

UNHCR IN RORAIMA



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS TALK ABOUT NEW MASCULINITIES

The [New Masculinities](#) project is based on other initiatives aimed at men, such as the “Valente é não Violento” campaign (implemented by UN Women and the Public Ministry). The New Masculinities initiative is led by UNHCR in partnership with UNFPA (UN Population Fund) and facilitated by the partner organization AVSI (Volunteer Association for International Service), with support from FFHI (Fraternidade - International Humanitarian Federation) and FSF (Fraternidade sem Fronteiras).

By proposing a broad approach to the theme of masculinities, the project addresses issues ranging from understanding the role of men in society and the weight of responsibility to maintain their family, through frustrations, self-esteem, dreams, understanding of other social groups and the impact of traditional masculinity on each participant’s life (including physical and mental health, interpersonal relationships and even their integration in the host country).

Group activities are some of the tools used to relax participants and create a light environment to address issues are common across all groups of participants such as “men do not cry” / “men do not feel pain” / “men do not show feelings” / “men do not feel afraid”. These activities seek to understand and deconstruct the impact that these stereotypes have on the development of boys and men.

New Masculinities is an ongoing project that provides training and capacity building for different groups and is being implemented in the shelters in Boa Vista. It aims to create a safe space for refugee and migrant men to reflect and express themselves about myths and fears that surround them, resignifying some concepts of traditional masculinity. About 30 men participated in the first workshop to debate and deconstruct stereotypes related to masculinity, seeking better coexistence in shelters in Roraima and in the host community. The project is part of the actions to raise awareness on gender issues, which is one of the UNHCR’s fronts of action with the refugee population.

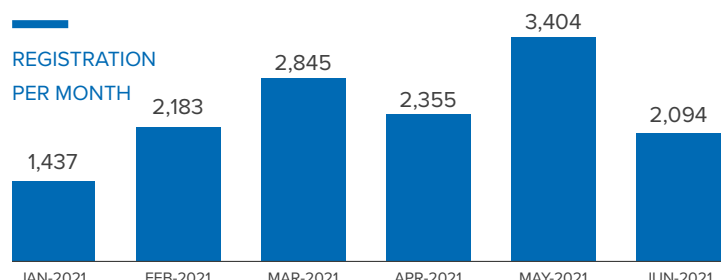
PROTECTION AND LOCAL INTEGRATION

MONITORING OF THE REFUGEE AND MIGRANT POPULATION

SINCE APRIL 2018

165,446

people were registered in Roraima on proGres v4



This monitoring is defined by UNHCR as individual registration, verification and updating with the aim of protecting, documenting, and implementing durable solutions. The registration of refugees and migrants is, in the first place, a protection instrument and a source of information about all vulnerable people, allowing a better understanding of who they are, what their needs are, the challenges in the search for durable and facilitating the provision of services and assistance.

THERE ARE TWO MODES OF REGISTRATION MADE IN THE PROGRES V4 SYSTEM

INDIVIDUAL Vulnerable people arriving in Brazil need to be monitored so that their rights are guaranteed. The individual module, in addition to protecting UNHCR's people of concern in its non-refoulement principle, also assists in accessing services provided by UNHCR. For example, entering one of the shelters coordinated by the organization, being reunited with their families and having access to durable solutions in a timely manner. Registration is done by individual, containing more detailed information, in addition to biometric collection.

RECEPTION This modality is used at the family level and is considered only when the individual does not apply to the registration criteria in the individual modality or if he/she is participating in the voluntary relocation process.



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FLEXIBILIZATION OF THE BORDER

On 23 June, [Ordinance 655](#) established flexibility measures in the exceptional and temporary entry restrictions, including free transit between “twin cities”, Pacaraima and Santa Elena de Uairén; entry to Brazil of Venezuelan nationals and legal residents of Venezuela and their subsequent regularization; and regularization of status (asylum claim and migratory residence permits) for Venezuelan nationals and legal residents of Venezuela who entered Brazil irregularly during border closure. However, given that the border from the Venezuelan side remains closed, free transit between “twin cities” has not yet resumed, leaving many Venezuelans still resorting to irregular crossing, popularly known as *trochas*.

In May and June, **1,293** people received support in the documentation process from UNHCR and its partners in Roraima. The forecast for the coming months is an increase in this flow due to the issuance of [Ordinance 655](#) on 23 June, which allows the provision of emergency support for reception and migration regularization of people in vulnerable situations. UNHCR, in coordination with IOM and the Humanitarian Logistics Task Force (FTLogHum), carried out information sessions at the shelters and at the bus station in Boa Vista, to answer the community's doubts about access to documentation, respecting the preventive norms against COVID-19.

SPORT AS A PROTECTION TOOL

Every year, on 20 June, World Refugee Day is celebrated. To reinforce protagonism of refugees and emphasize the power of inclusion, UNHCR together with its partners, conducted a series of activities. One of these initiatives was the “Fútbol Sin Fronteras”.

