

**PANAMA
RAPID RESPONSE
DISPLACEMENT
2023**

23-RR-PAN-60204

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Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator

PART I – ALLOCATION OVERVIEW

1. STRATEGIC PRIORITIZATION

Reporting Process and Consultation Summary:

Please indicate when the After-Action Review (AAR) was conducted and who participated.

26-march-2024

An AAR was carried out, with the different coordinating and executing agencies of the project (IOM, UNFPA, UNHCR, UNICEF, OCHA), through the RCO on March 26, 2024.

Participated in the AAR:

UNHCR: Viola Eleonora Bruttomesso: bruttome@unhcr.org (Focal Point)

UNFPA: Eluz Martinez (Focal Point) emartinez@unfpa.org

UNICEF: Diana Maritza Romero Baron: dmromero@unicef.org (Focal Point) Oscar Aguilar oaguilar@unicef.org (monitoring)

IOM: Ahmed Abdi ahabdi@iom.int (Focal Point); Carlos Porras (Monitoring)

RCO: Jacqueline Ruiz, Jacqueline.ruiz@un.org (Partnership)

OCHA: Amaia López: lopez20@un.org; ; Dario Alvarez alvarez6@un.org

Please confirm that the report on the use of CERF funds was discussed with the Humanitarian and/or UN Country Team (HCT/UNCT).

Yes No

Statement by the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator:

CERF recipient agencies and their implementing partners, cluster/sector coordinators and members and relevant government counterparts)?

Yes No

The UN Resident Coordinator's Office in Panama fostered political engagement, advocacy, and coordination among various sectors and UN agencies, leveraging the UN Human Mobility Group for coherence and effectiveness to address the migration situation in Darien. Using resources from the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) was crucial for executing a strategic, adaptive, and flexible intervention that enhances humanitarian response and citizen participation while building community resilience. Specifically, CERF allocation facilitates the implementation of a human mobility contingency plan in Darien, pending government approval, thus strengthening coordination and political support. Additionally, CERF resources demonstrate the UN's commitment to Panama's humanitarian situation, potentially attracting further cooperation from international partners. This allocation addresses immediate relief needs and serves as a catalyst for the humanitarian-development nexus, advocating for sustainable solutions and forging new partnerships in the process.

CERF's Added Value:

With CERF resources, it was possible to carry out a strategic, adaptive, and flexible intervention to facilitate and strengthen citizen participation to prepare and develop the community's capacities for emergency processes. CERF will be a catalyst to increase dialogue and incentives across partners and with other state actors, namely Ministry of Health that requires further engagement both at a political and operational level.

Allocating resources for humanitarian response in Darien through CERF is critical for the launching implementation of the human mobility contingency plan for humanitarian emergency response in Darien that is pending government approval thus contributing to further humanitarian coordination and more political buy-in and help better position the humanitarian community as well as bringing in other essential governmental sectors to fulfil its mandate in the provision of health, water and shelter.

Did CERF funds lead to a fast delivery of assistance to people in need?

Yes

Partially

No

Despite the social crisis stemming from discontent over a mining operation in Panama, rapid intervention was achieved. With streets blocked for over a month, the unrest impacted but did not hinder aid delivery, particularly targeting the most vulnerable groups. Assistance was directly provided at migrant reception stations and to host communities most affected by the mixed flow. Leveraging field experience and local knowledge, the UN team expedited the delivery process, saving lives by providing basic supplies like water while prioritizing the care of children.

Did CERF funds help respond to time-critical needs?

Yes

Partially

No

CERF projects provided the necessary resources to improve the overall living conditions of the migrant and refugee population as well as the host communities. With this funding, it was possible to provide a comprehensive package of critical services and resources currently lacking in the affected areas, thus benefiting all sectors involved, focusing on the most at-risk groups.

Did CERF improve coordination amongst the humanitarian community?

Yes

Partially

No

The Resident Coordinator's Office in Panama supports political commitment and advocacy on humanitarian issues and effective coordination between sectors and UN agencies, relying on the UN Human Mobility Group to ensure the coherence and effectiveness of the proposed interventions.

With CERF resources, a strategic, adaptive, and flexible intervention was carried out to redouble efforts towards an effective humanitarian response that also facilitates and strengthens citizen participation to prepare and develop community capacities for emergency processes. CERF project interventions have been a catalyst for increased dialogue and incentives among partners and with other state actors to foster greater commitment at both the political and operational levels.

Did CERF funds help improve resource mobilization from other sources?

Yes

Partially

No

CERF resources demonstrate the UN's commitment to Panama's humanitarian situation, potentially attracting greater attention for cooperation from international partners and international NGOs. This allocation addressed immediate relief needs and served as a catalyst for the humanitarian-development nexus, advocating for sustainable solutions and forging new partnerships in the process. Building on the CERF model, Panama is leveraging resource mobilization through the EU and MMPTF.

Considerations of the ERC's Underfunded Priority Areas¹:

CERF played a key role in improving the living conditions of target communities and providing a wide range of critical services to all sectors, with a particular focus on supporting women and girls by combating gender-based violence, promoting reproductive health and empowerment. Recognizing the urgent need to address violence against women and girls, including psychological, social and physical impacts, CERF prioritized these areas of intervention. However, the UN team faced obstacles in assisting victims, especially victims of sexual violence, as cases were not consistently reported promptly, preventing the timely provision of assistance.

Table 1: Allocation Overview (US\$)

Total amount required for the humanitarian response	14,408,984
CERF	3,545,672
Country-Based Pooled Fund (if applicable)	0
Other (bilateral/multilateral)	0
Total funding received for the humanitarian response (by source above)	3,545,672

Table 2: CERF Emergency Funding by Project and Sector/Cluster (US\$)

Agency	Project Code	Sector/Cluster	Amount
IOM	23-RR-IOM-026	Shelter and Non-Food Items	914,592
IOM	23-RR-IOM-026	Food Security - Food Assistance	299,866
IOM	23-RR-IOM-026	Health	164,926
IOM	23-RR-IOM-026	Protection	59,974
IOM	23-RR-IOM-026	Camp Coordination and Camp Management	59,973
UNFPA	23-RR-FPA-030	Protection - Gender-Based Violence	312,730
UNFPA	23-RR-FPA-030	Health - Sexual and Reproductive Health	255,870
UNHCR	23-RR-HCR-025	Protection	343,632
UNHCR	23-RR-HCR-025	Shelter and Non-Food Items	154,385
UNICEF	23-RR-CEF-041	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	715,199
UNICEF	23-RR-CEF-041	Protection - Child Protection	137,161
UNICEF	23-RR-CEF-041	Protection - Gender-Based Violence	127,364
Total			3,545,672

¹ In January 2019, the Emergency Relief Coordinator identified four priority areas as often underfunded and lacking appropriate consideration and visibility when funding is allocated to humanitarian action. The ERC therefore recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and HCTs/UNCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. These areas are: (1) support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, reproductive health and empowerment; (2) programmes targeting disabled people; (3) education in protracted crises; and (4) other aspects of protection. While CERF remains needs based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the questions and answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

Table 3: Breakdown of CERF Funds by Type of Implementation Modality (US\$)

Total funds implemented directly by UN agencies including procurement of relief goods	2,932,772
Funds sub-granted to government partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to international NGO partners*	612,895
Funds sub-granted to national NGO partners*	0
Funds sub-granted to Red Cross/Red Crescent partners*	0
Total funds transferred to implementing partners (IP)*	612,895
Total	3,545,672

* Figures reported in table 3 are based on the project reports (part II, sections 1) and should be consistent with the sub-grants overview in the annex.

2. OPERATIONAL PRIORITIZATION:

Overview of the Humanitarian Situation:

Over the last three years, the number of people crossing the Darien jungle has set an alarming trend. From 2021 up to the beginning of 2024, nearly one million refugees and migrants undertook this dangerous journey, with the numbers doubling each year. In 2023 alone, 520,085 people crossed, surpassing the Government's projections. Over 20% of this population are children, often unaccompanied.

Darien is Panama's largest and poorest province. It borders the autonomous Emberá-Wounaan indigenous territories, which were created from parts of Darien's districts. The transit communities of Bajo Chiquito and Canaan Membrillo are located within these territories.

Crossing the Darien jungle is dire. Refugees and migrants arriving at the government-run Temporary Migratory Reception Centres (ETRM) report being victims of physical, psychological, or sexual violence and/or abuse along the journey. Some have even lost family members along the way.

According to UNHCR's protection monitoring exercises in Darien, conducted during the year 2023, respondents cited attacks, threats, and general insecurity (61%); lack of employment or low income (72%); and lack of access to services (34%), among the main reasons for leaving their country of origin.

