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**Catalog of Experiences: Issue Networks of the** South American **Conference** on Migration





SECRETARÍA TÉCNICA CONFERENCIA SURAMERICANA SOBRE MIGRACIONES (CSM)





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Abbreviations

UNHCR: United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees / ACNUR: Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Refugiados CEM: Women's Emergency Centers / CEM: Centros de Emergencia Mujer ICRC: International Committee of the Red Cross / CICR: Comité Internacional de la Cruz Roja SACM: South American Conference on Migration / CSM: Conferencia Suramericana sobre Migraciones ERAM: Migrant Response Teams / ERAM: Equipos de Respuesta a Migrantes ICBF: Colombian Institute of Family Welfare / ICBF: Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar MIES: Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion / MIES: Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social MIMP: Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations / MIMP: Ministerio de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables NNA: Children and adolescents / NNA: Niños, niñas y adolescentes IOM: International Organization for Migration / OIM: Organización Internacional para las Migraciones PNR: National Rescue and Support Program for the Victims of Human Trafficking / PNR: Programa Nacional de Rescate y acompañamiento a las personas damnificadas por el delito de Trata de personas PPT: Presidency Pro Tempore / PPT: Presidencia Pro Tempore PSDHM: South American Human Development Plan for Migration / PSDHM: Plan Sudamericano de Desarrollo Humano de las Migraciones REDAVIT: Victims Assistance Register / REDAVIT: Registro de Asistencia a las Víctimas RENAPER: National Register of Natural Persons / RENAPER: Registro Nacional de las Personas SENAF: National Children and Adolescents Secretariat / SENAF: Secretaría Nacional de Niñez y Adolescencia SiSETP: Information System for the Confrontation of Human Trafficking / SiSETP: Sistema de Informação de Enfrentamento ao Tráfico de Pessoas UNICEF: United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund / UNICEF: Fondo Internacional de Emergencia de las

Naciones Unidas para la Infancia





### Introduction

The South American Conference on Migration (hereinafter "SACM"), which has been established more than two decades ago by South American countries, is a regional intergovernmental consulting process intended to promote a regional migration policy through the discussion of ideas and the sharing of good practices (<u>SACM, 2020a</u>).

SACM has closely followed the changes occurred in regional migration policies, keeping its structure and methodology up to date in order to provide assistance to the different extraordinary events that affect migratory movements. Following that line of thought, the Argentine *Presidency Pro Tempore* (hereinafter "PPT") promoted the creation of a Working Network scheme in 2021. This innovative scheme is intended to continue the work and the discussion of the different issues addressed. In turn, the notion of "Networks" seeks to intertwine the activities of the successive PPTs, preventing discussions from concluding once the work of the groups has been completed. The six existing networks are: Social and occupational integration: labor and education, Migrant children and adolescents, Gender and migration, Integrated border management, Human trafficking and migrant smuggling, and Migration, environment, disasters and climate change (SACM, 2020b).

Within the framework of the II Meeting of the Extended Troika of the South American Conference on Migration held on May 16, 2023 in Lima, Peru, the States agreed to hold virtual webinars to exchange the best practices under the SACM Working Networks.

Its purpose is to contribute to the process of updating the South American Human Development Plan for Migration (hereinafter "PSDHM"). The PSDHM is a document that has been approved within the framework of the X SACM held in Cochabamba, by means of which the Member States define principles and rights, propose strategic guidelines arising from said principles and rights, and propose action programs in accordance with the strategic guidelines proposed. At present, several meetings are being held jointly with SACM Member States and key stakeholders to update the PSDHM.



In this context, in the months of June and July 2023, during the Presidency Pro Tempore of the Republic of Peru, five webinars were held, each of them led by a thematic network established by SACM, namely: Migrant Children and Adolescents, Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, Integrated Border Management, Gender and Migration, and Social and Labor Integration, with a focus on work and education.

In these webinars, the participating States presented a number of experiences they have implemented in the thematic context of each of these networks. These presentations have paved the way for a space to share experiences in which they shared their initiatives and the lessons learned during their implementation, providing an essential context for understanding the motivations behind these practices.

As a result, the creation of a report with the experiences presented was agreed. The purpose was to socialize them and to provide more details on the initiatives in order to promote their replicability in other States. At the request of the Presidency Pro Tempore, and with the support of the IOM team from the South American Regional Office, the present document has been prepared to systematize the experiences thus presented in an orderly fashion, simplifying access to knowledge, and allowing for the exchange of potential solutions to the challenges presented by the different issues addressed. Thus, it seeks to promote the organization and analysis of governance initiatives related to migration governance in each of the topics worked on by five of the six SACM networks. This does not only make it possible to make the work carried out by the governments more visible, but it also allows for learning and exchanging experiences. Moreover, it also gives others the possibility of replicating these experiences.





# Migrant children and adolescents

"De allá para acá" series on migration and children Country in which the action was carried out: Argentina State entity that carried out its implementation: National Ministry of Education. Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from 2015

#### Brief description of the action:

This action undertaken by the National Ministry of Education is intended to encourage access to educational resources with different views and reflections on migration, discrimination and racism in Argentina, as a way to promote reflection, discussion, and the exchange of ideas on the subject. This seeks to comply with the provisions of <u>Act 25,781</u> based on the viewpoint of Human Rights and featured by a regional approach, but also with the provisions of the <u>National Education Law N.º 26,206</u> as far as the guarantee of the right to education for all inhabitants of the Argentine Nation (Ministry of Education of the Nation, 2023) is concerned.

Following this line, a documentary series titled "De allá para acá" (From there to here) was produced. The 13-episode series tells the story of children and young people who have migrated. The main characters tell their experiences, what happens to them when faced to a

different culture, what they think, how their journeys were, what they left behind and what new lessons they take with them. This documentary series was produced for the public children's TV channel Pakapaka by the National Institute of Cinema and Audiovisual Arts (Instituto Nacional de Cine y Artes



Audiovisuales, INCAA) and is part of the digital collection known as "Migraciones en Argentina, Historia y Derechos en Perspectiva (Migration in Argentina. History and Rights in Perspective), available in Educ.ar portal. This portal includes educational resources and reflections on



migration, discrimination, and racism in Argentina. The wide access to these resources allows promoting reflection and discussion on migration issues. The collection was developed by the "Education, Migration, and Human Mobility" Program of the Ministry of Education (ibid.).

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This experience has given children and young people an opportunity to share their migration experiences, their cultures and, essentially, their experiences at the time of migration. This favors the nurturing of knowledge, a better understanding and a wider reflection on migration lines, as well as the implications of the migration process for children and young people (ibid.).

Giving voice to the main characters in these stories empowers them. Moreover, it allows them to influence the chronicles about migration. These kinds of experiences and resources implemented at different educational institutions encourage the promotion of inclusion and diversity as core values to nurture healthy school environments free of any bias (ibid.).

