HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

RMRP 2020 Launch
On 13 November, partners promoted the launch of the RMRP 2020. The event received significant media attention. A media log, key messages and a Q&A related to the plan have been shared with organizations, as well as with the R4V communications working group, which took place on 22 November.

Embassies visit Roraima and Amazonas
From 18 to 20 November, partners accompanied a mission organized by Casa Civil and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Manaus, Boa Vista and Pacaraima to present the emergency response to the representatives of fifteen embassies in order to increase the support of the international community in the Brazilian response for Venezuelans.

Opening of the PITRIG in Manaus
On 5 November, a Relocation, Screening and Documentation Centre (PITRIG) was opened in Manaus, as part of the expansion of the government response programme, "Operação Acolhida" (Operation Welcome), in order to provide proper assistance to Venezuelan migrants and refugees arriving at the city.

KEY FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Funding Requirements</th>
<th>funded/contributed</th>
<th>USD 56.5 Mi</th>
<th>USD 47.6 Mi</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>RMRP 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>84%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Funding Gap</td>
<td></td>
<td>USD 8.9 Mi</td>
<td>16%</td>
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Official figures were updated in the end of September by the Government of Brazil / Federal Police as follows:
- cumulative number of refugees/asylum seekers: 119,244
- cumulative number of temporary residents: 104,858

OPERATIONAL CONTEXT

New PITRIG opens in Manaus
A Relocation, Screening and Documentation Centre (Posto de Interiorização, Triagem e Documentação - PITRIG) was inaugurated on 5 November, in Manaus, as part of the expansion of the “Operação Acolhida” (Operation Welcome) in the north region of the country with the support of the Federal Emergency Assistance Committee and the Brazilian Armed Forces. Due to the increased number of migrants and refugees arriving in the city, the waiting period for the processing of documentation in Manaus had peaked 3 months prior to opening of the PITRIG, making it difficult for Venezuelans to access basic services. The Centre aims at facilitating their regularization and access to basic rights, including information, documentation, vaccines and voluntary enrolment to the relocation programme for socioeconomic integration (“interiorização”). Similarly to the PITRIGs located in the Roraima state, PITRIG-Manaus is supported by various UN agencies, civil society organizations, as well as federal, state and municipal authorities, providing services free of charge.

Venezuelans change strategy and asylum claims fall 18.7%
According to a report published on November 11, the number of asylums claims in Brazil decreased 18.7% in the second quarter of 2019 (25,600) compared to the same period of 2018 (31,400). However, this does not represent a decrease in the flow of refugees and migrants into the country, but a different dynamic while opting between migration and asylum seeker status. The statistics coordinator of the Observatory of International Migration (Obmigra), Tadeu Oliveira clarifies that the downsize was due to an increase of temporary residency requests instead of asylum claims for the purposes of permanence in Brazil.
Operação Acolhida receives its new contingent

On 6-7 November, R4V partners delivered an induction training session to almost 600 Army’s soldiers who joined the emergency response in Roraima and Manaus on 20 November. The training was also attended by the Federal Government including the Federal Public Defender’s Office.

Area of Intervention 1: Direct Emergency Assistance

In Brazil, UN Agencies and civil society organizations are working to meet the most basic needs of Venezuelan refugees and migrants arriving in the north of the country. Key activities include the provision of temporary emergency shelter, food and non-food items, and health interventions.

Main activities reported in November

Shelter

One assessment carried out with the support of the Brazilian army this month identified a total of 4,443 Venezuelans sleeping in the streets or occupying private and public buildings in Boa Vista, including 1,510 children and adolescents. In Pacaraima, the assessment identified 163 Venezuelans, including 45 minors.

A site profile, which provides a consolidated overview of population statistical data, in life-saving needs and information on activities and gaps was prepared for seven spontaneous settlements in Boa Vista, reaching 2,372 people. This survey was able to gather information and identify gaps and potential response activities to improve the situation of Venezuelans living in these places, especially regarding: shelter conditions; vulnerabilities and special needs; water, hygiene and sanitation (WASH); food and nutrition; health; education; and livelihoods.