Four in ten of the interviewees experienced mistreatment and/or abuse during their journey across the Darien jungle. Additionally, 38% of the respondents reported being victims of theft, scam, or fraud during their journey. According to IOM's Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM) flow monitoring exercises, access to health services, WASH, and food are among the most urgent needs identified by refugees and migrants arriving in Panama after crossing the jungle.

Operational Use of the CERF Allocation and Results:

In response to the increase of people crossing the Darien jungle, the Emergency Relief Coordinator on 29 June 2023 allocated \$3.6 million from CERF's rapid response window for life-saving humanitarian action. The CERF allocation will enable the country team to provide a broad range of vital services, including the management of Temporary Migration Reception Centres (ETRM), the provision of food, medical supplies, and shelter, and the establishment of complaint mechanisms and support hotlines to handle abuse cases, hygiene kit distribution, WASH service coordination, psychosocial support, legal protection, safe spaces for women and girls, and reproductive health services. The allocation enables UN agencies and partners to provide life-saving assistance to **629,705** people.

People Directly Reached:

] The families of refugees and migrants in transit who received information are now equipped to make informed decisions about their journey, understand the risks involved, and explore legal pathways. who currently number an average of 1,200+ individuals daily. RF funds allow partnering with local and institutional authorities; expanding its reach to serve a larger population. This is especially true for the activities related to the reinforcement of health services in migrant locations in Darien as well as CCCM activities. The improvement of services and better organization of migrant locations improves the overall security and management of said locations for the benefit of all partners involved in migration management in the Darien

People Indirectly Reached:

The population not included as direct beneficiaries benefits from the shelter, lighting, and other infrastructure installed in Darien's transit centers and host communities. Mainly Indigenous communities (450 approx. each Indigenous community), humanitarian workers (155 approx.), and 2,300 women who have accessed family planning methods. Additionally, with the health facilities installed in Yaviza and Metetí, 7,630 women of reproductive age will be reached.

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Table 4: Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Sector/Cluster*

Sector/Cluster	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Camp Coordination and Camp Management	20,800	43,200	8,000	8,000	80,000	26,352	50,146	9,985	11,310	97,793
Food Security - Food Assistance	15,750	10,500	4,375	4,375	35,000	13,285	18,712	2,387	2,622	37,006
Health	6,035	12,165	1,150	1,150	20,500	8,809	16,901	3,240	3,868	32,818
Health - Sexual and Reproductive Health	7,536	0	13,995	0	21,531	31,369	49	474	0	31,892
Protection	9,534	14,242	3,597	3,377	30,750	13,155	26,683	4,772	5,645	50,255
Protection - Child Protection	2,961	591	8,295	8,095	19,942	3,484	746	10,452	10,203	24,885
Protection - Gender-Based Violence	13,820	3,427	17,466	2,325	37,038	43,769	3,612	3,201	2,440	53,022
Shelter and Non-Food Items	45,479	84,404	17,008	15,756	162,647	47,597	87,096	17,200	19,668	171,561
Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	11,692	35,077	5,612	6,080	58,461	33,496	100,487	16,078	17,418	167,479

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Table 5: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding by Category*

Category	Planned	Reached
Refugees	0	0
Returnees	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0
Host communities	19,894	33,999
Other affected people	151,530	595,706
Total	171,424	629,705

Table 6: Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sex & Age	Total Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*		Number of people with disabilities (PwD) out of the total	
	Planned	Reached	Planned	Reached
Women	48,398	208,031	3,009	3,075
Men	84,780	285,720	5,487	5,898
Girls	22,490	65,402	2,170	1,187
Boys	15,756	70,552	1,099	1,393
Total	171,424	629,705	11,765	11,553

PART II – PROJECT OVERVIEW

3. PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 Project Report 23-RR-IOM-026

1. Project Information			
Agency:	IOM	Country:	Panama
Sector/cluster:	Shelter and Non-Food Items	CERF project code:	23-RR-IOM-026
	Food Security - Food Assistance		
	Health		
	Protection		
	Camp Coordination and Camp Management		
Project title:	Emergency Humanitarian Response to the Mixed Flows Crossing the Darien Jungle		
Start date:	20/07/2023	End date:	19/01/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 5,000,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 1,000,000
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 1,499,331
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 0
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 0
National NGOs		US\$ 0	
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through this CERF RR grant, IOM Panama achieved the following:

- CCCM:
 - IOM conducted 2 training sessions with 36 participants from the National Migration Service (SNM), National Border Service (SENAFRONT), and reception communities.
 - IOM assisted 97,793 people through improved CCCM.
- Food:
 - IOM provided complementary adapted food kits (adult, children, and baby) to 37,006 persons.
- Health:
 - IOM provided psychosocial support to 418 migrants.
 - IOM donated various medical items, supplies, and medicines to the Ministry of Health to reinforce the health response in Darien, which benefitted 32,400 people.
 - IOM purchased and donated a pirogue to SENAFRONT to conduct emergency medical evacuations.
- Shelter:
 - IOM purchased 2 tents to increase the shelter capacity in the ETRM of Lajas Blancas and the reception community of Bajo Chiquito.
 - IOM designed and constructed a cement / gravel path between the 51 shelters. Basic piping facilitating the evacuation of rainwater, and 100 solar lamps were installed in the ETRMs and reception communities.
- Non-food items:
 - IOM provided non-food items such as clothes, shoes, travel kit, blanket, solar lamp, jerrycan, kitchen items, mosquito net, mattress/yoga mat, first aid kits, diapers, wipes and/or rash cream to 38,435 persons.
- Protection:
 - IOM facilitated field missions related to AAP, access for persons with disabilities, and counter-trafficking, and internal missions that identified issues and opportunities. Eight missions or reports were supported.
 - Through its existing phone line managed by its protection unit, and its field team working in the ETRMs, IOM provided information and referrals to 2,395 migrants.

The project, which was implemented from 20 July 2023 to 29 February 2024, assisted a total of 208,447 people and supported the continuity of basic services and response to emergency needs expressed by migrants. This CERF contribution bridged a gap in funding that would have resulted in a significant decrease in the provision of services to migrants arriving in Panama after a long trek through the Darien jungle. Several activities had a long-term impact and left installed capacity, especially regarding CCCM, shelter and health. There has been visible improvement in the migrant reception centres through this project.

3. Changes and Amendments

From 20 October to 2 December 2023, Panama was affected by nationwide protests, strikes, and roadblocks, which severely impacted IOM's ability to provide humanitarian assistance in the Darien. The protests caused a near total paralysis of the country, including a significant impact on the economy and mobility of goods. This crisis resulted in security and non-security related access constraints, preventing delivery of items by suppliers, deployment of personnel to Darien, and temporary access restrictions to migrant locations. Due to roadblocks and reduced availability of buses going from Darien to Costa Rica, reception communities and ETRMs in Darien suffered from significant overcrowding, rising tensions, and increased security incidents. Considering these elements, IOM requested a 3-month

no-cost extension to finalize the implementation of its Food, NFI, Health and Protection activities and the CERF Secretariat granted a six-week no-cost extension.

While this extension allowed IOM to complete ongoing activities, the procurement and donation of a pirogue to conduct emergency medical evacuations from reception communities was delayed and completed in the last days of the project. Delays were due to a variety of reasons, including difficulties in the identification of vendors capable of building a wooden pirogue adapted to the rivers of Darien, the unavailability of the wood required to build the pirogue, the incapacity to cut said tree species during this season, and the timely construction of the pirogue. While the pirogue was constructed and delivered to SENAFRONT within the project timeframe, the target of 100 evacuations will be completed after project closure.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Camp Coordination and Camp Management									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	20,800	43,200	8,000	8,000	80,000	26,352	50,146	9,985	11,310	97,793
Total	20,800	43,200	8,000	8,000	80,000	26,352	50,146	9,985	11,310	97,793

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

	62	130	24	24	240	79	150	30	34	293
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Sector/cluster	Health									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	260	540	100	100	1,000	260	540	100	100	1,000
Other affected people	5,775	11,625	1,050	1,050	19,500	8,549	16,361	3,140	3,768	31,818
Total	6,035	12,165	1,150	1,150	20,500	8,809	16,901	3,240	3,868	32,818

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	30	60	5	5	100	44	83	16	19	162
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Sector/cluster	Protection									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	175	315	5	5	500	1,019	1,374	0	2	2,395
Total	175	315	5	5	500	1,019	1,374	0	2	2,395

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

	3	5	1	1	10		27			27
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Sector/cluster	Shelter and Non-Food Items									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	500	300	100	100	1,000	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	7,500	15,500	3,000	3,000	29,000	14,038	16,817	3,887	3,693	38,435
Total	8,000	15,800	3,100	3,100	30,000	14,038	16,817	3,887	3,693	38,435

