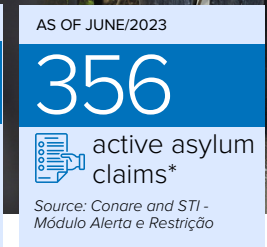




UNHCR
ACNUR
Agência da ONU para Refugiados

Protection and assistance to Afghan refugees in Brazil

JUNE 2023



Learn more at acnur.org.br/afeganistao

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*Number of remaining active cases awaiting Conare's decision.

Since 2 December 2020, Brazil recognizes the situation of serious and widespread violation of human rights in Afghanistan, allowing its nationals to have facilitated procedures for the recognition of refugee status. Interministerial Ordinance n. 24, of 3 September 2021, guarantees the safe entry of Afghan nationals, stateless persons, and persons affected by the situation in Afghanistan into the national territory.



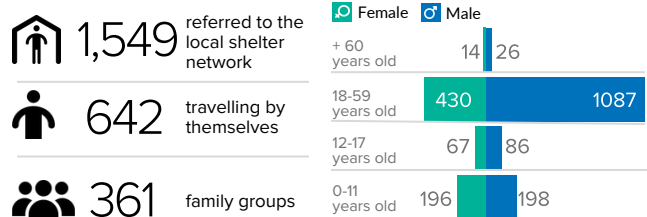
UNHCR has sought to disseminate, through the **Help Platform**, key information in English, Pashto and Dari for Afghan nationals seeking protection in Brazil.

ADVANCED POST FOR HUMANIZED ASSISTANCE TO MIGRANTS (PAAHM)

One of the main demands of Afghan nationals to the PAAHM, located at Guarulhos International Airport, is the need for shelter for the newly arrived through the local network. Between January 2022 and May 2023, the PAAHM assisted **3,545** refugees of that nationality.

In August 2022, within the framework of the partnership between UNHCR and PAAHM (in force since 2015), UNHCR started to support the Post in the reception of Afghans by hiring three cultural mediators and interpreters of the same nationality. In addition, since November 2022, the Agency has also been collaborating with the systematization of data on services provided.

UNHCR also maintained a daily presence at the airport, especially at the most critical time in terms of new arrivals.
Between November 2022 and May 2023:





TEMPORARY SHELTER NETWORK ACTIVATED BY PAAHM IN THE STATE OF SÃO PAULO

ENTRIES FROM SEPTEMBER 2022 TO MAY 2023

SÃO PAULO

CAE Ebenézer

Management: SMADS and CEBASP

Vacancies: 200 | **Entries:** 771

Casa de Passagem (Mooca)

Management: SEDS and Cáritas Brasileira Regional São Paulo/CROPH

Vacancies: 50 | **Entries:** 138

Casa do Migrante

Management: Missão Paz

Vacancies: 110 | **Entries:** 66

Repúblicas

Management: SEDS and Cáritas Brasileira Regional São Paulo

Vacancies: 50 | **Entries:** 117

GUARULHOS

Povos Fraternos I e II

Management: SDAS, Núcleo Batuíra, Serviço de Promoção da Família

Vacancies: 38 | **Entries:** 161

Povos Fraternos III

Management: SDAS, Núcleo Batuíra, Serviço de Promoção da Família

Vacancies: 62 | **Entries:** 109

Terra Nova

Management: SEDS and ASBRAD

Vacancies: 50 | **Entries:** 135

Todos Irmãos

Management: UNHCR, SDAS, Cáritas SP and Cáritas Guarulhos

Vacancies: 27 | **Entries:** 278

POÁ

Aldeias Infantis Poá

Management: UNHCR and Aldeias Infantis SOS

Vacancies: 60 | **Entries:** 141

MORUNGABA

Vila Minha Pátria

Management: Junta de Missões Nacionais da Convenção Batista Brasileira

Vacancies: 180 | **Entries:** 349

ABBREVIATIONS

SMADS - Municipal Secretary of Assistance and Social Development of São Paulo

SDAS - Secretary of Development and Social Assistance of Guarulhos

CROPH - Regional Coordination of Human Promotion Works

SEDS - State Secretary for Social Development of São Paulo

CEBASP - Educational Community Sítio Pinheirinho

ASBRAD - Brazilian Association for the Defense of Women, Childhood, and Youth

DEPUTY HIGH COMMISSIONER VISITS SÃO PAULO AND GUARULHOS

In May, UNHCR's Deputy High Commissioner, Kelly T. Clements, visited Brazil to learn more about the work done by the Agency in the country. She started her visit at GRU Airport, where she was able to observe the PAAHM activities and speak to Afghan refugees. On the following day, she visited the shelter Povos Fraternos III, where she participated in a focus group discussion with seven Afghan refugee women. Most of the women stated their intentions to remain in Brazil, but expressed the need to learn Portuguese as part of broader protection interventions directed at them. Kelly Clements also acknowledged the efforts carried out by the local government and reiterated UNHCR's support in this context, which includes capacity building sessions for the teams on the frontline of assistance activities, guidance for site planning, and the donation of needed IT equipment and basic relief items.

MULTISECTORAL ASSISTANCE AND PROFILE OF THE AFGHAN POPULATION

UNHCR counts on the partnerships with civil society organizations* to offer free services and assistance in several areas, such as access to information and guidance on documentation, housing, health, education, Portuguese language courses, job opportunities, among others.

BETWEEN SEP/2021 - MAY/2023

1,430

people supported from 642 family groups

440

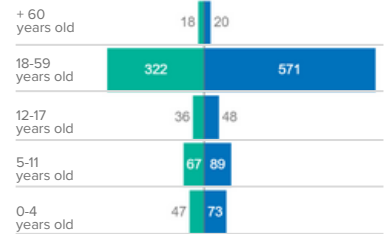
have higher education

55

have post graduate degree

Age-sex pyramid

Female Male



*Aldeias Infantis SOS Brasil, Caritas Reg. Paraná, Caritas Arq. do Rio de Janeiro, Caritas Arq. de São Paulo, IKMR, Inst. Migra. e Dir. Humanos (DF), Missão Paz, and Serv. Jesuíta a Migrantes e Refugiados (BH and POA)

NEWS

Gender-based Violence Prevention Actions

In May, UNHCR Brazil received the visit of Assistant Protection Officer Marzieh Shafiehanjani, from UNHCR Iran, one of the main countries receiving Afghan refugees in the world. The colleague held discussion groups with Afghan women and men in various shelters in the state of São Paulo, in addition to meeting with the staff and management of these structures and of the PAAHM, at the Guarulhos Airport.

The visit was concluded with a training for several actors involved in the response to the arrival of Afghan refugees, addressing topics such as culture, ethnicity, and religion in Afghanistan, gender violence and prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, child protection, among others, aiming to qualify the service provided by the network.

Also in May, a discussion group with men housed in CAE Ebenézer was started. The pilot project was designed and implemented by CEBASP and the São Paulo City Hall, in partnership with UNHCR. Four meetings were held, in which topics on domestic violence and respect for ethnic diversity were addressed.

At the first meeting, the group watched the Iranian film "A Separation", released in 2011. In later meetings and based on the situations presented in the film, the men were invited to discuss about divorce and separation, as well as the position of women in society and within the family. Participants also talked about sex, consent, and sexual abuse. Lastly, the rights of women in Brazil were discussed.

Partnerships



UNHCR Brazil's donor countries and global programs with flexible funds that support the humanitarian response in the country



UNHCR Brazil private donors