On 7 November, the Taskforce for spontaneous settlements held a meeting with the participation of the Army. During the meeting, a proposal was presented to apply Camp Coordination and Camp Management (CCCM) approaches in spontaneous settlements settings and for the task force to be part of the discussion on CCCM working group to avoid duplication of efforts. It was presented during the meeting an online calendar to be used as a coordination tool. The Army has increased their registration for the interiorization of Venezuelans living in spontaneous settlements with a special focus on Social and Family reunification.

NFIs

In November, several NFIs were distributed, including: 2,375 hygiene and dignity kits to people living on the streets or in spontaneous settlements in Boa Vista, including 39 baby kits to pregnant and lactating women. In Manaus, 518 hygiene kits (toothbrushes, shampoo, soap etc.) and cleaning kits (garbage bags, laundry soap, toilet paper etc.) were distributed to refugees and migrants at the bus station and at a local church.

School in a Box Kits and Early childhood protection recreational kits were distributed in 10 different shelters where there are Child-Friendly Spaces (Super Panas), reaching over 4,000 children and the children who participate in child-friendly spaces.

Education
Several partners conducted trainings under the School Active Search Platform framework aimed at 46 pedagogical coordinators and teachers from municipal and state schools with the expectation of conducting a second edition next year.

On 19 November, the Education Working Group presented its strategy to increase the enrolment rate of children for the 2020 school year. The strategy seeks to support active searches for out-of-school children and adolescents, stimulating communication, mobilization and exchanges among the Municipality, the State and Civil Society Organizations.

**WASH**

In order to promote sanitation and hygiene inside shelters, partners provided voucher cards for the purchase of personal items, cleaning products and the installation of private usage equipments, including toilets and related structures maintenance. R4V partners organized hygiene promotion workshops, aiding more than 1,200 migrants and refugees living in the streets and residents of spontaneous settlements in Boa Vista. Education in WASH activities includes the improvement of beneficiaries’ financial skills and to give information on the importance of maintaining good hygiene for improving health conditions.

**Health, Food and Nutrition**

**Novembro Azul** (Blue November) is a campaign organized every year that intends to raise awareness on prostate cancer and educate people about the importance of early warning and exams. In partnership with the Cancer Hospital of Pernambuco, R4V Partners distributed 6,000 flyers to raise awareness on prostate cancer prevention. Information on referral pathways was also provided through street campaigns, visits to informal settings and at the Relocation, Screening and Documentation Centres (PITRIG) of Boa Vista and Pacaraima.

On 6 November, humanitarian assistance organizations were invited by the Federal Government to report about the health-related deaths of Waraos in Brazil (40 in total) to the Health Sub-Committee for the federal response in Brazil. R4V partners established a Working Group to support municipalities that have been receiving influxes of Venezuelans to design a health strategy to strengthen prevention of health issues in affected population.

In general terms, the number of vaccinations has increased this month and monitoring exercises in shelters have been carried out (i.e.in 3 shelters, a total of 186 children - 93 girls and 93 boys -). On 22 November, national, state and municipal health authorities and the Army’s health sector met with R4V partners to discuss the outbreak of chickenpox in Boa Vista and strategies to control it. The lack of vaccines seemed to have led to the rapid spread of the disease, with increasingly complicated cases and reported deaths.

As a result, a vaccination campaign was carried out the following week for the population in affected shelters.

It has been observed an increase of diarrhea cases in 4 shelters that have been reported to Primary Health Care services. 113 children (49 girls and 64 boys) nutritional status got evaluated, as well as 48 cases of diarrhea (16 girls and 32 boys) were recorded, all of which were treated through oral rehydration therapy. 248 visits were carried out to tents in shelters to provide information on health and nutrition to Venezuelans.