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	24	48	9	9	90					
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance									
	Planned					Reached				
Category	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	15,750	10,500	4,375	4,375	35,000	13,285	18,712	2,387	2,622	37,006
Total	15,750	10,500	4,375	4,375	35,000	13,285	18,712	2,387	2,622	37,006
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	47	32	13	13	105					

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

CERF ALLOCATION REPORT ON THE USE OF FUNDS AND ACHIEVED RESULTS

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The main indirect beneficiaries of this project are indigenous communities (450 approx. each indigenous community) as well as humanitarian workers (155 approx) and government personnel. This is especially true for the activities related to the reinforcement of health services in migrant locations in Darien as well as CCCM activities. The improvement of services and better organization of migrant locations improves the overall security and management of said locations for the benefit of all partners involved in migration management in the Darien.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Provide life-saving humanitarian assistance to vulnerable migrants in transit or stranded at the Temporary Migrant Reception Stations (ETRM) in the Darien or in remote reception communities in the Comarca Embera Wounaan.			
Output 1	The ETRMs are supported with site management services, including refresher trainings for people in charge of managing and servicing ETRMs.			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Camp Coordination and Camp Management			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	CM.1 Number of displacement sites supported with appropriate site management services	2	3	Pictures / site maps
Indicator 1.2	CM.4 Number of people (humanitarian staff and/or camp authorities) receiving training on CCCM	20	36	Attendance list Photos Trainers' mission reports
Indicator 1.3	Number of people benefiting from improved CCCM services, improved site coordination & site management	80,000	97,793	Pictures / site maps, official numbers reported by the National Migration Service
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		IOM managed to reach a higher number of persons through the implementation of CCCM activities, both in terms of capacity building of persons / organizations involved in the management of migrant locations, as well as the overall population benefiting from the CCCM activities implemented in the framework of this project. This can be explained by the expansion of our focus for training on CCCM to other entities, including indigenous communities (reception communities), as well as a higher influx of migrants in the last month of the project implementation.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Conduct regular site visits to assist government counterparts in the coordination and management of the Temporary Migrant Reception Stations (ETRM).	IOM		

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Activity 1.2	Assess and refer site needs at the ETRMs.	IOM
Activity 1.3	Conduct brief refresher trainings on CCCM with key local humanitarian staff and government partners.	IOM

Output 2 Vulnerable migrants at the ETRMs and in reception communities receive food assistance.

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Food Security - Food Assistance			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	FN.1a Number of people receiving in-kind food assistance	35,000	37,006	M&E dataset and photos
Indicator 2.2	Number of food kits distributed	35,000	37,006	M&E dataset
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		IOM managed to provide emergency food assistance to a higher number of migrants than envisioned due to economy of scales during procurement of food items as well as an increased number of migrants transiting in the Darien and an increased operational capacity of IOM in Darien through this project.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Delivery of emergency food kits to migrants arriving at the ETRMs who are most vulnerable (elderly, sick, infants, children and pregnant women).	IOM		
Activity 2.2	Delivery of travel food kits to migrants departing from the ETRMs in Darien to the ETRM in Chiriqui province.	IOM		
Activity 2.3	Delivery of food supplements to migrants arriving at reception communities.	IOM		

Output 3 Vulnerable migrants at the ETRMs and in reception communities receive health services.

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Health			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 3.1	H.9 Number of people provided with mental health and/or psycho-social support services	400	418	Registration Form (Consent form)
Indicator 3.2	H.7 Number of functional health facilities supported	3	3	Deed of donation Official Mi. Health Letter Photos
Indicator 3.3	Number of people provided with health emergencies evacuation from the jungle	100	0	N/A
Indicator 3.4	Number of people benefiting from access to medicines and medical supplies at health facilities.	20,000	32,400	Deed of donation, Ministry of Health letter, Photos

Explanation of output and indicators variance:	The number of emergency medical evacuations is null due to delays in the manufacturing of the wooden pirogue. Delays were due to difficulties in the identification of vendors capable of building a wooden pirogue adapted to the rivers of Darien, the unavailability of the wood required to build the pirogue (specific tree species / entire tree), the incapacity to cut said tree species during the season at the project inception, and the timely construction of the pirogue (several months). This resulted in the pirogue being delivered at the end of February, which did not allow to complete the targeted 100 emergency medical evacuations within the project implementation period. However, while the evacuations could not be performed during the project implementation period, this activity allowed IOM to leave installed capacity to conduct emergency medical evacuations. The number of people benefiting from medicines and medical supplies was higher because the budget allocated allowed the purchase of more items requested by the Ministry of Health.
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Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 3.1	Provision of MHPSS individual and group services at the ETRMs.	IOM
Activity 3.2	Delivery of medicines and basic medical supplies for the provision of health services at health centers in reception communities.	IOM / Ministry of Health
Activity 3.3	Purchase and equipping of a rapid response aquatic mobile health unit for evacuations from the Darien jungle.	IOM

Output 4 Vulnerable migrants at the ETRMs and in reception communities benefit from improved shelter conditions and from essential households items (NFI kits).

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster	Shelter and Non-Food Items			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 4.1	SN.3 Number of shelters and common shelter structures constructed or rehabilitated	3	3	Deeds of donation, Photos, Technical documentation
Indicator 4.2	SN.2a Number of people receiving in-kind NFI assistance	30,000	38,435	M&E dataset
Indicator 4.3	SN.2b Number of in-kind NFI kits distributed	30,000	38,435	M&E dataset

Explanation of output and indicators variance:	<p>IOM managed to provide emergency food assistance to a higher number of migrants than envisioned due to economy of scales during procurement of items, the diversification of items distributed, as well as an increased number of migrants transiting in the Darien and an increased operational capacity of IOM in Darien through this project.</p> <p>In addition, it is worth noting that some of the items were procured through the regional hub of United Nations Humanitarian Response Depot (UNHRD), which ensured rapid procurement and high quality of items procured.</p>
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	Furthermore, a successful initiative / collaboration in the framework of this project was the training on first aid of pirogue conductors by the Panamanian Red Cross, which concluded with the provision of a first aid kit to each pirogue conductor by IOM (through CERF funding). This joint activity aimed at reinforcing the health capacities in Darien in areas where no health services are provided (i.e. minimum of 4-hour transit on a river) and to ensure a basic response capacity.	
Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 4.1	Rehabilitation of ETRMs and improvement of shelter conditions at reception communities.	IOM
Activity 4.2	Delivery of NFIs (sleeping mats, blankets, mosquito nets, clothes, shoes, tarpaulins, etc.) at the ETRMs and in reception communities.	IOM

Output 5	Vulnerable migrants at the ETRMs and in reception communities access protection services.			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sector/cluster	Protection			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 5.1	PG.1 Number of human rights and/or protection monitoring missions, analyses and/or reports that inform the humanitarian response	5	8	Mission reports
Indicator 5.2	PP.1b Number of people accessing protection referral mechanisms and/or pathways	500	2,395	M&E dataset / KoboCollect
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		<p>Regarding indicator 5.1; They were field tours to evaluate the protection services that were being provided in the ETRMs. These tours were carried out by specialized Protection personnel from the IOM and others by personnel from the National Disability Secretariat (SENADIS) and technical reports were presented on them.</p> <p>5.2: During the year 2023, a record number of people crossed the Darién Gap (approximately 520,000). IOM had field personnel available to provide referral services.</p> <p>This care strategy managed to reach a greater number of beneficiaries than expected.</p>		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 5.1	Conduct regular field visits at the ETRMs to provide protection services, such as case management and referral services.	IOM, National Secretariat of Disability (SENADIS)		
Activity 5.2	Establishment and operation of a hotline to provide protection services, such as case management and referral services.	IOM		

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas² often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)³:

While funded under different projects, IOM implements its Displacement Tracking matrix (DTM), which is a data collection exercise conducted in migrant locations through direct interviews with migrants. Data collected includes indicators related to migrants' profile, but also information related to the satisfaction levels of services in migrant locations, immediate humanitarian needs, and type of information needed.

Through its field presence in migrant locations, IOM receives constant feedback from migrants and adapts its service delivery (methodology and type of services) based on this. IOM organized a mission of its AAP focal point to Darien to identify ways to improve AAP in its actions. AAP was included as a theme in the CCCM training. The inclusion of indigenous reception communities in the CCCM training was especially important as they are the first to receive migrants when they exit the Darien jungle and had never received any training on CCCM or assistance to migrants.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms

As abovementioned, IOM implements its DTM, which collects information related to the satisfaction levels of services provided/available in -migrant locations, immediate humanitarian needs, and type of information needed. Feedback and complaints are usually received in the various migrant locations, through IOM's field team. An important role of the field team is to receive questions and complaints, and to guide / inform migrants or refer them to other organizations when relevant (asylum seekers, health, etc.).

