

# PERU

QUARTERLY UPDATE | **JANUARY - MARCH 2026**

## Our Response in Figures



**20,184** people assisted in 2026



**13,175** people received support at UNHCR Protection Spaces



**1,725** people received services at border and transit points



**44** children received specialised child protection services



**1,453** family groups whose appointment was scheduled through InfoACNUR **2,795** people



**1,668** people received legal assistance



**189** people supported with shelter



**256** family groups received support through UNHCR Mobile Protection Units **650** people



**3,649** people supported with case management



**1,329** kits and core relief items delivered



**720** family groups registered asylum claims with CEPR **1,338** people



**22** women, girls and other vulnerable individuals received specialised assistance

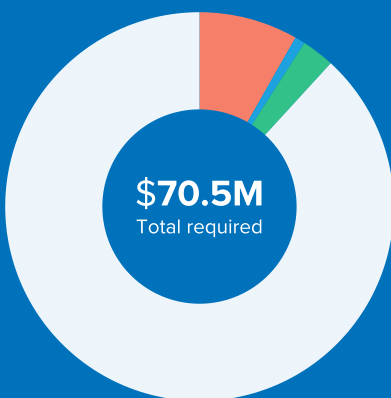


**513** people received healthcare services



**5** family groups with a prior appointment with SNM **8** people

## Funding



12% of UNHCR's financial requirements for Peru received by 31 March 2026

- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked
- Unearmarked
- Funding gap



## ★ Highlights

The **2022 Refugee Law** was amended for the first time in 24 years when, on **7 February**, the government enacted **Legislative Decree No. 1719**. The decree assigns the National Superintendence of Migration (SNM) a formal role at the initial stage of the asylum procedure, requiring asylum claims to be submitted in person and applicants' personal and biometric data to be registered. It also introduces new grounds for inadmissibility and establishes a nationwide process to update pending applications.

On 11 February, **Legislative Decree 1725** was enacted, establishing **Peru's first national regulatory framework and laying the foundation for the assessment, determination and cessation of statelessness status**, in line with the State's obligations under the 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons and the State's commitment at the Second Global Refugee Forum in 2023.

In February, **UNHCR donated 45 metric tonnes of core relief items, to the National Institute of Civil Defence (INDECI), strengthening the State's emergency response capacity.** As part of these efforts, the UN Resident Coordinator and UNHCR's Representative, accompanied INDECI to deliver four metric tonnes of food and non-food items to the district of Purús in the Ucayali region, on the border with Brazil, which was under a state of emergency due to severe flooding. The items provided included family tents, buckets, blankets, solar lamps, jerry cans, sleeping mats, and plastic tarpaulins to support affected refugees and local populations.



To mark **International Women's Day**, UNHCR supported municipal events in Lima and Tacna to promote the inclusion of refugee and asylum-seeking women. Activities included service fairs providing health care, legal guidance, information on social programmes and referrals for people with protection needs. In Lima, UNHCR also supported the participation of refugee and asylum-seeking women in a commemorative race promoting social inclusion through sport.

On 17 March, **UNHCR held a ceremony to formally launch the distribution of more than 8,000 school kits to Peruvian and refugee children across 15 public schools in Lima, Tacna, and Tumbes.** The ceremony was carried out at a local school in Lima in coordination with local education authorities and included a symbolic handover event with the participation of the Vice-Minister of Education, representatives from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, local government representatives, the Embassy of Japan, school officials, and community members, highlighting the importance of inclusive education and support for refugee and host community children.



## 📊 Context



**1.64M Venezuelans** in Peru



**More than 1M Venezuelans** in Lima



**548K asylum-seekers in Peru**, primarily from Venezuela



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



**28% of Venezuelan nationals in Peru** live in monetary poverty\*

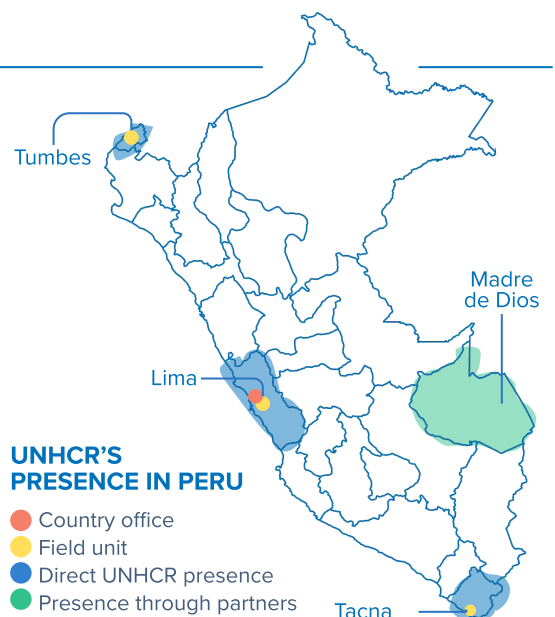


**89% of Venezuelan nationals in Peru** work without a formal contract\*



**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)\*

\*According to ENAHO-PV and UNHCR Border Monitoring 2025.





