Livelihoods & Interiorization
REPORT July and August 2021

Interiorization

The Brazilian government's interiorization strategy, implemented by Operation Welcome, voluntarily relocates Venezuelan refugees and migrants from the states of Roraima and Amazonas to other cities in the country. UNHCR has supported this strategy ever since its inception, in partnership with other UN agencies and civil society organizations. Learn more about the Interiorization strategy and UNHCR's involvement.

58,715 Venezuelan refugees and migrants relocated since April 2018  →  1,842 in July and 2,443 in Agosto 2021

Institutional Interiorization Modality

The institutional modality involves the relocation of Venezuelan people, including people with specific needs, to reception and integration centers in other cities in Brazil. See more here.

People benefited by the institutional modality

12,054 Since April 2018
436 In July-August/2021

5,008 people received and supported in reception and integration centers supported by UNHCR
313 people received and supported in reception and integration centers supported by UNHCR
23 reception and integration centers and transit houses currently partnering with UNHCR to offer 879 vacancies

Employment-based Modality of Interiorization

In July, UNHCR supported the interiorization of 68 people and their families. These people were hired by a company based in the cities of Montenegro and Garibaldi in Rio Grande do Sul. The beneficiaries received financial aid to pay for transit accommodation during the first month, in addition to travel kits and blankets, and support from social workers to find homes and access public services in the destination cities. This initiative is also supported by the SOS Children's Villages reception and integration center in Porto Alegre.
EMPOWERING WOMEN REFUGEES

In July and August, the first two classes of the 6th edition of the Empowering Women Refugees Project, a UNHCR partnership with the Global Compact Brazilian Network and UN Women, received 37 Venezuelan refugee and migrant women in the Professional Training - Service and Sales course, taught by SENAC in the city of Roraima. Of these, 4 women have already been hired, and 2 were interiorized with their families (totaling 7 people) to work in Brasilia. They were welcomed in the Casa Bom Samaritano reception center (AVSI Partnership), and in the Children's Villages reception center, in Rio de Janeiro.

“Companies with Refugees” Platform

In July and August, 11 employers contacted the Humanitarian Logistics Task Force (TF) through the “Companies with Refugees” Platform. Since September 2020, 139 employers contacted Operation Welcome through the platform to offer 163 job openings.

For more information, visit the platform at: empresascomrefugiados.com.br

Interiorization support activities in Roraima

- 1,180 people sheltered in the Rondon 2 shelter in Boa Vista for interiorization purposes, 12,160 people sheltered since September 2018.
- 1,171 people sheltered in the BV-8 shelter in Pacaraima supported for interiorization, 4,526 people since September 2018.
- 521 people participated in informative sessions about the Institutional and Employment-based interiorization modalities in Boa Vista.
- 105 people participated in vocational training sessions at the Training and Reference Center in Pacaraima, 555 people received training since October 2018.
- 868 backpacks containing travel kits, hygiene items, instructional guides on work and financial insertion, kitchen supplies, travel bags, and blankets distributed at the Rondon 2 shelter for all interiorization modalities.
- 12 UNHCR implementing partners received training on interiorization, especially on the Institutional modality, in Boa Vista.

Support in transit in Manaus

- 1,594 people were supported for interiorization purposes in the Manaus Transit Shelter (ATM), 15,607 people supported since July 2019.
- 1,977 hygiene and cleaning kits, bags, and specific COVID-19 prevention items donated, 23,096 distributed since 2020.

Cash Based Intervention (CBI) for Interiorization

In July and August 2021

- 229 INSTALMENTS were transferred (totaling 274,209 BRL)
- 149,920 BRL
- 124,289 BRL

Since 2019

- 3,334 INSTALMENTS were transferred (totaling 2,964,371 BRL)
- 1,671,671 BRL
- 1,292,700 BRL
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Livelihoods

Employment

HIRING OF YOUNG REFUGEES AS APPRENTICES

UNHCR and Centro de Integração Empresa-Escola (CIEE) launched the booklet *Hiring Young Refugees: Questions and Answers for Employers*. The launch of the material was supported by the Global Compact Network Brazil and the International Labour Organization (ILO) and was revised by the Labour Inspection Department of the Social Security and Labour Special Secretariat. The launching webinar was held on July 26th; its recording can be accessed here.

