

SUPPORT TO INDIGENOUS PEOPLE FROM VENEZUELA AND HOST COMMUNITIES IN BRAZIL

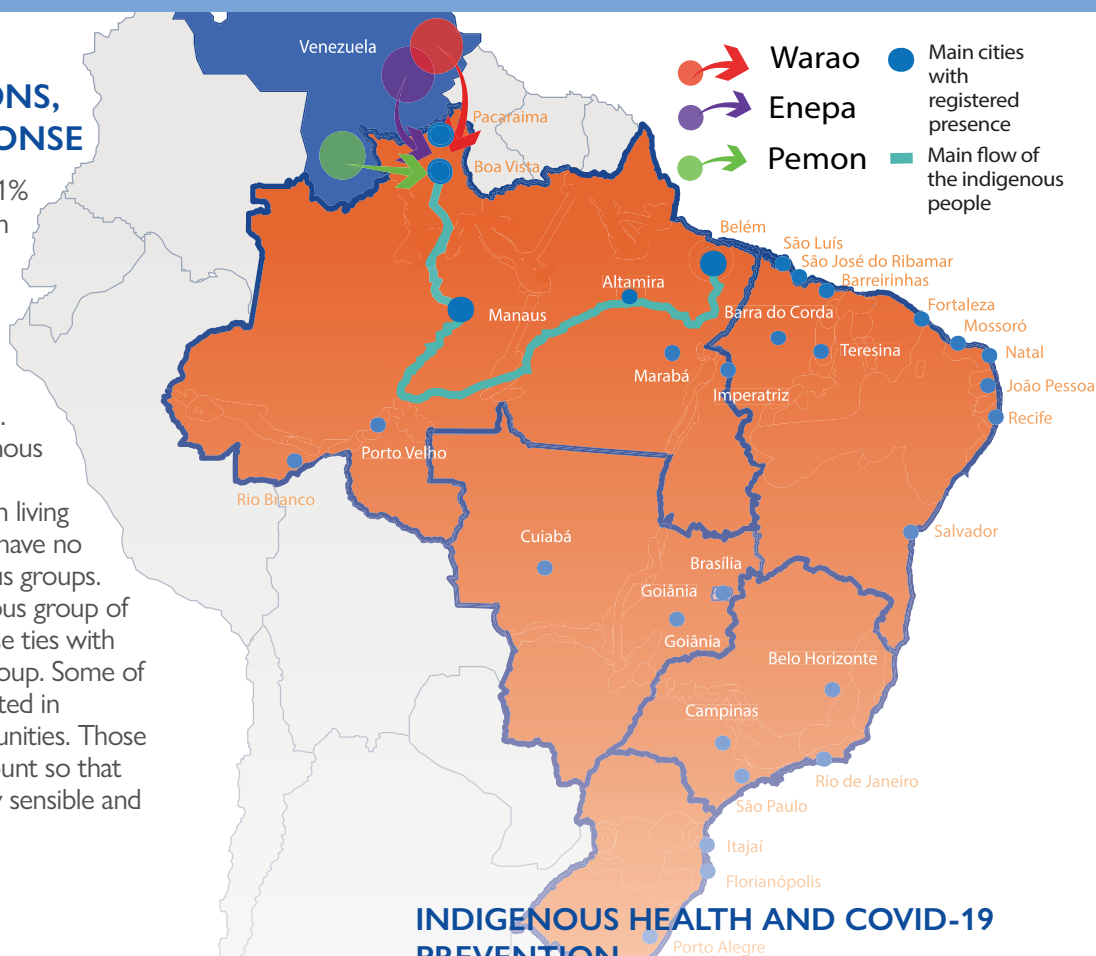
May, 2020

CONTEXT OF THE VENEZUELAN FLOW

Indigenous People from Venezuelans started coming to Brazil in recent years, due to the difficult situation they face in the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, they initially arrived through the border area of Pacaraima in Roraima state. However, Warao Venezuelan indigenous communities are now living in all of the five regions in Brazil, with larger groups based in the Northern states of Amazonas, Pará and Roraima. The Response for Venezuelans (R4V) platform lead by IOM and UNHCR estimates that more than 4,600 Venezuelan indigenous people are presently living in Brazil. It is projected this number can exceed 6,000 by the end of 2020. IOM has been actively working in partnership with the Federal and local governments, civil society organizations and other UN agencies to support indigenous migrants and refugees and their host communities since 2017.

