>

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https://www.instagram.com/unicefbrasil/p/C0zE_m1QynD/
- [Chile] UNICEF recognizes the challenge that migration issues represent for countries
<https://twitter.com/UnicefChile/status/1651992438720933902?s=20>
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- [Colombia] Juan David and Dairilys, two venezuelan teenagers, found haven in music and friendship
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- [Dominican Republic] Child Friendly Spaces
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- [Ecuador] It's never too late to learn | Photos
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https://uruguay.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbdl1161/files/documents/2023-11/folleto_informacion-para-migrantes-solicitantes-de-refugio-y-refugiadas_uy.pdf

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- All Situation Reports
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NEXT SITREP: 31/07/2024

ANNEX A - PROGRAMME RESULTS

Consolidated Programme Results

Sector			UNICEF and IPs response		
Indicator	Disaggregation	Total needs	2023 targets	Total results	Progress*
Health					
Children vaccinated against measles	Total	-	3,295	3,836	▲ 116%
	Colombia	-	3,295	3,836	▲ 116%
Children and women accessing primary healthcare in UNICEF-supported facilities	Total	-	573,012	88,855	▲ 16%
	Bolivia	-	2,145	293	▲ 14%
	Brazil	-	22,500	27,758	▲ 123%
	Chile	-	2,550	432	▲ 17%
	Colombia	-	41,801	39,236	▲ 94%
	Dominican Republic	-	72,000	-	0%
	Ecuador	-	5,000	1,500	▲ 30%
	Guyana	-	600	16,062 ¹⁶	▲ 2677%
	Peru	-	426,416	3,574	▲ 1%
Children receiving the minimum set of vaccines	Total	-	198,276	3.4 million	▲ 1727%
	Brazil	-	25,280	6,465	▲ 26%
	Colombia	-	105,996	10,817	▲ 10%
	Ecuador	-	60,000	3.4 million	▲ 5667%
	Guyana	-	7,000	7,000	▲ 100%
Nutrition					
Children 6-59 months with severe wasting admitted for treatment	Total	-	4,074	3,415	▲ 84%
	Colombia	-	574	152	▲ 26%
	Dominican Republic	-	3,500	3,263	▲ 93%
Primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving infant and young child feeding counselling	Total	-	132,353	45,574	▲ 34%
	Bolivia	-	6,900	70	▲ 1%
	Brazil	-	3,509	4,103	▲ 117%
	Chile	-	1,200	299	▲ 25%

	Colombia	-	64,240	6,458	▲ 10%
	Dominican Republic	-	15,000	7,366	▲ 49%
	Ecuador	-	21,000	1,500	▲ 7%
	Guyana	-	5,000	20,000 ¹⁷	▲ 400%
	Peru	-	14,856	5,267	▲ 35%
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	648	511	▲ 79%
Children 6-59 months receiving micronutrient powder	Total	-	34,138	8,585	▲ 25%
	Bolivia	-	3,300	169	▲ 5%
	Colombia	-	19,338	3,761	▲ 19%
	Dominican Republic	-	1,500	4,655	▲ 310%
	Ecuador	-	10,000	-	0%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA					
Children, adolescents and caregivers accessing community-based mental health and psychosocial support	Total	-	254,137	105,219	▲ 41%
	Bolivia	-	5,350	3,022	▲ 56%
	Brazil	-	33,900	19,184	▲ 57%
	Chile	-	18,500	14,278	▲ 77%
	Colombia	-	142,149	23,777	▲ 17%
	Dominican Republic	-	4,500	4,879	▲ 108%
	Ecuador	-	25,000	22,723	▲ 91%
	Guyana	-	1,000	2,000	▲ 200%
	Peru	-	20,000	14,311	▲ 72%
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	2,738	880	▲ 32%
	Uruguay	-	1,000	165	▲ 17%
Women, girls and boys accessing gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention and/or response interventions	Total	-	98,134	11,173	▲ 11%
	Bolivia	-	2,575	898	▲ 35%
	Chile	-	860	460	▲ 53%
	Colombia	-	82,149	3,485	▲ 4%
	Ecuador	-	6,000	3,924	▲ 65%

