

UNHCR IN RORAIMA



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SUSTAINABILITY IN SHELTERS

In Roraima, UNHCR, with the support of the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), has implemented activities of a pioneering strategy called “Greening the Shelters”. The introduction of Aquaponics and Biodigester systems is part of this initiative, which aims to improve living conditions of those sheltered. With the support of Fraternity Without Borders (FSF), the aquaponics system was set up in the Emergency Space 13 de Setembro, whereas the Biodigester system is on the way to start operating at the São Vicente 2 shelter. While piloting both projects, it would be possible to better understand how these systems adapt to the local climate and what their levels of efficiency would be; based on this, expansions can be implemented next year.

Aquaponics is a system that reuses reclaimed water, integrating aquaculture with plant production source, using the fertilizers produced by the fish as fertilizers for the plants. This sustainable technology provides complementary food (herbs, fruits and vegetables) to households while allowing high vegetable gardens maintained with the hydroponic water. Whilst, the Biodigester project is a low-cost technology that generates renewable energy from waste and leftovers from the community, producing cooking gas and biofertilizer for plants. It also has the potential to reduce organic disposal in the shelters, as these residuals will be used for composting in the vegetable gardens. In the future, it will provide cooking gas for sheltered community, strengthening their alternatives for food security and nutrition.

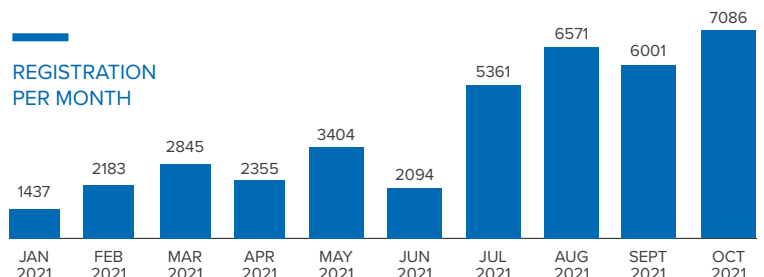
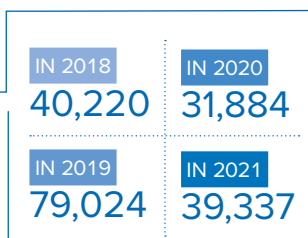
In both projects, UNHCR’s partner FSF already conducted a 2-day training session in each of the shelters (São Vicente 2 and 13 de Setembro) open to all the sheltered community. This training included environmental education and how such technologies work, also providing the managing committees – comprised of young Venezuelans (from 13 to 18 years old) better tools to make the most out of these initiatives. Hence, these initiatives promote environmental awareness and empowerment of the young community. It is part of UNHCR’s strategy to implement green and innovative technologies and, with them improve the living conditions of refugees and migrants.

PROTECTION AND LOCAL INTEGRATION

MONITORING OF THE REFUGEE AND MIGRANT POPULATION

SINCE APRIL 2018

190,465
people were registered in Roraima on proGres v4





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PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE SPACES FOR SHELTERED VENEZUELANAS

With the support of UNHCR and the Humanitarian-Logistical Task Force of Operation Welcome (FT Log Hum), AVSI Brazil, with financing support of Bernard van Leer Foundation and technical support of the Municipality of Boa Vista, inaugurated two leisure areas for the refugee population sheltered, in Rondon 1 and Rondon 3. The area was designed especially for children and the initiative, called “*Parque e Oportunidades para as Famílias*”, will also be expanded to the Pricumã shelter in November so that more refugees and migrants children can have easy access to such spaces.

Covering approximately 1,925m², the area in Rondon 3 was designed especially for the development of children, with equipment and interactive spaces that stimulate their cognitive and physical development. The park has a playground, a court, and shaded areas for relaxation, and it is an environment that has equipment built with wood and recycled material like tires and PVC pipes, and its colours reference a rainbow.

