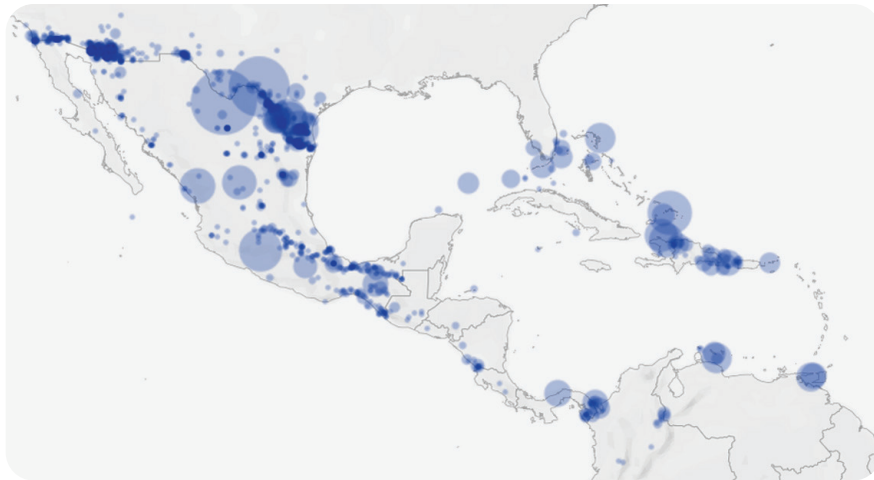


## PALE VERITE

# THE CAMPAIGN THAT SEEKS TO COMMUNICATE THE RISKS OF IRREGULAR MIGRATION FOR HAITIANS IN LATIN AMERICA

The route for extra-regional migrants who seek to arrive irregularly to the United States passes through South America. The territory of Darien, in Panama is one of the most dangerous points of the journey as they have to cross the jungle by irregular routes and in challenging conditions. In 2019, **more than 23,000 people** passed through this jungle, and in 2020 more than 6000 did, despite the borders closure for the pandemic.

In addition, the migratory route through Central and North America represents one of the points where there are more deaths and migrants disappearing, as shown in the following map:



Source: Missing Migrants Project from IOM.

The Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM) contemplates within its objective number 3 “to provide accurate and timely information at all stages of migration”, including the risks of irregular routes. In this context, the campaign Pale Verite seeks to make Haitian migrants aware of the reality of the migratory route they use in South America and which aims to reach North America, through stories of people who have already passed through the Darien jungle.

The campaign is divided into three main stages:

✓ INVESTIGATION

□ PRODUCTION

□ DISTRIBUTION



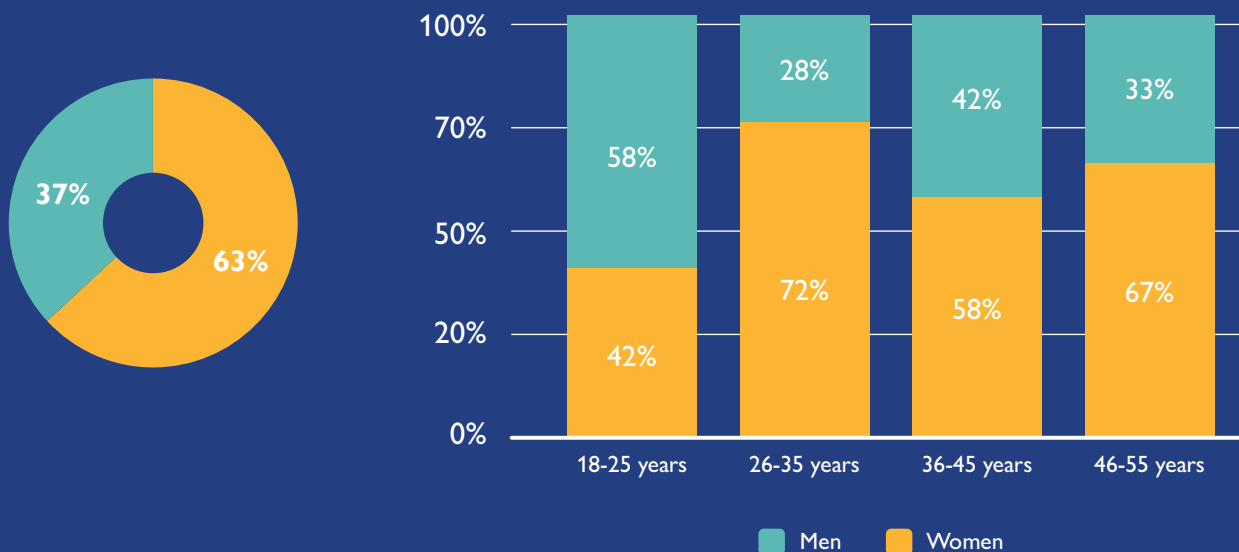


## Stage 1. Exploratory Research

A baseline was done through a desk review, interviews with key actors in Haiti, transit countries in South America<sup>1</sup> and Panama, as well as interviews and surveys of Haitian migrants at the Migration Reception Stations in Darien, Panama.

