

UNHCR IN SÃO PAULO

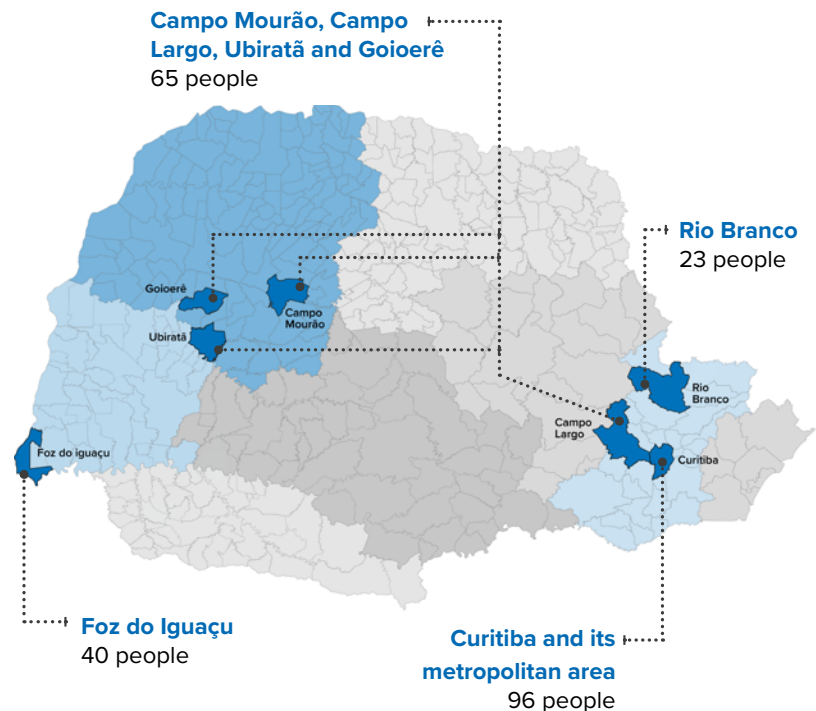


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Agência da ONU para Refugiados

UNHCR CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOPS IN THE STATE OF PARANÁ

In July and August, UNHCR São Paulo, in partnership with Cáritas Regional do Paraná (CAPR), continued promoting the capacity building workshops on “Protection and Integration of Refugees and Migrants in Paraná”. Focused on public servants from different areas and aiming to ensure a deeper understanding of the theme of protection, rights and opportunities for refugees, in addition to presenting tools and good practices for daily work with these populations, municipalities in different regions were impacted. About 128 civil servants from the municipalities of Rio Branco, Campo Mourão, Campo Largo, Goioerê and Foz do Iguaçu, from the Education and Social Assistance areas, participated in the training, totaling 224 civil servants trained.



PROTECTION AND INSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

STRENGTHENING LOCAL PROTECTION AND INTEGRATION NETWORKS

COORDINATING ACTIONS AND ADVOCATING IN COUNCILS, COMMITTEES, WORKING GROUPS AND FORUMS

ADVOCACY IN LOCAL COMMITTEES, COUNCILS, AND FORUMS

In the third quarter of 2021, UNHCR São Paulo participated in a total of 46 advocacy and coordination meetings within 15 local entities the articulation of policies and initiatives in favor of refugees and migrants in the South and Southeast regions and in the state of Bahia, including Councils, Committees, Working Groups, and Forums. Some of the highlights include meetings of Warao working groups in the states of Minas Gerais and São Paulo; progress on the 1st State Policy Plan for Refugees, Migrants, Stateless Persons, and Returnees from Minas Gerais; monitoring of borders and airports, including regular meetings to discuss the flow of unauthorized persons at the Guarulhos International Airport and proposal of training courses for airline companies, civil aviation protection agents (APACs) and staff from the Special Police Station at the International Airport (DEAIN).

