



IOM Colombia

17,966,508
CONFIRMED CASES IN SOUTH AMERICA¹

466,553
DEATHS²

SITUATION OVERVIEW

Brazil leads with 10,551,259 cases, followed by Colombia, Argentina, and Peru with 2,251,690, 2,112,023, and 1,329,805 cases. In the last week of February, the sharpest increases in cumulative cases were observed in Uruguay (9.8%), Paraguay (5.1%), and Ecuador (4.1%). In South America, the number of cases is now at 17,966,508, compared to 15,865,694 thirty days ago, an increase of

13.2%. In terms of mortality, Brazil also leads with 246,504 deaths, followed by Colombia, Argentina, and Peru, with 58,834, 51,359, and 45,097 deaths, respectively. In the whole region, the number of deaths is at 466,553, compared to 415,637 thirty days ago, representing a 12% increase of COVID-19 related deaths.

¹ WHO COVID-19 Situation Dashboard: <https://covid19.who.int/>
² WHO COVID-19 Situation Dashboard: <https://covid19.who.int/>

SNAPSHOT OF IOM RESPONSE IN SOUTH AMERICA

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 1

Ensure a well-coordinated, informed and timely response through mobility tracking systems and strengthening partnership and coordination structures established at the community, national and regional levels.

COORDINATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

IOM Chile held a workshop named “Guidance on migratory matters for Bus Terminal Operators and other relevant actors in the COVID-19 context” addressed to 25 public officers including regional authorities, police officers, and bus agency operators in order to provide updated information on the current situation faced by migrants. The workshop also aimed at building the capacity of bus operators in the detection of victims of human trafficking; as well as in providing guidance and information on sanitary controls.

IOM Colombia coordinated and worked with leaders of community networks and community action boards to develop action plans to address the COVID-19 pandemic. These action plans included activities such as analyzing the risks posed by COVID-19, identifying the most vulnerable communities and populations in need of assistance (particularly those areas with a greater presence of Venezuelan migrants), identifying the needs of different populations, building community

capacity in health services and assistance, dissemination of information on health care services and referral mechanisms in Funza (department of Cundinamarca), Maicao, Uribia (department of La Guajira) and in Cúcuta, Ocaña Pamplona, Tibú and Villa del Rosario (department of Norte de Santander).

In addition, the mission coordinated with local health secretaries in Medellín, Bello, Caldas, Copacabana, Envigado, Itagüí (department of Antioquia) and Bogotá D.C., Soacha and Chía (department of Cundinamarca) in their response to the emergency, by supporting them with actions such as: mapping and strengthening of health care service routes, construction or activation of care service routes, implementation of health prevention and care protocols, establishment of screening and sampling mechanisms for respiratory symptoms. Other actions involved supporting epidemiological surveillance and monitoring of COVID-19 cases, remote mental health and psychosocial services, conducting a situational and risk analysis on the impacts of COVID-19, capacity-building of local government workers, working in primary and secondary healthcare and, finally, participating in different spaces with local health authorities.

As part of the coordinated actions with other stakeholders, IOM Peru -as member of the Trafficking in Persons (TiP) Subworking Group- finalized, validated and presented to key stakeholders Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for TiP in a COVID 19 context. The SOPs had been previously approved by Response for Venezuelans (R4V) members.



IOM Colombia

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2

Contribute to global, regional, national and community preparedness and response efforts for COVID-19 to reduce associated morbidity and mortality.

 RISK COMMUNICATION AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (RCCE)

IOM Argentina developed and implemented a communication campaign to inform nationals, migrants, and other foreigners on the mobility restrictions and requirements put in place to enter the country.

IOM Brazil began dissemination of the informational brochure “Welcoming Migrants in Health Units”, in partnership with the Government of Rio Grande do Sul. The document was translated to Haitian Creole, Spanish, French, Portuguese, and Wolof and provides basic and specific questions that can be used by migrants in order to receive health assistance. The



mission -jointly with UNICEF, UNFPA, UNHCR, and the Amazonas and Manaus governments- held an enrollment and school regularization activity for migrants. In addition, printed and digital information material was distributed to families and students. This activity aimed at ensuring migrants had better access to educational information and to inform migrants of complaint channels if their access to registration is obstructed or denied.

IOM Colombia launched an awareness raising campaign at the community level, involving house-to-house education, on cough management, proper use of masks, correct hand washing, disinfection and protection, and identification of symptoms and psychosocial support in Puerto Carreño (department of Vichada). This activity was addressed mainly to Venezuelans, host communities, and Colombian returnees.

