

Cities of Solidarity in the Americas

INITIATIVES

UNHCR and Mercociudades signed a strategic regional agreement



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UNHCR and the **Mercociudades** Network of Cities signed the agreement during the XXVII Mercociudades Summit on 2 December 2022. This **framework agreement** will facilitate the incorporation of local governments that are members of Mercociudades into the "Cities of Solidarity" initiative, thus promoting local government actions that seek to guarantee the protection and socio-economic inclusion of asylum-seekers, refugees, migrants and stateless persons. The agreement also seeks to develop strategies to facilitate their access to policies, programmes and services, as well as to promote the exchange of good practices between local governments, build capacities and promote awareness among their officials.

UNHCR launched a report on Cities of Solidarity in Brazil



The regional initiative was adapted to the Brazilian context, listing 27 **good practices** from 17 municipal administrations that promote actions for the integration of refugees in five thematic axes: Shelter, Protection, Responsibility Sharing, Education and Local Integration.

The report highlights both the role of cities in responding to refugees, through a brief overview of asylum and migration in the Brazil and the institutional advances in the country, and the good practices adopted in by local authorities by pointing out some methodological considerations about the identified local practices. With this Report, UNHCR recognizes the commitment of cities and hopes to inspire others to promote more inclusive policies for refugees and migrants.

UNHCR and Guatemala City fostered ties in 2022

UNHCR provided computer equipment for the MuniEduca program, which implements movement-based learning techniques aimed at children and young people in Guatemala City, especially those who are in a situation of vulnerability regardless of their nationality. Support was also provided to municipal educational centres with sports supplies so that refugee children and adolescents with protection needs could practice different sports. Two containers with equipment were delivered to the Workshop School and the Municipal Transport Company. This will support the access asylum-seekers and refugees to education, in a context of human mobility and with protection needs who live in the metropolitan area.



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