



The Venezuelan Exodus for Health Care Providers



A Venezuelan Migrant's Journey to the North



Thursday, June 15th, 2023

10am PT / 12pm CT / 1pm ET

MIGRANT CLINICIANS NETWORK





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**Somos una fuerza dedicada a la
justicia en salud**

A force for health justice

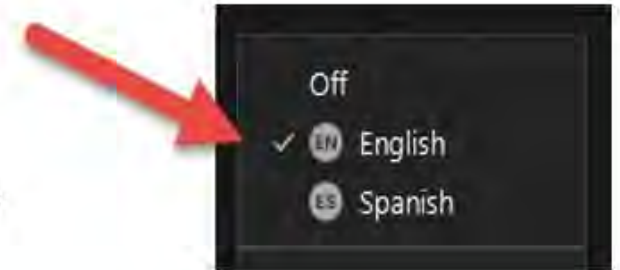
Our mission is to create practical solutions at the intersection of vulnerability, migration and health.

We envision a world based on health justice and equity, where migration is never an impediment to well-being.

SIMULTANEOUS INTERPRETATION ZOOM

From your computer's Zoom toolbar, click on the **Interpretation icon (globe icon)**. Select your desired language in the pop-up menu. **This will be the language you hear during the presentation.**

From your **Cellphone**, click the "more options" and select Interpretation to select your desired language. Simultaneous





Disclaimer

This presentation will discuss political, social, and economic processes of the current Venezuelan migration. We recognize that there may be differences of opinion regarding this topic and ask that participants please be respectful of the opinions of others.



Dr. Luis
Sanchez



Learning Objectives



Identify the characteristics of Venezuelan migration in transit through the countries of the Northern Triangle and Mexico, as well as their vulnerabilities and the risk situations to which they are exposed.

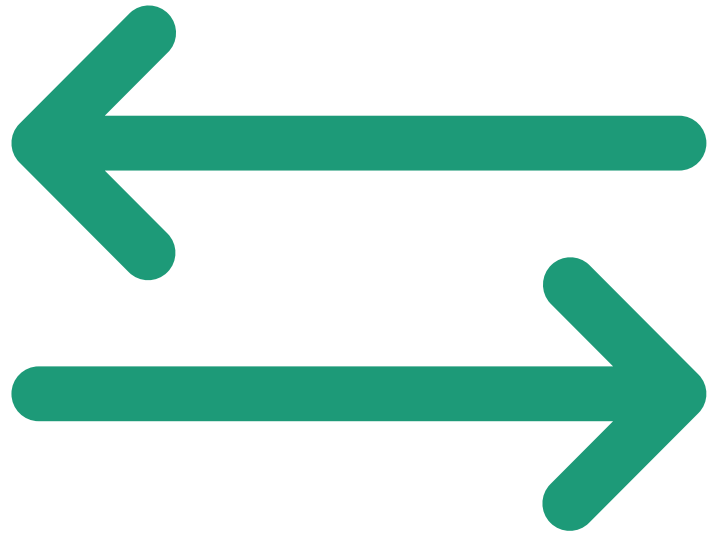


Identify the health conditions in which Venezuelan migrants arrive at the border according to Health Network's cases.



Identify intergovernmental strategies that would improve the current infrastructure of transit and host countries to adequately respond to the needs of migrants.

What is the reason for the migration?



- Most of those who migrate do so for economic reasons, fleeing poverty, seeking access to work, a better standard of living, better working conditions and wages, or in more critical cases, for reasons of survival (cases of extreme poverty).



Venezuelan migrant caravan

- If the Venezuelan migrant caravan takes this route, it would take, on average, between two and four weeks, and is approximately 5.000 km or 3,106.9 miles.





Venezuelan Migrants and Asylum Seekers in the Americas

europapress.es

Fuente: ACNUR

More than 7 million people have left Venezuela in search of protection and a better life. The majority - more than 6 million people - have found refuge in Latin American and Caribbean countries.





AS OF MAY 5 2023 LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

VENEZUELAN REFUGEES & MIGRANTS IN THE REGION

R4V Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela



6.14 M

APPROX. VENEZUELAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN



7.32 M

TOTAL APPROX. VENEZUELAN REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN THE WORLD

Source: [R4V Latin America and the Caribbean, Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in the Region - Mar 2023 | R4V](#)

Venezuelans in **Colombia**: 95,000 Venezuelans have returned to Venezuela



The outflow of Venezuelan migrants is mainly due to the political, social and economic crisis. Although Venezuelans have migrated throughout the continent, Colombia is by far the most common destination of this diaspora, as it has the most welcoming policies in Latin America.



