UNHCR’s Brazil Livelihoods Unit coordinates national efforts related to local integration of low-income refugees, asylum seekers and Venezuelans. In 2019, a Livelihoods Strategy was approved with the aim to guide the Unit’s actions for the period of 2019 to 2021.

This report presents both the main activities performed by the Unit in 2019 at a national level as well as those undertaken by the units of São Paulo, Manaus and Boa Vista in the following areas:

- **EMPLOYMENT**
- **ENTREPRENEURSHIP**
- **FINANCIAL INCLUSION**
- **EDUCATION**
- **CASH ASSISTANCE**
- **PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE**
- **RESEARCH AND CONTENT DEVELOPMENT**
- **ADVOCACY**
- **INTERIORIZATION**

Glossary

- **FO Manaus** – Field Office Manaus
- **PoC** – Persons of Concern
- **BO** – Branch Office
- **FOSP** – Field Office São Paulo
- **SO Boa Vista** – Sub Office Boa Vista
- **NGO** – Non-Governmental Organization
Companies with Refugees Platform
(Empresas com Refugiados)

An online platform created in partnership with UN Global Compact Network Brazil. It promotes good practices for engaging with the private sector in projects aimed at securing local integration of refugees in Brazil, as well as presenting valuable information to potential employers. Carrefour, Lojas Renner, ManPower Group, Sodexo and Rede Globo are some of the 24 companies’ part of the network which together has impacted more than 5500 refugees in Brazil.

Empowering Refugee Women Project

(UNHCR, UN Global Compact and UN Women), based in Sao Paulo, has expanded its livelihoods activities to Roraima, in 2019, and was able to reach 80 women in total. Through the pilot initiative in Boa Vista, 100% of participants, 20 Venezuelan women living in UNHCR interiorization shelters, were hired by the clothing company Lojas Renner. As all participants and their families were able to relocate to other cities of Brazil, the project has impacted over 70 PoC. It is important to note that 2019’s edition had also enforced the further inclusion of LGBTI persons, and both Boa Vista and Sao Paulo groups had transgender women among the beneficiaries.
Career Workshop for Job Placement Partners

UNHCR and the Manpower Group promoted a workshop for job placement partners with the objective to support these organizations in preparing PoC for employment, in São Paulo. The workshop also had the objective to promote the exchange of good practices among those organizations and improve their relationship and networking with businesses. 14 organizations based in São Paulo participated in the workshop.

CIEE (Centro de Integração Empresa-Escola) Partnership

UNHCR’s partnership with CIEE, which objective is to prepare and promote the insertion of young refugees and migrants into the labor market with internships and apprenticeship positions, was expanded to Manaus and Boa Vista. In 2019, 56 young PoC participated in the workshops that took place in Brasilia, Boa Vista and Manaus. So far, 13 adolescents were hired thanks to the partnership. UNHCR was granted with the CIEE award for being one of the best partners of CIEE on the inclusion of adolescents in the job market.

Business Forums for Entrepreneurship and Employment

With the objective to guide stakeholders, mainly the private sector, to facilitate inclusion of refugees in labour markets and economies, UNHCR, UN Global Compact and IOM promoted Business Forums for Entrepreneurship and Employment in Curitiba, Manaus, Belo Horizonte and Rio de Janeiro. 270 participated in all four editions of the Forum.
Joint event to engage business leaders

UNHCR, IFC, Tent Foundation and the UN Global Compact held an event in São Paulo to influence business leaders on their engagement and participation for the integration of refugees, with special attention to the Venezuelan situation. Around 60 representatives of different companies participated.

Promoting PoC’s employability with ABRH

UNHCR participated in CONARH (most important human resources congress) in São Paulo and Diversity Foruns promoted by Associação Brasileira de Recursos Humanos (ABRH) in Rio de Janeiro and Campinas. It was an opportunity to present our work and Livelihoods actions for companies of different market segments interested in adopting new and innovative strategies towards diversity and inclusion.

New partnerships achieved

With the objective to strengthen UNHCR’s capacity to promote employment opportunities and income generation for PoC, cooperation agreements were signed with Grupo de Institutos, Fundações e Empresas (GIFE), Centro Integrado de Estudos e Programas de Desenvolvimento Sustentável (CIEDS) and our current partnership with Programa de Apoio para a Recolocação dos Refugiados (PARR), with Emdoc, was renewed.