	Peru	-	5,000	570	▲ 11%
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	960	1,690	▲ 176%
	Uruguay	-	590	146	▲ 25%
Unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care and/or reunified	Total	-	3,923	6,013	▲ 153%
	Brasil	-	1,500	2,243	▲ 150%
	Colombia	-	163	1,111	▲ 682%
	Dominican Republic	-	2,000	1,937	▲ 97%
	Ecuador	-	200	722	▲ 361%
	Guyana	-	60	-	0%
	Children identified as in need of specialized services who are referred to health, social welfare and justice services	Total	-	72,949	41,967
Bolivia		-	2,200	1,577	▲ 72%
Brasil		-	11,749	5,877	▲ 50%
Chile		-	5,600	719	▲ 13%
Dominican Republic		-	8,000	8,332	▲ 104%
Ecuador		-	5,000	5,171	▲ 103%
Guyana		-	400	400	▲ 100%
Peru		-	40,000	19,891	▲ 50%
People reached with awareness activities and community mobilisation interventions on PSEA		Total	-	64,644	15,180
	Bolivia	-	19,500	1,814	▲ 9%
	Brazil	-	750	1,659	▲ 221%
	Chile	-	16,500	57	0%
	Colombia	-	7,994	3,271	▲ 41%
	Dominican Republic	-	2,500	2,208	▲ 88%
	Ecuador	-	5,000	6,021	▲ 120%
	Guyana	-	400	150	▲ 38%
	Peru	-	10,000	-	0%
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	2,000	-	0%

Children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning	Total	-	182,900	87,410	▲ 48%	
	Bolivia	-	1,395	66	▲ 5%	
	Brazil	-	41,143	16,569	▲ 40%	
	Chile	-	1,500	3,255	▲ 217%	
	Colombia	-	123,474	53,195	▲ 43%	
	Dominican Republic	-	150	150	▲ 100%	
	Ecuador	-	5,000	6,651	▲ 133%	
	Guyana	-	500	1,693	▲ 339%	
	Peru	-	8,500	4,923	▲ 58%	
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	1,238	908	▲ 73%	
Children receiving individual learning materials	Total	-	81,958	23,315	▲ 28%	
	Bolivia	-	1,395	239	▲ 17%	
	Brazil	-	18,743	4,655	▲ 25%	
	Chile	-	2,400	826	▲ 34%	
	Colombia	-	51,200	2,791	▲ 5%	
	Ecuador	-	5,000	5,319	▲ 106%	
	Guyana	-	220	886	▲ 403%	
	Peru	-	3,000	8,599	▲ 287%	
	Children and adolescents accessing skills development programmes	Total	-	11,163	5,650	▲ 51%
		Colombia	-	5,100	265	▲ 5%
Ecuador		-	5,000	3,546	▲ 71%	
Guyana		-	600	606	▲ 101%	
Trinidad and Tobago		-	463	1,233	▲ 266%	
Water, sanitation and hygiene						
People accessing a sufficient quantity and quality of water for drinking and domestic needs	Total	-	243,185	147,764	▲ 61%	
	Bolivia	-	2,000	-	0%	
	Brazil	-	66,185	48,920	▲ 74%	
	Chile	-	8,000	716	▲ 9%	

	Colombia	-	51,000	14,350	▲ 28%
	Ecuador	-	105,000	80,128	▲ 76%
	Guyana	-	11,000	3,650 ¹⁸	▲ 33%
Children using safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces	Total	-	336,873	9,435	▲ 3%
	Bolivia	-	1,440	-	0%
	Brazil	-	8,833	1,878	▲ 21%
	Chile	-	4,000	2,589	▲ 65%
	Colombia	-	61,000	4,968	▲ 8%
	Dominican Republic	-	257,600	-	0%
	Guyana	-	4,000	-	0%
	People reached with hand-washing behaviour-change programmes	Total	-	130,834	106,095
Brazil		-	17,834	19,709	▲ 111%
Chile		-	8,000	124	▲ 2%
Ecuador		-	105,000	86,262	▲ 82%
People reached with critical WASH supplies	Total	-	153,000	76,759	▲ 50%
	Bolivia	-	3,000	1,954	▲ 65%
	Chile	-	4,000	3,968	▲ 99%
	Colombia	-	84,000	55,669	▲ 66%
	Dominican Republic	-	20,000	7,379	▲ 37%
	Ecuador	-	5,000	3,778	▲ 76%
	Guyana	-	7,000	3,300	▲ 47%
	Peru	-	30,000	711	▲ 2%
Social protection					
Households reached with UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers	Total	-	13,915	7,658	▲ 55%
	Bolivia	-	1,050	312	▲ 30%
	Brazil	-	4,495	-	0%
	Chile	-	700	- ¹⁹	0%
	Dominican Republic	-	3,000	5,000 ²⁰	▲ 167%
	Ecuador	-	2,000	1,334	▲ 67%

