

# LIVELIHOODS

## STRATEGY

2019 ————— 2021

B R A Z I L



**UNHCR**  
The UN Refugee Agency



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A close-up photograph of a man with dark hair, wearing a bright yellow long-sleeved shirt, looking down at a baby he is holding. The baby is wearing a red long-sleeved shirt and has its hand near its mouth. The background is a blurred crowd of people, suggesting an outdoor event or gathering. The overall lighting is soft and natural.

# SUMMARY

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Brazilian Federal Government has recognized 11.231 individuals as refugees and it received 161.057 requests of asylum presented by individuals coming from nearly 150 different countries by December 2018<sup>1</sup>. Additionally, due to the ongoing political and economic crisis in Venezuela, over 176.000 nationals from this country entered Brazil between 2017 and December 2018, with nearly 61.000 asylum requests and 26.000 requests of permanent residency in the country. By April 2019, over 7.000 Venezuelans had been benefited by the voluntary relocation program launched in 2018 by the Brazilian Federal Government, being redistributed amongst the country.

This document describes a three-year Livelihoods Strategy for the period of 2019 to 2021 that is set to support low-income refugees, asylum seekers and Venezuelans of various educational and professional backgrounds.

The fundamental approach of the strategy is to include PoC in public services and programs (in particular socio-economic and employment programs) and to stimulate a friendly environment in the private sector towards refugees and other PoC. Specific livelihoods interventions conducted by UNHCR and partners should be residual, except in case of emergencies, in which UNHCR will scale up its assistance to support governmental response.

This Livelihoods Strategy's main objective is to advocate with Governments

to include persons of concern<sup>2</sup> (PoC) into the public services of professional trainings, job placement and preparation for entrepreneurs and, at the same time, complement such services for the most vulnerable PoC through implementing partners.

To do so, UNHCR will work closely with the government at federal, state and municipal levels, UN agencies, civil society, Academia and the private sector. Moreover, this Strategy strives to overcome the high unemployment and informality rates in the labour market, growing xenophobia, lack of information by civil servants, banks and financial institutions, which hampers PoC's self-reliance.

In this sense, UNHCR's support is to be provided through interventions designed to (i) increase the chances these persons have of seizing socio-economic opportunities, which will ultimately result in them becoming self-reliant and economically independent, and (ii) to strengthen the private network of NGOs and businesses that support local integration. These interventions, although carried out by UNHCR, are complimentary to the efforts set forth by the Brazilian Federal Government.

The target of this strategy will be on low-income recognized refugees and asylum-seekers (unemployed and/or living with a household income of less than BRL3.000); refugees that have high educational profile (with low-income jobs outside their previous professional experience) and Venezuelans in need of protection and social assistance. To achieve the abovementioned outcomes, UNHCR will implement its activities in key intervention areas in order to produce the following specific results:

1 Refúgio em Números 4ª Edição - <https://www.justica.gov.br/seus-direitos/refugio/refugio-em-numeros>

2 UNHCR's persons of concern include refugees, returnees, stateless people, the internally displaced, asylum-seekers and other individuals in need of international protection.



- **Employment:** with the objective to foster PoC employment, UNHCR will: expand partnerships with businesses; strengthen existing job placement services offered by partners; expand the access of PoC to information related to employment and labor rights; expand the access to vocational training and foster employment of young PoC (through apprenticeships and internships).
- **Entrepreneurship:** UNHCR will encourage and foster entrepreneurial activities, by, for instance, capacity building and associating entrepreneurship to access to microcredit loans.
- **Cash Assistance:** The cash assistance programme will be improved, leading to enhancements in delivering financial assistance to PoC that can't satisfy their basic needs.
- **Financial Inclusion:** UNHCR will foster the financial inclusion of PoC, leading them to have access to financial education, bank services and microcredit.
- **Interiorization:** UNHCR will continue to support the interiorization (relocation) programme and will monitor interiorized persons' progress towards integration and self-reliance. Moreover, UNHCR will advocate for the adoption of public policies designed to expand shelter capacity to host spontaneous arrivals.
- **Education:** UNHCR will expand the number of academic diploma revalidations and will promote the access of PoC to superior education.
- **Research and Content Development:** UNHCR will promote continuously POC's socio-economic profiling assessment.
- **Advocacy:** At a macro level, UNHCR will support the Brazilian Federal Government on its efforts to develop a National Plan for Local Integration for Refugees. Following a more context-specific approach, UNHCR will work alongside state and local governments to develop Plans of Local Integration for Refugees and to expand dialogue between refugees and municipalities both at municipal and state levels. In addition, this Strategy is set to promote local and state committees for refugees' successes and overall activities.

Ultimately, this Strategy will lead to the empowerment of UNHCR's persons of concern in Brazil, lifting them from situations of social and economic vulnerability and paving their way towards self-reliance. Consequently, these individuals will become vectors of economic change in their communities, further supporting other persons of concern whilst contributing to local economies.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Livelihoods Unit Brazil acknowledges the contribution of numerous people to the development of this Livelihoods Strategy. The strategy draws on the work of UNHCR staff in Brazil as well as the partners that contributed to the drafting of this document with their valuable feedback.

A blurred background image showing several people walking outdoors. On the left, a person in a blue shirt and a yellow and white cap is eating a pink ice cream. In the center, a person in a blue t-shirt and dark pants is walking. On the right, a person in a red top is walking. The background is out of focus, showing trees and a building.

1.

# INTRODUCTION



# 1.

## INTRODUCTION

This Strategy seeks to provide the necessary support for our persons of concern (PoC) in order to secure access to socio-economic opportunities that will lead to self-reliance and economic autonomy. This support should be temporary aiming to address initial obstacles that would hamper socio-economic inclusion of our PoC in Brazil and to provide for long-term sustainable livelihoods, allowing UNHCR to responsibly disengage from its assistance activities. Self-sufficiency is a crucial step towards achieving durable solutions.

The fundamental approach of the strategy is to include PoC in public services and programs (in particular socio-economic and employment programs) and to stimulate a friendly environment in the private sector towards refugees and other PoC. Specific livelihoods interventions conducted by UNHCR and partners should be residual, except in case of emergencies,

in which UNHCR will scale up its assistance to support governmental response.

This document describes a three-year Livelihoods Strategy for the period of 2019 to 2021. This Strategy's rationale is based on UNHCR main findings and experiences collected through the last years and mainly on a recent socio-economic assessment of the refugee population, carried out during 2018. It is also based on participatory assessments, information gathered from public databases, a value chain analysis and market assessment on livelihoods for refugees and migrants in Brazil and UNHCR's registration database.

The Strategy aligns with the Multi-partner strategy (MYMP) developed in 2017, which provides for our PoC to be targeted by national Governmental socio-economic programs, thus gaining access to public services and enjoying the same rights local people are entitled. As foreseen by the MYMP, an AGD approach has been adopted by this strategy.

Additionally to this Introduction, this Strategy is divided in the following sections: Background; Situation Analysis; Access to Assets and Services; Current Livelihoods Interventions; Strategic Framework; Implementation Plan; Monitoring and Evaluation Framework and Annexes.



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2.

**BACKGROUND**



Small plaque on the wall to the left of the mural.

VENEZUELA

## 2.

## BACKGROUND

Brazil is the biggest country of South America, with a population of 209,3 million people<sup>3</sup>. As a Federative Republic, Brazil has three levels of government: Federal (national), State (26 states and the Federal District) and Municipality (over 5.000 municipalities across the country's territory).

According to Brazil's Institute for Geography and Statistics (IBGE), 52.8 million Brazilians lived with less than BRL 406<sup>4</sup> per month in 2017 (the minimum wage in 2017 was of BRL 937), 44.8% of which lived in the Northeast, a total two million more than in the previous year.<sup>5</sup> Despite these numbers, Brazil's economy shows apparent signs of recovery, although the economic crisis persists. Unemployment rates have fallen from 13.7% in the first trimester of 2017, to 11.9% by the third trimester of 2018, and the country's GDP growth rates have risen from -2% in the first trimester of 2017 to 1.4% in the second trimester of 2018. However, lowering numbers of unemployment are attributed to

3 World Bank, 2018. Available at: <https://data.worldbank.org/country/brazil?locale=pt>

4 In its calculations, IBGE adopts the baseline proposed by the World Bank, which considers to be poor all of those individuals whose daily income is up to US\$ 5,50/day – which in 2017 was equivalent to BRL 406/month.

5 For more information, see: <https://g1.globo.com/jornal-nacional/noticia/2018/12/05/no-brasil-152-milhoes-vivem-abaixo-da-linha-da-extrema-pobreza-diz-ibge.ghtml>

a rise in informality and self-employment in the labour market, which are also side effects of this economic crisis. Although there was an increase of 5% in formal employment in Brazil during 2018, only 59.2% of employed individuals work formally<sup>6</sup>.

In 2018, the Observatory for International Migration (*ObMigra*)<sup>7</sup> published a report containing labour data and trends in Brazil regarding foreign workers. The document reveals numbers of employed migrant workers that shows a small recovery in the job market: from 127.166 in 2015, to 112.681 in 2016, reaching 122.069 in 2017.

The Brazilian economic success that characterized the beginning of 2010s had been a pull factor for immigration, which boomed from 2010 to 2015. Haitians were the main nationality of the new arrivals reaching almost 100.000 individuals at the end of 2014. As a result, new approaches to migration were adopted to face the increasing flows. In 2012, a humanitarian visa was established aiming to support the Haitians, in 2014 for the Syrians and in 2017 for Venezuelans, allowing them to stay two years in the country and to enjoy the same rights as residents.

A legislative advance was reached in 24 May 2017, with the sanction of a new migratory law (Law 13.455) that overcame strict measures established by the previous 1980 law introduced during dictatorial times. The new migratory law established an migrant-friendly approach, providing socio-economic rights for immigrants and refugees, and launched a new visa and residence migratory scheme

6 Information available at: <http://www.brasil.gov.br/noticias/emprego-e-previdencia/2019/02/mercado-de-trabalho-formal-cresce-5-no-pais>

7 Information available at: <http://obmigra.mte.gov.br/index.php/relatorio-anual p.113>





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allowing any foreigner, documented or undocumented, to apply for a residence permit in Brazil, according to different migratory pathways established by the Law.

UNHCR is paying special attention to the Venezuelan population due to the ever-increasing influx of Venezuelans coming to Brazil. In fact, from the 33.866 requests for asylum presented to Brazil's Federal Police in 2017, 17.865 (approximately 53%) came from Venezuelan. This trend continued in 2018 as by November 2018 51.433 requests for asylum were introduced by Venezuelans, representing approximately 64% of the total 80.057 asylum requests that had been presented to Brazil's Federal Police by December 2018.

A 2017 study commissioned by the National Council for Immigration (CNIg)

with UNHCR's support<sup>8</sup> has shed light over the socio-demographic and work profile of Venezuelans living in the city of Boa Vista by interviewing 664 Venezuelans. Of the interviewees, 72% were between 20 and 39 years old, 59.1% had no partner (including widowers and divorced persons) and 53.2% had come to Brazil with no family. In educational terms, 46.1% had either completed High School or not finished Superior Education whereas 31.9% had completed some form of Superior Education with either undergrad diplomas (28.4%) or postgrad certificates (3.5%). As for their work experiences, 35.4% were unemployed,

8 SIMÕES, Gustavo da Frota et al. Perfil Sociodemográfico e Laboral da imigração venezuelana no Brasil. Curitiba: CRV, 2014.

31.7% were self-employed and only 28.4% were employed. Of those who had found some form of employment, only 47% possessed an employment record book. Approximately 52% worked more than 40 hours a week, 50.4% earned less than a minimum wage and 29.7% had suffered some form of discrimination in their workplace. 77% stated that they would be willing to be relocated from Roraima if the government supported the process and nearly 80% linked their willingness to relocate to the possibility of securing employment.

The same study points that the Warao indigenous population sustains a gendered labour division where begging is mostly a female activity and men mostly sell handicraft and/or work informally. Many indigenous children had little access to public education due to lacking documentation and knowledge of the Portuguese language. The research points to indigenous persons living on the streets, with little access to public services, exposed to various vulnerabilities such as violence and diseases. These vulnerabilities were lessened by the work conducted by civil society, whose efforts provided food and learning opportunities to children. Despite the difficulties faced in Roraima, most indigenous persons expressed little desire to be relocated.

Given the overburdening of the state of Roraima caused by the massive influx of Venezuelans, UNHCR has been working alongside the Government of Brazil (GoB) and other UN Agencies since April 2018 to find solutions and to respond to the humanitarian crisis. The main response has been the relocation of Venezuelans on a voluntary basis from Roraima to other states in Brazil, commonly known as “*Interiorização*”.

The Brazilian Army is coordinating the “*Operação Acolhida*” in Roraima by delegation of the Federal Committee of

Emergency Assistance<sup>9</sup>. As part of this operation, the Army, alongside other Federal Government’s Ministries, UNHCR and other UN Agencies, manages the Documentation and Screening Center (PTRIG) in Pacaraima, a town bordering with Venezuela through which most Venezuelans arrive in the country and also another PTRIG in Boa Vista. The Army is responsible for providing infrastructure, food and security to the 13 Reception centers set out in Roraima, 9 of which are currently being managed by UNHCR and its implementing partners through a Cooperation Agreement signed with Ministry of Citizenship. UNHCR registers and profiles all who wish to be interiorized, mapping vacancies in shelters and supporting civil society to accommodate and to integrate them. *Interiorization* has three different modalities: “shelter-to-shelter”, “employment based” and “family reunion”.

The program relies on the existence of vacancies in public and private shelters located in the receiving cities. Each shelter provides up to three months of stay to promote socio-economic inclusion and to create more vacancies for the continuation of the reallocation program. Reception Centers are encouraged to have a work plan to foster income generation opportunities and self-reliance for Venezuelans. In addition, UNHCR together with other UN Agencies is assisting Venezuelans relocated from Roraima to other Brazilian states with Portuguese classes, vocational training and access to employment. UNHCR directly supports shelters and integration activities implemented by partners. Moreover, UNHCR is implementing a CBI strategy in order to increase housing opportunities for relocated Venezuelans.

The profile of interiorized Venezuelans has been assessed by UNHCR through

<sup>9</sup> Created by Law nº 13.684/2018, and regulated by Presidential Decree nº 9.286/2018.

a sample population of 1059 individuals, selected based on their age (18-59) which makes them readily available for job market insertion. From this population, 60% were male and 40% were female. 24% of the males completed Elementary School, 61% completed High School, 5% completed Technical Studies and 9% finished some sort of Higher Education. These individuals hold a higher level of education than the average Brazilian, with 61% having completed their high school studies against the 30.4% held by Brazilians as shown by IBGE's 2018 statistics.<sup>10</sup> Females hold higher numbers of completion of higher education compared to their male counterparts with 13%, but hold lower figures of completion of high school studies with a representativeness of 51%.

Interiorized persons are mostly young as nearly 46% have between 18 and 28 years of age, and another 35% are between 29 and 39 years old. These persons have travelled mostly in groups, with 88% of women and 54% of males relocated alongside family members. Family groups are predominantly composed by a focal point with 1-3 relatives with an incidence of 57%. Approximately 46% of men were alone at the time of their resettlement within the country, a figure that strongly contrasts with the 12% of alone women. Their work experiences are varied. Some 26% of men declared to have worked as drivers, mechanics, cleaners and cashiers, another 23% claimed to have worked with construction, followed by 10% that have worked as chefs, kitchen assistants and butchers, and other 8% had worked as technicians. Approximately 20% of women have worked as secretaries,

<sup>10</sup> This number reflects the educational level of individuals with 25 years of age or older, combining the categories of completed high school education and unfinished higher education. Source: < <https://cidades.ibge.gov.br/brasil/pesquisa/45/77295>>

cashiers, receptionists and cleaners, another 11% declared to have experience with sales, 11% have worked as cooks, bakers or kitchen assistants, and another 9% have worked as entrepreneurs.

Data collected from 2017 released by the National Committee for Refugees (CONARE) indicates an extremely diverse profile of recognized refugees living in Brazil represented by over 80 nationalities. Amongst these, Syrians, Congolese, Colombians and Palestinians were predominant. By the end of 2017, 52% of refugees were settled in São Paulo state, 17% lived in the state Rio de Janeiro and 8% in the state of Paraná. In this sense, there's a concentration of refugees in southeast region of Brazil, the country's wealthiest region. By the end of 2017, of the 10.145 recognized refugees living in Brazil, 70% were identified as male, and 30% were female.<sup>11</sup> Another 1.081 individuals were recognized as refugees by November 2018, reaching 11.226 recognitions by the GoB.

Refugees' profiles have been assessed through a UNHCR commissioned assessment on refugees' socio-economic baseline in Brazil that began in 2018, having conducted 487 *in-site* households interviews with individuals in 14 different cities located in 8 different states across the country, of which most are Syrian (153) and Congolese (116). 88% had between 18 and 49 years of age, nearly 96% lived in cities equipped with public services and 91% have claimed to have Brazilian friends. As for their educational background, 50% had completed their high school studies and 34% had concluded their superior education. Regarding employability, nearly 58% had found some form of employment and of these 68% worked

<sup>11</sup> For more information see: [http://www.justica.gov.br/news/de-10-1-mil-refugiados- apenas-5-1-mil-continuum-no-brasil/refugio-em-numeros\\_1104.pdf](http://www.justica.gov.br/news/de-10-1-mil-refugiados- apenas-5-1-mil-continuum-no-brasil/refugio-em-numeros_1104.pdf)



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in areas unrelated to their professional background. 25% were out of the job market. Approximately 73% of all interviewees worked more than 40 hours per week<sup>12</sup>.

Of the 392 that provided information related to their total household income, nearly 80% earn less than BRL3.000 (with 30% of them earning less than BRL1.000), 21% earn more than BRL3.000 and 4% earn more than BRL5.000. Interviewees listed some barriers towards employment in Brazil, with 95 mentioning racism, 18 referring to the lack of childcare services and 54 lacking documentation, whilst lacking financial resources was also identified by 93 refugees as an obstacle towards securing employment. Some 91%

lived in rented homes, 7% owned their residences and less than 2% lived in leased homes. 67% affirm to lack the financial means to cover their housing costs.

Although the Brazilian Refugee Law ensures refugees and asylum seekers the right to work, which presents a great advantage in terms of livelihoods programming, there are practical barriers hampering PoC's access to the labour market. A market assessment on livelihoods opportunities for refugees and migrants initiated in 2018, commissioned by the ILO and conducted in collaboration with UNHCR by way of sampling in the cities of São Paulo, Boa Vista, Manaus and Porto Alegre identified challenges faced by migrants, asylum seekers and refugees that hamper their ability to thrive in Brazilian cities. Access to work is especially difficult due to the economic instabilities in the country, PoC's

<sup>12</sup> It is worth noting that the Brazilian Labour law establishes the weekly workload as a maximum of 44 work hours.

underdeveloped Portuguese language skills, lacking availability and/or knowledge of accessible vocational training, difficulties in revalidating diplomas, untailed job placement agencies unaccustomed to dealing with PoC, decentralized job placement systems across the country, and difficult access to childcare. Entrepreneurs' ambitions are cut short by their unawareness of the formalities of registering businesses, and by regulatory restrictions that hamper their access to credit and microcredit, like as the requisitioning of documents such as proof of permanent residence.

Interviewees have complained of difficult access to recruitment agencies' services, which encourages informal job-search methods that are ineffective and often dangerous, particularly to women. When these services are made available by NGOs, job offers are decentralized and uncoordinated, announced only when the offer is made available and on *ad hoc* basis. Interviewees demonstrated unawareness of the existence of organizations capable of capacitating them for market insertion such SENAC and SEBRAE, and of their labour rights. There is also lacking information by the private sector on specificities pertaining hiring processes' for refugees and migrants.

Regarding social assistance, refugees are entitled access to the same social programs as nationals, in special *Bolsa-Família*. The main gateway to social benefits is the Social Single Registration (*Cadastro Único - CadÚnico*). In 2018, there were 86.175 foreigners enrolled in *CadÚnico* and 36.375 were entitled access to *Bolsa-Família*. Similarly to employment, however, although Brazilian law does not pose any legal barriers that block access to social assistance, there are practical impediments to the enjoyment of this right. The abovementioned 2018 socio-economic assessment of recognized refugees indicates that only 14.7% had access

to *Bolsa-Família*, while 82.2% chose not to inform whether they had access to any social benefit which may indicate lack of awareness of the existence of such programs.

