

Activity Report

2021 LIVELIHOODS



Introduction

UNHCR Brazil works together with partners to support the socioeconomic inclusion of refugees and other people in need of international protection in the country. The approach seeks to ensure the inclusion of these populations in available public and private services and programs, including employment and income generation, in addition to stimulating the involvement of the private sector as well as development actors in the local integration process, seeking to consolidate a favorable environment in relation to these populations.

It is worth reinforcing that the UNHCR Brazil's 2019-2021 Livelihoods Strategy was intended to support refugees, stateless people and asylum-seekers so that they may achieve their autonomy and self-sufficiency with dignity. Such people, as demonstrated by several studies, have varied educational and professional profiles. Under this strategy, actions in 2021 met the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concerning no poverty (SDG 1), zero hunger and sustainable agriculture (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 economic and social inclusion of refugees, in addition to expanding autonomy and dignity, promotes local development, creates new business opportunities and increases tax collection, contributing to the improvement of the well-being of host communities. Although there are no legal restrictions on entering the job market and other services, the reality is that asylum-seekers, refugees and other forcibly displaced people face challenges related to accessing education, formal jobs, entrepreneurship and social protection programs.

When it comes to Venezuelan refugees and migrants, the analysis of the data points out that they have only one-third of the chances of Brazilians to be formally hired. A study released in 2021, in partnership with the World Bank, also shows that Venezuelan children and adolescents are 53% less likely to attend school compared to Brazilian children

and adolescents. Still, at the end of 2021, it is estimated that over 52 thousand Venezuelan refugees and migrants worked with their employment record cards signed by the employer and over 6,500 were micro-entrepreneurs. In addition, 47,488 children and young people were enrolled in the regular school system (early childhood, elementary school and secondary school), although most of them were still out of school. With the socioeconomic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, the number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants looking to access social assistance programs has also increased. In December 2021, over 115 thousand Venezuelans were registered in *Cadastro Único* [Single Registry] to access public social assistance programs, and 54,394 of them were receiving the *Auxílio Brasil* aid from the government and 1,400 receiving the Continued Installment Benefit (BPC). Other refugee populations in Brazil face similar challenges or even more attenuated challenges compared to those faced by Venezuelans.

In the Latin American region, despite the economic recovery that began in 2021, the social crisis resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic remains, with unemployment, poverty and extreme poverty rates higher than in 2019, according to a report by the Economic Commission for Latin America (ECLA)¹. The publication also indicates that the effects of the pandemic were felt even more severely by certain groups, pointing out the declining participation of women in the job market and the impact according to age, since young workers were disproportionately more affected. Finally, this job recovery has occurred mainly through an increase in informality and, often, in sectors with precarious conditions.

This report presents the main results achieved by the operation in this area during the year, covering activities implemented throughout the country. The activities presented in this report are complementary to public policies and show the needs of the most vulnerable people in terms of social and economic inclusion.

1 Latin American Social Panorama 2021 (link: <https://www.cepal.org/pt-br/publicaciones/47808-panorama-social-america-latina-2021-resumo-executivo>)

2021 in numbers

Here you can find the main figures of the Livelihoods activities offered by UNHCR and its partners to refugees and other people in need of international protection.

About **15,000** refugees and migrants were supported with livelihoods activities in 2021.

Employability



The Companies with Refugees Platform had more than **12,000** visitors in 2021.



UNHCR and the UN Global Compact in Brazil launched the Companies with Refugees Forum, which achieved **34** members in 2021 and promoted **9** events, encompassing more than **900** people.



7,340 refugees and migrants received guidance on opportunities in the job market and help to prepare and register their resumes.



65 NGOs were trained to strengthen their skills for refugee insertion in the job market.

Entrepreneurship



178 refugees and migrants received support and training in entrepreneurial skills.



101 businesses of refugee entrepreneurs were promoted by the Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform. Around **2,980** refugees and migrants accessed the online platform and received guidance on business opportunities, training, mentoring and funding.



87 Venezuelans received seed capital or kits to start their business.

Financial inclusion



207 refugees received briefing sessions on financial education, rights and access to financial services.



180 refugee entrepreneurs were supported in accessing microcredit.

Education



84 diplomas of refugees and migrants were revalidated, in addition to **75** other requests for revalidation initiated.



2,162 refugees and migrants took Portuguese language classes.



4,762 young people and adult refugees and migrants participated in vocational training courses and training, including Venezuelan women in the Empowering Refugee Women Project.

Interiorization



2,177 Venezuelan refugees and migrants were supported by UNHCR in the Institutional and Employment-Based modalities.



5,732 people were sheltered in Rondon 2 in Boa Vista for Interiorization purposes, **2,347** in Pacaraima and **7,083** in the Manaus Transit Center (ATM).