In addition, IOM has a phone line managed by its protection unit, which receives calls from migrants in Darien and other provinces of Panama. Migrants calling this phone number are provided assistance when possible and relevant, provided with information, or referred to other services.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

All IOM staff are trained on PSEA. This is a mandatory training for all staff entering IOM and is especially relevant in complex contexts such as Darien.

In addition, IOM contributed to the interagency SOPs for PSEA (including identification and referral), which were elaborated during the timeframe of this project.

² These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

³ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

Finally, when training the SNM, SENAFRONT, and indigenous reception communities, IOM include a session on PSEA to ensure basic understanding and responsibilities from all entities working in migrant locations.

IOM recognizes that the risks of trafficking are heightened in emergency contexts, therefore, it considers counter-trafficking in emergencies lifesaving and core to humanitarian programming and works towards addressing this issue before, during, and after a crisis. At regional level, and jointly with other international organizations like OAS, a workshop of Regional Guidelines for the Social Inclusion of Survivors of Human Trafficking in Latin America was given.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

The assistance provided by IOM is based on vulnerability criteria, which include single women, girls, survivors of VBG, etc. As such, the prioritization of these specific groups for targeted assistance is meant to reduce their vulnerability and promote gender equality. MHPSS services provided through this project targeted a group for whom this service was not available, adult males. While the priority is given to women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, which had resulted in a gap in the service provision as other humanitarian actors did not include adult males in their MHPSS programs. This project allowed IOM to fill that gap and reinforce gender equality.

Food kits were designed to respond to the specific needs of babies, children, pregnant women, and other vulnerable groups. Clothes distributed also took into consideration specific needs of different age and sex groups. Protection and gender equality principles were included in the CCCM training.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

People with disabilities (PwD) were targeted in every activity as one of the vulnerable categories and prioritized for in-kind assistance. Food and non-food items provided are not vulnerability-specific but are intended to reduce the overall vulnerability of people assisted. IOM implemented activities directly targeting PwD through procurement and positioning of accessibility items, including wheelchairs, crutches, walking canes, in ETRMs and Health Centre of Meteti.

IOM facilitated a field mission of the National Secretariat of Disability (SENADIS) to the reception community of Bajo Chiquito to identify accessibility needs. The mission report highlights needs related to infrastructure (pathways, ramps), access to services (school, health centre), and lack of sensitization/knowledge on disability. The mission report also includes recommendations on how to respond to these needs.

The shelter expert that was deployed during the project implementation worked on technical plans for increased accessibility and the construction of a ramp in the ETRM of San Vicente.

f. Protection:

Protection is mainstreamed in all activities implemented by IOM in addition to protection-specific activities. Overall, each activity implemented by IOM ensures the protection of migrants to ensure their basic needs are met.

In addition, protection principles are shared with/presented to SNM, SENAFRONT, and indigenous communities through IOM's CCCM activities and training.

Finally, IOM implemented specific protection activities related to human rights/protection field missions (including on disability, AAP and Trafficking in Persons), the improvement of shelter infrastructures to reduce protection risks (including through the installation of solar

lamps), the reduction of vulnerability (including through the provision of accessibility items for persons with disabilities), as well as the provision of age-specific emergency food kits.

g. Education:
N/A

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

N/A

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	No	N/A

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

CVA is not an assistance modality that is currently being utilized in the humanitarian context in the Darien. If it were to be introduced, the process to implement it would take some time, and it could also represent a political risk. Thus, CVA was not included in the proposal.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
N/A	N/A	US\$ 0	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
N/A	N/A	US\$ 0	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
N/A	N/A	US\$ 0	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
Conoce la historia de Zuleibys y como OIM le ha apoyado a ella y su familia	https://www.facebook.com/oimpanama/videos/363900523071072/ https://www.instagram.com/p/C20W8oPJ07E/ https://youtu.be/sltWXPxKH8 https://x.com/oimpanama/status/1758146397956616212
Nuestro personal en terreno brinda apoyo y asistencia humanitaria a personas migrantes que se encuentran en tránsito por la provincia de #Darién	https://x.com/oimpanama/status/1725601149384872353
Manteniendo nuestro compromiso para fortalecer la atención médica y el apoyo humanitario	https://x.com/oimpanama/status/1724788231705878671 https://www.instagram.com/p/Czto1DjhkB7/ Link
Continuamos apoyando a las personas migrantes en situación de vulnerabilidad durante su tránsito por la provincia de #Darién con kits de artículos de primera necesidad.	https://x.com/oimpanama/status/1707112747844923814 https://www.instagram.com/p/Cx3_SVQAsT0/?img_index=1 Link

3.2 Project Report 23-RR-FPA-030

1. Project Information			
Agency:	UNFPA	Country:	Panama
Sector/cluster :	Protection - Gender-Based Violence Health - Sexual and Reproductive Health	CERF project code:	23-RR-FPA-030
Project title:	Provision of life-Saving Gender Based Violence(VBG) and Sexual and Reproductive Health services (SRH) for migrant women and adolescents in Darién		
Start date:	21/07/2023	End date:	20/01/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	The total requirement for the agency's sector response to a current emergency:		US\$ 710,000
	Total funding received for the agency's sector response to a current emergency:		US\$ 0
	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 568,600
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 67,895
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 67,895
	National NGOs		US\$ 0
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0	

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), through the Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), carried out actions in two key intervention areas: i) Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) ii) Gender-Based Violence (GBV)

Regarding SRH, UNFPA contributed through a strategy to reduce maternal deaths, which included:
Promotion of prenatal care Installation, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health (MINSA), of the first Maternal House in Metetí
Provision of contraceptive methods and workshops on their placement.

In the area of GBV, the following actions were undertaken:

Establishment of a community safe space in Bajo Chiquito and strengthening of two in the ETRM of Lajas Blancas and an Vicente.
Strengthening of two safe spaces at the ETRM level, in conjunction with implementing partner HIAS and the Local Community Congress,
Contribution to operationalize the first Comprehensive Care Center (CAI) of the Ministry of Women's Affairs in the town of Metetí.

In both areas, UNFPA has strengthened the capacities of service providers in:

Minimum Interagency Standards (MISP), Clinical management of sexual violence, Obstetric care and Sexual and Reproductive Health and GBV response.

The actions in the field have resulted in a total of 70,713 services and care provided in Pinogana and 1,362 in Cemaco.

3. Changes and Amendments

N/A

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Protection - Gender-Based Violence									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	3,038	0	5,642	0	8,680	318	17	63	0	398
Other affected people	5,642	0	10,478	0	16,120	38,059	0	1726	0	39,785
Total	8,680	0	16,120	0	24,800	38,377	17	1789	0	40,183
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	0	0	500	0	500	87	0	0	0	87

Sector/cluster	Health - Sexual and Reproductive Health									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	2,637	0	4,899	0	7,536	29336	49	197	0	29,582
Other affected people	4,899	0	9,096	0	13,995	2,033	0	277	0	2,310
Total	7,536	0	13,995	0	21,531	31,369	49	474	0	31,892

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

0	0	500	0	500	42	0	0	0	42
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* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

By partnering with local and institutional authorities, the Integral Training Center in Metetí has expanded its reach to serve a larger population through its on-site clinics. This represents 2,300 women who have accessed family planning methods. With the installed capacity we have established in the health facilities of Yaviza and Metetí, we will be able to reach 7,630 women of reproductive age.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective Improve access to essential lifesaving sexual and reproductive health services (SRH) and gender-based violence prevention and response services (GBV) for migrants and refugees' women, adolescents, and most at-risk vulnerable groups in affected areas in Darién, rights-based Gender-based with a multicultural approach.

Output 1 Improve access to essential sexual and reproductive health services and supplies in Metetí, Darien, through the provision of Interagency Reproductive Health Kits and implementation of the Minimum Initial Service Package (MISP).