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<th>FOSP Highlights</th>
<th>SO Boa Vista Highlights</th>
<th>FO Manaus Highlights</th>
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<td><strong>5.352</strong> persons have received information on job referral services thanks to CARJ (Rio de Janeiro), CASP and Missão Paz (São Paulo).</td>
<td><strong>1.018 PoC</strong> were registered through SJMR, UNHCR’s implementing partner, on their database for employment opportunities and assisted on the development of their CVs.</td>
<td><strong>5.597 PoC</strong>, including indigenous, LGBTI people and others specific groups, benefited from employability activities, such as development of CVs, referrals for job vacancies/interviews and professional guidance.</td>
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<td><strong>447 persons</strong> have been hired through PARR/CASP and Missão Paz’ livelihoods projects.</td>
<td><strong>+ 1.186 PoC</strong> were also assisted with CV elaboration by a CSVM project, on UFRR’s reference center for refugees and migrants.</td>
<td><strong>416 Venezuelans</strong> living in shelters attended at the Manpower’s workshop, other initiative offered to foster labor inclusion.</td>
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UNHCR expanded its livelihoods partnership network in Manaus. SJMR, ADRA, Caritas of Manaus, the NGO Hermanitos and others have been working in a network, supporting Venezuelans in local integration and other durable solutions.
Entrepreneurship

Warao handcraft exhibition in partnership with A CASA museu do objeto brasileiro

UNHCR and the referred museum launched the exhibition Ojídu – Árvore da Vida Warao”, which has promoted the handcraft of Venezuelan indigenous warao women currently living in Brazil. The exhibition also counted with the partnership of UNFPA, Fraternidade – Federação Humanitária Internacional (FFHI), the European Union and the Federal Government of Brazil. Over 30 Warao female artisans, from Pintolandia and Janokoida shelters, were benefited from the partnership.

FOSP Highlights

INSTITUTO BESouro

A cooperation agreement was signed with Instituto Besouso to promote income opportunities to refugees through entrepreneurship.

26 PoC, mainly Venezuelans entrepreneurs living in interiorization shelters, participated at this pilot livelihoods project.

SO Boa Vista Highlights

170 PoC participated in CIEDS entrepreneurship training which included individual coaching for around 30 participant’s small businesses in the end.

INTEGRArTE

31 small business of PoC living in shelters and spontaneous settlements participated in the entrepreneurship fair “IntegrArte”, a collective initiative from the Employment Working Group to bring visibility and income opportunities.

1900 PoC living in shelters participated in CIEDS offered sensitization activities for promoting an “entrepreneurial attitude”

MIGRAFLIX

30 Venezuelans were trained on entrepreneurship skills in partnership with Migraflix.
FO Manaus Highlights

In partnership with the Municipal Secretary of Labor, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (SEMTEPI), SEBRAE, Consulado da Mulher and Fundação Amazonas Sustentável (FAS), offered several entrepreneurial activities to Refugees and Migrants in Manaus. 182 PoC, according to AGD (age, gender, diversity) criteria, were supported with the initiatives, through courses, workshops, guidance and preparation for the entrepreneurial market. The activities were offered in different locations of the city, using the premises of the partners.

Financial Inclusion

First Financial Inclusion Workshop

UNHCR and IFC promoted a financial inclusion workshop in São Paulo. The workshop aimed to raise awareness on PoC’s needs in terms of access to microcredit loans and other financial services to Financial Services Providers (FSPs). 35 participants from 8 FSPs and other partner organizations and 8 refugee entrepreneurs participated in the discussions. Banco do Povo de Crédito Solidário, Movera and fintech Firgun are among the microcredit organizations that have been cooperating with UNHCR on the design of programmes addressed to PoC as an outcome of this initiative.

Financial Inclusion Booklet

As a result of the financial inclusion workshop, UNHCR partnered with Central Bank and CONARE to release the booklet Financial Information to Migrants and Refugees. The material aim is to inform PoC on their economic rights and its available in five languages – Portuguese, Spanish, Arabic, French and English.
Through our partnership with Social Bank, two people of the indigenous community in Ka’Ubanoko were able to open bank accounts and expand their communities’ art craft business. A pilot project to be implemented with them in 2020 for benefiting more indigenous groups with access to bank accounts and services is currently in negotiation.

In 2019, UNHCR advanced in partnership with the State Secretariat for Justice, Human Rights and Citizenship (SEJUSC) and the Amazonas State Development Agency (AFEAM), to guarantee the Solidary Credit also to Venezuelans refugees and migrants. The credit is an initiative of the state of Amazonas to support small food enterprises. After UNHCR referrals, 15 PoC were pre-approved and await the release of the credit through AFEAM.

**SO Boa Vista Highlights**

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**Education**

(Vocational training and Portuguese)

**FOSP Highlights**

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<th>Diploma revalidation processes</th>
<th>PoC benefited from Portuguese classes</th>
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<tr>
<td>163</td>
<td>2041</td>
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were initiated in Brazil and 29 approved through a partnership with Associação Compassiva.