The mission implemented information, education, and communication strategies in Arauca (department of Arauca) and Cartagena (department of Antioquia) through virtual and face-to face workshops and meetings. The topics covered included COVID-19 prevention and self-care, assistance routes, mental health, psychosocial support, health insurance and rights to health. This activity was addressed to Venezuelan migrants, host communities, and Colombian returnees.

 DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

IOM Colombia carried out a telephone follow-up of suspected cases or contacts of positive COVID-19 patients in Barranquilla and Soledad (department of Atlántico) and in Bucaramanga (department of Santander) in order to raise awareness and provide guidance on COVID-19 protection and care practices. The telephone follow ups also served to learn about health and mental health conditions of the population and identify individuals with any respiratory symptoms.

The mission carried out respiratory symptom screening sessions in vulnerable rural and urban communities to support migrants and host populations in detecting respiratory symptoms. This activity was held in the departments of Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, Bolívar, Cesar, Cundinamarca, Chocó, La Guajira, Magdalena, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Santander, Valle del Cauca, and Vichada.

POINTS OF ENTRY (POE)

IOM Colombia developed educational trainings on COVID-19 at points of entry in the municipalities of Riohacha and Maicao (department of La Guajira); in Cúcuta, Ocaña Pamplona, Tibú, Villa del Rosario, (department of Norte de Santander). The training covered topics such as cough management and adequate hand washing protocols. Trainings were addressed to refugees, migrants, and returnees.

IOM Peru trained ten officers of the National Customs and Taxes Authority (SUNAT for its acronym in Spanish) on proper use of Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) at the Binational Border Care Centers (CEBAF for its Spanish acronym) in Tumbes, border with Ecuador.

The mission provided humanitarian transport to two Venezuelan migrants in vulnerable condition to complete their route Piura-Tumbes-Piura to receive their immigration cards. Furthermore, 250 food kits (reaching 293 refugees and migrants) and 9.75 liters of water (reaching 15 refugees and migrants) were delivered in their transit through Tumbes.



IOM Colombia

DISPLACEMENT TRACKING MATRIX (DTM)

In the development of the sixth Displacement Tracking Matrix to monitor Venezuelan migration flows, IOM Brazil collected data in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, two municipalities in the northern state of Roraima. The research aimed at collecting detailed information on migratory routes, sociodemographic profiles of migrants, as well as health conditions and ability to access health care services.

INFECTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPC)

In the states of Roraima and Manaus, IOM Brazil delivered 17,520 hygiene and cleaning kits to riverside and indigenous communities, as well as refugees and migrants. Also, IOM medical team held over 1191 medical consultations in Boa Vista and another 177 for Brazilians in Manaus -in partnership with the Municipal Health Secretariat of that city-. These last consultations included conducting COVID-19 tests for patients. Also, in partnership with the Brazilian government's program Operation Welcome, the IOM medical team assisted 257 Venezuelan refugees and migrants at the Reception and Support Desk in Manaus, while 677 Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Boa Vista received medical assistance.

In Manaus -in coordination with UNHCR, UNICEF and UNFPA- IOM donated 160,000 non-food items to the Amazonas State Department of Health in order to support the government in the response to the second wave of COVID-19. Over a thousand medicines were donated to the state hospital network as well as 18 tensiometer devices, 84 oximeters, 26 digital thermometers and 23 glucometers that will strengthen health services and assistance in Emergency Care Systems. An additional 755 hospital items were donated to a public hospital in Manaus.

Lastly, workshops on hygiene care were held in nine spontaneous occupations in Boa Vista reaching more than 100 people.

IOM Colombia continued identifying persons suspected of having COVID-19 and provided orientation and referrals for patients to local health secretariats, available health service providers, complementary health services provided by other agencies, and cooperation organizations

for sampling, care and follow-up in Arauca (department of Arauca); Cúcuta, Ocaña, Pamplona and Villa del Rosario (department of Norte de Santander), in Santa Marta (department of Magdalena), and in Barranquilla and Soledad (department of Atlántico).

IOM Ecuador assisted 1100 migrants with health NFI (Non-Food Items) in Huaquillas, Lago Agrio, Quito and Tulcán.

IOM Peru donated 312 hygiene kits including PPE, water face shields, and first aid items to 546 refugees and migrants in Tumbes. 38 refugees and migrants in transit received 24 liters of water in that city as well. The mission donated 300 COVID-19 Rapid Antigenic Tests to the Regional Health Directorate in Piura to assist refugees and migrants.

Furthermore, IOM Peru trained 20 local vendors on good practices for handling supplies in markets, checking vital signs, use of medical equipment (oximeter), and blood pressure monitoring.