In terms of durable solutions, local integration is predominant, and as of now, this is most likely the only way refugees and asylum seekers may access long-term sustainable solutions in Brazil. There were no resettlements activities from and to Brazil in 2018. For 2019, the GoB plans to receive up to 28 refugees from Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras located in Panama. These resettlement offers are for family groups only. Presently, repatriation is not prioritized by the operation given the continuing instabilities in PoC's countries of origin. However, given the possibility of a peaceful resolution to the political instabilities in Venezuela, UNHCR might eventually engage in the voluntary return of Venezuelans by 2021.

UNHCR's Brazil Operation has chosen programming interventions mainly through implementing partners based on the following states: São Paulo (Cáritas, NGO Compassiva, NGO I Know My Rights - IKMR), Rio de Janeiro (Cáritas), Paraná (Cáritas), Rio Grande do Sul (Associação Padre Antônio Vieira - ASAV), Distrito Federal (Instituto Migrações e Direitos Humanos - IMDH), Amazonas (Cáritas), Roraima (NGO Federação Humanitária Internacional – FRATERNIDADE, Associação Voluntários para o Serviço Internacional (AVSI), Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC), IMPACT and Jesuítas - SJMR), and Aldeias Infantis in different states. Recently, new UNHCR implementing partners started supporting the Operation, such as ADRA, Missão Paz and Instituto Mana.

Aldeias Infantis, Caritas São Paulo, Caritas Rio de Janeiro, Caritas Paraná, ASAV, Caritas Manaus and IMDH have been receiving UNHCR funding to implement its CBI strategy. These organizations

have been providing multi-purpose cash assistance (MPG) to satisfy basic needs and other types of cash assistance for specific needs to the most vulnerable PoC. In 2018, 3.229 MPGs were given to 4.116 beneficiaries. In Manaus, 266 interiorized Venezuelans families received CBI in order to pay for their rent and for their household supplies and expenses. In total, more

than 9.300 people were benefited by the cash assistance program in the country.

Additionally, by April 2019, UNHCR has supported more than 260 relocated Venezuelans through the “Employment based” modality<sup>13</sup>, with one-off cash grants to help them with first need expenses during the first month in the new city, before receiving their first salary.

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<sup>13</sup> This modality relocates Venezuelans to cities throughout Brazil where they have been offered job opportunities.



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# 3.

## SITUATION ANALYSIS





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## 3.

SITUATION  
ANALYSIS

## 3.1. WORK IN THE COUNTRY OF ASYLUM

The Brazilian Refugee Law (Law n. 9.474/97) provides for both refugees and asylum seekers the right to access legal employment. However, there are barriers that hamper the access of refugees to the labour market, in addition to the other challenges existing for the entire Brazilian population.

The main document to access work is the work permit and social security card (*CTPS*), which is accessible to refugees (with the presentation of a foreigner's identity card) and asylum seekers (with the presentation of the provisional protocol). According to the Decree n. 9.277/2018, asylum seekers will have access to a provisional identity card, facilitating not only the access to work permit, but also eliminating the suspicions that many businesspersons had with the fragility of the provisional protocol as an identity document.

Public job placement services are done exclusively by states and municipalities in accordance to the Ministry of Economy's guidelines. The National Employment System (*SINE*) is responsible for coordinating states' and municipalities' various initiatives, and, through this system, Public Employment Agencies spread across the country become connected. The Ministry of Economy has one online platform called "Emprega Brasil" (Hire Brazil), to facilitate

employment and another platform called "Escola do Trabalhador" which offers online vocational trainings free of charge.

The role of the Employment Agencies remains important, as it is in these agencies that, in theory, the worker receives guidance on how to be prepared for a job interview, his/her rights and duties, and a letter of referral to the employer, making the process more reliable. The system has about 1.600 stations throughout the country.

However, experience has shown that, with refugees, these agencies are mostly unprepared to deal with the job demands, be it in reason of linguistic, cultural and administrative difficulties, or due to the lack of training and employee awareness. In this sense, the Livelihoods Unit has been operating to expand some of these agencies' capacities so they may better assist PoC, as it is the case with São Paulo's CAT Luz Employment Agency.

Private Employment Agencies are common and used by most workers with medium or high qualification. Some of these Agencies are UNHCR partners and have had some success in securing jobs for refugees, such as the "RH Project" Agency. However, they are mainly online platforms in which the refugee registers and accesses job vacancies without receiving any preparation for the labour market. In addition, other organizations also engage in job referral activities, enhancing the chances of PoC finding employment, such as PARR (Programa de Apoio para a Recolocação dos Refugiados).

Technical qualifications in Brazil are mainly carried out by the "S" System, which are semi-private institutions that receive funding from private companies. The main institutions are SENAI (industry), SENAC (Commerce), SENAT (Transportation) and



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SENAR (Agriculture). These institutions map annually companies' demands for professionals by economic sectors and plan the availability of courses. There is a quota of free of charge courses that these institutions may offer. In addition, there are other institutions that offer private vocational courses, including several Workers' Unions.

The "S" System poses excellent opportunities for refugees because it offers vocational courses, as well as Portuguese classes for foreigners. It is crucial for UNHCR that partnerships with the "S" System institutions are established in states with a greater presence of refugees so they can access free courses. SEBRAE is the semi-private institution that supports the development of entrepreneurship in Brazil. They have agencies throughout the country and, besides offering courses,

they also provide consulting to small entrepreneurs. *SEBRAE* is a vital partner that has been supporting the training of many refugee entrepreneurs.

To access employment, refugees and asylum-seekers need the work permit and social security card (*CTPS*), which for asylum seekers is valid for one year (which is the same expiration date for the provisional protocol of the asylum claim). However, both documents are renewable for successive periods of one year until CONARE's decision is made. Both asylum seekers and refugees have access to unemployment insurance in Brazil. This benefit is accessible to those who have worked in the formal labor market for at least 18 months over a period of 24 months, in the amount of one to three minimum wages paid between three and five months. This benefit represents an important buffer

against the impacts of unemployment and it is a source of livelihood while refugees and asylum seekers look for another job.

The Brazilian Labour Law establishes a series of rights for waged workers, such as annual paid leave with  $\frac{1}{3}$  more than the salary, weekly paid rest, preferably on Sundays, 13<sup>o</sup> salary (payment of an extra salary to the worker at the end of the year), and protection against accidents and occupational diseases. All waged workers are compulsorily enrolled in Social Security, making monthly payments to the social security system. The companies also contribute to the maintenance of the system. While insured by Social Security, the worker will be protected and will be able to receive benefits such as disability insurance, work-accident insurance and retirement due to disability or contribution/age. Given the existing guarantees, the access to the formal labour market for refugees and asylum seekers who have a profile for waged employment is very important.

However, securing employment through companies can be challenging for PoC and migrants, as companies tend to be cautious when hiring these individuals due to fear of being penalized for failing to comply with hiring processes such as the eSocial. This platform's design allows for businesses to inform the government of their tax, pension and labour-related responsibilities, and it ensures that companies register the employee, providing the PoC's personal information such as name, ID number and date of birth. However, employers cannot register asylum seekers (holders of Refuge Protocol ID) in the eSocial Platform because their identification number is longer than that of nationals. This impossibility to register IDs leads employers to believe that they are not allowed to hire asylum seekers.

Nonetheless, an explanatory note<sup>14</sup> expedited by the Federal Revenue Office in 2016, clarifies the complexities of hiring asylum seekers affirming that these individuals are eligible to be registered in the platform.

Being able to access information on rights and duties is crucial to refugees, because unawareness of their rights makes them more vulnerable to exploitation processes on the labour market. It is of great importance that they look for unions of their professional categories and for Offices of the Ministry of Economy to receive orientation and, in cases of rights violations, to be able to file complaints before Offices of the Ministry of Economy and before the Labour Prosecutors' Offices or even alongside Workers' Unions. In any case, the worker can seek the Labour Justice to initiate a judicial action against the company that supposedly violated the rights (including of refugees and asylum seekers).

Self-employment can be characterized by informal workers and/or autonomous workers, by individual service providers, cooperative workers, workers in a solidarity economy system (self-management of companies, collective work system) and individual micro-entrepreneurs (MEI). Informal workers are not governed by Labour Laws and do not enjoy the same rights of those formally employed. However, they may access social security benefits if they contribute to Social Security. Refugees mainly engage in informal work due to the difficulties associated to finding formal jobs. Nonetheless, despite of the difficulties and risks associated with

<sup>14</sup> Treasury Ministry/ Federal Revenue Office (*Ministério da Fazenda / Receita Federal*). "Non-acceptance of Refuge Protocol for enrollment in Esocial" (*Não aceitação do Protocolo de Refúgio para cadastramento no Esocial*). Nota Digid/Cofis nº 105, 21 November 2016.

self-employment, refugees who have an entrepreneurial profile tend to become self-reliant. Those who work in cooperatives or as self-employed can achieve the same outcome if they have proper managerial skills. Thus, training refugees on self-employment is important, whether autonomous, cooperative or entrepreneur.

It is of fundamental importance for the success of our actions to systematically collect information on the labour market. UNHCR has been approaching Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium (SVMAC) and ObMigra in search for partnerships so that it has permanent information on developments on the labour market for refugees by crossing information between existing systems.<sup>15</sup> Moreover, UNHCR is supporting a socio-economic assessment of asylum-seekers that is being conducted by IPEA (Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada).

The formal jobs for refugees and asylum seekers in Brazil generally have a low professional profile, leading PoC to take up positions in the sectors of cleaning and maintenance, construction, as production line operators, as attendants in restaurants and in trade. Furthermore, some specific sectors have specialized in hiring foreigners, such as animal slaughterhouses.

The majority of refugees and asylum seekers with high educational and professional qualifications do not find

employment in their original professional areas. Failure to validate their diplomas and technical certificates and also the difficulty to enroll in professional counselling services are major obstacles for PoC to access a proper job. Formal employment for women is especially difficult, because they cannot be inserted in many occupations held by men that rely on one's physical strength. Many end up working with household related jobs as others find jobs in commerce and services sectors. Women's work opportunities often expose them to additional vulnerabilities, particularly when involving domestic work, where their labour rights are not respected and where in some situations, they are subject to sexual harassment. Although domestic work has been regulated by Complementary Law n. 150/2015, which equates the rights of domestic workers to other workers, this sector still has high rates of informality and people who work in it remain subject to abuse. Women with children face an additional barrier in integrating to the job market as the access to free childcare services is very limited.

Many PoC work in the informal market without access to labour rights, especially as street vendors. In such situations, they sustain low incomes, being subject to greater occupational hazards (especially accidents) and, in cities with no regulation that allows one to work on the streets, being subject to having their goods seized by the government. MEI brought guarantees to informal workers by enabling vendors to be registered, which requires paying a small monthly fee and it allows for one to become insured by the Social Security, accessing benefits such as sick leave.

Many refugees and asylum seekers who often have higher professional qualifications become entrepreneurs when unable to access formal employment in their previous occupations, especially with

<sup>15</sup> SVMAC (Sérgio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium) is implemented by UNHCR in cooperation with Brazilian Universities and CONARE (National Committee for Refugees). In this cooperation agreement with the two institutions, UNHCR establishes a Term of Reference with objectives and responsibilities for the insertion of three lines of action: education, research and extension. In addition to promote university-level education on refugee-related issues, the Chair also aims to promote academic training for professors and for students on the same topic. Direct work with refugees on projects is also defined as a high priority of these partnerships.

gastronomy, in restaurants specializing in typical cuisine from their countries of origin. This is most evident amongst Syrians.

### 3.2. LIVELIHOOD ZONES

Data released by CONARE (2017) shows that from the 10.145 refugees, 52% lived in São Paulo state, 17% lived in Rio de Janeiro state and 8% resided in the state of Paraná. Venezuelan mainly cross the border through Roraima state, where most are currently concentrated. There is also a high number of Venezuelans living in the city of Manaus, with nearly 11.500 requests of asylum before the Federal Police.

As the refugee, asylum seekers and Venezuelans populations are mainly concentrated in the Southeast (mostly in São Paulo and in Rio de Janeiro) and in the North (primarily in Boa Vista and in Manaus), this Strategy will focus predominantly in these regions. Detail on these locations' economy and job market is provided below.

São Paulo is the richest state in Brazil, responsible for 31,9% of the national GDP (IBGE 2017). The city of São Paulo contributes to 11% of the national GDP and it has a diversified economy composed by industrial activities, being the manufacture of food products the leading activity, followed by chemical, petroleum and biofuels, automotive, machinery and equipment production; storage and logistic services; civil construction, commerce and a well-established touristic industry. This variety translates into abundant work opportunities to our PoC, whether in industries, the provision of services or in general commerce.

Rio de Janeiro, the country's second largest GDP, had its economy shrunk by 2.2% in 2017. The Industrial and Service economic sectors shrunk considerably in the period, to a total of 1,2% and 3,7% respectively. These sectors represented 76.2% and 23.3% of Rio de Janeiro's GDP. Moreover, it should be stressed that three Industrial subsectors had a good performance at the



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year, namely, Mining (+3.2%), Manufacturing (+4.8%), and Energy (+2.9%), and only Civil Construction reported a decrease of 9.4%<sup>16</sup>.

Roraima has one of the lowest GDP amongst states, with a productive base composed mostly by agriculture, cattle raising and extractivism. Because Boa Vista's population corresponds to two-thirds of Roraima, it holds most of the provision of public services and employment opportunities. Public administration represents over 50% of the labour market, followed by commerce, service sector, industry and farming activities.

Finally, Manaus is the capital of the state of Amazonas and the main urban, financial and industrial center of the Northern Region of Brazil. It is the most populous city in the Amazon, with more than 2 million inhabitants, with a significant impact on tourism, education, finance, industry, media, research, technology, and entertainment throughout the region, receiving a regional metropolis classification. Manaus has a great potential for labour insertion in the sectors of commerce and of services, mainly in tourism, hotels and food. Moreover, this potential is enhanced by the growing Manaus Free Trade Zone, conceived as a free import and export trade area with special tax incentives, which is an important economic force in the Amazon region.

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16 Fundação Ceperj. Produto Interno Bruto do Estado do Rio de Janeiro. *PIB do Estado do Rio de Janeiro caiu 2,2% em 2017*. Available at: <http://www.ceperj.rj.gov.br/ceep/pib/pib.html>. Accessed on 08 March 2019.

3.3. LIVELIHOODS GROUPS AND ASSETS

REFUGEE AND ASYLUM-SEEKER POPULATION				
	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<b>Human Assets</b>	<p>Refugees are predominantly young. 88% of interviewed refugees were between 18-49 years old.</p> <p>Refugees are educated: 50% have concluded their High School studies and 34% have concluded their university education (interviewed refugees).</p> <p>Nearly 90% of interviewed refugees are at least bilingual, speaking Portuguese in addition to their native language.</p> <p>84% of interviewed refugees wish to remain in the country.</p> <p>57.5% of interviewed refugees have secured some form of work.</p> <p>79% of interviewed refugees are keen to become entrepreneurs.</p> <p>According to partners with job referral services, hiring companies report lower turnover rates by refugees compared to nationals.</p> <p>PoC are flexible to adapt their preferences to engage in low skilled jobs.</p>	<p>Little knowledge over the Brazilian labour Market.</p> <p>20% of interviewed refugees were unemployed</p> <p>Nearly 22% of interviewed refugees wished to study in Brazil but lacked the financial resources to do so.</p> <p>Only 14 of Refugees have managed to revalidate their diplomas</p> <p>Lack of financial access hampers the access to vocational training.</p> <p>19% of interviewed refugees lack financial resources to seek jobs through agencies.</p> <p>Difficulties with the language for Asylum seekers</p>	<p>Market assessments indicate great opportunities for refugees in the hospitality sector in São Paulo.</p> <p>The Hospitality Job Market is expected to have the greatest growth for 2019 (ILO/UNHCR study).</p> <p>Cities hosting most refugees offer many opportunities for entrepreneurs (e.g. São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro).</p> <p>Companies are increasingly adopting policies of diversity in their hiring processes.</p> <p>Use of CBI to support education and entrepreneurship of PoC.</p> <p>Expanded funding to NGO <i>Compassiva</i> for increased diploma revalidation rates.</p> <p>SVMAC provides PoC with opportunities related to education, legal services and health.</p> <p>High number of NGOs working with PoC</p> <p>Local Committee of Migrants and refugees – increasing engagement of local governments on the design of policies towards this population.</p>	<p>High rates of unemployment and informality in the market which can lead to exploitation of PoC.</p> <p>Fail and loss of investments by refugee entrepreneurs.</p> <p>20% of interviewed refugees reported that xenophobia affects their job searches.</p> <p>Bureaucracy on diploma revalidation and difficulties in accessing professional boards.</p> <p>CONARE’S extensive backlog in its RSD decisions forces PoC to wait excessively long periods to receive a final decision.</p>



	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<b>Social &amp; Political Assets</b>	<p>81% of the interviewed refugees claimed to have Brazilian friends.</p> <p>92% of the interviewed refugees classified their communication in Portuguese as satisfactory.</p> <p>Many interviewed refugees have cited social networks within their communities.</p> <p>Existence of organized groups for rights movements and to influence public policies.</p> <p>Existence of networks gathering friends usually from the same nationality</p>	<p>Cultural difficulties in adapting to Brazilian realities.</p> <p>Lack of information related to access and existence of public social services and public social assistance.</p> <p>Lack of Brazilian networking for Asylum seekers new arrivals</p>	<p>Participation of Community councils in cities' administrations (e.g. SP)</p> <p>NGOs initiatives that promote bonding activities to familiarize Brazilians and refugees with each other (e.g. Refugee Cup and Thematic Fairs)</p> <p>New migration law entitled migrants and refugee to freedom of association.</p> <p>New policy from Ministry of Citizenship promoting the establishment of Reception Centers targeting Migrants and Refugees</p> <p>PoC are entitled access to public services and social assistance policies equally to Brazilians.</p>	<p>Refugees and immigrants are not allowed exercise political rights in Brazil.</p> <p>Rising nationalism and xenophobia across the country.</p> <p>Insecurity and violence in urban contexts.</p> <p>Xenophobia and/or lack of knowledge by civil servants related to refugee law hinders the access of refugees to public services.</p>
<b>Financial Assets</b>	<p>80% of interviewed refugees have bank accounts</p> <p>7% of interviewed refugees have attained full economic self-reliance, allowing them to have ownership over their homes</p> <p>21% of refugees' household income is greater than BRL3.000 and 4% earn more than BRL5.000.</p> <p>91% of interviewed refugees live in rented homes.</p>	<p>25% of interviewed refugees were not working.</p> <p>80% of refugees' household income is less than 3000,00 BRL/month.</p> <p>67% of interviewed refugees affirm to lack the financial means to cover their housing costs.</p> <p>Nearly 70% of interviewed refugees send money to their families abroad.</p> <p>Asylum seekers have difficult access to banking services, and access to savings account is even more difficult.</p> <p>Lacking education on finance management.</p>	<p>The financial services offered by the <i>Banco do Brasil</i> allow for PoC to open savings accounts.</p> <p>Banks, such as Santander, have expressed interest to offer micro loans for refugee entrepreneurs.</p> <p>New Decree for Asylum Seekers ID establishes right to bank services.</p> <p>Institutions such as CrediPaz reported that refugees and migrants are among their most reliable clients on micro-credit loans (ILO&amp;UNHCR Market Assessment).</p> <p>New UNHCR partnership with FSP will enhance financial inclusion for CBI beneficiaries by providing prepaid cards.</p> <p>Refugees and nationals have equal access to public programs of cash transfer.</p> <p>UNHCR's CBI strategy offers PoC an opportunity to cover basic needs and to invest in their entrepreneurial activities</p>	<p>High bank fees for financial operations.</p> <p>Requisition of proof of residency constitutes an impediment towards access to Bank services.</p> <p>Continuity of the economic crisis and high unemployment rate</p> <p>Risk of contracting debt due to high interest rates in Brazil</p> <p>The lack of clear guidelines by the Central Bank on lending microcredit to asylum seekers leads financial institutions to demand that internationals hold a RNM (National Migratory Registration) document to access to it. (ILO&amp;UNHCR Market Assessment).</p> <p>Lack of access to information on how to register as a micro entrepreneur coupled with strict regulatory measures that demand an income tax return document encourages performance in informality thus exposing PoC's businesses to risks associated with this irregularity. (ILO&amp;UNHCR Market Assessment).</p>