Launched at the Rondon 1 shelter together with AVSI Brazil, the project celebrates the courage and talent in sports of Venezuelan children and teenagers welcomed in Brazil, having as basis the culture of peace and football with values. It aims to teach that those who show more respect for their peers and know how to resolve conflicts in a non-violent way are the ones with the most success in the sport.



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LIVELIHOODS

VI EDITION OF “EMPODERANDO REFUGIADAS” LAUNCHED

UNHCR, in partnership with the Global Compact Network Brazil and UN Women, launched the sixth edition of the Empoderando Refugiadas project which aims to promote the employment-based relocation of participants and their families. The last edition of the project facilitated work opportunities for 42 participants, supporting the relocation of 31 families, among which 12 had at least one person with a disability, for a total of 107 individuals.

In 2021, about 80 Venezuelan women living in the shelters in Boa Vista will participate in professional training in customer service and sales, followed by job interviews facilitated by the project with partner companies such as Instituto Lojas Renner, Unidas, Iguatemi, Sodexo, MRV, and Facebook.



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“D” DAY FOR INCLUSION OF LGBTQIA+ PEOPLE IN THE LABOR MARKET

UNHCR supported the event promoted by SETRABES (Secretariat of Labor and Social Welfare - Secretaria do Trabalho e Bem-Estar Social) for fostering the inclusion of LGBTQIA+ people in the local labour market. Two companies engaged with SINE (National employment system – Sistema Nacional de Emprego) were present during the event, conducting job interviews with candidates. The candidates included Venezuelan refugees and migrants living in shelters in Boa Vista, referred by UNHCR partners, AVSI and FFHI.

OPENING OF THE INDIGENOUS TRAINING AND CULTURAL CENTER

On 6 May, a ceremony marking the official opening of the Indigenous Training and Cultural Center adjacent to the Jardim Floresta indigenous shelter was held in partnership between UNHCR and FFHI (Fraternidade – Federação Humanitária Internacional), and within the scope of Operation Welcome. This space was restructured to offer educational and professional training for indigenous refugees and migrants in Boa Vista and to become a space for cultural events, professional education and language courses enabling the development of the indigenous people’s potentials and capacities, contributing to a better quality of life, social emancipation and income generation.

COMMUNICATING WITH COMMUNITIES

¿Quieres saber más sobre servicios y procesos que existen para las personas **refugiadas y migrantes** en Brasil?

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CHATBOT “CHAMA”

On 1 June, [UNHCR Brazil launched the first version of the automatic response WhatsApp “Chama”](#). The expression “Chama”, in the Venezuelan culture, means “young woman”, which is the identity of this artificial intelligence tool created to answer the main questions of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in the Brazilian territory, reducing the impacts of fake news that are being spread among this population. The chatbot Chama is linked to a WhatsApp Account (+551142301029) and has a basic script that answers the main concerns of the Venezuelan communities sheltered by Operation Welcome, featuring audio messages by Venezuelan refugees. Since its launch, Chama has received a total number of 392 unique messages.



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RADIO LAB

As part of a joint initiative between the Operation Welcome Task Force, UNHCR and AVSI Brazil, twelve volunteers from RadioLab’s Project “[La Voz de los Refugiados](#)”, including three indigenous Warao, travelled to Brasilia to attend a course promoted by the Brazilian Army’s Social Communication Center (CCOMSEx). The training focused on creation of notes and scripts, sound design, equipment handling, and creation of musical programming in the broadcasting context. Participants had the opportunity to further expand their skills on radio content creation, which would also help some of them to practice them in their careers.

FIELD UNITY - PACARAIMA

TRAINING SESSION WITH INDIGENOUS OUTREACH VOLUNTEERS (OVS)

UNHCR conducted a training session with four indigenous Outreach Volunteers (OVs) and one Fraternidade Sem Fronteiras (FSF) staff member on the Age, Gender and Diversity Approach and, in collaboration with UNFPA, a session on LGBTQIA+ rights. The objective of the Outreach Volunteer Programme is to enhance UNHCR’s access to refugees, asylum seekers and migrants to establish and maintain regular contact, effectively monitor their situation, understand their needs and concerns, and identify the most vulnerable amongst them. The programme also aims to promote and support community engagement, resilience, and active participation in the social, economic, and cultural life of the host community.



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WORLD REFUGEE DAY WITH INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES

In the framework of WRD, UNHCR celebrated with the Pemon-Taurepang Indigenous Communities of Tarau Paru, Bananal, Sakau-Mota and Sorocaima 1, participating in soccer and volleyball tournaments, and recreational activities organized by the Outreach Volunteers for children and adults. The opening ceremony of the activities was attended by the Brazilian Indigenous community leader, Fraternidade Sem Fronteiras, and ADRA.



UNHCR Partners in Roraima



UNHCR Brazil appreciates the support of all its donors, including:



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UNHCR Brazil appreciates the support and partnership with all other UN agencies, Brazilian authorities (at federal, state and municipal levels) and civil society organizations involved in the emergency response and in the regular programs of the Brazilian operation.

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