In Brazil, UNHCR works to support the efforts of the Brazilian Government in the humanitarian response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, known as Operation Welcome, as well as for the international protection of forcibly displaced persons of different nationalities and stateless persons.

**Main results**

- **61,731** refugees in Brazil
- **204,054** asylum-seekers in Brazil
- **358,412** Venezuelans in Brazil
- **32%** of US$ 52.5 million needed for the UNHCR Brazil operation in 2022

**In Brazil, UNHCR works to support the efforts of the Brazilian Government in the humanitarian response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, known as Operation Welcome, as well as for the international protection of forcibly displaced persons of different nationalities and stateless persons.**

- **PROTECTION**
  - 29,921 people supported with documentation processes
  - 2,101 people trained to strengthen the protection environment
  - 18,021 people hosted in temporary shelters in the north of Brazil

- **SHELTER**
  - Maintain the management of emergency shelters in the North of the country to assist and protect the most vulnerable, seeking the continuous improvement of infrastructure, access to WASH services, and the overall well-being of those sheltered.

- **ACCESS TO TERRITORY AND QUALITY ASYLUM**
  - Ensure access to territory and international protection by promoting a fair, efficient asylum system and a favorable protection environment through technical guidance and strengthening of local capacities, in close coordination with the government (Ministry of Justice, CONARE, Federal Police) and civil society.

- **LIVELIHOODS AND INTERIORIZATION**
  - Continue to support the socio-economic integration of refugees through the voluntary internal relocation strategy, including the provision of shelter in destination cities for the most vulnerable cases, as well as by further engaging private and development sector stakeholders.

- **INDIGENOUS POPULATION**
  - Develop strategies for the protection and intercultural integration of indigenous refugee communities focused on their specific needs and the challenges faced by them in accessing basic rights and lasting solutions.

- **LOCAL PROTECTION NETWORKS**
  - Work in cooperation with local authorities to strengthen coordination, technical capacities, and referral processes of local protection networks. Continue advising these authorities in the design and implementation of public policies, including through the strengthening of community-based protection activities, ensuring the direct involvement of refugees.

**UNHCR's key priorities in 2022**

- Strengthen mapping and identification of people at heightened risk to ensure timely referrals to protection networks and services, including technical capacity building for local authorities to improve reception and assistance of people with specific needs, such as LGBTIQ+, elderly, chronically ill, unaccompanied children and adolescents, indigenous peoples, etc.

- In Brazil, UNHCR works to support the efforts of the Brazilian Government in the humanitarian response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, known as Operation Welcome, as well as for the international protection of forcibly displaced persons of different nationalities and stateless persons.
Support to Afghans in Brazil

The Interministerial Ordinance No. 24 grants temporary visas and residence permits for humanitarian purposes to Afghan citizens and stateless persons affected by the situation in Afghanistan. Since its establishment in September 2021, more than 6,138 humanitarian visas have been authorized and about 2,200 Afghan citizens have already entered Brazil. UNHCR and partner organizations have been providing protection support to these people, while coordinating closely with the authorities to ensure that their urgent needs are promptly met.

Reception
Upon arrival at Guarulhos Airport, Afghans receive support from the Advanced Post of Humanized Assistance to Migrants (PAAHM) with information about rights and services available in Brazil. UNHCR works in partnership with the Secretariat of Development and Social Assistance of Guarulhos to strengthen the work of the PAAHM, which currently has an Afghan cultural mediator and interpreter for better reception of this population.

Shelter
UNHCR has been articulating and training several local authorities to consolidate an effective reception response for the Afghan population in Brazil. Through these efforts, UNHCR, together with the Municipality of Guarulhos, Caritas Diocesana de Guarulhos and Caritas Arquidiocesana de São Paulo (CASP), inaugurated the Todos Irmãos Welcome Center, which has almost 30 vacancies, in addition to the shelter in Poá-SP, together with the Children’s Villages, with capacity for 40 people.

