Causal Impact Evaluation Results

The main result of the impact evaluation is the Multipurpose CBI, despite being a one-time assistance with a fixed amount, could facilitate the integration process among highly vulnerable populations. This is because that this CBI, in addition to failing to purpose of covering immediate basic needs, can also generate positive side effects in facilitating the integration process of the beneficiaries.

NOTE: The results in this study are not representative of the whole Venezuelan refugee and migrant populations in Peru. Therefore, the quantity and frequency were insufficient to lift the beneficiaries out of precarious and difficult working conditions. The level of assistance has to be continuously evaluated and complemented with other supports for multidimensional integration, especially for the most vulnerable people.

5 Key Considerations

Based on the findings of the impact evaluation, the following reflections can be made:

- Even though the main objective of the Multipurpose CBI is to cover immediate basic needs, it can be seen that this type of assistance also generates positive side effects in the integration process of highly vulnerable Venezuelan refugees and migrants.
- Adjusting the amount of assistance to the size of the household could help increase the greater positive impacts of this type of assistance. Also, this study highlights the potential of CBI as an instrument promoting integration, it would be important to design projects that include periodic cash assistance to take advantage of these positive side effects.
- An multipurpose CBI triggered economic activity of migrants; this is also consistent with the finding evidence that cash transfers do not disincentivize or delay migrants’ entry into the labor market. The Multipurpose CBI is useful in stimulating the economic activity of the beneficiaries, also does so for the local economic activity in the host community.
- As the positive effects of CBI were particularly higher for those in regular situations, opening pathways towards regularization is key to promoting the effective inclusion of migrants, particularly among those in an irregular and vulnerable situation.
- CBI should not be implemented in isolation. Complementary measures to emergency assistance could improve the integration results of the CBI, such as better access to business support, education, skills development and other income-generation measures.
- It is important to continue including and strengthening gender-sensitive approaches in design and delivery to effectively support the integration of migrant women.
- Extensive interventions; it is important to consider not just the humanitarian or immediate needs of migrants but also how these interventions link to and facilitate the medium and longer-term social inclusion of migrants.

These results are consistent with the idea that the Multipurpose CBI increased economic activity and autonomy, however, the quantity and frequency were insufficient to lift the beneficiaries out of precarious and difficult working conditions. The level of assistance has to be continuously evaluated and complemented with other supports for multidimensional integration, especially for the most vulnerable people.

NOTE: The results in this study are not representative of the whole Venezuelan refugee and migrant populations in Peru. Therefore, the results only apply to those who are part of the sample, comprising of highly vulnerable Venezuelan refugees and migrants.
The Multipurpose CBI is an emergency cash transfer program provided to households affected by a crisis, such as the COVID-19 pandemic, with the main objective of covering immediate basic needs. The beneficiaries of this CBI are highly vulnerable Venezuelan refugees and migrants living in Peru, who received a one-time payment of S/760 (approximately USD 200).

This study analyzes the impact of the Multipurpose CBI program implemented by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Peru on migrants’ psychological, economic, political, social, linguistic, and navigational outcomes. The study employs a pre-treatment interview (ITV1) five weeks after receiving the CBI, a post-distribution monitoring interview (ITV2) four weeks after receiving the CBI, a post-treatment interview (ITV3) twelve weeks after receiving the CBI, and a post-distribution monitoring interview (ITV2) four weeks after receiving the CBI.

The pre-treatment interview (ITV1) and the post-treatment interview (ITV3) seek to measure the effect of the CBI projects on the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants. The psychological dimension measures to what extent migrants have the knowledge and capacity to build a successful, fulfilling life in the host society. This definition recognizes the importance of migrants’ existing knowledge and capacity.

Following Horder et al. (2019), integration is defined as:

Integration is measured as multidiimensional integration index and is adapted to the Peruvian context to measure migrants’ integration outcomes. The IPL Integration Index – which is the core survey instrument of the toolkit – measures the multi-dimensional capacities and resources of migrants to settle in their new environment, and determine if the intervention had an impact on the beneficiaries.

The psychological dimension of the integration index can range between 0 and 1, where higher scores indicate higher integration. The overall integration score is 0.53. The psychological dimension has the highest score (excluding linguistic integration).

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