UNHCR initiatives for economic inclusion of refugees in Brazil

May 2022

UNHCR Brazil works together with partner organizations to support the socioeconomic inclusion of refugees and other people in need of international protection in the country. As recommended by the Global Compact on Refugees, our approach seeks the engagement of multiple partners and sectors of society, through an action that catalyzes efforts and initiatives. Thus, we seek to ensure the inclusion of these populations in existing public and private services and programs, including access to employment and income generation, in addition to stimulating the involvement of the private sector, academia and development actors with actions aimed at full social and economic integration in the host communities. The UNHCR's multiannual strategy of livelihoods aims to articulate these efforts with integrated actions aimed at the autonomy and self-sufficiency of the refugee population.

The purpose of this material is to inform and engage companies, civil society organizations, government organizations, academia and, above all, to guide refugee and migrant people on existing initiatives and partnerships in the following areas: employability, entrepreneurship, financial inclusion, education, rights and general information and research of general interest. With this catalog, we seek to simplify the knowledge and access to UNHCR's actions in the area of livelihoods by interested people and organizations.

### Employability

**Companies with Refugees Platform**

![Empresas com Refugiados](empresascomrefugiados.com.br)

**Audience:** Companies and Organizations that support employability of refugees  
**Access:** empresascomrefugiados.com.br

The Companies with Refugees Platform is an initiative of UNHCR Brazil and the UN Global Compact Brazil that brings together corporate practices that benefit the integration of refugee people in the country, and provides general information on refugee people, reference materials, relevant research and guidance on the process of hiring refugees.

### Companies with Refugees Forum

![Forum Empresas com Refugiados](empresascomrefugiados.com.br/forum)

**Audience:** Businesses and Business Organizations  
**Access:** empresascomrefugiados.com.br/forum

The Forum, an initiative of UNHCR and the UN Global Compact Brazil, is formed by companies and other types of business organizations interested in supporting the inclusion of refugee people in the Brazilian labor market and aims to promote the exchange of experiences between companies and inclusion of refugee people in work environments as well as other types of experiences that support this population.
Learning: more than an opportunity.
Hiring of young refugees: Questions and Answers for Employers

**Audience:** Companies


Booklet produced in partnership with the Cento de Integração Empresa-Escola (CIEE) for companies that are interested in hiring young refugees for apprenticeship positions. The material clarifies several doubts about requirements, recruitment and selection, and legal aspects related to this theme.

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Empowering Refugee Women

**Audience:** Companies, refugee women, refugee women PWD or caregivers of refugee persons PWD

**Access:** acnur.org/portugues/empoderando-refugiadas

Empowering Refugee Women is an initiative developed by UNHCR, UN Global Compact Brazil and UN Women, focused on the employability of refugee women. The project was created in 2015 and promotes access to the Brazilian labor market through training, private sector awareness and interiozation.

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Protect Work Campaign

**Audience:** Refugees and migrants

**Access:** Portuguese, English, Spanish, French, Arabic

The Protect Work campaign is a partnership of the Ministry of Labor and Welfare – through the Labor Inspection Sub-Secretariat - with UNHCR, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The campaign website presents important information for migrants and refugees on the measures adopted in labor and employment relations, available in Portuguese, Spanish, English, French and Arabic.

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Employability Organizations Email Group

**Audience:** Employability Organizations of Refugees and Migrants

**Access:** Send an email: tarantin@unhcr.org

E-mail group for organizations that work in the labor insertion of refugees and migrants destined to exchange and share updated information and experiences related to the topic.
Entrepreneurship

Refugee Entrepreneurs Platform

Audience: Refugee Entrepreneurs and society in general
Access: refugiadoempreendedores.com.br

Platform of UNHCR Brazil and the UN Global Compact Brazil that aims to disseminate projects led by refugees in Brazil. The platform brings together a number of resources, both for refugees who want to undertake, and for anyone who has an interest in including these enterprises in their consumption habits or in some production chain. For the refugee audience, the platform offers lists of support organizations, online learning resources, information on access to credit and microcredit, etc. For people interested in doing business with refugees, it is possible to find more than 100 listed refugee-owned businesses.

Partnership with SEBRAE/MG on the Migrants and Refugees platform in Minas Gerais

Audience: Refugees and migrants
Access: bit.ly/3JjJKD1

The Migrants and Refugees Platform in Minas Gerais is a space that brings together guidelines and training for small entrepreneurs and also for those who seek to start their enterprise. It is also possible to request exclusive service directly from specialists, from the contact with SEBRAE Agencies in Minas Gerais. This is an initiative of SEBRAE/MG, supported by UNHCR, IOM and the Government of the State of Minas Gerais.

Financial inclusion

Financial Information Booklet for Migrants and Refugees

Audience: Refugees and migrants
Access: Portuguese, English, French, Arabic, Spanish

Document prepared by the Central Bank, in partnership with UNHCR, IOM and CONARE, with guidelines for refugees and migrants on various topics such as opening an account in banks, exchange, remittances and receiving money abroad, loans, warnings not to be a victim of scams and general information about the functioning of the Brazilian financial system.

