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# Humanitarian Action for Children

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## Children on the move: Migration flows in Latin America and the Caribbean

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean are hosting at least 2.4 million Venezuelan migrants and refugees out of the 3 million Venezuelans migrating worldwide.<sup>1</sup> As of late 2018, UNICEF estimates that over 460,000 children<sup>2</sup> in Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago require assistance. Those in need include Venezuelan migrants and refugees, host communities and non-Venezuelans returnees. The high and unpredictable migration flows are stretching the capacities of host countries and increasing demands on already limited services and structures at the host community level. Women and children, particularly unaccompanied children and children with disabilities, as well as indigenous groups, are facing risks of violence, discrimination, trafficking, exploitation and abuse.<sup>3</sup> In 2019, an estimated 1.1 million people from both migrant and host communities will be in need of water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services; 1.5 million children will require access to education; and nearly 265,000 boys, girls, adolescents and women will need essential health services.<sup>4</sup> Affected people are in urgent need of access to registration, protection mechanisms, inclusive education, integrated health and nutrition services and adequate temporary or permanent housing. The medium- and long-term implications of the migration flows, such as the increase in demand for and costs of already stretched health, education and protection systems, mean that significant financial resources and technical capacities will be needed to carry out policy and programme adjustments. Colombia is the first country to comprehensively analyse such impacts and include mitigation measures in their national development plan. Other countries, such as Ecuador and Peru, are also considering the need to adjust their development plans. Integrating a child focus into those analyses and proposals will be crucial to ensuring sustainable integration.

### Humanitarian strategy

Given the urgency, scale and extended duration of this crisis, as well as the strong role of states in addressing the short- and long-term implications, UNICEF's humanitarian strategy is organized around three pillars of intervention at the country level, with special emphasis on Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. These are: 1) humanitarian action in fulfilment of humanitarian principles and the international protection framework for migrant children and their families, to ensure access to child protection services, education, holistic health and nutrition support and WASH services; 2) child protection and advocacy to ensure that the rights of migrant and refugee children and their families (including civil and political rights) are at the core of the actions taken by national stakeholders, civil society and humanitarian organizations; 3) resilient development and social policy to promote inclusion and integration by increasing access to

and the quality and suitability of social services, regularizing the migration and international protection status of children, and enhancing relevant social policies and national capacity building to address key gaps. These three pillars will be adapted to each country context and the prevailing needs at border areas, along transit routes and in destination settlements. In 2019, UNICEF will develop interventions in seven countries, including at least 11 border points, several transit routes and 34 urban destinations. At the regional level, in addition to ongoing coordination, technical assistance and quality assurance of country office plans, UNICEF's Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office will provide the support requested by governments as per the Quito I and II Declarations.<sup>5</sup> This will involve the implementation of five key multi-country strategies: 1) a monitoring and information analysis mechanism to measure the vulnerability of women, children and adolescents and support knowledge

Total people in need: 4.9 million<sup>10</sup>  
 Total children (<18) in need: 1,186,000<sup>11</sup>  
 Total people to be reached: 600,000<sup>12</sup>  
 Total children to be reached: 371,000

### 2019 programme targets:

#### Health and nutrition

- 38,050 boys and girls accessing at least the minimum set of vaccines according to each country's standards
- 15,600 boys and girls under 5 years accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities
- 26,600 boys and girls aged 6 to 59 months receiving nutrition supplementation to prevent undernutrition
- 46,600 caregivers (men and women) of boys and girls aged 0 to 23 months accessing infant and young child feeding counselling for appropriate feeding

#### WASH

- 63,690 people with daily access to WASH services at service delivery points (health centres, shelters, migration points and transit points) as per agreed standards
- 146,800 boys and girls in learning spaces accessing WASH services as per agreed standards (according to context)

#### Child protection

- 59,762 girls and boys provided with mental health and psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces with inter-sectoral programming interventions
- 153,000 children benefiting from programmes to prevent and address violence, abuse and exploitation, including gender-based violence

#### Education

- 96,850 boys and girls on the move, including adolescents, accessing formal education and early childhood development services<sup>13</sup>
- 57,600 boys and girls on the move, including adolescents, accessing non-formal learning activities<sup>14</sup>

#### Communication for development

- 11,600 affected people in targeted areas actively participating in accountability mechanisms supported by UNICEF
- 544,760 people reached and engaged in affected areas with messages on life-saving skills and protective practices and behaviours, as well as on information on accessing and using services

