Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela







FUNDING SITUATION**

10/0 FUNDED: 41 M
REQUIREMENT: 98 M

Situation

- Despite Operation Welcome and R4V partners' assistance efforts, the number of refugees and migrants living in the streets and in spontaneous settlements in Pacaraima, the main entry point of Venezuelans in Brazil, increased by almost 200 per cent since June, reaching 1,500 by the end of November. In mid-November, the security situation in Pacaraima deteriorated significantly, with public demonstrations and violent acts against the refugee and migrant population and Operation Welcome facilities. On 25 November, protesters forced the closure of the main road connecting Pacaraima to Boa Vista for a few hours. The Brazilian Army promptly responded to ensure the safety of Venezuelans at risk, including homeless refugees and migrants, and accommodated them in Operation Welcome facilities, in collaboration with R4V partners.
- The rising number of homeless refugees and migrants can also be attributed to the increase in arrivals and the reduced capacity of R4V partners to support the humanitarian transportation of Venezuelans since September, which has affected the internal relocation strategy, *interiorização*. In comparison to August 2021, when 2,442 people were relocated with R4V partners' support, in November only 1,798 Venezuelans took part in this strategy. Despite the drop in numbers, the structure of the strategy remains similar, with about 64 per cent of participants being reunited through family and social reunification, 19 per cent housed in shelters and 17 per cent matched with employment opportunities. Since April 2018, over 64,000 Venezuelans were internally relocated to over 700 cities in Brazil with greater opportunities for socio-economic integration.

Response

Education

To facilitate Venezuelan children's access to the public school system in Pacaraima, R4V partners translated a series of primary education placement exams to Spanish. The exams are widely used to determine a student's level of education when he or she does not present previous school documentation. Brazilian law establishes that the exam should be applied in the student's native language, and the lack of a placement test in Spanish had hampered access to quality education for many Venezuelan children arriving in Brazil.

Health

As refugees and migrants from Venezuela continue to face challenges in accessing medical diagnostic services and treatment for cancer and noncommunicable diseases that require more complex or long-term care, R4V partners held activities to mark National Prostate Cancer Awareness Month, which is observed in November in Brazil. In Manaus, R4V partners offered medical care for refugees and migrants from Venezuela and host community men, including cancer screening and preventive services, and STI's testing.

Integration/ Interiorization/ Humanitarian Transportation

- In Rio de Janeiro, R4V partners held a wide range of employment-related trainings for 100 refugees and migrants from Venezuela that included résumé writing, practice interviews and information sessions about labour rights. The programme helps Venezuelans to improve their livelihoods opportunities and better integrate in Brazilian society by overcoming most common barriers when looking for work.
- R4V Integration Sector partners trained volunteers working with refugees and migrants, mainly from

- Venezuela, on how to teach Portuguese as a second language. The classes follow the teaching methodology of Portuguese as a Welcoming Language (PWL), and addressed cultural mediation, contextualization, and history of PWL, lesson plan preparation, and linguistic specificities of Spanish.
- As part of a strategy to strengthen the engagement of the private sector in the economic integration of Venezuelans, R4V partners and the Global Compact Network Brazil held a webinar with a call-center services company that shared best practices and their experience hiring refugees and migrants in Brazil. Over 60 people from different companies attended the session. The initiative promoted the exchange of experiences and best practices on recruitment strategies, diversity policies, training, and inclusion of refugees and migrants in the workplace.
- Sector partners continued to support entrepeneurship by providing a total of 50 refugees and migrants with trainings on business management, finance, digital marketing, and seed capital.

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Nutrition

- R4V Nutrition Sector partners continued their nutritional surveillance programme and screenings in shelters in Pacaraima, Boa Vista, Manaus, Belém, Ananindeua and Santarém. Partners screened 481 children under the age of 5 for malnutrition and distributed daily micronutrient tablets (including iron/folic acid) to 130 pregnant or lactating women. In addition, R4V Nutrition Sector partners held 384 counseling sessions on appropriate feeding for caregivers of infants, girls, and boys aged 0-23 months.
- To strengthen the capacity of 20 professionals working in Boa Vista's shelters, R4V partners conducted a training on nutrition surveillance services and nutritional care in emergencies.

BRAZIL



In Boa Vista, partners set up community kitchens in four indigenous shelters to promote healthy eating, good nutrition and culturally appropriate meals, fostering autonomy for indigenous refugees and migrants from Venezuela.

