

Cities of Solidarity in the Americas

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

In the Americas, the majority of displaced and stateless people live in urban or peri-urban areas. In this context, **local authorities** play a **leading role** in the search and achievement of local integration. Local authorities can provide **access to services** in their territory and are also in the position to **generate quick changes in local policies** which can positively and immediately affect the lives of the people UNHCR serves. Nonetheless, **challenges** to achieve integration are considerable at the **local level**, above all for small municipalities and peripheral cities due to limited **human and financial resources** or little **support and coordination** from the central government.



INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

The “Cities of Solidarity” initiative stems from the recommendations identified by States in the region under the **2004 Mexico Plan of Action** and the **2014 Brazil Plan of Action**, aimed at recognizing local governments’ efforts to provide protection and integration.

The initiative has developed a **self-assessment tool** aimed to provide diagnostics and prioritization of public policy issues connected to the inclusion of the people UNHCR serves. This reference framework was developed upon the **10 core criteria** a stylized representation of key aspects of local integration, the backbone of the Cities of Solidarity framework.



Americas

Mercociudades (Network)

66 Cities 7 Provinces 2 Municipalities' Associations

FROM THE FIELD

Montevideo provides job training for refugees and migrants

The **programme** is part of the agreement between UNHCR and the Secretariat of Racial Ethnic Equity and Migrant Populations of the city. Seventy-six people completed the training process delivered by “Casa de la Mujer de la Unión” on subjects such as customer service, home care services, sales, marketing, eCommerce and logistics.

Tapachula launches a training program for people in the context of mobility.

The municipality of Tapachula launched the training **program** as part of the “Somos Familia” program that seeks to consolidate a municipal public policy in caring for people on the move through actions and projects on the topics of reception, health, employment, education and social cohesion.