Venezuelan migrants' hell through the Darien jungle

The arrival of displaced people from South America to the inhospitable territory separating Colombia and Panama is increasing exponentially.

According to Panamanian authorities, more than 100,000 people have taken this route since January 2023.



Top 10 dangers for migrants who decide to cross the Darien Gap on their way to the U.S.

- Diseases and injuries
- Sexual violence
- Gang violence
- Powerful rivers
- Inclement rain
- The "Guides"
- Navigation and getting lost
- Wildlife
- Deportation and waiting
- Crossing additional borders



Panama is a country in solidarity with Venezuelan migrants



Costa Rica grants Special Temporary Protection Category to Venezuelan migrants



- On October 27, the Costa Rican government approved the creation of the Special Category of Complementary Temporary Protection, which aims to provide possibilities to stay legally in the country and carry out work activities to foreigners who are denied recognition of refugee status and who are in a vulnerable conditions. The measure announced by the Costa Rican government will benefit Venezuelan, Nicaraguan and Cuban nationals.



Venezuelan migrants suffer abuse and harassment from Nicaraguan officials

- Migration officials in Bluefields demand a payment of \$150 and even strip migrants naked to look for money when they say they cannot pay that amount.



Arrival of Venezuelans causes "unprecedented migration crisis" in Honduras

- Honduras has not escaped the wave of Venezuelan migration throughout the region and authorities in Tegucigalpa have reported that more than 43,315 migrants from Venezuela in an irregular situation have entered the Central American country so far this year through October 2022.

Protests against charging migrants to travel through Honduras on their way to the US.

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- In Honduras, the Catholic Church called a protest, expressing its opposition to the charge of some \$240 USD for safe-conduct for undocumented migrants passing through Honduras on their way to the United States.





Few Venezuelan migrants pass through El Salvador

- When migrants leave Venezuela as undocumented migrants to reach the United States, they do not pass through El Salvador, as South Americans head to Nicaragua, then to Honduras and Guatemala to travel to Mexico.

New policy for Venezuelan migrants in Guatemala

- According to the new regulations, the United States will allow 24,000 Venezuelans to enter legally and by air, but those who have entered illegally into Mexico or Panama will not be eligible for this possibility.



Public Square 26-09-16

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- After a month and a half of discussions, last week Congress approved the Migration Code with a human rights perspective. As a result, migrants will be recognized as subjects of rights and will have access to health care, shelter, work and education by the Guatemalan State.



Signing of the “safe third country”
agreement with Guatemala in July
of 2019



Safe third country

- Agreement ratified by the 1951 Geneva Convention, where there are sufficient guarantees of respect for human rights and the principle of non-refoulement.
- The term "safe third country", as defined by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR), is a concept used to "transfer the responsibilities of examining an asylum application from a host country to another country that is considered safe" to receive them while the process is underway.



Guatemalan processing centers to begin accepting migrant appointments on June 12, 2023

- White House and State Department officials, meeting with Guatemalan President Alejandro Giammattei, who "built on the strong cooperation between Guatemala and the United States to manage the historic challenge of irregular migration affecting both countries."
- The centers will serve to provide an initial assessment of migrants with specialists for referral to refugee resettlement programs and other legal pathways to the U.S. such as humanitarian parole or family reunification.
- They could also be referred to refugee programs in Canada and Spain.



- In Guatemala, 3 million inhabitants live in extreme poverty (UNDP 2017).
- Guatemala is not in the conditions to be a safe third country. We have lamentable indicators of production, education, access to public health, so it is difficult to provide these services to people from other countries.

