Factsheet Nº16

## **Covid-19 Situation Peru**



23 October, 2020

## Context

The State of Emergency has been extended until 30 November in Peru. Yet, the number of COVID-19 active cases has been on a steady decline, with some 1,000 positive cases daily, which has moved Peru out of the top ten countries in the COVID-19 global ranking. The virus has mostly affected the elderly population, while the Minister of Foreign Affairs estimated that by March 2021, 30 per cent of the population would be able to access the COVID-19 vaccine.

New impeachment proceedings were charged against President Vizcarra for alleged corruption during his mandate as Regional Government in Moquegua. This allegation has been launched by some Congresspeople, which will be discussed in Congress to approve or reject the start of the vacancy process during the first week in November, with the exact date yet to be confirmed.

The Ministry of Interior has published a Supreme Decree 010-2020 that approves special, exceptional and temporary measures to expedite the regularization of the immigration status of foreign citizens in the country, who have overstayed or entered irregularly. The requirements include to present a valid travel document, such as a passport, and having no criminal record.

## Asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants situation



Since the Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR for its acronym in Spanish) resumed the online asylum registration system on 22 June, **over 42,800 claims have been lodged**, representing **over 50,400 asylum-seekers**, and received a virtual work permit, out of which **32,780** are in Lima.

As the pandemic situation in the country is being stabilized, some restrictions are still in place, which continue to affect refugees and migrants who are in great need for remote support. UNHCR has answered over **75,400 calls** via helplines with the support of its partners since the start of the Emergency.

( Service )

**Some 28,000** orientations on shelter, protection, education and documentation have been registered in UNHCR's system (proGres,) since the start of the Emergency. Among the main unmet needs identified are food, shelter, access to health and other essential services, as well as lack of legal documentation.



Since the beginning of the Emergency, **over 125 Refugee Housing Units (RHUs) have been donated** and installed in some **70 locations**, including Hospitals, Maternal and Child health centres and shelters in the region of Arequipa, Callao, Cañete, Cuzco, Iquitos, Lima, Loreto, Madre de Dios, Piura, Tacna and Tumbes to help the country cope with the pandemic and in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, the Navy and the National Government.

UNHCR Peru Funding Update (As of 22 October 2020) \$48.6 million

Tightly earmarked

Funding gap (indicative)

Earmarked

The financial requirements for Peru include requirements for the

Coronavirus Emergency and the Venezuela Situation

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org

UNHCR financial requirements 2020

Softly earmarked (indicative allocation) Unearmarked (indicative allocation)

54% funded<sup>2</sup> HIGHLIGHT: UNHCR and Alianza Lima partner to support Refugee Integration



UNHCR and Alianza Lima, the football club with over **13 million fans**, have signed a frame agreement to work on initiatives such as including refugee children in the football academy -currently operating virtually- a trainer of trainers to enhance socioemotional tools for players to advocate for solidarity, integration and peaceful

coexistence through football". <u>Read more here</u>. Watch video here

# **UNHCR Response**

Basic needs such as access to food, water and sanitation, shelter and health are growing more and more urgent. Also, evictions are growing more frequent as many refugees and migrants do not have the means to pay for their rents.

## 🔇 Remote support

**Over 1,260 activities** on psychosocial support and empowerment to mitigate Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and case referrals have been carried out through UNHCR and partners. Additionally, in Tumbes some **40 local authorities** participated in a workshop to promote the protection of girls as part of the International Girl Day. The sensitization session was led by 10 adolescent promoters empowered through the UNHCR and Plan International project. Also **250 people** participated in a training of LGBTI community protection by PROSA.

The Municipality of Lima and UNHCR produced a series of three Webinars focused on new masculinities, as part of a larger strategy to prevent sexual and gender-based violence, targeting both the refugee and migrant, as well as the host communities. So far **over 3,000 people** have been reached with active engagement through social media

**Over 6,600 protection cases** have been followed-up through specialized case management services of UNHCR and partners since the start of the Emergency.

## Humanitarian Cash-Based Assistance (CBI)

Since the start of the Emergency, **over 36,250 people, i.e. some 11,760 families**, have received CBI through partners Aldeas Infantiles, Caritas, Encuentros and HIAS supported by UNHCR for some **2.2 million dollars**. This includes around USD 78,500 in multipurpose supermarket vouchers, reaching over **5,320 individuals** (equivalent to 1,730 cases), in all five locations where UNHCR has a presence namely: Arequipa, Cuzco, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.

As part of the livelihood strategy, **some 400 people** have participated in workshops to strengthen capacities to access employment, learn about their rights and complaint mechanisms to report exploitation and abuse, led by UNHCR with the support of the National Superintendence of Labor Inspection (SUNAFIL) for the sessions in Cuzco.