<p><b>Physical Assets</b></p>	<p>Most of refugees live in cities equipped with basic public services and adequate infrastructures.</p> <p>70% of interviewed refugees live in rented homes and 6% of refugees own their houses.</p>	<p>19% of interviewed refugees share their homes with 5 to 9 individuals.</p> <p>High costs of housing (rent) and transportation in big cities.</p> <p>Lack of public policies by municipalities on sheltering individuals in situation of vulnerability.</p>	<p>Municipalities are actively engaged with creating policies aimed at providing shelter to individuals in situation of vulnerability.</p> <p>Engagement with committees that design policies aimed at integrating migrants and refugees.</p>	<p>Risk of living on the streets or in shanty houses.</p>
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### VENEZUELAN POPULATION

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<p><b>Human Assets</b></p>	<p>Venezuelans POCs are mostly young: 81% of interiorized Venezuelans have between 18 and 39 years of age.</p> <p>72% of Venezuelans interviewed had between 20 and 39 years of age. (UNHCR and 2017 Venezuelans socio-demographic research respectively)</p> <p>Interiorized: 57% have completed their High School education, and another 11% have completed their higher education.</p> <p>Of the Venezuelans interviewed, 46.1% had either completed High School or incomplete Superior Education and 31.9% had completed some form of Superior Education (2017 Venezuelans socio-demographic research)</p> <p>Nearly 60% of Venezuelans had a source of income (employment and self-employment) and 14.6% wished to become entrepreneurs (2017 Venezuelans socio-demographic research)</p>	<p>Lack of knowledge over the specificities of the Brazilian Labour Market.</p> <p>Lack of financial access hampers the access to vocational training</p> <p>Venezuelans' professional and academic qualifications are not recognized in Brazil</p>	<p>Language skills to work in the Hospitality Job Market which is expected to have the greatest growth for 2019.</p> <p>64% of Venezuelans were relocated to cities in the South and in the Southeast of Brazil, whose strong economies offer many work-related opportunities (e.g. São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro).</p> <p>Companies are increasingly adopting policies of diversity in their hiring processes.</p> <p>Potential use of CBI to support Venezuelan job-market insertion and self-reliance.</p> <p>Expanded funding to NGO <i>Compassiva</i> for increased diploma revalidation rates of Venezuelans.</p> <p>Companies are becoming increasingly sensitized about the Venezuelan situation and are offering jobs for Venezuelans</p> <p>New modality of interiorization based in job offers for Venezuelans living in Roraima</p>	<p>High rates of unemployment and informality in the job market which can lead to exploitation of Venezuelan workers.</p> <p>Xenophobia impact access of Venezuelans to the labour market.</p> <p>Work with low remuneration hampers their capacity to provide for their household.</p> <p>28% rate of formal employment for Venezuelans in Boa Vista.</p> <p>50% of interviewed Venezuelans in Boa Vista earn less than one minimum wage.</p>

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<b>Social &amp; Political Assets</b>	<p>Communication in Portuguese is easier than for most PoC.</p> <p>Interviewed Venezuelans in Boa Vista have cited the existence of social networks (which helps with word of mouth job opportunity advertisement). (2017 Venezuelans socio-demographic research).</p> <p>Fewer difficulties in adapting to cultural realities in Brazil compared to non-South Americans.</p> <p>PoC are entitled access to public services and social assistance policies equally to Brazilians.</p> <p>Existence of Venezuelans associations joined by new arrivals and/or previous diaspora.</p>	<p>Lack of information related to access and existence of public social services and public social assistance.</p> <p>Partners such as PARR and Compassiva have stressed PoC's lack of networking in the professional environments.</p> <p>Despite government's efforts to relocate Venezuelans from Roraima, there is a limited number of shelters in other cities. Moreover, spontaneous interiorized Venezuelans cannot access most of these shelters.</p>	<p>Strengthened social networks (Churches, Community Groups etc.) that result in better livelihood outcomes.</p> <p>Projects that promote peaceful coexistence between Venezuelans and Brazilians (e.g. food fairs, Manaus race)</p> <p>New migration law entitled migrants and refugees to freedom of association.</p> <p>Interest by the National Confederation of Municipalities (CNM) to support the relocation of Venezuelans.</p> <p>New policy from Ministry of Citizenship promoting the establishment of Reception Centers targeting Migrants and Refugees</p> <p>Existence of reception centers in Roraima and in other Brazilian cities which aims to shelter Venezuelans.</p> <p>Existence of the voluntary interiorization program aiming to relocate Venezuelans from Roraima to other Brazilian states which better economic integration prospects.</p>	<p>Refugees and migrants may not exercise political rights in Brazil.</p> <p>Rising nationalism and xenophobia across the country.</p> <p>Insecurity and violence in urban contexts.</p> <p>New labour/contractual legislation.</p> <p>Xenophobia and/or lack of knowledge by civil servants related to migration law hinders the access of Venezuelans to public services.</p> <p>Lack of reception centers to shelter Venezuelans out-of-Roraima.</p> <p>Low engagement of Municipalities in receiving Venezuelans relocated from Roraima</p> <p>Risk of becoming victims of human trafficking as well as other forms of exploitation due to their situation of vulnerability</p>

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities	Threats
<b>Financial Assets</b>	<p>38.7% of interiorized Venezuelans monitored by UNHCR have managed to secure employment (by December 2018)</p>	<p>Most employment opportunities come from the informal sector which tends to offer lower and unreliable wages (often less than a minimum wage).</p> <p>100% of Venezuelans in Boa Vista send money back to Venezuela and 50.4% of interviewed Venezuelans receive less than a minimum wage for their work (2017 Venezuelans socio-demographic research)</p> <p>Limited access to banking services.</p> <p>Lacking education on finance management.</p> <p>Scarce economic assets when they arrive in the country.</p> <p>Lack of financial assets leads Venezuelans to sustain heavy workloads.</p>	<p>The financial services offered by the <i>Banco do Brasil</i> allow for PoC to open savings accounts.</p> <p>New Decree for Asylum Seekers ID establishes right to bank services.</p> <p>New UNHCR partnership with FSP will enhance financial inclusion for CBI beneficiaries.</p> <p>UNHCR's CBI strategy offers PoC an opportunity to cover basic needs and to invest in their entrepreneurial activities</p>	<p>High Bank fees for financial operations.</p> <p>Lack of proof of residence hinders access to Bank services.</p> <p>Continuity of the economic crisis and high unemployment rate.</p> <p>Risk of contracting debt due to high interest rates in Brazil</p> <p>The lack of clear guidelines by the Central Bank on lending microcredit to Venezuelans leads financial institutions to demand that internationals hold a RNM (National Migratory Registration) document to access to it. (ILO&amp;UNHCR Market Assessment).</p> <p>Lack of access to information on how to register as a micro entrepreneur coupled with strict regulatory measures that demand an income tax return document encourages performance in informality thus exposing Venezuelans businesses to risks associated with this irregularity. (ILO&amp;UNHCR Market Assessment).</p> <p>Informal means of financial transfer to Venezuela impose risks of loss of assets.</p>
<b>Physical Assets</b>	<p>Venezuelans are relocated to cities equipped with basic public services and adequate infrastructures.</p> <p>Interiorized Venezuelans have temporary access to shelter (maximum of 3 months) provided by either UNHCR's partners, municipalities or NGOs.</p>	<p>High costs of housing (rent) and transportation in big cities.</p> <p>Shortage of vacancies in public shelters</p> <p>Venezuelans are living in the streets in Roraima and Manaus due to lack of access to housing</p>	<p>Municipalities are actively engaged with creating policies aimed providing shelter to individuals in situation of vulnerability.</p> <p>Engaging with committees that design policies aimed at integrating migrants.</p>	<p>Risk of living on the streets or in shanty houses.</p>



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A blurred background image showing a person's face in profile on the left and a laptop on the right. The laptop has a blue sticker with the UNHCR logo and the text 'UNHCR ACNUR'. The overall scene is dimly lit with a blue tint.

4.

**ACCESS  
TO ASSETS  
AND SERVICES**



UNHCR  
Agência Refugiados

UNHCR  
ACNUR  
Agência da ONU para Refugiados

## 4.

## ACCESS TO ASSETS AND SERVICES

As previously mentioned 34% of refugees have completed their superior education studies. However, there are difficulties in having these educational qualifications recognized in Brazil, especially when attempting to revalidate diplomas and to continue their higher education studies. According to Normative Resolution n. 22/2016 by the Ministry of Education, only public universities may revalidate diplomas. Although a recent regulation has standardized and facilitated procedures, the revalidation process remains slow and expensive. It is worth noting that two state legislations were approved in São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro in 2017 and 2018, exempting refugees from paying fees for Diploma Revalidation.

Both the Refugee Law and the new Migration Law (Law n. 13.445/2017) bring provisions intended to facilitate the process of diploma revalidation for refugees. One of the major problems for refugees is the lack of academic documentation, often due to loss during the escape from their countries of origin amidst conflicts and persecution. Even though there have been advances in replacing the analysis of documents by the application of tests to assess the actual knowledge of those who do not have the academic documents, in practice, refugees face many difficulties even with test-taking.

To extend the number of diploma revalidations for PoC, UNHCR established a partnership with the NGO Compassiva, which assists in the preparation of documents, including covering expenses for translation and legalization of the academic documentation, whilst also assisting in sending documents to universities that regularly have refugee-sensitive procedures. Since 2016, 34 diplomas were revalidated with the support of Compassiva, benefiting mostly Syrian refugees.

In addition, UNHCR has encouraged universities which integrate the SVMAC to adopt simplified and refugee-sensitive procedures. Moreover, UNHCR signed an agreement with Associação Brasileira das Universidades Comunitárias (ABRUC) that enabled the appointment of an UNHCR representative for the participation in the commission of the Carolina Bori electronic platform (new methodology for simplifying diploma revalidation).

The universities that integrate the SVMAC, in addition to other universities, have expanded the availability of course vacancies and scholarships to foment access to higher education. In 2017, more than 100 vacancies were offered for university courses free of charge and in the following year, SVMAC universities offered more than 1.200 seats for refugees and asylum seekers in Portuguese language courses.

Refugees have access to professional qualification courses through the “S” System. In São Paulo, UNHCR’s implementing partner, Caritas de São Paulo has a partnership with SENAI, allowing for the referencing of refugees to free courses. UNHCR’s policy allows itself to provide assistance for transportation and school supplies so that PoC may access these courses properly. In 2018, a MOU was signed with Senac Roraima and thanks to this partnership, Portuguese language classes were offered in the Jardim



Floresta temporary reception center, allowing for 33 PoC to be benefited by this project. Projeto Acolher (UFRR) offered Portuguese classes and basic computer training for 194 PoC living in Boa Vista. Moreover, through the Oportunizar Project, in partnership with the Centro de Ensino Técnico (CENTEC), 120 vacancies for vocational courses and 40 vacancies for professional orientation workshops were created in Manaus.

Brazilian Law encourages the hiring of young workers (between 14 and 24 years of age) as apprentices by establishing a mandatory hiring quota to companies, which varies between 5% and 15% according to the company's size. In 2018, UNHCR consolidated a partnership with Instituto Techmail for the Young Apprentices Program in São Paulo. During that year, Techmail has reserved 4 seats for refugees in each class of 30 students of the

program “Amigo do Seguro” (Insurance's Friend), which has also served to foster the coexistence amongst refugees and Brazilians. Upon the completion of the program, students are referred to work placements as apprentices on insurance companies, which sponsor this educational initiative. In the same year, UNHCR Brazil signed a national cooperation agreement with CIEE (Centro de Integração Empresa Escola) which aims at fostering employment for young PoC in Brazil, through apprenticeship and internship opportunities. Due to this agreement, a pilot project was launched in Brasília, in partnership with IMDH, during December 2018, where 13 young PoC participated in 5 workshops at CIEE. Six were employed as apprentices or interns. For 2019, UNHCR Brazil will strive to implement this partnership in different cities in the country.



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For refugees seeking to act as entrepreneurs, the partnership with *SEBRAE* should be expanded so that there are more refugees enrolled in their free courses and so PoC may have more access to consulting services. The strategy also includes support for private initiatives for training entrepreneurs, such as the one held in São Paulo by the NGO *Migraflix*. For entrepreneurs, one of the main difficulties is to have access to credit and financial services. In 2017, UNHCR established a partnership with the largest Brazilian bank, Banco do Brasil S/A. This partnership made it possible for three agencies in the city of São Paulo to provide specialized assistance in the care of refugees. In November and December 2017, 35 PoC were able to open bank accounts thanks to this partnership. In addition, Banco do Brasil provided a loan agent to work alongside one of our implementing partners in São Paulo, bringing facilitated access to microcredit.

Another important partnership was established with Banco Santander on an entrepreneurship and microcredit programme. In 2018, nineteen refugees and migrants living in São Paulo graduated from an entrepreneurship project provided by Santander Bank. The graduates who have been developing an entrepreneurship activity for more than six months now qualify for the bank microcredit programme of loans. This was the first entrepreneurship/microcredit initiative of Santander Bank in Brazil that was tailored specifically for refugees and migrants. Venezuelans who arrived in São Paulo through the voluntary relocation process were the main profile of participants of this initiative.

Universities integrating SVMAC have expanded the provision of free legal services for refugees and asylum seekers through legal clinics and legal care services. By the first semester of

2018, 11 universities offered this type of service to refugees. Another important source of access to legal services was made available through a partnership was established with the Public Defender's Office (DPU), which provides access to free public lawyers for refugees and asylum seekers, helping them in the process of determining refugee status, but also in naturalization procedures and in several daily issues of the refugees in Brazil. DPU has sometimes sought decisions in the Brazilian judicial system, with great success in many cases.

#### 4.1 HOUSEHOLD LIVELIHOODS STRATEGIES

Based on the survey that assessed refugees' socio-economic profile in 2018, of the 392 that provided information related to their total household income, 24% earn less than BRL1.000, 55% earn between BRL1.000 and BRL3.000, 17% made between BRL3.000 and BRL5.000, and 3% declared to earn between BRL5.000 and BRL10.000.

The main coping strategies in São Paulo and in Rio de Janeiro for PoC has been to work as street vendors and/or as vendors in commerce, bars and restaurants. Those who hold a university degree have worked in low skilled jobs outside their academic background. Women have also performed domestic work.

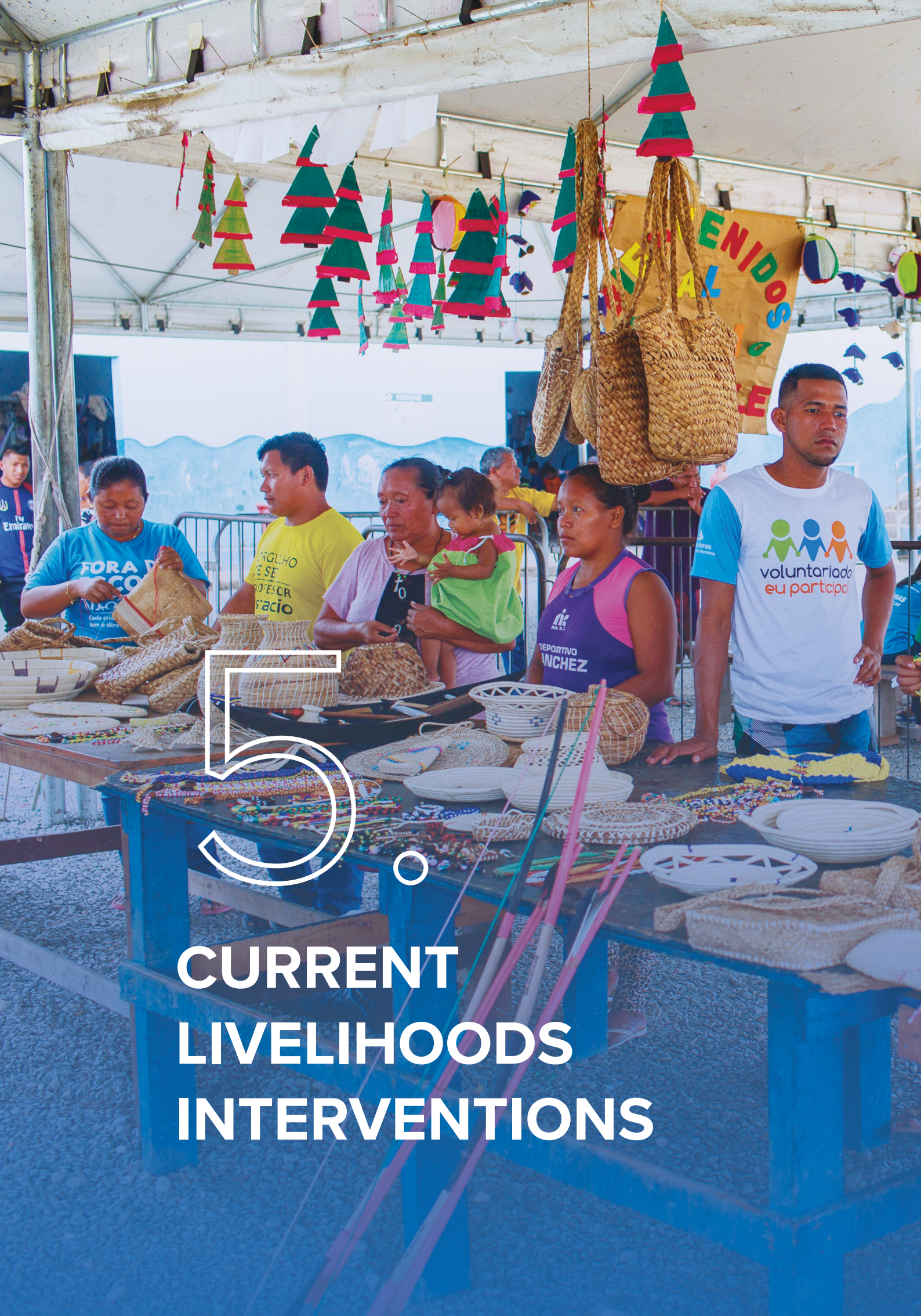
In Manaus, few families have accessed to formal employment. In order to generate income, many perform informal work during the day by engaging in maintenance, construction and general repair services. In the case of women, domestic work and babysitters are the most common occupations. In addition, engaging in informal commerce is very common, mainly by producing and selling food in the central part of the city.



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As for Boa Vista, based on Impact-Reach's research on Venezuelans living in the city, the majority engage in informal and irregular livelihoods activities, being paid on a daily basis. On average, a female adult would

receive BRL 10 – 60/day, while a male adult BRL 20 - 90/day. Most women engage in activities related to cleaning services, street vending and child care. Overall, the average days of work range from 10 to 15 days a month.



# CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS



NAVY CONSULAT A

# 5.

## CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS

CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS					
Area of Intervention	Specific Objective	Target beneficiaries	Areas of Implementation	Partners (Implementing Partner – IP/ Operational Partner – OP)	Results and Impact
Employment	Expand vocational training	All groups	Various	“S” System (SENAI, SENAC) (OP), Public Institutions, private sector (e.g. Instituto Techmail, Instituto Renner), NGOs (e.g. Migraflif, Jesuítas, etc)	More than 560 PoC were benefited with vocational training in 2018.
Employment	Strengthen existing partners’ job placement services for PoC	All groups	Various (main areas: services and commerce)	PARR (OP); Estou Refugiado (OP), Cáritas Rio de Janeiro (IP), IMDH (IP), Jesuítas (IP)	In 2018, more than 2.000 PoC were registered in employment databases and more than 1.200 PoC received specific guidance on employment. Another 450 found employment thanks to UNHCR’s partners support
Employment	Promote employment in partnership with UN Agencies	Refugee women, young PoC and Venezuelans	<p>“Empowering Refugee Women” Project on access to wage earning and self-employment opportunities</p> <p>Interagency working group for integration of Venezuelans; livelihoods.</p> <p>Unicef collaboration with UNHCR in advocacy in Manaus for apprenticeship opportunities</p> <p>ILO market assessment study on livelihoods for refugees and migrants</p>	UN Global Compact, UN Women, Unicef, ILO, UNDP, IOM, UNDP, UNFPA.	In the three editions, Empowering Refugee Women project has benefited 110 women with information workshops on access to work and support to entrepreneurship. Moreover, partner companies of this project have continued to expand livelihoods programmes for refugees and asylum seekers. Some of the highlights were the work of Sodexo, that hired 46 refugees in 2018, and Instituto Lojas Renner, that has provided training courses to other 117 PoC in Brazil.