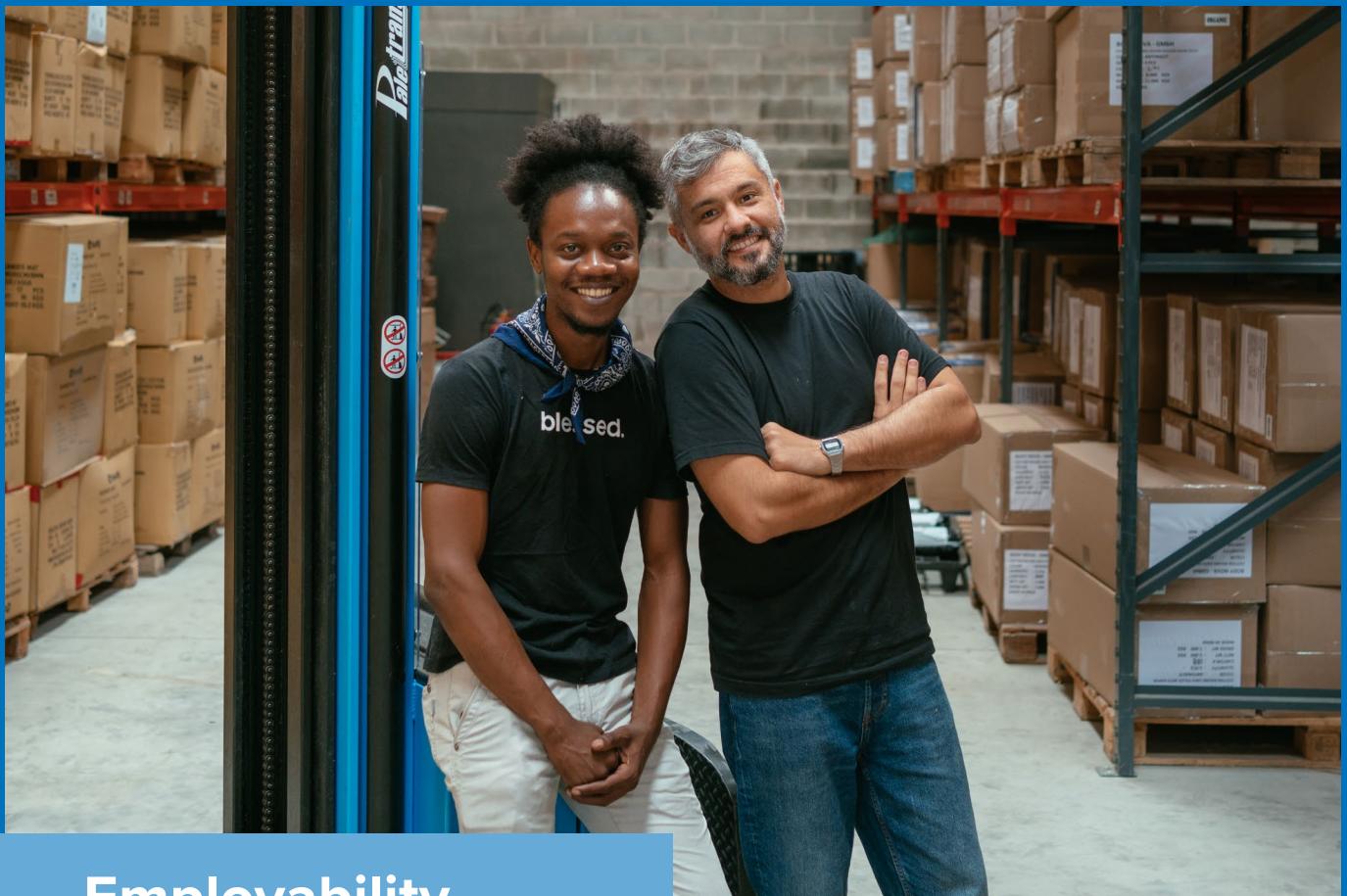


1,972 refugees and migrants received financial assistance from UNHCR in the Institutional and Employment-based modalities, for the total amount of **BRL 1,705,000**.

Partnerships



4 new partnership agreements were signed to promote the integration of refugees and migrants.



Employability

Companies with Refugees Platform

The Companies with Refugees Platform, a joint initiative between UNHCR and the UN Global Compact in Brazil, accounted for **12 thousand** visitors in 2021. In this period, six new practices were added: Iguatemi, Unidas, Localiza, Amanco Wavin, Sitel and BRF. These initiatives are important to motivate other companies to hire and promote the inclusion of refugees.

[Access the platform here](#)

Promotion of jobs for the refugee and migrant population

351 refugees and migrants were hired in formal jobs through the articulation of partners in Manaus and São Paulo. The Center for Support and Reference to Refugees and Migrants (CARE), managed by ADRA, and Hermanitos, with UNHCR's support, contributed to the hiring of **200** Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Manaus. Refugees were supported in preparing for the selection processes and, once hired, monitoring by the organizations.

In São Paulo, the NGO Missão Paz, a partner of UNHCR, promoted the hiring of **151** refugees and migrants throughout 2021, the main nationalities being Venezuelans, Angolans and Haitians. In addition, **80** new companies participated in the organization's training program and **354** jobs were offered in 2021.

Protect Work Campaign

The Protect Work campaign, an initiative of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare, in partnership with the UNHCR, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), promoted various activities in 2021. Three live videos were broadcast on the internet on themes such as temporary work and domestic work. Three booklets were also released in five languages (Portuguese, Spanish, English, French and Arabic) to guide refugees and migrants on legislation and what constitutes slave labor in Brazil.

[Access the live video recordings and newsletters here.](#)



Companies with Refugees Forum

On 23 June 2021, the UNHCR and the UN Global Compact in Brazil launched the Companies with Refugees Forum, formed by companies and business organizations interested in supporting the inclusion of refugees in the job market. **21** companies and organizations announced their membership at the time of the launch. In 6 months, the Forum achieved **34** members and promoted **9** events, encompassing more than **900** people.

The initiative seeks to promote the exchange of experiences, training actions for hiring refugees, employability and sharing good practices in the inclusion of these people in work environments.

Access the first three editions of the Companies with Refugees Forum newsletter to see more details on activities in 2021:

[Issue 1 – September 2021](#)

[Issue 2 – November 2021](#)

[Issue 3 – December 2021](#)

Cashier's course

In Boa Vista, **18** Venezuelans completed the cashier's course offered by *Serviço Jesuíta a Migrantes e Refugiados* (SJMR) in partnership with SENAC and the UNHCR. In addition, **75** people benefited from the lecture on labor laws and the preparation of resumes and digital employment record cards facilitated by SJMR in Rondon 3.

