

Peru Fact Sheet

February 2024



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

Introduction

Peru is home to over 1 million refugees and migrants from Venezuela, representing nearly 20% of Venezuelans who have left their country since 2018. In Peru, many Venezuelans have irregular migratory status due to restrictive procedures. This results in limited access to essential health and education services and restricts entry into the formal labor market. In this context, many Venezuelan women, adolescents, and children also become vulnerable to trafficking, exploitation, and abuse.

HIAS Programs and Focus

HIAS provides refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants with services in Lima, Tumbes, La Libertad, Puno, and Tacna. Our team also has mobile response units at the northern border, in Piura and Chiclayo. Our strategy promotes the integration of displaced people into host communities, while guaranteeing security and freedom. We provide community-based and individualized care, identify and assess specific needs, and build an action plan with each person to ensure their protection and economic inclusion.

HIAS Peru employs a community-based strategy through workshops, events, and journeys to enhance the awareness of refugees of their rights and state services. Our mobile teams use a “pop-up” approach to identify urgent and complex cases. This allows us to provide immediate support for gender-based violence (GBV) survivors, those with severe health issues, unaccompanied children, families on the streets, and LGBTQ+ refugees. Food security, education, child protection, and temporary shelter programs are integrated into this comprehensive strategy for highly at-risk individuals.

Legal Protection

HIAS Peru accompanies refugees and migrants throughout the entire process of securing immigration regularization. We offer legal support to refugees and migrants by facilitating access to the migration regularization system, identifying and referring cases to the asylum authority, and mitigating violations of due process. We provide personalized legal advice with a focus on the most vulnerable cases.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV) Prevention and Response

HIAS empowers survivors of GBV and at-risk individuals through case management services. HIAS Peru works to mitigate vulnerabilities and to promote protective practices. We provide survivors and people at risk of GBV and trafficking with holistic and comprehensive care regardless of age, gender, diversity, or disability.

Community-Based Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (CB-MHPSS)

HIAS Peru works to improve mental health and psychosocial well-being through services that contribute to the empowerment of individuals. We provide support to survivors of GBV, youth victims of violence, and other individuals at risk. HIAS also provides personalized care, psychological first aid, and specific referrals for people that require additional support. We organize community wellness activities to promote well-being, resilience, positive parenting strategies, and social cohesion. HIAS trains community members to recognize emotional and psychological distress in children and adults, and to respond with empathy and respect.



Legal Protection

HIAS accompanies refugees, asylum seekers, and migrants throughout the entire process of securing regularization.



GBV Response

HIAS provides survivors and people at risk with GBV prevention and mitigation services that build their resilience.



CB-MHPSS Support

HIAS seeks to strengthen the psychosocial well-being of refugees and migrants through community cohesion.



Economic Inclusion

The Graduation Model Approach provides participants with tools that allow them to break the cycle of extreme poverty.



Child Protection

HIAS promotes priority attention for children and adolescents to mitigate risks of violence and to promote their rights.

Economic Inclusion

Access to dignified, sustainable, and safe livelihoods is at the core of HIAS' economic inclusion interventions. We guarantee this by providing people with entrepreneurship and employment opportunities adapted to their skills and labor market demands, while integrating GBV prevention and response into all programs. Our methodology enables refugees, vulnerable migrants, and host community members to find opportunities that will enhance their self-reliance, increase resilience, regain dignity, and build independent and meaningful futures.

HIAS Peru offers guidance on financial literacy and effective money management within the family or household. We explore mechanisms to enhance access to financial services, and establish partnerships with private companies to promote employment.

HIAS Peru extends its renowned poverty alleviation program, the Graduation Model Approach, which assists participants in achieving food security, stable and diversified incomes, increased assets, and improved community integration. The program also provides resources and skills training to participants.

Child Protection

HIAS Peru implements a child and adolescent protection program to care for those who are victims of or vulnerable to violence. HIAS promotes priority attention for children and adolescents to access to their rights in host communities. We coordinate with local partners and child protection services to mitigate risks. Our Child Friendly Spaces and Positive Parenting programs impact the positive development and well-being of children and adolescents.



HIAS Peru, in collaboration with USAID and Save the Children, delivers water and hygiene kits to residents affected by severe rains, flooding, and landslides in the Acapulco village, Zorritos, Tumbes, on April 25, 2023. (Cinthia Palomino/HIAS Peru)

Emergency Response

HIAS Peru operates within the humanitarian response framework to assist vulnerable populations affected by natural disasters. We aim to collaborate with various local organizations to enhance our response and minimize the impact on the affected population. The sectors we address include WASH (water, sanitation, and hygiene), food security, child protection, gender-based violence (GBV) case management, and mental health, among others.

HIAS in Latin America and the Caribbean

HIAS advocates for the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, other displaced populations, and local host communities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. As part of a comprehensive regional response to meet the urgent needs of these populations, HIAS co-leads and participates in several coordination platforms and partnerships with a focus on protection, socioeconomic integration, MHPSS, food security, GBV, and cash and voucher assistance.

HIAS currently has programs in 11 countries in LAC (Aruba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela) and partners with a wide range of government agencies, UN entities (UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNVFVT), the private sector (Airbnb, TATA Consultancy Services, and Manpower), and other NGOs and consortia, including Save the Children, Norwegian Refugee Council, Danish Refugee Council and World Vision.

Contact

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