Area of Intervention	Specific Objective	Target beneficiaries	Areas of Implementation	Partners (Implementing Partner – IP/ Operational Partner – OP)	Results and Impact
Employment	Expand employment opportunities for young PoC	Young asylum seekers/ refugees and Venezuelans aged between 14-23 years-old from poor wealth groups	Various	Instituto Techmail, CIEE, Associação para o Desenvolvimento Coesivo da Amazonia	Partnership with Instituto Techmail: NGO has reserved 4 places for refugees in each class of 30 students of the program “Amigo do Seguro”. MOU signed between UNHCR and CIEE, benefiting young PoC participated in Brasília. Associação para o Desenvolvimento Coesivo da Amazonia has a tailored service for refugees in which two individuals have already been benefited.
Entrepreneurship	Foster entrepreneurship of PoC	Groups of refugee women and small-holder asset group	Areas of gastronomy, fashion, etc.	Migraflix (OP), Consulado da Mulher, Fundação Amazonas Sustentável, Secretaria de Trabalho de Manaus, Cáritas Rio de Janeiro (IP), SEBRAE (non-profit) (OP); FFHI (IP), Private Sector (Cabify, Airbnb and others)	In São Paulo, UNHCR operational partner Migraflix provides capacity-building courses for food entrepreneurs. In 2017, 20 participants concluded the project “Raizes na Cozinha” (Migraflix). The graduates currently sell their products through Uber Eats and provide catering services to private companies. A new entrepreneurship project is expected to the first semester of 2019. Named “Raizes na Cidade”, the initiative is supported by Airbnb. In Rio de Janeiro, in 2017 and 2018, the project “CORES” (Cáritas Rio) provided 150 hours of entrepreneurship classes to 44 participants (areas of gastronomy, fashion and hairdressing). Participants currently sell their products at local fairs. The project was awarded by Shell LiveWIRE International challenge on sustainable fashion ColaborAmerica 2017 In partnership with Consulado da Mulher (Women’s Consulate), five women were supported in Manaus by both advisory on entrepreneurship and by a cash grant of R\$ 1,200 for the purchase of kitchen appliances and ingredients for their commercial food production A pilot project of private company Cabify with UNHCR operational partner Instituto Venezuela is currently targeting 20 Venezuelans to support them to be self-employed workers at the referred transportation company.

## 5. CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS

Area of Intervention	Specific Objective	Target beneficiaries	Areas of Implementation	Partners (Implementing Partner – IP/ Operational Partner – OP)	Results and Impact
Education	Expand the revalidation of academic diplomas	Groups of refugees who have completed graduate studies	Recognition of graduation diplomas in order to enable refugees to have access to work opportunities in their areas of studies	Public Universities (OP); NGO Compassiva (IP)	In total, Compassiva submitted more than 100 processes of revalidation to public universities.
Education	Promote access of PoC to superior education	Groups of refugees who have completed secondary education	Education	SVMAC member universities and other public and private universities	11 SVMAC member universities offered 370 free university vacancies to refugee students
Financial inclusion	Foster financial inclusion of PoC	All groups	Access to bank accounts and microcredit	Banco do Brasil, Santander	In 2017, a partnership with Banco do Brasil allowed the establishment of three bank agencies specialized in the assistance of PoC in São Paulo.  In 2018, Santander offered an entrepreneurship and microcredit programme to PoC, benefiting 19 people.
Cash Assistance	Provide cash assistance to PoC in need of satisfying their basic needs	Poor wealth group, relocated Venezuelans.	CBI multipurpose and sectorial CBI (transportation, health, etc.)	Cáritas SP, Cáritas RJ, Aldeias Infantis, IMDH, Cáritas Manaus and IMDH (all IP)	In total, more than 9,300 people were benefited by the cash assistance program in 2018.
Research and Content Development	Conduct a socio-economic profiling assessment and market assessment on livelihoods opportunities	Refugees and migrants	Socio-economic profile assessment, market assessment	ILO	A socio-economic baseline assessment of refugees in Brazil was conducted with around 500 refugees living in 8 different cities.  A Market Assessment on livelihoods opportunities for PoC, in partnership with ILO, was conducted in 2018.
Interiorization	Support the interiorization (relocation) program for Venezuelans and improve their livelihoods	Venezuelans	Interiorization Programme – Relocation of Venezuelans located in Boa Vista	Aldeias Infantis, ASAV, CARJ, Caritas Manaus, World Vision, Serviço Jesuíta de Migrantes e Refugiados, Serviço Pastoral dos Migrantes do Nordeste (SMP), Fundação Fé e Alegria do Brasil.	By the end of 2018, 3,900 Venezuelans were benefited from all three modalities of the Interiorization Program – including 136 from family reunification and 109 from the employment-based modality, which has relocated them to 40 cities outside of Roraima.





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# 6.

## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK



# 6.

## STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

### 6.1 VISION AND SCOPE

This strategic framework aims at targeting the refugee, asylum seeker and Venezuelan population of low income in Brazil for the timeframe of three years, taking into consideration their wide variety of educational and professional profiles. In the same sense, the strategy comprises the unemployed, self-employed, wage-employed and the entrepreneurs.

### 6.2 OVERALL OBJECTIVE

To support the socio-economic integration of refugees, asylum seekers and other PoC in Brazil, through interventions that aim at increasing their access to waged work and self-employment opportunities. Such interventions seek to complement the Government's efforts towards PoC and to strengthen the private network of NGOs and businesses, which is currently fragmented throughout the country.

In the context of Venezuela emergency situation, UNHCR aims to continue supporting the internal relocation programme, as well as the efforts towards promoting Venezuelan socio-economic integration.

This Strategy seeks to involve local Brazilian populations in its activities whenever deemed to be appropriate, in order to guarantee that the promotion of peaceful coexistence remains as one of its transversal objectives.



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### 6.3. KEY PROGRAMMES, ACTIVITIES AND PARTNERS PER TARGET GROUP

Intervention Area	Specific Objective	Short-Term Activity	Medium-Term Activity	Long-Term Activity	Partners	Target Group and Expected Milestones (end of 2021)
Employment	Support the expansion of partnerships with private companies for wage-earning opportunities	Development of the online platform “Companies with Refugees” with practices of private companies engaged with local integration projects for refugees	“Companies with Refugees”: Inclusion of practices from all relevant regions of Brazil and from different sectors/ industries	Promotion of best practices from “Companies with Refugees” platform through publications and possibility of collective action such as a formalized network of engaged companies.	UN Global Compact, UN Women, implementing partners	All Groups Formalized network of engaged companies
Employment	Strengthen existing partners’ job placement services for PoC	Provide capacity building to job placement partners and foster the exchange of best practices among them	Provide capacity building to job placement partners and foster the exchange of best practices among them	Promote a formalized network of organizations that are more successful in providing PoC with job opportunities	Manpower or other recruitment agency, implementing partners, operational partners, shelters, etc.	All Groups Formalized network of job placement partners
Employment	Expand access to information about labour rights and employment opportunities	Update main reference materials and develop guidance for PoC on access to housing and labour market (including entrepreneurship opportunities).	Keep main reference materials updated	Keep main reference materials updated	Help platform, implementing partners and Ministry of Economy	All groups 15.000 PoC having access on labour rights
Employment	Expand language skills and vocational training	To expand current partnerships with NGOs and private sector for the provision of employment readiness and life skills training  Establish national cooperation agreements with organizations from the S System	Establish local cooperation agreements with organization from the S System	Maintain and improve agreements with the S Systems and other new partners	Implementing and operational partners, Sebrae, Senac, Senai, Senar, etc.	All groups 3250 PoC benefited with vocational training  9100 provided with language training for livelihoods purposes
Employment	Expand employment opportunities for young PoC	Implement partnerships with CIEE and Techmail on providing vocational training to young PoC and including them on the labour market through apprenticeship and internships	Maintain and improve agreements with CIEE and Techmail and identify potential new partners	Maintain and improve agreements with all relevant partners	Implementing partners, local NGOs; non-profit organizations (SENAI-SENAC); private sector	All groups 300 young PoC benefited with internship and apprenticeship opportunities

5. CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS

Intervention Area	Specific Objective	Short-Term Activity	Medium-Term Activity	Long-Term Activity	Partners	Target Group and Expected Milestones (end of 2021)
Employment	Foster wage earning opportunities for PoC	Map possible partners in cities hosting vast numbers of refugees for increased employment opportunities for PoC	To strengthen the capacity of partners to establish and improve the procedures for PoC's job placement	To strengthen the capacity of partners to establish and improve the procedures for PoC's job placement	Local NGOs	All groups 7200 PoC registered in job placement services
Employment	Map potential income generation opportunities for indigenous Venezuelans	Structure sustainable response for income generation opportunities for indigenous Venezuelans	Strengthen identified NGOs with capacity to support indigenous income generation opportunities	-	HQ Livelihoods Unit	Venezuelans 300 indigenous PoC benefited
Entrepreneurship	Develop entrepreneurship programmes associated to microcredit loans	Promotion of partnerships aimed at the provision of entrepreneurship/business training for asylum seekers and refugees			Local NGOS (Migrafix, Cáritas Rio de Janeiro), "S" System (SEBRAE, SENAI, SENAC, SENAT and SENAR), Banco Santander, Banco do Brasil	All groups 950 PoC provided with entrepreneurship / business training
Entrepreneurship	Foster entrepreneurship of PoC	Provision of Cash-Based Interventions to foster PoC entrepreneurial activities and to enhance their chances of success	Establish an exit strategy to the access of PoC to micro-credit loans.	Implement an exit strategy to the access of PoC to micro-credit loans.	Direct Implementation & Implementing Partners.	All groups 650 receiving cash grants for business start up
Cash Assistance	Improve self-reliance and livelihoods initiatives focusing on the most vulnerable PoC receiving cash assistance	Establish new model for providing CBI (direct implementation) including the exit strategy which is aligned with the public social assistance programme	Register all CBI beneficiaries in proGres and consolidate post-monitoring distribution strategy	Implement an exit strategy for PoC to achieve self-reliance	Implementing partners, selected FSP, reception centers and shelters, CRAS/ CREAS.	All groups Direct implementation and exit strategy implemented
Cash Assistance	Provide cash assistance to PoC in need of satisfying their basic needs	Provide temporary emergency cash assistance to PoC to satisfy their basic needs, including Venezuelans benefited by the employment-based relocation programme			Implementing partners	All groups 37000 PoC benefited with cash grants

Intervention Area	Specific Objective	Short-Term Activity	Medium-Term Activity	Long-Term Activity	Partners	Target Group and Expected Milestones (end of 2021)
Financial Inclusion	Foster financial inclusion of PoC	Each regional unit is to establish a partnership with a finance institution/ bank to encourage the provision of finance education courses and to promote financial inclusion	Map non-conventional financial service providers  Advocate with banks so they can improve their internal procedures on providing bank accounts to PoC	Expand PoC access on microcredit	Finance institutions, banks, HQ Livelihoods Unit, IFC, non-traditional FSPs, Banco do Brasil, Santander, Itaú, Caixa, Bradesco, etc.	All groups  50% of PoC have access to banking services (loans, transfers, savings)
Interiorization	Monitor interiorized persons' progress towards integration and self-reliance.	Monitor individuals' disconnection from shelter support services to evaluate their difficulties and to improve our actions	Strengthen capacity of managers of interiorization shelters to provide more accurate services for local integration	-	Interiorization Shelters, NGOs	Venezuelans  Monitoring Report developed
Interiorization	Continue to support the interiorization (relocation) program for Venezuelans and improve their livelihoods.	Continue coordination activities with GoB, local governments, NGOs and shelters, and improve coordination with other UN agencies (e.g. IOM)		-	GoB, local governments, NGOs, CNM, shelters, UN Agencies (IOM)	Venezuelans  Support the voluntary relocation of 8.000 Venezuelans
Interiorization	Advocate for the adoption of policies designed to expand shelter capacity for spontaneous arrivals	Engage with local governments in the main reception cities and with the relevant federal government's ministries and authorities		-	Municipalities, CNM and Citizenship Ministry	Venezuelans  Expansion of shelter capacity
Education	Expand the revalidation of academic diplomas	Enhance partnership agreement with NGO Compassiva in order to support more PoC with diploma revalidation	Advocate with public universities and professional boards for the adoption of specific procedures concerning PoC	Advocate with government for the more flexible and accessible diploma revalidation processes for refugees and migrants	CSVM member universities, Public Universities, professional boards, NGO Compassiva (implementing partner)	PoC that have high educational profile  93 PoC supported by UNHCR with recognized diplomas; more flexibility achieved in diploma revalidation process
Education	Promote access of PoC to superior education	Advocate with CSVM and ABRUC universities and others to offer vacancies to PoC and facilitate their selection process.			CSVM universities, ABRUC universities, etc.	All groups  Facilitated selection processes for PoC

5. CURRENT LIVELIHOODS INTERVENTIONS

Intervention Area	Specific Objective	Short-Term Activity	Medium-Term Activity	Long-Term Activity	Partners	Target Group and Expected Milestones (end of 2021)
Research and Content Development	Conduct a socio-economic profiling assessment	Support the socio-economic profiling assessment of asylum seekers	Conduct a new socio-economic profiling assessment for Venezuelans and other PoC	Create new methodology for ongoing data collection of refugee socio-economic profile	Universities, IPEA	All groups Socio-economic profile and livelihood capacities of PoC defined and monitored
Advocacy	Support the Federal Government on the development of a National Plan of Local Integration for Refugees	Promote CONARE members, refugees, host villages and authorities' participation in designing a National Integration Plan for PoC			CONARE, Relevant Ministries, Federal and Local Authorities, NGOs, refugee communities	All groups Development of National Plan supported
Advocacy	Promote access to childcare services	Advocate with local and federal governments for the expansion of availability of free childcare services			Implementing partners, municipalities and Citizenship Ministry.	All groups Expanded access to childcare services
Advocacy	Support local governments (state and municipalities) to develop Plans of Local Integration for Refugees	Advocate with local governments hosting the majority of PoC in setting up Local Integration Plans for this population			Local Refugee and Migrants Committees, Local authorities, NGO and refugees communities	All groups Local Integration Plans supported
Advocacy	Expand dialogue between Refugees and Municipalities at municipal and state levels	Advocate for the participation of refugees on the municipal and state committees for refugees (e.g. São Paulo committee)			Local governments, NGOs and Universities	All groups Increased participation of refugees in local committees
Advocacy	Promote municipal and state committees for refugees' successes and overall activities	Increase the exchange of best practices among municipal and state committees for refugees through organizing the first national meeting of committees	Advocate with local governments to strength local committees for refugees	Support the elaboration of documents that advertise local and state committees for refugees' successes and overall activities.	Local governments, refugees	All groups Strengthened municipal and state committees
Programming	Continuously monitor the impact of UNHCR's livelihoods interventions	Conduct regional focal group discussions annually			Participatory Assessments	All groups Strategic plan for livelihoods programming informed by assessment





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A woman with brown hair tied in a bun, wearing glasses and a blue safety vest over a white shirt, is seated at a white table. She is focused on writing in a notebook with a blue pen. The background is a blurred public space with other people, including a person in a red shirt and another in a green shirt. A large white number '7' with a small circle below it is overlaid on the left side of the image.

7

**IMPLEMENTATION  
PLAN**



## 7.

IMPLEMENTATION  
PLAN

## 7.1. TARGETING

The targeting of this strategy is aligned with the Protection Strategy and its PoC's vulnerabilities considerations.

In general terms, this strategy will focus on the following population of concern:

- Low-income recognized refugees and asylum-seekers<sup>17</sup> that are unemployed and/or have a household income of less than BRL3.000. For this group, the strategy is to increase their access to public and private employment agencies, to public social assistance, to Portuguese language classes, to entrepreneurship courses, to vocational training, to cash assistance, to financial inclusion, etc.
- Refugees that have high educational profile, but with low-income jobs outside their previous professional experience. For this group, the strategy aims at increasing support for revalidation of diplomas and at expanding access to programs for insertion in private employment and to entrepreneurship courses, and to enhance PoC's access to financial

services, such as micro-credit, as well as access to Portuguese classes.

- Venezuelans in need of protection and social assistance. For this group, the strategy will be to provide them with temporary shelter, to increase their access to public and private employment agencies, to public social assistance, to access to Portuguese classes, to entrepreneurship courses, to vocational training, to cash assistance, to financial inclusion, etc. For the highly educated Venezuelans, this strategy will also focus in supporting them with diploma revalidation and with access to the job market.

## 7.2. PARTNERSHIP AND COORDINATION

UNHCR will work closely with the government, universities, UN Agencies and its implementing and operational partners with the objective to implement this Strategy.

The main partners of this Strategy should be:

- **Government:** Ministry of Economy, Ministry of Citizenship, CONARE, Public Defender's Office, state and municipal governments.
- **UN Agencies:** UN Women, UNFPA, IOM, UNICEF, ILO, UNDP, UN Global Compact, etc.
- **Implementing partners:** IMDH, Caritas Manaus, Caritas Rio de Janeiro, Caritas Parana, Caritas São Paulo, Aldeias Infantis, ASAV, Jesuítas, Instituto Maná, Missão Paz, AVSI, Compassiva, etc.
- **Operational Partners:** CIEE, World Vision, Migraflax, Instituto Venezuela, CIEDS, etc.
- **Others:** CNM, CSVN, ABRUC, IPEA, ESMPU, SENAC, etc.

Detailed information is provided in the Institutional mapping attached.

<sup>17</sup> A socio-economic assessment of asylum-seekers, conducted by IPEA with the support of UNHCR, will be carried out during 2019, which will provide important data on asylum-seeker' profiles. This Strategy will be reviewed once these findings are available.



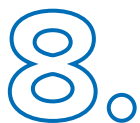
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8.

# COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY





## COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

It is not only important that UNHCR informs communities about their options towards sustainable livelihoods and on the eligibility criteria for UNHCR programmes, but that it also constantly acquires knowledge on the changing needs of communities and individuals regarding livelihoods. Therefore, UNHCR's livelihoods programming will adopt approaches to its interventions that are participatory, by conducting annual focal group discussions; and communicative, by sharing information on its activities and by maintaining

open channels of communication with its partners and other UN Agencies.

Moreover, integrating refugee and asylum seekers' livelihood initiatives into the national and local development agendas entails developing common approaches to address PoC's and the host community's concerns, and ensuring that these initiatives are coordinated within the broader local and national development agenda.

UNHCR will continue to advocate for *CONARE* to set out a National Plan for Local Integration of Refugees and Asylum Seekers and it will continue to advocate so that a broader range of cities adopt local plans for integration of refugees and asylum seekers.

[Help.com](#) is the main communication platform to raise awareness on livelihoods plans for PoC. Furthermore, the platform provides reliable and useful information to PoC that serve to lessen their vulnerabilities by informing them of their rights, of available public services and policies as well as of UNHCR's partners per region.





