Peru has lowered the number of positive COVID-19 cases per day to some 4,000, which nevertheless places the country in the fifth position of the COVID-19 global ranking with over 353,600 positive cases and over 13,200 deaths.

On 1 July, the national quarantine ended in most regions of Peru excepting some regions in the north and maintain the curfew from 10:00 p.m. to 4 a.m., while the economic reopening is taking place in a staggered approach and for a few services only. The Tacna Regional Health Directorate will request the Government to continue the quarantine, as the hospital capacity is almost complete.

As many institutions and organizations are starting to return to their offices, more support services are beginning to open. Domestic tourism, domestic flights and interregional bus services resumed on 15 July with strict hygiene and social distancing protocols frequently not respected, except for the northern areas where the quarantine is still in force.

**Asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants situation**

UNHCR has donated and installed over 40 RHUs (Refugee Housing Units) in 20 health centres to enhance the COVID-19 response in hospitals in Lima. These spaces assist an average of 15 to 30 persons per day.

Some 13,540 blankets have been distributed in Apurímac, Arequipa, Cuzco, Lima and Tacna since the start of the Emergency. Out of these, 100 thermal blankets were donated to the Health Regional Directorate in Tumbes to be used at five medical centres responding to COVID-19 emergency, while over 220 were donated for the COVID-19 hospital beds in Cuzco.

Since the start of the Emergency, UNHCR has been offering continuous support via its toll-free hotlines. So far, over 48,000 calls have been attended by UNHCR and partners.

UNHCR together with their partner IFRC continued their visits to shelters in Lima to respond to the health needs of refugees and migrants during the pandemic. During July, 130 refugees and migrants were supported through mobile health service brigades, also benefiting children. Also, in Tumbes, six health brigades were conducted in alternative shelters attending and providing medical consultation and medicines.

As part of the commemoration of Pride during June, UNHCR collaborated in the conference "LGBTIQ+ Refugee and Migrant Community" that reached some 115 participants. Additionally, focus groups with LGBTIQ+ refugees and migrants were conducted to better understand their needs and capacities and develop a workplan to this aim in Arequipa, Lima, Cuzco, Tacna and Tumbes.

**Highlight: Refugees, migrants and the host community united in volunteerism amid confinement!**

These volunteers shared their time, skills and kindness in a series of over 20 workshops via our Facebook Page that took place during the quarantine. Art, music, sports, food, etc. were among the topics during these online meeting points that reached more than 21,000 views! Watch here
Remote support

Since the resume of the Special Commission for Refugees (CEPR for its acronym in Spanish) online refugee and asylum-seekers registration system on 22 June, some 14,290 asylum-seekers have lodged their claims and received a virtual work permit.

Since the start of the emergency, over 11,550 orientations on documentation, shelter, protection, education, etc. have been registered in proGres, UNHCR’s official case-management system.

Over 760 activities on psychosocial support and empowerment to mitigate Sexual Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and case referrals have been carried out through UNHCR and partners. Also, in Cuzco and Lima, some 50 teenagers participated in SGBV prevention strategy sessions conducted by UNHCR partner Plan International, while partner CAPS offered capacity development activities for some 220 civil society organizations’ staff on protection and referral pathways.

Health

Over 3,900 specialized mental health consultations have been provided through partners ACF, CAPS, Caritas, IFRC, HIAS and PROSA in Callao, Cuzco, Lambayeque, Lima, Madre de Dios and Tumbes.

UNHCR and partners have carried out over 340 HIV/AIDS consultations through partner PROSA in Tumbes.

Some 720 primary health orientations have been carried out in Lima and Tumbes by UNHCR and partners.
UNHCR Response

Solutions to COVID-19

Basic Needs and Shelter

More than 660 persons of concern are receiving shelter and daily food support in over 20 shelters/collective accommodations supported by UNHCR in Arequipa, Lima, Puno, Tacna and Tumbes. This week, UNHCR partner Action Against Hunger also provided three virtual child protection sessions for parents in Lima.

Over 110,650 food rations have been provided since the start of the Emergency in the shelters, hotels and temporary centres in Arequipa, Lima, Tacna and Tumbes. Also, 7,200 energy bars donated to the Regional Directorate of Education of Tumbes, which will be distributed to Venezuelan and host community children.

UNCHR has been supporting the safe closure of temporary shelters established during the quarantine for people stuck in transit. In Lima, over 90 Haitians in transit were hosted, and the shelter has been successfully closed, it is expected that all will continue their journeys. In Tacna, support proved crucial to close a shelter established by the Regional Government, and through strong coordination with government and international agencies, some 60 persons left the shelter, following health protocols and rapid tests for COVID-19. UNHCR provided CBI to the four families who wished to remain in the city.

Humanitarian Cash-Based Assistance (CBI)

Since the emergency started, over 20,300 highly vulnerable refugees and migrants - some 6,280 families - have received emergency Cash-Based assistance for over USD 1.4 million.

Some 300 families have been benefited with multipurpose supermarket vouchers.

HIGHLIGHT

Many people have been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, especially those who have the least resources and who are vulnerable because they earn their living day by day. The “Gracias Causa” brigade and the Venezuelan Restaurant El Budare came together to bring some hope to the homes that need it the most.

PROTECTION MONITORING: SHELTERS IN LIMA

A protection monitoring of eleven shelters in Lima was carried out by UNHCR and partner ACF to gather information on the protection needs of refugees and migrants amid the COVID-19 pandemic. See more

Coordination

UNHCR is co-leading together with IOM the emergency coordination response for refugees and migrants through the GTRM (for its acronym in Spanish) composed by more than 70 partners including donors. 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
Peru Operation: UNHCR and partners
2020

Key Figures
2020

Some
830,000
Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Peru

Some
1,230
Refugees

Some
482,500
Asylum-seekers

1. Figures from the Superintendance of Migration (up to January 2020)
2. Figures according to the Special Commission for the Refugees (CEPR) up to date

UNHCR is thankful to the donors who provide funds to the Venezuela Situation:
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13 Organisations
11 Provinces

TUMBES (7)
CAPS
Obudsman’s Office
Encuentros
IFRC
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Plan International
PKOSA

PIURA (2)
Obudsman’s Office
Encuentros

TRUJILLO (1)
Obudsman’s Office

LIMA (12)
Aldeas Infantiles
Scalabrinianos Association
Action Against Hunger
CAPS
Obudsman’s Office
Encuentros
IFRC
HIAS
Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Plan International
PROSA
Pontifical Catholic Univ. of Perú

ICA (1)
IFRC

AREQUIPA (4)
Obudsman’s Office
Encuentros
IFRC
Aldeas Infantiles

CUZCO (4)
Aldeas Infantiles
Caritas Cuzco
Obudsman’s Office
Plan International

TAMBOPATA (3)
Caritas del Perú
Obudsman’s Office
IFRC

PUNO (1)
Obudsman’s Office

CHUCUITO (1)
Directa (Zepita District)

TACNA (5)
Scalabrinianos Association
Obudsman’s Office
Encuentros
IFRC
Plan International

Some
482,500
Asylum-seekers

1 Figures from the Superintendance of Migration (up to January 2020)
2 Figures according to the Special Commission for the Refugees (CEPR) up to date