IOM Venezuela, in coordination with the Red Cross, distributed 65 hygiene kits in communities in Maracaibo municipality (State of Zulia State). In total, 288 beneficiaries (75 women and 213 men) were assisted with these supplies. In addition, conjunctly with the Diocese of San Cristobal, 80 hygiene kits were distributed to 337 beneficiaries (184 women and 153 men) in the municipality of Bolívar (State of Táchira).

The mission also distributed hygiene kits to 220 beneficiaries (124 women and 96 men) in the Gran Sabana municipality (State of Bolívar) and in San Cristóbal (State of Táchira).



STRATEGIC PRIORITY 3

Ensure access of affected people to basic services and commodities, especially to those in most vulnerable conditions, including health care and protection and social services.

LOGISTICS, PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY MANAGEMENT

IOM Colombia donated 94,000 medical masks to support public hospitals in: Bello, Caldas, Copacabana, Envigado, Itagüí and Medellín (department of Antioquia); Barranquilla and Soledad (department of Atlántico); Cartagena (department of Bolivar); Duitama and Tunja (department of Boyacá); Valledupar (department of Cesar); Santa Marta (department of Magdalena); Riohacha (department of La Guajira), and in Puerto Carreño (department of Vichada).



In order to strengthen the COVID-19 response in Leticia (department of Amazonas), IOM delivered 500 units of N95 respirators, 1,000 units of disposable gowns, 1,000 units of disposable caps, 1,000 units of disposable gaiters, and 6,000 units of medical masks to the city's Public Hospital.

12,200 units of reusable masks were delivered to support communities. Masks were prioritized for distribution to children, adolescents, and women of the indigenous population, people from Venezuela who are in settlements, shelters, hikers, and people in highly vulnerable conditions. These activities were implemented in Antioquia, Arauca, Atlántico, Bolívar, Cauca, Cesar, Cundinamarca, La Guajira,

Magdalena, Nariño, Norte de Santander, Santander, Valle del Cauca and Vichada. Furthermore, 292 biosafety kits for adults and 74 for children and adolescents were delivered in the municipalities of Barranquilla, Ibagué, and Medellín.

CASE MANAGEMENT AND CONTINUITY OF ESSENTIAL SERVICES

IOM Ecuador provided First Psychological Aid to 1529 migrants; 47 people were benefited from Cash Based Interventions (CBI); 374 victims of GBV and people at risk of being so were assisted; 6 victims of TiP and at risk of being trafficked were also assisted.

IOM Peru assisted seven Venezuelans with health needs in Callao, Lima, and Tumbes. In coordination with national hospitals and private health centers, surgical interventions and emergency services were provided.

Furthermore, the mission, through its CBI team, provided direct assistance through multipurpose and health CBI to 492 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, in the regions of Lima (46%), Tumbes (17%), Tacna (16%), Piura (14%) and other regions such as Callao and Arequipa (7%). The total amount of direct assistance delivered is USD 35,743.00.

IOM Venezuela -jointly with Caritas Venezuela- held 5 health fairs in Maracaibo (State of Zulia) and succeeded in providing 470 beneficiaries (292 women and 178 men) with general medical services.

CAMP COORDINATION AND CAMP MANAGEMENT

IOM Colombia assisted 74 people with COVID-19 (11 boys, 16 girls, 23 women and 24 men) and other 12 individuals with COVID-19 symptoms, with temporary accommodation at the Transitory Attention Center for Migrants (CATM for its acronym in Spanish) in Norte de Santander.

IOM Venezuela assisted 71 people (43 women and 27 men) with shelter services, shower, food, hygiene supplies, and information on human trafficking and smuggling prevention to 71 people in Amparo, La Victoria (State of Apure), in Maracaibo (State of Zulia), and in Carúpano (State of Sucre).

PROTECTION

IOM Argentina provided psychological assistance to 44 migrants through its partner APdeBA (Asociación Psicoanalítica de Buenos Aires) by coordinating two support groups.

Within the framework of the Wayanay Thani Project (Proyecto Golondrina Sana, in Spanish), the mission developed -jointly with United Women Migrants and Refugees in Argentina (Amumra for its acronym in Spanish) - a series of videos aimed at caring for the mental health of migrant workers during the COVID-19 pandemic.

IOM Brazil -together with the National School of Public Administration- launched an open and free online course “Migration and Health,” especially addressed to health professionals and managers of the Unified Health System, in order to build knowledge on refugees and migrants’ rights in health care services, including relevant normative frameworks and other general information.

In addition, the mission -together with UNFPA, UNICEF and UNHCR- held a workshop on capacity building focused on the work that UN organizations have developed within Operation Welcome. The workshop included a session on Sexual Exploitation Prevention, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH), which was attended by five representatives of the 11th military contingent in the Amazonas region.

