

Peru

October 2025 | Operational Update

Key figures


 **123,969 people** assisted in 2025

PROTECTION

 **12,033 people**
received services at
border and transit points
| **1,122 in October**

 **6,889 people**
received legal assistance
| **1,154 in October**

 **7,338 people**
supported with
case management
| **2,243 in October**

 **187 women,**
girls and other vulnerable
individuals received
assistance | **19 in October**

 **233 children**
received specialized
child protection services
| **45 in October**

BASIC NEEDS

 **1,566 people**
supported with shelter
| **144 in October**

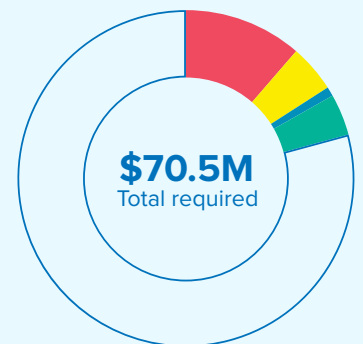
 **9,491 kits**
and core relief items delivered
| **956 in October**

HEALTH

 **8,928 people**
received healthcare services
| **1,330 in October**






Funding

21% of UNHCR's financial
requirements for Peru received
by 31 October 2025



79%
funding gap

21%
funded

 Tightly earmarked  Unearmarked
 Earmarked  Funding gap
 Softly earmarked

Highlights

On 23 October, as part of the **commemoration of the 80th anniversary of the United Nations**, UNHCR's Representative attended the official ceremony organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with support from the UN System in Peru. Foreign Minister Hugo de Zela highlighted the UN's indispensable role in promoting collective action, while UN Resident Coordinator Rossana Dudziak reaffirmed the importance of international cooperation in addressing global challenges and advancing sustainable development.



UNHCR's Representative attended the protocol greeting ceremony at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, an event held on 24 October, where President José Jerí and Foreign Minister Hugo de Zela received members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Peru. The gathering brought together 73 heads of mission and representatives of international organisations, during which Minister De Zela emphasised Peru's commitment to strengthening relations with all countries and international partners.

On 30 October, UNHCR participated in the presentation "*Promoting a Migration Approach in Local Governments of Metropolitan Lima and Callao*", organised by the National Superintendence of Migration (SNM). During the event, **UNHCR showcased its work with district-level authorities to foster the integration of people in situations of forced displacement living in Peru**. During the session, UNHCR emphasised its collaboration with local municipalities such as Carmen de la Legua in Callao, where a complementary registration exercise was conducted in 2024; the series of Service Fairs organised alongside local governments; and ongoing advocacy efforts with front-line officials providing assistance to people forced to flee.

Context



1.66M Venezuelans
in Peru



539,983 asylum-seekers
in Peru, primarily from
Venezuela



**32% of Venezuelan
nationals** in Peru live
in monetary poverty*



**More than 1M
Venezuelans** in Lima



**2nd largest host
country** for forcibly
displaced Venezuelans



**10% of Venezuelan
nationals** in Peru live
in extreme poverty*



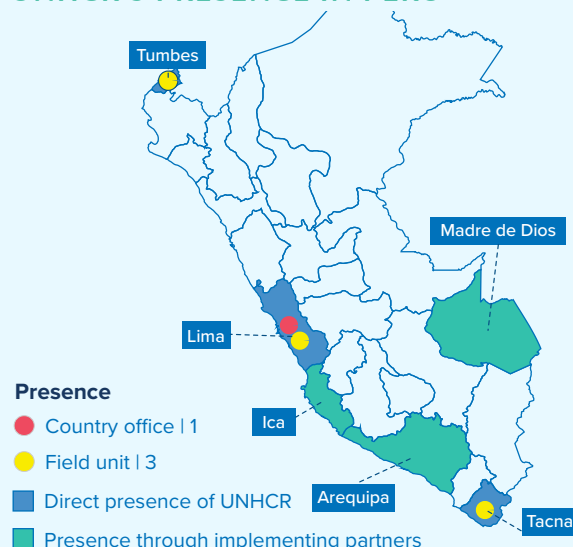
Key risks faced by forcibly displaced people:

Inability to generate income upon arrival |
Monetary poverty | Negative coping mechanisms
(child labor, sexual exploitation, begging for food)

These figures are currently under review following the completion of the asylum backlog validation process at the end of 2024.

