

# Emergency Cash & Voucher Assistance Programming

April 2024



Welcome the stranger.  
Protect the refugee.

## Our Organization

For over 120 years, HIAS has provided lifesaving assistance and protection services during crises. HIAS responds to emergencies with critical assistance in several key areas: Prevention, Mitigation, and Response to Gender-Based Violence (GBV); Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS); Economic Inclusion (including cash assistance); and Legal Protection and Resettlement.

## Emergency Cash & Voucher Assistance (CVA)

HIAS' Emergency CVA programming ensures forcibly displaced persons are provided with financial assistance but are also empowered to reconstruct their lives with more autonomy and agency. We put in place comprehensive cash assistance programs in keeping with our dedication to empowering people and encouraging self-reliance, with the aim of protecting and strengthening the resilience and dignity of refugees.

### HIAS Impact



**120+ years**  
serving displaced  
populations

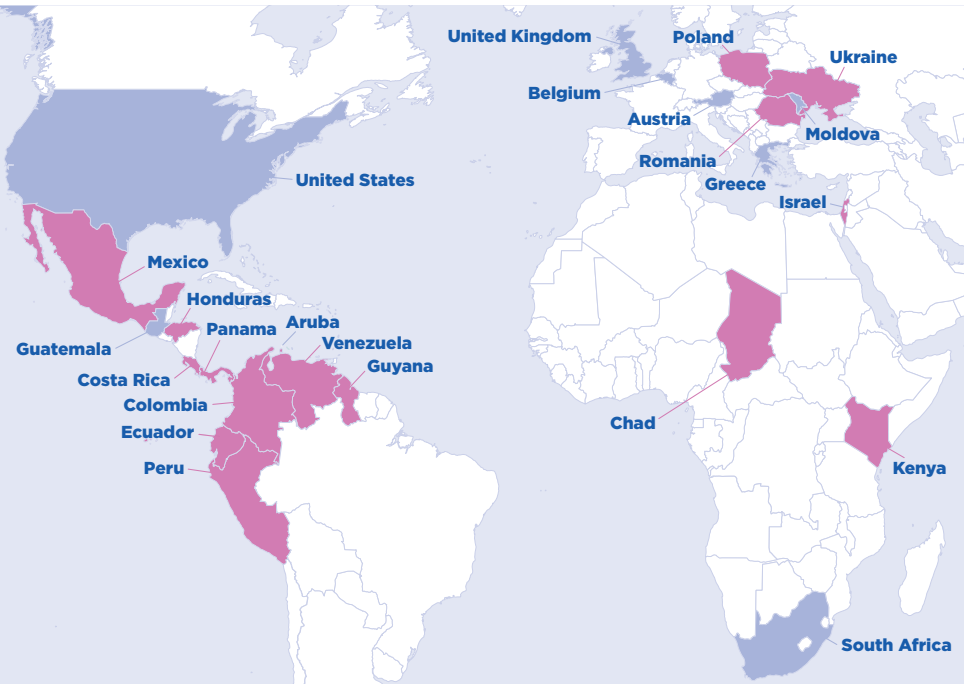


Presence in  
**24 countries**



**2.2+ million** men,  
women, and children  
assisted in 2023

■ HIAS Location ■ HIAS CVA Programming



## Our CVA Team

HIAS' Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA) Team is composed of technical advisors, specialists, coordinators, and field teams with broad global, regional, and country-specific experience. The team sets and guides HIAS' strategy for the CVA modality and provides technical support, including capacity strengthening and knowledge building, to ensure our programming aligns with international standards, founding principles, and best practices.



People receive hygiene kits and cash-based assistance in Pasaje, Ecuador. (Samuel Paredes/HIAS)

## Our 2023 CVA Impact



**490,000+**

Individuals reached  
with CVA assistance.



**68%**

Of assistance distributed  
for women and girls.



**70%**

Of assistance distributed  
to elderly (aged 50+).



**80%**

Of assistance distributed  
to displaced populations.

# CVA Highlights



## Venezuela Humanitarian Crisis

In Ecuador, HIAS partnered with the World Food Programme (WFP) to deliver food vouchers to **27,943** displaced people from Venezuela in permanence and **51,152** people in transit, who also received food kits.



## Venezuelan Refugees in Peru

In Peru, HIAS partnered with the WFP to reach **10,095** vulnerable households from Venezuela with a cash-based intervention for food. To complement this CVA program, nutrition services were also provided to **948** children under 5 years old.



## Sudanese Refugees in Chad

As a WFP and UNHCR partner, **108,795** households received cash-based transfers to purchase food according to their needs and preferences.

## CVA Approach

HIAS CVA emergency programming is an alternative way of assisting populations affected by natural disasters such as earthquakes, floods, and droughts, as well as temporary or chronic food insecurity due to prolonged conflict and/or poverty. It means giving money or vouchers to disaster-affected people rather than in-kind aid such as food, shelter, livelihoods, or medicine. With broad acceptance as a preferred and cost-effective modality that offers choice, dignity to recipients, meets a range of needs and benefits local economic, cash programs aim to increase the purchasing power of households to set their own priorities and meet their own needs.

## Coordination

HIAS holds its responsibility to coordinate assistance in emergencies as critical. HIAS engages with communities, civil, national, and global stakeholders, and is an active member of the Cash Learning Partnership (CALP) on a global and regional level. HIAS participates in designated Cash Working Groups in every country to discuss, advocate, and resolve issues related to CVA.

## Donors and Partners



## Why HIAS?

**Long-Standing Experience:** HIAS was founded over 120 years ago to support Jews fleeing persecution and poverty in Eastern Europe. Today, HIAS is a global organization which serves refugees, asylum seekers, and other forcibly displaced and stateless persons around the world, and advocates for their fundamental rights so they can rebuild their lives.

**Balanced Localization:** HIAS partners with key local institutions, civil society organizations, and leaders in disaster planning, budgeting, training, and risk sharing, enhancing the speed and quality of our services and building community capacity.

**Technical Leadership:** With a cash first approach, HIAS has mainstreamed CVA across its different objectives. With a global technical advisor alongside CVA staff in its country offices, HIAS aims to improve its technical leadership and mainstream CVA assistance across its global operation.

**Sector Integration:** CVA activities are embedded within HIAS' individual case management system and global protection mainstreaming guidelines, including child protection, GBV response and prevention, food security and nutrition, legal assistance, and livelihoods.

**Committed Across Displacement:** HIAS programs often begin during an emergency and continue to serve throughout each displaced person's journey. HIAS' geographic presence and range of programs allows for life-saving assistance, the rebuilding of families and communities, and the promotion of sustainable social and economic empowerment.

## Contact

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