UNDERSTANDING THE INDIGENOUS POPULATIONS, CUSTOMIZING THE RESPONSE

The Warao ethnic group comprises 81% of the Venezuelan indigenous people in Brazil and the Pemón and Eñepa groups represent 17% and 2% respectively. Even though these indigenous groups are coming from the same country, they have vastly different cultures, languages and needs. The Warao is the second large indigenous group of Venezuela, consisting of over 48,000 individuals. This group has been living in urban centers since the 1970's and have no traditional ties with Brazilian indigenous groups. On the contrary, the Pemón indigenous group of around 30,000 in Venezuela share close ties with the Brazilian Taurepang indigenous group. Some of the Venezuelan Pémon have been hosted in Brazilian Taurepang indigenous communities. Those particularities must be taken into account so that the humanitarian response is culturally sensible and acts according to these specificities.



IOM IN ACTION!

R4V ACTION PLAN

IOM co-leads the Indigenous Working Group of the Response for Venezuelans (R4V) platform. The Working Group has developed an Action Plan to support the Federal Government Operação Acolhida, covering four key-areas of the humanitarian response:

1. Access to territories, documentation and proper services.
2. Community development.
3. Local integration and shelter exit strategy.
4. Partnerships mobilization.

INDIGENOUS HEALTH AND COVID-19 PREVENTION

Culturally sensitive information is key to assure appropriate health protection among indigenous populations. To reach this goal IOM is promoting awareness raising workshops and a series of video and audio clips with the indigenous migrants in their own language to complement the actions of the local health authorities to prevent the disease and to support those affected by the Covid-19 pandemic.

SANITATION AND HYGIENE ASSISTANCE



IOM Brazil provides technical support to the Indigenous Health Special Office (SESAI) with trainings of Indigenous Sanitation Agents. Each agent further receives kits composed of tools for maintenance of Water, Sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) facilities. By supporting capacity building actions in hygiene promotion, sanitation and public health of Indigenous Sanitation Agents (AISANs), who are responsible for

promotion of hygiene in 23 indigenous border communities IOM is enhancing local capacity to address WASH issues. Furthermore, IOM distributed **2,790 hygiene kits** to Warao indigenous people accompanied by workshops related to hygiene promotion. The provision of hygiene and dignity kits and information recognizes the diversity and respect people with special needs in an inclusive manner.

ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

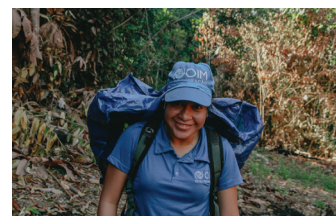
IOM Increased access to water in the Pemón communities, by supporting the construction of water towers and purchasing water pumps for the water purification systems (Salta-Z). This activity will increase access to water for about 1,600 Pemón indigenous people living in 10 border communities that are hosting Venezuelan indigenous people. The activity was carried out in partnership with the Indigenous Health Special Office (SESAI) in Roraima.

FOOD ASSISTANCE

IOM delivered food aid to 4,497 vulnerable indigenous people in Roraima in the communities of Sakao-Motá, Bananal, Sorocaima, Tarau Parú. These communities are hosting Venezuelan indigenous people who had to flee from Venezuela in February 2019. IOM also provided food aid to with Warao, Ene'pa, Pemón and Kariña indigenous people in the city of Boa Vista/RR.

PROTECTION

IOM Increased access to protection services through the provision of life-saving information targeted to indigenous migrants and refugees and assisting them with needed documentation to receive the temporary residence permit assuring migration takes place in a regular, safe and dignified way.



DATA AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCTION

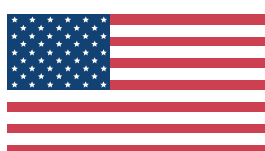
After five successful rounds of applying IOMs signature tool the Displacing Tracking Matrix (DTM), to gather, analyze and disseminate critical multi layered data and information on the mobility, vulnerabilities, and needs of displaced populations, involving 13,000 interviews in Roraima and Amazonas, IOM promoted a DTM round exclusively focusing indigenous population in the city of São Luís, in partnership with the State of Maranhão. The DTM is a key tool to support governments with information for public policy design.

Two groundbreaking reports have been published by IOM contributing to evidence-based policy-making for indigenous migrants. After consulting the indigenous people, the “Legal Aspects of Assisting Venezuelan Indigenous Migrants in Brazil” (2008) and the “Durable Solution for Venezuelan Indigenous Migrants in the Context of Venezuelan Migration” (2020) reports consolidate information and provide evidence and recommendations for the stakeholders dealing with the flow.

ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2020

- Provision of agricultural tools for border indigenous communities hosting Pémon migrants.
- Facilitate access to entrepreneurship and self-employment opportunities for Venezuelan indigenous migrants and their host communities.
- Improve living conditions and access to water in spontaneous settlements and in Indigenous communities.
- Distribute Non-food items (NFI) and Hygiene Kits to vulnerable indigenous people living in rented houses, living on streets and in Indigenous communities.
- Promote the well-being of Venezuelan Indigenous migrants and their host communities through the provision of specific health services.
- Production and dissemination of relevant data for policy-making using IOM's signature tool Displacing Tracking Matrix (DTM).

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The Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM)



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