	Peru	-	2,000	443	▲ 22%
	Trinidad and Tobago	-	670	569	▲ 85%
Households benefitting from new or additional social assistance (cash/in kind) measures from governments with UNICEF-technical assistance support	Total	-	13,371	2,721	▲ 20%
	Brazil	-	12,371	2,721	▲ 22%
	Guyana	-	1,000	21	0%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, C4D, RCCE and AAP)					
People reached through messaging on prevention and access to services	Total	-	269,477	178,067	▲ 66%
	Brazil	-	149,896	57,658	▲ 38%
	Chile	-	14,430	2,221	▲ 15%
	Colombia	-	75,501	21,365	▲ 28%
	Dominican Republic	-	650	71,018 ²²	▲ 10926%
	Ecuador	-	12,000	1,221	▲ 10%
	Guyana	-	2,000	3,000 ²³	▲ 150%
	Peru	-	15,000	21,584	▲ 144%

*Progress in the reporting period 1 January to 31 December 2023

ANNEX B — FUNDING STATUS

Consolidated funding by sector

Sector	Requirements	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Health	14,058,588	1,831,491	1,236,932	10,990,165	78%
Nutrition	13,226,822	1,528,096	1,303,489	10,395,237	79%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	47,728,672	13,824,298	2,673,545	31,230,829	65%
Education	29,278,844	11,391,262	3,680,568	14,207,014	49%
Water, sanitation and hygiene	21,407,890	4,382,226	1,073,026	15,952,638	75%
Social protection	15,570,140	2,255,299	552,576	12,762,265	82%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE and AAP)	13,927,413	385,177	384,090	13,158,146	94%
Regional Office Technical Capacity	5,296,949	795,000	746,378	3,755,571	71%
Total	160,495,318	36,392,849	11,650,604	112,451,865	70%

Consolidated funding by office

Office	Requirements	Funding available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2023	Resources available from 2022 (carry over)	Funding gap (US\$)	Funding gap (%)
Bolivia	3,116,340	618,000	12,026	2,486,314	80%
Brazil	22,471,477	5,759,347	2,704,322	14,007,808	62%
Chile	10,318,200	1,182,000	501	9,135,699	89%
Colombia	64,337,776	13,207,947	5,548,745	45,581,084	71%
Dominican Republic	9,771,260	2,228,628	356,583	7,186,049	74%
Ecuador	24,203,400	5,146,777	725,711	18,330,912	76%
Guyana	1,716,800	258,000	29,632	1,429,168	83%
Peru	16,383,840	5,775,500	1,100,280	9,508,060	58%
Trinidad and Tobago	2,629,876	865,628	232,556	1,531,692	58%
Uruguay	249,400	36,000	-	213,400	86%
Regional Office	5,296,949	1,315,020	940,249	3,041,680	57%

Total	160,495,318	36,392,847	11,650,605	112,451,866	70%
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ENDNOTES