Was the planned output changed through reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster	Health - Sexual and Reproductive Health			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	# of targeted health facilities (BEmONC, CEmONC services) supplied with clinical delivery assistance kits	2	2	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox, Receiving and Inspection Report,
Indicator 1.2	SP.2a Number of inter-agency emergency reproductive health kits delivered	2	2	Receiving and Inspection Report,
Indicator 1.3	SP.3 Number of health care providers receiving training on the minimum emergency response package for sexual and reproductive health	80	95	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox, Receiving and Inspection Report,
Indicator 1.4	# pregnant women receiving obstetrical services and receiving lifesaving SRH information, including SRH available services, clean delivery kits and obstetrical prevention measures (IPC)	150	209	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox, Receiving and Inspection Report,
Indicator 1.5	# Healthcare professionals receiving quick orientation sessions on CMR, FP and SRH kit supplies	40	44	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox, Receiving and Inspection Report,
Indicator 1.6	#Number of medical mobile teams set up and equipment with enhanced capacity to provide SRH services	1	1	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 1.7	# of women of reproductive age, with emphasis on adolescents, pregnant women receiving SRH services and live saving information on SRH	1500	2846	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	including current SRH available services, prevention and measures			
Indicator 1.8	Number of women who are receiving reproductive health services, including community awareness.	21 530	26098	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		The goals were surpassed due to the coordinated work carried out with the institutional support of the Ministry of Health. This enabled the effective strengthening and provisioning of sexual and reproductive health supplies to both the Maternal Child Center in Meteti and the Yaviza Hospital.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	Procurement and distribution of IARH kits and other obstetrical SRH supplies (eg NON-PNEUMATIC ANTI-SHOCK GARMENT) to selected facilities	UNFPA		
Activity 1.2	Procurement and distribution of Subdermal Implants, IARH kit 7- IUD to selected facilities	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.3	Implement quick orientation sessions and refreshing sessions on contraception, CMR and MISP to Ministry of Health Staff, and mobile teams, humanitarian stakeholders on SRH supplies distribution and management at the health center level	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.4	Implement quick orientation sessions and refreshing sessions to community agent on SRH prevention, promotion and care at community level	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.5	Set up and equip SRH mobile teams of first line responders	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.6	Design and distribute educational material to health services and beneficiaries addressing SRH key messages (FP, STI-HIV prevention, contraception SRH rights and SRH services)	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.7	Development and delivery of lifesaving SRH communications product including contraception, obstetrical care, HIV, Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) prevention, among others	MINSAs / UNFPA		
Activity 1.8	Monitoring and follow-up of SRH activities	UNFPA		

Output 2 Provide comprehensive services for GBV survivors through the creation and/or updating of the operation of safe spaces for women and adolescents and the provision of case management services.

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster	Protection - Gender-Based Violence			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	PS.1a Number of people accessing women- and girl-friendly safe spaces and/or centres	1500	3007	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 2.2	Number of local GBV professionals participating in the Inter-Agency Minimum Standards for GBV	50	67	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	Programming in Emergencies training			
Indicator 2.3	SP.1a Number of menstrual hygiene management kits and/or dignity kits distributed	6000	5541	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 2.4	SP.1b Number of people receiving menstrual hygiene management kits and/or dignity kits	6000	4062	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 2.5	PS.2 Number of people receiving GBV psycho-social support and/or GBV case management	500	1315	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 2.6	Number of people reached with life-saving information and key messages on GBV prevention and risk mitigation	1300	3054	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox
Indicator 2.7	Number of persons benefitting from Gender Based violence activities.	24800	28678	Monthly Report, Kobo toolbox

Explanation of output and indicators variance:

The indicators SP1a and SP1b experienced variations due to a decrease in women's participation in safe spaces, influenced by the short time spent in the Temporary Migration Reception Stations in December. This relationship is closely correlated with indicator PS.2 on case management, as women survivors of violence often require longer periods to identify certain types of violence and access individualized psychosocial support. These indicators are directly linked to the distribution of Dignity Kits, which are exclusively provided to women participating in safe space sessions. This relationship closely correlates with indicator PS.2 on case management, as women survivors of violence often require longer periods to identify certain types of violence. As for the other indicators, they were surpassed with the support of HIAS and UNFPA for care within the Migrant Reception and Processing Centers (ETRM), as well as by the Ministry of Women for community sessions in collaboration with UNFPA.

Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 2.1	Establish a woman and girls' safe space in Meteti	UNFPA
Activity 2.2	Provide assistance to GBV survivors and members of the affected community in Women and adolescents Safe Spaces	UNFPA / HIAS
Activity 2.3	Refresher training for GBV service providers on Interagency Standards for GBV Programming in Emergencies	UNFPA and Ministry of Women
Activity 2.4	Deliver UNFPA basic DK containing items adapted to the needs of refugee and migrant women and girls as well as life-saving information	UNFPA / HIAS
Activity 2.5	Provide case management services to GBV survivors adapted to the needs of the migrant and refugee population	UNFPA / HIAS

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Activity 2.6	Conduct Community-based awareness-raising activities with life-saving information and key messages on GBV prevention and risk mitigation	UNFPA / HIAS and Ministry of Women
Activity 2.7	Provide psychosocial support group activities in Safe Spaces for Women and Girls for GBV survivors and affected community members	UNFPA / HIAS
Activity 2.8	Monitor and follow-up GBV activities	UNFPA

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁴ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)⁵:

UNFPA, leveraging its extensive regional and national experience, has incorporated an intercultural approach tailored to the specific needs of the population in its interventions. In the case of the Darien province, where receiving communities are of indigenous origin, specifically from the Embera Wounaan comarca, UNFPA implemented specific strategies. A community promoter, trained in the Emberá language, facilitated effective communication with leaders and key stakeholders, fostering trust and building strong relationships. In addition, adapted sessions were conducted with simultaneous translation, which contributed to the appropriation of the programs by the leaders and ensured the sustainability of the initiatives.

Regarding the attention to young people in the community, community consultation sessions were organized with Afro-descendant and indigenous youth, in order to raise awareness, promote integration, and reduce discrimination. At the Migration Reception Stations, safe space sessions were offered specifically designed for adolescents and women.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

Within the established mechanisms, we have a suggestion box located in the Safe Spaces, implemented in collaboration with HIAS. This box is accessible by scanning a QR code. During the initial implementation phase (November to January), we received few comments, and none of them raised any sensitive issues. All recorded comments expressed satisfaction with the care provided. To ensure the data's reliability, including informed consent, beneficiaries were explicitly asked for their authorization to use the information for statistical purposes.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

In addition to existing UNFPA internal reporting mechanisms aligned with UN protocols, staff are familiar with the relevant policies. The Project Coordinator, who serves as the PSEA focal point at the office level, regularly communicates the rules and mechanisms for reporting or experiencing sexual exploitation, in line with the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) protocols.

⁴ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

⁵ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

All UNFPA-implemented projects prioritize a Gender-Based Violence (GBV) approach and access to Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services. This includes incorporating intercultural considerations and an ethnic-racial lens to address the needs of marginalized populations, such as migrants in transit.

To achieve this, UNFPA has strengthened available services and collaborated with trained institutions to ensure emergency response adheres to GBV standards.

The focus remains on prioritizing the well-being of beneficiaries and survivors of violence. Field teams collect primary data to understand the needs of UNFPA's priority groups, including adolescents, women of reproductive age, people with disabilities, and Afro descendants.

This data informs interventions that prioritize a gender-focused approach.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

In collaboration with the National Disability Secretariat, the project delivered training on violence prevention and clinical management of sexual violence. This training ensured proper handling of cases and strengthened coordination among local authorities. Among the beneficiaries, 1.28% identified as having a disability, with visual impairments being the most frequent.

f. Protection:

UNFPA's mandate prioritizes the protection and well-being of people, particularly women, adolescents, and youth, in humanitarian situations.

The organization focuses on three areas:

Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH): UNFPA improves access to lifesaving SRH services, including maternal healthcare, family planning, prevention of sexually transmitted infections (STIs), and the provision of reproductive health commodities. This includes addressing the specific SRH needs of women and adolescent girls during emergencies.

Gender-Based Violence (GBV): UNFPA works to prevent and respond to gender-based violence. They provide services to survivors, implement measures to address the root causes of violence, and promote community awareness. Additionally, UNFPA strengthens local capacities to prevent and respond to GBV.

Coordination and Capacity Development: UNFPA actively collaborates with national authorities, humanitarian partners, and local communities to coordinate and strengthen emergency response measures. They provide technical assistance, training, and capacity development to improve the effectiveness of humanitarian actors in addressing SRH and GBV.