#### Social inclusion

- 8,500 families with children on the move receiving social protection services as part of initiatives supported by UNICEF

generation and sharing; 2) regional guidance and tools to facilitate integration into local services, focusing on holistic protection; 3) mechanisms fostering accountability to affected populations, such as U-Report on the Move; 4) programme training to enhance capacities for a sustained integration process; and 5) promotion of gender equality, nondiscrimination and empowerment. UNICEF will continue to enhance its contributions to the regional inter-agency platform led by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), providing leadership or co-leadership in the following areas: the campaign to prevent xenophobia, integral support services spaces, communication with communities, prevention and management of gender-based violence and information management.

## Results from 2018

As of 31 October 2018, UNICEF had US\$16.1 million available against the US\$28 million appeal (57 per cent funded).<sup>6</sup> In response to the migration crisis, in May 2018, UNICEF increased the regional Humanitarian Action for Children appeal for Latin America and the Caribbean to scale up its field presence and programme activities, including service delivery, advocacy and technical assistance, initially in neighbouring countries and later in countries<sup>7</sup> where flows increased rapidly throughout the year.<sup>8</sup> In line with inter-agency priorities, UNICEF prioritized sectors in which girls, boys and their families were most in need, such as WASH, health, nutrition, child protection and education, including early childhood development. In Colombia, in schools and areas where Venezuelan migrants and other vulnerable communities are concentrated (i.e., migrant centres, border crossing sites and slums), over 13,000 people gained improved access to WASH services, including through improvements to water and sanitation infrastructure and the delivery of hygiene kits. In Brazil, where thousands of migrants are living in formal and informal shelters, UNICEF supported the establishment of 11 child-friendly spaces and reached over 4,200 children with education services. UNICEF advocacy efforts in Ecuador were fundamental to the signing and implementation of a ground-breaking protocol for the protection of uprooted children, including those arriving from Venezuela. In Guyana, where access to reliable information about the composition of migration flows remains a great challenge, UNICEF reinforced the capacities of authorities to conduct information management and delivered assistance to 110 identified migrant and host families in remote indigenous communities. In Peru, where hundreds of migrants are crossing the border every day, UNICEF scaled up actions at the northern border and installed a child-friendly space that reached over 6,000 children with psychosocial support during the first three months.<sup>9</sup> In Trinidad and Tobago, one of the main Caribbean destinations for Venezuelan migrants, UNICEF partnered with the main local non-governmental organization to reinforce capacities to address the needs of migrant children. With UNICEF support, a temporary learning centre increased its coverage, reaching 170 migrant children. In Panama, UNICEF has led advocacy efforts to approve and implement a national protocol for children in need of international protection. Within the regional inter-agency platform, UNICEF works with agencies to disseminate messages and multimedia content to prevent and combat xenophobia, and contributed to a regional mapping of services available to migrant populations along migrant routes as an initial input for the establishment of integral support services spaces.

	UNICEF 2018 targets	UNICEF 2018 results <sup>i</sup>
<b>CHILD PROTECTION</b>		
Girls and boys provided with psychosocial support, including access to child-friendly spaces, with inter-sectoral programming interventions		
Brazil	1,000	477
Colombia	10,000	12,955
Ecuador	1,900	2,226
Peru	7,860	6,128
People in communities where social support networks to prevent and address violence, abuse and exploitation (including gender-based violence) are being mobilized and strengthened		
Brazil	4,550	709 <sup>ii</sup>
Colombia	10,000	12,525
Guyana	12,000	8,490
<b>EDUCATION</b>		
Girls and boys on the move, including adolescents accessing formal education		
Brazil	5,000	3,625 <sup>iii</sup>
Colombia	11,150	9,853
Trinidad and Tobago	450	174 <sup>iv</sup>
Girls and boys on the move, including adolescents accessing non-formal learning activities		
Brazil	1,470	664
<b>HEALTH AND NUTRITION</b>		
Boys and girls accessing at least the minimum set of vaccines according to each country standard		
Brazil	500	225
Colombia	10,000	2,400 <sup>v</sup>
Peru	3,714	3,386
Children under 5 years accessing primary health care in UNICEF-supported facilities, including treatment for acute malnutrition or micronutrient deficiencies		
Peru	1,956	1,666
Targeted caregivers (men and women) of children aged 0 to 23 months with access to infant and young child feeding counselling		
Brazil	500	93 <sup>vi</sup>
Colombia	10,000	428 <sup>vii</sup>
Peru	1,955	1,916
Trinidad and Tobago	200	23 <sup>viii</sup>