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# MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK



# 9.

## MONITORING AND EVALUATION FRAMEWORK

The monitoring of this Strategy's performance will be conducted mainly according to UNHCR's Results Framework. By the end of 2021, the operation expects to have reached the following milestones in each strategic area of the Livelihood Strategy:



		Baseline	2019	2020	2021	Total	
<b>IMPACT INDICATOR</b>	<b>% of targeted PoC who self-report increased income compared to previous year</b>						
<b>OUTPUT</b>	<b>% of targeted PoC who are self-employed (non-agricultural)</b>						
	<b>Access to training and learning enabled</b>	# of PoC provided with language training for livelihoods purposes	2600	2600	3000	3500	9100
		# of PoC provided with vocational training for livelihoods purposes	560	850	1200	1200	3250
	<b>Assessment and Analysis</b>	Socio economic profile and livelihoods capacities of PoC defined and monitored	Yes	Yes	-	Yes	-
	<b>Recognition of diplomas by host state facilitated</b>	# of PoC with recognized diplomas from their country of origin	26 (total 2016-18)	13	30	50	93
	<b>Strategy developed and implemented</b>	Strategic plan for livelihoods programming informed by assessment (yes/no)	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	-
	<b>Access to self employment/ business facilitated</b>	# of PoC provided with entrepreneurship / business training	120	150	400	400	950
	<b>Multi-purpose cash grants provided</b>	# of PoC receiving cash for business start up	114	150	200	300	650
		# of PoC receiving cash grants	9400	10000	12000	15000	37000
	<b>Access to wage earning employment facilitated</b>	# of PoC provided with guidance on labour market opportunities	1200	1500	1800	2000	5300
		# of PoC registered in job placement services	3280	2200	2500	2500	7200
	<b>Access to financial services facilitated (formal and informal)</b>	# of PoC who have access to banking services (loans, transfers, savings)	78.5% (Refugees)	30% (All groups)	40% (All groups)	50% (All groups)	50% (All groups)



# 10

## ANNEXES

**1 — INSTITUTIONAL MAPPING**

**2 — IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC**

**3 — LIVELIHOODS STRATEGY FOR BRAZIL - 2022 EXTENSION**







# INSTITUTIONAL MAPPING

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
PARR	Private	São Paulo	What are strategic priorities of stakeholder relevant to the inclusion and/or advocating on behalf of PoC?  Social project of Private Company Emdoc in partnership with UNHCR that refers PoC to the labour market	Include current and potential activities, action, advocacy and guidance  Currently, 1500 PoC are enrolled in the project, which has found around 200 PoC job opportunities in the past 5 years. Its also an important stakeholder in advocacy in São Paulo's commercial chambers.	Yes/No. If Yes, specify if implementing (IP) or operational partner (OP)  Yes, OP	Yes/No  -
Mulheres do Brasil	Private	São Paulo	Advocacy initiative for the expansion of rights of minority groups (e.g Women, Refugees) and initiatives on education and entrepreneurship	The group supports initiatives such as the Empowering Refugees Program, in addition to launching a Young Professionals program for 30 PoCs between 16 and 24 years of age in 2017.	Yes, OP	-
Migraflix	Private	São Paulo	Self-sufficiency of Refugees and Migrants	Migraflix is a key partner of UNHCR on entrepreneurship programmes for PoC (e.g. Project Creatathon that involved UNHCR/Migraflix/Google in 2016)	Yes, OP	-
SENAI-SP	Private non-profit org	São Paulo	Professional training programs that support the industrial sector	SENAI-SP has been a partner of Caritas SP since 2001 on training programs for PoC. These activities can be expanded through a partnership with UNHCR.	No	Yes
SEBRAE-SP	Private non-profit org	São Paulo Belém (PA)	Development and support to entrepreneurship initiatives	In 2016, the organization provided entrepreneurship courses for 200 PoC in Sao Paulo, a initiative in partnership with CONARE.	No	Yes
Compassiva	NGO	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of PoC	Compassiva has a programme of revalidation of graduation diplomas in partnership with UNHCR. In 2019, 29 PoCs had their diplomas revalidated and 163 new requests were presented to universities across the country.	Yes, IP	-
Caritas São Paulo, Refugee Center	NGO	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of PoC	CASP is the main reference center for livelihoods activities in Sao Paulo. In the first semester of 2017, the organization referred 358 PoC to Portuguese classes in partner organizations and 153 to professional training at SENAI/SESI.	Yes, IP	-
CATe	Public	São Paulo	Public job referral initiative of the Municipality of São Paulo	CATe has a specific sector ("Diversity") that addresses PoC needs, as well as other vulnerable groups.	Yes, OP	-
PAT	Public	São Paulo	Public job referral initiative in São Paulo that provides a specific service of migrants and refugees	PAT provides orientation and job referral services for Brazilian and PoC.	Yes, OP	-

LinkedIn	Private	São Paulo	Job referral platform	The company has offered workshops for more than 50 refugees on how to improve the CV and use the LinkedIn platform to search for jobs. Moreover, 15 functionalities of LinkedIn are engaged in the project #Globalmindsbr, that aims to find job opportunities for high qualified PoC. This initiative is led by UNHCR/Migraflix and PARR.	Yes, OP	-
Missão Paz	NGO	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of Refugees and Migrants	Missão Paz has program for access to work to Ref and Mig recently arrived. Since 2012, it has referred them to 6,000 opportunities.	Yes, OP	-
Adus	NGO	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of PoC	The organization provides Portuguese Classes and entrepreneurship activities for PoC in Sao Paulo and Curitiba.	Yes, IP	-
Global Compact	UN	São Paulo	Engagement of Private companies on human rights	The UN organization leads the Project Empowering Refugee Women in partnership with UNHCR and UN Women. The initiative benefited 30 refugee women with professional training and contact with a networking of private companies. This second edition of the project involved multinationals like Facebook and LinkedIn.	Yes, OP	-
Facebook	Private	São Paulo	Development of entrepreneurship activities	The company is a partner of UNHCR in the project Empowering Refugee Women. It has provided entrepreneurship tutoring for PoC.	Yes, OP	-
Lojas Renner	Private	Brazil	Private Company engaged on Human Rights Committees	The company is a partner of UNHCR in the project Empowering Refugee Women. It has hired refugees and developed training courses on industrial sewing for 60 PoC in Sao Paulo in 2016.	Yes, OP	-
Sodexo	Private	São Paulo	Private Company engaged on Human Rights Committees	The company supported the Empowering Refugees Project and the Refugee Football Tournament in São Paulo in 2017	Yes, OP	-
CPMIG (Municipal Secretary for Migrants, Sao Paulo)	Public	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of REF and Migrants	The Coordination leads the municipality's response to immigrants policies at the local level in São Paulo.	Yes, OP	-
State Committee for Refugees	Public	São Paulo	Social and economic integration of REF and Migrants	The State Committee for Refugees and Migrants has already prepared a Government Plan for public policies aimed at this population.	Yes, OP	-
UFSCAR	Public University	São Paulo	Academic programs	UFSCAR offers facilitated access for refugees to various undergraduate programs. The refugee is also entitled to social support while enrolled in academic programs.	Yes, OP	-

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
UFF	Public University	Rio de Janeiro	Academic programs and revalidation of diplomas	UFF is a key actor for the revalidation of academic diplomas of PoC	No	Yes
UNISANTOS	Private University	São Paulo	Academic programs	UNISANTOS offers 03 scholarships for refugees for undergraduate programs per year	Yes, OP	-
USP	Public University	São Paulo	Academic programs and revalidation of diplomas	USP has extension programmes for PoC, but they do not operate in partnership with UNHCR. It is recommended to further expand alliances with the university.	No	Yes
UNICAMP	Public University	São Paulo	Academic programs	The university is one of the most respected in the country and is part of the Academic Consortium Sergio Vieira de Mello, developing a series of actions aimed at expanding studies and scientific production, advocacy, in addition to teaching Portuguese, expanding refugees admission and revalidation of diplomas.	No	Yes
FGV	Private University	São Paulo	Academic programs	Since 2017, two PoCs have received scholarships at FGV. The establishment of a partnership is recommended.	No	Yes
UFABC	Public University	São Paulo	Academic programs	The University is a member of the Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium and has recently approved a resolution that facilitates admissions of refugees and asylum seekers. 12 places are reserved for this population annually.	Yes, OP	-

África do Coração	NGO	São Paulo	Copa dos Refugiados	The NGO has been responsible for organizing, since 2014, the Refugee Cup, renamed the Refugee and Immigrant Cup in 2019 due to a partnership with IOM. In 2020 they will launch the first women's edition of the tournament. The intention is to integrate refugees and immigrants into Brazilian society through sport.	No	Maybe
Cáritas Paraná	NGO	Curitiba	Social and economic integration of Refugees and Migrants	CAPR is the main reference center for asylum seekers in Paraná. It supports PoCs with information regarding professional trainings and job referral. In 2019, the organization supported 1.295 PoCs in Curitiba. Pana, Pana Brasil and Europana are programs that also operate in the center, which also is involved in the Interiorization Program.	Yes, IP	
Estou Refugiado	NGO	São Paulo	Economic and labor inclusion, professional training and entrepreneurship	The NGO was founded in 2015, aiming at disseminating information about the cause and developing concrete actions to support PoCs with livelihoods opportunities.	Yes, OP	
IFC - International Financial Corporation	Global development institution focused on the private sector in developing countries - member of the World Bank Group	São Paulo	Offers investment, advisory and asset management services to encourage private sector development in developing countries	Networking with areas of the private sector with great potential for employability and awareness of the refugee cause and pilot projects on professional training, such as Somos Todos Cuidadores (We are all Caregivers), in partnership with Sodexo.	Yes, OP	
IKMR	NGO	São Paulo	Complementary education for refugee children	The organization has a project called Citizens of the World, which offers complementary education for refugee boys and girls living in São Paulo, with a multidisciplinary educational orientation.	Yes, IP	
Museu da Imigração	Public	São Paulo	To consolidate as national and international museum, research and reference center on migration.	UNHCR signed an MOU with the Immigration Museum in December 2019. Actions such as the launch of Global Trends at the Museum, UNHCR exhibitions, cinema sessions, seminars, meetings and conversation circles with the theme of refugee, migration and human rights are planned.	Yes, OP	
SESC	Private non-profit organization	São Paulo	Social and educational projects	Portuguese classes for refugees and asylum seekers. SESC also promotes the Human Refugees project, which promotes training for educators, for the sharing of experiences, research and knowledge about refugees and immigrants who have left their countries due to Human Rights violations.	Yes, OP	

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
IMDH	NGO	Brasília	Social and economic integration of REF and Migrants	IMDH is the main reference center for the local integration of Refugees in Brasília. The organization supports REF and ASY on accessing portuguese classes, labor market and training opportunities in the city.	Yes, IP	-
UnB	Public University	Brasília	Academic programs	The University of Brasília is the largest educational institution in Brasília, and provides several services for REF and ASY, including portuguese classes, health assistance, legal aid, among others. The University offers facilitated access for refugees, and will soon integrate the Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium.	Yes, OP	-
UCB	Private University	Brasília	Academic programs	UCB is the largest private university in Brasília and offers several services for asylum seekers and refugees in partnership with the UNHCR's local IP (IMDH). The institution is willing to join the Sergio Vieira de Mello Academic Consortium and UNHCR is working to offer scholarships to PoCs.	No	Yes
IESB	Private University	Brasília	Academic programs	IESB is a private higher education institution in Brasília who has been engaging with local community of REF and ASY. They have excellent infra-structure, offering many technical courses (2 years) that could benefit PoC, especially those interested/engaged on criativity market.	No	Yes
SEBRAE-DF	Private non-profit organization	Brasília	Development and support to entrepreneurship initiatives	In 2016, the organization taught entrepreneurship courses for 200 PoC in São Paulo, an initiative in partnership with CONARE. Similar initiatives can be expanded to other regions, including Brasília. In addition, the organization has already shown an interest in promoting partnerships with UNHCR to enhance local integration of refugees and asylum seekers.	No	Yes
SENAI-DF	Private non-profit organization	Brasília	Professional training programs that support the industrial sector	SENAI-SP has been a partner of Caritas SP since 2001 on training programs for PoC. These activities can be expanded through a partnership with UNHCR.	No	Yes
ABRASEL	Trade Association	Brasília	Economic integration of REF	The Restaurants and Bars Trade Association of Brasília offers a forum to engage local entrepreneurs on the labor inclusion of PoC. The office has already reached some members who have shown interest on the agenda.	No	Yes
DF's Board of Education	Public	Brasília	Education activities e social integration of REF and Migrants	DF's Board of Education has been engaged on ensuring REF, ASY and Migrants have access to portuguese classes through public schools.	Yes, OP	-

ABIH	Trade association	Brasília	Economic Integration of REF	The Hotels Trade Association of Brasília offers a forum to engage local entrepreneurs on the labor inclusion of PoC. The office has already reached some members who have shown interest on the agenda.	No	Yes
IFB	Public Vocational School	Brasília	Vocational Training	The Federal Institute of Brasília is a public institution offering technical courses. The Institution has already implemented a partnership with CONARE on Portuguese teaching for PoC. UNHCR can foster further cooperation through the establishment of vocational courses aimed on PoC.	No	Yes
Manpower Group	Private	São Paulo (SP)	Education and social integration activities for refugees and migrants	Manpower works together with UNHCR by promoting labor market workshops for PoCs and also training and promoting networking among NGOs working with this audience.	Yes, OP	-
Instituto Besouro	Private	Porto Alegre (RS)	Education activities for entrepreneurship	Besouro Institute offered entrepreneurship training to refugees and asylum seekers.	Yes, OP	-
Brazil's Central Bank	Public	Brasília (DF)	Economic inclusion of refugees	Central Bank promotes access to financial information and access to the banking system for PoCs, through the production of informational content, in partnership with UNHCR and CONARE.	Yes, OP	-
Cisco	Private	Brasília (DF)	Training in information technology	In partnership with Caritas RJ and Banco do Brasil Foundation, Cisco offered information technology training for refugees.	Yes, OP	-
CIEE	Private non-profit organization	Brasília (DF), Manaus (AM), Boa Vista (RR), São Paulo (SP)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	CIEE promotes training for young refugees and immigrants, aiming at their insertion in the labor market through Internship and Young Apprenticeship programs.	Yes, OP	-
Instituto Techmail	Private	São Paulo (SP)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	In partnership with the National Insurance School, the Institute offered a Young Apprentice training course for PoCs.	Yes, OP	-
ESMPU	Public	Brasília (DF)	Improvement of the technical and professional training of members and public servants of the Federal Public Ministry	In 2019, ESMPU, in partnership with UNHCR and several other institutions, promoted the project Network Actuation: Training of actors involved in welcoming, integrating and interiorization of refugees and migrants in Brazil. Training workshops were held in 12 states in the country - Belém (PA), Manaus (AM), São Paulo (SP), Boa Vista (RR), Porto Alegre (RS), Recife (PE), João Pessoa (PB), Curitiba (PR), Florianópolis (SC), Belo Horizonte (MG), Campo Grande (MS), Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Brasília (DF).	Yes, OP	-

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
Centro Pastoral para Migrantes	NGO	Cuiabá (MS)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	The Center supports the Interiorization Program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to public services and policies.	Yes, OP	-
Cáritas Rio de Janeiro	NGO	Rio de Janeiro (RJ)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Cáritas supports the Interiorization Program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to public services and policies. Additionally, it also provides assistance to refugees and asylum seekers of other nationalities.	Yes, IP	-
Children's Village SOS	NGO	Brasília (DF), São Paulo (SP), Rio de Janeiro (RJ), Goiouré (PR), João Pessoa (PB), Juiz de Fora (MG) e Porto Alegre (RS)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Children's Village SOS supports the Interiorization Program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, IP	-
A CASA Museu do Objeto Brasileiro	Private	São Paulo (SP)	Income generation opportunities for indigenous Venezuelans (Warao)	A CASA develops a project with Venezuelan Warao that involves workshops to strengthen their production capacities, introduce financial planning and create a value chain to expand the sale of their handicrafts. As a result of the first workshops, the exhibition "Ojidu - Tree of Life Warao" was held for the sale of the pieces produced.	Yes, IP	-
World Vision	NGO	Brasília (DF)	Interiorization and social and educational integration of Venezuelan children and their families	World Vision supports the Federal Government of Brazil in the Interiorization Program, welcoming, protecting and promoting education for Venezuelan children, with special attention to indigenous people and their families.	Yes, OP	-
		Manaus (AM) Boa Vista (RR)	Professional training, entrepreneurship and private sector awareness raising	World Vision started a project in Manaus that focuses in three axes: employability, entrepreneurship and private sector involvement. They also aim at strengthening the partnership with SJMR. Income generation and training project financed by USAID, that focuses in insertion in the formal market, entrepreneurship and private sector engagement. Partnerships: SJMR to register candidates and to conduct information sessions on labor market and rights; CIEDS for small business promotion; FFH shelters for possible interiorization, among others.	No	Yes



SPM - Serviço Pastoral Migrante	NGO	Conde (PB) and Florianópolis (SC)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	SPM supports the Interiorization Program welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to public services and policies.	Yes, IP	-
ABRH	Nonprofit non-governmental entity	Campinas (SP)	Training of HR professionals	ABRH is getting involved with the cause and including the agenda in forum discussions they hold with HR professionals from different companies.	Yes, OP	-
Cáritas Manaus	NGO	Manaus (AM)	Social integration and peaceful coexistence	Potential to manage activities of peaceful coexistence and social integration of PoCs.	Yes, IP	-
Jesuit Refugee Service	NGO	Brasília (DF)	Interiorization, professional training and social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	SJMR supports the interiorization program through companies awareness raising, PoCs job referral and monitoring post-interiorization. In addition, in partnership with SENAC and SENAI, they periodically offer professional training and Portuguese courses in Boa Vista. They also have outreach volunteers who work in their communities, promoting informational events on various topics related to local integration.	Yes, IP	-
		Boa Vista (RR)				
		Manaus (AM)				
ADRA	NGO	Belo Horizonte	Peaceful coexistence, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	SJMR is the main reference for Livelihoods in Minas Gerais. They support PoCs inclusion in the labor market, providing advice, supporting with CV and intermediating job referral processes of employers or companies that wish to hire migrants.	Yes, IP	-
		Manaus (AM)				
		Brasília (DF)				
Hermanitos	NGO	Boa Vista (RR)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants; private sector awareness raising	CARE has a strong advocacy role with the private sector. The NGO has a great potential to invest in livelihoods initiatives.	No	-
		Manaus (AM)				
		Manaus (AM)				
University of the State of Amazonas	University	Manaus (AM)	Portuguese courses and diploma revalidation	The partner has high potential for job insertion, professional qualification, support for entrepreneurship and, mainly, advocacy with the private sector.	Yes, OP	Yes
		Manaus (AM)				
UNINORTE	University	Manaus (AM)	Portuguese courses and legal guidance	The University offers a free Portuguese course and facilitates the process of revalidating diplomas. Wish to move forward with CSVM.	No	-
		Manaus (AM)				

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
Municipal Secretary of Labor, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SEMTEPI)	Public	Manaus (AM)	Economic and labor inclusion, professional qualification and entrepreneurship orientation	Potential to have a Cooperation Agreement with UNHCR, to improve the municipality's SINES response and increase free workshops and courses.	No	-
State Secretary of Labor (SETRAB)	Public	Manaus (AM)	Economic and labor inclusion, professional qualification and entrepreneurship orientation	Potential to have a Cooperation Agreement with UNHCR, to improve the municipality's SINES response and increase free workshops and courses.	No	-
Public Ministry of Labor (MPT)	Public	Manaus (AM)	Advocacy and funding	Potential to have a Cooperation Agreement with UNHCR, to consolidate the partnership.	No	-
Impact Hub Manaus	NGO	Manaus (AM)	Private sector awareness raising; entrepreneurship	The institution has great potential as OP to support in private sector awareness raising.	No	-
Technological Education Center of Amazonas (CETAM)	Public	Manaus (AM)	Professional training	The Cooperation Agreement between UFAM and UNHCR promotes professional training for PoCs.	No	-
UFAM	University	Manaus (AM)	Portuguese courses; scholarships; diploma revalidation	UFAM is in the process of joining CSVM.	No	-
Sustainable Amazon Foundation (FAS)	NGO	Manaus (AM)	Income generation	Conducts eco-friendly initiatives and projects.	-	-
FFHI	NGO	Boa Vista e Pacaraima (RR)	Income generation opportunities for Warao indigenous Venezuelans	FFHI supports entrepreneurship of indigenous communities in Janokoida and Pintolandia shelters, mediating communications between A Casa Museu and the artisans. It also supports indigenous people in the collection of raw materials for the production of handicrafts.	Yes, IP	-
AVSI	NGO	Boa Vista e Pacaraima (RR)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	AVSI supports the Interiorization program and also assists Venezuelans in accessing public social assistance services, promotes informative sessions on labor rights and carries out relevant mappings on the population sheltered, their access to public programs and the local labor market.	Yes, IP	-
CIEDS	NGO	Boa Vista (RR)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	CIEDS has created RIS Project - Socioeconomic Integration Networks. It consists of activities to promote an "entrepreneurial attitude", entrepreneurship course, rights and personal development, support for business planning for small entrepreneurs and incubation with seed capital.	Yes, OP	-