**Area of Intervention 2: Protection**

Throughout Brazil, UN Agencies and civil society organizations provide protection to Venezuelan refugees and migrants through documentation assistance, registration, case management, protection referrals and tailored response for populations with specific needs such as LGBTI, children, persons with disabilities, persons at risk of SGBV, pregnant women and indigenous people.
Main activities reported in November

**Registration**
About 10,216 Venezuelans refugees and migrants received support in processing documentation through residency applications at the Documentation Centres (Posto de Triagem) in Boa Vista and Pacaraima, as well as at the Reference Centre in the Federal University of Roraima, facilitating their access to basic rights and services in Brazil, including health and education. At the Documentation Centres and at the bus stations in Roraima, 9,153 flyers were distributed containing information material on the prevention of human trafficking and labour exploitation, as well as guides on basic rights.

In Manaus, humanitarian organizations assisted 867 Venezuelans with the support in processing temporary residence documents at the PITRIG. Also, at the Documentation Centre in Manaus, support was provided to refugees and migrants in the form of information sessions, handing out flyers about temporary residence, labour exploitation, human trafficking, and migrants rights. A total of 1,197 flyers were distributed.

**Child protection**
Protection strategies for unaccompanied children and adolescents advanced significantly, with partners hiring 10 case managers for Boa Vista and Pacaraima. All case managers received training in partnership with the Public Defender’s Office (DPU), Public Defender’s Office of the State (DPE), and Childhood Court to assist child-protection cases.

On 8 November, the R4V Partners held a meeting with the Justice Prosecutor for Sexual Violence and Crimes of the Roraima State Public Ministry aiming at improving coordination between Shelter Case Management teams in Roraima, the police and the Guardianship council to better response to the need of migrants and refugees. The Prosecutor’s recommendation is to work together on improving public institutions capacity to assess the needs of children and to strengthen the level of the response.

**Gender-Based Violence (GBV)**
R4V Partners joined the 16-day activism campaign to address gender violence. The campaign is a product of cooperation between UN agencies, implementing partners and civil society organizations with various events taking place between 25 November and 10 December, including specific discussion sessions related to the prevention of GBV and photography workshops to refugee and migrant women in Operação Acolhida’s (Operation Welcome) shelters, as well as activities involving children, adolescents and parents. R4V partners launched the campaign in Boa Vista during an event held in partnership with the Social Commerce Service (SESC) of Roraima, in which the film "O Estrangeiro" was shown, followed by a roundtable discussion regarding the migration flows and violence.

During this month, the working organizations reached 3705 people (53,2% females) with informative sessions. Those sessions aim to raise awareness on refugees and migrants GBV related matters. 338 direct assistances were provided regarding individual case-management, 63% to female Venezuelan migrants and refugees in the PITRIGs. Besides that, refugees and migrants were referred 41 times to specialized protection services, mainly medical, psychosocial and social assistance-related public services. Among them, the Reference Centre on Psychosocial Care in Boa Vista assisted 728 refugees and migrants through psychosocial assistance sessions. Meanwhile, 857 activities to improve local integration through labour insertion in Brasil were carried out reaching 493 beneficiaries. Non-formal educational activities, like Portuguese classes and skills-developing benefited 398 people.

Trainings were also offered on GBV Case Management in Manaus and in Boa Vista and on Safe Disclosure and Referral of GBV Cases in Pacaraima for UN agencies, local NGOs, Implementation Partners, local government and other professionals that promote GBV response locally. A Sexual and Reproductive Health Assessment was also carried out in Manaus, Boa Vista and Pacaraima. Focus
group discussions were carried out with women and girls about reproductive health, as well as informative sessions were given in health facilities and meetings with local partners, including representatives of the local government and humanitarian workers.