**SO Boa Vista Highlights**

**Over 900**

Venezuelans were benefited with Portuguese Classes through UNHCR’s partners such as SENAC, CMDH and UFRR (Projeto Acolher - See webstory bit.ly/3cs5dd7).

**750** PoC participated in multiple vocational training opportunities offered in partnership with SJMR, Manpower, Ministerio da Cidadania, Migraflix and ACCOR.
FO Manaus Highlights

UNHCR alongside with its Compassiva Association have advocated with local Government and Universities to ensure free access of diploma revalidation for PoC. The process includes both refugees, asylum seekers and migrants from Venezuela, according to AGD criteria. The initiative is a pilot in Brazil, considering that the process also supported Venezuelan Warao PoC to start the revalidation process, the firsts in Brazil to enter in the process of diploma validation.

60 diploma revalidation (out of the 163 initiated in 2019) processes were submitted to the State University of Amazonas by the end of 2019 with one revalidation process concluded and approved. 754 vacancies in Portuguese courses +1,783 vacancies in vocational training were offered in 2019, including indigenous, LGBTI people and others specific groups, in partnership with Universities, Centro de Educação Tecnológica do Amazonas (CETAM), SENAC and others.

Cash Assistance
(Cash Based Intervention - CBI)

FOSP Highlights

1,027 emergency subsistence grants were delivered in 2019 in states covered by FOSP (CASP, Caritas Parana and CARJ).

SO Boa Vista Highlights:

1,051 people benefited
UNHCR supported with CBI, through IMDH, 490 people travelling through the interiorization program during the first semester of 2019. After direct implementation was established, an additional 561 individuals travelling through employment-based and civil society modalities of interiorization were benefited with CBI to cover their basic needs during the first month of their relocation.
FO Manaus Highlights:

**2,209** PoC were supported with the delivery of CBI through the implementing partners with **1,689 emergency CBI** (food, lodging, documentation and medication), **240 aids for self-employment or entrepreneurship initiatives** and **280 multipurpose CBI** in 2019.

BO Highlights

**71** PoC were benefited with emergency subsistence grants that were delivered in Brasilia and Cuiabá.

**Peaceful Coexistence**

SO Boa Vista Highlights

In 2019, key projects supported by Livelihoods unit included Brazilian participants.

Empoderando Refugiadas included five Brazilian women and they were all hired by Lojas Renner at the end of the training. CIEDS entrepreneurship activities included 40% in the training phase.

Moreover, UNHCR and UNDP supported CIEDS in the organization of the event "Inspira Boa Vista", when about 70 different institutions from Roraima and other states where brought together to offer a wide range of services and activities for over 1500 persons, including Venezuelans and Brazilians, presenting the public with dozens of workshops, lectures, and services mainly focused on entrepreneurship and income generation, but also with recreation, leisure, aesthetic services.

Lastly, peaceful coexistence projects were created and implemented by the Outreach Volunteers, through our implementing partner SJMR, e.g. "Amor de Mãe", which has offered a safe space for 23 mothers, from both the host and displaced communities, to leave their children, when working through daily or autonomous services.

FO Manaus Highlights

In 2019, various peaceful coexistence activities were carried out in Manaus.

During the Virada Sustentável, in partnership with FAS, 26 Venezuelans and Brazilians supported voluntarily the cleaning of river streams in Manaus. All the participants were mobilized through Outreach Volunteers project in partnership with Caritas Manaus. A soccer championship, among Brazilians and Venezuelans that work in a locally known informal market area, was also mobilized throughout the same initiative.
Besides that, in partnership with the Amazonas Center of Technological Education (CETAM), UNHCR started vocational courses in the beauty sector, around 150 persons were supported, Venezuelans and Brazilians, with the objective of peaceful coexistence. One Venezuelan teacher was also hired by the state to teach the classes. The priority public of the courses is the LGBTI community.

Launch of the Socio-Economic Profile of Refugees in Brazil

UNHCR released the Socio-Economic Profile of Refugees in Brazil research which was a milestone in the production of knowledge on the refugee theme in Brazil. The research was commissioned by UNHCR and implemented by universities of Cátedra Sergio Vieira de Melo. The researchers interviewed almost 500 refugees in 14 cities, distributed in eight states with the aim to analyze various socio-demographic and labour variables.