To learn more about UNHCR’s actions for the Afghan population, access the Factsheet on Protection and Assistance to the Afghan Population in Brazil.

National initiatives for access to documentation

Civil and legal documentation is vital for refugees as it protects their rights and allows them to access essential services such as education and healthcare. Therefore, in the first months of 2022, UNHCR strengthened its efforts to ensure more agile and accessible documentation processes.

In the Southeast
UNHCR together with the IOM and the CIC do Imigrante supported the Federal Police of São Paulo in its documentation task force named “Operation Horizon”. By the end of its third phase, a total of 2,870 people (mostly Venezuelans) had obtained their documentation. In addition, documentation efforts focused on the most vulnerable have been carried out in the state of Rio de Janeiro in partnership with local authorities.

In the North
In Roraima, UNHCR, through advocacy actions at the local and national levels, led to adjustments in documentation flows, the creation of a new triage point at the official border of Pacaraima, and the hiring of additional support staff to the Federal Police in Boa Vista and Pacaraima together with IOM. As a result, the average waiting time to complete documentation procedures in September was approximately one week, compared to the 2-3 months seen at the end of 2021. Documentation task forces have also been implemented in emergency shelters, reaching more than 2,000 people, and in rural areas of the state, where indigenous and non-indigenous Venezuelans need support with asylum requests, access to provisional ID cards for asylum-seekers (DPRNM), among other services.

In Manaus, UNHCR continues the implementation of a call-center to receive information and documentation requests, referring refugees and migrants to the services available at the Reception and Documentation Centre (PITRIG) of Operation Welcome. Moreover, the Agency carried out advocacy initiatives and task forces to improve documentation processes in the border cities of Tabatinga and São Miguel da Cachoeira.

In the South
UNHCR, together with the Federal Police and other partners, has helped municipalities to carry out documentation initiatives so to reduce the backlog of people who still have their documentation expired due to limited renewal services during the COVID-19 pandemic. In Florianópolis-SC, Joinville-SC and Caxias do Sul-RS alone, almost 1,200 people benefited from these initiatives.
Cross-border movements in Roraima

Since the reopening of the Venezuelan side of the border in February 2022, there has been an increase in non-Venezuelan people in need of international protection crossing the border into Roraima. In the first half of 2022, UNHCR assisted around 70 people of nationalities other than Venezuela (mostly Cubans), while between July and September, the number of people was almost 90 (mostly nationals from Cuba, Colombia, Haiti and others), representing an increase of 30% compared to the previous semester.

Cities of Solidarity Report

In May, UNHCR launched the "1st Cities of Solidarity in Brazil Report: protection and integration of refugees at the local level", adapting a global UNHCR initiative to the Brazilian context and showcasing 27 good practices from 17 municipalities that promote actions for the integration of refugees in different services such as shelter, education and protection initiatives.

World Refugee Day

20 June marks the World Refugee Day, an international date designated by the United Nations to honor refugees around the world and reinforce that "Whoever, wherever, whenever", everyone has the right to seek protection. To commemorate this day in Brazil, UNHCR carried out a series of activities on protection and integration for this population that can be found here.

Extended visas for Ukrainians

The Brazilian Government has extended, until 3 March 2023, the granting of temporary visas and residence permits for humanitarian purposes to Ukrainian nationals and stateless persons affected or displaced by the situation of armed conflict in Ukraine.

Inclusion of refugees in 2022 National Census

As a result of the cooperation with UNHCR, for the first time in history, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE) is including in the 2022 national census asylum-seekers, refugees and migrants living in the temporary shelters of Operation Welcome, in addition to those residing in spontaneous settlements and urban neighborhoods of Manaus, Boa Vista, Belém, Pacaraima and other cities in Brazil. Learn more about this initiative here.

1st Meeting of the National Forum of State Councils and Committees for Refugees and Migrants

Created in March, the National Forum of State Councils and Committees for Refugees and Migrants had its first meeting facilitated by UNHCR in July 2022. With the presence of 11 committees and councils, the event included discussions on the operational setting of each institution, including access to documentation for the refugee, stateless and migrant population, and the development of inclusive public policies for the integration of these communities. Learn more about the meeting.