# Links of interest: https://www.educ.ar/ https://blog.tvalacarta.info/programa/pakapaka/de-alla-para-aca/

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación de Secretaría de Cooperación Educativa y Acciones Prioritarias, Dirección Nacional de Cooperación Internacional Programa Educación Migraciones y Movilidad Humana, Ministerio de Educación por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM /Coordination of the Secretariat for Educational Cooperation and Priority Actions, National Directorate for International Cooperation, Education, Migration and Human Mobility Program, Ministry of Education, through the SACM Technical Secretariat<sup>1</sup>.

Migration regularization procedure for unaccompanied or separated children and adolescents

Country that carried out the action: Republic of Ecuador

**State entity that carried out implementation:** Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from September 15, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> E-mail: csmsecretariatecnica@iom.int





#### Brief description of the action:

On September 15, 2022, the procedure to regularize the migratory status of unaccompanied children and adolescents separated from their family environment was established through the issuance of a Temporary Residence Visa -VIRTE, pursuant to <u>Ministerial Agreement N.º MIES-2022-046</u> (Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion, 2023).

This action consists of a series of actions taken by the Ecuadorian State for children and adolescents (hereinafter "NNA", from the Spanish: Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes) unaccompanied or separated from their families. Its purpose was to ensure their protection and their rights, regardless of their nationality and irrespective of the way they entered the country. In this regard, the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (hereinafter "MIES"), in coordination with the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility and the Civil Registry, have designed assistance routes so that any unaccompanied and separated child and adolescent may have access to different means of regularization, including: Migration Register, temporary visa and Identity Card (ibid.).

This migration regularization procedure is carried out at the national level. It covers from MIES, with the intervention of the National Directorate, the MIES Zone and District Directorates, to civil society organizations. At the same time, private and public entities are involved in the process and have expressed their adhesion thereto by subscribing an agreement with the State. In addition, the procedure for migratory regularization and obtainment of the Exceptional Temporary Residency Visa (VIRTE) is free of charge for the target population (ibid.).

To access the procedure, a specialized interview is conducted to determine the immigration status and affiliation of the child or adolescent. Subsequently, a Psychosocial report endorsed by the MIES is made. The process is divided into different steps, namely: **Identification**: first, unaccompanied and separated children and adolescents who are in need of immigration regularization are identified. Then a



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specialized interview is conducted and a psychosocial report is produced<sup>2</sup>. Entry and Stay Registers: then, MIES arranges preferential appointments and accompanies the child to one of the units of the Migration Support Service of the Ministry of the Interior to register migratory entry and stay. MIES also arranges preferential appointments and accompaniment, on the one hand, to the Foreign Ministry's service units to obtain the relevant VIRTE visa and the Order for Identity Card issuance and, on the other hand, as a last step, to the Civil Register's service units to obtain the identity card (ibid.).

The process has succeeded in identifying more than 700 cases that are currently under assistance as part of the regularization process.

It is important to highlight that, within the framework of this process, an original or simple copy of any of the following documents can be submitted, namely: passport, national identity card, birth certificate, or simple consular certification. However, this requirement is not mandatory, since in the absence of any of these documents, the MIES Psychosocial Report shall serve as the document needed to access this procedure. This aspect of the initiative is innovative since it is the first time that this requirement is not requested. Furthermore, visa fees are exempted (ibid.).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Concerning the development of the specialized interview and the accompaniment of children and adolescents during the interview, IOM Ecuador provided the following information. The procedure varies according to the scenario that may present. In this regard, there are three possible scenarios, and each follows the process detailed below:

The child is not accompanied by any legal guardian, but he or she is accompanied by another person of legal age who is in charge of his/her care; approval/consent from the accompanying person of legal age is requested.

The child is completely alone: social workers and psychologists, previously trained and authorized by the State, do conduct the interview with the informed consent of the child.

Institutionalized children and adolescents: as the legal guardian is actually the institution where they are staying, the technical team of such institution is the entity responsible to collect the information.

These specialized interviews can only be conducted by MIES Cooperating and Member Institutions. These institutions have entered into non-disclosure and confidential information use agreements with the Ecuadorian State. As part of this process, the decision was made to adopt a unique identification code for each psychosocial report. This has also been used in Ecuador as an identity number in cases where both children and adolescents do not have any document and where the State has endorsed their alleged identity (IOM Ecuador, 2023).





Linksofinterest:https://www.inclusion.gob.ec/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/Norma-Tecnica-Atencion-y-Proteccion-Emergente2022.pdf

*For more information, please contact:* Dirección de Servicios de Protección Especial del Ministerio de Inclusión Económica y Social (MIES) por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM. /Special Protection Services Directorate of the Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (MIES) through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.

Assistance project for migrant and/or refugee children and adolescents in Peru, and Letter of Understanding between the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations.

Country that carried out the action: Republic of Peru

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations.

Scope: Lima Metropolitan Area, with emphasis on the district of San Martin de Porres.

Implementation period: as from 2018

#### Brief description of the action:

The experience presented consisted of a series of actions taken to strengthen the protection of migrant and refugee children and adolescents. One of them comprised the approval of an **Assistance Protocol for migrant or refugee children and adolescents in the absence of family protection**, with emphasis on those of Venezuelan nationality. This was prepared within the framework of the Letter of Understanding between the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations (hereinafter "MIMP") and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (hereinafter "UNHCR"). This Letter of Understanding paved the way for the development of activities aimed at strengthening the capabilities of the professionals responsible for assisting migrant or refugee children and adolescents who are not protected by their families (Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations, 2023).

On the other hand, a **project focused on the assistance of migrant and/or refugee children and adolescents in a situation of familiar vulnerability** was implemented, with a special focus on Venezuelan nationals. The project was financed by Agencia Española De Cooperación



Internacional para el Desarrollo (hereinafter "AECID") / Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (ibid.).

Within this framework, a number of initiatives have been carried out. They included, for example, expanding the offer of protective measures for migrant or refugee children and adolescents, strengthening family foster care by third parties, seeking an increase in the number of foster families, and the Residential Shelter Centers with a differentiated methodology. Likewise, the intent was to work on strengthening the capabilities of the migrant adolescents in productive technical activities as part of their project in their transition to adult life. This also takes into consideration their progressive autonomy and the promotion of their integration into the Peruvian society (ibid.).

In addition, some of the activities intended to strengthen the protection of children and adolescents included: a) the appointment of focal points in each of the 25 Special Protection Units at the national level to guide professionals on the assistance of migrant and refugee children and adolescents in a situation of family vulnerability; b) the creation of the Working Group for migrant and refugee children and adolescents within the framework of the National Multisectoral Policy for Children and Adolescents by 2030, among others (ibid.).