Missão Paz Employability Programme for Refugees and Migrants in Partnership with UNHCR

In July, Missão Paz, a UNHCR partner based in São Paulo, presented results for the first half of 2021. During this period, the organization promoted the hiring of 83 refugees and migrants, of which 28 were Venezuelan, 20 Angolan, 11 Haitian, 8 Congolese, and 16 of ten other nationalities. Over 30 employers in the fields of restaurants (19 job openings) and services (9 job openings), among others, were responsible for hiring these refugees.

ADRA supports Venezuelans in accessing employment in Manaus

In the months of July and August, ADRA Amazonas sent out the resumes of 185 refugees and Venezuelan migrants to job openings in 22 companies in Manaus, resulting in 16 formal hires. The organization also supported 19 young Venezuelans to access apprenticeship programmes with CIEE.

Awareness-raising of companies promotes the employability of Venezuelans in Manaus

Between July and August, the NGO Hermanitos raised awareness about hiring refugees among 35 companies and referred Venezuelan candidates for openings in these companies, resulting in 28 formal hires.

Workshop for labour market inclusion of people with disabilities

On 18 August, in Boa Vista, UNHCR offered a workshop on labour market inclusion of people with disabilities, in partnership with *Turma do Jiló*, a specialized organization hired by the Empowering Women Refugees Project. 32 people participated in the workshop, including UNHCR partners, the Logistics-Humanitarian Task Force, SENAC, the Public Labour Prosecution Office and SINE Roraima.

Ethical Recruitment Workshop

On 31 July, the Operation Welcome Working Group, co-chaired by UNHCR and IOM, offered a lecture on ethical recruitment to the Logistics-Humanitarian Task Force team working on the Employment-based Modality of Interiorization. The Dhaka principles for responsible recruitment and the advantages of hiring refugees and migrants were presented.

Entrepreneurship

The Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform, a UNHCR and UN Global Compact Network Brazil initiative, was expanded to include 81 businesses owned by refugees of 12 different nationalities spread across 19 Brazilian cities. On 22 July, an online debate on adaptations made to businesses during the pandemic was held between refugee entrepreneurs and experts. The recorded session can be accessed here.

Entrepreneurship Orientation

Staff from Fraternidade sem Fronteiras, a UNHCR partner in the management of the 13 de Setembro Emergency Space, in Boa Vista, offered community, individual, and group orientation sessions on entrepreneurship and the administration of small businesses, benefiting about 16 entrepreneurs.
**Education**

**UNHCR renews its cooperation agreement with SENAC RR**

On 31 August, UNHCR and the SENAC Roraima renewed a cooperation agreement for the offering of Portuguese courses, professional capacity building, and access to employment opportunities for refugees and migrants, in order to contribute to their socioeconomic integration in Brazil. One of the possibilities provided for in the signed agreement is that, after receiving training, refugees and migrants from Venezuela are connected to employment opportunities matching their qualifications by registering in the Opportunity Bank Programme. See more [here](#).

**Compassiva Association revalidates 26 refugee diplomas in the first semester, with support from UNHCR**

In the first half of 2021, the Compassiva Association promoted the revalidation of 26 refugee higher education diplomas with support from UNHCR. The courses reveal the diversity of the refugees’ educational profiles, including: administration, architecture, biology, biomedicine, engineering, among others.

**HERMANITOS OFFERS PROFESSIONAL COURSES AND VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE TO VENEZUELAN IN MANAUS**

In July and August, Hermanitos, in partnership with UNHCR, offered technical training to 113 Venezuelan refugees and migrants from Manaus. 39 adults and 35 young Venezuelans also underwent professional orientation sessions to prepare for accessing the Brazilian job market.