### ► MAIN FINDINGS<sup>2</sup>:

#### Sociodemographic profile of Haitian migrants in Darién:



- It is a young migration (81% of men and 77% of women are **under 35 years old**).
- **55%** are single people and say they have people who depend economically on them (children or parents).
- **63.87%** of the people surveyed have secondary education.
- Men speak more Spanish and / or Portuguese.
- The participation of women in the interviews has been more limited compared to men.

### Country of residence before going to Panama

Value	Percentage
Chile	76.05
Brazil	16.39
Haiti	2.1
Colombia	2.1
Ecuador	1.68
Argentina	1.26
Other	0.42

- 52.94% mentioned having formal jobs in their last country of residence.
- 60.92% said they had a regular migration status before going to Darien.

### Destination country

Value	Percentage
Mexico	57.14
United States	33.19
Canada	5.46
Other	1.68
Panama	1.68
Guatemala	0.42
Costa Rica	0.42

(N=238)

- The interviews showed that they do not tend to share information about their final destination.
- Their goal is to reach North America: the United States or Canada, but also Mexico is becoming a popular destination.

### ▶ ABOUT THE ROUTE:

- Despite "having an idea" of what they may face, **64.29%** said that what they found in the jungle was beyond their worst expectations.
- Although their friends and family members provided them with inputs, **70.59%** said they lacked information about the route.
- **89.08%** said they did not know any other way to migrate that did not mean crossing the Darien.
- **77.31%** said that they would not follow this route again<sup>3</sup>.
- Information about the journey is obtained from friends and family who have already traveled.

<sup>1</sup> For time reasons, the survey included informants in Chile, Brazil and Peru, but it is expected to expand the collection of information to other countries such as Colombia and Ecuador.

<sup>2</sup> The results are not representative and are taken from surveys conducted in the ERM of 238 people between March 5 and 11, 2021.

<sup>3</sup> This data must be placed in the context where people have just crossed the Darien. However, when they are already at the destination, they recommend it as a route.



## Stage II. Production of the campaign "Pale Verite"

### ► WHAT IS IT ABOUT?

“Pale Verite / Speak with the truth” seeks to motivate those who have already crossed the route to share their experience, from the perspective of everything they were not told. It is known that their informants (who are people who have already crossed the jungle) share general information such as entry points, costs, contacts, departure dates and other logistical details, but they lack information about the conditions of the route and the challenges it represents. Therefore, the products of the campaign will promote reflection between what they had heard and what they really lived and are living.

In addition, the production process also seeks to provide support and guidance to people who have recently transited the Darien jungle. The idea is that through spaces for dialogue and listening, migrants understand that their stories can become a valuable instrument for decision-making for others.

Finally, the campaign seeks to strengthen the capacities of organizations in transit countries so that they have the resources to promote informed debate with the Haitian migrants on the consequences of taking the Darien route.

### ► MAIN AUDIENCES:



People in Haiti with intention to migrate and haitian migrants in transit through South American countries.



Haitian migrants who are at the Migratory Reception Stations (MRS) in Darien.



Organizations that work in transit countries with migrant population.

### ► WHAT ACTIONS DOES IT INCLUDE?

- Production of testimonial videos in the MRS as well as in Haiti with returnees.
- Audio versions of testimonials.

- Activities with the population in the Migratory Reception Stations.
- Social media posts.
- A landing page that houses all the campaign materials.
- Informative material for southern missions and civil society organizations in transit countries.

**THE CAMPAIGN IS IN THE PRODUCTION STAGE, BUT THE POSITIONING WITH PARTNERS IS ESSENTIAL FOR EFFECTIVE DISTRIBUTION, MAINLY TO PEOPLE IN TRANSIT COUNTRIES IN SOUTH AMERICA.**

This requires:

- Coordinated actions with the IOM Regional Office of Buenos Aires.
- Coordinated actions with IOM missions in South America.
- Working together with civil society organizations in transit countries that work with Haitian population.



### Stage III. Distribution

- The campaign is expected to be distributed digitally in transit countries.
- Launching will be done by the end of August and it will be disseminated in September.

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This activity is part of the Western Hemisphere Program and arose as a direct request from the government of Panama to its National Office as a response to the migratory flow that passes through the Darien jungle.