Links of AECID interest: Project: https://www.gob.pe/institucion/mimp/noticias/604957-mimp-y-aecid-anuncianproyecto-que-beneficiara-a-ninas-ninos-y-adolescentes-migrantes-y-refugiados-sincuidados-parentales MIMP AND UNHCR: https://www.gob.pe/institucion/mimp/noticias/610080-mimp-y-acnur-fortalecencapacidades-de-profesionales-en-la-atencion-a-ninas-ninos-y-adolescentesrefugiados-y-migrantes-en-riesgo https://www.gob.pe/institucion/mimp/noticias/623590-mimp-y-acnur-socializanpropuesta-del-protocolo-de-atencion-a-ninas-ninos-y-adolescentes-refugiados-y-

migrantes-en-desproteccion

**For more information, please contact:** Dirección de Protección Especial de la Dirección General de Niñas, Niños y Adolescentes del Ministerio de la Mujer y Poblaciones Vulnerables por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Special Protection Directorate of the General Children and Adolescents Directorate of the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.



National Roundtable on the Migration Protection for Venezuelan Children and Adolescents

Country where the action was carried out: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Ministerio del Poder Popular para Relaciones Exteriores, Oficina Relaciones Consulares, Dirección de Movilidad / Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs, Consular Relations Office, Directorate of Mobility.

Scope of application: nationwide, all across the country.

Implementation period: as from 2020

#### Brief description of the action:

The National Roundtable on Migration Protection for Children and Adolescents is a space for coordination and articulation among national agencies with jurisdiction on the protection of children and adolescents. Its purpose is to protect and restore rights for this group. The main goal envisaged by this organization is to restore the rights of children and adolescents through the country's consular network (Ministerio del Poder Popular para Relaciones Exteriores (Ministry of People's Power for Foreign Affairs), 2023).

The National Roundtable meets on a regular basis. Moreover, it has three permanent working groups. They are the Working Group for the Protection of Children and Adolescents, focused on file reviews; the Working Group for Travel Permits; and the Working Group on Children and Adolescents' Trafficking and Smuggling (ibid.).

This experience also seeks to stimulate other States to replicate the positive experience, as a way of promote interconnection and cooperation in matters inherent to the comprehensive protection of children and adolescents who have emigrated. To date, the Working Group has dealt with approximately 1,100 cases in 42 countries (ibid.).

From this experience, it became evident that the new atypical migration scenarios that the region is facing demand innovation and the strengthening of institutions as far as the protection of human rights is concerned, particularly with respect to the protection of children and adolescents in human mobility, while always considering the best interests of the child. It





is important to ensure that the spaces for the exchange of experiences may consolidate proposals and optimal experiences for an orderly and safe migration (ibid.).

Links of interest: <u>http://www.defensapublica.gob.ve/2022/08/12/defensa-publica-</u> participo-en-reunion-de-la-mesa-nacional-de-proteccion-migratoria-de-ninos-ninasy-adolescentes/

**For more information, please contact:** la Coordinación de la Mesa Nacional de Protección Migratoria de Niños, Niñas y Adolescentes Venezolanos por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de CSM / Coordination of the National Roundtable for Migration Protection of Venezuelan Children and Adolescents through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.

#### Mobile response teams for migrant assistance

Country in which the action was carried out: Republic of Colombia

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar (Colombian Institute of Family Welfare).

**Scope:** Departments of Arauca, Casanare, Norte de Santander, La Guajira, Nariño, Antioquia and Chocó-Tapón del Darién, among others.

Implementation period: from 2021, launch of the pilot test.

#### Brief description of the action:

As a consequence of the significant migration flow from the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, out of which 27% are children and adolescents, and the particular vulnerable situation presented by this group, the Colombian Institute of Family Welfare (hereinafter "ICBF") has decided to create Migrant Response Teams (hereinafter "ERAM", from the Spanish: Equipos de Respuesta a Migrantes). Such action was based on previous experiences in the country, such as the Mobile Units created in 1999 in response to the massive increase in forced displacements due to the armed conflict; the Mobile Teams for Comprehensive Protection (EMPI, from the Spanish Equipos Móviles de Protección Integral), among others (Colombian Institute of Family Welfare, 2023).

Nurtured by such experiences, the Migrant Response Teams were created in 2021 in association with the International Committee of the Red Cross (hereinafter "ICRC") and the



United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (hereinafter "UNICEF"). Furthermore, the diplomatic channels were activated, particularly with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, to facilitate family reunification (ibid.).

The purpose of the ERAMs is to strengthen actions with a view to accompanying migrant children and adolescents while in transit as well as those who intend to stay and who are in a vulnerable situation. They provide assistance at different points across the territory. The ERAMs are made by a coordinator, a social worker, a psychologist, and a community facilitator. They have been trained to provide a response with a territorial and differential rights approach (ibid.).

Some of the actions they carry out include articulation with the ICBF regional offices, in their capacity as administrative authorities, so that actions are taken to verify and guarantee rights, and thus ensure actions are subsequently taken by the administrative authorities vis-à-vis a possible process of reestablishment of rights or actions jointly with the families (ibid.).

With respect to the results obtained from such experience, a pilot test was carried out in 2021 in cooperation with UNICEF in Arauca, Casanare and Norte del Santander. There, 33 days of promotion of rights were held with the migrant population and the host community. As a result of such effort, 154 migrant families were characterized (ibid.).

In 2022, 210 families were assisted and the 21 promotional campaigns reached 1435 migrants and individuals hosted. They have continued expanding their presence in new departments in 2023. Thus, by July 2023, they have started operations in some of them. The Government of Canada has funded such efforts. In turn, the ICBF is seeking to introduce a budget for 2024 to guarantee sustainability and expand coverage (ibid.).

Links of interest: <u>https://www.icbf.gov.co/noticias/icbf-unicef-y-cidemos-unidos-</u> para-brindar-atencion-y-orientacion-la-poblacion-migrante

**For more information, please contact:** Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar Familiar, por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Colombian Institute of Family Welfare through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

Regulatory framework for the right to education of migrant children and adolescents

Country in which the action was carried out: Plurinational State of Bolivia





**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Ministry of Education of the Plurinational State of Bolivia.

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from December 18, 2023 <sup>3</sup>

#### Brief description of the action:

The "Regulatory framework to guarantee the exercise of the right to education of children and adolescents in a situation of human mobility" is an initiative launched by the Ministry of Education of the Plurinational State of Bolivia. It seeks to guarantee access to the right to education for migrant children and adolescents, particularly those in an irregular situation (Ministry of Education of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, 2023).

In 2010, the Ministry of Education established the Risk Management Education Board (MEGERI, from the Spanish: Mesa de Educación en Gestión del Riesgo) to harmonize the work of the State, together with cooperation agencies, non-governmental organizations, volunteer professionals, and social organizations (ibid.).

The work carried out by this Roundtable has been crucial to identify and address the problems faced by children and adolescents in a situation of mobility, with no access to education. Throughout this process, several barriers hindering or preventing such population from entering the educational system have been identified. As a response to such situation, the creation of regulations aimed at ensuring and facilitating such access has been promoted. To conduct such initiative, an action plan divided into three stages has been devised. Initially, the first stage is focused on holding events, such as the National Meeting on the situation of migrant children and adolescents in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. This event was crucial to highlight the disperse regulations throughout the country. Based on the conclusions obtained from this event, the efforts actively focused on the formulation of comprehensive regulations to establish uniform processes and procedures at all educational levels nationwide (ibid.).