CAPACITY BUILDING FOR LOCAL NETWORKS

During the third quarter of 2021, UNHCR São Paulo participated in 10 capacity building sessions for local networks in the Southern and Southeastern states, reaching a total of 145 participants in topics related to access to documentation and procedures for refugees, assistance to refugees and migrants through public networks, LGBTQIA+ and indigenous population, improvement of pre-documentation services, training of Venezuelan outreach volunteers, and training for the use of ProGres (UNHCR’s global system of registration).



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Miguel Pachioni

SUPPORT FOR ACCESS TO DOCUMENTATION: STRENGTHENING THE IMMIGRANT CIC (SP)

In August, UNHCR São Paulo trained 12 volunteers to improve the pre-documentation services offered at the Center for Immigrant Integration and Citizenship (CIC do Imigrante) of the São Paulo state. UNHCR mobilized member universities of the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Chair (CSVM) and partner institutions, like Cáritas São Paulo (CASP) and Missão Paz, to assist in local coordination with the group’s pre-documentation procedures, doubling the capacity of the service.

ACCESS TO THE TERRITORY: EXPANDING INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION AT AIRPORTS

Throughout August, UNHCR and partners worked to enhance the international protection of refugees and migrants at Brazilian airports. This included the placement of information panels at Tom Jobim International Airport (Galeão), in Rio de Janeiro, and a rich exchange of experiences on humanized care for refugees and migrants in the 1st Meeting of Advanced Posts for International Protection at Airports, implemented at Guarulhos International Airport. Both initiatives had the effective participation of partner entities at the municipal, state and federal levels.



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COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING IN SÃO PAULO

In August, a self-census of the Venezuelan community residing in the Interlagos, São Paulo, was carried out. The mapping was done by nine Venezuelan outreach volunteers living in the area as part of a community-based protection project conducted by UNHCR in partnership with Rede Interação and SOS Aldeias Infantis. The survey includes information on family composition and income, main services and networks accessed in the territory, access to information and challenges faced, among others, promoting the continuous and participatory mapping of local demands to promote a culture of self-management, collective action and search for common solutions.

SUPPORT FOR POPULATIONS WITH SPECIFIC NEEDS

INDIGENOUS: SHARING GOOD PRACTICES AND CAPACITY BUILDING ON INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS FOR THE CAMPINAS NETWORK

On 22 July, UNHCR São Paulo promoted a capacity building session for 50 people from the local network of Campinas, including participants from the city hall and its departments of Human Rights and Assistance, Education, Health, Child Protection Services, and Research Centers of the University of Campinas. The session focused on protection, local integration, and lasting solutions for the Warao population addressed their cultural aspects, dynamics of forced displacement in Brazil, UNHCR’s actions in response to protection demands of the population. On 15 July, UNHCR, in partnership with the Jesuit Service for Migrants and Refugees (SJMR), participated in the “Expanded Meeting on Protection and Assistance to Indigenous Refugees and Migrants”. The meeting brought together 94 people from various organizations and entities working directly with Warao people to share their experiences and improve culturally sensitive responses to this population.



ELDERLY: UNHCR CONDUCTS PARTICIPATORY ASSESSMENT WITH VENEZUELAN ELDERLY IN NOVA IGUAÇU (RJ)

In July, UNHCR carried out a participatory assessment with a group of 23 elderly people currently housed at Casa de Acolhida ao Migrante Jardim Paraíso, in Nova Iguaçu/RJ. The group's assessment of the constant support received by the Municipal Social Assistance Secretariat of Nova Iguaçu (SEMAS), including the presence of a caregiver and regular monitoring by CRAS, was positive. Although most elderly people already receive the BPC and have regular access to public health, including access to surgeries and some elective treatments, some challenges remain in these areas, as well as difficulties in entering the labor market and income-generating strategies. UNHCR and Caritas Arquidiocesana of Rio de Janeiro continue to monitor and support the group's protection and integration process in Nova Iguaçu.



Participatory assessment is implemented with the Venezuelan population sheltered in Nova Iguaçu, Rio de Janeiro State.