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

g. Education:

Safe spaces and information sessions for women and adolescents have shared life-saving key messages on women's health and violence prevention. Additionally, orientation sessions have been promoted to equip participants with tools, including life skills, and to foster empowerment.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	Choose an item.	0

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

NA

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
Health Day	https://lac.unfpa.org/es/news/el-servicio-de-planificacion-familiar-que-garantiza-los-derechos-de-las-mujeres
Maternity House	https://www.instagram.com/reel/C3GWFkMu-CS/?igsh=MWE0Z2RuNGFnbTh3bQ==
Safe Spaces	https://www.instagram.com/p/CzeZP5AOe7W/?igsh=bnl0cTFrZ3NzeTY2

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

3.3 Project Report 23-RR-HCR-025

1. Project Information			
Agency:	UNHCR	Country:	Panama
Sector/cluster:	Protection Shelter and Non-Food Items	CERF project code:	23-RR-HCR-025
Project title:	Strengthening access to protection services for refugees and other vulnerable people in mixed movements		
Start date:	01/07/2023	End date:	31/12/2023
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 2,700,000
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:		US\$ 0
Funding	Amount received from CERF:		US\$ 498,017
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:		US\$ 20,000
	Government Partners		US\$ 0
	International NGOs		US\$ 20,000
	National NGOs		US\$ 0
	Red Cross/Crescent Organisation		US\$ 0

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

In 2023, 520,000 refugees and migrants crossed the Darien jungle. Since July 2023, UNHCR reached 48,000 people through face- to-face information, awareness, and sensitization activities about the risks on the route and legal pathways. The Agency identified some 40 people in need of international protection and provided tailored legal counselling and assistance. As part of its online Communication with Communities (CwC) project, “Trust the Toucan”, dedicated to challenging false publications and providing reliable information about the Darien jungle, UNHCR produced more than 330 communication and information products, including videos, ads, posts, and printings, and recorded some 80,000 of interactions created between social media users and the content created within its CwC project. Regarding shelter, upon request of the Government of Panama (GoP), UNHCR relocated the rub halls, originally planned to be installed in ETRM San Vicente (SV), to ETRM Lajas Blancas (LB), as its capacity has been vastly exceeded with over 1,000 people transiting per day. In addition to the number of solar-powered streetlights originally included in the proposal, UNHCR purchased 100 additional and installed them in ETRMs, Bajo Chiquito (BC) and Canaan Membrillo transit communities to foster a protective environment. UNHCR purchased solar panels to power the also installed informative soundboxes in host and transit communities such as BC, where access to electricity is limited, to disseminate key protection messages. UNHCR installed ventilators in two of the four dormitories at the ETRM San Vicente to promote air circulation and improve the reception conditions of these spaces. One of the dormitories, a space of 84 square meters (with a capacity of 25 to 30 people), was separated and converted into closed areas where people with different protection needs could be accommodated or those who, that due to specific situations, had to maintain a more prolonged stay. UNHCR purchased an additional rub hall for ETRM LB to support the government response capacity in case of high influx to accommodate people in transit staying at the ETRM and built a multi- purpose court to allow diverse integration activities such as sports, training and workshops, contribute to peaceful coexistence, and accommodate people in transit. *Finally, UNHCR deployed two staff from its Emergency Response Team (ERT) to support the authorities with protection, risk monitoring and implementation of preparedness response*

3. Changes and Amendments

In December 2023, UNHCR submitted a request for a 2-month No-Cost Extension (NCE) as changes in state policies related to the exit from the ETRMs of people who were part of the mixed movements and protests at the national level with road blockades delayed implementing the activities included in the proposal submitted. Both issues caused people to be stranded in the ETRMs and delays in the delivery of necessary materials and supplies. The increase in the number of people in transit in August and September 2023 significantly impacted the response capacity of Governmental institutions and humanitarian organizations, including UNHCR. The additional approved period allowed UNHCR to successfully complete the protection and shelter activities included in the project. In close collaboration with authorities, thanks to the NCE, UNHCR identified additional shelter interventions to address the specific needs of refugees and migrants at the ETRMs. This included the creation of a protection space within ETRM San Vicente with a capacity of 25 to 30 people to support extremely vulnerable populations for prolonged periods, including asylum-seekers, people with medical needs, survivors of sexual violence, and others. UNHCR also installed a ventilation system in the dormitories in San Vicente to ensure the air complies with minimum standards, as well as a multi-purpose pitch in Lajas Blancas, and the installation of 100 solar streetlights in ETRMs and transit communities. By aligning closely with authority guidance, these rehabilitation interventions have proved effective and complementary within the broader humanitarian response framework. Regarding the CBI assistance, UNHCR requested the removal of this activity.

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Protection									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	119	164	160	204	647	119	164	160	204	647
Other affected people	13,844	20,621	5,142	4,746	44,353	12,017	25,145	4,612	5,439	47,213
Total	13,963	20,785	5,302	4,950	45,000	12,136	25,309	4,772	5,643	47,860
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	750	1,120	280	250	2,400	655	1,370	251	296	2,572

Sector/cluster

Shelter and Non-Food Items

Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	119	164	160	204	647	119	164	160	204	647
Other affected people	24,851	37,030	9,115	8,357	79,353	33,440	70,115	13,153	15,771	132,479
Total	24,970	37,194	9,275	8,561	80,000	33,559	70,279	13,313	15,975	133,126

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total

1,361	2,027	505	467	4,360	1,822	3,821	717	860	7,220
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* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

The families of refugees and migrants in transit who received information will benefit from this action as they will now have information to make informed decisions about their journey, the risks involved and the legal pathways. Other refugees and migrants transiting through the Darien and indigenous communities (currently an average of 1,200+ individuals daily) who were not included in the direct beneficiary reporting are also indirect beneficiaries since they will benefit from the shelter, lighting and other infrastructure installed in transit centers and communities.

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Strengthening access to protection services for refugees and other vulnerable people in mixed movements and support transit communities by enhancing the reception conditions in Darien province and indigenous Emberaá-Wounaán territories			
Output 1	People in need of international protection receive multi-purpose cash assistance			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Protection			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	Cash.1a Number of people receiving multi-purpose cash (refugees and asylum-seekers benefiting from emergency multipurpose cash for their basic needs)	250	0	NA
Indicator 1.2	Cash.1b Total value of multi-purpose cash distributed in USD	30,000	0	NA
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Activity discontinued and removed from the proposal (NCE)		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 1.1	UNHCR will provide multipurpose cash assistance strictly to asylum-seekers who filed their asylum claim in Darien's reception points. To mitigate the potential	UNHCR, CRP		
	misuse of cash, the funds will be provided for one week with the possibility of extension for one more week.			

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Output 2	People in mixed movements receive information about the asylum system in Panama and legal assistance			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Protection			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	Number of people in need of international protection receiving legal counselling and assistance	35	38	Partner reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		NA		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	UNHCR will provide information on the legal process and steps required to file an asylum claim in Panama and will assist specific vulnerable cases, such as victims of violence, including gender-based violence.	Norwegian Refugee Council		

Output 3	People in mixed movements in Darien and in indigenous Emberaá-Wounaan transit communities will benefit from better reception conditions.			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Shelter and Non-Food Items			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 3.1	Number of people provided with solar-powered street lights in transit communities in Darien and indigenous areas	80,000	133,126	Direct implementation reports
Indicator 3.2	Number of people benefiting from improved and more dignified infrastructure in ETRM San Vicente transit reception center	11,252	11,450	Direct implementation reports
Indicator 3.3	SN.3 Number of shelters and common shelter structures constructed or rehabilitated	4	4	Direct implementation reports
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Indicator 3.1 (streetlights) exceeded target during the reporting period. Due to the nature of the activity, thousands of people will continue to benefit in the upcoming months/years.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 3.1	Support the government with response actions for the improvement of existing spaces in case of a sudden and massive increase in the number of people crossing irregularly through the jungle. Furthermore, mitigate protection risks and enhance overall security through the	UNHCR		

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	provision of solar-powered street lights in transit communities.	
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Output 4 People in mixed movements receive reliable and life-saving information about the risks of crossing through Darien jungle

Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes No

Sector/cluster	Protection
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Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 4.1	Number of communication and information products produced by "Trust the Toucan" project	325	334	Direct implementation reports
Indicator 4.2	Number of interactions created between social media users and the content of "Trust the Toucan" project (comments, resharing, clicks)	65,000	79,472	Direct implementation reports
Indicator 4.3	Number of people reached through face-to-face information, awareness and sensitization activities about the risks on the route and legal pathways	45,000	47,860	Direct implementation and partner reports

Explanation of output and indicators variance:	N/A
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Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 4.1	UNHCR will strengthen its CwC strategy by adding more content shared through Confía en el Tucán (Trust the Toucan) project to inform people of the risks of the route and available services at the ETRMs. UNHCR will also provide information on access to rights in Panama.	UNHCR, HIAS, NRC

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁸ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)⁹:

The project has a strong AAP component. UNHCR's CwC project "Confía en el Tucán" (Trust the Toucan) aims to challenge false publications and provide reliable information regarding the risks and dangers of crossing the Darien jungle. Through social media channels, border protection monitoring, and WhatsApp chatbot, among other tools, UNHCR identified as the main themes of the project the risks of the journey and messages about the prevention of violence and human trafficking. The two-way communication of the CwC project also helped UNHCR shape protection and preventive messages shared on the project platforms. "Confía en el Tucán" also includes the stories narrated by refugees and migrants who risked their lives crossing the border to enter Panama. The other interventions are based on information obtained through the UNHCR Protection Desk at the ETRMs and the UNHCR Monthly Protection Monitoring exercise, through which the Agency assesses the needs and priorities of refugees and others of concern.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

UNHCR holds itself accountable to affected people in all aspects of its work by involving them in identifying and analyzing their needs and the risks that they face, and in designing, implementing, and evaluating its operations. In Panama, UNHCR and partners have different channels in place for feedback and complaints that are available for refugees, asylum-seekers and migrants, as well as the transit communities. These include the UNHCR Panama WhatsApp chatbot, protection email account and the UNHCR Panama Help Page, through which personalized, and if needed, anonymous complaints or messages can be sent to the assigned Protection focal point to make the due follow-up as per the internal UNHCR SOPs for feedback follow-up and response. NRC and CRP also have implemented feedback mechanisms in the field such as suggestion boxes and hotlines through which feedback and complaints can be raised.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

In line with UN standards, UNHCR has a zero-tolerance policy towards sexual exploitation and abuse (SEA) by UN and partner personnel. SEA constitutes acts of serious misconduct and is, therefore, grounds for disciplinary measures, including dismissal. SEA by UN personnel and partners is also gender-based violence (GBV). To that effect, UNHCR placed posters at strategic points at the ETRMs to inform people in mixed movements about the established feedback and complaint mechanisms to report PSEA cases. In addition to this, UNHCR provided the authorities with training in PSEA and coordinates other efforts in this area closely with humanitarian actors through its leadership role at the main interagency coordination mechanism in Darien: The Human Mobility Group.