Then, a work plan divided into three stages was proposed. The first stage comprised holding events such as the National Meeting on the situation of migrant populations of children and adolescents in the Plurinational State of Bolivia. This event has made it possible to identify the disperse regulations at the national level. In this sense, work on a regulation to allow for the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Date foreseen for the approval and disclosure of the Regulations.





articulation of uniform processes or procedures at all educational levels are under way nationwide. Contingency plans are also being developed in educational units taking into consideration the migrant population, and an international event is being organized as well (ibid.).

During the second stage of this plan, a unified regulation will be devised. The main purpose of these regulations is to guarantee the exercise of the right to education of children and adolescents in a situation of human mobility. In addition, an international event is being planned to share successful and enriching experiences with other governments (ibid.).

Finally, the third stage involves the official presentation and disclosure of the new regulations. The presentation event has been scheduled on December 18, 2023. At this point, it is expected to consolidate the efforts made and to find a solution to full access to education for children and adolescents in a situation of mobility, regardless of their migratory status (ibid.).

#### Links of interest: https://www.minedu.gob.bo/

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación Nacional de Programas Sociales para Poblaciones Vulnerables y Derechos Humanos por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / National Coordination of Social Programs for Vulnerable Populations and Human Rights through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.



# Human Trafficking and Migrants Smuggling Victims Assistance Register (REDAVIT)

Country in which the action was carried out: Argentina

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Secretaría Nacional de Niñez y Adolescencia, Ministerio de Desarrollo Social en conjunto con OIM Argentina /National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents, Ministry of Social Development jointly with IOM Argentina.

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from 2021

#### Brief description of the action:

The action consists of the development of the Victim Assistance Register (hereinafter "REDAVIT"). It has been prepared with the support of IOM, in coordination with the National Secretariat for Children and Adolescents (hereinafter "SENAF", from the Spanish: Secretaría Nacional de Niñez y Adolescencia), dependent from the Ministry of Social Development. The relevant provincial agencies - focal points for assistance – have also participated. This has been essential for the development of a diagnosis on victims' assistance at the federal level. This has been channeled by Federal Council against Human Trafficking (Ministry of Social Development, 2023).

This experience fulfills the purpose of <u>Act N.º 26,842</u> on the Prevention and Punishment of Human Trafficking and Victims Assistance, and is reflected on the <u>National Biennial Plan against Human Trafficking and Slavery</u>, which favors its sustainability over time.

The Register constitutes a virtual platform that allows for real-time collection, organization, and systematization of statistical data relative to the comprehensive assistance provided to the victims of human trafficking crimes, in a unified manner throughout the country, thus creating a national map. In this sense, it is a crucial tool to outline a diagnosis at the federal level, while also making it possible to strength of efforts to improve **assistance, containment**, **and accompaniment to the victims while they reshape their life project**. At the same time, it





facilitates the creation of universal policies to guarantee full rights during the restoration process (<u>Ministry of Social Development, 2022</u>).

REDAVIT is an innovative initiative as there has never existed such a register before. Following that line of thought, it arose from the need echoed by the agencies responsible for assisting the victims of human trafficking both at the national and the provincial levels. The experience gained from the creation of such register, its model and architecture, can be transferred to different scenarios and realities. In other words, it could be easily replicated in other countries, as it is an example of collaborative work that seeks to assist victims, protecting and promoting their rights through the implementation of a national platform.

*Links of interest:* <u>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/registro-de-asistencia-las-</u> <u>victimas-redavit</u>

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación del Programa Nacional de Restitución de Derechos de SENAF por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Coordination of SENAF National Program for the Restitution of Rights through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

National Rescue and Support Program for the Victims of Human Trafficking (PNR)

Country in which the action was carried out: Argentina

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Subsecretaría de Policía Criminal, Ministerio de Justicia y Derechos Humanos de la Nación / Undersecretariat of Criminal Policy, Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Nation.

Scope of application: nationwide, all across Argentina.

Implementation period: as from 2008

#### Brief description of the action:

The National Rescue and Support Program for the Victims of Human Trafficking (hereinafter "PNR") is made by an interdisciplinary team of psychologists, social workers, political scientists, doctors, lawyers, and specialized police personnel and assists, rescues, supports, and shelters the victims of such crime from a gender- and human rights-based perspective. This is so from the very moment they are rescued



from their slavery to the moment they are ready to give their testimony (Ministry of Justice and Human Rights of the Nation, 2023).

The PNR contains the victims through individual and confidential interviews by which they learn about their specific needs. If necessary, they are transferred to a Safe house until they are ready to give their testimony (ibid.).

The Program has managed to devise innovative actions that have strengthened the organization's daily activities. For example, this includes the creation of a professional team specialized in Gesell Chamber interviews and support while using such devises within the framework of the victims' testimony. There is a technical reporting area within this program dedicated to the creation of reports that will be ultimately submitted to the judicial body involved in the conviction of criminal organizations (ibid.).

The PNR has regional offices across the country and is protected by the provisions of <u>Act N.º</u> <u>26,364 on the Prevention and Punishment of Human Trafficking and Assistance to its Victims</u>. This has made it possible to expand the scope of the program, allowing for the creation of a hotline where human trafficking crimes can be reported (145)<sup>4</sup>, the creation of a committee to combat human trafficking and of the federal council against human trafficking (ibid.).

*Links of interest:* <u>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/consejo-federal-para-la-lucha-</u> <u>contra-la-trata/asistencia-la-victima</u>

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación del Área de Articulación y Enlace Institucional del PNR por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Coordination of the Articulation and Institutional Liaison Area of the PNR through SACM Technical Secretariat.

Information System for the Confrontation of Human Trafficking (SiSETP) Country in which the action was carried out: Federative Republic of Brazil

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Ministry of Justice and Public Security, in partnership with IOM Brazil.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> It is worth noting that the 145 hotline is a remarkable experience in itself as it is the only one in the region that meets the 6 international standards with respect to hotlines specialized trafficking. They are: 1. they should be free of charge; 2. they should anonymous; 3. they should be easy to remember; 4. they should be available in several languages; 5. they should rely on specialized staff; and 6. they should allow for referrals to be made.





Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from 2022

#### Brief description of the action:

The Information System for the Confrontation of Human Trafficking (hereinafter "SiSETP")<sup>5</sup> is a tool intended to consolidate data on assistance to the victims of human trafficking collected by the Human Trafficking Confrontation Hubs ("NETPs") and the Advanced and Humanized Assistance Posts for Migrants ("PAAHMs") present in the 16 states of the Federation. Following that line of thought, this tool seeks to map the assistance provided by each of these teams and catalog the actions and the initiatives intended to prevent and raise awareness among citizens (<u>Ministry of Justice and Public Security, 2022</u>). The SISETP consolidates in one single place all the information about the purposes and forms of recruitment of victims of trafficking and smuggling, managing statistical data about them, but also about their needs. Periodic reports are also produced from the information thus collected. Undoubtedly, this tool is useful to improve the response in the fight against these crimes (Ministry of Justice and Public Security, 2023).