Aiming to create a space which identifies and adequately responds to child wellbeing and development needs, the space was designed based on a consultation with the community, especially children up to six years old and their parents or caregivers.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP EVENT

On 15 September, an entrepreneurship fair was held in the São Vicente 2 shelter to celebrate the graduation of nine small business owners that completed their entrepreneurship course and received seed money. This was the second edition of this initiative which is a partnership between UNHCR and World Vision and was previously promoted on 24 September at Espaço Emergencial 13 de Setembro.

The programme prioritized groups facing greater barriers to local integration such as persons with disabilities, single mothers, and persons over 50 years old. The selected beneficiaries are being accompanied in their pathway to self-reliance by partner organizations operating in the shelters. Eventually, some entrepreneurs may be referred to the *Novo Caminhar* project, which is an integrated initiative entailing training and financial assistance supported by UNHCR to assist refugees and migrants who have some source of income, towards a sustainable exit from shelters.



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ENSURING RIGHTS AND PROTECTION OF THE LGBTQIA+ COMMUNITY AT RONDON 3

UNHCR conducted a meeting with the LGBTQIA+ community at Rondon 3 shelter, during which, topics related to gender identity, sexual orientation, sexual expression, sexuality, and diversity were discussed. Participants also demonstrated their interest in policies and legal guarantees available in Brazil for LGBTQIA+’ rights. An activity was also developed to gather feedback from participants on their experience living in the shelter with the rest of the population and to understand what could be further improved to ensure mechanisms for community dialogue. The purpose of this conversation was to openly discuss the challenges faced by the LGBTQIA+ community and help them identify constructive ways to address them.



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STRENGTHENING CAPACITY FOR FIGHTING AGAINST GBV

UNHCR and UNFPA hosted a workshop on Gender-Based Violence (GBV) with actors from the public network that lead GBV prevention, mitigation, and response in Roraima. The event aimed at facilitating better coordination and information sharing among all institutions involved in the response so that they could present their workflows, gaps, and challenges, while also articulating some solutions to address these difficulties and strengthen the local protection network. Social workers from public hospitals in Boa Vista, technical staff from Reference Center for Social Assistance (CRAS) and Specialized Social Assistance Reference Center (CREAS) and a representative from SJMR participated in the event. The presentations were led by representatives of the Maternity (HMMI), Children's Hospital (HCSA), Cosme e Silva Hospital, Women's Health Reference Center (CRSM), Civil Police delegates (Specialized Women's Police Station – DEAM – and Child and Adolescent Protection Nucleus – NPCA), who usually address the flows of each institution in the response to sexual violence. In addition, a specialist in sexual violence and legal abortion from the Patricia Galvão Institute (São Paulo) and two nurses who work at the Dona Lindu Women's Institute (Manaus) participated, bringing information, data and good practices from these states in the care of women in situations of violence.



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WORKSHOP ON COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

UNHCR, in partnership with SJMR, and with support of shelter management partners (AVSI, FFHI, and FSF) held a workshop with the participation of 45 members from seven communities of indigenous and non-indigenous shelters, spontaneous settlements and population living outside of shelters. The workshop aimed to strengthen community capacities in identifying problems, solutions and mechanisms to face them, exchanging experiences, and approaching Community-Based Protection concepts. The groups listed and analysed priorities and planned collective mobilization initiatives and projects to be implemented in their communities. The action focused on strengthening family bonds and educational support for children, adolescents, and parents.



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OPENING OF THE RONDON 5 SHELTER

UNHCR and partners continue to support the relocation of the population of concern in an efficient, participatory, and safe manner, considering the profile of households sheltered. In this context, in coordination with the Humanitarian-Logistical Task Force of Operation Welcome and partners, UNHCR held the opening of the shelter Rondon 5. The aim is to increase the number of vacancies and strengthen the voluntary internal relocation strategy, considering that living in a shelter is temporary and should be considered as a last resort.

The site has capacity to accommodate 1,000 people and is divided into two flows: 600 spots available for relocation of refugees and migrants under the institutional modality of interiorization (also known as shelter-to-shelter modality), and 400 spots for the other modalities available to be used by the Humanitarian-Logistic Task Force and the International Organization for Migration.