Green Jobs Project

Through the Green Jobs project, the result of the partnership between the UNHCR and SJMR in Boa Vista, "Coffee with Entrepreneurs" was promoted in the city of Belo Horizonte with participation from the representatives of **17** mining companies.

Five companies from the sustainable economy were also visited in Minas Gerais, Bahia, Santa Catarina and Rio Grande do Sul resulting in securing **12** job vacancies for Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

Raising awareness of companies in Manaus

The NGO Hermanitos promoted the event *How to Hire Refugee and Migrant Workers in line with Brazilian Legislation*, and launched the Talent Pool for Hermanitos to refer refugee candidates to interested companies. In partnership with the UNHCR, it also held two editions of the Multicultural Corporate Environment event, raising awareness of **32** companies on hiring refugees and migrants. Throughout the year, Hermanitos raised the awareness of **85** companies, **27** of which hired refugees with support from the organization.



“La Voz de los Refugiados” community radio

“La Voz de los Refugiados” community radio, an initiative based at the Rondon 1 Shelter in Boa Vista and broadcast to the other shelters managed by AVSI Brasil in partnership with the UNHCR, produced and disseminated programs on the theme of livelihoods and interiorization. Among the topics

covered are labor exploitation, slave labor and labor law in Brazil, participation in Portuguese language and vocational training courses, interiorization and employability. The episodes reach, on average, 7 thousand sheltered people and can be found [here](#).

Inclusion of people with disabilities

On 18 August, in Boa Vista, the UNHCR offered a workshop on the inclusion of people with disabilities in the job market, in partnership with *Turma do Jiló*, an organization contracted by the Empowering Refugee Women Project. There were **32**

representatives attending from seven Operation Welcome organizations and two public agencies linked to labor and income, Labor Prosecution Office and SINE Roraima.

Livelihoods Committees

At the 13 de Setembro shelter in Boa Vista, administered in 2021 by Fraternity without Borders (FSF), two community-based protection groups were established, allied to livelihoods, one for men and one for women. The committees intend to work so that the sheltered population can create their own solutions according to the challenges of each group. Cultural adaptation activities, resume preparation workshops and conversations

about employment were promoted. In partnership with the UNHCR, the FSF also supported preparation of the **43** resumes and **54** digital employment record cards for residents of the 13 de Setembro and São Vicente 2 shelters in Boa Vista, in addition to offering information sessions on the job market and local integration for **77** Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

Cooperation agreements

In October, the UNHCR signed a cooperation agreement with ASSERTTEM (Brazilian Temporary Work Association). The main objective of the agreement is to promote the dissemination of knowledge on refugees and asylum seekers' access to temporary employment opportunities. In the same month, the UNHCR also signed a cooperation agreement with the

human resources company ManpowerGroup Brasil. The agreement aims to promote employment opportunities and income generation for refugee and migrant people and provide training on the integration of refugees into the job market of the NGOs. The ManpowerGroup is a mobilizing company of the Companies with Refugees Forum.

Trampoline Platform

On 17 November, the **Trampoline** employability platform was launched, conceived and developed by the Refugee and Asylum Seeker Assistance Program (PARES) of Cáritas RJ, with funding from the Public Labor Prosecution Service in Rio de Janeiro (MPT- RJ) and support from the UNHCR, IOM

and the US Agency for International Development (USAID). On the platform, employers offer employment opportunities, free training or hire services. Refugees living in Rio de Janeiro can register their resumes, enroll in training courses or offer their services.

Hiring as apprentices

The UNHCR, in partnership with the Centro de Integração Empresa Escola (CIEE), has released a booklet for employers

on how to hire refugees and migrants as apprentices. The booklet is available [here](#).

Workshop for partner organizations

On 24 November, the UNHCR promoted a workshop to empower people from partner organizations that offer job placements to refugees and migrants. The UNHCR and

ManpowerGroup provided tips on how to engage the private sector. Missão Paz and the International Institute of Education of Brazil (IIEB - Belém) also shared their experiences.

1st Hermanitos Employability Forum for Refugees and Migrants

On 25 November, Manaus hosted the *1st Hermanitos Employability Forum for Refugees and Migrants*, promoted by the NGO Hermanitos in partnership with the UNHCR and the

Companies with Refugees Forum. In total, the event had **80** participants, including **43** private sector companies.



Entrepreneurship

Entrepreneur Adriana, who came from Venezuela and is a chef in São Paulo

Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform

The UNHCR and the UN Global Compact in Brazil launched the **Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform** on 10 February. The initiative aims to give greater visibility to the businesses created by refugee entrepreneurs from various cities in Brazil and compiles content for people willing to start or strengthen their own businesses in Brazil.

In 2021, the site had more than **9 thousand** visitors and promoted **101** businesses of refugees of **13** nationalities in **27** cities in Brazil, distributed throughout the five regions of the country. Of the projects registered on the platform, **55%** are led by women, **29%** by men and **16%** by couples or groups of entrepreneurs. The companies are from various departments, such as crafts, beauty, design and art, gastronomy, language teaching and fashion. The platform has support from Sebrae Nacional, Aliança Empreendedora, IFC, Migraflux, Instituto Rede Mulher Empreendedora, Facebook, Instituto Lojas Renner, Unidas and the U.S Government.

On 30 March, the initiative organized the live video entitled *Entrepreneurship for refugee women: challenges and opportunities during the pandemic* ([available here](#)). On that occasion, the document *Training and Mentoring Opportunities for Refugee Entrepreneurs* was released ([available here](#)).