This action is innovative as no tool like this has ever existed before. The SiSETP seeks to meet the need for accurate information and statistics on human trafficking at the national level, as this is one of the greatest needs to combat trafficking, but also to strengthen prevention, repression, and victim protection actions (ibid.).

SISETP is the result of the collaboration between the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP, from the Spanish: Ministerio de Justicia y Seguridad Pública) and IOM Brazil within the framework of the EUROFRONT Program, which is funded by the European Union (ibid.).

*Links of interest:* <u>https://www.gov.br/mj/pt-br/assuntos/noticias/mjsp-lanca-</u>ferramenta-tecnologica-para-aprimorar-o-combate-ao-trafico-de-pessoas

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación General del Comité Nacional de Enfrentamento Aõ Tráfico de Pessoas (General Coordination of the National Committee for the Confrontation of Human Trafficking, CONATRAP), Ministry of Justice and Public Security, through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> In Portuguese: *Sistema de Informação de Enfrentamento ao Tráfico de Pessoas*.





#### Intersectoral Commission to Combat Migrant Smuggling

Country in which the action was carried out: Republic of Colombia

**State entity that carried out the implementation:** Chaired by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Migration of Colombia.

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from 2016

#### Brief description of the action:

The Intersectoral Commission to Combat Migrant Smuggling constitutes a technical and operational mechanism that makes it possible to address the problem of both trafficking and smuggling in an intersectional and coordinated manner while also guiding state actions to provide an orderly response across the national territory<sup>6</sup> (Decree N.º 1692, 2016). This mechanism seeks to integrate institutions and to work for the prevention, assistance, and protection of the foreign population that has been the victim of such crime.

It was established by virtue of Decree N.º 1692 from October 24, 2016. It sets forth that the Commission will seek to coordinate the actions developed by the Colombian State through the National Strategy against Migrant Smuggling. The commission is chaired by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and relies on the participation of several ministries, national security forces, and state directorates and institutes working on the issue (ibid.).

The functions of the Commission include the creation of Technical Committees for the development of specific topics made by representatives appointed by each of the entities. So far, it has the following committees, namely: The Committee for the Prevention, Protection, and Assistance to Aliens in vulnerable situation and victims of migrant smuggling; the Technical Committee for the formulation of migratory operational actions; and the Technical Committee for Investigation and Prosecution (ibid.).

The work of the Commission and its different committees has made it possible to coordinate efforts and highlight opportunities for improvement in procedures across the national territory. It has also proved the importance of adopting a pan-social and pan-governmental approach to migration governance, in line with the objectives of the Global Compact for Safe,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Section 1, Decree 1692 from 2016.



Orderly, and Regular Migration. Following that line of thought, the work of the Commission has led to the recognition of the need to establish a joint mechanism, in which each participating entity contributes to and reinforces the state response in line with its respective functions, fostering a cohesive collaboration with both governmental entities and organizations from the civil society.

#### Links of interest: Decree 1692, PDF

*For more information, please contact:* Coordinación del Grupo de Consolidación Nacional Operativa y Actuaciones Adminbistrativas por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Coordination of the National Operational Consolidation and Administrative Proceedings Group through the SACM Technical Secretariat.

## Protocol for Attention and Assistance to the Victims of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling by the Bureau of Consular Relations

Country where the action was carried out: Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

State entity that carried out the implementation: Bureau of Consular Relations

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: under way

#### Brief description of the action:

To strengthen and safeguard human rights through cooperation and interconnection, while ensuring the comprehensive protection of citizens, and in order to respond to unusual movements in the region, the Consular Relations Bureau has sought to train, raise awareness, and activate protocols (Human Mobility Directorate, 2022).

Such Office is in charge of assisting vulnerable Venezuelan citizens overseas. It addresses the cases presented at the consular office and refers them to the Attorney General's Office. Within the framework of the Protocol for Attention and Assistance to the Victims of Human Trafficking and Migrant Smuggling, training activities on these issues were carried out for the 56 officials holding a position in such office, as well as for other ten representatives from the Geographic Departments of the Ministry and the Legal Advisory Department. This collaboration with the Ombudsman's Office and



UNICEF has facilitated theoretical and conceptual understanding of such crimes. These workshops provided theoretical and conceptual knowledge on human trafficking and migrant smuggling and has resulted in the creation of a manual aimed at improving the conceptual understanding of these crimes (ibid.).

As a result of this training, the process to address human trafficking cases in consular offices was reviewed. In turn, this has led to the establishment of a procedural guide for consular officials. This initiative has unified criteria among officials, presenting a detailed step-by-step guide divided in ten well-defined stages. This protocol of attention serves as a method to standardize the participation of consular officers, beginning with exploratory interviews conceived to identify the immediate needs of any potential victim, using a Data Collection Instrument developed to prevent revictimization (ibid.).

In addition, a multidimensional data collection tool was devised to address alleged cases of human trafficking and migrant smuggling. This has been achieved in coordination with the Ombudsman's Office and the Attorney General's Office. The instrument includes questions to address these situations without exposing the potential victims to a new victimization. The docket is shared with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Bureau of Consular Relations and the Human Mobility Directorate. Ultimately, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs issues specific instructions to the consular office to ensure the follow-up of the case and, if suitable, to facilitate the repatriation process (ibid.).

Links of interest: https://mppre.gob.ve/sistema-de-atencion-consular/

*For more information, please contact*: Dirección de Movilidad Humana por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Human Mobility Directorate through the SACM Technical Secretariat.

### Border Management

Humanitarian management of the border between Peru and Chile.

Country that carried out the action: Republic of Peru





sobre Migraciones

State entity that carried out implementation: Jefatura Zonal de Migraciones / Regional Migrations Office, in Tacna.

**Scope:** Migratory crossing between Peru and Chile in the city of Tacna.

Implementation period: As from April 2023

#### Brief description of the action:

In order to respond to the large migratory flows on the border between Peru and Chile, and following the social demonstrations carried out by the local community in the city of Tacna, the regional migration office in said city established an exceptional procedure to provide migratory assistance to citizens from third-countries who cross the border walking from Chile to Peru and vice-versa. This border is one of the busiest in the country (Migrations Regional Office, 2023).

To achieve such goal and to contain the situation, coordination meetings were held with local authorities to strengthen security in the city and to provide support and protection to migrants. This was done with the support of organizations such as IOM and UNHCR, as well as religious institutions. At the same time, we sought to coordinate actions with the migration authorities of the Republic of Chile, holding meetings with the National Migration Service and the Investigative Police Division in said country (ibid.).