Closing of the Quito Process

In the last week of June, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, with the support of UNHCR and IOM, held the closing events of the Brasilia Chapter of the Quito Process. From 27 to 29 June, a delegation made up of member states, Group of Friends, UNHCR and IOM representatives, and members of the Technical Secretariat visited Boa Vista to see first-hand how humanitarian assistance services are provided in the context of Operation Welcome.

On 30 June and 1 July, the VIII International Technical Meeting on Human Mobility of Venezuelan Citizens in the Region was held in Brasilia, where discussions focused on the role of international cooperation for refugee protection and integration, efforts to prevent and respond to xenophobia, access to health services and the regional response to refugees and migrants from Venezuela, including the essential role of civil society.
In the past eight months, UNHCR Brazil officialized 25 partnerships and cooperation agreements, among them:

**SIGNING OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

- **Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics (IBGE)** to carry out joint actions for demographic data collection in the 2022 Census.

- **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)** to promote opportunities for socio-economic inclusion of people forced to flee, with special attention to Venezuelan refugees and migrants in Brazil.

- **São Paulo Municipality through the Municipal Secretariat for Assistance and Social Development (SMADS)** with a focus on training public officials to improve assistance provided to refugees within the scope of the Unified Social Assistance System.

- **Guarulhos Municipality** to support the elaboration and review of protocols and public policies, as well as data collection and training activities.

- **Public Labor Prosecution Service of Pará and Amapá (MPT-PA/AP) and the Public Prosecution Service of Pará (MPPA)** to promote joint actions to strengthen the socioeconomic inclusion of refugees residing in these states.

- **Museum of Tomorrow** to promote joint actions on forced displacement, including on people affected by climate change.

- **Pará Secretariat of Justice and Human Rights (SEJUDH)** to continue the joint work of consolidating protection services and promoting public policies for refugees.

**SÉRGIO VIEIRA DE MELO CHAIR (SVMAC)**

With the entry of the Pontifical Catholic University of Rio Grande do Sul (PUC-RS), the SVMAC now has 35 member universities that promote education, research, and academic outreach programs aimed at raising awareness on forced displacement and encouraging refugee protection and local integration.

**COMPANIES WITH REFUGEES FORUM**

With the entry of 3 new companies, the Forum, an initiative of the UN Global Compact in Brazil with UNHCR, currently counts with 54 members to support the inclusion of refugees in the Brazilian labor market, promoting the exchange of experiences and training actions.

**RENEWAL OF PARTNERSHIPS AND COOPERATION AGREEMENTS**

- **Santos FC** with the objective of raising awareness, sharing accurate information, and engaging the Brazilian public in solidarity actions with refugees through sport.

- **Salgueiro Samba School G.R.E.S.**, which provides for several solidarity and inclusion initiatives, allowing 20 refugees to parade in the Carnival of Rio de Janeiro in April 2022, in addition to providing for the assistance of refugees to the already existing social programs that benefit the community of Andaraí-RJ.

- **Ministry of Citizenship** to promote the reception and socioeconomic integration of the refugee and migrant population in Brazil until December 2023, in addition to UNHCR technical support to state and municipal entities in the context of Operation Welcome's interiorization strategy.

- **Public Defender’s Office (DPU)** enabling training and joint actions in favor of refugees, asylum-seekers, migrants and stateless persons, guaranteeing them access to justice and adequate defense.
Brazilian Operation: UNHCR and partners

UNHCR Partners in Brazil:

UNHCR Brazil is thankful for the support of all its donors, including:

UNHCR’s private sector donors:

UNHCR Brazil is also thankful for the important support of UN agencies, Brazil’s authorities at federal state and municipal levels, and civil society organisations working together to deliver the emergency response and in the regular programmes of the Brazilian operation.