

# November 2021

**NEWSLETTER** 

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# UNHCR Assistant High Commissioner for Operations visits Brazil

Access to rights, relief assistance and socio-economic inclusion for refugees were at the forefront of a six-day visit of UNHCR's Assistant High Commissioner for Operations, Raouf Mazou to Brazil.

Accompanied by UNHCR Representative Jose Egas and Deputy Representative Federico Martinez, during his mission the Assistant High Commissioner for Operations visited reception facilities in Roraima, the main gateway for Venezuelans into Brazil, and saw first-hand the progress of the relocation strategy when visiting interiorization shelters in São Paulo. He also met with key government authorities, relevant local authorities, partners and private sector stakeholders as well as Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

"Government-led efforts to find immediate solutions for Venezuelan refugees and migrants through Operação Acolhida – from the humanitarian response at the border in Pacaraima to integration programs carried out together with local communities – are remarkable" said Raouf Mazou. "I met refugees who got a job opportunity three weeks after arrival", he added.

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In Boa Vista, the Assistant High Commissioner also visited the community libraries set up in some of the emergency shelters and watch a "Fútbol sin Fronteras" match, a project where young refugees and migrants can develop specific life skills that go beyond the playing field and are empowered to recognize their rights and strengths. Raouf Mazou was also interviewed by young refugees at "La Voz de los Refugiados" radio.

In São Paulo, the Assistant High Commissioner visited the municipality's specialized reference centre to refugees and migrants (CRAI), accompanied by the city's Mayor, Ricardo Nunes, São Paulo Secretary for Human Rights and Citizenship, Carlos Bezerra, and the São Paulo Secretary of Social Assistance, Claudia Carletto. He also participated in a meeting with private sector stakeholders, highlighting the good practices that companies are promoting towards refugee integration in Brazil and encouraging their further engagement. The Assistant High Commissioner's mission concluded with a visit to the Advanced Post of the Guarulhos International Airport (GRU), an initiative reflecting UNHCR's broader efforts to expand protection assistance at international airports in the country.



## EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy visits Brazil

For the first time in Latin America under his mandate, the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the Commission for a Stronger Europe in the World, H.E. Josep Borrell, visited Brazil. "I came to reaffirm the strategic importance that we, in the European Union, attach to our relations with Latin America and with Brazil in particular", said Borrell after meeting with the Brazilian Foreign Affairs Minister. Together with H.E. Ignacio Ybáñez, the European Union Ambassador in Brazil and other EU high officials, Borrell met with government authorities, met with civil society organizations and with refugees and migrants seeking protection in Brazil. During the meeting in Brasilia, UNHCR Deputy Representative Federico Martinez highlighted the strategic importance of EU cooperation initiatives, through different funding schemes, for the humanitarian response to Venezuelans since the very beginning of Operation Welcome.

UNHCR Representative participates in Americas Representatives Meeting in Panama and Livelihoods mission in Minas Gerais

Between 10 and 12 November, UNHCR Brazil Representative José Egas attended the Americas Representatives Meeting in Panama to discuss planning strategies and resources in response to protection needs and gaps of populations of concern to UNHCR affected by humanitarian situations unfolding in the region, such as Venezuela, Colombia, Haiti, Nicaragua, and Central America. Back in Brazil, UNHCR Representative and the Livelihoods Officer, Paulo Sérgio Almeida, went on mission to the Ibitipoca Reserva Ambiental to evaluate a potential project to support access to land, agricultural production, environmental preservation, and income generation for people from Venezuela.



#### UNHCR Brazil receives second ECHO visit

In November, ECHO's Thematic Expert on Protection, Gender and Education in Emergency, Corita Tassi, visited Boa Vista, Pacaraima and Manaus to gain further insights into the protection components of the humanitarian response in Brazil. The agenda covered visits to refugee communities, including indigenous settlements, and shelters, Operation Welcome sites and dialogues with local protection networks and Venezuelans families assisted in Brazil.



Embassy of Luxembourg visits Boa Vista to launch Economic Empowerment Joint Programme

Between 29 November to 1 December, the Delegation of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in Brazil, H.E. Ambassador Carlo Krieger and the Counselor Nadia Mellina visited Boa Vista, marking the launch of the Economic Empowerment Joint Programme funded by the Government of Luxembourg and implemented by UN Women, UNHCR and UNFPA. The Delegation had the opportunity to visit the PITRIG, the Coordination Centre for Interiorization (CCI), Boa Vista shelters, meet with General Schwingel and participate in a group discussion with indigenous women supported by the Joint Programme. The visit concluded with a meeting at Casa da Mulher Brasileira where the Coordinator of this space and the Delegation discussed key areas of cooperation within the Joint Programme.



### 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-based Violence Campaign

The 16 Days of Activism is a global annual campaign that kicks off on 25 November – the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women – until 10 December – Human Rights Day. This year's theme is "Orange the World: END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN NOW!"

