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ECONOMIC INTEGRATION OF VULNERABLE NATIONALS FROM VENEZUELA IN BRAZIL

USAID supports the International Organization for Migration’s (IOM) “Economic Integration of Vulnerable Nationals from Venezuela” activity in Brazil.

HOW DOES THE ACTIVITY WORK?

The “Economic Integration of Vulnerable Nationals from Venezuela” activity supports the Government of Brazil’s “Voluntary Relocation Strategy” which relocates willing Venezuelan’s migrants and refugees from the remote border region of the Roraima State to larger population centers across Brazil. The purpose of this activity is to provide Venezuelan migrants and refugees with access to sustainable livelihood opportunities, housing, and basic social services including health and education, by matching them with destination communities where the basic elements of socio-economic integration can be met.

The activity has two primary objectives: a) The economic integration of Venezuelan nationals through facilitated access to formal employment and enhanced access to livelihood opportunities; and b) The social integration of Venezuelan nationals by strengthening access to rights and services that advance their social inclusion.

ACHIEVED RESULTS

The activity 's geographic focus covers the states of São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Paraná, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Federal District, Pernambuco, Minas Gerais, Mato Grosso, Goiás, Piauí, Alagoas, Bahia, and Ceará. This activity implements interventions that include training of refugees and migrants, strengthening entrepreneurship skills, promoting employment, and guaranteeing access to rights. Since December 2019, the activity has provided socio-economic integration opportunities for more than

23,254 Venezuelan refugees and migrants. The following are significant results achieved between December 2019 to March 2023:

- **Qualification and Professional Training:** 6,274 migrants (3,525 women; 2,601 men; 148 other) participated in skills development training in business management, marketing, graphic design, information technology, agriculture, human resource assistant, among others.
- **Entrepreneurship:** IOM supported diverse business development ideas of migrants and refugees by providing specialized mentoring for business development plans and seed capital for 2,630 migrants (2,288 women; 338 men; 4 others) to start or accelerate their businesses.
- **Portuguese Proficiency Courses:** IOM developed virtual and face-to-face teaching platforms for migrants and refugees to acquire a primary and/or intermediate level of Portuguese proficiency. Over 5,926 beneficiaries participated.
- **Employability:** IOM worked with private sector organizations to help increase confidence of Venezuelan migrant and refugee employability. IOM aligned migrant and refugee skills sets with the existing job market, which resulted in the employing 3,180 beneficiaries (1,272 women; 1,908 men).

Throughout its work for the economic integration of migrants and refugees, IOM is concerned with building equal opportunities for women, youth, the LGBTQIA+ community, and indigenous peoples. This activity has implemented skills development courses and has launched platforms, booklets, lectures, and online seminars to educate the private sector on the legal requirements related to hiring Venezuelan migrants and refugees, while highlighting skills and talents this community has to offer. This activity has strengthened the capacities of the Government of Peru, the private sector, and public and international organizations on how to create inclusive spaces for Venezuelan migrants and refugees seeking new livelihood opportunities across Brazil.

PROJECT INFORMATION

IMPLEMENTER: International Organization for Migration (IOM)

COMPONENT DURATION: December 1, 2019 – December 31, 2026

USAID FUNDING: \$6,000,000

LOCATION: Brazil (São Paulo, Rio de Janeiro, Paraná, Rio Grande do Sul, Santa Catarina, Federal District, Pernambuco, Minas Gerais, Mato Grosso, Goiás, Piauí, Alagoas, Bahia and Ceará)

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