**Caritas Manaus offers professional training for Venezuelans**

In July and August, the Caritas Arquidiocesana de Manaus organization offered professional training in the food sector for 135 Venezuelan refugees and migrants in partnership with SENAC and with the support of UNHCR. Also in August, Caritas offered professional and Portuguese language courses in partnership with CETAM, the Technological Education Center of Amazonas, making 260 openings available for Venezuelan refugees and migrants.

**Professional Training in Roraima**

Throughout the months of July and August, 426 openings in SENAC vocational courses were offered to the population sheltered in Operation Welcome shelters by AVSI Brazil and UNHCR, in partnership with World Vision and ADRA. The courses are taught in several fields of the labour market, such as computer science, food handling, service and sales, among others.

**Cutting and Sewing Workshops in Boa Vista**

Cutting and sewing beginner workshops benefited 24 refugee and migrant women sheltered in the São Vicente 2 shelter and in the 13 de Setembro Emergency Space. Among which 5 women who had intermediate and advanced knowledge were selected to participate in the advanced course.

**ADRA OFFERS PROFESSIONAL TRAINING TO VENEZUELAN IN MANAUS**

At the end of August, ADRA, in partnership with UNHCR, offered 84 vacancies for Venezuelan refugees and migrants in 8 professional training and Portuguese language courses at CETAM, the Technological Education Center of Amazonas.

**Financial Inclusion**

**Launch of the Novo Caminhar Project in Boa Vista**

The first class of the Novo Caminhar project, a UNHCR initiative in partnership with Serviço Jesuíta a Migrantes e Refugiados (SJMR), AVSI Brasil and Fraternidade sem Fronteiras, was held by SJMR on 18 August. The project benefits the residents of shelters in Boa Vista and includes training on financial education, cultural adaptation, and the labour market, also providing financial aid to support families seeking socioeconomic integration in Roraima in the process of leaving shelters. The first class of the project counts with 21 families, totaling 79 people to be benefited.
Livelihoods for indigenous refugees

A CASA DO OBJETO BRASILEIRO MUSEUM PROMOTES THE SALE OF WARAO INDIGENOUS CRAFTS IN MANAUS

In July, the A Casa Museu, a UNHCR partner, prepared the artisans of the Warao crafts project for the commercialization of their pieces. A crafts catalog was elaborated in partnership with the participants and the A Casa Museu promoted a workshop on craft photography. 8 artisans were benefited and the sale of the crafts raised 2,0030.00 BRL for the group. The craftswomen were also given materials to continue producing their crafts, including buriti fiber, dyes, scissors and needles. The UNHCR project in partnership with the A Casa Museu aims to support income generation by indigenous people by strengthening the value chain of traditional Warao crafts.

Career fair in Boa Vista

On 10 July, the Jardim Floresta Indigenous Cultural and Learning Center, fruit of a partnership between UNHCR, FFHI and the Brazilian Army, held “¡Ven, Tú Puedes!”, a World Vision presentation of livelihood projects, to about 60 representatives of the indigenous shelters of Boa Vista. The project offers capacity building to Venezuelan refugees who seek to be integrated into the Brazilian labour market.

Support for Warao crafts in Roraima

In an initiative carried out by the A Casa do Objeto Brasileiro Museu and UNHCR in Boa Vista, 110 Warao artisans from the Pintolândia, Jardim Floresta and Janokoida shelters received starter kits for making crafts. In addition to the materials received, on 16 and 17 August, UNHCR, the A Casa do Objeto Brasileiro Museu, FFHI, and the SJMR held training sessions at the Nova Canaã and Tancredo Neves indigenous shelters to impart basic knowledge about entrepreneurship and pricing of products to 40 artisans of the Warao ethnicity.

Advocacy

Training of government officials in Paraná

The UNHCR Office in São Paulo and Cáritas Regional do Paraná (CAPR) continued to offer the “Protection and Integration of Refugees and Migrants in Paraná” workshop for the municipalities of Rio Branco, Campo Mourão, Campo Largo, Ubiratã, Goioerê and Foz do Iguaçu. 128 government officials were trained between July and August.

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