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UNHCR support to Afghans in Brazil

Since September 2021, the government of Brazil grants humanitarian visas to people affected by the situation of serious and widespread violation of human rights in Afghanistan, which significantly worsened last year. More recently, Brazil has seen an increase in the number of Afghan nationals arriving at the Guarulhos International Airport, in São Paulo, seeking international protection and better living conditions. Of the 6,000 humanitarian visas granted so far, some 2,240 Afghans have already entered Brazil, so it is likely that more people will arrive by end of the year.

To respond to the needs of newcomers, UNHCR has stepped up efforts in coordination with public authorities and civil society organizations not only to provide protection support in a safe and culturally sensitive way, but also to define solutions to deal with this influx sustainably and ensure the needs of these populations, from shelter to local integration support, are timely met. So far, UNHCR has supported the opening of two facilities: “Todos Irmãos”, a temporary shelter managed by Caritas São Paulo with a capacity for 30 people, and the Poá Reception and Integration Centre, operated by Aldeias Infantis with 40 vacancies. In these locations, UNHCR also offers Portuguese lessons and has hired cultural mediators to help refugees access various public services (health, education, and transport, among others).

UNHCR also continues to support the work of the Advanced Post for Humanitarian Assistance to Migrants (PAAHM) at the Guarulhos International Airport, which provides legal orientation and assistance to Afghan nationals, as well as other people in need of international protection. In addition, UNHCR is hiring, with the support of Caritas São Paulo, another eight cultural mediators to work at the Advanced Post at the airport as well as in the public shelters accommodating this population.



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To know more access the Factsheet on Protection and Assistance of Afghans in Brazil at bit.ly/3eKiAwn



UNHCR response to heavy rains in Boa Vista

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On the night of 17-18 September, Boa Vista was hit by a tropical storm that caused damage in the 13 de Setembro neighborhood, where most of Operation Welcome emergency shelters are located. The facilities suffered structural damages, mainly in the overlays, Refugee House Units (RHU), and fences. Fortunately, only a few refugees required medical attention due to minor injuries.

In all affected shelters, UNHCR, its partners, and Operation Welcome Humanitarian-Logistics Taskforce coordinated timely repairs and supported the re-organization of spaces. Throughout that weekend, it was also possible to recover the fallen fences, relocate the families who were in the affected RHUs, and deliver core-relief items such as mattresses and mats.

By the end of September, the situation was stabilized, and appropriate living conditions were fully restored for refugees and migrants living in shelters.

UNHCR and AMIR team up to promote local integration through music

Music serves not only as a source of entertainment, but also as a tool for cultural expression. When fleeing home, refugees experience their wellbeing may be compromised in numerous ways, from emotional trauma to the loss of autonomy and life opportunities. Musical activities can mitigate this by providing refugees access to experiences which give hope for the future. With that in mind, UNHCR signed a partnership grant with the Association of Indigenous Migrants of Roraima (AMIR) – an association made up of indigenous refugees and migrants from the Venezuelan Pemón-Taupéng ethnic group – to support AMIR’s “Música sin Fronteras” initiative. The project focuses on disseminating music education among indigenous children and adolescents from refugee and host communities, emphasizing musical practice as a way to nurture peaceful coexistence and foster local integration. The initiative expects to reach 90 students in three locations in Boa Vista - AMIR headquarters, the Cultural and Indigenous Training Center (CCFI), and the 13 de Setembro State School – and in the indigenous community of Tarau Paru, in Pacaraima.

Sérgio Vieira de Mello Academic Chair XIII Annual Seminar



Read the SVMAC
2022 Annual Report
at bit.ly/3Smxmbz

Since 2003, UNHCR has supported the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Academic Chair (SVMAC) in cooperation with higher education institutions in Brazil to promote teaching, research, and academic advocacy and outreach in favor of refugees. Currently, 35 universities throughout Brazil have joined the Chair, working across the board to ensure refugees’ access to rights and services in Brazil and offer valuable support to their local integration process.