UFRR	Public	Boa Vista (RR)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	First university in the North region to become a member of the CSVM. UFRR currently offers Portuguese classes through the Acolhimento project. It has the potential to become a strategic partnership for revalidating diplomas and including refugees in university courses.	Yes, OP	-
Caritas Roraima	NGO	Roraima	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	In 2020 Cáritas intends to create a fund that will offer loans to 100 local enterprises of Venezuelan families. They will also promote two annual solidarity economy fairs to sell products from 40 Venezuelan collectives spread across 15 municipalities in Roraima. In addition, in March they will be starting their own interiorization project for employment and family reunification.	No	Yes
CMDH	NGO	Boa Vista (RR)	Support with documentation; portuguese courses	Portuguese courses and other educational activities.	Yes, OP	-
ITCPES - UFRR	Public	Boa Vista (RR)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	The UFRR incubator currently incubates the Costuring Dreams project, a cooperative of Venezuelan and Brazilian women, in addition to other cooperatives from the local community. It supported projects by other partners of Operação Acolhida, such as Mujeres Palante in the Jardim Floresta shelter (NRC), RIS, by CIEDS, among others Dignify, which promotes home-based jobs for Venezuelan women in Boa Vista.	Yes, OP	-
Refúgio 343	NGO	Boa Vista (RR)	Interiorization	Refúgio 343 promotes the interiorization of Venezuelans sheltered in São Vicente 2 and in 2020 they are planning to expand their presence to two shelters managed by UNHCR IPs in Boa Vista. They also offer Portuguese classes and cultural adaptation workshops as part of the program.	Yes, OP	-
Social Bank	Private	Brasilia (DF)	CBI and Financial Inclusion	Through the partnership with Social Bank, UNHCR delivers CBI on prepaid cards. The partnership will also allow the opening of accounts for indigenous artisans from Janokoida and Pintolandia.	Yes, OP	-
IOM	UN	Boa Vista (RR)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	IOM is coordinating a pilot project for community savings with 30 shelters with the objective of promoting entrepreneurship and providing an alternative to access credit.	No	-
Mormons	-	Boa Vista (RR)	Interiorization	Supports the interiorization program.	Yes, OP	-

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
UN Women	UN	Boa Vista (RR)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	UN Women offers Portuguese courses for sheltered women and entrepreneurship courses in partnership with SENAC, which includes the donation of seed capital. They also work in the Interriorization program, offering CBI and financial education classes for women, in order to encourage economic independence and entrepreneurship.	No	Yes
Dignify	Social business	Boa Vista (RR)	Income generation and training	Pilot project to train PoCs in providing technology and artificial intelligence services so that they can later advertise their services remotely on an online platform.	No	Yes
Projeto Crescer	Public	Boa Vista (RR)	Socioeconomic integration of young people and adolescents	Technical training, support for productive activities and job insertion	No	Yes
EMBRAPA	Public Company	Pacaraima (RR)	Creation and transfer of agricultural technologies	Implementation of "Sisteminha Embrapa" in the indigenous community of Tarau Paru, including training and technology transfer to the community, with the objective of generating income and food security.	Yes, OP	-
Cáritas Belém	NGO	Belém (PA)	Social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Solidarity economy activities for the Warao population	No	Yes
SENAI and SESI	Private non-profit organization	Belém (PA)	Professional training programs that support the industrial sector	Potential for courses, professional and technical training in different areas	No	-
SENAC	Private non-profit organization	Belém (PA)	Support for trade activities	Potential for courses, professional and technical training in different areas	No	-
SENAR	Private non-profit organization	Belém (PA)	Support for rural activities	Potential for courses, professional and technical training in different areas	No	-
SESC	Private non-profit organization	Belém (PA)	Support for trade activities	Potential for courses, professional and technical training in different areas	No	-
IFPA	Public	Belém (PA)	Technical training	Potential to offer Portuguese courses for PoCs and possibly health assistance	No	Yes
FCP	Public	Belém (PA)	Training to promote economic integration	Potential for trainings and workshops	No	Yes
Socio-Environmental Institute (ISA)	NGO	Santarém (PA)	Social and economic integration of indigenous populations	Creation of a value chain and potential for training and qualification	No	-

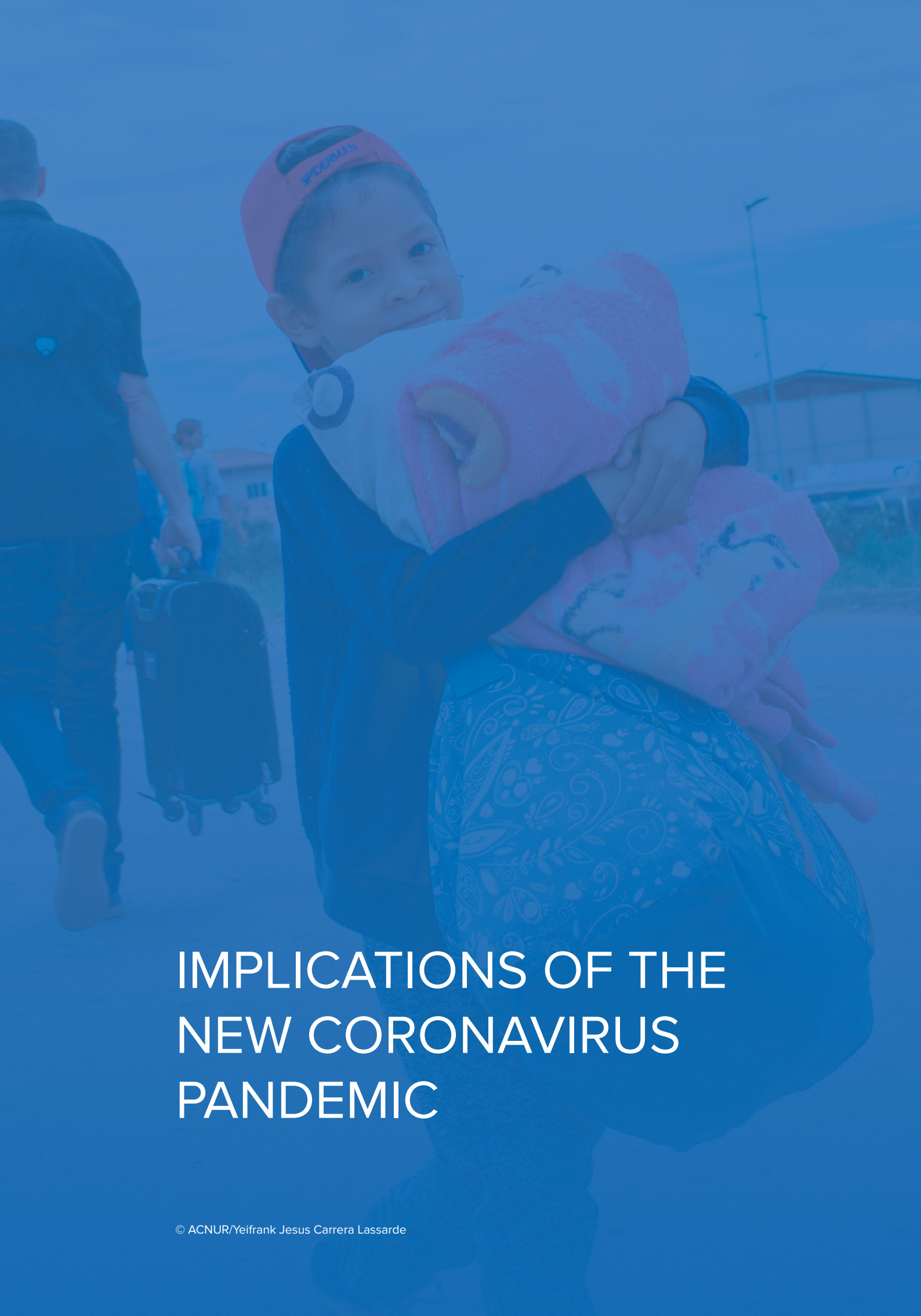
Redemir	NGO Network	Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Bahia, Ceará, Distrito Federal, Espírito Santo, Goiás, Mato Grosso, Mato Grosso do Sul, Minas Gerais, Pará, Paraná, Rio Grande do Norte, Rio Grande do Sul, Rio de Janeiro, Rondônia, Roraima, Santa Catarina, São Paulo	Socioeconomic integration of refugees and migrants; Interiorization; Advocacy; Training; Portuguese courses	The network is formed by non-governmental organizations, which have a strong advocacy role and with a presence in 20 Brazilian states, in addition, they shelter refugees and migrants, promote training courses, among other strategies for local integration.	Yes	-
Nises	NGO	Sapeaçu (BA)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Through the interiorization program, the NGO welcomes Venezuelan families and has a partnership with the Pestalozzi Foundation, which provides assistance to interiorized people who need special health care.	Yes, OP	-
AEBVB	NGO	Araçatiguama (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
São Paulo State Government	Public	São Paulo (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	The state government of São Paulo supports the Interiorization program via Casa de Passagem Terra Nova, promoting the reception of Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies. With CIC do Imigrante it supports asylum seekers in accessing SISCONARE, besides offering space for realization of courses and events.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Casa Esperança	NGO	São Paulo (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Casa Minha Pátria	NGO	Guarulhos (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
CDDH	NGO	Guarulhos (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-

Stakeholder name	Private/Public/UN/ NGO/University	Location	Strategic Priorities	Current or Potential Contribution to Strategy	Implementing or Operational Partner?	Potential Partner?
São Paulo Municipal Government	Public	São Paulo (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	The City of São Paulo is responsible for some of the municipal public shelters that specifically shelter immigrants and refugees - Centro de Acolhida Imigrantes-Pari; Reception Center for Immigrant Women-Penha; CTA Butantã; CTA São Mateus.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Dom Luciano (Fé e Alegria - Jesuítas)	NGO	São Paulo (SP)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
AAMN	NGO	Rio de Janeiro (RJ)	Transitory shelter for people undergoing cancer treatment	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies. The NGO also supports PoCs during the health treatment.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Casa do Migrante (PROVIDENS - SJMR)	NGO	Belo Horizonte (MG)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Alberto Hurtado (SJMR)	NGO	Belo Horizonte (MG)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Pedro Arrupe (SJMR)	NGO	Montes Claros (MG)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-
Shelter Chico do Vale	NGO	Belo Horizonte (MG)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants and support shelter for people undergoing cancer treatment	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies. The NGO also supports PoCs during the health treatment.	Yes, OP	-
ABAN	NGO	Juiz de Fora (MG)	Interiorization, social and economic integration of refugees and migrants	Support to the interiorization program, welcoming Venezuelans and supporting their local integration, insertion in the labor market and access to services and public policies.	Yes, OP	-









# IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

# IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

In view of the social and economic impacts of the new Coronavirus pandemic as of the first quarter of 2020, this Annex is complementary to the Livelihoods Strategy for the period of 2019-2021. Aligned with the guidelines established by the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) and UNHCR's active and responsive role to the pandemic, the purpose of this Annex is to indicate the possible implications that this new scenario will have in the planning, objectives, execution and monitoring of the actions planned in the Livelihoods Strategy. The COVID-19 pandemic in Brazil has been far more than a health crisis. Estimates show deep decline in economic activity and large effects on unemployment and increase in poverty.

Despite Brazil's comprehensive social protection system, poverty and socio-economic inequalities remain a challenge. Both poverty and inequalities are likely to worsen due to COVID-19 pandemic and its impacts. Even before the pandemic, poverty levels were increasing and inequality became stable at still high levels by international standards, after a decade of reduction, due to the 2014-2016 economic crisis. Data from the Brazilian National Statistics Office (IBGE) shows that 13.5 million people were living in extreme poverty (6.5% of the population) in 2018, 4.5 million more than in 2014 when 4.5% lived extreme poverty.

In the context of the global crisis

caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the World Bank has recently projected that the global GDP will fall by 5.2% in 2020, which represents the largest recession since World War II. The projected recession for Brazil is even higher than the global average: a fall of 8.0% of the GDP. In the absence of emergency social protection measures, the total population living in poverty (at US\$5.5-day poverty line) could increase from 41.8 million in 2019 to 48.8 million in 2020.

Informal or self-employed workers represent 41% of all occupied population. Besides higher unemployment, the wage gap between men and women is likely to increase. According to the IBGE, women are present in productive sectors with lower wages and precarious social protection and earn on average 77% of men's monthly income.

Workers in the formal labour market also risk suffering loss of income and unemployment. However, they have better conditions to cope with income shocks as they are covered by social insurance (including paid sick-leave) in addition to income and employment protection schemes in the case of contract suspension or reduction in working hours (measures implemented by the Brazilian Federal Government to support both employers and employees in the response to the crisis).

Data from the General Registry on Employed and Unemployed (Caged) show that in April 2020 the balance between new hiring posts and contracts terminations reached the historical mark of (-) 860.503 - with São Paulo, Minas Gerais, Rio de Janeiro and Rio Grande do Sul being the most affected States. The Data of applicants for the unemployment insurance also reached a record mark of 960,258 workers in May 2020 - an increase of 74% in relation to the figures for March when the pandemic was declared in the country.

To address the socio-economic impact of containment measures, the Brazilian Federal government has implemented important social protection measures, expanding the national social protection system both vertically (by increasing benefit levels and comprehensiveness of those already covered) and horizontally (including more beneficiaries in the system, especially those who were not covered by a social protection scheme). Implementation adaptations and design tweaks were also used by several agencies, especially the Ministry of Citizenship (MCid).

To address the need of a large set of informal workers (and families) not covered neither by social insurance nor non-contributory cash assistance programmes (mostly due existing eligibility criteria, as Bolsa Família is targeted at the poorest households), the programme introduced an emergency cash scheme (Auxílio Emergencial), which is being paid by the Federal Government to adults (over 18) without a formal job and with low family income (up to 1/2 minimum wage or BRL 522.50 per capita; with maximum 3 minimum wages - BRL 3.152 - of total family income). The benefit encompasses three transfers of BRL 600 (US\$ 107) to meet essential needs. Each family may receive up to two benefits and single mothers are entitled to receive a double benefit (BRL 1,200).

Until mid-June 2020, 53.8 million people have already benefited from at least one transfer of the emergency benefit, with a total budget of BRL 38 billion. Eligible groups include i) PBF (Bolsa-Família) families (as the emergency scheme provides an automatic top-up on benefit values to all beneficiaries which's monthly transfer was less than BRL 600, representing 95% of Bolsa's payroll or 13.6 million families); ii) those already included in the Social Assistance Unified Registry (but not eligible to PBF – summing

up to 10.2 million people) and iii) new registries using a mobile app developed by the Caixa Economica Federal – public-owned Bank), through which informal workers, the unemployed without insurance and micro-entrepreneurs could apply to the benefit. On May 14 2020 the programme was expanded to include adolescent mothers (under 18).

Until 2019, Venezuelan refugees and asylum seekers were increasingly entering the formal labour market. The greatest proportion of those doing so live in the northern, southern and southeastern regions of Brazil. About 72% of Venezuelans in Brazil, or an estimated 187,000 of them, are between the working ages of 18-64 years old, according to registration records from the federal police. Of these, 10% (18,855 individuals) were formally employed as of December 2019. Comparatively, 34% of Brazil's working-age population works in the formal sector.

Venezuelans, as other refugees, asylum seekers and migrants, may enroll in Bolsa Família as long as they meet the criteria. But enrolment does not guarantee access to benefits, as each municipality operates under a fixed quota. Once the cap of participating families is reached, the benefits cannot be extended to additional households, even extremely vulnerable ones. As of February 2020, 13.5 million households comprising 44.5 million individuals – 21% of Brazil's total population – received benefits through Bolsa Família. The total amount disbursed is approximately BRL 30.6 billion (US\$ 6.1 billion) per year, equivalent to 0.45% of the national GDP.

Considering only the Venezuelans, among beneficiary households, 7,178 included at least one Venezuelan national. In all, 16,707 Venezuelans, representing 6.5% of all Venezuelans in Brazil, benefited from Bolsa Família. This number has risen consistently since the start of the

Venezuelan influx in January 2017. Most Venezuelan beneficiaries, over 60% of them, live in the north in Roraima and Amazonas. Another 25% live in São Paulo, Paraná, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul.

However, 21% of Brazilians access Bolsa Familia while only 6.5% of Venezuelans do. As both populations have similar proportions of poor households, the difference in utilization rate is likely due to reasons other than income. Probable reasons include inability to enroll due to misinformation, language barriers, expired documentation, not meeting the qualifying criteria, or living in municipalities that have met their quotas.

In the global pandemic scenario, in June 2020 Brazil reached the second place in the ranking of countries with the highest number of confirmed cases of the disease and also the highest number of deaths. Without a unified national guideline to contain the spread of the virus, State and Municipal Governments have been adopting different measures, which should culminate in different recovery scenarios. Taking this into consideration, it is essential that Livelihood initiatives should be locally adapted.

With this in mind, it is even more necessary to address the needs of those facing greater socio-economic vulnerabilities and to work closely with governments, civil society organizations, the private sector and the population of interest, as established in the Livelihoods Strategy. Also, the Strategy guidelines must be maintained: its main objective is to advocate with the various levels of government to include PoCs into the public services of professional trainings, job placement and preparation for entrepreneurs and, at the same time, complement such services for the most vulnerable PoC through implementing partners. As previously

established, the target of the interventions will continue to be low-income recognized refugees and asylum-seekers (unemployed and/or living with a household income of less than BRL 3,000.00), refugees with a high educational profile (with low-income jobs not related to their previous professional experience) and Venezuelans in need of protection and social assistance. As indicated in the GHRP, its fundamental that efforts focuses on the consolidation of a new inclusive and sustainable economy that leaves no-one behind.

In order to promote the empowerment of PoCs, support the overcoming of situations of social and economic vulnerability and promote self-sufficiency, UNHCR's key sectors of intervention remain the same, albeit with necessary adaptations:

- **Employment:** With the objective to foster PoC employment, UNHCR will: expand partnerships with businesses, by raising awareness among employers, especially through the Companies with Refugees Platform; strengthen existing job placement services offered by private recruitment companies and their partners; expand PoCs' access to information related to employment and labor rights during the pandemic; expand access to digital inclusion and online vocational trainings, life-skills courses and Portuguese courses; foster employment opportunities of young PoCs (through young apprentice and internship programs).

*Considering the emergency context of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as the retracted economic scenario resulting from it, UNHCR will work with its partners on strategies that promote the insertion of the population of interest in the labor market based on the new scenarios and possibilities.*

- **Entrepreneurship:** UNHCR will encourage and foster entrepreneurial activities, by, for instance, capacity building and associating entrepreneurship to access to microcredit loans.

*UNHCR will foster the creation of a network of entrepreneurs, to expand knowledge sharing and businesses publicity, following up a research on the challenges faced by Venezuelans to become entrepreneurs in Brazil. Also, entrepreneurial trainings and activities must be adapted to the new social distancing measures.*

- **Cash Assistance:** the cash assistance program will be improved, leading to enhancements in delivering financial assistance to PoCs who can't satisfy their basic needs.

*In view of the worsening of poverty, the scarcity of livelihood opportunities and the increase in the number of people who will need financial support due to the pandemic, UNHCR financial assistance program will be implemented in order to ensure complementarity with government cash transfer programs (such as Bolsa Família), including the emergency assistance already provided by Government of Brazil.*

- **Financial Inclusion:** Through partnerships with banks and other financial organizations UNHCR will foster the financial inclusion of PoC, leading them to have access to financial education, to bank services and to microcredit.

*Financial education initiatives will be increased and must be adapted to the new reality of social distance. Based on the partnership with Brazilian Central Bank, UNHCR will promote financial on-line education classes. In addition, due to job losses and the possible consolidation of new labor dynamics, it*

*is possible that in the future there will be an increase in demand for autonomous activities, which will require an expansion of partnerships with credit programs.*

- **Interiorization:** Support the continuity of the Interiorization Strategy of Operation Welcome (“Operação Acolhida”), considering its positive results in local integration, as well as monitor the integration progress of people interiorized in their way to achieve self-reliance. In addition, UNHCR will expand partnerships to increase support for transit houses, taking into consideration the needs brought by COVID-19 pandemic (social distancing, PPEs, cleaning items, etc). UNHCR will also broaden its advocacy efforts with private companies to engage with the job-based interiorization modality entailing sectors that are still hiring during the pandemic. In the case of temporary interiorization shelters supported by UNHCR, considering the long stay in these shelters due to the reduction of job and income generation opportunities, this modality will be reduced in the interiorization strategy, focusing on protection cases. However, for the recovery phase, these shelters will resume receiving relocated Venezuelans but in a reduced scale.

*Support of the Interiorization*

*Program will be maintained, always attentive to the guidelines established in the Emergency Contingency Plan for prevention of COVID-19, implemented by Operação Acolhida.*

- **Higher Education:** UNHCR will expand the support to the revalidation of academic diplomas and will promote the access of PoC to superior education.

UNHCR will continue with the strategy of expanding diploma revalidations, even though it will most probably be impacted by the suspension of the academic calendar and the temporary closure of many Universities.