Protection

- Recognizing the increasing needs of Venezuelan new arrivals in remote border areas in the Amazon, R4V partners organized exploratory missions to São Gabriel da Cachoeira and Tabatinga, the latter located in a tri-border area with Colombia and Peru. Protection sector partners and Federal State actors met with local authorities to assess the situation, provide training on the rights of refugees and migrants, and set up referral pathways for vulnerable refugees and migrants in the region. During the joint missions, partners also organized information sessions on access to rights and documentation for refugees and migrants.
- After multiple reports that Venezuelan parents or legal guardians of children born in Brazil are facing many challenges to register them and apply for their birth certificates, the Child Protection Subsector published Communicating with Communities (CwC) materials to raise awareness of the right to birth certification for all children born in Brazil. To inform the affected population, partners created <u>communication cards</u> to be shared online and through WhatsApp with the most critical information; and a guidance note was issued and published to guarantee that Civil Registry Offices are aware of the rights of children born in Brazil, including those born to parents who lack documentation or are in an irregular situation.
- GBV Subsector partners marked the 16 Days of Activism Against Gender-Based Violence campaign by organizing over 200 activities across the country, including awareness-raising sessions; the production of posters, cards and podcasts by refugees and migrants; the webinar "Women, different lives, equality for them all," with firsthand testimonials by refugee, migrant and Brazilian women living in the country; Public Announcement

messaging; and the launch of a documentary series called Vozes e Olhares (voices and glances).



- In November, 811 refugees and migrants received shelter support through Operation Welcome's shelters in Roraima and 26 in the municipal shelters of Manaus.
- R4V partners continued to dialogue with Venezuelan indigenous communities in Boa Vista to enable their participation in the ongoing shelter re-structuring plan. Partners met with residents of the five indigenous shelters in the city to articulate their needs and negotiate their demands prior to their anticipated relocation to an improved indigenous shelter (Rondon 3) in 2022.



- Sector partners continued providing WASH services to nearly 8,000 refugees and migrants in Boa Vista's shelters and spontaneous settlements. Access to quality water was improved/ensured through water storage tank cleaning; cleaning and disinfection of drinking water taps; replacement of water tap filters, including activated carbon filters; and testing for residual chlorine. Over 1,200 people participated in complementary hygiene promotion activities, including local school children who tested the "Waterways" game developed jointly by CAER (the Roraima State Water and Sanitation Company) and R4V partners.
- The preliminary results from an analysis of a "Cash Voucher Assistance for Hygiene" project led by R4V WASH partners included these key findings: (i) vouchers were widely preferred over hygiene kits because the cash vouchers allowed the participants to acquire the hygiene items that best corresponded to their specific situations, needs, and household composition; and (ii) the cash value of the voucher was deemed by refugee and migrant families to be insufficient for meeting household hygiene needs, and was adversely impacted by inflation and exchange rate losses.

R4V Brazil Platform Partners

ABV | ADRA* | AEBVB | ASAV/SJMR Brasil* | ASBRAD | Associação dos Amigos | Associação Hermanitos* | AVSI Brasil* | CAM | Cáritas Brasileira* | Cáritas Manaus* | Cáritas Paraná | Cáritas Rio de Janeiro* | Cáritas São Paulo* | Cáritas Suíça no Brasil* | CDDH | CIEDS | CMDH/RR | Compassiva | FFHI*I FSF* | IKMR – I Know My Rights | ILO | IMDH* | IMPACT REACH | Instituto Félix Guattari | Instituto Mana* | Instituto Nice | Instituto Pirilampos | IOM* | LGBT+Movimento | Missão Paz | Museu A Casa | PADF | PAHO/WHO* | Plan International Brasil | RET Americas | RIADIS | Salvation Army | SEFRAS | SOS Children's Village Brazil* | SPM* I SPM-NE | UN Women | UNAIDS | UNDP | UNESCO | UNFPA* | UNHCR* | UNICEF* | UNODC | UNOPS | We World | World Vision Brazil



Education 1,308

Food Security 4,777

Health 6,010

Щ Hum. Transp. 2,195 1,799

• Integration CBI

6,627 701

Nutrition

Protection 22,222

Shelter WASH 9,735 8,574

^{*} Partners submitting data to Activity Info in November 2021.