On 28-29 September, the SVMAC held its XIII Annual Seminar to highlight last year’s results in education, research, outreach and community services, and advocacy and policymaking. The event was enriched by round tables and online working groups to discuss themes of discrimination and xenophobia faced by refugees. A special panel was also organized on the 25th year of the Brazilian Refugee Law, with the participation of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNHCR, academia and civil society.

Know more about the SVMAC’s XIII Annual Seminar at bit.ly/3Smxmbz

HIGHLIGHTS

National Forum of State Councils and Committee's statute approval

On 28 September, the National Forum of State Councils and Committees for Refugees, Stateless Persons, and Migrants approved its statute, establishing that UNHCR will provide technical guidance acting as the Executive Secretariat of the Forum.

Pernambuco Committee for migrants, refugees, and stateless people

On 1 September, the Committee for migrants, refugees, and stateless people of Pernambuco state was officially established as the responsible body for developing, implementing, and monitoring public policies promoting the access to rights and services of these populations, with UNHCR technical support.

Bernard van Leer Foundation visit to Boa Vista

In September, UNHCR accompanied the delegation from the Bernard van Leer Foundation to Boa Vista to see firsthand the local integration interventions they support in the city and further explore how to expand local capacities to support peaceful coexistence between refugee and host communities.

Banco do Povo Crédito Solidário partnership

UNHCR and Banco do Povo Crédito Solidário (BPCS) extended for another two years their cooperation agreement that expands financial inclusion opportunities for refugees and migrants. So far, as part of this partnership, 134 refugee entrepreneurs based in São Paulo have received financial support to start or further develop their businesses.

Virtual reality video "A Acolhida de Glenda"

At the Immigration Museum in São Paulo, UNHCR launched the 360° virtual reality video "A Acolhida de Glenda", showing the journey of a Venezuelan single mother and her two sons in Brazil, and giving interactive insights into the humanitarian response set up by the Brazilian government and supported by UNHCR and partners. Watch the video at youtu.be/JhFvXP53LjQ.

R4V workshop ahead of the 2023-2024 RMRP

On 5 September, UNHCR and IOM held a workshop to guide the 55 partner organizations that make up the Brazilian chapter of the R4V platform in their submission of activities for the 2023-2024 Refugee and Migrant Response Plan (RMRP). The exercise involved presentations on population projections, planning scenarios, response priorities, strategies, and inter-sectoral approaches to meet the needs of refugees and migrants from Venezuela in the next two years.

High Commissioner mandate is renewed

On 27 September, the UN General Assembly renewed the mandate of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi, for a further two and a half years. He will complete his term on 31 December 2025.

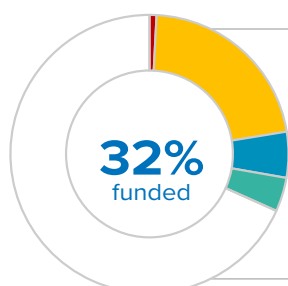
DASHBOARDS

- ▶ CONARE's Decisions bit.ly/2ZOne1w
- ▶ Shelters in Roraima bit.ly/3dcF6dT
- ▶ Internal Relocation Strategy bit.ly/3asTv3C
- ▶ Indigenous people bit.ly/3xzTt4L

PUBLICATIONS

acnur.org/portugues/publicacoes/

- ▶ UNHCR Brazil – Interiorization Report – July August 2022 bit.ly/3D5qIXk
- ▶ UNHCR Brazil – Livelihoods Report – May August 2022 bit.ly/3Tejd0f