On 22 July, a virtual debate was held between refugee entrepreneurs and experts on the adaptations made during

the COVID-19 pandemic. You can watch a recording of the live video [here](#).

In November, the UNHCR signed a cooperation agreement with SEBRAE Nacional, which undertook to seek solutions and services that meet the specific needs of refugee entrepreneurs. SEBRAE also joined the Refugee Entrepreneurs platform as a strategic partner and offered the UP Digital course, with digital marketing expertise on how to sell on the internet, to **15** refugee entrepreneurs in December.

Ernest & Young - EY, within the framework of the Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform, conducted online training for **30** refugee entrepreneurs on 5 November. The session lasted three hours and covered topics such as financial management, digital marketing and legal assistance. EY is one of the partners of the Refugee Entrepreneurs platform and a strategic partner of the Companies with Refugees Forum.

International Women's Day

In celebration of International Women's Day, *Serviço Jesuíta a Migrantes e Refugiados* (SJMR) and the UNHCR conducted training on entrepreneurship, financial education and microcredit services for **25** women in Boa Vista.



Entrepreneur Miguel, from Venezuela, opened a business in Boa Vista

Delivery of starter kits

SJMR, in partnership with the UNHCR, delivered **45** entrepreneurship starter kits to support small refugee and migrant businesses in Boa Vista throughout the year. The beneficiaries are part of the *Empreende+* and Green Jobs projects, a joint initiative aimed at insertion into the sustainable economy. Entrepreneurs also received training on entrepreneurship and how to create business plans.

Guidance on entrepreneurship

The Fraternity with Borders (FSF) team, the UNHCR's partner in managing the 13 de Setembro Emergency Space, in Boa Vista, offered the community guidance on entrepreneurship and small business administration, benefiting around **16** entrepreneurs. The FSF's 1st Business Fair was also held at the 13 de Setembro and São Vicente 2 Emergency Space shelters. The fair marked the conclusion of the Entrepreneurship course, held in partnership with World Vision and SENAC-RR. In total, **20** refugees participated in the activity.

Entrepreneur Day

On 2 October, the Fraternity – International Humanitarian Federation (FFHI) held a fair to commemorate Entrepreneur Day at the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center in Boa Vista. The **35** participating entrepreneurs presented their handicraft,

sewing, carpentry, agroecology, food, footwear, beauty, art education and services.

2nd IntegraArte entrepreneurship fair

On 13 November, the 2nd IntegraArte entrepreneurship fair was held in Boa Vista, which brought together 33 Venezuelan and Brazilian entrepreneurs in various segments. To strengthen their skills and prepare them for the fair, in partnership with SENAC, the UNHCR offered the Starting a Small Business course. The event was the result of coordinated efforts by the UNHCR, IOM, SJMR, AVSI Brazil, FSF, the Salvation Army, A Casa - Museum of the Brazilian Object, Fé e Alegria, FFHI, World Vision and the Humanitarian Logistics Task Force.

Community Action Plans on income generation and housing

In December, the UNHCR participated in an event with the Venezuelan community of São Sebastião in Brasília, promoted by the partner organization Rede Interação. At the time, **30** Venezuelan people participated in the activities, which included presentations of the two Community Action Plans on income generation and housing. The event also featured information sessions on entrepreneurship, given by SEBRAE, and on access to public rights and programs, held by the Specialized Social Assistance Reference Center (CREAS) of the Distrito Federal.

Financial inclusion

CrediTodos supports 78 businesses of refugee and migrant entrepreneurs

The UNHCR signed a cooperation agreement with Banco Pérola in February 2021 and a pilot project was implemented to facilitate access for refugees to microcredit loans. In the first 10 months, CrediTodos supported **78** businesses of refugee and migrant entrepreneurs throughout Brazil, with more than **BRL 193 thousand** borrowed.

Microcredit for refugee entrepreneurs

The line of Credit for Refugees and Migrants of Banco do Povo Crédito Solidário (BCPS) completed one year. The initiative benefited **89** refugee entrepreneurs with microcredit in the areas of food and clothing sales, through the Cooperation Agreement with the UNHCR.

Workshop on financial education

On 11 March, the Central Bank, with support from the UNHCR, IOM and the National Committee for Refugees (Conare), promoted its third workshop on financial education. The objective of the workshop was to train institutions from different regions in Brazil that are committed to offering financial education courses to refugees and migrants. This

workshop was part of the multiplier training program, which trained civil society organizations in several cities in Brazil.

Promoting family budget planning

To encourage the autonomy of the refugee and migrant population sheltered in Boa Vista, Fraternity without Borders (FSF) implemented a workshop on financial education and family budget planning for **36** people. A second workshop was also held for **15** women.

Novo Caminhar Project

On 18 August, SJMR promoted the first class of the *Novo Caminhar* (New Walk) project, an initiative of the UNHCR in partnership with SJMR, AVSI Brasil and Fraternity without Borders. The project benefits residents of the Boa Vista shelters and includes training in financial education, cultural adaptation, job market, as well as financial assistance to support the process of leaving the shelters. The first class of 2021 of the project had **21** families, totaling **79** people benefited. On November 1, the second class began the training phase of the project, benefiting **40** families. In total, in 2021, **57** families left the Operation Welcome shelters with support from the *Novo Caminhar* project, impacting **188** individuals.

Education

Vocational training and Portuguese courses with Cáritas Manaus

Throughout 2021, Cáritas Arquidiocesana de Manaus, in partnership with the UNHCR and through the Technological Education Center of Amazonas (CETAM), promoted vocational training courses and basic and advanced Portuguese language courses for **141** refugees. In July and August, Cáritas Manaus also promoted vocational training in the food sector for **135** Venezuelan refugees and migrants in partnership with SENAC.

