

# Humanitarian Snapshot

## USAID/BHA in Latin America and the Caribbean

Fiscal Year (FY) 2021

### Regional Profile

Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)<sup>1</sup> experience a range of natural hazards, including droughts, earthquakes, floods, forest fires, hurricanes, landslides, tsunamis, and volcanic eruptions. Other countries in the region, such as Colombia, Haiti, and Venezuela, remain vulnerable to civil unrest. In FY 2021, USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) provided more than \$706 million for emergency response activities in 13 countries, while also providing approximately \$28 million to support standalone early recovery, risk reduction, and resilience (ER4) activities aimed to address the root causes of food insecurity and to help communities prepare for and recover from disasters across 15 countries in the LAC region.



<sup>1</sup>The LAC region comprises Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, The Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela.

### Humanitarian Situation in FY 2021

Complex emergencies, natural disasters, and the adverse effects of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic increased the need for humanitarian assistance across LAC during FY 2021. COVID-19 and climatic shocks exacerbated food insecurity and hindered livelihood opportunities in Central America's Dry Corridor, an area encompassing a majority of El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras characterized by frequent droughts and difficult farming conditions. Additionally, in November 2020, Hurricanes Eta and Iota caused significant damage and elevated humanitarian needs across parts of Honduras, Guatemala, Nicaragua, and Colombia. In Haiti, damage from a 7.2 magnitude earthquake in August, protracted economic challenges, and socioeconomic insecurity due to the direct and secondary effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, required a robust humanitarian response. Meanwhile, in Colombia, armed conflict displaced thousands and limited access to basic goods, services, and livelihood activities.

As of September 2021, deteriorating economic and political conditions in Venezuela had displaced 5.7 million people, primarily to Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, and Peru. Moreover, COVID-19-related border closures and movement restrictions hindered access to food, health care, livelihoods, and shelter for vulnerable Venezuelan migrants and refugees, many of whom traveled to host nations across LAC through informal crossings, heightening health and protection risks.

### USAID/BHA Priorities

In FY 2022, USAID/BHA will continue to provide life-saving assistance and capacity-building activities that bolster disaster preparedness and response across LAC, including through early warning system development and providing technical assistance to first responders and community-based risk management entities. In Haiti, USAID/BHA partners plan to prioritize the provision of food and comprehensive multi-sector assistance to vulnerable populations, while in Northern Central America, USAID/BHA will continue to prioritize food, livelihood, and protection assistance across El Salvador, Honduras, and Guatemala. In South America, USAID/BHA plans to continue providing food assistance to Venezuelan migrants, refugees, and host communities; to support organizations inside Venezuela to implement humanitarian coordination; to provide health, logistics, nutrition, protection, and water, sanitation, and hygiene assistance; as well as provide multi-sector assistance to Venezuelan migrants and internally displaced persons in Colombia.

### FY 2021 Regional Funding Total

\$743,343,054

### Top Receiving Countries in FY 2021

Colombia	\$191,362,567
Venezuela	\$138,136,000
Haiti	\$92,146,541
Honduras	\$81,343,042
Guatemala	\$69,933,469