*According to ENPOVE 2022.

UNHCR'S PRESENCE IN PERU



President José Jerí Oré assumed office on 10 October 2025, following the impeachment of former President Dina Boluarte by Congress. On 14 October, President Jerí swore in his Council of Ministers, appointing Ambassador Hugo de Zela as Minister of Foreign Affairs, Vicente Tiburcio as Minister of the Interior, and Walter Martínez as Minister of Justice and Human Rights.

On 21 October, the Government declared a 30-day state of emergency in Metropolitan Lima and the Constitutional Province

of Callao in response to rising violent crime. The measure assigns responsibility for internal security to the National Police, with support from the Armed Forces, and authorises restrictions on personal liberty, the inviolability of the home, and the freedoms of assembly and movement. Joint police and military patrols have been deployed in designated areas. SNM also intensified migratory status verifications targeting foreign nationals subject to the Special and Exceptional Administrative Sanctioning Procedure (PASEE).



PROTECT

As part of the Letter of Understanding between UNHCR and the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, **two workshops were carried out in coordination with the National Programme Warmi Ñan to strengthen protection responses to gender-based violence**. On 10 October, UNHCR co-organised a workshop for more than 80 officers from the Lima Metropolitan Police Region, held within the framework of the Joint Action Protocol between Women's Emergency Centres (CEM) and the police, to enhance coordination and promote protection-focused interventions. Thereafter, on 24 October, UNHCR delivered the third and final workshop, aimed at reinforcing the technical capacities of CEM professionals in Lima and Callao to apply regulatory frameworks that safeguard the rights of individuals experiencing violence, with around 60 officials participating.

In early October, Peru hosted the XXIX Congress and XXX General Assembly of the Ibero-American Federation of Ombudspersons (FIO 2025) in Cusco and Lima, alongside the Annual Defenders' Convention (CAD) in Lima. **UNHCR contributed by highlighting refugee protection challenges, supporting logistics, and co-hosting a roundtable** with the Ombudsperson's Office and 13 regional heads to share good practices and strengthen Peru's asylum system.

On 9 October, UNHCR took part in an event organised by the Regional Government of Tumbes to commemorate the Day of the Child. UNHCR supported the celebration in Tumbes with a play space, where **over 100 children and adolescents learned about international protection and the rights of refugees**. Four schools from Tumbes joined the event, including two that host refugee students and that have been supported by UNHCR with sports activities and recreational materials.

The Decentralised Offices (ODE) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Tumbes and UNHCR **held a training session on international refugee protection and the right to seek asylum** for the National Police, an activity conducted on 23 October. A total of 18 police officers attended, representing various divisions including the Border Police, State Security, the Family Police Division, San José and Andrés Araujo Police Stations, the Highway Police, and the Criminal Investigation Division (DIVINCR).

On 29 October, UNHCR and partner Encuentros, took part in a Service Fair organised by the Zonal Migration Office (JMZ) at the National Educational Institution "El Gran Chilimasa" in Aguas Verdes, Tumbes. **During the activity, UNHCR identified and supported 30 children and adolescents in regularising their migration status.**





RESPOND

As part of its efforts to strengthen access to health services for refugees, asylum-seekers and host communities in Lima, UNHCR supported two health interventions in coordination with local authorities and partners:

On 10 October, UNHCR supported the Integrated Health Networks Directorate (DIRIS) Lima Sur during its health campaign in San Juan de Miraflores, where Partners in Health provided general medical services to refugees and asylum-seekers while DIRIS Lima Sur offered the same support to the host community. **The activity aimed to strengthen coordination to improve access to local health centres, including public health insurance enrolment, emergency care and children's vaccinations, reaching more than 1,000 refugees and host community members.** On 15 October, UNHCR and Partners in Health also visited the Scalabrini shelter in Lima to provide primary and mental health care to residents, ensuring that people unable to access Protection Spaces can still receive essential services while an exit plan is developed. During the visit, 40 people, including children, adolescents and older persons, received care.