Human Refuge Project

The UNHCR participated in a new edition of the Human Refuge project, promoted by SESC São Paulo along with the Municipal Department of Education. The project provides training for teachers from the municipal public network on issues relating to refugees. Since 2016, the project has promoted **14** workshops and **84** meetings, and has trained more than **1,300** teachers in São Paulo. A total of eight training

courses (20 hours each) were given in 2021, benefiting about **600** teachers.

Training course in the area of civil engineering

On 11 June, the SJMR office in Porto Alegre promoted a vocational training course in the area of civil engineering, with electrical and hydraulic concepts for refugees and migrants. The course was taught by Diosa – Mão de Obra Feminina and had **12** participants.

SEBRAE Minas Gerais Migrants and Refugees Page

In June, Sebrae Minas, in partnership with the UNHCR, IOM and the Government of the State of Minas Gerais, launched the Migrants and Refugees in Minas Gerais page, which includes guidance and business training materials aimed at this population. Visit the [page here](#).

World Refugee Day

In celebration of World Refugee Day, ADRA promoted income-generating workshops for Venezuelans. The cake and bread baking workshop and handicrafts with bows workshop had **27** participants. Throughout the months of July and August, **426** job vacancies were also offered in vocational training courses by SENAC to the population of the Operation Welcome shelters managed by AVSI Brasil and the UNHCR, in partnership with World Vision and ADRA.

Portuguese language courses in Roraima

On 31 August, the UNHCR and *Serviço Nacional de Aprendizagem Comercial* (SENAC) of Roraima renewed a cooperation agreement for the offer of Portuguese language courses, professional qualification and access to employment opportunities for refugees and migrants. During the months of September and October, the UNHCR offered Portuguese courses at **11** Operation Welcome shelters, in partnership with SENAC, AVSI, FFHI and FSF. In all, **180** job vacancies were offered to the refugee and migrant population, including indigenous people.

Vocational training and Portuguese language courses given by the ADRA Reference Center in Manaus



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CARE - Center for Support and Reference to Refugees and Migrants managed by ADRA in Manaus, in partnership with the UNHCR, supported **142** Venezuelan refugees and migrants by offering them vocational training and Portuguese language courses. The training was offered by the Amazon Technological Education Center (CETAM), in partnership with ADRA and the UNHCR, and included areas such as confectionery, barbershop, bakery, food handling, cashier, computer and stocker.

Vocational training for refugees in Manaus with support from Hermanitos

The NGO Hermanitos, in partnership with the UNHCR, promoted technical training to **411** Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Manaus throughout 2022, held with CETAM and educational partner institutions, encompassing several areas focused on trade, industry and the provision of services. Also

throughout the year, **374** Venezuelan refugees and migrants underwent professional guidance sessions, with tips for selection processes, good practices in the work environment and behavioral aspects.

Vocational guidance sessions for young refugees in Manaus



In June and July, Hermanitos, in partnership with the UNHCR, promoted two editions of the Hermanitos Youth Employability Workshop, addressing behavioral skills and professional life plans for **86** young refugees, who were referred to selection processes for professional learning according to skills and future prospects.

Qualification courses in Roraima

In Boa Vista, between September and October, **183** people were enrolled in Portuguese language courses, crafts in MDF wood and techniques for waiters, in partnership with SENAC, SENAI, World Vision and ADRA. Between November and December, AVSI Brasil, in partnership with the UNHCR, supported the qualification of **175** refugees and migrants. Two cosmetology courses were also offered specifically for the LGBTQIA+ population, a partnership with the Association of Transvestites and Transsexuals of the State of Roraima (ATERR).

Warehouse Organization Courses and Customer Service Techniques

On 15 October, in Boa Vista, the certificates of the Warehouse Organization and Customer Service Techniques courses were awarded, both financed by the UNHCR and taught by SENAC, in partnership with SJMR. In all, **40** refugees and migrants completed the course.

Fluency Academy

In line with the Cooperation Agreement signed with the UNHCR, Fluency Academy Language Teaching has released a free online Portuguese language course for Venezuelan people. Students receive ongoing support from teachers, in addition to having a Venezuelan teacher. To develop the methodology, the Fluency Academy also had support from Cáritas Arquidiocesana do Rio de Janeiro (CARJ) and Missão Paz. Throughout 2021, the platform had **177** visitors.

Digital Border Project



The Digital Border Project, a partnership between AVSI Brasil, IFC (International Finance Corporation) and the UNHCR, offered technical training in the area of technology for refugees and migrants sheltered in the spaces managed by AVSI Brasil in partnership with the UNHCR in Boa Vista. A computer lab was set up at the Boa Vista Screening Station (PTRIG), where **30** students completed the Microsoft e-learning path.

Training for refugees and migrants in Roraima

In partnership with the UNHCR, Fraternity without Borders (FSF) supported the qualification of **69** people in various courses such as Handicrafts in MDF wood, Entrepreneurship and Portuguese language in the shelters in Boa Vista.

Handmade soap workshop

11 Venezuelan women participated in the Handmade Soap Workshop, facilitated by AVSI at the Rondon 3 shelter in Boa Vista.

Welcomed through Work Project

In Boa Vista, **270** openings for SENAC courses were offered within the shelters managed by AVSI Brasil and the UNHCR, through the Welcomed through Work Project, in the following themes: Portuguese Language, Labor Preparation, Cashier, Manicurist and Sales Promoter.

Delivering manicure kits in Boa Vista

In November, through a partnership with the UNHCR, FFHI delivered **13** manicure kits to indigenous women who completed the Manicurist and Pedicurist training at SENAC, in Boa Vista.

Revalidation of diplomas



Sírio Muhand Aldaas was able to revalidate his diploma and Brazilian citizenship.