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d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

Participation of forcibly displaced and stateless women in community consultations, leadership and management structures is a core action of UNHCR's mandatory Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) Policy. Women and girls' inclusion and participation in the design, implementation, and monitoring of programmes is also constantly sought. Many women who have been survivors of gender-based violence do not formalize their complaints out of fear and/or lack of knowledge of their rights and of the mechanisms in place. Through this project, UNHCR aimed to raise awareness among GBV survivors about their rights, assisting through legal advice on a case-by-case basis. UNHCR also engaged women community delegates to identify the projects as well as the implementation areas.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

Through the "Confía en el Tucán" project, UNHCR disseminated messages about the risks of the route, alerting people with special needs not to undertake this dangerous journey and put their lives at risk. On the other hand, the rehabilitation of community spaces as part of this project benefitted people with disabilities as their needs and vulnerabilities have been considered, particularly the protection space in San Vicente, which was built with full access to PwD.

f. Protection:

UNHCR's actions aimed at guaranteeing the protection of people in mixed movements. This includes the dissemination of information on the risks of the route, the provision of safe spaces, enhancement of shelter, sustainable lighting and communal infrastructure, as well as counselling and legal advice for asylum-seekers and for survivors of gender-based violence and people in need of international protection.

g. Education:

NA

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
Yes, CVA is a component of the CERF project	Choose an item.	[Fill in]

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

Although CBI assistance was included in the initial proposal, UNHCR requested to remove it in the NCE and reprogramming request. In the last quarter of 2023, the Panamanian Government's joint agreement with Costa Rica (previously mentioned in the interim report) on the direct transfer of refugees and migrants from Darien's reception points to Costa Rica's Temporary Attention Centres for Migrants

(CATEM) has been limiting the Agency action identifying persons in need of international protection, and consequently delivering CBI. UNHCR has observed that if people at the ETRM do not have the means to cover the cost of the transportation fees, they tend to move on by their own means, making it more difficult for the UNHCR in Darien to follow up on their case.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
2023 Multidonor thanking post on ACNUR Panama X account	https://twitter.com/acnurpanama/status/1740764946118459554
Mixed Movements Darien and Chiriqui - November 2023 (Logo CERF included among MCO Panama donors)	https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/105640
Panama Factsheet - November December 2023 (CERF mentioned among MCO Panama donors)	https://data.unhcr.org/en/documents/details/106502

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3.4 Project Report 23-RR-CEF-041

1. Project Information			
Agency:	UNICEF	Country:	Panama
Sector/cluster:	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	CERF project code:	23-RR-CEF-041
	Protection - Child Protection Protection - Gender-Based Violence		
Project title:	Provide life-saving services for children and families on the move in Darien Gap - Panama		
Start date:	26/07/2023	End date:	25/01/2024
Project revisions:	No-cost extension <input type="checkbox"/>	Redeployment of funds <input type="checkbox"/>	Reprogramming <input type="checkbox"/>
Funding	Total requirement for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 5,998,984	
	Total funding received for agency's sector response to current emergency:	US\$ 5,000,000	
	Amount received from CERF:	US\$ 979,724	
	Total CERF funds sub-granted to implementing partners:	US\$ 525,000	
	Government Partners	US\$ 0	
	International NGOs	US\$ 525,000	
National NGOs	US\$ 0		
Red Cross/Crescent Organisation	US\$ 0		

2. Project Results Summary/Overall Performance

Through the CERF UFE grant, UNICEF guaranteed continuity in life-saving services for children during the historically highest migratory flow increase through the Darien Gap from July to November 2023. This means that 167,479 migrants had access to water, hygiene, and sanitation, 12,695 women and adolescents had access to GBV mitigation activities, and 24,885 children and caregivers had access to psychosocial support through child-friendly spaces complying with sphere and CCC standards.

Funding also allowed presence of UNICEF and its partners in four hotspots: two host communities, where migrants arrive when leaving the jungle, and two Migration Stations, where they arrive to board transportation to continue to Costa Rica. The services were implemented by 80 frontline humanitarian workers, with schedules from Monday to Sunday. UNICEF guaranteed protection by presence during the project period through officers on the ground.

3. Changes and Amendments

During the second half of 2023, migration flow increased from 2,500 to 4,400 people per day on average, with a reception capacity of 1,000 people maximum in the Migration Stations in Darien, demanding expansion of services to respond to overcrowding. In November, national protests/strikes in response to a mining law, led to 7,000 migrants stranded in Darien due to road closures. UNICEF adapted services to guarantee there were no interruptions. However, given that field staff had to reinforce security protocol due to overcrowding in migratory stations, hygiene promotion activities planned could not be implemented.

4. Number of People Directly Assisted with CERF Funding*

Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	102	103	71	70	346	335	1,005	161	174	1,675
Other affected people	11,590	34,974	5,541	6,010	58,115	33,161	99,482	15,917	17,244	165,804
Total	11,692	35,077	5,612	6,080	58,461	33,496	100,487	16,078	17,418	167,479
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	68	105	21	23	217	195	301	59	64	619

Sector/cluster	Protection - Gender-Based Violence									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other affected people	5,140	3,427	1,346	2,325	12,238	5,392	3,595	1,412	2,440	12,839
Total	5,140	3,427	1,346	2,325	12,238	5,392	3,595	1,412	2,440	12,839
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

	27	35	42	45	149	28	37	44	47	156
Sector/cluster	Protection - Child Protection									
Category	Planned					Reached				
	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total	Women	Men	Girls	Boys	Total
Refugees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Returnees	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Internally displaced people	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Host communities	5	0	18	15	38	7	2	21	20	50
Other affected people	2,956	591	8,277	8,080	19,904	3,477	744	10,431	10,183	24,835
Total	2,961	591	8,295	8,095	19,942	3,484	746	10,452	10,203	24,885
People with disabilities (PwD) out of the total										
	18	2	41	43	104	21	3	51	54	129

* Figures represent best estimates of people directly supported through CERF funding. Disaggregation by sex and age represents women and men ≥18, girls and boys <18.

5. People Indirectly Targeted by the Project

No People Indirectly Targeted

6. CERF Results Framework

Project objective	Provide life-saving services for children and families on the move in Darien			
Output 1	Access to sanitation and hygiene services increased at the Temporary Migration Stations of San Vicente and Lajas Blancas and the Indigenous host Community of Bajo Chiquito for migrants and refugees in transit and host Communities.			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Sector/cluster	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 1.1	WS.12 Percentage of people utilizing facilities and services to support environmental health as part of WASH programming (solid waste management and disposal, drainage, vector control activities, etc.)	60%	60%	UNICEF internal records.
Indicator 1.2	WS.16a Number of people receiving critical WASH supplies	17,500	28,851 (hygiene items)	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 1.3	WS.16a Number of people receiving critical WASH supplies (e.g. WASH/hygiene kits)	5846	19,984 (hygiene kits)	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 1.4	WS.16b Number of WASH/hygiene kits distributed	5846	19,984	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 1.5	WS.20 Percentage of people with improved knowledge that demonstrate safe hygiene practices that have received hygiene promotion and/or distribution of hygiene items/materials	10%	0%	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 1.6	Number of people utilizing facilities and services to support environmental health as part of WASH programming (solid waste management and disposal, drainage, vector control activities, etc.)	58,461	167,479	UNICEF internal records
Explanation of output and indicators variance:	Goals achieved according to the initial approach. Migration flow was higher than expected, and thus, more people were reached with WASH services (indicators 1.2, 1.3., 1.4 and 1.6). UNICEF's presence on the field allowed expanding the response to meet increases in demand.			