Boys and girls aged 6 to 59 months receiving nutrition supplementation to prevent undernutrition		
Brazil	700	387
Ecuador	1,060	677
WATER, SANITATION AND HYGIENE		
People (men, women, boys and girls) with daily access to WASH services at service delivery points (health centres, shelters, migration points and transit points) as per agreed standards (according to context)		
Colombia	30,000	13,516
Ecuador	10,000	7,500
Panama	2,000	309 <sup>ix</sup>
People provided with sanitation, hygiene kits, key hygiene items or access to handwashing points with soap or similar		
Colombia	600	600
Ecuador	17,500	8,400 <sup>x</sup>
Guyana	150	110
Peru	2,750	2,187
COMMUNICATION FOR DEVELOPMENT		
People reached with messages on life-saving skills and protective practices or information on uptake of services		
Colombia	10,000	14,893
Ecuador	4,000	2,000 <sup>xi</sup>
Guyana	150 <sup>xii</sup>	103
Panama	2,000	309 <sup>xiii</sup>
Trinidad and Tobago	10,000	1,445
SOCIAL INCLUSION		
Families with children included in social protection initiatives supported by UNICEF		
Ecuador	650	445

Results are through 31 October 2018 unless otherwise noted. This table includes a summary of the key indicators, targets and results from country office response plans. As country response plans have evolved and been adapted based on the fluid situation since the launch of the revised Humanitarian Action for Children appeal for the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office in May 2018, some targets are still being revised and may differ from what is presented in this table.

<sup>i</sup> Results from Peru are as of 21 November 2018.

<sup>ii</sup> Implementation of this activity started in November 2018; additional results are expected for December 2018.

<sup>iii</sup> Admission of new students is currently closed.

<sup>iv</sup> A scale-up strategy is being developed and an education specialist is being recruited to support implementation.

<sup>v</sup> Results are as of 21 November 2018.

<sup>vi</sup> Low performance is due to the fact that the nutrition partnership was only signed at the end of September.

<sup>vii</sup> Low performance is due to the slow start of extramural teams' activities, constraints in public hospitals that have gradually been overcome and delays in data collection and reporting by service providers. The number of beneficiaries is expected to rise by the end of 2018.

<sup>viii</sup> There are ongoing discussions with partner Living Water Community to explore ways of expanding reach.

<sup>ix</sup> Results are as of November 2018. Funds for this activity were received in late October and activities were launched in early November, hence low performance.

<sup>x</sup> Delivery will be accelerated in early 2019.

<sup>xi</sup> A scale-up strategy is in place that includes partnering with IOM to disseminate information and engage communities.

<sup>xii</sup> This figure is under revision, based on assessments in identified locations (migrant shelters/settlements).

<sup>xiii</sup> Results are as of November 2018. Funds for this activity were received in late October and activities were launched in early November, hence low performance.

## Funding requirements

UNICEF is requesting US\$69.5 million to meet the needs of refugee and migrant children in Latin America and the Caribbean in 2019 and respond to the situation of children on the move from Venezuela. This represents an increase in relation to the UNICEF request in the 2019 inter-agency Refugee and Migrant Regional Plan due to the significant emphasis on resilience. Inadequate funding will hinder the effort to protect the most vulnerable women, children and adolescents, undermine their access to and inclusion in basic services and prevent their adequate integration into host countries. Adequate and flexible funding will help UNICEF implement life-saving and urgent activities, while advocating for and supporting host governments to ensure the provision of key interventions that support children both in the short and long terms. This includes integrating urgent humanitarian activities and the sustained inclusion of migrant and refugee children's interests into national policies and programmes. The required resources will also help UNICEF play a key role in facilitating coherent and harmonized approaches across the region, focusing on the seven countries where specific action plans are being implemented, and ensuring active monitoring of the situation in other countries that might gradually require rapid reaction support.

