Migration in Brazil

Migration in recent years

- Relevant in the first half of the 20th century but declined in recent decades
- Foreigners currently living in Brazil: 1,100,000
- 0,6% of population (200 million)

2013

In 2013 - Haiti

- They rapidly became the second group of foreigners (157,000)
- Reinforced three main problems:
  - 1 – Outdated legislation
  - 2 – Coordination deficit - government
  - 3 – Misinformation – government, private sector and migrants
Migration in Brazil

Reinforced the role of the National Migration Chamber

20 members and 13 observers (IOM included)

• Sets the guidelines for national migration policies
• Coordinates and orients the government activities related to migration
• Analyses and issues recommendations on legislative proposals related to migrations
Migration in Brazil

Approved a New Migration Law (2017)

Some principles:
- Non-criminalization of migration
- Right to be a resident
- Faster naturalization process
- More flexible requirements for working visas
- Goals of social and working inclusion
- Equal access to public services and programs (education, health, legal assistance, banking)
Migration in Brazil

Migration from Venezuela (2017-18)

- Venezuelans living in Brazil:
  - 2015  –  1.003
  - 2016  –  3.499
  - 2017  –  20.497
  - 2018  –  95.500  (residents and asylum seekers until August)

- Around 400 new migrants per day in recent months.
State of Roraima’s population: 495,000

Venezuelans in Roraima: 71,000 (14%)

Venezuelans in Brazil: 95,500

Still living in Roraima: 71,000 (74%)
Migration in Brazil

Actions (at the local level):

- Partnerships with international organizations, religious groups and NGOs
- Federal Government’s support to the state of Roraima and its Municipalities
- Provision of public services at the border:
  1 – Identification and data collection
  2 – Information about migrant’s rights
  3 – Health care and vaccines
  4 – Shelter and food, when needed (17,000 meals per day)
  5 – Move to larger cities
Migration in Brazil

Reallocation (interiorization):

- Identification of cities with potential to welcome migrants;
- Meetings with local authorities and civil society organizations to explore alternatives to welcome new migrants;
- Seminars to convey information to private sector;
- Workshops with local government stakeholders to clarify, share information and better design policies at the local level;
The road ahead:

1 – Collect and produce better information about the situation of migrants. Especially major obstacles.

2 – Reduce bureaucracy (quick access to documentation is key to migrants);

3 – Improve coordination between government institutions;

4 – Enhance the capacity of civil society organizations;

5 – Disseminate migrant’s rights among private and public sectors;