		Target in indicator 1.5 was not met due to national protests in November, which require field staff to reinforce security protocol due to overcrowding in migratory stations (as migrants were stranded in Darien due to road closures).
Activities	Description	Implemented by
Activity 1.1	Deploy sanitation teams in three hotspots to improve solid waste management, disposal, drainage and vector control	Global Brigades.
Activity 1.2	Procurement and delivery of critical WASH supplies according to the needs of children and adolescents (e.g., soap, toilet paper, towel, comb, moisturizer, baby diapers, shampoo, repellent, sunscreen, etc).	Global Brigades.
Activity 1.3	Hand washing and menstrual hygiene promotion in existing child-friendly spaces and self-care spaces for girls and women.	Global Brigades.

Output 2	Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) is provided to affected children through Child-Friendly Spaces in 3 hotspots.			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sector/cluster	Protection - Child Protection			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification
Indicator 2.1	CP.4 Number of people accessing protection activities and/or services through child-friendly spaces	19,746	24,885	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 2.2	H.9 Number of people provided with mental health and/or psycho-social support services	19,746	24,885	UNICEF internal records
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Goals achieved according to initial approach. Migration flow was higher than expected, and thus, more people were reached with protection services. UNICEF's presence on the field allowed expanding the response to meet increases in demand.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 2.1	Provide psychosocial support to children and adolescents through child-friendly spaces. The service will be available from Monday to Sunday, and activities will be adapted to life cycles. Additional activities will target caregivers	RET INTERNATIONAL.		

Output 3	Multi-sectoral GBV prevention and response programmes in the Darien response are strengthened by the establishment of an Inter-agency community based PSEA complaints mechanism and by providing support to women and adolescents at two Self-care Spaces in the Temporary Migration Stations			
Was the planned output changed through a reprogramming after the application stage?		Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Sector/cluster	Protection - Gender-Based Violence			
Indicators	Description	Target	Achieved	Source of verification

Indicator 3.1	PS.1a Number of people accessing women- and girl-friendly safe spaces and/or centers	12,138	12,695	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 3.2	CC.3 Number of humanitarian workers (UN staff, implementing partner staff, etc) receiving training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse	100	144	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 3.3	PS.1b Number of women- and girl-friendly safe spaces and/or centres constructed, rehabilitated and/or supported	2	2 spaces supported (1 in San Vicente and 1 in Lajas Blancas)	UNICEF internal records
Indicator 3.4	AP.2b Percentage of affected people who state that they are aware of feedback and complaints mechanisms established for their use -25% Focused in PSEA	25%	25.3%	UNICEF internal records
Explanation of output and indicators variance:		Goals achieved according to initial approach.		
Activities	Description	Implemented by		
Activity 3.1	Provide access to women and adolescents to Self-care Spaces in 2 migration centers. The center will offer short activities such as promotion of safe travel and GBV prevention, self-care after leaving the jungle and exchange of experiences among women and adolescents.	RET INTERNATIONAL.		
Activity 3.2	Training on prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse for humanitarian workers (UN staff, implementing partner staff, service providers),.includes	RET INTERNATIONAL.		
Activity 3.3	Establishment of an Inter-agency community based PSEA complaints mechanism (case management protocols, QR for migrants, refugees and host communities, E-mail, mailbox, calls)	RET INTERNATIONAL.		

7. Effective Programming

CERF expects partners to integrate and give due consideration to cross-cutting issues such as Accountability to Affected People (AAP), Protection from Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA), People with disabilities (PwD), Centrality of Protection as well as Gender and Age. In addition, the Emergency Relief Coordinator (ERC) has identified four underfunded priority areas⁶ often lacking appropriate consideration and visibility: women and girls, people with disabilities, education and protection. **The following sections demonstrate how cross-cutting issues and the ERC's four underfunded priority areas have been addressed through project activities and should highlight the achieved impact wherever possible.**

⁶ These areas include: support for women and girls, including tackling gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health and empowerment; programmes targeting people with disabilities; education in protracted crises; and other aspects of protection. The ERC recommended an increased focus on these four areas to ensure that they be given due consideration by RC/HCs and UNCTs/HCTs when prioritizing life-saving needs for inclusion in CERF requests. While CERF remains needs-based, the ERC will be looking for country teams to prioritize projects and mainstreamed activities that systematically and effectively address to these four historically underfunded areas. Please see the Questions and Answers on the ERC four priority areas [here](#).

a. Accountability to Affected People (AAP)⁷:

In addition to mailboxes in public places to receive feedback from affected population, UNICEF and its partners implement a feedback mechanism via tablets, in which beneficiaries can rate and propose improvement actions. Currently, beneficiaries report 90% satisfaction with protection services. All this information is reviewed to propose strengthening actions.

b. AAP Feedback and Complaint Mechanisms:

Daily monitoring is carried out at Migration Stations by UNICEF officials to verify provision of services based on humanitarian standards. Interviews with people are carried out there to identify gaps and improvement actions. Likewise, monthly meetings are held with the implementing partners in order to take improvement and corrective actions.

c. Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA):

UNICEF made progress in creating an interagency PSEA protocol, which has been validated by the Human Mobility Group protection subgroup in Darien. In a practical way, training is carried out for all new personnel from implementing partners in PSEA, and constant retraining is carried out to guarantee that zero tolerance is maintained.

d. Focus on women, girls and sexual and gender minorities, including gender-based violence:

The gender approach is mainstreamed in WASH, Child Protection and GBV mitigation services. For this, training is carried out for field teams and practical actions are included. It is considered relevant that migrants in 2023 are from 108 nationalities, which is why the analysis of religion, ethnicity, and language barriers must be considered to guarantee inclusion. In the case of boys and girls, activities are designed based on methodologies according to their age.

e. People with disabilities (PwD):

Needs of people with disabilities are included in the activities programmed in the child-friendly spaces and the self-care space. In the WASH sector, actions to guarantee accessibility are included in the design of services.

f. Protection:

The protocols for identification, care and referral of cases of child protection, international protection, survivors of sexual violence and other cases established by the protection subgroup of the Human Mobility Group were applied. UNICEF maintains close coordination with the child protection entity (SENNIAF)

⁷ AAP and PSEA are part and parcel of IASC commitments, and therefore mandatory for compliance for all UN agencies and partners. Agencies do not necessarily need to establish new AAP and PSEA mechanisms for CERF projects if functioning ones are already in place. For more information please refer to the [IASC AAP commitments](#).

g. Education:

Does not apply

8. Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)

Use of Cash and Voucher Assistance (CVA)?

Planned	Achieved	Total number of people receiving cash assistance:
No	Choose an item.	0

If **no**, please describe why CVA was not considered. Where feasible, CVA should be considered as a default response option, and multi-purpose cash (MPC) should be utilised wherever possible.

If **yes**, briefly note how CVA is being used, highlighting the use of MPC, and if any linkages to existing social protection systems have been explored.

The Panamanian State does not authorize the implementation of the Multipurpose CASH or Cash + mechanisms.

Parameters of the used CVA modality:

Specified CVA activity (incl. activity # from results framework above)	Number of people receiving CVA	Value of cash (US\$)	Sector/cluster	Restriction
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.
0	0	US\$ [insert amount]	Choose an item.	Choose an item.

9. Visibility of CERF-funded Activities

Title	Weblink
En el espacio Cuidado de mí	https://www.instagram.com/reel/C0P8hMRNN9p/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
Proteger a las niñas y a las mujeres	https://www.instagram.com/p/C0JyQeeLk4Q/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
¡Hoy es el Día Mundial del Retrete	https://www.instagram.com/p/Cz1Qc0MsAC9/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
Carta de mujeres para mujeres	https://www.instagram.com/reel/CzI3m_-NLNI/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
Acciones de tratamiento de agua y saneamiento	https://www.instagram.com/p/CzJkq6WL1eP/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==
Kits de higiene para niños	https://www.instagram.com/reel/CzByU0FtvCv/?utm_source=ig_web_copy_link&igsh=MzRIODBiNWFIZA==

ANNEX: CERF FUNDS DISBURSED TO IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

CERF Project Code	Cluster/Sector	Agency	Partner Type	Total CERF Funds Transferred to Partner US\$
23-RR-FPA-030	Gender-Based Violence	UNFPA	INGO	\$55,683
23-RR-FPA-030	Gender-Based Violence	UNFPA	INGO	\$3,892
23-RR-FPA-030	Gender-Based Violence	UNFPA	INGO	\$7,775
23-RR-FPA-030	Gender-Based Violence	UNFPA	INGO	\$544
23-RR-CEF-041	Water, Sanitation and Hygiene	UNICEF	INGO	\$375,000
23-RR-CEF-041	Child Protection	UNICEF	INGO	\$90,000
23-RR-CEF-041	Gender-Based Violence	UNICEF	INGO	\$60,000
23-RR-HCR-025	Protection	UNHCR	INGO	\$20,000