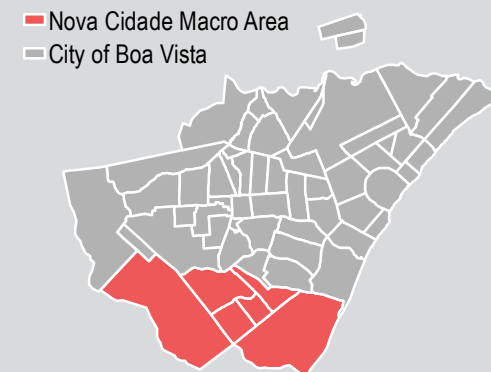


CONTEXT

Economic turmoil and civil unrest have led to the displacement of a large part of the Venezuelan population to neighbouring countries, including Brazil. The Northern State of Roraima has absorbed a large part of Venezuelans crossing over to Brazil, with an average of 416 arrivals per day (Brazilian Army, June 2018). With the aim to support humanitarian response in the State capital, Boa Vista city, REACH is conducting area based assessments.

This Neighbourhood Profile presents the current situation in South-west Boa Vista's - the Macro Area¹ of Nova Cidade consisting of the following six neighbourhoods: Bela Vista, Distrito Industrial, Doutor Airton Rocha, Nova Cidade, Operário and Raiar do Sol. Information presented here is based on qualitative data collected between 14 - 15 June 2018. In total, 6 focus group discussions (FGDs) with 47 Venezuelan participants residing in the area have been conducted, as well as 7 key informant interviews (KII) with Brazilian community representatives and service providers. Findings are not statistically representative and should be considered as indicative only.

¹ Macro Areas are defined by the municipality of Boa Vista based on an administrative repartition of the city's neighbourhoods according to social services catchment areas.



DISPLACEMENT

Most commonly reported reasons for coming to this area

- 1) **Presence of family members and/or personal acquaintances**
- 2) **Affordable rent:** the rental prices in this area are reported to be lower than in other locations
- 3) **Access to aid:** some Venezuelans were reported to live in shared houses with host community members

Intentions

Intentions to stay: Most of Venezuelans reportedly intend to stay in the area. Nonetheless a smaller group expressed interest in moving to another city, such as Manaus, or country, such as Chile.

New arrivals

Continuous arrivals: Larger waves of arrivals of around 15 new-arrivals per day were reported in Operário, Raiar do Sol and Nova Cidade neighbourhoods.



SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE

Population composition

Mixed profile: Venezuelans residing in the area are reported to live mostly in groups (composed of family as well as non-family members). Single individuals are seen mostly in Nova Cidade

neighbourhood. No indigenous population groups were reported to reside in the area.

Education background

Low education levels: The large majority of Venezuelans residing in the area have secondary education. As such, the current livelihood activities of FGD participants in Boa Vista are reportedly equivalent or similar to those held in their country of origin.



LEGAL STATUS

Documentation

Majority documented: Most Venezuelans in the area are reportedly registered with the Federal Police. Those who are not are reportedly cases of new arrivals.

Legal pathway: Many of Venezuelans living in this area have reportedly registered as asylum seekers, sometimes due to lack of documentation required to register as a temporary resident* (birth certificate). Findings also revealed FGD participants lack understanding of the full range of legal pathways available to Venezuelans in Brazil.

*Under Brazilian legislation (2017), Venezuelan nationals have the right to apply for temporary residence in Brazil, valid for two years.



ACCESS TO INFORMATION

Awareness of legal rights

Low levels of awareness and lack of information: Almost all FGDs participants indicated having insufficient knowledge about their legal rights in Brazil. Information needs were reported to exist on: labour rights and access to legal documentation in Brazil.

Sources of information

Word of mouth with personal acquaintances, Internet accessed via public Wi-Fi connection and religious entities were reported as main information sources.

PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE

Main trends

The large majority of FGD participants qualified their relations with the host community as good, with reported cases of spontaneous donations done by locals. Brazilian key informants (KIs) confirmed the overall cordial relationship between both communities, but reported a change in local residents' attitudes since the influx of Venezuelan nationals, particularly in regard to the use of public spaces.

Reported tension factors

A minority of FGD participants reported perceiving a sense of distrust of host community towards Venezuelans. Host community members reported a growing competition for job vacancies and health services between the two communities.

LIVELIHOODS

Employment

Access to job opportunities:	Limited
Commonly reported reasons limiting access to formal job opportunities:	Language barriers, lack of documentation, perceived discrimination and limited job offers
Common source of livelihood:	Employment in informal sector on daily basis.
Common sector of employment (male):	Construction and agriculture
Common sector of employment (female):	Service provision, such as cleaning, manicure and recycling
Professional aspirations:	Wages and working hours adjusted to local labour legislation

ACCESS TO SERVICES AND AID

Reported access to the following services:

Service type	Level of access *	Additional details
Education	●	Venezuelans reportedly have access to educational services, although confronted with difficulties to enroll in schools, such as the lack of vacancies and needed documentation. Education service providers also reported on challenges faced by the staff of schools in which Venezuelan students are enrolled, such as language barriers.
Healthcare	●	According to FGD participants, health units are fully accessible in this macro area and services are of good quality. However, according to KIs, the access of host community to health services has declined over the previous months due to the increase in service demand.
Humanitarian aid	●	A significant aid network was reported to exist in the area led mostly by host community members. They were reported to support Venezuelans with food and non-food item distribution as well as housing.

* Level of access to services: ● Good ● Moderate ● Limited

VULNERABILITY

Reported instances of child labour: NO

Reported instances of unaccompanied and separated minors: NO

Reported instances of security incidents within host community: NO

Reported risk activities: Stonemasons and weeders reported having to work without safety equipment. Women working with service provision (cleaning) reported sexual harassment as a risk they are confronted with. Other risks mentioned include the non-payment of agreed-upon salaries by employers.

This map presents the area of coverage of Nova Cidade Macro Area, Boa Vista. The area is composed of 6 neighbourhoods in which REACH field staff conducted 6 FGDs and 5 key informant interviews between 15 – 19 June 2018. No vulnerable groups were identified through this data collection.

- Rivers and lakes
- Primary road
- Secondary road
- Tertiary road
- Public health services (UBS)
- Public School
- Nova Cidade Macro Area

Operário

Raiar do Sol

Doutor Airton Rocha

Bela Vista

Nova Cidade

Dist. Ind. Gov. Aquilino Mota Duarte

