

Ecuador CCD Multi-Sectorial Needs Assessment

Executive summary

Quito, October 2018

Key Findings and Advocacy Messages

- High food insecurity amongst Venezuelan population: 50% had experience moderate to severe hunger in the past months. 23% of PLW had experienced severe hunger.
- Important proportion of Venezuelans living in public spaces, including women and PLW, notably in border areas, with associated protection and health risks.
- High risks of exploitation and human trafficking, especially for women and children
- Limited access to health and Education services for Venezuelan households
- More than 55% of Venezuelan population is not able to generate income and meet their basic needs.
- Urgent need for humanitarian intervention to support Venezuelan households meeting their basic needs
- Urgent need for advocacy to fasten and ease the regularization processes in Ecuador, to facilitate access to safe income generating opportunities and basic services.

Methodology

Data was collected (Sept 26th - Oct 2nd) by a set of interviewers: a) 8 in the North (covering Quito, Tulcan, Ibarra and Nueva Loja) for seven days, led by Mercy Corps and World Vision and b) 10 in the South for 4 days covering Huaquillas, Machala and Guayaquil, led by Care and World Vision. A total of 669 interviews were conducted, alongside FGD, key informant interview and market monitoring. The number of interviews in each location depended on the capacity of field teams (some areas have a higher coverage than others), and cannot be considered as representative. The design of the interview was a common effort of Save the Children, Care, Mercy Corps, CRS, NRC and World Vision, and was uploaded on kobo by IRC. Data cleaning was performed by Save the Children and Mercy Corps, initial data analysis was provided by IRC and final power bi presentation and reporting was developed by Save the Children. A one-and-a-half-day workshop was held in Quito, including Save the Children, Care, Mercy Corps and World Vision to jointly analyze the data et develop joint response plans. This report is a summary of interviews findings, complemented by qualitative data and enumerators feedbacks.

To access data from the assessment:

<https://app.powerbi.com/view?r=eyJrIjoizmFlZDBjOGQtMjU2My00YWVhLTlhOTMtOTNiMGJhY2Y1NDIwliwidCI6IjgwNWRiZTRkLWFiZDMtNDdINS1hNDQ2LWQ0NzQ5N2FIMTE4YSIsImMiOiJF9>

Population profile

Household composition

- The average household size is 2.4 people.
- 20% are travelling alone, the rest are travelling with relatives, children or friends.
- Limited # of children (only 20% of the respondents are travelling with children) – expected that migrants will start bringing in their children at the end of the school year.
- 5% of the respondents were minors; 41% were young adults and 52% adults. The elderly represented less than 2% of the respondents.
- 6% of the respondents were travelling with a PLW.
- 40% of the respondents were women.

Legal Situation

- 46% reported having a legal status in Ecuador (through refugee application, refugee status, visa, residency permit). However, only 10% of them had the required legal documentation (visa, solicitud de refugio, regurio, permiso de residencia) to be legally entitled to work, hence increasing risks of exploitation and income generating opportunities.
- The rest of the migrant population travelled using passport (without visa, equal to tourist status), 'Carta Andina' or Venezuelan ID card, which are not valid to remain in country more than 3 months, or to work.
- People travelling without formal identification have to cross into Ecuador irregularly (ex: Nuevaloja)
- 12% of the respondents identified themselves as being part of a vulnerable, discriminated, persecuted or at risk group.

Migration trends

- 2/3 of the respondents were planning to stay in Ecuador. The rest of the respondents were mainly looking to reach Peru.
- Two major population profiles: people in transit vs aiming at settling in Ecuador.
 - Tulcan, Nuevaloja and Huaquillas are mainly transit cities for Venezuelans. Quito, Ibarra and Machalla are both transit and settlement areas (where people seek income to pay for the rest of their trip or aim at settling). Guayaquil (an important economic center) is mostly a city where Venezuelans try to settle in.

Perceived Priority Needs

- The vast majority (72%) of the population reported being primarily in need of income. By "need of income" the respondents implied need of financial resources to cover their basic needs (such as food, shelter, purchase of medicines) and send money back to Venezuela.
- Residency in Ecuador was considered a priority by 8% of the respondents, notably in order to have access to formal income and settle in country.
- Security (implying being able to live in a safe space and area, without fears of prosecution or deportation) was the priority of 6.2% of the surveyed population.
- Family reunion was the priority of 6% of the surveyed population.
- Access to Education was the priority of 3% of the population.
- Access to Health was the priority of 2% of the population.
- Analysis per location and per sex did not result in major changes in perceived priority needs of the population (income generation remaining the top priority fore more than half of the respondents). 9% of interviewed PLW prioritized health.
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Protection

Key Findings

- Lack of legal protection: the vast majority of respondent are in an irregular situation. As a result, they do not have access to basic social services (health, education) nor formal employment, which makes them increasingly at risk of labor exploitation and involvement in illegal economic network
- Venezuelans are living/exposed to security risks, especially in Quito, Guayaquil and border areas, and have limited access to protection from public institutions.
- High risks of GBV, especially in Quito (58% perceived a threat) and Nuejalojas (63%). 7% reported that at least one member of their family was victim of GBV. Sexual harassment is very common, and various prostitution networks were reported, notably on the border areas. This constitutes a major protection risk for women and girls, in particular in a context of limited income generation opportunities.

