In March, representatives of state councils on refugees and migrants of 10 different states gathered for the first time and agreed to create a National Forum of State Councils and Committees for Refugees and Migrants. Under the leadership of the state Committee on Refugees and Migrants of Rio Grande do Sul (COMIRAT-RS), and with the support of UNHCR, state authorities met to discuss ways to achieve greater joint articulation for the integration of refugees and migrants, along with academia and civil society organizations.

In a country of continental dimensions like Brazil, with its cultural diversity and a long history of welcoming different nationalities, the National Forum “allows the possibility of articulating geographically distant states, but facing similar issues, and promotes strengthening and agility in local integration responses”, said José Egas, UNHCR Representative.

UNHCR is strengthening local protection networks as a priority intervention, building on their existing capacities, as they have long played a central role as first receivers of refugees and migrants, and are playing an increasing role as duty-bearers in promoting the full realization of their rights and ensuring their inclusion. A new section on UNHCR Brazil website (acnur.org/portugues/politicas-publicas) now showcases some of these key initiatives that UNHCR carries out in coordination with local governments.

Read more at bit.ly/36WrftT
Different organizations have joined efforts to support Brazilians, refugees, and migrants in street-like situation at Praça da Sé, in São Paulo. The activity was organized by the Regional Federal Court of the 3rd Region with the support of UNHCR and partners, towards the shelter consolidation process resulted in Rondon 1, 2 and 4 shelters becoming a single accommodation space with a total capacity for 2,691 non-indigenous Venezuelans. In addition, the new “Waraotuma a Tuaranoko” shelter – a name collectively chosen by the indigenous communities meaning “resting place” in Warao – was set up to receive up to 1,550 indigenous refugees and migrants, who participated throughout the process with contributions on the design of culturally adapted spaces in the shelter.

After technical and WASH assessments and following a three-month period of logistical coordination as well as community dialogues, the temporary shelters in Boa Vista were redesigned to allow improved reception conditions and a more cost-effective shelter management. Joint efforts by government authorities, with the support of UNHCR and partners, towards the shelter consolidation process resulted in Rondon 1, 2 and 4 shelters becoming a single accommodation space with a total capacity for 2,691 non-indigenous Venezuelans. In addition, the new “Waraotuma a Tuaranoko” shelter – a name collectively chosen by the indigenous communities meaning “resting place” in Warao – was set up to receive up to 1,550 indigenous refugees and migrants, who participated throughout the process with contributions on the design of culturally adapted spaces in the shelter.

One of the most popular samba schools and nine-time champion of Rio’s Carnival Parade, G.R.E.S. Salgueiro and UNHCR signed a Memorandum of Understanding aiming at raising awareness, promoting a more welcoming and inclusive society, and contributing to raise opportunities for refugee integration. Twenty refugees are training to participate in the school’s parade on 22 April, which this year will celebrate the resilience of the Afro-descendant population in Brazil.

In a 3-day mission to Rio de Janeiro, UNHCR Representative, José Egas, discussed planned actions for 2022 and the local protection situation of refugees and migrants in a meeting with University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ), Federal Fluminense University (UFF) and PUC-Rio, which are part of the Sérgio Vieira de Mello Academic Chair (CSVM). The Representative also discussed potential partnership opportunities between the Social Service of Commerce (Sesc) and UNHCR. Finally, the Representative visited the newly created “Núcleo de Migrantes e Refugiados Moïse Kabagambe”, a center which works inside the city’s Human Rights House and provides legal assistance and psychological care to the refugee and migrant population.

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New Casa Lar opened

The municipality of Boa Vista opened a new Casa Lar, an alternative model of institutional sheltering for vulnerable children and adolescents, which will receive ten unaccompanied Venezuelan children currently living in Operation Welcome shelters.

World Water Day

To celebrate World Water Day, on 22 March, UNHCR promoted activities in different sites. In Boa Vista, the team in the UNHCR Sustainability Center promoted debates on environmental care, water cycle and disease prevention. In Manaus, focus group discussions introduced refugees to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

R4V new dashboard available

UNHCR, IOM and the Ministry of Citizenship officially launched an interactive dashboard (bit.ly/3uZnpY7) that presents the number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants registered in the Social Assistance programs available in Brazil, such as CADÚnico, Auxílio Brasil and Benefício de Prestação Continuada (BPC).

MOVERSE visit to CRAI

The Embassy of Luxembourg, together with UNHCR, UN Women, UNFPA and the Coordinator of Policies for Immigrants of the Municipality of São Paulo visited CRAI “Oriana Jara”, which offers specialized and multilingual support for refugees and migrants. Read more at bit.ly/3IKCu3y

UNHCR Brazil enhances information on refugee rights

To better support Afghan nationals arriving in Brazil, UNHCR has translated materials produced together with the Ministry of Justice and CONARE. The same initiative is being taken to support Ukrainians arriving in the country.

UNHCR and Spain for UNHCR launch a new partnership with FC Barcelona and the FC Barcelona Foundation

The 4-year partnership aims at raising awareness on the situation of refugees and forcibly displaced people globally. On the next football season, UNHCR logo will be displayed on FC Barcelona jerseys, below each player’s number. The Foundation will also make a cash contribution per football season towards UNHCR projects. Read more at bit.ly/3x9OGss

UNHCR and CG-CONARE promote joint training sessions

“The refuge process in Brazil: protection and local integration” introduced the process of applying to asylum in Brazil and covered refugee-related concepts and support institutions to strengthen the local protection networks countrywide.

DASHBOARDS

- CONARE’s Decisions bit.ly/2ZOne1w
- Internal Relocation Strategy bit.ly/3a5Tv3C
- Shelters in Roraima bit.ly/3dcF6dT
- Cash-Based Interventions bit.ly/3VnTaL
- 5W – RMRP 2021 Implementation results bit.ly/3tM5kVH

PUBLICATIONS

acnur.org//portugues/publicacoes/

- Interiorization Report – January February 2022 bit.ly/3rvB0nS

UNHCR Brazil Funding update as of 12 April 2022

US$ 52,5 million

UNHCR's financial requirements in 2022

9% funded

For more information: reporting.unhcr.org
UNHCR Partners in Brazil:

- UNHCR Country Office
- UNHCR Sub Office
- UNHCR Field Office
- UNHCR Field Unit
- Protection
- Reception Sites
- Documentation
- Information Management
- Cash Assistance
- Integration
- Education
- Telecommunications

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- Telecommunications

HELP - The UNHCR source of information for refugees
help.unhcr.org/brazil

Companies with Refugees Platform
empresascomrefugiados.com.br

For more information:
brabrpi@unhcr.org
acnur.org.br
help.unhcr.org/brazil

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