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SÉRGIO VIEIRA DE MELLO CHAIR IN THE SOUTHEAST, SOUTH AND BAHIA

In July 2021, the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Chair (CSVM) of the Federal University of Santa Catarina (UFSC) obtained approval an admission policy for refugees and humanitarian migrants to increase this population's access to higher education. In the same period, the CSVM of the Fluminense Federal University (UFF) received an award from the city of Niterói for its outstanding work in promoting human rights in the city. In August, several CSVM held events to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention, such as the event "Refugee Status Convention at 70", organized by UniSantos.

LIVELIHOODS AND LOCAL INTEGRATION

6TH EDITION OF THE EMPOWERING REFUGEE WOMEN PROJECT

The Empowering Refugee Women project, developed by UNHCR, UN Global Compact Brazil Network and UN Women, promoted capacity building courses in sales and customer service to 34 Venezuelan women in July and August in Boa Vista (RR). The participants will be sent for job interviews and, if approved, will have the support of UNHCR for their interiorization (and their families). Another 40 Venezuelan women will be trained throughout the year, with emphasis on the participation of women with disabilities and chronic illnesses or caregivers of people with disabilities. The 6th edition of the Empowering Refugee Women initiative has the support of Instituto Lojas Renner, Unidas, Iguatemi, Sodexo, MRV and Facebook.

SJMR PORTO ALEGRE, WITH SUPPORT FROM UNHCR, RENOVATES COMMUNITY LIBRARY USED BY REFUGEES, MIGRANTS, AND BRAZILIANS IN PORTO ALEGRE

The Jesuit Service for Migrants and Refugees (SJMR) of Porto Alegre, through the Integrando Horizontes Project, carried out the restoration of Aninha Peixoto Community Library, in the Rubem Berta district of the state capital. With the support of UNHCR and the Pan American Development Foundation (FUPAD), this community space that serves refugees, migrants, and Brazilians was renovated and will continue to promote community integration initiatives.

NEW SJMR OFFICES IN SANTA CATARINA AND BAHIA

In July, the partnership between UNHCR and the Jesuit Service for Migrants and Refugees (SJMR) expanded its activities with the opening of new offices in the cities of Florianópolis (SC) and Salvador (BA). SJMR and UNHCR aim to strengthen support for local refugee protection and integration networks, formed by local government, civil society organizations, universities, refugee communities, among other stakeholders.



UNHCR office in partnership with SJMR in Florianópolis (SC), located at the headquarters of Caritas Brasileira Regional Santa Catarina.

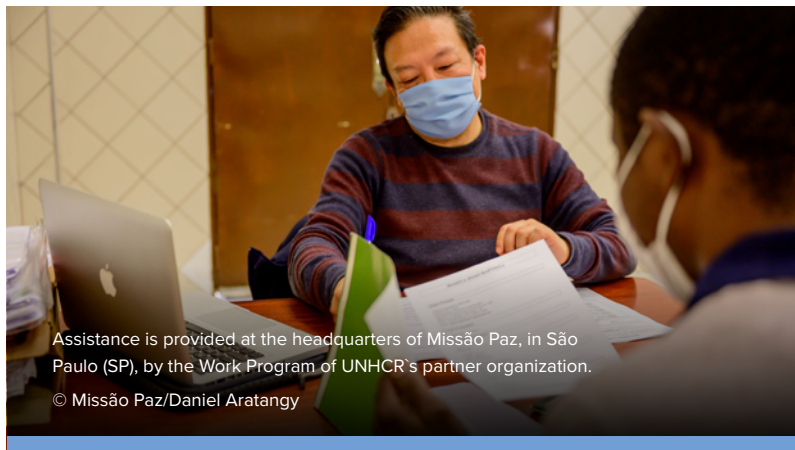
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COMPASSIVA REVALIDATES 26 REFUGEES' DIPLOMAS IN THE FIRST HALF OF THE YEAR

Launched in 2016 with funding from UNHCR, the refugee diploma revalidation program, in partnership with the NGO Compassiva, was a pioneer in Brazil. In this first semester of 2021, 26 diplomas have already been revalidated, involving several areas of knowledge and universities that acted in the process.

