FACT SHEET
November 2026

NRC's operations in

Venezuela


Photo: Daniel Pabón/NRC

Humanitarian overview

Venezuela continues to face a complex context characterised by political, economic and social challenges that have contributed to a protracted humanitarian and protection situation. At the beginning of 2026, at least 7.9 million people required assistance.

Significant gaps in access to basic services persist, while inflation and limited income-generating opportunities continue to impact the livelihoods of the most vulnerable families. Protection concerns remain diverse, particularly in areas affected by dynamics of violence, displacement, access challenges and limited services.

Nearly eight million Venezuelans have left the country over the past decade, constituting one of the largest population movements in the world. However, in recent years, there has also been a gradual increase in returns driven by changes in migration policies and other factors in host countries. Some people return on repatriation flights, while others do so voluntarily or with the support of authorities from different countries.

The twin earthquakes in 2026 generated new needs for emergency assistance, early recovery and reconstruction.

The emergency prompted an addendum to the Humanitarian Response Plan (HRP), while recovery and reconstruction needs are estimated at US$21 billion for a total of 1.3 million affected people.

Our core activities

- Education
- Information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA)
- Protection
- Shelter and settlements
- Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)

NRC Venezuela

Established	2005
International staff	6
National staff	118

Our areas of operation

- Zulia
- Bolívar
- Apure
- Táchira
- La Guaira



Photo: Erick Franco/NRC

Our activities in detail

NRC has been active in Venezuela since 2005, supporting Colombian refugees. In 2019 we expanded our operations to support Venezuelans affected by the humanitarian situation.

Coordination with authorities and communities is essential for carrying out our activities. Our work includes education; information, counselling and legal assistance (ICLA); protection; water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH); market systems; and shelter and settlements as part of our emergency response following the 2026 earthquakes. We work with local partners to complement our response, contribute to capacity building of local communities, and play a critical role in coordination at multiple levels.

10,242 people reached in 2025 ▼

Education

NRC supports children's access to the education system, provides learning materials, and offers complementary training tools and essential psychosocial assistance.

NRC's activities include:

- identification of out-of-school children, working with communities and local education authorities to help them return to the classroom
- provision of educational materials to students, teachers and schools, in line with the national curriculum, to facilitate learning
- delivery of techniques and strategies that enable teachers to support learning catch up and reinforcement for children with low academic performance, aligned with the Bolivarian curriculum, as well as psychosocial support for those who require it
- development and implementation of First-Line Education Response (FLER), in emergency situations, to provide psycho-emotional support to children affected by displacement
- technical support to local education authorities

13,068 people reached in 2025 ▼

Information, counselling, and legal assistance (ICLA)

NRC supports people in securing legal identity documentation and provides individual counselling services.

NRC's services include:

- information sessions – organised in collaboration with communities – on how to obtain birth certificates and national identity cards from the relevant offices
- individual counselling on legal documentation procedures
- legal assistance regarding housing, land, and property issues
- supporting Venezuelans who returned to the country, and their children born abroad, to obtain identity documentation
- assistance throughout the asylum application process for people in need of international protection in Venezuela

8,029 people reached in 2025 ▼

Protection

NRC provides services that help people stay safe and support communities recovering from complex situations.

NRC's support includes:

- information sessions on topics such as assertive communication, conflict resolution, and emotion regulation
- community protection capacity strengthening through community-based activities and awareness-raising
- individual specialised services, including psychosocial support
- referrals to partners when needs exceed NRC's service capacity

34,220 people reached in 2025 ▼

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

NRC provides hygiene training and kits and installs and rehabilitates water and sanitation solutions in schools and communities.

This NRC programme covers:

- installation, maintenance, or rehabilitation of water and sanitation facilities to improve hygiene conditions
- capacity strengthening to establish or support existing community hygiene committees
- provision of water filters and other hygiene items to enable the safe treatment and consumption of water
- distribution of culturally appropriate items for menstrual hygiene management
- supply of materials for waste management

Started in 2026 ▼

Shelter and settlements

NRC supports communities to access safe, dignified and inclusive living spaces through site management, rehabilitation and emergency assistance.

NRC's response covers:

- community-based initiatives for the management and coordination of temporary sites
- supply of materials for the rehabilitation of damaged housing
- provision of emergency non-food items kits for basic living conditions
- rehabilitation of community infrastructure and schools

Markets systems approach

NRC applies a market systems approach across its programming to strengthen local economies and community self-reliance. By building capacities, fostering connections with market actors and supporting sustainable local solutions, NRC helps communities improve their livelihoods, access opportunities and better withstand future shocks.

Emergency response

NRC provides emergency responses whenever we can add value and help address urgent humanitarian needs. We have delivered life-saving assistance following natural hazards, including floods and earthquakes. Our integrated responses combine WASH, education, legal assistance, protection, shelter and settlements, and market-based approach. Interventions are carried out in close coordination with relevant authorities and humanitarian partners.

Coordination

NRC actively contributes its expertise and experience through local, regional and national humanitarian coordination mechanisms across Venezuela. We engage in humanitarian forums, clusters, humanitarian teams and networks of international organisations to help shape collective responses to humanitarian needs. Through this engagement, we promote technical quality, contextual relevance and effective territorial and sectoral coordination across the response.

Advocacy

NRC carry out activities to promote positive behavioural changes regarding humanitarian access, response coordination, and protection.

Our donors

We are grateful for the generous support from our donors:

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