EDITION 8 INDIGENOUS POPULATION MARCH/APRIL | 2021



The March/April edition of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) report on indigenous refugees and migrants in Brazil updates the registration data and population profile, in addition to the actions developed by UNHCR during these months, such as the unprecedented publication about the Warao indigenous people in Brazil, emergency assistance care and training developed with teams from the safety networks.

UPDATE OF THE POPULATIONAL PROFILE:

3% 1% 1% WARAO PEMON KARIÑA 26% **TOTAL:** 100%

PROGRES RECORDS

BREAKDOWN OF LEGAL STATUS



49%



38%

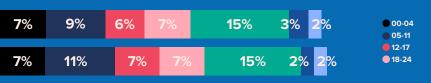


13% Refugee Persons

FEMALE - TOTAL 49%

69%

GENDER/AGE BREAKDOWN



MALE - TOTAL 51%

25-49 50-59 ● 60+

RECORD HISTORY¹



HIGHLIGHT DATA

LAUNCH OF AN UNPRECEDENTED ANTHROPOLOGICAL STUDY ON WARAO INDIGENOUS IN BRAZIL

In April, UNHCR launched a publication on the Warao in Brazil, which seeks to conceptualize and support local networks to understand the new challenges arising from the continuous flows of the refugee and migrant indigenous population.

The study gathers data from four years of field research carried out by the anthropologist Marlise Rosa, on the Warao in Brazil, excerpts from statements by indigenous people, references to anthropological literature produced in Venezuela and Brazil, and analyzes of national laws and international treaties referring to the rights of indigenous refugees and Venezuelan migrants.

In this sense, the publication seeks to offer practical guidelines through reflections on identified real cases, as well as a thorough analysis on the convergence between refuge, migration and indigenous laws, at the international and national levels.

To access the publication, simply go to the UNHCR website in the publications area².



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UNHCR'S ACTIVITIES WITH THE REFUGEE AND MIGRANT INDIGENOUS POPULATION IN BRAZIL



Pacaraima

During this period, UNHCR in partnership with Fraternity without Borders (FSF) and with the support of the Municipal Secretariat for Indigenous Affairs and Community Leadership (Tuxauas), launched the project of indigenous volunteer community promoters in the Pemon-Taurepang communities of Bananal, Sorocaima 1, Tarau-Paru and Sakau Mota, in the municipality of Pacaraima. This project aims to support UNHCR's efforts to strengthen community-based Protection with the Pemon indigenous people of Venezuela, welcomed in the aforementioned indigenous communities. The group of 4 volunteers is made up of 3 women and 1 man of the Pemon ethnic group and each of them will reach one of the communities, thus being able to address their specific needs. UNHCR and FSF have started the training phase for community promoters on the work and mandate of UNHCR and FSF.



Manaus

- In March 2021, 12 Warao families were included in the "Passport for Social Inclusion". The program is administered by the Municipal Government through the Municipal Secretariat for Women, Social Assistance and Citizenship (SEMASC), in which families receive assistance (between 50% to 70% of the minimum wage) for one year. The inclusion of families in the program is one of the axes that make up the Shelter Exit Strategy of the municipality, an initiative carried out in partnership by UNHCR, SEMASC and Caritas Manaus to improve the self-sufficiency of indigenous people and guarantee conditions for a sustainable exit from shelters for families with potential for local integration.
- In March 2021, UNHCR and Caritas ensured the inclusion of indigenous representatives in the project team of community promoters. The project is part of efforts to provide qualified information to refugee people so that they can transmit it to the community, as well as to identify protection risks faced in different areas of the city. The guarantee of indigenous representation among community promoters is part of the efforts of UNHCR and its partners to ensure criteria of age, gender and diversity in their activities.
- During the period of the report, a joint initiative between UNHCR, IOM, UNI-CEF and ADRA provided weekly transportation for refugees and migrants from priority groups for COVID-19 vaccination, according to the National Vaccination Plan. Seven people were supported during the period, four of them located in the Support Area of the Manaus Bus Terminal (PRA) and two living in rented houses. The initiative is in line with the Manaus Municipal Immunization Plan.
- On March 16, UNHCR Brazil delivered 100 hygiene kits to the Brazilian indigenous community located in Parque das Tribos, in Manaus, as part of the response to COVID-19. More than 4,000 Brazilian Indians of various ethnicities, such as Dessana, Marubo and Kokama, live in the area.



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On March 18, the Museum of the Brazilian Object, a UNHCR partner, returned to the classroom activities of the Warao handicraft project in indigenous shelters, after interruptions due to the pandemic. The resumption of activities follows all the COVID-19 prevention protocols. Since the return of activities, the project has delivered raw materials, as well as conducted nine workshops and meetings in order to optimize and qualify the production of handicrafts.