- Increasing xenophobia worsens the security and well-being of Venezuelans

Shelter

Key Findings

- Important proportion of Venezuelans living in public spaces, including women and PLW, notably in border areas, with associated protection and health risks.
- Shelter options include living in public spaces (22%), 'Albergue' (5%), Informal settlement (4%), renting a flat/room (54%) or being hosted by Ecuadorians/relatives (5%).
- Venezuelans renting a flat/room reported living in good conditions. Main barrier to rent is lack of purchasing power. Average cost of rent per month is 100 USD.
- Overall good access to hygiene facilities and drinking water.
- Transportation constitutes a major expenditure for new arrivals, but decreases for population settling in Ecuador.

Food Security and Livelihoods

Key Findings

- High food insecurity amongst Venezuelan population: 50% had experience moderate to severe hunger in the past months. 23% of PLW had experienced severe hunger.
- Very low food diversity and quantity intake
- Food scarcity was the primary reason for leaving Venezuela for 50% of the Venezuelans.
- Food purchase is the primary expenditure of households.
- Main barrier to food security is lack of purchasing power.
- Income generation was ranked as the top priority by the vast majority of Venezuelans, in order to cover their basic needs and send remittances to Venezuela. However, only 55% of them are generating income. Average income is 259 USD per month.
- High levels/risks of exploitation, particularly for women, notably due to lack of access to right to work. The vast majority of income generating activities of Venezuelan are informal.

Health

Key Findings

- Limited access to health services for Venezuelan migrants. Less than half of PLW who reported having been ill in the past month reported accessing health services.
- 9% of Venezuelans reported suffering from chronic diseases.
- Lack of regularization and purchasing power are the main barriers for Venezuelans to access health/drugs.
- 6% of the respondents' were/ had a disabled person in their household.

Education

Key Findings

- Although the proportion of children was not high at the time of the survey, it is expected that households settling in Ecuador will bring their children after the end of the scholar year.
- 1 out of 4 children/minors is going to school.

- Child labor was reported as the primary cause for children not to access school.
- Main barriers to access education are lack of purchasing power and required documentation to enroll children in school.

Recommendations

Priority areas of intervention

- Advocacy to fasten an ease regularization of migrant population, to increase access to right to work and social services (health and education)
- Information campaigns to increase awareness of migrant population of their rights, where and how to access health service, shelter opportunities and inform them of risks of exploitation.
- Cash-based intervention to support the migrant population covering their basic needs and prevent the use of negative coping strategies affecting their well being, protection and dignity
- Livelihood intervention to support the insertion of the migrant population in the local economy and increase their self-reliance.

Priority population

- Women headed households
- Women travelling alone
- Households with numerous children
- Households with Elderly
- Child/Minor headed household
- Target 30% of Ecuadorian and 70% of Venezuelans: targeting of Ecuadorian in the communities where Venezuelan are transiting/settling is essential to mitigate risks of increased xenophobia

Recommendations for Cash-Based intervention

- Two main package of cash-based assistance based on the profile of the migrant (in transit/seeking to settle in Ecuador)

Population in Transit: One off cash transfer of 77 USD per person (212 USD per household of 3)

Canasta Basica Poblacion en Transito – Frontera		
	Individual	Familia de 3
Alimentos (5 dias)	9	27
Alojamiento (3 noches)	30	90
Transporte Frontera – Frontera	21	63
Kit higiene	8	24
Kit Ninos (Paquete pequeno panales y panos)		5,00
Comunicacion	3	3
Total Transferencia Transito	71	212

Population seeking to settle in Ecuador

- Minimum of 3 months cash assistance to cover the minimum costs of settling and living while households identify safe sources of income. Note: possibility to do this per capita, based on HH profiles.
 - Month 1: Transfer of 286 USD (varies depending on location)
 - Month 2: 186 USD
 - Month 3: 186 USD

- Complement cash based intervention with livelihoods intervention to increase households' income
- Safety Net support at the end of the 3 months for most vulnerable households

Canasta Basica Poblacion con vocacion de establecerse											
	Mes 1				Mes 2			Mes 3			
	Quito	Frontera	Otros	Frecuencia	Quito	Frontera	Otros	Quito	Frontera	Otros	
Alimentos	155,03	155,03	155,03	Mensual	155,03	155,03	155,03	155,03	155,03	155,03	
Kit cocina	49,20	49,20	49,20	1 off							
Kit noche	82,00	82,00	82,00	1 off							
Alojamiento	84,00	96,33	100,00	Mensual	84,00	96,33	100,00	84,00	96,33	100,00	
Transporte local	24,00	24,00	24,00	Mensual	24,00	24,00	24,00	24,00	24,00	24,00	
Kit higiene	25,10	25,10	25,10	Mensual	25,10	25,10	25,10	25,10	25,10	25,10	
Top up Ninos	49,35	49,35	49,35	Mensual	49,35	49,35	49,35	49,35	49,35	49,35	
Comunicacion	15,00	15,00	15,00	Mensual	15,00	15,00	15,00	15,00	15,00	15,00	
Total	483,68	496,02	499,68		352,48	364,82	368,48	352,48	364,82	368,48	
Promedio National Total	493,13				361,93			361,93			

	Mes 1			Mes 2			Mes 3		
	Quito	Frontera	Otros	Quito	Frontera	Otros	Quito	Frontera	Otros
Ingreso mensual	279	254	270	279	254	270	279	254	270
MEB 100%	483,68	496,02	499,68	352,48	364,82	368,48	352,48	364,82	368,48
Remesas	92,00	92,00	92,00	92	92	92	92	92	92
Total de la transferencia (Gap)	296,68	334,02	229,682 5	165,48	202,82	190,48	165,48	202,82	190,48
Promedio National	286,7936111			186,26			186,26		
Total 3 meses	659,31								