IOM Chile assisted 360 people with served meals in Colchane and 120 people in Huara in northern Chilean region. In coordination with local authorities a temporary camp was set up, IOM provided 25 tents and 100 sleeping bags.



IOM Colombia delivered food kits to 470 Afro-Colombian and indigenous families affected by COVID-19 in Bagadó (Department of Chocó) and in Buenaventura (Department of Valle del Cauca). Another 151 food kits were delivered to 151 families in the municipality of Lopez de Micay, (department of Cauca) as part of protection and prevention activities against COVID-19.

IOM Ecuador added child-friendly spaces in five shelters for human mobility in Guayaquil, Ibarra, Tulcán, Huaquillas and Santo Domingo. In these spaces, IOM held awareness workshops for migrant children and adolescents and the host community on trafficking, GBV, xenophobia, discrimination and promotion of children and teenagers' rights. Women and teenagers received family planning information and contraceptive methods, in coordination with the Ministry of Public Health.

IOM Peru identified and assisted 15 protection cases in Tacna and Tumbes, one who needed urgent health assistance and the other related to GBV and TiP also 13 people -Asylum seekers and migrants- were assisted by the mission.

Jointly with Cooperazione Internazionale, IOM held workshops addressed to 307 migrants and refugees in Tumbes and Piura regions focused on orientation for access to rights, and COVID-19 prevention.

In Tumbes, IOM put in place -together with the Regional Health Authority (DIRESA for its acronym in Spanish)- a COVID-19 symptom screening, reaching 1196 people and strengthening the prevention campaign in the municipality.

Additionally, the mission trained 61 teachers in Tumbes and Piura on First Psychological Aid as well as 26 migrant women -in the local market in Piura- on the promotion of healthy practices to prevent COVID-19.

IOM Uruguay assisted 37 quarantined people with food baskets (20 women and 17 men) in Chuy and Rivera. In addition, 73 people received food vouchers from the mission.

IOM Venezuela -in coordination with the Red Cross- distributed school kits to 42 children (24 girls and 18 boys) in the National Bolivarian School "Panamericana", located in Venancio Pulgar parish in the Maracaibo municipality (State of Zulia).

IOM Venezuela assisted a total of 1,778 people on the move with water, served meals, and life-saving information on human trafficking and smuggling in Pedro María Ureña and San Antonio (State of Táchira); Gran Sabana (State of Bolívar), and in La Victoria (State of Apure).

STRATEGIC PRIORITY 4

Support international, national and local partners to respond to the socio-economic impacts of COVID-19.



ADDRESSING SOCIO-ECONOMIC IMPACT

IOM Argentina provided CBI assistance to 189 migrants from Bolivia; Brazil; Colombia; Haiti; Liberia; Paraguay; Peru; Senegal; Syria; Ukraine; Uruguay, and Venezuela.

Within the framework of a productive project focused on guinea pig breeding in the city of Popayán (department of Cauca), IOM Colombia delivered fodder and pasture materials to feed the guinea pigs with the support of the UN Verification Mission in Colombia.

IOM Ecuador supported 91 persons with CBI assistance in Cuenca, Guayaquil, Huaquillas, Ibarra, Lago Agrio, Machala, Quito, and Tulcán.

IOM Peru provided direct assistance through multipurpose and health CBI to 659 Venezuelan refugees and migrants, in the regions of Callao, La Libertad, Lima, Tumbes, and Piura for a total amount of USD 46,767.



IOM Peru

OPERATIONAL AND FINANCIAL UPDATES

Information Sharing and Communication

IOM Regional Office for South America launched the audiovisual series, “Let’s talk about migration” (Conversemos sobre Migración) which includes Facebook live conversations between IOM specialists and experts on migration related topics. The first episode on 25 February 2021 was about Gender-Based Violence in migration crises; the second episode to be held on

4 March 2021, will be about the link between natural disaster risks and human mobility.

IOM has been actively supporting the dissemination of the UN OnlyTogether campaign, which seeks to support the call for fair and equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines around the world.

Resources Mobilization/Financial Updates

In September 2020, IOM published its revised Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP), building on the April iteration, to strengthen its response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) worldwide. The IOM Regional Office in Buenos Aires reviewed the Strategic Preparedness and Response Plan (SPRP) for South America, increasing to USD 31,021,903 the financial needs to alleviate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the most vulnerable

migrants and their host communities in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay, and Venezuela. Currently, IOM has confirmed funding amounting to USD 28,404,376, i.e. 92% of the total appeal funding requirement. The funding received includes lines of funding from the US Government, Canada, the European Union, the World Bank, Spain (AECID), and the Governments of Brazil and Colombia.

For latest information on IOM tools and resources for COVID-19 pandemic response visit www.iom.int/covid19



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