Situation

- In January, Brazil announced its reintegration into the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM), from which it had withdrawn in 2019. This decision was among the first announcements of the newly elected government under President Luís Inácio Lula da Silva.
- On 23 January, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security issued Ordinance N° 290, establishing a Working Group to develop the National Policy on Migration, Asylum and Statelessness, within 60 days. According to the ordinance, the group must consult civil society and the participation of refugees and migrants.
- The Rio de Janeiro City Hall, with the support of R4V Partners, inaugurated its first Referral and Assistance Centre for Immigrants (CRAI-Rio). The new public facility will offer social assistance services and legal guidance, prioritizing referrals for migratory regularization and asylum, Portuguese classes and vocational courses.
- On January 20, the Ministry of Health issued an ordinance declaring a State of Emergency to address the precarious health conditions of the Yanomami indigenous peoples in their traditional territory in Roraima. In addition to the emergency declaration, the Ministry of Health installed the Center for Emergency Operations in Public Health (COE – Yanomami) as a national mechanism for the coordinated management of the emergency response at the national level, under the coordination of the Special Secretariat for Indigenous Health of the Ministry of Health. It is estimated that, in the last four years, 570 Yanomami children have died as a result of mercury contamination, malnutrition and hunger. Of these, 505 were under the age of 1. On 21 January, President Lula visited Boa Vista accompanied by several ministers, and, on January 30, published an official decree including measures to address the public health emergency and to combat illegal mining in the Yanomami territory.

Response

Education

- In Boa Vista, R4V partners promoted the enrolment of children and adolescents in schools as part of the "Out of School, Never!" campaign, an initiative coordinated with Operation Welcome and local education authorities. Partners worked in shelters, reception and relocation centres (PITRIGs) and in spontaneous settlements, providing information and logistical support to families for enrolment in local schools, including assistance with documentation and transportation to attend age-grade leveling tests.
- In Boa Vista, refugee and migrant children and adolescents performed at the "Canta Tu Historia" concert, featuring dance, poetry, and music presentations, including a music video created and produced by the children in the Rondon 1 shelter. The concert was the result of a series of workshops developed within a project for the provision of psychosocial support and informal education in shelters.

Health

- Sector partners continued to promote access to health services for Venezuelan refugees and migrants. In Roraima, 1,432 people were provided with primary health care and 704 vaccines were administered.

Integration / Interiorization / Humanitarian

- The voluntary relocation strategy supported 2,579 refugees and migrants this month, an increase of 11% compared to December 2022. 539 were supported through the Job Placement modality, of whom 416 (about 77%) were effectively hired. Sector partners supported families in Santa Catarina and São Paulo.
- Sector partners provided technical support and equipment for the digital inclusion room of CRAI-Rio, named its “Opportunity Space”, where IT and labour insertion-related courses will be provided to refugees and migrants.
- Partners continued their efforts to promote employment and entrepreneurship by providing workshops to create CVs (82 people in Brasilia), Portuguese classes (79 people in Boa Vista) and referrals to job vacancies (2 people were hired).

Nutrition

- R4V partners continued their nutritional surveillance program and screenings in shelters and local health facilities of Pacaraima and Boa Vista. In total, 728 people (including 283 children under the age of 5) were screened for malnutrition. In Pacaraima, 105 children were screened by health-nutrition monitors through the MUAC tape methodology in entry points. Partners also monitored 724 pregnant or lactating women, of whom 274 (37.8%) received daily nutritional supplementation with micronutrient tablets. In addition, 1,089 counseling sessions on appropriate feeding were held for caregivers of infants and children aged 0-23 months.

Protection

- In Manaus, R4V partners offered a workshop on Community-Based Protection (CBP) for a new group of outreach volunteers. The volunteers are refugees and
migrants from Venezuela who are responsible for strengthening access to protection, documentation, and rights in their neighborhoods.

- GBV Sub-sector partners conducted five PSEA/Sexual Harassment training sessions in Boa Vista, for 166 staff (97 men and 69 women) of the 15th Military Contingent of Operation Welcome, R4V partners, and local companies and service providers. The trainings aimed to enhance prevention measures and response capacities of these stakeholders.

- In light of Trans People Visibility Week, the ATERR (Association of Transvestites, Transsexuals and Transgenders of Roraima) carried out information sessions to raise awareness regarding rights and livelihood opportunities for the LGBTQIA+ population in Brazil, in partnership with GBV Sub-sector partners. The activity took place at the "Casa da Mulher Brasileira", a government-run center specializing in assisting GBV survivors in Boa Vista, with the participation of around 30 people, including refugees and migrants and host community members.

**Shelter/Food Security**

- R4V partners conducted trainings in Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) for 46 members of the 15th Military Contingent of Operation Welcome who will be responsible for running shelters, the Reception and Support Centre (PRA) as well as spontaneous settlements in Roraima.

- In January, 57 families voluntarily left Operation Welcome shelters and settled in Boa Vista with the support of the “Novo Caminhador” exit strategy. Since 2022, this project has strengthened the autonomy and local integration of 192 refugees and migrants in Boa Vista.

**WASH**

- Sector partners responded to the water quality concerns of around 9,060 refugees and migrants in Boa Vista and Pacaraima’s shelters and spontaneous settlements through the following actions: 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 12,970 liters of sodium hypochlorite solution (household bleach) were produced and distributed for cleaning and disinfection at multiple sites in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, benefiting over 7,646 individuals. Also, WASH monitors conducted hygiene promotion activities benefiting over 209 people.

- The Conscientious Use of Water and Handwashing Campaign was implemented in official shelters and spontaneous settlements in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, reaching 488 people, including children and adults. The objective of the initiative was to raise awareness of the importance of proper handwashing with soap and water to prevent diseases.

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**R4V Brazil Platform Partners**

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* Partners submitting data to Activity Info in January 2023.

** New Beneficiaries consolidated as of January 2023.