



REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN BRAZIL
 145,462 TEMPORARY RESIDENCE
 96,556 ASYLUM SEEKERS
 46,343 REFUGEES
 (PUBLISHED IN OCTOBER 2020)

Situation

- **The COVID-19 situation in Manaus, capital of the Amazonas state, rapidly deteriorated in January, leading to a second collapse in the local healthcare system, characterized by long waiting lists for intensive care unit (ICU) beds and a severe lack of oxygen.** COVID-19 infections, partly propelled by the discovery of a potentially more contagious variant in the region, surged by 125 per cent in Manaus between 7 January and 22 January, according to the National Council of Health Secretaries and Brazilian media. On 8 January, the municipality of Manaus declared a 180-day state of emergency in the face of the rapidly rising cases, suspending all public events until 31 January and establishing teleworking arrangements for the municipal administration until 31 March. Also, R4V partners temporarily suspended in-person activities as a preventive measure.
- **In January, Brazilian authorities issued Ordinance nº 651/2021 and Ordinance 652/2021, maintaining for an undetermined time the exceptional and temporary restrictions on entry by land or sea for foreigners, regardless of nationality, due to COVID-19.** The restrictive measures on access by land or sea explicitly state that Venezuelans do not benefit from exceptions, regardless of their legal status or family ties in Brazil. The failure to comply with the Ordinance leads to deportation and the inability to apply for asylum.

Response

Education

- **In association with the National Union of Municipal Education Directors (UNDIME), R4V partners held meetings with local governments in Northern States, [sharing guidance](#) to support schools' safe reopening and related risk-based strategies.** The Sector continued to advocate for widespread use of the [self-assessment tool on WASH](#), which helps evaluate WASH conditions of educational facilities, offering tailored recommendations for improvement.

Health

- **To support the Amazonas government in responding to the second wave of COVID-19, R4V partners donated to the Health State Secretariat (SES-AM) more than 160,000 non-food items,** including 115 beds and 90 mattresses, 180 blankets, 26,000 gloves, and 300 pieces of protective clothing to better equip maternal health facilities in Manaus.

Integration / Interiorization / Humanitarian Transportation

- **In January, Sector partners conducted activities aiming to increase entrepreneurship opportunities for 833 refugees and migrants in Paraná, Rio de Janeiro, Santa Catarina, and Rio Grande do Sul.** Upon attending training on

marketing, financial management and sales, the beneficiaries received seed capital to start their businesses according to their choice and vocation as a mechanism to promote income generation and self-reliance.

- **Sector partners reached the milestone of 10,000 air tickets purchased for Venezuelan refugees and migrants in support of the Federal Government's relocation strategy initiated in April 2018.**

Nutrition

- **In January, R4V partners launched a project in three Operation Welcome shelters to improve sustainable feeding for children.** The project targets caregivers of children aged 0 to 24 months, providing training and practical learning about healthy feeding and meal preparation in the Brazilian social and economic context. Three school kitchens were installed to hold workshops, reaching 107 caregivers and benefitting 130 children.
- **The Sector continued its regular nutritional surveillance and preventive activities in shelters of Pacaraima and Boa Vista (Roraima), Manaus (Amazonas), Belém, Ananindeua, and Santarém (Pará) as well as public health facilities in Roraima.** In total, 481 Children under five years of age were screened for malnutrition, including 203 Warao indigenous children. Preventive supplementation with micronutrient powders was provided for 108 children. Pregnant and lactating women were screened for malnutrition, and over 200 women received daily micronutrient tablets (including iron and folic acid).

Protection

BRAZIL

- The protection sector and the GBV subsector held fourteen information sessions on Preventing Sexual Exploitation, Abuse, and Harassment (PSEAH) for the new military contingent of Operation Welcome in Roraima and Manaus, reaching 519 military personnel and 18 humanitarian actors.
- The protection sector and Minas Gerais Indigenous Committee held a seminar for 74 employees of the Caixa Econômica Federal bank. The training addressed refugees' and migrants' rights in Brazil, including access to documentation, social assistance, and banking services, while also promoting awareness on Warao cultural identity by improving the social and financial inclusion of indigenous refugees and migrants living in the State.
- At the overnight facility of Boa Vista's bus terminal, the GBV subsector implemented a community-led strategy for the protection of people that identify as LGBTQI+. A group of 6 community leaders conducted a needs assessment in the area and is raising awareness on LGBTQI+ rights in that location.



Shelter/NFI/Food Security

- R4V partners supported the creation of a temporary shelter for indigenous Warao families in Brasília. The new shelter is a safe accommodation for 79 people who are receiving food and material assistance from sector partners and participating in social and labour integration initiatives. The shelter is a pilot project between local government, civil society, and UN agencies to provide dignified living conditions for vulnerable indigenous people previously living in the streets of Brasília.

- In January, Operation Welcome and R4V partners completed the relocation of all refugees and migrants living in Ka'Ubanoko, the largest spontaneous settlement of Boa Vista, where a population of 850 individuals used to live in precarious and hazardous conditions. In January, the remaining 250 indigenous residents were relocated to the culturally appropriate Janokoida and Jardim Floresta sites after a thorough consultation with 50 community leaders to ensure individual, and collective protection needs were effectively considered in the eviction process.



- Sector partners assisted the Brazilian Army in improving Jardim Floresta shelter's WASH infrastructure to meet Sphere Standards and to better serve the indigenous population recently relocated to this site.
- R4V partners created two new handwashing stands at the overnight facility of Boa Vista's bus terminal, improving hand hygiene for refugees, migrants, and the host community.
- The Sector continued to provide WASH services in Roraima and Amazonas, including access to safe water, basic sanitation, and hygiene items. Over 450,000 litres of treated water were supplied by truck to refugees and migrants living in spontaneous settlements and those using the sleeping area of Boa Vista's Bus terminal. In addition, 7,000 litres of sodium solution for disinfecting surfaces and rooms were provided to indigenous communities, spontaneous settlements, and Operation Welcome shelters.

R4V Brazil Platform Partners

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