Throughout October, UNHCR and its partners held a **series of Service Fairs in Lima, Tumbes and Tacna, providing essential support to over 430 refugees, asylum-seekers and members of host communities.** In Lima, events in San Martín de Porres, Independencia and San Juan de Lurigancho offered documentation assistance, protection guidance, specialised medical services, psychosocial support and community activities to strengthen local inclusion. In Tumbes, Service Fairs in Aguas Verdes and Puerto Pizarro facilitated access to information on international protection and regularisation, primary healthcare and support from State institutions and civil society. In Tacna, participants received legal assistance, orientation and basic medical care. Together, these interventions expanded access to essential services and reinforced protection for refugees and host communities.

On 31 October, UNHCR and the Municipality of San Martín de Porres, through its Sub-Directorate for Disaster Risk Management, organised the First Interactive Disaster Risk Management Fair. **The event provided more than 80 participants with guidance on disaster prevention and response,** with contributions from

the National Institute of Civil Defence (INDECI), the Lima Norte Fire Department, and the National Police. In addition, **UNHCR partner Encuentros, offered information and assistance to 20 forcibly displaced persons on access to documentation and international protection** for refugees and asylum-seekers.

In October, **UNHCR, in coordination with the Local Education Management Unit (UGEL) in Tacna, delivered donations to six schools with high numbers of refugee students.** The donations included laptops, projectors, speakers, recycling containers, musical instruments and educational materials. These donations strengthened learning environments, enhanced classroom technology and supported inclusive education, ensuring equal access to resources for 4,580 local and refugee students. Moreover, the contributions increased the schools' capacity and openness to enroll more refugee students, promoting their integration and access and continuity in education while fostering active community engagement.

EMPOWER

On 4 October, UNHCR organised a session for the Youth Network in Tacna, **focused on migration statuses and access to higher education,** with representatives of the Migration Zonal Office, the Regional Directorate of Education of Tacna (DRET), and a lecturer from Jorge Basadre Grohmann National University. Twenty adolescents took part, strengthening their knowledge of their rights and pathways to access educational services. The Youth Network plays a key role as a space for connection, empowerment, and leadership among refugee adolescents, promoting their community participation and fostering social integration.

On 25 October, UNHCR in Tacna **organised a workshop for children at the Santa Rosa de Lima Shelter, bringing together 50 refugee and host community boys and girls** participating in the *Educadores de Calle* (Street Educators) programme of the National Comprehensive Programme for Family Welfare (INABIF) – MIMP. Alongside 15 caregivers and three INABIF teachers, UNHCR promoted inclusion and mutual understanding through interactive, child-focused activities. Using materials adapted from the book *My Journey*, the session encouraged self-awareness, reflection, and empathy among children as they explored their own experiences and those of refugees.



Who we
work with:



Asociación
Protección
Población
Vulnerable



Cáritas
Madre de Dios



ENCUENTROS
Servicio Jesuita a Migrantes
acompañar • servir • defender



MIGRACIONES
Superintendencia Nacional
PERÚ



Socios
En Salud
Partners in Health

World Vision

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

Rebuilding Hope: How UNHCR Assistance Helped a Venezuelan Father Support His Son's Recovery in Peru

Nelson Zerpa, a 48-year-old Venezuelan refugee, found hope in Tacna when his son's recovery became a lifeline for the family. Fleeing Venezuela in 2019 with his wife and three children, Nelson arrived in Peru seeking safety and a chance to rebuild a life disrupted by displacement.

However, for Nelson, starting over was far from easy. He took on a series of unfamiliar jobs to support his family. His situation became even more difficult when one of his sons suffered a serious accident requiring surgery and eight days of hospitalization.

"The child got injured... They had to operate on him, and we needed to buy the screws and all the surgical materials," Nelson recalled. "The help UNHCR gave me really made a difference because I was overwhelmed at that moment."

With support from UNHCR, Nelson covered urgent medical expenses for his son, obtained legal documentation, secured stable housing, and accessed essential services that helped him regain stability.

Despite the hardships, Nelson says the community in Tacna welcomed him warmly, helping him integrate and rebuild a sense of home. "I feel as if I were in my own country," he said. "I've had no issues here. The integration has been very good because, even though I'm a foreigner, they received me with open arms."

Today, Nelson continues working to provide for his family, grateful for the support that allowed them to overcome a difficult moment and look toward the future with hope.

UNHCR is grateful for the support of donor countries that contribute to the office in Peru and to global programmes with flexible funding:



Private donors: Australia, Germany, Italy, Japan, the Netherlands, Republic of Korea, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom

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