


 REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS IN BRAZIL  
**253,495** (NOVEMBER 2019)


 REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS SHELTERED IN RORAIMA IN JANUARY  
**7,726**

 REFUGEES AND MIGRANTS INTERNALLY RELOCATED IN JANUARY  
**3,010**

## Situation

- **On 16 January, the transfer of command of Operação Acolhida from General Pazuello to General Barros was formalized in a ceremony presided over by President Jair Bolsonaro at the Presidential Palace.** During the same event, a new website for Operação Acolhida, created by Casa Civil (Chief of Staff Office), was launched, along with new branding for the operation. During the ceremony, the fund managed by the Banco do Brasil Foundation to collect private donations for Operação Acolhida was promoted.
- **On 31 January, CONARE (National Committee for Refugees) decided on the recognition of an additional 17,002 Venezuelan refugees** through a *prima facie* procedure. Unlike the first group recognition (that took place in December 2019) of 20,095 refugees, this decision of CONARE also included those refugees who had left Brazil once and then returned. To date, more than 37,000 Venezuelans have been recognized in Brazil, making it the country with the highest number of Venezuelan recognized refugees in Latin America.



## Response

- On January 30, the national Integration Sector launched the study “**The economy of Roraima and the Venezuelan flow: evidence and subsidies for public policies**”. Funded by European Union and the Superior School of the Public Prosecutor Office (ESMPU), the research reveals that the state of Roraima registered some positive indicators of economic activity during the intensification of the Venezuelan flow (access the full report in portuguese at: <https://bit.ly/2HczGyJ>).
- **The Protection Sector, in partnership with the Public Defender's Office of Roraima, started to conduct monthly trainings to military men from Operação Acolhida.** The initiative, inspired by the project “*O Valente não é violento*” (“The Brave is Not Violent”) which was already being carried out with Venezuelan refugees and migrants, aims to end gender stereotypes and build positive masculinities. It seeks, by involving men, to end violence against women, and to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.
- **The Interiorization Sector developed the “Roundtable and Information Session on Interiorization for Women” in Boa Vista,** an initiative that brings information and opportunities to Venezuelan women who are preparing to relocate to other Brazilian states. The activity aims to promote empowerment by strengthening their knowledge and reducing the difficulties that women often face during their integration at their place of destination, thus strengthening gender equality.
- **The Protection Sector engaged female refugee and migrant leaders to address themes related to forced labour and attempts of child abduction.** As a result, an agenda for the coming months was drafted and inter-agency awareness activities were organized through *cine-fora* in shelters, including the Boa Vista bus station, which provides overnight shelter to Venezuelan refugees and migrants living in the streets.
- **As a result of the collaboration between organizations in the Education Sector, information materials were developed and distributed to refugees and migrants, mainly to facilitate the process of interiorization.** The “*Pasaporte para la Educación*”, brings information about rights and access to education in Brazil, also having a version in Portuguese to facilitate the interaction between families, children, adolescents and their schools in the host communities.
- **The WASH/Nutrition Sector has been implementing activities in 10 of the 13 official shelters for Venezuelan migrants and refugees, in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, in the state of Roraima.** Monitoring and nutritional supplementation have been contributing to the prevention of malnutrition of dozens of children.
- **The Health Sector trained psychosocial and primary health care professionals in Boa Vista and organized a workshop** about help groups and mutual support concerning mental health, including strategic support measures among peers, psychosocial support and empowerment.