UNHCR Brazil Funding update

AS OF 29 SEPTEMBER 2022

US\$ 52,5 million

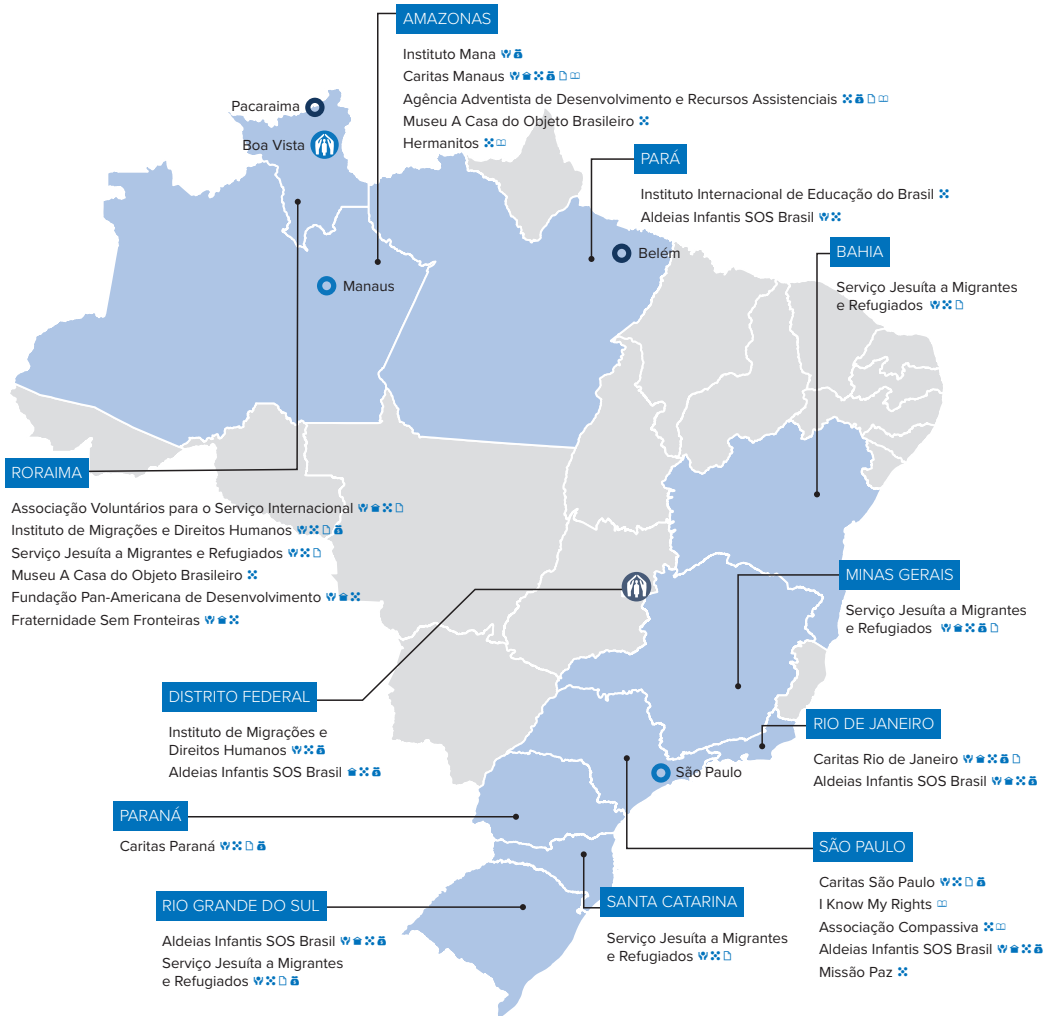
UNHCR's financial requirements in 2022

- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org

Brazil Operation: UNHCR and Partners

- UNHCR Country Office
- UNHCR Sub Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- Protection
- Reception Sites
- Documentation
- Information Management
- Cash Assistance
- Integration
- Education
- Telecommunications



Companies with Refugees Platform

empresascomrefugiados.com.br



Help

HELP - The UNHCR source of information for refugees

help.unhcr.org/brazil



Plataforma de Coordenação para Refugiados e Migrantes da Venezuela
www.R4V.info

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UNHCR Partners in Brazil:



UNHCR Brazil is thankful for the support of all its donors, including:



UNHCR's private sector donors:



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.