



August 2015

IOM Aids Colombian Deportees from Venezuela



IOM has joined a humanitarian team of government entities and international agencies assisting the over 1,000 Colombians who have been deported from Venezuela in the last few days.

Since the night of Wednesday, August 19, when the principal border crossing between Colombia and Venezuela was closed, 1,097 Colombians (877 adults and 220 minors) have arrived in the Colombian border city of Cúcuta.

In addition, hundreds of Colombians have fled Venezuela to avoid deportation, crossing the river which marks the border between the two countries and steering clear of formal border crossings. According to UNOCHA, over 2,000 Colombians left Venezuela voluntarily.

[Read more](#) (English)

Official launch of campaign for the registry of persons with disabilities in Colombia

On September 1, a campaign will be officially presented to the public that aims to encourage and give meaning to the registry of persons with disabilities in government information systems. This campaign hopes to bring a message to public servants on the importance of providing inclusive services and treatment for persons with disability, while also reminding victims of the armed conflict the importance of registering their disability

The campaign is supported by the Unit for Comprehensive Assistance and Reparations for Victims, the Ministry of Health and Social Protection, and the International Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

[Read More](#) (Spanish)



IOM supports the peace process in Colombia

IOM creates online course in "Public Policies for Victims and Peacebuilding"

The implementation of the Colombian Victims Law (Law 1448 of 2011) requires information sharing spaces so that victims, public officials and citizens in general have access to clear and relevant information on the victims' rights. With this objective, and in the context of the educational strategy "Participaz" aimed encouraging participation in peacebuilding and promoting greater recognition for victims' rights, a diploma course on "Public Policies for Victims and Peacebuilding" was initiated with support from the Victims Unit Participation Sub-Directorate, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



IOM in the media

United Nations calls for "constructive dialogue" between Colombia and Venezuela to resolve the crisis

The Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, called on the governments of Colombia and Venezuela to commit to maintaining a "constructive dialogue" to resolve the border crisis. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) estimates that 1,097 persons were deported as of August 19, when the border crossing was closed that connects the Colombian city of Cucuta (Norte de Santander) with the Venezuelan city of San Antonio (Táchira).

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



Demobilized individuals join a fruit growing pilot project

In Ronaldillo, in the north of Valle del Cauca, a department in the southwest of Colombia, 30 former combatants in illegal armed groups currently undergoing reintegration processes decided to join a pilot project focused on technical training in fruit farming and good agricultural practices.

This rural reintegration and training model with an agricultural focus, implemented within a controlled environment, is led by the Professional Technical Training Institute of Ronaldillo, the Colombian Reintegration Agency (ACR), the United States International Development Agency (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



First symbolic return for survivors of sexual violence

The journalist Jineth Bedoya (herself a survivor of sexual violence) initiated her campaign “It’s Not the Time to be Silent” with six symbolic walks to places where sexual violence has left hundreds of victims.

This initiative is supported by the soda company Postobón (which will hydrate participants during the 18 kilometer walk), Aviatur, the Transitional Justice Fund, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



Women: violence, memory and resistance

From August 4th to 6th, in the context of the International Indigenous Peoples Day, an intercultural event was held to address violence against women in the town of Jambaló in the southwestern department of Cauca. This “minga,” an indigenous tradition of cooperative and voluntary work for the common good, was supported by the National Center for Historical Memory, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM).

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



New publications

How to be an influential and inclusive leader: a guide for community leaders

A guide was developed for community leaders on how to become influential and inclusive leaders. The aim is to provide a practical tool for becoming familiar with the issue of disability, including its components, categories and language used. This tool also provides information on the processes and requirements for registries in which those with disabilities should be registered, including victims of the armed conflict with a disability, as well as how useful guidance for treating these individuals with dignity and exercising daily leadership.

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



In social media

IOM Colombia on Facebook

IOM is working in Colombia at the border with Venezuela to support humanitarian assistance for more than 1,000 persons deported from Venezuela over the past days. Our teams are helping to manage temporary shelters and facilitating transfer to other cities in Colombia for those displaced persons who decided not to stay in Cúcuta. #Atenciónfrontera

The publication has reached over 12,000 individuals.

[Read more](#) (Spanish)



Follow us



[Facebook](#)



[Twitter](#)



[Website](#)



[Instagram](#)



[YouTube](#)