A coordinated procedure was created as a result of these meetings. Following that line, it was provided for that, at the exit border complex, any individual from third countries - other than Chile and Peru - who may wish to cross the border on foot, will be referred to the corresponding border complex. At the same time, a previous check of the entry requirements for the Republic of Peru was established by setting up an "island" checkpoint (at Chacalluta pass) where Peruvian immigration inspectors identify whether the individuals intending to cross the border meet the requirements to enter Peru. Taking this into consideration, the situation of the individuals whose migratory condition is irregular is coordinated with the Chilean authorities (ibid.).

Thus, fluent conversations have been established with the Chilean authorities. In turn, this has made it possible to streamline the channels to assist migrants and generate an orderly transit at the border crossing.



These processes, which have involved the collaboration of several entities, such as local authorities, officials from both border areas, organizations from civil society, and international entities such as the IOM, have made tangible improvements in communication and have strengthened the capabilities of both countries. In addition, they have highlighted the importance of maintaining constant coordination, involving authorities at different levels, and have also recognized the benefits derived from joint collaboration in terms of capability building (ibid.). Thus, a pan-governmental approach was adopted, which has allowed for interaction and joint work at different government levels which have, in turn, fostered international cooperation between the two countries.

On the other hand, the need to establish a formal coordinated procedure to assist migrants in an irregular situation and in conditions of vulnerability has been also underscored.

Links of interest: https://www.gob.pe/institucion/migraciones/sedes?sheet=3

*For more information, please contact:* Jefatura Zonal de Migraciones Tacna por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Regional Migration Office in Tacna through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

New immigration legislation in the Republic of Paraguay

Country in which the action was carried out: Republic of Paraguay

State entity that carried out implementation: National Directorate of Migration.

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: As from October 2022

Brief description of the action:

On October 17, 2022, the new <u>Migration Act N.º 6984</u> was enacted. This law has set forth several beneficial aspects intended to strengthen regular migration to the territory of Paraguay (National Directorate of Migration, 2023).

The purpose of this act is to establish a migration regime in order to "contribute to the social, cultural, and economic strengthening of the country"<sup>7</sup>. Some of the guiding principles of the Act include the principle of equality, non-return, rationality, efficiency, gender equity, social equity, and non-discrimination, among others (Act 6984, 2022).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Act 6984. Section 1.



This standard recognizes the right of migrants and their families to equal access to social security, health, education, justice, culture and recreation, among others. In addition, it provides for that in no event an irregular migratory status should be considered as a reason for failure to enroll in an educational institution.

Some of the benefits envisaged by the new standard include legislative adjustment with respect to the human rights of migrants; access to the Paraguayan identity card for both temporary and permanent residents; the extension of the term of stay to two years for temporary residents; the recognition of a "precarious residence status" to migrants while their temporary residence is pending; and the incorporation of the category known as "spontaneous or occasional" residence<sup>8</sup> (National Directorate of Migration, 2023).

Furthermore, the Act also establishes the National Directorate of Migration under the Executive Branch, replacing the General Directorate of Migration as the institution in charge of administrative and missionary enforcement and implementation of the comprehensive migration regime. This new Directorate is an autonomous and autarchic institution, with legal status under public law. Thus, the new regulation establishes the institutional hierarchy of its enforcement authority (ibid.).

#### Links of interest: Act N.º 6984 / OF MIGRATION (bacn.gov.py)

*For more information, please contact:* Dirección General de Asuntos Internacionales, Dirección Nacional de Migraciones, por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / General Directorate of International Affairs, National Directorate of Migration, through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

#### Migration pre-registration at borders

Country in which the action was carried out: Federative Republic of Brazil

State entity that carried out implementation: Federal Police of Brazil

Scope of application: nationwide

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> In accordance with Section 45 of Act N. <sup>9</sup> 6984: "Spontaneous or Occasional Residence is the authorization granted by the National Directorate of Migration to those aliens who enter the country with the intention of developing lawful occasional activities under the conditions established by this Act and the relevant regulation thereof.

Same shall be granted for a term of up to 90 (ninety) days, extendable for the same period during the year, which shall not be a prerequisite for Temporary Residence".



Ú Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores



Implementation period: as from December 2018

#### Brief description of the action:

The Federative Republic of Brazil has developed an online immigration pre-registration system. This registration consists of filling out a web form using an electronic address, in which the traveler's personal data required for immigration control are provided. Its purpose is to speed up and simplify the process at the immigration control point. This is based on an application devised by the Federal Police that lets the people willing to cross the border advance the information declaration process (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2023).

The procedure is available for domestic travelers from Brazil, Argentina, Chile, Paraguay and Uruguay, except for the departure of Brazilian minors from the country, on tourist trips and with tickets, through specific land and maritime immigration checkpoints (Serviços e Informações do Brasil, 2023).

The decision to create this online register was a consequence of the long queues to go through the land immigration control points between the border cities of Uruguayana (Brazil) and Paso de Los Libres (Argentina) in the summer of 2018 and 2017, with delays of up to six hours. This was due to the limited



structure, equipment, personnel, and the large number of people crossing the border. Following that line, 645,00 migratory registrations had been registered from December to February of those years (Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2023).

The results obtained from the implementation of online pre-registration were positive as during the summer of 2022/2023 the maximum waiting time for land immigration controls between Uruguayana and Paso de los Libres was one and a half hours. Migratory registrations from December to February reached a figure of 710,000, of which almost 50 percent were made online (ibid.).

The next steps will be to correct errors in the system and improve usability. At the same time, the system will be expanded to all land borders and port controls, and more particularly to cruise ships (ibid.).

Links of interest: https://www.gov.br/pt-br/servicos/pre-cadastro-migratorio





*For more information, please contact:* Ministry of Foreign Affairs, through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

## Gender and migration

Decree 476/2021 on non-binary documentation, Republic of Argentina Country in which the action was carried out: Argentina

**State entity that carried out implementation:** Ministry of the Interior of the Nation, National Register of Natural Persons (RENAPER).

Scope of application: nationwide, across the entire Republic of Argentina.

Implementation period: as from 2021

#### Brief description of the action:

Section 1 of Act 26,743, enacted on March 23, 2012, sets forth that every individual

has the right to gender identity recognition, to free development as an individual, and to be treated in accordance with their gender identity and, more particularly, to be so identified in the instruments that prove identity with respect to name, portrait, and sex under which registration therein has been made (<u>Act 26,743, 2012</u>).



In order to respect the right to gender identity for those who do not recognize themselves within the binary female/male system, to comply with the provisions of the act mentioned above, and to facilitate the material registration of the non-binary "sex" in the National Identity Card, <u>Decree 476/21</u> was issued on July 20, 2021.

By means of this regulation, a third option was incorporated in the "sex" category for both the National Identity Card and the Argentine Electronic Passport, making it



Ministerio la Pelaciones Exteriores



possible to define the nomenclatures "F," "M," or "X" under such category. This introduces a new category for the relevant field that is outside the binary system, making gender identities outside the binary conception visible. It should be noted that, according to Section 4 of such decree, nomenclature X will include the following meanings: "non-binary, indeterminate, unspecified, unspecified, undefined, uninformed, self-perceived, unregistered; or any other meaning with which the individual who does not feel included in the male/female binomial may feel identified" (Decree 476/21, 2021).

