The XII Cátedra Sérgio Vieira de Mello (CSVM) National Seminar was held on 28 and 29 September to discuss refugee protection issues in the context of the pandemic in Brazil. The academic event was organized by the Federal Universities of Espírito Santo (UFES), Santa Maria (UFSM), Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) and Uberlândia (UFU), with UNHCR support, and counted on the participation of Brazilian and refugee researchers.

Over the two days, a series of thematic roundtables were set up to analyze themes such as “Revalidation of Diplomas and University Inclusion”, “Linguistic Reception and Intercultural Mediation”, “Access to Rights”, and “Public Policies and Social Markers”.

José Egas, UNHCR Representative in Brazil, praised the universities in the CSVM network, as well as researchers and participants in the event. “In its 12th year, the CSVM National Seminar continues to provide a space for reflections and proposals on important issues experienced by refugees in Brazil, dialoguing with different local entities and contemplating refugees’ perspectives in the responses to existing demands”, he highlighted.

Between 2020 and 2021, CSVM universities offered more than fifty subjects related to forced displacement, reaching around 700 students, and another 52 research groups were created or maintained. Moreover, 17 universities facilitated admission procedures for undergraduate and graduate refugee students, and it was reached a 10% growth in the number of refugees’ diplomas revalidated. In the area of community services, Portuguese classes were offered to more than 2,250 refugees and asylum-seekers, while more than 330 mental health and psychosocial support services and 2,050 legal advisory services were provided during the year.

About the UNHCR Sérgio Vieira de Mello Chair

The institutional relationship between UNHCR and Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) in Brazil began in 2003, through the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Chair (CSVM) – a cooperation agreement in which UNHCR establishes responsibilities and criteria for universities to join the initiative within three pillars: teaching, research, and outreach and community services. In 2021, the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Chair expanded its outreach both in terms of national coverage and in the number of refugees and asylum seekers supported: so far, 28 institutions have joined the network, working across the board to guarantee the rights of this population in Brazil.
UNHCR and Funpapa sign cooperation agreement to support refugees and migrants in Belém

A cooperation agreement was signed between UNHCR and the Pope John XXIII Foundation (Funpapa), with the aim to provide a technical framework of coordinated support for the services and programs offered by the Foundation to refugees and migrants, as well as to strengthen spaces for proposing public policies targeting this population in Belém.

Read more at [bit.ly/3AIm74o](http://bit.ly/3AIm74o)

Professional guidance to young refugees and migrants from Manaus

A group of 50 Venezuelan teenagers participated in the initiative implemented by UNHCR and the NGO Hermanitos, which facilitates the inclusion of young people in apprenticeship programs, provides guidance on selection processes and provides information on dynamics in the work environment. They are the first participants in the Hermanitos Employability for Youth Workshop, which aims to benefit Venezuelan adolescents and youth with psychological and behavioral assessments, lectures on personal marketing and mental health support, as well as tips for preparing curriculums and internship opportunities. The project is supported by donors such as the US Department of State’s Office of Population, Refugees and Migration (PRM), which makes important flexible contributions, enabling UNHCR and its partners to develop different projects and offer protection to the most vulnerable in an emergency context.

Read more at [bit.ly/3CNG8qP](http://bit.ly/3CNG8qP)

#RefuTeen Digital Project is launched in São Paulo

20 September marked the launch of #RefuTeen, a digital inclusion project conceived by UNHCR and I Know My Rights (IKMR). In total, 20 young refugees and migrants living in Brazil, aged between 12 and 18, were selected to participate in the initiative that promotes access to knowledge and content techniques on social networks from a human rights perspective.

With support from UNHCR, Manaus strengthens social and psychosocial assistance to refugees, migrants and Brazilians

Following a capacity building phase on rights and services available in Manaus for the teams working in 20 Reference Centers for Social Assistance (CRAS) and 5 Specialized Social Assistance Reference Centers (CREAS), UNHCR completed the delivery of 34 smartphone devices to the Women, Social Assistance and Citizenship Secretariat (SEMASC). The initiative aims to strengthen communication between these centers and enable the monitoring of cases of protection and social vulnerability among the population of refugees, migrants and Brazilians. The actions are possible through the support of the Department of Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection (ECHO) of the European Union.

Read more at bit.ly/3IRRoLP

HIGHLIGHTS

Solar lamps donated to indigenous groups living in Santarém

A total of 220 solar lamps were donated by UNHCR and distributed by the Instituto Internacional de Educação do Brasil (IEB) to indigenous groups – both Brazilian and Venezuelan – living in the municipality of Santarém, helping the communities to have access to light during the night and contributing to peaceful coexistence.

New kitchen in Pintolândia Shelter

As a result of the partnership between UNHCR and PADF (Pan American Development Foundation), this initiative was carried out after consultation with the sheltered indigenous community of Pintolândia and led both to renovate existing wood stove structures and to build some new ones, making a total of 14 wood stoves available for the community to prepare their own meals.

Global launch of the Education Report

UNHCR calls for an international effort to guarantee access to education with the launch of 2021 Education Report, ‘Staying the course’ - The challenges facing refugee education. The report highlights the stories of young refugees around the world and shows that levels of access to education among refugees critically declined during the COVID-19 pandemic, according to data from 40 countries. Learn more at bit.ly/3FjiMyY and bit.ly/3a5QQR. Read the report at bit.ly/2YcYJgS

PUBLICATIONS

acnur.org/portugues/publicacoes/

- CSVM Annual Report bit.ly/30tP4Mn
- Roraima Bimonthly Activities Report (Jul – Aug) bit.ly/3FMc78r
- SP Bimonthly Activities Report (Jul – Aug) bit.ly/3mDyc4S
- UNHCR External Updates (Aug) bit.ly/2YL5Vks
- 2020 Livelihoods Report (currently available only in PT) bit.ly/2YQRnMb

DASHBOARDS

- CONARE’s Decisions bit.ly/2ZZne1w
- Internal Relocation Strategy bit.ly/3azlV3C
- Shelters in Roraima bit.ly/3dcF6dT
- CBI bit.ly/2YJ54kA

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UNHCR Brazil Funding update AS OF 28 SEPTEMBER 2021

US$ 52,5 million

UNHCR’s financial requirements in 2021

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org
UNHCR Brazil is 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.

**UNHCR’s private sector donors:**

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**UNHCR Partners in Brazil:**

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  - Aldeias Infantis
  - Rede Interação
- **Paraná:**
  - Caritas Paraná
- **Rio Grande do Sul:**
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  - Serviço Jesus de Migrantes e Refugiados
- **Santa Catarina:**
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- **São Paulo:**
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For more information:

- [help.unhcr.org/brazil](http://help.unhcr.org/brazil)
- [acnur.org.br](http://acnur.org.br)
- [empresascomrefugiados.com.br](http://empresascomrefugiados.com.br)
- [www.R4V.info](http://www.R4V.info)
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