

CONTEXT

- The ongoing political and economic crisis in Venezuela continues to drive hundreds of thousands of Venezuelans to neighboring Brazil. Of the more than 7.1 million people who had fled Venezuela as of December 2022, approximately 388,000 Venezuelans resided in Brazil, with the majority in Amazonas and Roraima states along the Brazil–Venezuela border, R4V reports.
- Across Brazil, an estimated 361,000 Venezuelan migrants, refugees, and host community members will likely require humanitarian assistance—including food, health care, protection, shelter, and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) support—during 2023, R4V reports. Venezuelans in Brazil also face significant challenges in accessing public services and livelihood opportunities, exacerbating their need for humanitarian assistance.
- While the Government of Brazil (GoB)-led, UN-supported Operation Welcome relief and resettlement initiative offers a framework for providing migrants and refugees with humanitarian assistance and voluntary relocation from Roraima and Amazonas states to other parts of Brazil, the population influx has strained the GoB's capacity to provide services in border areas. As a result, significant gaps—notably, the need for additional food and WASH assistance—remain, particularly among unhoused and indigenous populations.
- Climatic shocks—such as flooding, forest fires, and heavy rainfall—in Brazil continue to adversely affect agricultural livelihoods, temporarily displace local populations, and compound food security concerns. Floods and subsequent landslides in southern Brazil's Rio de Janeiro State, for example, caused over 200 deaths and displaced nearly 900 people according to relief actors.
- Rising informal logging and mining industries in Brazil's Roraima State have exacerbated the vulnerabilities faced by the Yanomami indigenous community and contributed to high rates of malnutrition, particularly among children, the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) reports. In 2022, child mortality rates in Roraima's Yanomami Territory, where an estimated 30,000 members of the Yanomami community reside, were more than four times greater than the national child mortality rate in Brazil, UNICEF reports. In response to child malnutrition and mortality among the Yanomami, on January 20 the GoB's Ministry of Health declared a public health emergency in Roraima's Yanomami Territory.



ASSISTANCE

- USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA) continues to provide funding for emergency food and nutrition support to approximately 58,000 Venezuelan migrants and refugees in Roraima and Amazonas states through partners Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) and Caritas Brazil. This assistance includes

food vouchers, hot meals, and nutrition education for Venezuelan migrants and refugees living outside of GoB-led Operation Welcome shelters.

- In response to the critical health emergency in Yanomami, during early 2023 USAID/BHA partner ADRA—in coordination with the GoB—distributed 1,500 locally procured mosquito nets among households to prevent malaria infections among indigenous communities.
- Across Brazil, increasingly frequent droughts and associated fire risks threaten agricultural livelihoods and natural resources. In response to these fire-related risks, in FY 2022 USAID/BHA supported the U.S. Forest Service to launch a five-year program on fire prevention and forest management, including in protected public lands across the Amazon River basin. In partnership with the GoB's Ministry of the Environment, the program provides technical trainings and workshops with the aim to build local populations' awareness of fire prevention measures and promote women and indigenous peoples' leadership in forest and fire management.
- In response to heavy rainfall and related flooding in northeastern Brazil between December 2021 and January 2022, USAID/BHA provided \$100,000 to ADRA for the local procurement and distribution of emergency relief commodities—such as blankets, cooking gas, and hygiene kits—to affected populations. With additional support from USAID/BHA, ADRA also distributed relief supplies to populations affected by heavy rains and consequent landslides and flooding in southern Brazil's Rio de Janeiro State in mid-February 2022.

USAID/BHA Funding in Brazil ¹			
	Emergency ²	ER4	TOTAL
FY 2022	\$2,200,000	\$300,000	\$2,500,000

¹ Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of February 10, 2023. Totals include estimated value of food assistance and transportation costs at time of procurement, subject to change.

² Includes funding for programs that integrate ER4 activities with emergency response.