Humanitarian organizations in the field worked to strengthen a partnership with the support of the Public Defender’s Office of the State of Roraima through a training called “Dialogue facilitators”. The training covered conflict mediation with female community leaders and a session of the project O Valente Não é Violento (The Brave Is Not Violent) targeted at their male partners which aims at working with positive masculinities and to prevent violence against women.

Protection against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA)

On 25, 27 and 29 November, PSEA (Protection Against Sexual Exploitation and Abuse) trainings were held in Boa Vista for the new military contingent deployed in the field, with modules on trafficking in persons and labour exploitation for a total of 400 military personnel.

Area of Intervention 3: Socio-Economic and Cultural Integration

UN Agencies and civil society organizations continued to promote socio-economic and cultural integration of Venezuelan refugees and migrants throughout Brazil through voluntary relocation, labour insertion, training, Portuguese language classes and school enrolment, as well cash-based interventions.

Main activities reported in November

**Interiorization**

In November, a total of 1,570 Venezuelan refugees and migrants were voluntarily relocated from Roraima State to other parts of Brazil through different modalities. Among these, 1,151 flew on planes operated by the Operation Welcome and 419 received flight tickets on commercial airlines by partners.

**Socio-economic integration**

R4V Partners are working on an integration initiative in the city of Curitiba, in partnership with the Paraná State Government, the National Business Learning Centre (SENAC) and the Pontifical Catholic University of Paraná (PUC-PR). Based on three pillars – vocational trainings, courses in entrepreneurship and solidarity economy, the initiative aimed at promoting self-reliance of refugees and migrants and lays the foundations for future stability. This month, 42 Venezuelans completed vocational trainings in a wide range of areas such as accountability, handicraft, restaurant service.

On 2 November, the **Integrarte** Entrepreneurship Fair was held in Boa Vista, an initiative of the members of the Labour Working Group in Roraima. The event was organized in order to provide economic opportunities for refugees, migrants and Brazilian entrepreneurs to expose their products and to initiate income generating activities, allowing socio-economic integration opportunities. In total, 32 entrepreneurs exhibited a variety of different products, including clothing, crafts, beauty products, among others.
On 6-7 November, partners conducted a workshop on Good Practices in Local integration of Refugees, with the support of the Municipality of Esteio/RS and counted with the participation of 35 persons from more than 15 partner organizations and the local government. The event aimed at supporting the work of all the different actors involved in the reception and socioeconomic and cultural integration of refugees. During the two days of activities, participants exchanged experiences and good practices, and actively participated on training sessions conducted by the facilitators focused on managing expectations, self-reliance, economic empowerment, survivors of trauma healing, community engagement and self-care.

On 7 November, the “Ojídu - Árvore da Vida”, a Venezuelan indigenous handicraft exhibition, was launched in São Paulo in partnership between the R4V Partners and Casa Museu do Objeto Brasileiro, MADE51, the European Union and the Federal Government. Approximately 200 people attended, and approximately USD 3,250.00 worth of handicrafts were sold. The exhibition, which will be available until 20 December, is part of a project focusing on the creation of a value chain to the refugee indigenous population in Brazil as well as a strategy of durable solution for indigenous Venezuelans.

Between 9 and 10 November, members of the Integration WG helped to organize a workshop called Ideação Coletiva in Boa Vista. Over the course of the event, participants, including refugees and migrants, members of civil society, private sector and public institutions, worked together to find solutions to problems identified within their communities and create projects that could assist and support themselves. The winning proposals were mostly focused on strengthening public policies or creating social projects that could enhance the local quality of life or develop sustainable economic sources. The most consistent and achievable projects received financial incentives to initiate their activities. The individuals or organizations who were not selected were still able to discuss their integration proposals into the selected ones. In total, 109 people were able to participate in the two-day event.

