

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Improving Knowledge to Promote Integration of Regional Policies on International Migration: Pilot project in Colombia

CO-T1588

1. Background and Justification

- 1.1. **Migration in Colombia:** By the end of 2019, Colombia hosted over 1,771,237 migrants from Venezuela, equivalent to almost 3.6% of Colombia's population. This represents a growth of over 4,400% since 2015, when there were just under 40,000, attesting to the staggering pace of the influx¹. Most of these migrants went to Colombia for economic reasons and intend to stay. Many have settled in areas where economic development has historically been below the national average, such as Arauca and La Guajira. Around 19% of these migrants concentrate in border cities².
- 1.2. **The situation of migrant children:** According to “[CONPES 3950 - 2018](#)”, the public policy document that establishes a coordinated institutional approach to address migration challenges in the country, of all regularized migrants who have a Special Permit to Stay (known by Spanish acronym PEP), 44,617 (7.75%) have been granted to children between 0 and 7 years old, and 45,175 to children and adolescents between 8 and 17 years old (7.58%). In addition to that, 27.4% of irregular Venezuelan migrants are minors (120,473 children), of whom 51,075³ are under the age of 5 (equivalent to 42.4% of all migrant children from Venezuela). Besides these flows, and according to figures from the Colombian Border Management, to date nearly 400,000 Colombians holding a double nationality (Venezuelan and Colombian) have returned, of which 231,842 are children and adolescents. Country authorities and UN agencies report a continuous increase of children transiting through Colombia (150,920), and 183,033 students are estimated to be engaging in pendular movements to attend schools in border departments between Colombia and Venezuela⁴.
- 1.3. **Migration & COVID-19.** On March 11th, 2020, the World Health Organization (WHO) declared the COVID-19 outbreak a pandemic. COVID-19 is a respiratory disease caused by the 2019 novel coronavirus, or nCoV-2019. The pandemic has come to aggravate and increase several of the existing development asymmetries faced by vulnerable migrants and their host communities. As the global pandemic continues to unfold, young children will be especially vulnerable. Social distancing and confinement, globally recognized as essential features of the public health response, required to stop the spread of the virus, will significantly impact the daily life of kids and their families given the disruption of their learning path and their inability to access quality education as well as tools and materials for early intellectual and emotional stimulation. Adding to the complexity of this situation, as parents and/or caregivers of migrant children might be in general engaged in informal income generation activities, such as street vending, social

¹ UNHCR, Refugee and Migrant Response Plan 2020 for Venezuela – RMRP 2020 (November 2019)

² *Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores de Colombia* (2020). Infographics “Venezolanos en Colombia”.

³ Without considering unaccompanied minors

⁴ UNHCR, RMRP 2020 (November 2019)

distancing and confinement will severely affect their ability to guarantee a minimum means of subsistence, including food and housing, thus affecting the general welfare conditions of their family nucleus.

- 1.4. Starting on March 16th, 2020, the Colombian Government closed public and private education centers and aimed at implementing distance learning methodologies. However, an analysis done by Javeriana University's Educational Economics Laboratory (known by Spanish acronym LEE) shows, alarmingly, that 96% of the municipalities in the country do not have the capacity to implement virtual classes or provide distance learning tools due to infrastructure limitations. Already scarce resources will likely be diverted to the pandemic response, and there is a real risk that services to promote better early childhood development outcomes will be considered less urgent in the current environment.
- 1.5. Migrant families with young children avidly search for opportunities to protect and promote their healthy growth. This universal desire drives caregivers to seek services and support wherever they are provided. In the case of Colombia the humanitarian architecture that has been structured to facilitate a coordinated response to the immigration crisis, and now for the COVID-19 pandemic, is populated with international and local civil society organizations, multilateral organizations and government agencies that provide location-based services through shelters, protective spaces, and mobile units, among others. While these spaces are often designed with the intention of providing discrete services, these are also places where people in need of humanitarian assistance often converge and where children spend countless hours of idle time⁵. Lack of digital solutions has also been common. Due to this situation, many organizations are choosing to expand their offerings to include services for children and their caregivers, providing access to facilitated sessions on parenting, child-protection and recreation. Unfortunately, many of these organizations lack the means to access learning materials, including those relevant to COVID-19, to enrich their services, build the capacity of their personnel and support ongoing learning once people leave these spaces. Providing a cost-effective solution to these needs and building on existing structures are likely to reach thousands of children and their families over a short period of time.