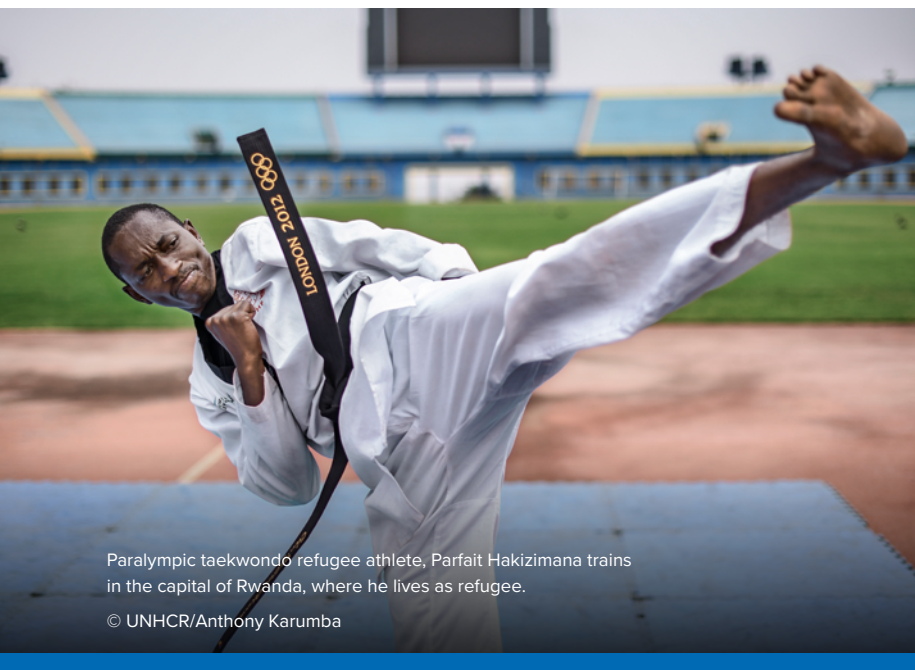
MISSÃO PAZ EMPLOYABILITY PROGRAM FOR REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UNHCR

From January to June 2021, the organization Missão Paz promoted the hiring of 83 refugees and migrants. The main nationality among those who got a job placement was Venezuelan (28 people), followed by Angolans (20), Haitians (11) and Congolese (8). More than 30 employers were responsible for the hiring, with jobs mainly offered in restaurants (13 hires) and services companies (9).



Assistance is provided at the headquarters of Missão Paz, in São Paulo (SP), by the Work Program of UNHCR's partner organization.
© Missão Paz/Daniel Aratany

PUBLIC INFORMATION



Paralympic taekwondo refugee athlete, Parfait Hakizimana trains in the capital of Rwanda, where he lives as refugee.

© UNHCR/Anthony Karumba

UNHCR BRAZIL LAUNCHES WEBPAGES ON OLYMPIC AND PARALYMPIC GAMES AND AFGHANISTAN

For the second time in the history of the Olympic and Paralympic Games, the world could cheer for the Olympic and Paralympic Refugee Teams. As a result of the partnership of the International Olympic (IOC) and Paralympic (IPC) Committees, in partnership with UNHCR, 35 refugee athletes competed in the Games. Updated information was accessible at acnur.org/portugues/timedere-fugiados. Another prominent page in the period, the website acnur.org.br/afeganistao brought updated information and clippings of the situation of instability and uncertainties that dominate Afghanistan.



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UNHCR Brazil is also thankful for the important support of and partnerships with other UN agencies, Brazilian authorities (at federal, state and municipal levels) and civil society organizations working together to deliver the emergency response and in the regular programmes of the Brazilian operation.