



By June 2025, Brazil had received approximately 700,000 Venezuelans in need of international protection, including more than 12,000 indigenous people from the Warao, E’ñepa, Taurepang, and Wayuu peoples. Although most have settled in the Northern region—especially in the states of Roraima, Amazonas, and Pará—internal displacement continues, motivated by family reunification, local tensions, the search for traditional practices, and life opportunities.

By June 2025, 8,637 indigenous refugees and migrants were registered in the Unified Registry of Social Assistance (CadÚnico)—a figure that represents both progress in inclusion in public policies and a sign of the persistent vulnerability of these populations. Registration guarantees access to rights but reinforces the need to mainstream their demands across policies and services, with culturally appropriate responses that promote autonomy.

This quarter’s actions followed UNHCR’s Indigenous and Protection Strategy, organized around the pillars of Protect, Empower, Assist and Solve, focusing on: (i) strengthening evidence for planning; (ii) expanding Indigenous participation; (iii) supporting housing and infrastructure solutions; (iv) promoting culturally sensitive integration for Indigenous refugee populations.


**PROTECT**

Between July and September, UNHCR conducted verification and registration activities in four indigenous communities in Pacaraima (RR) — Ta’rau Paru, Sakau Mota, Bananal, and Sorocaima I.

Results:

- 1,611 Indigenous people reached; 1,347 Venezuelans in need of protection.
- Predominantly Pemon peoples (Taurepang, Kamaracoto, and Arecuna).
- Predominantly young demographic profile, with almost half being children and adolescents.
- 489 people with specific needs identified, including: 130 people without documentation in Brazil, 83 children out of school, 51 single-parent families (women as heads of household), 37 people at risk due to their profile, and 29 separated children.
- The verification improved the evidence base for prioritizing cases, directing resources, and designing culturally appropriate responses—especially in the context of cross-border mobility. The protection actions qualified data, focused on vulnerabilities, and guided next steps in coordination with local partners.



**EMPOWER**

UNHCR worked to strengthen the protagonism of indigenous refugees in decision-making, training, and cultural appreciation spaces.

**Results:**

- Participation of 15 Warao, E'ñepa, and Kari'ña refugee leaders in the COParente Roraima and Manaus cycles – a series of regional meetings coordinated by the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples (MPI) to prepare, inform, and mobilize indigenous leaders for COP30, building capacity for climate dialogue and defining indigenous representation at the event.
- Monthly meetings at the Sustainability Center in Roraima, expanding community networks: 7 meetings were held between May and November 2025, with an average participation of 25 indigenous leaders from Venezuela. Activities included training and workshops on representation, community organization models, and the creation of associations, as well as spaces for intercultural dialogue.
- First Indigenous Language Workshop in partnership with: Roraima Academy of Letters, the Yanomami and Ye'kwana Human Rights Reference Center (CREDHYY), and the Yanomami and Ye'kwana Integrated Child Care Center (CAICY).
- 35 participants and 150 registrations.
- Focus on Warao, E'ñepa, Yanomami, and Ye'kwana.
- Conducting a tuberculosis prevention workshop with Warao leaders in partnership with the MIRA-TB Project of the University of São Paulo (USP), generating audiovisual material in Warao for community use.

The empowerment activities combined capacity building, culture, and preventive health, strengthening peaceful coexistence and intercultural communication. By amplifying Indigenous capacities and voices, UNHCR contributes to services that are more sensitive to cultural diversity and to qualified participation in climate and rights agendas.




**ASSIST**

Since 2022, UNHCR has supported autonomy solutions for indigenous refugees and migrants in the Cantá community, a municipality in Roraima. The "Warao a Janoko" community hosts 112 indigenous refugees and migrants from the Warao and Karña ethnic groups. In this context, UNHCR has advanced assistance initiatives aimed at improving the living conditions of these people and the community's infrastructure.

**Results:**

- Conclusion of the individualized diagnostic of the Warao A Janoko (Cantá) community for spatial planning of the area for sustainable housing proposals.
- Joint proposal for community-based tourism and housing, developed in a participatory manner by the Warao A Janoko community, in conjunction with the State Government of Roraima and with the technical support of UNHCR. The project aims to strengthen autonomy, culture and sustainable livelihoods.
- Community assembly for the validation of the housing and community-based tourism project, unanimously approved in partnership with the Government of the State of Roraima, reflecting the collective interest in implementing a development model based on indigenous protagonism.

The diagnostic guides spatial planning and proposals for sustainable housing, while public validation consolidates community and institutional commitment. There was a technical basis and community legitimacy to move forward in implementing housing solutions and developing autonomy.

**SOLVE**

UNHCR has made progress in its activities for the integration and *ethnosustainable* development of indigenous refugee and migrant populations. These structural actions promoted inclusion in policies, economic autonomy, and safe movement.

Results:

- UNHCR's contribution to the State Policy for Indigenous Health Care (Amazonas), ensuring consideration for indigenous people from other countries (e.g., Warao).
- 4 Warao artisans presented their work and expanded access to markets at AmazonTech 2025.
- 10 refugees hired through partnerships with the private sector, including young apprentices.
- Approximately 50 indigenous refugees who lived in Roraima were voluntarily and safely relocated by Operation Welcome, keeping family unity and providing expanded access to housing, work, and public services in destination municipalities.

By combining public policies, skill training, income generation, and safe and voluntary relocation, UNHCR supports lasting solutions and reduces dependence on shelters.

**LESSONS LEARNED**

1. Evidence guides protection: community verification is crucial for prioritizing cases and multi-sectoral planning.
2. Culture and participation support inclusion: language workshops and participation in national/climate agendas strengthen institutional trust and reduce barriers to access.
3. Community validation enables solutions: assemblies and participatory diagnostics increase adherence and longevity of housing projects.
4. Partnerships expand opportunities: engagement with the private sector energizes livelihoods and facilitates safe exits from shelters.



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