## **Solutions to COVID-19**

### **Basic Needs and Shelter**

During quarantine, over 1,000 refugees and migrants have been assisted daily, at the maximum capacity of supported shelters since March 2020. During this period, **some 270 refugees and migrants** have been supported with shelter, and **over 173,340 food rations** have been provided in the 16 shelters, hotels and temporary centres in Arequipa, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes.

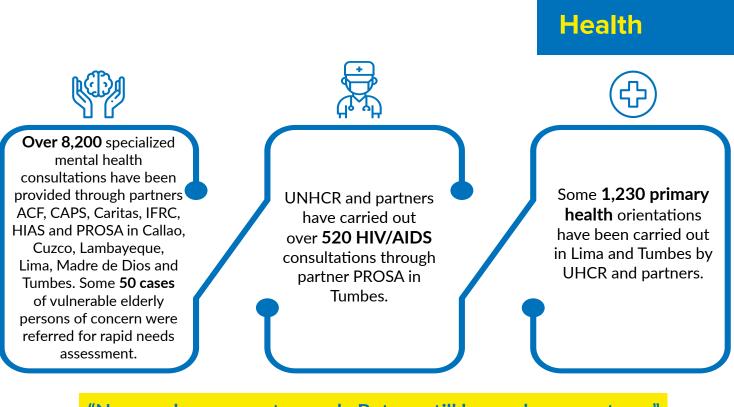
UNHCR contributed to the refurbishment of a support space in Tumbes. The soup kitchen "Comedor Hermanas de Santa Ana" serves both the refugee and the host communities and provides a safe space to conduct health brigades in coordination with UNHCR partner IFRC.

More than **4,400 kits** have been distributed by UNHCR and partners, including baby kits in Cuzco and Tacna, hygiene kits in Lima, and mosquito nets, masks, clothes and kitchen sets in Arequipa, Lima, Cuzco, Tacna and Tumbes. Also, since the start of the Emergency, over **17,870 thermal blankets** have been distributed nationally.



Hermanas de Santa Ana soup kitchen

## **UNHCR Response**



### "Now we have room to speak. But we still have a long way to go"

UNHCR's Juliette Murekeyisoni reflects on progress and setbacks for displaced women and girls since a landmark conference in 1995. "I hope we can continue working towards gender equality in the UN to be an example for others." Read more here

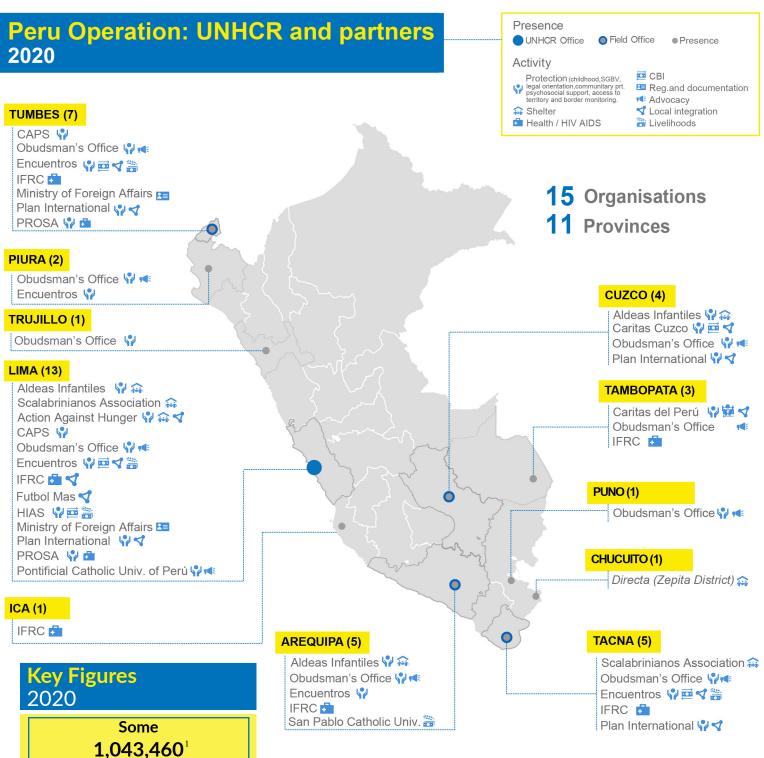


### Coordination

UNHCR is co-leading the emergency coordination response for refugees and migrants through the **GTRM** composed by over **75 partners** including donors, together with IOM. The GTRM is coordinating with the recently activated Humanitarian Network and has been holding bi-monthly coordination meetings on Cash Based Interventions (CBI), protection, health, information management and communications, as well as basic needs (shelter, food security and food distribution) with all sector leads to operationalize and channel assistance.

To read the latest dashboard about the COVID-19 Response access here

To read previous updates please access here



### Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Peru

Some 1,230<sup>1</sup> Refugees
Some 496,095<sup>2</sup> Asylum-seekers

1.Figures from the Superintendance of Migration (up to 31 August 2020) 2.Figures according to the Special Commission for the Refugees (CEPR) up to 30 June 2020

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