In 2021, *Associação Compassiva* promoted the revalidation of **50** higher education diplomas of refugees with support from the UNHCR. The training areas of the beneficiaries reveal the diversity of educational training profiles, including Administration, Architecture, Biology, Biomedicine and Engineering.

Hilo Migrantes Project

At the Rondon 2 shelter, in Boa Vista, AVSI Brasil, in partnership with UNHCR, started the Hilo Migrants Project, with the structuring of a sewing room and the formation of a group of eight seamstresses composed of refugees and migrants. Workshops on self-care, self-esteem, female empowerment

and hairdressing and hydration techniques. The project received support from the Humanitarian-Logistical Task Force for the donation of kits with accessories, hair dryers and other beauty supplies, which were delivered to the **17** refugees and migrants who completed the training.

Completion of vocational courses in Pacaraima

In 2021, the Training and Reference Center (CCR) in Pacaraima offered **35** online courses through the *Qualifica Brasil*, FACOP and SENAI platforms. In addition to providing about seven face-to-face classes for courses on Portuguese Language, cutting and sewing, entrepreneurship, personal and professional marketing, customer service and administration concepts. In total, Venezuelans and Brazilians successfully filled **1,008** openings for courses.

Content Research and Development

Integration of Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in Brazil

The UNHCR and the World Bank released the “Integration of Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants in Brazil” study. The document indicates that, despite a favorable legal framework, Venezuelans face obstacles when entering the formal job market, the educational system and social services. Venezuelans are **64%** less likely to be employed than Brazilian workers, and their children are **53%** less likely to attend school.

On April 8, the research was presented at an official event held by the Office of the Ministry of the Presidency (Civil House) with participation from the Ministries of Economy, Citizenship, Justice and Public Security, Defense, Foreign Affairs, Education and the Humanitarian-Logistical Task Force of Operation Welcome, along with agencies of the UN and other civil society organizations Read the study [here](#).



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Limits and challenges to local integration of interiorized Venezuelans

On 8 December, the “Limits and challenges to local integration of refugees, refugees and migrants from Venezuela interiorized during the Covid-19 pandemic” survey was released by the UNHCR, in partnership with UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), and carried out by the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG). The survey revealed that the average monthly income of the interiorized Venezuelan population with a job above 18 years of age is BRL 1,325.20,

only slightly above the minimum wage in force in Brazil in 2021 and more than twice the income of the population that is still sheltered by Operation Welcome. Better access to the job market is also evident, since the unemployment rate between the interiorized population reaches 17.8%, rising to 30.7% in the sheltered population comparatively, in Brazil, the unemployment rate is 14.1%. Access the survey [here](#).

Advocacy

Raising awareness of Mayors

The National Confederation of Municipalities (CNM) distributed a booklet to elected Mayors that includes a chapter with recommendations for the local integration of refugees, prepared in coordination with the UNHCR. The booklet is available [here](#).

Training public servants

The UNHCR's São Paulo office, in partnership with Cáritas Regional do Paraná (CAPR), continued the "Protection and integration of refugees and migrants in Paraná" training course for the municipalities of Rio Branco, Campo Mourão, Campo Largo, Ubatã, Goioerê and Foz do Iguaçu. In all, **128** public servants were trained between July and August. In November and December, the office promoted a series of training courses focused on local integration and protection of the refugee population: along with the Salvador University (UNIFACS), member of the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Academic Chair, it trained **30** public servants from Lauro de Freitas-BA; with the CAPR, **36** public servants from Maringá-PR were trained, and in partnership with the State Committee for Assistance to Migrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons and Victims of Human Trafficking in Rio Grande do Sul (COMIRAT-RS) and SJMR, trained **132** public servants.

Training on local protection and integration

In the last quarter of 2021, UNHCR and Conare promoted the "Refuge Process in Brazil: Local Protection and Integration" online training course for organizations based in the North and Midwest regions of the country. More than **200** representatives of NGOs, academia and the government participated.

Participation of the UNHCR's SP office in committees and working groups

The UNHCR participated in a series of coordination meetings, divided into the following coordination mechanisms:

- State Committee for Assistance to Migrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons and Victims of Human Trafficking in Rio Grande do Sul (COMIRAT-RS)
- State Council for Refugees, Migrants and Stateless Persons' Rights of Paraná (CERMA)
- State Committee for the Assistance of Migrants and Refugees and Stateless Persons, for Confronting Human Trafficking and for the Eradication of Slave labor in Minas Gerais (Comitrate-MG)
- State Intersectoral Committee for Policies for Refugees and Migrants (CEIPARM-RJ)
- State Committee on the Health of the Migrant and Refugee Population of Rio de Janeiro
- State Committee for Refugees (CER) / Center for Combating Human Trafficking (NETP-SP)
- Committee for the Preparation and Monitoring of the Municipal Policy Plan for the Migrant, Refugee, Stateless and Returnee Population of the Municipality of Juiz de Fora-MG
- Municipal Council of Immigrants of São Paulo (CMI)
- Municipal Committee for Assistance for Immigrants, Refugees, Stateless Persons and Victims of Human Trafficking of Porto Alegre (Comirat-POA)
- Municipal Committee of Assistance to Migrants, Refugees and Stateless Persons of Pelotas (Pelotas-RS)
- Inter-Council Meeting of the State of Espírito Santo

Livelihoods for indigenous refugees



© Divulgação

Exit strategy of indigenous shelters in Manaus

126 Warao indigenous people from **21** families sheltered in Tatumã-Açu shelters I and II participated in the shelter's exit strategy, an initiative of UNHCR, Municipal Secretary for Women, Social Assistance and Citizenship (SEMASC) and Cáritas Arquidiocesana de Manaus. The goal is to promote the self-sufficiency of indigenous refugees and ensure conditions for a sustainable exit from shelters for host families who have a member who is generating income on a regular basis. The program ensures financial and material support through Cáritas Manaus for the first three months and subsequent inclusion of the family in SEMASC's Passport to Social Inclusion program, with financial benefit conditional to collaboration from the beneficiary while receiving social assistance monitoring.