As part of their efforts to mobilize the private sector in support of the socio-economic integration of refugees and migrants, R4V partners organised two workshops on labour migration in Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul State (14 November), and in Recife, Pernambuco State (28 November). The workshops were held to debunk myths on refugees and migrants, design inclusive social responsibility policies and discuss hiring processes and labour legislation. Overall, 64 people attended these workshops, including private sector representatives, public officials, NGOs, refugees and migrants. Rio Grande do Sul is the state that has received the third highest number of Venezuelans relocated through the ‘Interiorization Strategy’

From 20 to 22 November, partners participated in the National Encounter of the programme ‘Building Networks: Capacity building for stakeholders involved in the reception, integration and interiorization of refugees and migrants in Brazil’. The programme is an initiative from the Superior School of the Public Prosecutor’s Office in partnership with humanitarian organizations and public institutions that aims to build local responses to the integration of refugees and migrants in different cities of Brazil. After a year of activities that were held in 12 different state capitals (Rio de Janeiro, Campo Grande, Belo Horizonte, Florianópolis, Curitiba, João Pessoa, Recife, Porto Alegre, Boa Vista, São Paulo, Manaus, Belém) and Brasília, the National Encounter gathered public servants, civil society, students and refugees and migrants to raise awareness and improve reception and integration conditions for refugees and migrants in municipalities. A publication with the results of these events is expected to be concluded by the beginning of 2020.

Socio-economic integration of Women

Weaving economic integration, education and gender equality, during the month of November the R4V Brasil organizations worked jointly with the National Business Learning Centre (SENAC) to provide a 40-hour long course on Techniques for Salespersons aimed at 24 women. Following that, 21 refugee and migrant women received mentoring for the development of their small businesses. They also received financial support under CBI strategies, focusing on women’s economic empowerment. 12 women that participated in the voluntary relocation programme and concluded Professional Development course – 20h course designed by partners especially for refugee and migrant women that are part of the interiorization strategy – received CBI before proceeding to their destinations.

Entrepreneurship and education were also combined in the Ela Pode training, offered by the Instituto Rede Mulher Empreendedora, supported by R4V partners. In this training, women entrepreneurs learned the basics of responsible entrepreneurship, learned inspiring stories of women entrepreneurs, marketing and sales tools, as well as leadership techniques. In November, 45 women attended the Ela Pode training. In the same sense, the working organizations supported groups of entrepreneur women through Vamos Juntas! Project. Through a methodology that combines short courses in entrepreneurship, material support, ongoing monitoring and a safe space for women, four women’s groups were supported in November.

Socio-economic integration of LGBTI community

From 25 to 30 November, two workshops for sustainable handicraft production using recycled materials was carried out in Manaus by R4V partners, Hermanitos and Projeto Reciclo. The initiatives use materials such as banana tree trunks, paper waste and other materials to develop recycled products, including notepads and sustainable paper boxes. 25 Venezuelans, including LGBTI refugees
and migrants in vulnerable situations, benefitted from the capacity-building exercise and will continue to be supported through the provision of tools to continue handicraft production as an income generating activity.

C4D / Anti-Xenophobia

After an assessment of the current context, the C4D emergency program developed peer education strategies based on the "Return to Happiness" approach, allowing local people to access vital information on the promotion of equal rights for migrants and how to strengthen intercultural dialogue and promote participants' critical reflection on the migratory flow organized in 21 public schools in Boa Vista. 49 adolescents took part in activities as football, web content, drawing, and painting, theatre, urban dance workshops. These activities focus on culture and identity recognition as well as youth protagonism, through the culture of peace approach in community centres in Boa Vista, Pacaraima and Manaus.

Area of Intervention 4: Strengthening the capacity of host government

In Brazil, to strengthen host government capacities in the coordination of response, UN Agencies and civil society organizations carry out awareness raising, capacity building and advocacy to improve the quality of response for Venezuelans refugees and migrants, to ensure their rights are respected and to promote their access to services and opportunities, with attention to specific needs populations.