2. Objectives

- 1.1 The objective of the consultancy is to pilot in Colombian border cities, two digital solutions: **Jardín Sesamo and Whatsapp Caregivers community** to facilitate access to high quality and age appropriate⁶ educational content (including COVID-19 prevention materials) to migrant young children and caregivers. Specific objectives are: a) to improve and facilitate access to quality educational content to young children already benefiting from humanitarian assistance and b)

⁵ *Análisis situacional de la niñez de primera infancia, sus familias y las comunidades de acogida afectadas por los flujos migratorios mixtos desde Venezuela en el territorio colombiano*. Sesame Workshop 2020

⁶ Content is developmentally appropriate for early childhood development years (target age group typically 3-5 years old, but content useful for early childhood development years 0-8). All Sesame content and programs are grounded in rigorous research and tailored to the needs and cultures of the communities we serve. There isn't different content for different age groups – but all content developmentally appropriate for this age group (see [overview](#) of how we develop content and its impact).

enhance the service offering by organizations working actively in the response to the immigration crisis and the pandemic through the *Jardín Sésamo* Intervention. Also, c) to increase caregivers' access to meaningful tools to support their children's development and foster positive behavior change on specific issues, including for example adequate hygiene and care practices through the WhatsApp interactive Parenting Community.

3. **Scope of Services**

3.1. In close coordination with the Bank, the scope of includes engagement with the ICBF⁷ and humanitarian partners in Colombia, actively operating protective spaces (to be identified).

4. **Key Activities**

4.1. *The Consulting firm will:*

4.1.1. **Implementation Plan.** *The consultant will develop a detailed implementation plan to deploy digital solutions in the following departments: Norte de Santander, La Guajira and Atlántico.*

4.1.2. **Library of Learning Materials.** *The consultant will provide access to a full library of Sésamo content including to be mainstreamed through both digital solutions. Content will include: COVID-19 resources, material or campaigns on inclusion and gender equality*

4.1.3. **Digital devices:** *The consultant will provide all digital devices to be installed in protected spaces or other prioritized migrant recipient areas (ie. Community kitchens, Aldeas, mobile sites).*

4.1.4. **Facilitation:** *The consultant will train team of facilitators at prioritized locations*

4.1.4 **IDB Logo.** Consultant will credit IDB and Finland Ministry of Foreign Affairs on our main web page Sesamo.com, as well as in all press releases and some social media posts

5. **Expected Outcome and Deliverables**

5.1. The products of the consultancy are:

5.1.1. 1 implementation plan

5.1.2. 1 progress report

5.1.3. 1 final report

6. **Project Schedule and Milestones**

6.1. *The schedule of the deliverables is as follows:*

⁷ Instituto Colombiano de Bienestar

- 6.1.1. Communication plan one week after signing the contract*
- 6.1.2. Progress report three months after signing the contract*
- 6.1.3. Final report twelve months after signing the contract*

7. Reporting Requirements

- 7.1. Reports should be submitted in electronic format to Isabel Granada (igranada@iadb.org).

8. Acceptance Criteria

- 8.1. To be accepted the progress reports should include detailed information on the estimated population reached through different broadcasters, number of downloads and similar *proxys*.

9. Other Requirements

- 9.1. *n/a*

10. Payment Schedule

10.1 For lump-sum contracts:

The payments will be processed as follows:
30% upon acceptance of the implementation plan;
50% upon acceptance of the progress report;
20% upon acceptance of the final report.

11. Supervision

- 11.1. **Isabel Granada**, Migration Senior Specialist, SCL/EDU