- **Research and content development:**

UNHCR will promote a study on the impacts of Covid-19 pandemic on the socioeconomic situation of PoCs in Brazil. Additionally, UNHCR will also support a new research on the socioeconomic insertion of Venezuelans who participated in the Interiorization Strategy.

*Research on the socioeconomic profile of the population of interest will be maintained and should also address the impacts of the Coronavirus pandemic on the livelihoods and self-sufficiency of PoCs.*

- **Advocacy:** UNHCR will strengthen its advocacy actions with Local Governments to support socioeconomic integration of PoCs, including through articulation with the National Confederation of Municipalities (CNM). In addition, UNHCR will support the Brazilian Federal Government in its efforts to develop local integration policies for PoCs in Covid-19 context, through partnerships with the Ministries of Citizenship, Economy, Education, Health and Women, Family and Rights Humans.
- **Integration of Protection and Socio-Economic perspectives:** The Livelihood and Protection Units will coordinately closely to align processes to ensure that individuals benefiting from livelihood interventions routinely undergo a protection assessment to attain a more holistic understanding of the individual's situation. Similarly, at-risk individuals will be channeled to be

considered for livelihood interventions.

- **Joint targeting of community-based interventions with dual objectives on protection and livelihoods:**

As part of the Community-Based Protection, Livelihoods and Protection Units will select together the communities for CBP engagement. UNHCR actions towards meaningful engagement and empowerment of communities, including self-organization and community action plans, will systematically incorporate livelihood elements as a constituent component of the community approach, including:

- » Community Self-help and/or community savings/loan groups;
- » Introduction of seed capital schemes to support the financial empowerment of the community self-organization structures (e.g. UNHCR to provide a grant to the community once a community action plan has been developed);
- » Training on life skills (i.e. those skills that help individuals and communities make informed decisions, solve problems, think critically and creatively, empathize with others, communicate effectively, build healthy relationships, and cope with and manage life in a productive manner);
- » Training on basic financial literacy;
- » Promote Vocational Training opportunities for the community;
- » Training on practical language skills for daily use.

Particular attention will be paid to extremely poor and destitute communities, including indigenous communities.

- **Roll out of ProGres:** UNHCR will continue working with partners in the field of livelihoods to build

their registration capacity with an aim to record all livelihoods interventions in ProGres.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

As mentioned in section 7.3 [Partnerships and Coordination](#) of Livelihoods Strategy 2019-2021, UNHCR will continue to work together with the Federal Government, local governments, the private sector, civil society organizations, Academia and UN Agencies to implement this strategy. Due to the new challenges brought by the Coronavirus pandemic, it is necessary to further strengthen the coordination among these different actors, in order to promote a permanent and comprehensive response that takes into account the economic and social impacts of the pandemic for refugees and asylum seekers. Within the scope of R4V Platform and in line with the guidelines identified by the Regional R4V Sector on Local Integration, UNHCR is working with R4V organizations to strengthen and expand actions related to the Sector on Interiorization, Integration and Humanitarian Transportation, focusing on adapting its activities to address the impacts caused by the Coronavirus pandemic in the livelihoods of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants in Brazil.

The document [Priorities of the Sector of Interiorization, Local Integration and Humanitarian Transport of the R4V Platform in the Covid-19 emergency situation - 11 points to be implemented](#), was prepared by the organizations participating in the Sector and establishes priorities for action, taking into consideration the mitigation actions that are being held by the Brazilian Government:

1. Continuity of the Interiorization Strategy for Venezuelans;
2. Access to information is key for Venezuelan people;

3. Map and mobilize actors and organizations that can provide assistance in destination cities;
4. Understand how the economic crisis is affecting Venezuelan people;
5. Ensure the continuity of livelihood programs whenever possible;
6. Develop partnership and initiatives to help refugees and migrants return to the labor market;
7. Consider increasing the offer of online training;
8. Support refugee and migrant population to access public services and programs;
9. Direct assistance for people most impacted by the crisis;
10. Consider expanding financial assistance programs (CBI);
11. Expand support to host communities.

In order to meet the established priorities, the Interiorization, Local Integration and Humanitarian Transport Sector will also act in close synergy with the other Sectors of the Platform - such as Education, Health and Protection.

## COMMUNICATION AND INCIDENCE

Following the CwC strategy note in Brazil, UNHCR will continue strengthening communication with PoCs and host communities, especially given the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. In line with the guidelines set out in section 8. [Communication and Advocacy of the Livelihoods Strategy 2019-2021](#), UNHCR will strengthen two-way communication channels to keep PoCs informed about their options for ensuring sustainable livelihoods, access health and social programs and labor protection, while also receiving more feedback from refugees and migrants about their access to services and assistance. In this sense, coordination

with public actors at the federal and local levels will continue to be key. Finally, Help.unhcr.org, the main information platform for PoCs, will be constantly updated with relevant information related to COVID-19.

**ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:**

**UN OCHA.** Global Humanitarian Response Plan Covid-19: April-December 2020. Available at: <https://www.unocha.org/sites/unocha/files/Global-Humanitarian-Response-Plan-COVID-19.pdf>

**RMRP.** Revisão do RMRP COVID-19 – Plataforma Brasil. 10 June 2020. Available at: <https://data2.unhcr.org/en/documents/download/77033>

**ACNUR, OIM and World Vision.** Prioridades do Setor de Interiorização, Integração Local e Transporte Humanitário da Plataforma R4V na situação de emergência COVID-19 – 11 pontos a serem implementados.







A young child wearing a red Spider-Man cap and a dark long-sleeved shirt is walking in a residential area. The child is holding a large, pink and white patterned blanket or bag. In the background, other people and buildings are visible, suggesting a community setting. The entire image is overlaid with a semi-transparent blue filter.

# LIVELIHOODS STRATEGY FOR BRAZIL - 2022 EXTENSION

## INTRODUCTION AND JUSTIFICATION

The core purpose of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to overcome obstacles for the most vulnerable populations to contribute and benefit from inclusion in sustainable processes for socioeconomic development. The Global Compact on Refugees (GCR), approved by the United Nations General Assembly in 2019, explicitly links forced displacement with the 2030 Agenda and provides support to national efforts to ensure that people in refugee situation are incorporated into the commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Under this strategy, actions will have a particular focus on the Objectives concerning no poverty (SDG 1), zero hunger (SDG 2), quality education (SDG 4), gender equality (SDG 5), decent work and economic growth (SDG 8), reduced inequalities (SDG 10), and partnerships for the goals (SDG 17).

The 2019-2021 Livelihoods Strategy aims at supporting low-income refugees, stateless persons, asylum-seekers, and Venezuelans to achieve autonomy and self-reliance with dignity. Such people, as demonstrated by the studies produced, have varied educational and professional profiles. The fundamental proposal of the strategy is to support the inclusion of these populations in public services and programs (particularly in socioeconomic and employment programs) and to encourage the consolidation of a favorable environment in the private sector for these populations.

In 2021, UNHCR reviewed how it establishes its planning, budgeting, and reporting to respond to the challenges of forced displacement and the refugee population, using a new system of results-based management (RBM) and programming (COMPASS) on this occasion. In this sense, it became necessary to

extend the 2019-21 Livelihoods Strategy to 2022 to align the next cycle from 2023 onwards with the new results-based planning methodology of the Operation, which will start in the 2023-2025 period.

On the other hand, the extension to 2022 of the 2019-21 Livelihoods Strategy occurs in view of the significant socioeconomic impacts derived from the COVID-19 pandemic from the first quarter of 2020, whose prevention and coping measures continued to be applied throughout 2021, as established in the “IMPLICATIONS OF THE NEW CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC” Annex. In line with the strategic and planning guidelines for UNHCR’s operation in Brazil, the scenarios imposed by the pandemic and covering estimative analysis of post-pandemic scenarios, this annex aims to detail the main guidelines for each of the established intervention axes, including any adjustments and recommendations for prioritization of objectives, methodologies for implementation and monitoring of the actions planned for the key sectors of the Livelihoods Strategy.

The emergence of the Venezuelan influx to the Brazilian territory through the northern border of the country, especially in the municipality of Pacaraima in Roraima, is heading for its sixth year which already configures such situation as a protracted one in terms of forced displacement of people in need of international protection. In this sense, strategies that prioritize the search for durable solutions, mainly through the local integration of diverse population groups, become increasingly essential as the crisis extends over the years. The indigenous component of this forced-displacement flow stands out, which requires solutions sensitive to the specifics of this population.

It is important to emphasize that the specific livelihoods interventions undertaken

by UNHCR, and its partners serve to support the efforts of the Brazilian State, strengthening and complementing public initiatives through technical support and articulation with other relevant organizations, considering that the *de facto* access to public services of job placement and professional training by refugees is sometimes limited.

## CONTEXT ANALYSIS

The world economy continues to recover from the initial shock caused by the Covid-19 pandemic, while some impacts of the crisis, such as the disorganization of production chains, the strong increase in industrial costs, and the rise in inflation, persist and should continue to condition the evolution of economic activity in most countries for some time. In Latin America, despite the economic recovery in 2021, the social crisis remains, with unemployment, impoverishment, and extreme poverty rates that are higher than 2019, according to the report by ECLAC<sup>1</sup>. The same publication also indicates that the effects of the pandemic were felt even more strongly by certain groups, such as the decline in the participation of women in the labour market and the impact according to age, since young workers were disproportionately more affected. Finally, labour rates have recovered mainly through the growth of informal work and, often, in sectors with precarious conditions, as indicated in the report.

The Brazilian economy has not escaped this global scenario and the recent economic activity performance indicators, which has fallen in recent

months, reinforce the perception of an unstable scenario. On the other hand, labour market data have shown significant signs of recovery, with the increase in the expansion pace of the employed population allowing successive decreases in the unemployment rate. However, the increase in the rate of employed population has been occurring especially among employees in the private sector without a formal employment contract and self-employed workers, which has been generating a reduction in real average incomes, also impacted by the accelerated inflation<sup>2</sup>.

This scenario is even more challenging in accommodating refugees and migrants. For host countries, harnessing their potential to contribute to economic growth could reduce the pressure on fiscal outcomes by leveraging joint work with international organizations to meet the most urgent humanitarian needs with a view to the continued permanence and local integration of this population. Greater economic and social inclusion will allow Venezuelan people to access productive work, income generation, creation of new jobs, pay taxes, contribute to the social security system and local economic growth.

Brazil is the Latin American country with the highest number of recognized Venezuelan refugees<sup>3</sup>.

<sup>1</sup> ECLAC. Social Panorama of Latin America (2021). Available at: [https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/47719/1/S2100654\\_en.pdf](https://repositorio.cepal.org/bitstream/handle/11362/47719/1/S2100654_en.pdf). Accessed on January 28, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> For more information, please visit: [https://www.ipea.gov.br/portal/images/stories/PDFs/conjuntura/211222\\_cc\\_53\\_nota\\_27\\_visao\\_geral.pdf](https://www.ipea.gov.br/portal/images/stories/PDFs/conjuntura/211222_cc_53_nota_27_visao_geral.pdf)

<sup>3</sup> According to data available at: <https://www.r4v.info/es/Refugees>. Accessed on: February 23, 2022.

According<sup>4 5</sup> with the main nationalities being Venezuelan (57.5%), Haitian (13.9%), Cuban (4.2%) and Senegalese (3.2%). By the end of 2021, according to data from<sup>6</sup>, there were over 62 thousand refugees recognized by Brazil, having Venezuelans as the main nationality of the recognized refugees with 49,045 individuals, followed by Syrians (2,110) and Congolese (658).

For people from Venezuela, since 2017, the Brazilian Government has determined the possibility of access to temporary residence in Brazil as an alternative to the request for refuge, and Venezuelan people may choose one or the other means of access to documentation (request for refuge or temporary residence) based on an informed decision. Since then, more than half of Venezuela's people in Brazil have opted for temporary residence<sup>7</sup>.

Although Brazilian legislation does not impose legal restrictions on refugees and migrants to carry out paid activities in the country, in practice, they face challenges to access the educational system, social protection programs and the formal labour market. Thus, the de facto socioeconomic integration of refugees, including the possibilities of developing their human potential, is still very low when compared to the Brazilian population.

4 For more information, access micro data at: <https://portaldeimigracao.mj.gov.br/pt/publicacoes-obmigra>

5 Only considering the applicants that are active refugees.

6 For more information, please access the interactive panel [here](#).

7 According to data available at: <https://www.r4v.info/en/brazil>. Accessed on January 06, 2022.

Surveys indicate that refugees face higher levels of unemployment, informal labour rates and underemployment than the Brazilian population. For example, the survey conducted in 2021 by the World Bank in partnership with UNHCR<sup>8</sup> to measure the integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Brazil showed that these people have only 1/3 of the chances of a Brazilian to access a formal employment opportunity. In addition, the incidence of professional demotion at work is higher for Venezuelans with high school and higher education (96% and 91%, respectively) than for Brazilians with high school and higher education (89% and 62%, respectively).

On the other hand, the studies confirm the relevance of the so-called Interiorization strategy<sup>9</sup> for the local integration of Venezuelans in other regions of Brazil and the need to continue prioritizing the implementation of shelter-exit strategies in Roraima. According to the results of the survey "Limits and challenges to the local integration of refugees and migrants from Venezuela internally relocated during the Covid-19 pandemic"<sup>10</sup> carried out by UNHCR, UN Women, and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and executed by

8 To access the survey, [click here](#).

9 Strategy of the Federal Government, implemented by Operação Acolhida [Operation Welcome], which voluntarily relocates Venezuelan refugees and migrants from the states of Roraima and Amazonas to other cities in the country. UNHCR, in partnership with other UN agencies and civil society organizations, supports the strategy.

10 For more information, access the Executive Summary, available at: <https://www.acnur.org/portugues/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Sumario-Executivo-Limites-e-desafios-a-integracao-local-de-refugiadas-refugiados-e-pessoas-migrantes-da-Venezuela-interiorizadas-durante-a-pandemia-de-Covid-19-dez.2021.pdf>

the Center for Regional Development and Planning (Cedeplar) and *Fundação Instituto de Pesquisas Econômicas, Administrativas e Contábeis* (IPEAD) of *Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais* (UFMG), the average income of Venezuelan workers after being benefited by the Interiorization strategy is BRL 1,325, slightly above the minimum wage in Brazil and about half of the average income of the main wage of the Brazilian population. Compared to Venezuelan people sheltered in Roraima, who receive an average income of BRL 595, half the minimum wage, this means an income more than twice as high after the Interiorization.

The data also indicate improvements in the unemployment rate of people benefiting from the Interiorization strategy compared to people sheltered in Roraima: the unemployment rate of the population relocated is 17.8%, compared to 30.8% of the sheltered population. Regarding the education of children and young people under the age of 18, the survey showed that 67.6% were enrolled in schools, compared to 41.3% of those sheltered in Boa Vista.

Also according to the survey, the disparities are even greater when including age, gender, and diversity lens, not only for the refugee population but also for the Brazilian population. Women refugees have even higher unemployment rates. In addition, unemployment rates for young workers (18 to 24) are close to 30% and workers with incomplete or primary secondary education are more affected than those with university degrees. Unemployment rates are higher in the Northeast, and lower in the Southeast and South, where the rate equals national averages.

Among the refugees and migrants most affected in their livelihoods, indigenous communities certainly stand out. It is estimated that 5,055 Venezuelan indigenous

people are currently in Brazilian territory, of which 66% are Warao, 30% Pemón, 3% Eñepá, 1% Kariña and 1% Wayúu, with children and adolescents making up at least 50% of this population (data from PROGRES).

According to data collected during participatory assessments, only 26% of indigenous refugees and migrants reported having a family member generating income, 55% of indigenous people raised difficulties in accessing health care, and 76% of school-age children are not in school. To strengthen policies aimed at indigenous refugees and migrants, it is necessary to ensure access to basic services and sensitive and intercultural approaches to promote self-reliance and autonomy of indigenous communities in Brazil.

As a result of the consultations carried out with the displaced Venezuelan population during the participatory assessment carried out in 2020, the five main needs identified and prioritized by the participants themselves were, in order of importance: (1) access to formal employment, (2) protection against violence (community or interpersonal), (3) housing, (4) health, (5) education.<sup>11</sup>

UNHCR will continue to support the Federal Government's efforts to develop a National Local Integration Plan for its people of interest, encouraging the inclusion of gender and ethnic-racial perspectives. In addition, considering the growing mobilization of states and municipalities for the constitution of public policies in this area, especially by the action of local councils and committees focused on policies for refugees and migrants, UNHCR will

<sup>11</sup> For more information on the outcome of the consultations, access the full report at: <https://www.acnur.org/portugues/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/ACNUR-Relatorio-Vozes-das-Pessoas-Refugiados-reduzido.pdf>

also continue to work together with state and municipal governments, adopting a specific approach for each context, to better contribute to possible challenges or gaps in local integration actions.

The land border between Venezuela and Brazil remained closed between March 18, 2020 and June 23, 2021, when it reopened for people in a situation of vulnerability due to forced displacement caused by a humanitarian crisis, under the terms of the joint Ordinance (Office of the Chief of Staff, MJSP and Min of Health) no. 655/2021, later updated by the interministerial ordinance (Office of the Chief of Staff, MJSP, Min. of Health and Min. of Infrastructure) no. 666/2022. They authorized the documentation of Venezuelan people who entered the country through alternative routes while the land borders remained closed. This measure allowed Venezuelan people to gradually have access to documentation, improving their prospects for integration in the country. The same, however, is not possible for people of other nationalities who entered through alternative routes during the time that the land border remained closed and who cannot request refuge in Brazil, remaining undocumented.

Even during the pandemic, the Interiorization strategy continued to be implemented, although the number of people benefited reduced from 3,000 in February 2020 to an average of 1,230 people in the remaining months of that same year. A Contingency Plan was established by Operation Welcome, with additional COVID-19 control and prevention measures, such as mandatory testing of beneficiaries and medical control after Interiorization. In 2021, the number of beneficiaries began to grow again with an average of 1,626 beneficiaries per month reaching the peak of over 2,000 people relocated in September and October.

## AREAS OF INTERVENTION

The original guidelines of the 2019-21 Livelihoods Strategy will be maintained for 2022. Its main objective is to sensitize the various levels of government to promote the inclusion of people of interest to UNHCR in existing public services, in particular to:

1. labour intermediation via SINE;
2. professional training via the “S” System and Technical institutes, which includes learning Portuguese; and,
3. support to entrepreneurs via SEBRAE.

In particular, the aim is to increase these services for those people of interest to UNHCR who are most vulnerable. In addition, the strategy aims to increase engagement of the Private Sector in the offer of jobs, and work with companies that carry out private intermediation of labour and support entrepreneurship.

These actions will prioritize gender, age, and diversity lens, as well as people with specific needs and indigenous populations. For the sheltered population, the strategy will focus its efforts on promoting their exit from the emergency facilities and achieving self-reliance by promoting access to livelihood opportunities at their location or via Interiorization, when applicable, as well as by strengthening local protection networks with special attention to people with specific needs.

The strategy will continue to aim at mobilizing and articulating with local governments (state and municipal), acting in order to foster incorporation of the theme of refuge in their political agendas, as well as offering technical support to the development of local Plans and Policies to create and strengthen social participation of refugee and migrant populations. In addition, it will follow the emphasis on proximity with



development players, including the IFC, World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, and working together with other UN System Agencies. Alignment with implementing partner organizations and engagement of civil society organizations as operational partners will also be a priority.

In the context of the response to the Venezuelan flow, it will be prioritized to maintain its strategic role in the coordination structures of Operation Welcome in the north of the country, together with IOM, in leading the Interiorization, Integration and Humanitarian Transport Sector of the R4V Platform, along with the Organizations of the UN System and Civil Society that integrate this Sector, and the implementation of the 2022 Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants Response Plan (RMRP).

With the growth of the operation in Brazil, UNHCR's Strategy will work in close coordination between its central office and field offices, strengthening the capacity of these offices to implement their livelihood actions considering local challenges. The areas of intervention will also be coordinated in a multidisciplinary manner with other UNHCR units, especially with regard to Community-Based Protection, Communication with Communities, Accountability to the Affected Populations, Protection of children and adolescents, prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, protection of personal data of people of interest, among others.