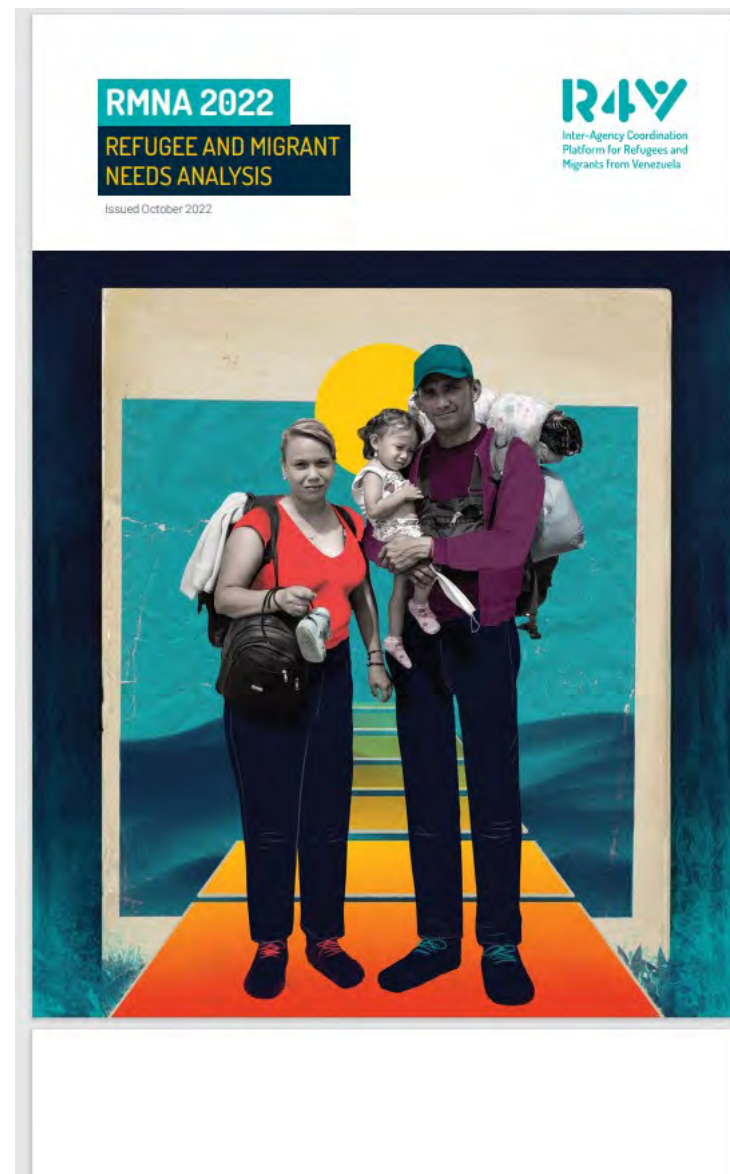
“The Beast” vs. my
dreams of the North:

- Inaccessible
border
- Death- here or
there
- Repatriation
- Humiliation
- Increased illness
- Increased
unrelenting
poverty



Mexico

- An increasing number of refugees and migrants are in transit to the north.
- Their main needs are:
 - protection
 - physical and mental health
 - food safety
 - water services
 - sanitation and hygiene
 - safe transportation
 - documentation



RMNA 2022

REFUGEE AND MIGRANT
NEEDS ANALYSIS

Issued October 2022

R4V
Inter-Agency Coordination
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Migrants from Venezuela



Mexico

Health

- Refugees and migrants from Venezuela focus first on stabilizing their socioeconomic situation and seek health care when the situation is serious and urgent.
- The lack of health infrastructures and medical personnel, as well as the limited capacity of health centers, hinder access to medical care.
- Many do not access medical services because they cannot find the services or self-medicate.
- Mental health and psychosocial support are growing needs among Venezuelans.
- Access to sexual and reproductive health services is a priority.