1. In 2023, UNICEF's response in the ten countries of LAC reached 105,219 children with child protection services, while 11,173 women, girls and boys accessed gender-based violence risk mitigation, prevention or response intervention. Around 87,410 children gained access to education, while 147,764 children and mothers accessed sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs.
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3. R4V Latin America and the Caribbean, Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in the Region – 30 November 2023, <<https://www.r4v.info/en/document/r4v-latin-america-and-caribbean-venezuelan-refugees-and-migrants-region-nov-2023>>
4. R4V Evaluación Conjunta de Necesidades 2023 - Cono Sur, 27 December 23, <<https://www.r4v.info/en/node/91284>>
5. Instituto Nacional de Estadísticas, Chile, Informe de Resultados de la estimación de personas extranjeras residentes en Chile, December 2023, <https://www.ine.gob.cl/docs/default-source/demografia-y-migracion/publicaciones-y-anuarios/migraci%C3%B3n-internacional/estimaci%C3%B3n-poblaci%C3%B3n-extranjera-en-chile-2018/estimaci%C3%B3n-poblaci%C3%B3n-extranjera-en-chile-2022-resultados.pdf?sfvrsn=869dce24_4>, accessed 6 February 2024.
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7. Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Guyana Second Voluntary National Review of the SDGs 2023, July 2023, <<https://guyana.un.org/en/239978-guyana-second-voluntary-national-review-sdgs-2023>>
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9. IOM, Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) flow monitoring tool, Peru 2023 - 2024, <<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrJoiMjlmZjcyNzYtODI5Yy00NzQ2LWlwZTItZjczMWM0OTI3NGU1IiwidCI6IjE1ODgyNjJkLTlzMlItNDNiNC1iZDZILWJjZTQ5YzhINjE4Nil>>
10. R4V GTRM Peru - Joint Needs Analysis RMRP 2024, 19 February 24, <https://www.r4v.info/es/document/GTRMPeru_JNA_RMRP2024>
11. Caribbean Food Security & Livelihoods Survey: Natural Hazards and the Cost-of-Living Crisis - Regional Summary Report | Caribbean Community (CARICOM) and WFP, 31 May 2023, <<https://www.wfp.org/publications/caribbean-food-security-livelihoods-survey-may-2023>>
12. UNICEF Child alert: Child migration in Latin America and the Caribbean, September 2023, <<https://www.unicef.org/child-alert/migration-latin-america-caribbean>>
13. Innovative Hygiene Corner in Latin America in migration response, <<https://knowledge.unicef.org/resource/innovative-hygiene-corner-latin-america-migration-response-0>>
14. Regional Subgroup for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, <<https://mapassubgrupocp.worldvisionamericalatina.org/>>
15. UNICEF: A new home Stories of integration and inclusion of migrants in host communities, 2023, <<https://www.unicef.org/lac/en/new-home>>
16. In Guyana, it is estimated that in 2023 approximately 16,062 women and children had access to primary healthcare in UNICEF supporting health facilities
17. In Guyana, for IYCF the training of healthcare workers was done under the ECD project. A total of 40,000 children and 20,000 care givers were reached nationally.
18. In Guyana, UNICEF collaborated with the Guyana Water Inc (GWI) on a WASH programme for migrants and host communities, which aimed to increase access to safe drinking water through construction of rainwater harvesting facilities, provision of water facilities and extension of water supply systems, benefitting 3,650 persons, including children in remote regions. Sanitation facilities were also constructed, aimed primarily at curbing open-defecation practices at migrant settlements, benefitting 2,600 persons. The Government of Guyana has reported that the increase in migrants, particularly in hinterland border communities continues to be a challenge to some of their host communities for the provision of basic services, including WASH, and this has exerted pressure on existing systems and resources.
19. In Chile, UNICEF did not implement a humanitarian cash transfer intervention in 2023.
20. In the Dominican Republic, by the end of 2023, the Unified System of Beneficiaries (SIUBEN) collected information on 5,000 households affected by the floods that occurred in November 2023. This represents a population of 17,000 people, of which 5,600 are children and adolescents. From this survey, households eligible to receive temporary cash transfers through the Emergency Voucher activated by the SUPERATE Program will be selected.
21. In 2023, UNICEF did not implement a UNICEF-funded humanitarian cash transfers programme for migrant populations.
22. In 2023, UNICEF, in collaboration with IP Globalizate, reached directly 2,110 individuals to access information on legal identity, regularization, access to education, to ECD and to protection, and referrals to services, including cash transfer whenever the profile fit. In addition, basic and menstrual hygiene promotion reached 68,908 people by groups and province.
23. In 2023, UNICEF reached approximately 3,000 persons on prevention and access to services through the school health programme.