Vocational training for indigenous Venezuelans in the shelters

During March and April, the Fraternity - International Humanitarian Federation (FFHI), in partnership with UNHCR, promoted a series of vocational training courses for indigenous Venezuelans living in the shelters of Boa Vista. **31** people benefited from courses in the areas of sewing, baking and

electrician training. It also gave **12** hairdressing training sessions and donated kits containing razors and scissors to indigenous Venezuelans. It also developed the Woodworking Workshop at the Nova Canaã Shelter, a masonry and Portuguese language course, with certification of the first E'ñepa class with **15** people.

Promoting youth employability

On 29 April, the UNHCR and CIEE held an awareness-raising session for young Warao refugees sheltered at Casa Raios de Luz/Cáritas in São Sebastião-DF. The workshop aimed to provide an understanding of the job market and the internship and learning possibilities. **12** young people participated in the workshop and were enrolled in CIEE.

Indigenous leadership training

On 13 and 14 August, in partnership with the Federal University of Roraima (UFRR), **33** indigenous leaders celebrated their graduation from indigenous leadership training, aimed at encouraging the autonomy of communities and empowering participants with knowledge on their rights and duties.

Promoting training in Boa Vista and Pacaraima

To empower the indigenous community in the five shelters and promote new skills, FFHI organized a series of workshops in Boa Vista and Pacaraima on topics such as crafts, jewelry manufacturing, sewing, knitting, shoe-making, nutrition and good food hygiene practices. **75** Venezuelans were benefited.

Digital inclusion

In March and April, **29** people, living in three indigenous shelters in Boa Vista, participated in the basic computer training offered by FFHI in partnership with the Virtual University of Roraima (UNIVIRR) and Brasil Qualifica, to promote digital inclusion and increase employability.

People of the waters

In Pará, the “People of the waters: work, participation and livelihoods” project was carried out by the International Institute of Education of Brazil (IEB) in partnership with the UNHCR. Several activities were developed in order to contribute to the autonomy and socio-productive insertion of Warao families living in Belém and Ananindeua. Actions such as the “Mapping the socioeconomic and labor profile” actions, individual and collective work plans for productive insertion and a diagnosis of the Warao perspective on work were carried out. Training was also offered on work in Brazil, financial education, cooperatives and associations, among others. The IEB also supported training with partners, such as the Warao leadership course - held in conjunction with the UNHCR, the Federal Public Defender’s Office (DPU) and the University Center of the State of Pará (Cesupa) - and the Coated Electrode Welder course offered by the Federal Institute of Pará (IFPA). In total, **80** people were benefitted by the training activities and **142** people participated in the work profile survey.

¡Ven, Tú Puedes!

On 10 July, the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center in Jardim Floresta, the result of the partnership between the UNHCR, FFHI and the Brazilian Army, promoted the presentation of World Vision’s “¡Ven, Tú Puedes!” livelihoods project to about **60** representatives of the indigenous communities living in the shelters of Boa Vista. The project offers training for Venezuelan refugees trying to enter into the Brazilian job market. After the event, anyone interested was able to enroll in the Food Handling and Entrepreneurship courses, which were held between July and September. In total, **44** were offered a spot and **37** people completed the training.

Mentoring for insertion into the formal job market in Boa Vista

In November, **21** Venezuelan indigenous people who took courses in the area of Cleaning at the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center - an initiative of FFHI in partnership with the UNHCR and Operation Welcome - received mentoring for insertion into the formal job market in Boa Vista. With support from World Vision, participants learned about labor rights, resume preparation and how to prepare for job interviews.

Christmas Cultural Fair

On 11 December, FFHI promoted the Christmas Cultural Fair, an event open to the public that took place at the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center (CCFI). In all, **40** entrepreneurs from the four indigenous shelters of Boa Vista participated as well as **10** guests from local indigenous organizations. In addition to the sale of products, cultural activities were carried out with traditional music and dance performances to promote peaceful coexistence with the host community and indigenous interculturality.

Registration in the Brazilian Handicraft Program

70 artisans were registered in the Brazilian Handicraft Program (PAB) to access the National Handicraft Portfolio, which allows the issuance of an individual artisan invoice and participation in fairs organized by Sebrae, in addition to exemption from ICMS on sold products.

There is no age limit for learning

At the age of 70, Alejadrina Gonzalez Zapata decided to enter the Portuguese language course offered through a partnership between SENAC, World Vision and the International Humanitarian Federation (FFHI), which has already benefited **15** artisans residing in the Pintolândia and Jardim Floresta shelters in Boa Vista. The course was held at the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center, a partnership between the UNHCR and FFHI, inaugurated to offer free educational and vocational training to indigenous Venezuelan communities and be a space dedicated to cultural expressions and promoting entrepreneurship, cooperatives and associations.

Warao handicraft incentives



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A Casa - Museum of the Brazilian Object, a UNHCR partner, within the scope of the value chain development project for Venezuelan indigenous handicrafts, which receives financing from the Inter-American Development Bank and USAID, implemented a number of activities in indigenous shelters, including the supply of raw materials, initiation kits, pricing workshop and technical guidance, in addition to support for

participation in fairs, such as the First Indigenous Handicrafts Fair in Manaus. The A Casa Museum also promoted the sale of Warao indigenous handicrafts, produced in Pacaraima, Boa Vista and Manaus, to store owners from various states in Brazil. The action benefited 126 artisans (107 in Roraima and 19 in Amazonas).