Section 8 of the aforementioned decree establishes that aliens who actually obtain or have a National Identity Document for Aliens, an Exceptional Passport for Aliens or a Travel Document for Stateless Persons or Refugees, shall also have the right to obtain non-binary documentation (ibid.).

The implementation of non-binary documentation represents an innovative action that has managed to reformulate an instrument of daily use, historically conceived under a binary system. This has guaranteed the exercise of the right to gender identity, both for Argentine citizens and for migrants, stateless persons and refugees who can access Argentine documentation. This measure has made it possible to recognize and respect gender diversity in an inclusive manner. It is essential for the State to rely on accurate information on the migratory situation of non-binary people in order to pursue concrete measures. This initiative is expected to advance towards the development of tools that may guide the implementation of a gender and diversity approach in migration policies (<u>Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and</u> <u>Worship, 2023</u>).

This action can be replicated in other countries, as it can be adapted and adjusted to the particular conditions of each country. The expansion in the use of the "X" nomenclature in various countries thus turns into a simple way to facilitate and improve the recognition of diverse gender identities. Replicating such action could guarantee more inclusion and respect for gender diversity in the region (ibid.).



As of July 21, 2023, 1044 people had changed the nomenclature in their documentation (<u>Ministry of Women, Gender, and Diversity, 2023</u>). The regulation makes it possible to overcome, in a simple way, the binary identification system, allowing people to identify themselves outside the male/female binomial.

In order to facilitate human mobility for those who do not identify with the binary system, and to allow them to fully enjoy their right to gender identity, it is important and advisable to promote coordination between States. On the other hand, in addition to implementing this change in the nomenclature of documentation, it is important to adjust administrative records/migration information systems (Ministry of the Interior, 2023).

Links of interest: Decree 476/2021 | Argentina.gob.ar

*For more information, please contact:* Representación Especial sobre Orientación Sexual e Identidad de Género (RSOGI), Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, Comercio Internacional y Culto, por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de CSM /Special Representation on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade, and Worship, through the SACM Technical Secretariat.

Monthly registration and disclosure of cases relative to gender violence against aliens addressed by Women's Emergency Centers.

Country in which the action was carried out: Republic of Peru

**State entity that carried out implementation:** Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations.

Scope of application: throughout the country, nationwide.

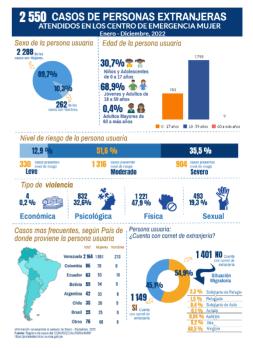
Implementation period: as from 2018

Brief description of the action:



XXI Conferencia Suramericana sobre Migraciones

This action arose as a result of the number of submissions presented by migrants to Women's Emergency Centers (hereinafter "CEM") in connection with cases of violence. This has made it necessary for the CEM to create a register publication of such cases, disclosing them as public information at the national level in the statistical portal. In this regard, since 2018 and on a monthly basis, the Ministry of Women and Vulnerable Populations publishes infographics of the total number of cases of violence against aliens (differentiated by sex) registered in and addressed by any of the 430 CEMs nationwide. The National



Program for the Prevention and Eradication of Violence against Women and Members of the Family Group (AURORA), an entity ascribed to MIMP, has a statistical portal. There, monthly publications are released about this information (Directorate of Technical Assistance and Promotion of Services of the General Directorate against Gender Violence, 2023).

It should be noted that the CEMs provide free legal and psychological assistance to reporters.

This action has been innovative in that it has made it possible to disclose information on a monthly basis in a simple manner, promoting decision making, and allowing for focused actions to be taken by all the relevant institutions. In this sense, the register has made it possible to show violence against migrant women, and to foresee such situation in the regulations and public policies to confront gender violence (ibid.).

As far as the results of this action in practice are concerned, during the year of its implementation, the CEMs registered 759 cases. Out of them, ninety-one percent were cases of violence against women, while 9 percent were cases of violence against men. In 2022, 2,550 cases were registered. Out of this total, 89.7 percent were directed towards women of all ages, totaling 2,288 cases. Children and adolescents accounted for 30.7 percent of the cases reported. Likewise, the prevailing type of violence was physical violence, with 47.9 percent of the total number of cases reported (ibid.).



Based on this information, migrant women and the members of their family groups were identified as a group at risk. Consequently, the Peruvian State has adopted measures to protect alien women that are victims of violence.

The action has proven to be sustainable as it has been maintained for almost five years to date. At the same time, it relies the area and the team that carries out the process, collects information and conducts friendly conversion (ibid.).

This fulfills the first goal of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration, as it facilitates access to the data collected. In turn, and vis-à-vis its focus on gender, it is in line with the guiding principle of that instrument to include a gender perspective in migration management.

#### Links of interest: portalestadistico.aurora.gob.pe

*For more information, please contact:* Dirección de Asistencia Técnica y Promoción de Servicios de la Dirección General contra la Violencia de Género por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM /Directorate of Technical Assistance and Promotion of Services of the General Directorate Against Gender Violence through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.



Social and occupational integration: Work and Education Interministerial Permanent Coordination Committee on Migration and Labor, Republic of Argentina

Country in which the action was carried out: Argentina

**Government agency that carried out implementation:** Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from June 2022

#### Brief description of the action:

Through Resolution 745/2022 dated June 23, 2022, the Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security created the Interministerial Roundtable on Migration and Labor. Its purpose was to develop a public policy agenda on labor migration to consolidate the principles and rights guaranteed to migrants and refugees at the national, regional, and international levels (Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security, 2023).

The Roundtable promotes interministerial dialogue, as well as dialogue with organizations representing workers and employers, social organizations, academic circles, and international and regional organizations thus allowing for an articulated and comprehensive approach to migration issues (ibid.).

The foundations and objectives of this Roundtable are based on the guiding principles of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration; the Sustainable Development Agenda 2030; the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families. It also takes into consideration other instruments such as the Mercosur Residence Agreement, the Mercosur Social and Labor Declaration, and the Plan to Facilitate the Circulation of Workers in Mercosur, which recognize equal treatment and opportunities for workers from the regional block with nationals of Mercosur member states, and national legislation (ibid.).



This experience highlights the importance of governmental articulation and dialogue with the different stakeholders involved in the design of public policies focused on migrants from an integrated and transversal perspective. At the same time, it is advisable to continue strengthening intra- and inter-institutional communication and coordination in order to promote the insertion and inclusion of migrants in the labor market, but also to promote the disclosure and facilitate access to information to such population concerning their rights and the services provided by the State (ibid.).