In Brazil, UNHCR and partners are carrying out a variety of Community-Based Protection and Communication with Communities activities engaging refugees and migrants living in temporary shelters and host community.

Read more at bit.ly/3D8UWjx

#### **PUBLICATIONS**

- UNHCR External Updates (October 2021) bit.ly/3s73IBY
- 2020 Livelihoods Activity Report (English version) bit.ly/3q1iPEV
- Livelihoods Activities Report (September – October) – available in Portuguese <u>bit.ly/3qidHwD</u>
- Roraima Bimonthly Activities Report (September – October) bit.ly/3yB8jlv
- Indigenous Report (July – October) bit.ly/3yHZk8F

#### DASHBOARDS

NEW

R4V platform's partner organizations <u>3W Dashboard</u>

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

#### Shelter Restructuring in Roraima

Boa Vista emergency shelters are undergoing a restructuring and upgrade process. Four committees have also been established to ensure regular consultations with indigenous populations primarily affected by this reorganization. Likewise, a working group was established to start consultation process with the non-indigenous shelters. Infrastructure improvements in Rondon 3 shelter will translate into enhanced reception conditions specifically for indigenous people, while Pricumã and the Emergency Space 13 de Setembro will be expanded and Rondon 1, Rondon 2 and Rondon 4 shelters will be consolidated into a single shelter space in early 2022. UNHCR is confident this exercise will increase efficiency in services and greater dignity and security for the refugees and migrants.

#### UNHCR and the Ministry of Citizenship launch a call for good practices

The Call for Good Practices aims to map emergency and reception responses and longer-term solutions initiatives implemented in Brazil for indigenous refugees and migrants from Venezuela. Read more at <a href="https://bit.ly/3Dft.JvC">bit.ly/3Dft.JvC</a>

#### Manaus hosts the 1st Hermanitos Forum for Employability of Refugees and Migrants

On 25 November, Hermanitos promoted together with UNHCR the 1st Hermanitos Forum for Employability of Refugees and Migrants in Manaus. The Forum offered a space for more than 50 representatives from the business sector, government and other key stakeholders to discuss labor markets, innovation in human resources, social responsibility, entrepreneurship and job opportunities for refugees and migrants.

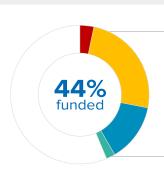
# Exhibition "I Dreamed in Portuguese" launched at the Museu da Língua Portuguesa in São Paulo

Launched on 19 November, the exhibition "Sonhei em Português" illustrates the experience that refugees and migrants have in São Paulo and aims at helping visitors identify themselves with the human side of their stories.

Tickets are available at bileto.sympla.com.br/event/68203/d/118819

#### Warao Indigenous Leadership School in Belém

Twenty-five indigenous Warao living in Pará started their courses on international law, human rights, and indigenous rights thanks to a joint initiative between UNHCR, the International Education Institute of Brazil (IEB), and the Federal Public Defender's Office (DPU). Through lectures and group discussions, participants would engage in identifying challenges and opportunities for integration in Brazil.



UNHCR Brazil
Funding update

AS OF 7
DECEMBER
2021

US\$ 52,5 million

UNHCR's financial requeriments in 2021

Tightly earmaked
Earmaked

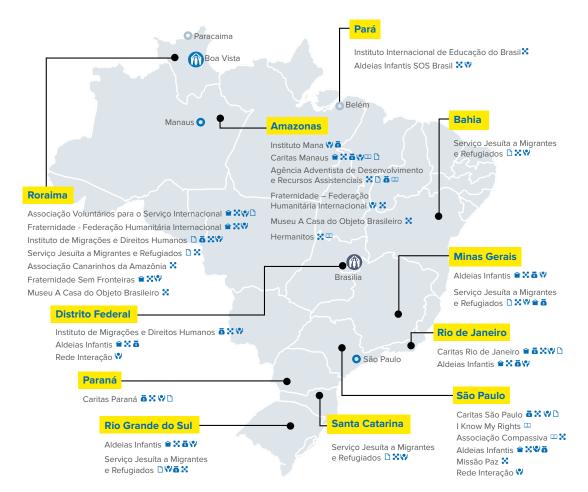
Softly earmaked (indicative allocation)
Unearmaked (indicative allocation)

Funding gap (indicative)

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org

# **Brazil Operation: UNHCR** and **Partners**

- **(1)** UNHCR Country Office
- **M** UNHCR Sub Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- ♥ Protection
- Documentation
- Information Management
- Cash Assistance
- Integration
- m Education
- Telecomunications





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help.unhcr.org/brazil



Plataforma de Coordenação para Refugiados e Migrantes da Venezuela

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#### UNHCR Partners in Brazil:













































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UNHCR Brazil is thankful for the support of private donors and:









































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