RMNA 2022

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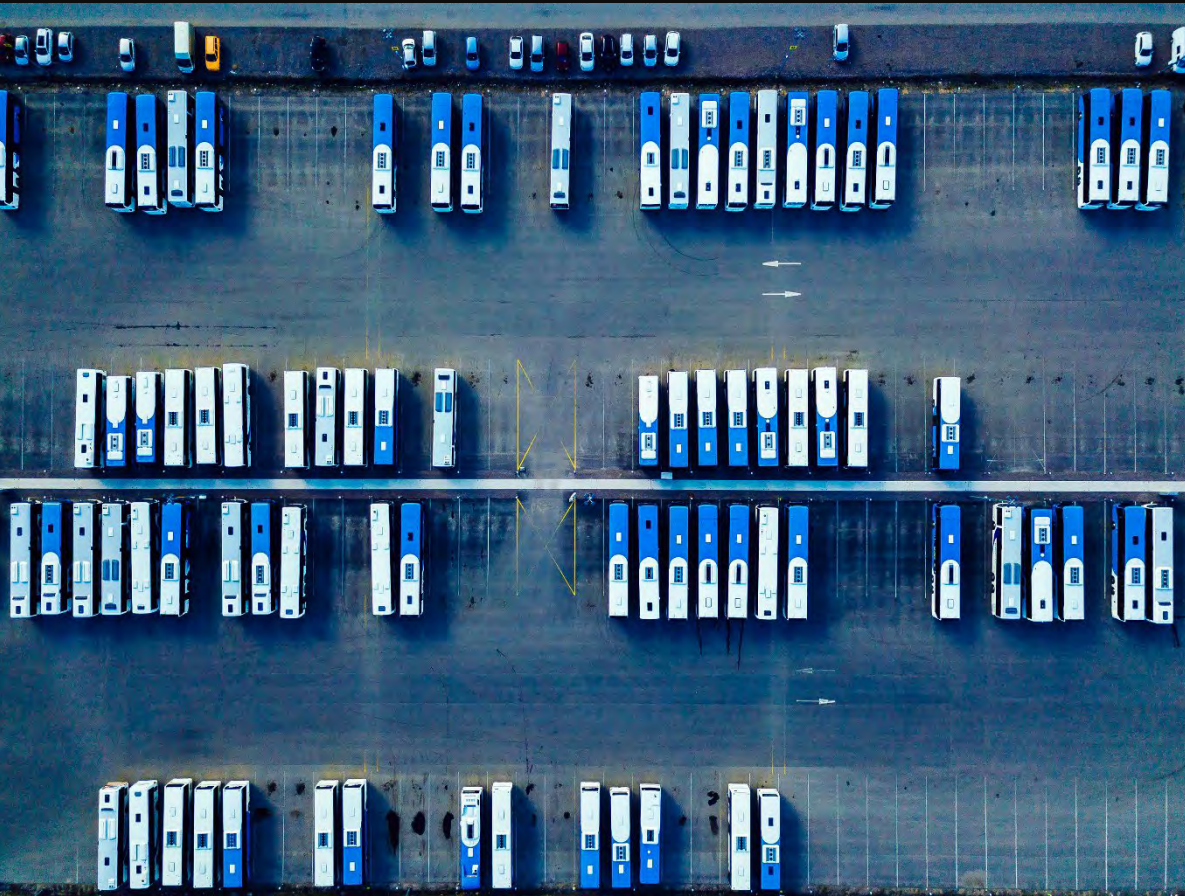
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Mexico

Food Safety

- Venezuelan families have resorted to eating leftover food and begging to meet their basic food needs.
- Many eat less than they should, due to lack of resources.
- COVID-19 also affected access to food.



Mexico

Humanitarian transportation

- The lack of socioeconomic integration opportunities in Chiapas and Tabasco, where refugees and migrants arrive, has created the need for internal relocation to other parts of the country where the local economy offers better employment opportunities and access to basic services such as health, education and housing.
- To benefit from internal relocation, refugees and migrants need humanitarian transportation to destination cities throughout the country.