Livelihoods for Migrants and Refugees in Brazil study

UNHCR and ILO released a market assessment study which had the objective to evaluate local economic markets (Value Chain Analysis) of São Paulo and Manaus to understand employment and income generation opportunities better suitable for refugees and other PoC. See the report bit.ly/2XxdHhv

Socio-Economic Profile of Warao population

UNHCR conducted a multifunctional team mission in December with the main objective to register and identify the demographic, labor, educational profile and the migratory status of the indigenous population of the Warao ethnic group in the state of Pará, which will enable better planning by UNHCR and local partners to ensure protection and promote durable solutions more efficiently in 2020. Overall, the socioeconomic profiling exercise showed a pattern of intensification of new arrivals in the state in the recent period and the vast majority of them have no intention of leaving the city, which requires expanding actions for durable solutions.
The most performed income activity for over 60% of the families is collection on the streets, which implies several problems and risks for the practice to be carried out. The most desired work activities to be carried out in Brazil are, respectively, crafts, fishing and agriculture. In education, few attend formal school based on their lack of age (many are children), distance and cost of transportation. Health access is high with more than 70% of family members having a public system card and, of these, a high number (80%), consider the service to be good or excellent. Access to social assistance is very low and the main reasons for not receiving it were: long waiting, lack of information, lack of expired documents or documents, or else the non-compliance with education conditionality. Specific recommendations to these main findings were also made in the report.

Partnerships achieved

A cooperation agreement was signed in order to promote joint academic activities and content development with Escola Superior do Ministério Público da União (ESMPU) and our current partnership with Instituto de Pesquisa Econômica Aplicada (IPEA) was renewed.

SO Boa Vista Highlights:

Through a Project Partnership Agreement with REACH, several needs assessments were conducted with Venezuelans living in Roraima, to understand their living conditions and basic needs, including Livelihoods related matters.

Advocacy

Building Networks: Capacity building for stakeholders involved in the reception, integration and interiorization of refugees and migrants in Brazil

This program was an initiative of the Superior School of the Public Prosecutor’s Office (ESMPU) in partnership with UNHCR, other UN agencies and public institutions, that aims to build local responses to the integration of refugees and immigrants in different cities of Brazil. The project comprehended 13 events that were held in different capitals (Rio de Janeiro, Campo Grande, Belo Horizonte, Florianópolis, Curitiba, João Pessoa, Recife, Porto Alegre, Boa Vista, São Paulo, Manaus, Belém and Brasília), reaching 3,981 persons and around 600 institutions (both public and from civil society). UNHCR also supported a publication with the results of the project.
Up to 2019, the Interiorization Program relocated 27,222 Venezuelans to different cities in the country, in all modalities (shelter to shelter, family reunion, social reunion and employment based interiorization). UNHCR supported 1,167 PoC in the shelter to shelter modality of Interiorization to 15 cities. In the employment-based modality, UNHCR was responsible for intermediating more than 680 PoC to employments. Additionally, CBI for Interiorization has supported 1,328 persons.

To foster local integration and promote a general awareness regarding protection standards, trainings for shelter managers and staff were conducted in reception cities: João Pessoa-PB, Conde-PE, Igarassu-PE, Caicó-RN, Mossoró-RN and Porto Alegre-RS. Also, three editions of the Workshop on Sharing Experiences of Reception as part of the Interiorization Program were held with the objective of sharing experiences and good practices between destination shelters and the local network in the states of Rio de Janeiro, São Paulo and Minas Gerais. The initiative generated important outcomes, such as the MigraRio and the strengthening of the Rede Acolhe Minas.

With the purpose of engaging a larger number of municipalities in the Interiorization Program, UNHCR has partnered with Confederação Nacional dos Municípios (CNM), the Federal Government, IOM, other UN agencies and civil society organizations to create the “Interiorização + Humana” Campaign. The campaign was launched in CNM’S Mayor’s March, an event that gathered municipal leaders from across the country, and also is available in a website (maishumana.cnm.org.br) dedicated to it. During the year, CNM has promoted a series of events and meetings to foster the engagement of new cities. In October, UN, the Federal Government and CNM jointly signed a commitment to expand the Interiorization Program.

Additionally, to the shelters managed by Implementing Partners in Roraima and also in cities of reception, in 2019 UNHCR initiated the management of the Transit Accommodation of Manaus (ATM), under the terms of the Cooperation Agreement signed with Ministry of Citizenship.
and through an implementing partner. This accommodation supports people who are in the process of interiorization from Roraima and spend a few days in Manaus while waiting for the moment to board at the Manaus airport bound for the host city.

Establishment of Integration and Interiorization Sector, in the R4V context r4v.info

UNHCR, together with IOM and World Vision, started to lead the Integration, Interiorization and Humanitarian Transport Sector. The first meeting occurred on October and was attended by World Vision, AVSI, UN Women, UNESCO, UNDP, Aldeias Infantis SOS, IMDH and SJMR. Together with other civil society organizations, the Sector’s aim is to ensure coordination among the different actors of civil society and UN agencies regarding the implementation of actions related to the internal relocation process and socio-economic integration of the Venezuelan population in the different cities, ensuring that there is knowledge sharing, synergy and complementarity of actions, avoiding overlaying initiatives.