# Children in the Context of Migration and Displacement

October 2019





### CHILD MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT IN LAC: SNAPSHOT

- Approx. 3.5 m Venezuelans in countries within LAC, 4,3 in total. Over 1.1m estimated to be children in need of assistance in 2019 as a consequence of the crisis.
- In recent years, significant increase in number of families and children in migration and displacement flows in northern C America & Mexico. In USFY 2019, out of 811,106 apprehensions on the southwestern border, 530,444 were unaccompanied children or family units.
- From Jan-Aug 2020, 36.582 children were returned to northern countries of Central America from Mexico and USA.
- 500,000 (approx.) irregular Haitian migrants in Dominican Republic.
- 7.7 million IDPs in Colombia (2017).
- Increased flows (including children) in Panama and Costa Rica in 2018 and 2019 (Extra-regional and Nicaraguan).

## **MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT**

- Not a new issue for children (nor for UNICEF)
- It became a global urgent priority for UNICEF (Europe Crisis; LAC-US; SDGs; UNGA Summit)
- Involves large numbers of children and families across regions
- Polarizing/politically sensitive
- At the core of our rights agenda
- UNICEF SP (limited), ROMP, Strategic Consultation, regional priority, Uprooted campaign
- Growing demand to expand UNICEF's engagement, to increase coherence, establish priorities and guiding principles

## **<u>6 KEY POLICY ASKS</u>**

- **1. Protect** child refugees and migrants from exploitation and violence
- **2. End** the **detention** of children seeking international protection or migrating
- 3. Keep **families together** as the best way to protect children and give children legal status
- 4. Keep all refugee and migrant children learning and give them **access** to health and other **quality services**
- 5. Press for action on the **underlying causes** of large scale movements of refugees and migrants
- Promote measures to combat xenophobia, discrimination and marginalization in countries of transit and destination (and return)

## FROM POLICY ASKS TO PROGRAMME RESPONSES

- A <u>Global Programme Framework (April 2017)</u> organized around the core policy asks unpacked as follows:
- Scope
- Programming principles
- ToC
- Key programmatic interventions
- UNICEF's comparative advantage/Partnerships
- Normative framework
- Measurement (outcome indicators)

## **Global Programme Framework: Scope**

- Children who are migrating within their own country or across borders
- Children migrating on their own or with their caretakers
- Children forcibly displaced within their own country and across borders
- Children whether they move in an undocumented or documented manner, including those whose movement involved smuggling or trafficking networks
- Children who remain while parents move?

## International and regional legal and political instruments

- <u>CRC and CRC General Comment #6</u>
- The 1951 International Refugee Convention And Its 1967 Protocol
- The 1984 Cartagena Declaration On Refugees
- <u>The 2014 Brazil Declaration And Plan Of Action For Refugees, Displaced And Stateless</u>
   <u>Persons</u>
- Interamerican Court Of Human Rights Advisory Opinion On The Rights And Guarantees Of Children In The Context Of Migration And/Or In Need Of International Protection - 21/2014
- Joint General Comment No. 3 of the CMW and No. 22 of the CRC in the context of International Migration: General principles
- Joint General Comment No. 4 of the CMW and No. 23 of the CRC in the context of International Migration: States parties' obligations in particular with respect to countries of transit and destination
- <u>New York Declaration and Compacts</u>

## UNICEF PRIORITIES, CAIRO AGENDA (2019-2020)

- Programme: Integrate into CPDs; increased humanitarian/development coordination; work with Natcoms; include in PERs and job descriptions across sectors; standardized program interventions and guidelines for protection, health and education; models of cross border case management; youth participation mechanisms.
- 2. Partnerships: Greater clarity with UNHCR and IOM; GMC pathfinder countries; engagement in regional forums; agreements with local governments; UNICEF part of Steering Committee of Global Migration Network.
- **3. Skilling up and working together**: Capacity building module; knowledge domain; global migration practice group; documentation of practices.
- **4. Data and Research:** Develop a pilot-tested assessment and guidance tool for data collection, establish International Data Alliance for Children on the Move; flagship publication and issue briefs.
- **5. Uprooted Campaign:** Revamped positive narrative; new partners; toolkit for frontline workers on xenofobia and discrimination.

**GLOBAL LEVEL COORDINATION** 

**Directors Group** 

**Global Migration Practice Group (GMPG)** 

**Uprooted Campaign** 

HQ Migration Task Team

**Regional Networks?** 

## Knowledge Domain



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Zero Draft: Global Refugee Compact Deer 40, See archives the long-available are draft of the Global Refugee Compact as shared by OPECE tool. Venta Reau Joury (F)

Getting ready ...latest on the Global Compacts

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Global Migration Practice Group Meeting Ookal Practice Orosa Meeting - 14 Deserver 2017 No. Stose who missed it - here is the manifest And Nexu.

### **Uprooted Campaign**

#### unicef 🥨





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#### unicef lor every child

A child is a child - Campaign Photos



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#### QUALITY EDUCATION FOR 50 MILLION **REFUGEE AND MIGRANT CHILDREN**

#### The challenge

UNICEF is loaking to partner with purpose-chlown congration to help solve one of the recet urgant problems facing children and young people around the world.

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Suttanable Development Scal (SOG) 4 sets a bold new chool larget for allunation that aims to

deliver primery and secondary tohost education to every child by 2020. As a conversione of international development, education should always be a top priority



## LAC REGIONAL ADVOCACY AGENDA



Latin American and Caribbean Action Agenda for Child Migrants and Refugees

## EXAMPLES OF WORK IN THIS AREA IN LAC

- Models in Central America and Mexico (non-detention, return and reintegration, root causes, consular protection, psychosocial support)Support to Venezuelan child migrants and families : emergency and development response (Colombia, Ecuador, Brazil, Guyana, Trinidad and Tobago, Peru, etc.).
- Protection protocols in countries throughout region and with a regional approach for a transnational protection
- Care for children of migrant workers Panama-Costa Rica
- Dominican Republic and Haiti: Border protection and integration
- Legal reform and addressing xenophobia (Argentina, Chile)
- DTM with specificity to children throughout region.

## **CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES**

- Development versus Emergency response
- Partnerships with IOM and UNHCR
- Integration in other sectors beyond Protection
- Data and evidence gaps
- Risk of institutionalization vs alternative care adapted to needs of migrant adolescents
- Cross border collaboration for advocacy and case management
- Politically sensitive issues
- Technical gaps
- Resources
- Operationalizing Global Migration Network and GMC in region and at country level?