Donation of personal hygiene items

In November and December, **337** personal hygiene items were donated to the *Casa Resgate* shelter and integration center in Campo Grande-MS, which receives people through Interiorization, and to the Municipal Secretariat for Social Development (SEDES), which manages a shelter for Warao indigenous people in the city of Palmas-TO.



Interiorization

19,668 Venezuelan refugees and migrants were interiorized in 2021.

98 employers contacted the Humanitarian-Logistical Task Force (FT Log Hum) through the Companies with Refugees platform, highlighting **311** job opportunities in 2021.

The Interiorization strategy, implemented by the Federal Government in partnership with UN agencies and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), is the main pillar of Operation Welcome for the local integration of the Venezuelan population in Brazil. On a voluntary, free and organized basis, refugees and migrants can be relocated from the states of Roraima

and Amazonas to cities around Brazil with greater potential for socioeconomic integration. Since the Interiorization strategy began in April 2018, UNHCR has supported the Brazilian government in the implementation of this initiative that facilitates the guarantee of rights, autonomy and local integration of the Venezuelan population in Brazil.

Support for interiorization through job vacancies in Rio Grande do Sul

Between June and July, UNHCR supported the interiorization of **158** people with their families hired by a company from Montenegro and Garibaldi, in Rio Grande do Sul. People received financial aid for transit accommodation costs during

the first month, travel kit and blanket donations and support from social workers to identify housing and access to public services in the cities of destination. The Aldeias Infantis and SJMR also supported the initiative.

Inauguration of the new Rondon 5 Interiorization Center

In September, the new Rondon 5 Interiorization Center was inaugurated, replacing Rondon 2. The new shelter has an occupancy of one thousand people and operates in two flows:

600 vacancies for people who will be interiorized in the Institutional modality and **400** for the other modalities.

SHELTER AND INTEGRATION IN THE CITY OF DESTINATION

UNHCR has supported the Interiorization Strategy in cities of destination through:

- **20 shelters and integration centers** offering more than **764 spots** for shelter and interiorization services to the beneficiaries of the Interiorization strategy.
- **1,193 people** interiorized through the Institutional modality.
- **7,665 Venezuelan refugees and migrants** in the process of interiorization received and sheltered at the Manaus Transit Shelter (ATM).
- **763 items donated** to complement the infrastructure of the shelter and integration centers.
- **914 refugees** and migrants achieved self-sufficiency and left as Aldeias Infantis, funded by the UNHCR, in Brasília - DF, Juiz de Fora - MG, Rio de Janeiro - RJ, São Paulo - SP and Porto Alegre - RS.



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ACTIONS IN SUPPORT OF INTERIORIZATION



Empowering Refugee Women.

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Empowering Refugee Women Project: In 2021, Empowering Refugee Women, a partnership between the UNHCR, the UN Global Compact in Brazil and UN Women, was in its 6th edition. The project focused on providing women

living in emergency shelters in Boa Vista with vocational training courses in Service and Sales: Tools and Strategies, as well as socioeconomic skills, in addition to the chance of being hired by one of the project’s partner companies. As a result, **80**

spots in the training courses were offered, of which **70** women completed the course given by Senac-RR. In this edition, **25** women were hired and interiorized with their families to other cities in Brazil, totaling **78** people benefited. Relocated families were provided with financial aid to cover their basic needs, housing and social assistance to support integration. The project also intermediated the hiring of **15** other people

between family and friends of the participants. In this edition, a second class was also created dedicated to women refugees with disabilities, chronic diseases and/or special needs. Among the participants, there were also women who had family members with disabilities and were the sole breadwinners of the family. The group also included generational pillar refugees (50 years or older) and LGBTQI+.

Financial Assistance

The UNHCR Brazil supports the basic needs of the refugee and migrant population in vulnerable situations through cash assistance called Cash Based Intervention (CBI). Through Interiorization, the CBI can be delivered in all modalities:

Institutional Modality: The CBI is granted during the period of stay at the shelter and integration center (which can last up to three months) to cover food expenses and allow access to job interviews, social assistance, Portuguese language classes, vocational training courses, entrepreneurship and education. The CBI also aims to support the most vulnerable beneficiaries to allow them to exit the shelter and integration centers with the ability to reorganize their life outside the centers.

Employment-based Modality: The CBI was designed to meet basic needs, such as housing, food and personal hygiene and cleaning items and transportation needs, among others, during the first month after arrival at the destination and until the beneficiaries receive their first salary from the company that hired them. In cases of greater vulnerability, the CBI can be extended for up to three months.

Support to Interiorization in the family reunification and social reunification modalities: In cases of greater vulnerability, the UNHCR offers more targeted support, according to the same criteria for the two modalities described above.

CBI TO ENABLE INTERIORIZATION

BRL 1,705,000 invested in the interiorization strategy in 2021.

1,972 refugees and migrants benefited from financial assistance to cover their basic needs. Of these **731** families, **460 were headed by women (62%)**.

984 refugees and migrants participating in the Interiorization program through the Employment-based modality (i.e., hired to work in other parts of the country) were supported by the CBI to cover their basic needs, such as housing, food and personal hygiene items, during the first month of their relocation.

1,015 refugees and migrants participating in the Interiorization strategy in the Institutional modality were supported by the CBI to facilitate their exit from the centers.

We would like to thank all donors and partners who have made these achievements possible.

UNHCR's Partners in Brazil:



UNHCR Brazil appreciates the support it has received from all its donors, including:



UNHCR Brazil private donors:



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