Main activities reported in November

In November, R4V participated in the induction training, organized in Rio de Janeiro, for the seventh armed forces contingent which will be part of Operation Welcome for the next four months and is composed of almost 600 military personnel. Public authorities from Casa Civil, the Ministry of Citizenship and the Public Defender’s Office were also able to participate. The training aimed to present to the new members of Operation Welcome the work that has been done in the field, as well as to promote coordination among the different stakeholders involved in the emergency response.

The partners have been working closely with São Paulo Municipal Government, providing technical support to the 2nd Municipal Conference on Policies for Immigrants – “We are all Citizens”, held in São Paulo between the 8 and 10 November. The Conference was organized by the Municipal Council of Immigrants and the Municipal Secretariat of Human Rights and Citizenship, being the most important event of political and social participation for the refugee and migrant population in the city. Currently, in the context of the humanitarian response to the mixed flow of Venezuelans, the city of São Paulo is the main destination in the relocation strategy led by the Brazilian government and supported by UN agencies and civil society organizations. This second edition brought
together 383 people from 42 different nationalities, along with several national and international authorities, and discussed over 400 proposals on social participation, assistance, housing, culture, women and LGBTI+’s rights, decent work, education, health, and others.

On 13 November, R4V partners provided training on trafficking in persons and exploitation to 21 case managers from UN agencies, government officials and civil society organization members in Manaus. On 20 November, the same module was offered in Brasilia to other 30 case managers. This module is part of the Gender-Based Violence (GBV) case management and safe identification course provided.

Between 20 and 22 November, partners provided support on the organization of the training/meeting cycle: “Atuação em rede: training of actors involved in the reception, integration and relocation of refugees and migrants in Brazil” in Brasilia, and convened a working group meeting to discuss local integration of refugees and migrants, as well as the different between how states deal with obstacles for local integration and the development of strategies. Overall, 74 people were trained, NGO members and public officials. On 27 November, a workshop was carried out in Maringá, Paraná, with the participation of 112 individuals, with the R4V partners working together with Paraná State Government to reinforce the capacity of public officials involved on issues related to migration, asylum, trafficking in persons, labour exploitation and the humanitarian response in Brazil and in how to enforce relevant migration legal standards in the creation and monitoring of migration policies. The goal is to raise awareness on these issues and offer basic tools and mechanisms for the public officials to better assist Venezuelans and other refugees and migrants.

COORDINATION

Coordination Working Group (WG): The new R4V Platform Terms of Reference, that will start being applied as of January 2020, have been drafted and approved.

On 21 November, the R4V monthly coordination meeting took place in Brasilia. Among the main points discussed were: the leadership of some WGs (CwC, Indigenous); the preparation of the platform-subcommittee meetings as well as the RMRP 2020 donor briefing, both happening in December; the finalization and translation of new R4V Brazil TORs; and upcoming steps, including an action plan for 2020 coordination activities and a training calendar.

Integration WG: On 22 November, R4V Partners met to establish the Working Group for Interiorization in Manaus. The group will follow the same procedures developed in Boa Vista, including the ToRs, which are now pending approval by the Federal Interiorization Subcommittee.

Indigenous WG: On 19 November, the first local Indigenous Working Group was held in Manaus meeting with Government authorities, UN Agencies and Civil Society organizations. The purpose of the Indigenous Working Group is to provide technical support and practical solutions to the challenges faced by humanitarian actors working for the protection of the Warao community in Manaus. During the meeting, communication and health were identified as the biggest challenges for the Warao community. Education, Durable Solutions, Shelter and Gender were the other priorities that would be addressed in a cross-sectional manner. It was agreed the meetings will take place every three weeks.

PLATFORM PARTNERS


CONTRIBUTIONS

Partners in the response are very grateful for the financial support provided by donors, contributing to their activities with un-earmarked and earmarked funds.

Austria | Brazil | CERF | Canada | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Holy See | Italy | Ireland | Japan | Luxembourg | Netherlands | New Zealand | Norway | Private donors | Republic of Korea | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America

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