Banco do Povo Crédito Solidário

Audience: Refugees and migrants

Banco do Povo Crédito Solidário offers microcredit for refugee and migrant entrepreneurs. It contemplates residents of the Metropolitan Region of São Paulo and Campinas. More information can be found on the website: https://www.refugiadoempreendedores.com.br/credito
CrediTodos

**Audience:** Refugees and migrants

**Access:** [https://cliente.credito/perola.digital/projeto/credittodos](https://cliente.credito/perola.digital/projeto/credittodos)

CrediTodos is a programme of the Banco Pérola with the support of UNHCR. It is a microcredit program aimed at refugees and migrants who act as micro and small entrepreneurs in Brazil. CrediTodos offers loans from R$1,000 to R$7,000 for investment in productive activity (with or without formalization), under special interest conditions, return period, guarantee and collection. More information can be found on the website: [https://www.refugiadosempreendedores.com.br/credito](https://www.refugiadosempreendedores.com.br/credito).

**Education**

**Coursera for refugees**

**Audience:** Refugees and migrants

**Access:** Contact UNHCR implementing partner

Online education platform that offers various courses in administration, marketing, social sciences, languages, among others, offered by prestigious universities around the world. At the Coursera For Refugees program, two types of resources are available free of charge for refugees: courses and specializations lasting 4 to 6 weeks. The content can be accessed by smartphone or tablet and there are courses offered in English, Spanish, French, Arabic and other languages, with several subtitle options.

**Fluency Academy**

**Audience:** Refugees and migrants fluent in Spanish

**Access:** Fluency Academy website

Online Portuguese course, 100% free for people who are refugees and migrants fluent in Spanish, newcomers or who already live in Brazil.

**General rights and information**

**Help Platform**

**Audience:** Refugees, applicants for refugee status and stateless persons who have just arrived or are already living in Brazil

**Access:** [ajuda.acnur.org](http://ajuda.acnur.org)

Online platform that aims to serve as a source of useful, up-to-date and relevant information for refugees, applicants for refugee status and stateless persons who have just arrived or already live in Brazil. UNHCR compiles information from governments, institutions, civil society, academia, international agencies and brings it together on a single website, facilitating access to information for the refugee and migrant population. The platform is available in 5 languages: Portuguese, Spanish, English, French and Arabic.
Surveys of general interest

**Interiorization panel**

*Audience:* Society in general  
*Access:* aplicacoes.mds.gov.br/snas/painel-interiorizacao/

The interiorization strategy is part of the Welcome Operation and promotes the relocation of Venezuelan refugees and migrants from Roraima to other Brazilian states. Detailed data on the strategy can be found in the Interiorization Dashboard.

**Social Information Panel for Venezuelan Refugees and Migrants**

*Audience:* Society in general  
*Access:* Access here

Interactive panel that presents the number of Venezuelan refugees and migrants registered in the Single Registry and beneficiaries of Social Assistance programs by municipality and Federation Unit. The panel is updated monthly (Ministry of Citizenship, UNHCR and IOM).

**Challenges, limits and potentialities of Venezuelan refugee, asylum seeker and migrant entrepreneurs in Brazil**

*Audience:* Society in general  
*Access:* Full Survey

Research carried out by the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) and the University of Brasília (UnB) whose main objective was to understand the profile of the Venezuelan entrepreneurs in Brazil. The research mapped the opening and consolidation of projects and the obstacles and factors that facilitated or hindered their viability.

**Limits and challenges to local integration of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants from Venezuela interiorized during the Covid-19 pandemic**

*Audience:* Society in general  
*Access:* Executive Summary

Research carried out by the UNHCR, UN Women and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and carried out by CEDEPLAR and the IPEAD Foundation of the Federal University of Minas Gerais (UFMG) that aimed to provide data on the socioeconomic conditions of Venezuelans after their departure from Roraima through the Interiorization Strategy.
UNHCR has worked together with federal, state and municipal government agencies, civil society, UN agencies, academia and other organizations, providing the basic needs of the indigenous population in situations of forced displacement, especially in the states of Roraima, Amazonas and Pará, and monitoring the situation of the displacement of the Warao population to the other states of Brazil. This publication proposes a necessary discussion on the Warao indigenous people in Brazil, bringing new data on the reconfiguration of communities in the country, based on an in-depth work of more than three years, which seeks to systematically offer new analyzes on the configurations of this indigenous group, in order to support the strategies and interventions of the authorities, technicians, academia and other actors working with this population.

The Warao in Brazil: Contributions of anthropology to the protection of indigenous refugees and migrants

The research carried out by UNHCR and AVSI Brazil proposed to expand the existing knowledge about the sociodemographic and labor profile of refugees, asylum seekers and migrants from Venezuela who are hosted in temporary reception centers located in Boa Vista. The intention is to contribute to the planning of actions that foster the achievement of autonomy and self-sufficiency of this population, with its insertion in the labor market and integration with the host community. The quantitative research with probabilistic survey sample took into account the different family arrangements of these people.

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