Country	2019 requirements (US\$)
Brazil	9,038,000
Colombia	29,138,152
Ecuador	11,705,250
Guyana	840,000
Panama	1,350,000
Peru	6,922,500
Trinidad and Tobago	1,500,000
Regional technical support and coordination	9,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>69,493,902</b>

Sector	Brazil	Colombia	Ecuador	Guyana	Panama	Peru	Trinidad and Tobago	Regional technical support and coordination	2019 total requirement (US\$)
Health	1,600,000	6,670,000	714,760	30,000		885,500			9,900,260
Nutrition	470,000	626,000	946,950	50,000		385,250			2,478,200
Water, sanitation and hygiene	1,625,000	6,000,000	2,889,000	310,000	365,000	2,104,500			13,293,500
Education	1,137,000	7,687,000	1,915,300	270,000	210,000	1,909,000	850,000		13,978,300
Child protection	2,615,000	5,115,000	2,704,040	70,000	345,000	787,750	600,000		12,236,790
Social inclusion	430,000	820,000	1,776,200		210,000	195,000			3,431,200
Advocacy/communications	50,000	1,245,152	520,000	100,000	200,000		50,000		2,165,152
Communication for development	1,111,000	975,000	239,000	10,000	20,000	655,500			3,010,500
Regional support								9,000,000	9,000,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,038,000</b>	<b>29,138,152</b>	<b>11,705,250</b>	<b>840,000</b>	<b>1,350,000</b>	<b>6,922,500</b>	<b>1,500,000</b>	<b>9,000,000</b>	<b>69,493,902</b>

<sup>1</sup> United Nations Children's Fund, 'Migration Flows in Latin America and the Caribbean Situation Report No. 3' (draft), UNICEF, 2018. Note that this situation report was not finalized/published at the time of writing this appeal.

<sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>3</sup> This is based on UNICEF and partner assessments of the situation.

<sup>4</sup> Estimate based upon the 2019 country action plans for Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Panama, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago.

<sup>5</sup> Quito I: 'Declaración de Quito sobre Movilidad Humana de Ciudadanos Venezolanos en la Región', 3-4 September 2018, <[www.cancilleria.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/declaracion\\_quito\\_reunion\\_tecnica\\_regional.pdf](http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2018/09/declaracion_quito_reunion_tecnica_regional.pdf)>, accessed 7 December 2018; and Quito II: 'Plan de Acción del Proceso de Quito sobre la Movilidad Humana de Nacionales Venezolanos en la Región', 22-23 November 2018, <[www.cancilleria.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/plan\\_de\\_accion.pdf](http://www.cancilleria.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/plan_de_accion.pdf)>, accessed 7 December 2018.

<sup>6</sup> Available funds include US\$15.3 million received against the revised 2018 appeal (for migration in Latin America and the Caribbean) and US\$800,000 carried forward from the previous year to the Humanitarian Action for Children appeal for the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office dedicated to the 2018 migration in Latin America and the Caribbean response.

<sup>7</sup> Including Brazil, Colombia, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.

<sup>8</sup> Including Ecuador, Panama and Peru.

<sup>9</sup> Results from Peru are as of 21 November 2018.

<sup>10</sup> Includes 3.6 million people in need in 16 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (Argentina, Aruba, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Curaçao, Ecuador, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Trinidad and Tobago and Uruguay) as per the Global Humanitarian Overview 2019. In addition, according to different sources, it is estimated that approximately 1.3 million people living in host communities in these countries also need some sort of assistance.

<sup>11</sup> Estimated by UNICEF based on 2018 trends in the distribution of migrant populations across the 16 countries listed in endnote 10.

<sup>12</sup> Target population, according to UNICEF target groups: a) in transit; b) in destination; c) returnees; d) pendular (a population that resides in the border area and moves habitually across the border into neighbouring countries on a regular basis); e) host community population.

<sup>13</sup> Boys and girls on the move include: children in transit; children in destination; children returnees; and children in pendular movement.

<sup>14</sup> Ibid.

### Who to contact for further information:

**Marita Perceval**  
Regional Director, Latin America and the Caribbean  
Tel: +507 3 01 7474  
Email: [mperceval@unicef.org](mailto:mperceval@unicef.org)

**Grant Leaty**  
Deputy Director, Office of Emergency Programmes (EMOPS)  
Tel: +1 212 326 7150  
Email: [glaty@unicef.org](mailto:glaty@unicef.org)

**Carla Haddad Mardini**  
Director, Public Partnership Division (PPD)  
Tel: +1 212 326 7160  
Email: [chaddadmardini@unicef.org](mailto:chaddadmardini@unicef.org)