

CHILE



REFUGEES AND
MIGRANTS IN CHILE
457,324



PEOPLE TARGETED IN 2020*
254,000



FUNDING SITUATION**
FUNDED: **14.5%**
REQUIREMENT: **35.9M**

Situation

- The border police has noted an increase in irregular border crossings into Chile of small groups of Venezuelans entering from Peru and Bolivia. Initial reports suggests that the increased vulnerability and desperation faced by Venezuelan refugees and migrants in neighbouring countries due to COVID-19 is fueling secondary movement into Chile, which is perceived as providing greater opportunities for gainful employment despite the pandemic.
- In July, the Government of Chile was reshuffled.** The changes took place in response to a historic vote on the withdrawal of 10 per cent of the national pension fund to grant greater financial liquidity to citizens in the midst of the COVID-19 economic crisis. As a result of the decision, refugees and migrants who have been inscribed in the National Pension Fund, alongside citizens and other residents, are now able to access 10% of their savings to address emergency needs.
- The Department of Foreigners and Migration (Ministry of Interior) has updated the *Protocolo de casos sociales*,** a protocol established to assist particularly vulnerable refugees and migrants to regularize their stay in country and access key services. Measures have been taken to ease penalties for individuals faced with sanctions linked to their migratory status, but who are found to be exceptionally vulnerable.
- In the context of the International Day against Human Trafficking on 30 July, the Government announced the intention to adopt the Protocol (P029) of the ILO Forced Labour Convention on the eradication of forced labour.

Response

- During the most severe month of the winter season in Chile, R4V partners are delivering **emergency assistance** to the most vulnerable in Arica, Iquique, Antofagasta and Santiago. This month, 245 food and NFI kits were distributed and primary medical attention provided to 495.
- In Antofagasta, Platform members are supporting an **innovative, public-private solidarity campaign** for residents of informal settlements around the city. The collaboration between faith-based actors, the private sector, NGOs, CSOs and others has been successful in donating around **350 food boxes**, 27 water tanks and other goods.
- R4V partners have been assisting refugees and migrants with queries regarding the withdrawal of funds from the national pension fund. There has been substantial confusion as to when and how to access these funds in the aftermath of the vote. R4V partners have been organizing webinars on topics of relevance to refugees, migrants and the Chilean public, including on the impact of COVID-19, evictions and how to respond, labour rights and other topics. A dedicated series was held in commemoration of International Day Against Human Trafficking end of July by partners, local government and NGOs, including speakers from Peru, Bolivia and Ecuador. The webinars helped advance the establishment of a national network of institutions dedicated to the prevention and detection of **human trafficking**.
- Efforts to improve the coordination between the Support Spaces and enhance the range of services provided is ongoing. A joint action plan is being developed for the remainder of this year and for 2021, responding to the changing needs of refugees and migrants from Venezuela in Chile. With the prognosis of a 7% contraction of the economy, partners managing the support spaces are considering expanding existing services focusing on the **economic inclusion** of refugees and migrants.



Hum.
Transp.

-



Integration

158



NFI

-



Nutrition

1068



Protection

4012



Shelter

62

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* From 01/01/2020 | **Source: FTS Website. Recent funding contributions to the Platform in Chile will be reflected shortly.