*Links of interest:* <u>https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/lanzamiento-de-la-mesa-</u> intraministerial-migracion-y-trabajo

*For more information, please contact:* Ministerio de Trabajo, Empleo y Seguridad Social por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Ministry of Labor, Employment, and Social Security through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

Late entry preparation mechanism and allocation of quotas for entry into the public education system

Country that carried out the action: Republic of Ecuador

State entity that carried out implementation: Ministry of Education

Scope of application: nationwide

Implementation period: as from 2020

#### Brief description of the action:

The Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador enshrines the right to education and sets forth the role of the State to guarantee, without any discrimination, the effective enjoyment of the rights established therein, particularly education, as its primary duty. At the same time, it emphasizes that aliens in the territory have the same rights and duties as any of its nationals (Constitution of the Republic of Ecuador, 2008).

Taking into consideration these and other regulations, in April 2020 the Ministry of Education issued Agreement N.º MINEDUC-2020-00025-A. Such agreement was subsequently amended in 2021 by means of <u>Agreement N.º MINEDUC-MINEDUC-2021-00026-A.</u> They define the standards that should regulate and guarantee access, permanence, promotion, and



completion of the educational process in the National Education System for vulnerable populations (National Directorate of Education for Democracy and Good Living, 2023).

According to such regulations, the target population include children, adolescents, youth, adults, and older adults who may be in a vulnerable situation. Some examples of situations identified as vulnerable include people in conditions of human mobility, victims of human trafficking and smuggling, among others (<u>Ministry of Education, 2021</u>).

Within the framework of the second agreement mentioned above, the Preparation Process is established. This is the procedure through which people in a vulnerable situation can access the National Education System outside the enrollment period. It should be noted that it is not necessary for people in a vulnerable situation to have an identification document to access the educational system. Should they fail to have one, a code is assigned to the register and the management of the issuance of the relevant identification documentation is requested. Likewise, it is not necessary to have an academic record to access the Educational System (ibid.).

On the other hand, the chronological age of students is the priority criterion used for placement in a given grade or course. Likewise, students are guaranteed pedagogical, psychopedagogical, psychosocial, and socio-emotional support.

For the implementation of the agreement, different inputs were created: 1) the Instructions for the application of the ministerial agreement 26-A, intended to guide the educational stakeholders from the different decentralized levels and educational institutions on the application of the agreement. 2) the placement exam guidelines for ordinary and extraordinary educational services with a view to guiding the teachers of the different subjects and formative modules at the educational institutions appointed by the educational district for the elaboration of placement exams in a unified manner with respect to the structure and the development of skills, and 3) the application instructions for the psycho-pedagogical evaluation and thus strengthen educational assistance (National Directorate of Education for Democracy and Good Living, 2023).

In connection with the results of this initiative, it should be noted that during the 2022-2023 period, 5,557 students were registered in the preparation process.



# *Links* of interest: <u>https://www.educacion.gob.ec/wp-</u> content/uploads/downloads/2021/05/MINEDUC-MINEDUC-2021-00026-A.pdf

*For more information, please contact:* Dirección Nacional de Educación para la Democracia y el Buen Vivir por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / National Directorate of Education for Democracy and Good Living through the Technical Secretariat of SACM.

#### Migrant Orientation Service

Country in which the action was carried out: Republic of Peru

**State entity that carried out implementation:** Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion.

#### Scope of application: nationwide

**Implementation period:** from January 2013 to the present (Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion, 2013).

#### Brief description of the action:

The Migrant Orientation Service (SOM, from the Spanish: Servicio de Orientación para el Migrante) is a free service offered by the Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion to provide accurate and appropriate information and guidance on all the aspects associated to the labor migration process and the social and labor rights of migrant workers. Its purpose is to avoid the violation of migrants' rights and to contribute to safe, orderly, and regular migration (Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion, 2023).

The service seeks to strengthen social and labor integration. It is mainly intended to Peruvian citizens interested in working overseas (potential emigrants), Peruvian citizens who reside and work outside the country (emigrants), Peruvian citizens who wish to return or have returned to Peru (returnees or potential returnees) and aliens who work and/or are interested in working in the country (immigrants) (ibid.).



The Migrant Orientation Service is provided at the national level by the regional Employment Centers. Yet, it also has different assistance modalities, including personal assistance on-site at the Employment Centers, virtual assistance through the Ministry's virtual services platform, and telephone assistance (ibid.).

The information shared is related to the requirements for regular migration, benefits for returnees, hiring procedures for foreign nationals, asylum seekers, and refugees. In addition, information on the labor rights of migrant workers including, for example, minimum living wages, working hours, vacation, social security, health and pension benefits, among others (ibid.).

Following that same line, the migrant orientation service serves as a first step to recognize the rights of migrant workers in Peru. The Ministry also provides other free services as well, such as the labor data bank service that uses artificial intelligence to connect potential employees with employers. In addition, it also provides advisory services concerning job search, labor training services through the national employability program, training service for entrepreneurship, and information services on the labor market (ibid.).

As far as the results obtained from the implementation of this action are concerned, it is worth noting that during the first semester of 2023 alone, more than 2,640 aliens were advised by the Labor Data Bank Service, as compared to 2022, when a total of 4,214 advisories were registered in the whole year. This would show that this figure will be exceeded every year. In view of these results, one of the main recommendations is to continue strengthening the service expanding it to different regions (ibid.).

# Links of interest: <u>Servicio de Orientación (trabajo.gob.pe)</u> ¿Qué es el Servicio de Orientación para el Migrante? – YouTube

*For more information, please contact:* Ministerio de Trabajo y Promoción del Empleo (MTPE) por medio de la Secretaría Técnica de la CSM / Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion (MTPE) through the Technical Secretariat of the SACM.

#### For more featured actions, visit:

Innovamigración: IOM's regional platform for South America.



Migration Network Center's repository of practices: global platform of good practices within the framework of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration.





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## Conclusions:

This catalog compiles valuable experiences implemented by different States in the region. Following that line of thought, this document is a contribution that aims not only to socialize and disclose the work undertaken to improve migration governance in the region, but also to support these efforts by promoting replicability. Thus, access to knowledge is simplified, allowing easy visualization of possible solutions to the challenges posed in the different thematic areas of the SACM networks.

At the same time, this document preserves and documents the work carried out in the five webinars held, guaranteeing the availability of this knowledge to continue coordinating efforts to improve migration governance in South America.

We hope that this report marks the beginning of a process of dialogue on other diverse initiatives and public policies implemented in the region, encouraging the continuation of the coordination of efforts and the exchange of knowledge. At the same time, it will motivate the member states of the different thematic networks to continue working on the systematization, socialization, and replication of experiences to improve migration governance at the regional level, taking advantage of the best practices voiced by each of the SACM member states and implementing them in other contexts, when appropriate. To achieve this, they have the support of both the Technical Secretariat and IOM's Knowledge Management area. Finally, it is advisable to advance in the development of systems to assess the impact of public policies on migration issues, as this will make it possible to identify and weigh successful policies that are worth replicating.

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