Deliana García

Chief Program Officer,
International Projects and
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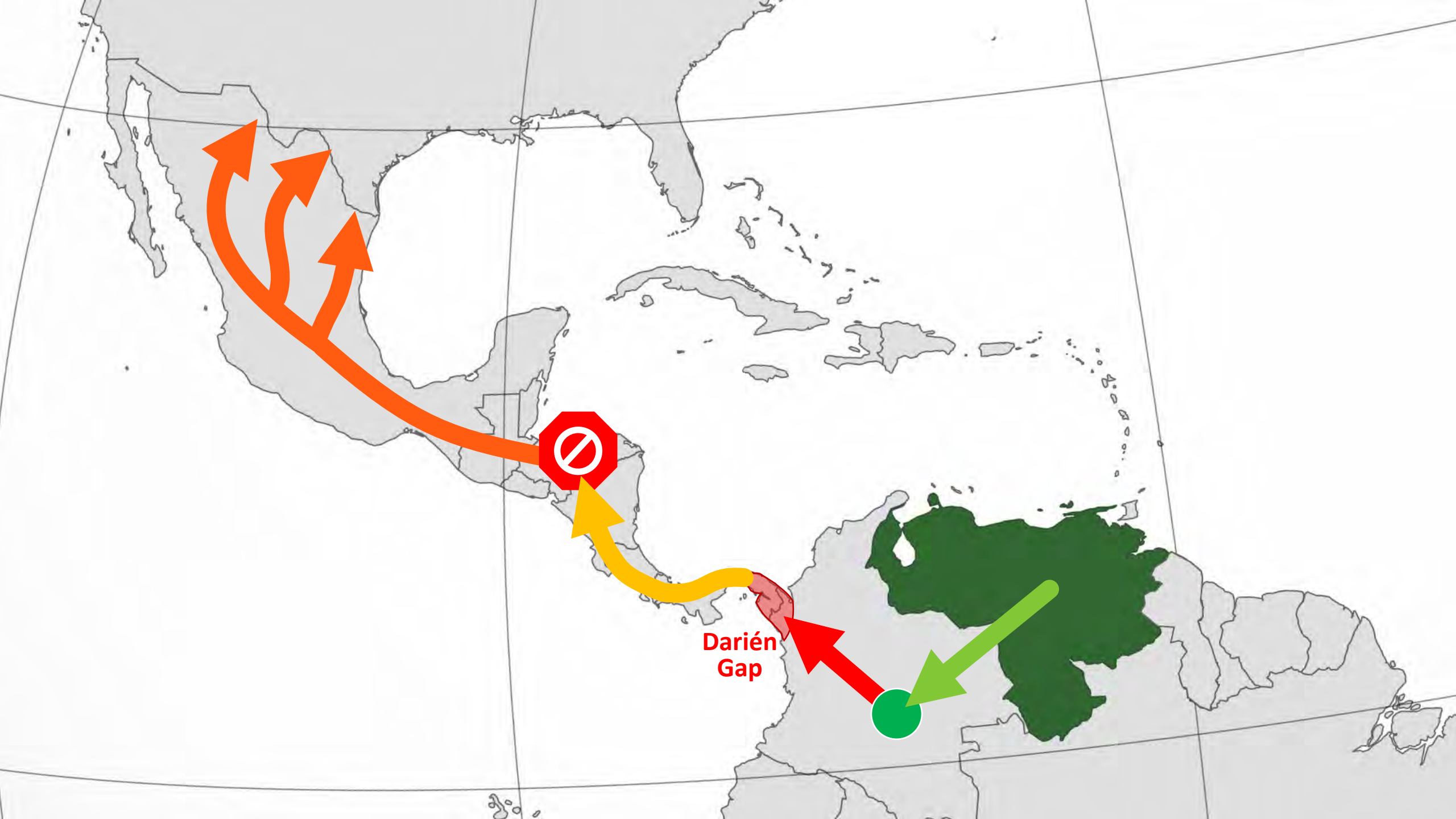
Migration





Recent Shifts in Migration

- Increase in refugees coming to the U.S.
- Shift in population seen at border sites (Haitian, Eastern Europe, Columbia, Venezuela, Peru, and Russia)
- Continued influx of migrants from Central America and Mexico



Darién
Gap

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Health Network

Eliminate health
disparities due
to patient mobility



©Earl Dotter

Possible responses to migration

COMUNICADOS DE PRENSA

Las Américas en una encrucijada: ACNUR y OIM piden una respuesta colaborativa para las personas refugiadas y migrantes

Comunicado de prensa conjunto de ACNUR y OIM

12 de mayo de 2023 | Disponible también en English | Français



- No country can solve the challenges faced by refugee and migrant movements in isolation.
- Make joint efforts to address the causes of displacement and irregular migration by:
 - supporting the communities that host the majority of displaced persons;
 - providing access to fair and efficient asylum procedures and other legal stay mechanisms; and
 - facilitating access to safe and regular routes as alternatives to hazardous travel.
- It requires the collaboration of States to expand access to protection and asylum and regular migration channels.
- The U.S. initiative to expand resettlement for refugees is a positive step that can offer real alternatives to people who risk their lives to find safety and solutions.
- Facilitating and expanding access to resettlement, family reunification, humanitarian sponsorship and labor mobility programs can save lives and protect people from trafficking, smuggling, and other forms of violence.



Questions?

Thank you!



Evaluation

- Your evaluations are important to us! MCN uses your responses to guide, adapt, and improve our online educational offerings. If you would like to receive a Certificate of Attendance for your participation in today's webinar, submission of the evaluation is required.

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