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Executive Summary

- Colombia is the main destination of Venezuelan migrants. In 2021, the Colombian government decided to regularize their immigration status through the Temporary Statute of Protection for Venezuelans (ETPV in Spanish).
- The regularization process has three steps: i) an identification and characterization of the migrant in the government's online Venezuelan Migrant Single Registry (RUMIV in Spanish); ii) a face-to-face biometric registration; and iii) the issuance and delivery of the Temporary Protection Permit (PTP in Spanish).
- Finding and characterizing Venezuelan migrants is a major challenge. They are a population in constant movement, frequently lack access to the internet and mass media, and often distrust government authorities and other actors.
- Despite these challenges, the Colombian government has carried out the regularization process at a speed that is unique in the world.
- Innovations for Poverty Action Colombia identified that community leaders have played a fundamental role in the regularization process. Their role has been so important that the regularization process seems to have advanced more quickly in those areas where the leaders have a stronger presence.
- Among the main tasks of community leaders are collecting, disseminating information, and providing technical assistance with the regularization process.
- Leaders have been able to take advantage of various communication channels depending on the circumstances of each community and capitalize on other programs and resources for the well-being of migrants.

* We want to thank our gratitude to all the community leaders who carry out this role and institutions for Venezuelan migrants and Colombian citizens. Thank you for your support in conducting this study and for allowing us to share your experiences.

<p>SAMPLE</p> <p>7 municipalities</p> <p>ISSUES</p> <p>2021-2022</p>	<p>STUDY TYPE</p> <p>Qualitative Research</p> <p>INSTITUTION</p> <p>Ana María Rojas, Ana María Rojas, Lucía Vargas, Alejandra Rivera, Nicol Lesmes Guerrero, Neel Mishra, Jackie Morales, Nathi Quesada.</p>
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El rol de los líderes y lideresas en el proceso de regularización de migrantes venezolanos en Colombia

Serie cualitativa: Mecanismos que fortalecen la integración

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Resumen Ejecutivo

- Colombia es el principal país receptor de migrantes venezolanos. En 2021 el gobierno tomó la decisión de regularizar su estatus migratorio a través del Estatuto Temporal de Protección para Venezolanos (ETPV).
- El proceso de regularización consiste de tres pasos: (i) identificación y caracterización virtual del migrante en el Registro Único de Migrantes Venezolanos (RUMV); (ii) registro biométrico presencial; y (iii) expedición y entrega del Permiso por Protección Temporal (PPT).
- Localizar y caracterizar a los migrantes es un desafío. Son una población en constante movimiento, frecuentemente carecen de acceso a internet y medios de comunicación móvil y en muchas ocasiones tienen desconfianza hacia las autoridades u otros actores.
- A pesar de estos retos, el gobierno colombiano ha realizado el proceso de regularización a una velocidad única en el mundo.
- Innovations for Poverty Action Colombia identificó que los líderes y las lideresas comunitarias han jugado un rol fundamental en el proceso de regularización. Su rol ha sido tan relevante que el proceso de regularización ha avanzado de forma más rápida en aquellas zonas donde los líderes y lideresas tienen una presencia más fuerte.
- Entre las principales labores de los líderes y las lideresas comunitarias se encuentran recabar, difundir información y otorgar asistencia técnica con el proceso de regularización.
- Los líderes y las lideresas han sabido aprovechar diversos medios de comunicación dependiendo de las circunstancias de cada comunidad y han podido capitalizar otros programas y recursos en pro del bienestar de los migrantes.

* Queremos agradecer también especialmente a todos los líderes y lideresas comunitarias que apoyaron este estudio y brindaron su protección y asistencia a los migrantes venezolanos y colombianos durante todo el apoyo metodológico de este estudio, por permitirnos acceder y salir con ustedes.

MUESTRA
7 Municipios

UBICACIÓN
2021-2022

TIPO DE ESTUDIO
Investigación Cualitativa

PERSONAL DE IPA
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The role of community leaders in the regularization process of Venezuelan migrants in Colombia

In the last decade, more than 6 million Venezuelans have left their country. Around 1.85 million are currently in Colombia (GIFMM, 2021). The challenges to socioeconomically integrating this population into the country are innumerable. On February 8, 2021, the Colombian government decided to regularize their immigration status in Colombia and characterize them through the Estatuto Temporal de Protección para Venezolanos (ETPV).

According to Migración Colombia data, in less than a year, more than 1.74 million Venezuelan migrants in Colombia completed the pre-registration process (RUMV) and more than one million completed the biometric registration, necessary steps for the regularization process. The scale and speed of this regularization process are unique in the world, particularly considering that certain social groups, such as irregular migrants, are difficult to reach and characterize. For example, a study conducted by researchers at Yale University found that

the population of undocumented migrants living in the United States may be double what is estimated in the decade census (Fazel-Zarandi et al., 2018).

In Colombia, some of the main barriers to characterizing and regularizing the Venezuelan migrant population have been continuous geographic mobility, high levels of socioeconomic vulnerability, precarious access to the Internet and mobile devices, mistrust of the institutions in charge of the process of regularization, fear of arrest or deportation, among others. This policy note highlights the role of community leaders and the means they used in the regularization process.

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