As already defined by the 2019-21 Livelihoods Strategy, the target audience for these interventions continues to be low-income refugees, stateless persons, asylum-seekers, and Venezuelans in need of protection and social assistance (unemployed and/or living with a family income of less than BRL 3,000.00). In alignment with paragraph 4 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, as

well as the COVID-19 Global Humanitarian Response Plan (GHRP) guidelines, UNHCR will seek to contribute to efforts to consolidate a new economy that is sustainable and inclusive, in order to ensure that "no one is left behind". In this sense, their actions will aim at priority inclusion of the most vulnerable groups, such as people with specific needs and the indigenous refugee population.

To foster the empowerment of populations of interest to UNHCR in Brazil, supporting them to overcome situations of social and economic vulnerability and promoting their self-reliance, the key sectors of intervention of UNHCR will remain the same, even if there are adjustments that may be necessary given the context of the pandemic and post-pandemic.

## EMPLOYABILITY

To promote access to greater employment opportunities for people of interest, especially women and young people, UNHCR will:

- Increase the technical capacities of partners working with labour intermediation for a more specialized and qualified service
- With support from civil society partners, strengthen the engagement of companies already hiring refugees and migrants through a communication strategy via the *Empresas com Refugiados* [Companies with Refugees] Forum;
- Expand partnerships with companies through the awareness of employers, especially through the Companies with Refugees platform and the strengthening and expansion of the *Empresas com Refugiados* [Companies with Refugees] Forum;

- Strengthen partnerships with specialized professional placement services, whether offered by private recruitment companies and their partners, or public institutions, such as local SINE units;
  - Foster new partnerships and expand existing partnerships for employability: such as Manpower and other recruitment companies;
  - Increase the access of people of interest to information related to employment, including self-employment and labour rights, strengthening the Campaign “Protect Jobs” in conjunction with the Ministry of Labour and Social Security, IOM, and ILO;
  - Encourage young people (aged 16-24) to have access to employment opportunities (through apprenticeship and trainee programs);
  - Promote the inclusion of indigenous people in employability initiatives, as well as strengthen organizations that work with this population on the issue of employability, and support companies to ensure intercultural spaces and respect for indigenous refugees and migrant ethnic groups;
  - Support specific initiatives for training and employability of people with specific needs, such as women, people with disabilities and people with chronic diseases, as well as strengthen their inclusion in existing programs.
- Strengthen the Refugee Entrepreneurs platform and expand the number of listed enterprises of refugees who are already entrepreneurs in Brazil;
  - Expand the support offered by the platform, such as training offers, guidance for formalizing business and mentoring;
  - Encourage the financial inclusion of entrepreneurs, through partnerships to offer microcredit and/or access to other financial services;
  - Continue strengthening advocacy with relevant stakeholders in the subject, such as the Ministry of Economy and SEBRAE;
  - Identify and promote specialized training mentorships for indigenous and non-indigenous people who are already entrepreneurs or who want to be entrepreneurs;
  - Encourage the creation of green businesses and collective businesses, including cooperatives and solidarity economy organizations (such as a waste pickers association, handicraft initiatives and Buriti straw extraction);
  - Support the structuring of handicraft production projects according to the culture and tradition of indigenous people, encouraging the formation of associations and production chains and sales for buyers located in different locations;
  - Support specific initiatives for training and entrepreneurship of people with specific needs, such as women, people with disabilities and people with chronic diseases, as well as strengthen their inclusion in existing programs.

## ENTREPRENEURSHIP

UNHCR will encourage, foster, and promote entrepreneurship activities through capacity building and access to financial services, as well as:

## PROFESSIONAL TRAINING AND ACCESS TO TECHNICAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION AND PORTUGUESE CLASSES

In order to increase the conditions of access to job opportunities, income, and self-reliance, UNHCR will continue to support actions that seek to increase the professional qualification of its people of interest, as well as access to validate academic titles of qualified people, with actions that relate to:

- Expand the access to vocational training opportunities, especially in areas of greater potential for labour insertion, aligned with the identification of demands by local labour markets and considering the knowledge and previous professional experiences of the people of interest;
- Encourage training initiatives focused on guidance on the world of work in Brazil and behavioral skills;
- Advance in initiatives that foster digital inclusion and online education methodologies, eventually providing financial support for related purposes, such as costing an internet package or purchasing equipment;
- Strengthen and foster the provision of financial education, including financial planning, domestic budget, living costs, among others;
- Increase the provision of Portuguese courses, including offers of different levels of knowledge (from basic to more advanced courses), as well as courses with methodologies adapted to specific profiles, such as the indigenous population;
- Decentralize and disseminate knowledge about the diploma revalidation processes among more actors with the capacity to assist refugees in the territories;
- Encourage greater performance and support from the universities of *Cátedra Sergio Vieira de Mello* regarding the guidance and support offered to revalidate diplomas;
- Promote access to high school and vocational technical courses and higher education and support, in conjunction with the Protection teams, the inclusion in basic education;
- Increase the dissemination of information on the access to *Coursera for Refugees* and other free online education platforms among partners and communities of interest;
- Invest in the training of indigenous teachers – provided there is people of interest with the needed profile who have been identified and are interested - and access to facilitated processes for training indigenous teachers in Brazil;
- Foster inclusion in the Brazilian formal indigenous education, including through support for cultural education projects proposed by Venezuelan and Brazilian indigenous communities.

## FINANCIAL INCLUSION

To enable its people of interest to have more access to financial services such as financial education and banking services, UNHCR will act in favour of actions such as:

- Strengthen and foster the provision of financial education, including financial planning, domestic budget, living costs, among others;
- Increase and facilitate the access of people of interest to banking services, through activities aimed at raising awareness of bank branches and relevant financial entities;

- Seek continuation of the partnership with the Central Bank of Brazil to produce informative materials on financial services, banking services and financial education courses;
- Encourage partnerships with financial institutions and projects to expand microcredit access to entrepreneurial refugees;
- Strengthen the financial education of community outreach volunteers and other leadership profiles that can act as multipliers in their communities, including organizations that serve indigenous people to also act as multipliers;
- Encourage the promotion of seed capital supply mechanisms to entrepreneurs, for innovation and creation of small businesses.

## COMMUNICATION AND ADVOCACY

UNHCR's actions in Brazil should continue to focus on working with the three governmental levels – federal, state and municipal – to foster and support the creation of local integration processes of people of interest both through specific approaches to each regional or local context, as well as within the scope of efforts to encourage the development of a National Local Integration Plan for Refugees, and to ensure continuity of the inclusion of people of interest in national social protection systems and in the national response to the pandemic:

- Intensify actions aimed at livelihoods and local integration of the population of interest. Advocacy actions will be focused on the areas of the Federal Government linked to labour policies, income generation, education and inclusion in assistance and social protection mechanisms. Special attention will be devoted to the issue of indigenous refugees to propose culturally sensitive solutions to their needs.
- Maintain and deepen the articulations with the governments of states and municipalities, as well as in relation to committees, councils and working groups for local integration of refugees and migrants, to foster the strengthening of such forums for dialogue, diagnosis and formatting of specific policies aimed at local integration, in order to strengthen public interventions and, whenever possible, contribute to their institutionalization and continuity. Below are the main initiatives:
  - » Expand support to local governments to prepare Plans and Policies, including through specialized consultancies;
  - » Maintain monitoring and constant support to state and municipal Committees, Councils and Working Groups;
  - » Conduct, along with COMIRAT/RS, the First national meeting of State Committees and Councils for Refugees and Migrants, which will bring together all State Councils and Committees for Refugees and Migrants currently active in Brazil, with the objective of fostering the articulation of these participatory bodies in order to exchange experiences and share challenges and good practices;
  - » Structure and launch the National Forum of State Committees and Councils for Refugees and Migrants, the first of its kind in the country with the aim of periodically

bringing together these state instances, consolidating itself in a relevant space for national advocacy on the subject.

- Increase advocacy actions with development players such as the World Bank, the Inter-American Development Bank, federal and local development agencies, and United Nations agencies such as UNDP.

In the field of Communication, the recommendation is to seek positive communication strategies through producing data and sharing individual success stories, as a way to encourage the engagement of both the host and the displaced communities. Periodic reports will continue to be produced in order to publicize the actions implemented, in addition to the Unit's annual report.

## RESEARCH AND CONTENT DEVELOPMENT

The strategy of carrying out analyses of the socioeconomic profile of the population of interest will be maintained, in order to position the UNHCR as a producer of quantitative and qualitative data that can support impact assessments and guide interventions in the areas of Livelihoods and Socioeconomic Inclusion, through direct implementation or via partners, based on the following guidelines:

- Continue with the post-relocation impact analysis through new research rounds on the socioeconomic situation of the beneficiaries of the Interiorization strategy;
- Expand the visibility of the institutional modality through the production of quantitative panels and qualitative reports, which show data and information with the trajectory of

people who left the shelters in Roraima and integrated into new cities, with the support received from the reception and integration centers;

- Conduct specific research to identify the socioeconomic profile of the indigenous population – which supports livelihood and income generation strategies – through adapted methodologies and in partnership with specialized organizations;
- Consolidate partnerships with other data research and analysis institutions such as IPEA, IBGE and ObMigra, in addition to maturing the partnership with World Bank through new data analysis initiatives;
- Consolidate the analysis of information on people of interest available in public databases in the areas of education, social assistance, health, work, and entrepreneurship.

## INTERIORIZATION

UNHCR will continue to support the Interiorization strategy established by the Federal Government and implemented by Operation Welcome, mainly through the institutional modality and by mainstreaming the Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) approach. The main objective will be to expand the inclusion of more vulnerable profiles and people with specific needs (PWSN) in the strategy and expand access to durable solutions via local integration in Brazilian regions with a greater offer of employment and income opportunities. In addition, understanding Interiorization as a strategy for people to be able to leave the shelters in Roraima, their interventions should prioritize the sheltered population. In order to reinforce these guidelines, UNHCR will:

- Maintain, in 2022, direct financing of five reception and integration centers managed by the partners *Aldeias Infantis and Caritas Paraná* in regions with the greatest potential for socioeconomic integration, such as São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Distrito Federal, Rio Grande do Sul and Paraná, as well as operational support to other centers;
- Strengthen the capacity of partners to support more vulnerable profiles and/or with specific protection needs to access livelihood and integration opportunities, to enable their self-reliance and ensure their conditions to leave the reception and integration centers in the estimated time (up to 3 months);
- Maintain support for the (Employment-based) modality, especially for people from Roraima shelters, and according to the available resources;
- Strengthen private projects in the Employment-based modality focused on people with specific needs (PWSN), such as the “Empowering Refugees Women” project and the articulation of job vacancies with partner companies, to foster Interiorization for people that already have a job vacancy;
- Mobilize and carry out advocacy and training with local social protection networks in the destination cities for access and reception of the most vulnerable people and/or people with specific needs, in order to enable faster local integration, thus increasing turnover in the reception and integration centers;
- Support the Brazilian Government in the mobilization of local stakeholders, in the main destination cities, to strengthen the interiorization process, either in mapping new /sheltering possibilities and/or monitoring, along with the local networks, the protection and integration of relocated people;
- Support local partners in the access, systematization, and analysis of data on the relocated population;
- Continue with the initiatives to evaluate the monitoring of relocated people through new rounds of surveys on the socioeconomic situation of the beneficiaries of the Interiorization;
- Focus on the quality of the support given throughout the interiorization process, seeking to support the largest number of people in a protected manner, aiming to ensure the monitoring and sustainability of voluntary relocation in terms of protection and local integration;
- Strengthen the visibility of UNHCR actions through the production of quantitative panels and qualitative reports/bulletins, which show not only data, but also stories about the trajectory of people (especially PWSN, such as single-parent families and LGBTIQ+ people, for example) who left the shelters in Roraima through the Institutional modality of the Interiorization strategy and integrated with support from reception and integration centers.

#### FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE (CBI)

UNHCR should maintain its initiatives aimed at providing direct financial assistance to people of concern in conditions of greater vulnerability and less capacity to meet their basic needs, including Venezuelans refugees and migrants participating in the Interiorization strategy through the Institutional and Employment-based modalities, as well as those selected for

other projects in which financial assistance can serve as a complementary tool (such as, for example, shelter-exit strategies) and temporary help so that, together with other actions and livelihood initiatives, people of interest can achieve self-reliance.

## PRIORITY FOCUSES

### INDIGENOUS POPULATION<sup>12</sup>

Based on the challenges and needs identified over the past few years of welcoming and working with indigenous Venezuelan refugee and migrant communities in several regions throughout Brazil, UNHCR will seek to strengthen and increasingly consolidate its livelihood strategies with indigenous communities in urban and rural areas, guiding its partners in the search for more sustainable and culturally sensitive solutions based on specific guidelines to be considered, such as:

1. Multiple solutions to meet the diversity of profiles and demands mapped;
2. Interculturality of the solutions to be developed with the indigenous communities considering their heterogeneity regarding their traditions and understandings;
3. Relevance of host communities, including Brazilian indigenous communities, as key players in the search for intersectoral and innovative solutions.

In addition, among other priority actions that will guide the interventions conducted by UNHCR, are:

<sup>12</sup> For more information, see the “Livelihoods for the indigenous refugee and migrant population – an intercultural look for 2022” Annex.

- Conduct research to determine the socioeconomic profile of the population through specialized organizations and with methodology adapted to indigenous populations;
- Select the best practices in Portuguese courses for indigenous populations and promote the scale-up of these initiatives. The same will be sought for adapted methodologies of professional training.
- Intensify advocacy for access to areas where they can develop community livelihood activities (such as agriculture and other rural activities), and for self-employment, including micro entrepreneurship (such as artisan associations, for example);
- Support access to formal employment opportunities whenever indicated as a solution by the family groups;
- Raise awareness and map companies that are more open to include indigenous people, as well as provide information on labour rights;
- Strengthen advocacy efforts with public authorities to include indigenous refugees and migrants in public services;
- Establish and maintain partnerships to promote the generation of income of indigenous people, such as the project carried out in partnership with *Casa Museu do Objeto Brasileiro*;
- Encourage actions and activities that promote the autonomy and financial self-reliance of these populations.

### PEOPLE WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS (PWSN)

For 2022, the Livelihoods teams in the various offices throughout Brazil, along with other relevant Units (i.e., Protection, CBI, Programme) should continue to

improve the mainstreaming of the Age, Gender and Diversity (AGD) approach in all its initiatives and projects, as well as include people with specific needs (people with disabilities, single-parent families, protection profiles, LGBTIQ+ people, among others) through partnerships with specialized institutions, with specific projects and dedicated resources.

The main objective of this approach is to ensure that UNHCR and its partners' interventions are accessible to people with specific needs or more vulnerable groups, including through a careful selection of locations and schedules to provide services and the removing of any barriers that may prevent such profiles from being benefited, in order to expand the inclusion and access to durable solutions via local integration for groups of greater vulnerability as well.

To ensure its efforts to “leave no one behind”, UNHCR will:

- Seek partnerships with organizations specialized in the socioeconomic inclusion of people with specific needs, to develop training and income generation activities, and/or strengthen inclusion in existing programs;
- Strengthen the support and technical training of partners so that they can support more vulnerable profiles and/or with specific protection needs to access livelihood and integration opportunities;
- Mobilize and advocate with local social protection networks to increase and facilitate access for the most vulnerable people and/or people with specific needs to existing public services and programs.

## PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

Fostering social cohesion through livelihood initiatives that can also act as an inducing element of local sustainable economic development and peaceful coexistence between the displaced and the host communities is a way to not only strengthen UNHCR's support for the Brazilian government's responses to the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, but also to ensure alignment with the objectives of the 2030 Agenda and the principle of “leaving no one behind”, strengthening the engagement with the whole-of-society approach established by the Global Compact on Refugees.

Thus, one of the strategic recommendations for UNHCR livelihoods interventions in 2022 is to strengthen, whenever possible, inclusion of the most vulnerable profiles of Brazilian communities in activities implemented directly or through partners.

These actions, along with others in the area of livelihoods, will contribute to the implementation of measures aimed at preventing and raising awareness to put an end to discrimination and xenophobia.

## PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

As set out in section 7.3 Partnerships and Coordination of the 2019-21 Livelihoods Strategy, UNHCR will maintain its role as a partner and supporter of joint responses with actors from Federal Government, local governments, the S System, partner organizations, Universities and UN Agencies, as well as continue to seek advancements in partnerships with non-traditional actors, such as the private sector and other development actors (World Bank, IDB, UNDP, IFC, etc.),



due to its potential to play a crucial role in the development of local economies and therefore also generate an increase in opportunities for integrating refugees and migrants into local labour markets.

With regard specifically to the topics most strongly related to the areas of Livelihoods, UNHCR also proposes to seek to strengthen the network with its implementing partners, as well as other stakeholders relevant to the area of Employment and Income generation, based on guidelines such as:

- Contribute to reducing inequality between labour and employment indicators between the refugee and Brazilian population, with the same profile;
- Direct the development of the *Empresas com Refugiados* [Companies with Refugees] Forum so that it becomes a self-managed instance led by the participating companies themselves. However, it is important to emphasize that, until this direction is achieved, it will be necessary for UNHCR to provide resources to carry out the activities of the Forum and keep the *Empresas com Refugiados* [Companies with Refugees] platform active;
- Increase standardization and alignment between the strategies of UNHCR and its implementing partners with regard to employability and approaches to companies.

## MONITORING AND IMPACT EVALUATION

The monitoring of both implementation and the results of the activities foreseen by this strategy will be conducted continuously by UNHCR's teams, and in

collaboration with the respective teams of the implementing partners, based on the previously established guidelines, namely:

- Standardizing parameters, metrics and indicators<sup>13</sup> used by the partners and the activities related to each of them;
- Promoting impact assessment studies to better understand the results of actions and projects supported by UNHCR (diploma validation, entrepreneurship kit, projects to support people to leave the shelters, institutional interiorization, CBI, among others);
- Implementation of ProGres as a tool for recording and reporting livelihood activities.

Finally, the performance of the Strategy mainly used the UNHCR's Results Framework for the monitoring, as established in section 9. *Monitoring and Evaluation Framework of the Livelihoods Strategy 2019-21*. It is estimated that, for 2022, the operation can expand the milestones foreseen in each key sector of this Livelihoods Strategy, as well as align them with the new planning system of results-based management (RBM) and programming (COMPASS), as shown in the table below.

<sup>13</sup> Indicators defined based on the parameters established under the new COMPASS, as well as indicators present in the RMRP, and the expected results framework for 2022.

Outcome Area	Outcome Statement	Output Statement	Output Indicators	Targets	Results
13. Self-reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods.	4.2 National and local policies and programmes facilitate socio economic integration of PoC.	4.2.1 Evidence-based advocacy conducted, and coordination and technical support provided to national and local authorities.	# of persons capacitated to promote the integration of refugees and migrants.	1000	
			# of products published that provide relevant information for policy makers and practitioners on integration programming.	20	
			# of events, workshops and seminars organized.	20	
		4.2.2 PoC are provided with assistance for self-reliance through vocational training including language courses, extracurricular classes, diploma recognition and (self) employment/ entrepreneurship initiatives.	# of refugees and migrants whose professional diplomas, titles, or credentials - obtained via tertiary education or professional/ vocational schools - have been certified, recognized, or validated in the host country.	30	
			# of PoC supported with language training.	2000	
			# of PoC supported with access to technical or vocational skills certification/training.	2000	
			# of refugees, migrants & host community members assisted with support for job placement, (self) employment or entrepreneurship initiatives.	4000	
			4.2.3 Public and private service providers are aware of the rights of PoC and enable their effective access to social protection systems and public and financial services.	# of private sector employers that have hired refugees and migrants as a result of sensitization and/or capacity strengthening initiatives.	40
# of trainings and advocacy campaigns conducted.	60				
16. Local Integration and Other Local Solutions.	4.1 Voluntary internal relocation is available to a higher and more diverse number of PoC in coordination with authorities and civil society organizations.	4.1.1 PoC receive assistance to voluntarily relocate across Brazil through the available modalities of the government interiorization programme.	# of PoCs reallocated supported directly by UNHCR.	1700	
7. Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment.	3.2 Indigenous PoC have access to culturally appropriate protection, assistance and solutions and participate in the development of differentiated policies.	3.2.3 Indigenous PoC are provided with assistance for self-reliance through vocational training including language courses and (self) employment/ entrepreneurship.	# of indigenous PoC supported with language training.	200	
			# of indigenous PoC supported with access to technical or vocational skills certification/training.	300	
			# of Indigenous PoC assisted with support for job placement, (self) employment or entrepreneurship initiatives.	400	









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