- During the period of the report, UNHCR supported the relocation of 16 Warao Indians who lived in the Support Area of the Manaus Bus Terminal (PRA) to the local shelter network. As part of the COVID-19 prevention protocol, families underwent medical screening and testing for the new coronavirus before being allocated to shelters.
- 193 indigenous refugees were supported with hygiene and cleaning kits donated by UNHCR. The items were distributed by the Municipal Secretariat for Women, Social Assistance and Citizenship (SEMASC). Of this total, 144 supported indigenous people live outside shelters in rented houses and 49 live in shelters managed by SEMASC.
- In March, 298 indigenous people received information through the UNHCR protection telephone regarding protection and access to services provided.

Belém

- On April 15, the mayor of Ananindeua, Manoel Carlos Antunes, signed a decree establishing the Municipal Intersectoral Committee for Reception and Assistance to the Warao. This committee will be attended by representatives of the Warao community, UNHCR, UNICEF, university, Judiciary, municipal secretariats and civil society. With the support of UNHCR, the decree was translated into Spanish and was published in the Official Gazette.
- On the day of the signing of the decree, the city of Ananindeua presented the proposal for the assignment of a space for the housing of the 138 Warao who live in an occupation in the municipality. To facilitate understanding of the proposal, UNHCR organized a meeting with the community and local authorities so that the Warao could speak about the basic needs to be met concerning safe relocation. The housing and allocation project will be detailed and agreed upon with the community and discussed at committee meetings.

Brasília

Within the framework of the R4V platform, through the regional protection sector and the Working Group on indigenous populations in Brazil, a regional meeting was held on April 20 with indigenous leaders from Venezuela living in Brazil, Colombia and Guyana in order to identify common challenges faced by such communities. The event had the active participation of more than 25 indigenous refugee and migrant leaders from various regions of the country supported by local organizations and universities.

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ARTICULATION OF LOCAL NETWORKS, CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING



Southeast/South and Bahia

Porto Alegre

The Reference Center of the Jesuit Service for Migrants and Refugees (SJMR) in Porto Alegre, with the support of UNHCR, articulated with key actors in the municipality the creation of a specific Working Group to centralize the articulation of the protection and local integration actions of the 30 indigenous Warao living in the city. The first meeting of the WG was on April 9 with the presence of equipment from the Municipal Secretariat for Social Development for indigenous and migrant populations, and social protection; Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul and Brazilian Red Cross.

Bahia

In April, UNHCR supported the local networks articulated by the Support Center for Migrants and Refugees (NAMIR), the University Network for Research and Migration Studies (RUPEM), the Support Network for Migrants in Bahia (RAMBA), the State University of Bahia and the Justice to accompany the reception of a group of Warao Indians who passed through the cities of Itabuna and Teixeira de Freitas in Bahia. Guidelines and best practices for welcoming this population were shared with the networks based on the experiences accumulated by the Agency and the Working Groups in the protection and integration of Venezuelan Indigenous Peoples in the South and Southeast.

Região Nordeste

UNHCR has developed training with the State Committees for the Protection of Refugees and Migrants in the northeastern region on the protection of refugees in Brazil to the local network in the northeastern region that is hosting and developing local integration actions. In total, 150 people received the training which addressed mechanisms of protection and local integration, refugee children and adolescents, refugee indigenous populations, among others.

Belém

- On April 7, 8, 13 and 14, UNHCR carried out the first part of a training cycle for the Secretariat of Social Assistance of Belém (FUNPAPA) and the Institute of Education of Brazil (IEB). The topics covered were: protection, gender-based violence, protection of people with specific needs and historical and anthropological aspects about the Warao population. Among those present were observers, partners, employees of the municipal shelter, among others. About 70 people who work daily with refugees and migrants participated in the four sessions.
- As per invitation of UNICEF, on April 14, UNHCR and a group of Warao monitors conducted training for ADRA. The training included information about the Warao people, dealing with their social organization, displacement history, the main protection problems faced by the group, in addition to sharing good practices in communicating with communities. ADRA develops a project in partnership with UNICEF working in Belém and Ananindeua with around 600 indigenous people.





FOCAL POINTS PER CITY



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O ACNUR, a Agência da ONU para Refugiados, agradece o apoio de:



portugues







































Com o apoio das seguintes organizações e parceiros da iniciativa privada:













O ACNUR Brasil agradece o grande apoio e parceria com todas as outras agências da ONU, autoridades brasileiras (a nível federal, estadual e municipal) e organizações da sociedade civil envolvidas na resposta de emergência e nos programas regulares da operação brasileira.