## Assistance



Between January and March 2026, UNHCR and partners supported over **1,200 refugees, asylum-seekers and host community members in Peru through mobile protection spaces in Tumbes and service fairs in Lima and Tacna**. Services included health care, psychosocial support, nutrition screening, legal counselling, documentation assistance, school enrolment support, and information on protection, migration pathways, livelihoods, health insurance and social assistance.

In February, **Partners in Health resumed the provision of primary health care services** at both UNHCR and Encuentros's offices in Tacna and also established a service point at the National Bus Terminal, reaching 92 refugees, including children, older persons, people with disabilities, and individuals with chronic health conditions who lack access to the Comprehensive Health Insurance System (SIS).

**UNHCR delivered a training session for 16 INDECI officials in Lima on the assembly of Refugee Housing Units (RHUs)**. The training aimed to strengthen operational capacity for RHU deployment in emergencies, as part of UNHCR's support to national authorities in responding to disasters. In addition, UNHCR supported 10 medical centres in Lima through the donation of RHUs to enhance emergency response and help prevent seasonal diseases. This contribution will benefit hundreds of people in strategic health facilities across the city.

On 13 February, UNHCR formally handed over the rehabilitation of infrastructure interventions to the Regional Health Directorate (DIRESA) in Tumbes. This marked the completion and transfer of infrastructure interventions at the Local Health Administration Committee (CLAS) in Corrales, the Gerardo González Villegas Health Centre and the Virgen del Cisne Community Mental Health Centre. **The initiative strengthens collaboration with the health sector and helps reinforce local health infrastructure, benefiting both the host community and refugees.**

UNHCR supported **two interventions in the districts of Chorrillos and San Juan de Lurigancho**. In Chorrillos, UNHCR rehabilitated common areas in a health facility to improve the environment for people accessing services. In San Juan de Lurigancho, it installed a roofed structure specifically designed for children and adolescents with disabilities at a municipal agency. These improvements will benefit hundreds of people each month by making services more accessible and inclusive.

In March, UNHCR and partners strengthened preparedness and response to heavy rains and flooding linked to El Niño in Tumbes. Activities reached over **400 refugees and host community members with training, protection information, health services and child-focused activities**, while vulnerable families received tarpaulins, collapsible jerrycans and solar lamps. UNHCR also supported people in rain-affected areas with information on asylum, regularisation and access to the public health system.

## Protection

In March, within the framework of the Letter of Understanding between the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (MIMP) and UNHCR, and in coordination with the Directorate of Special Protection (DPE), **UNHCR organised two workshops on the protection of refugee children and adolescents for 50 officials from the Special Protection Units (UPE) in Lima, as well as a virtual workshop for 31 officials from the Special Protection Units (UPE) in Tacna and Tumbes.**

On 9 and 10 March, **UNHCR delivered training sessions on international protection at two schools** in Tacna. A total of 44 teachers at each school, including the principals, participated. The trainings were coordinated with the Local Educational Management Unit (UGEL) Tacna School Coexistence Unit under its Pedagogical Management Department. This will equip school staff to better identify and respond to protection concerns among refugee and host community students, fostering more inclusive and safe learning environments.

## Solutions

On 31 March, **UNHCR, Encuentros and the Municipality of San Juan de Lurigancho launched a five-month household registration exercise in the district**. The initiative, which includes refugees and peruvian nationals, aims to reach 8,400 households to assess their socioeconomic status and potential eligibility for State social protection programmes.

Who we work with:



Asociación  
Protección  
Población  
Vulnerable



ENCUENTROS  
Servicio Jesuita a Migrantes



# STORIES FROM THE FIELD



## From Venezuela to Tacna: A Teacher's Journey of Resilience and Solidarity

In her home in Tacna, Adelina gently runs her fingers over a bundle of old photographs, remnants of the life she once built in Venezuela. They show her wedding day, family celebrations, and the home she spent decades creating. When she fled her country, Adelina believed these memories had been lost forever. At 71, Adelina never imagined she would have to rebuild her life in another country. She made the painful decision to leave Venezuela in 2020 with her husband, Mervin, after insecurity and fear became part of their daily lives. In Peru, she found something she had not felt in years: safety. The simple ability to walk down the street without fear allowed her to begin imagining a new start.

With support from UNHCR and its partners, Adelina received guidance to regularise her status and access essential services, helping her regain stability at a critical moment. With that foundation in place, her resilience and sense of purpose allowed her to move forward and rebuild her life.

A teacher by vocation, Adelina began offering after school tutoring to children in her neighbourhood, both Peruvian and refugee. She helps them with reading and homework, sharing not only knowledge but encouragement. Despite her age, she continues working to help support her family.

Over time, Adelina has become a trusted leader within the refugee community in Tacna. She supports newly arrived families, shares information about available services, and actively participates in activities organised by UNHCR. Her leadership is grounded in empathy and lived experience.

Today, she lives with her husband, daughter, and granddaughter. In the patio, her dogs play under the southern Peruvian sun. Like the 1.64 million Venezuelans who now call Peru home, Adelina is rebuilding her life with dignity, one memory, one lesson, and one act of solidarity at a time.

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



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