ADDRESSING FORCED DISPLACEMENT: MIRPS IN BELIZE
NATIONAL PLANS OBJECTIVES

- Improve *mechanisms for reception and admission*
- Respond to immediate and persistent *humanitarian and protection needs*
  - Support *host countries and communities*
  - Enhance *opportunities for durable solutions*

FOCUS AREAS:

- PROTECTION
- JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS
- SOCIAL PROTECTION
- EDUCATION
- HEALTH

COMMITMENTS BY COUNTRY

BELIZE · COSTA RICA · EL SALVADOR · GUATEMALA · HONDURAS · MEXICO · PANAMA
Committed to a comprehensive refugee response, Belize has been improving standard operating procedures for identification, reception and referral of refugees, while simultaneously upgrading the quality of refugee status determination processes. Effects of the current pandemic however have created obstacles, delaying envisioned progress. Similar delays have occurred in advancing sustainable solutions in the livelihoods sector as negative socioeconomic fall-out from the pandemic has limited the absorption capacity of the formal and informal economies. Within its recovery plan, Belize has identified Technical Vocational Education and Training, when adopting new transformational vocations, as key instrument for creating new growth industries, while possessing sufficient potential to rebuild Belize’s economy and to include young refugees, migrants and vulnerable nationals in delivering individual and common benefits.
PROTECTION

- Ensure the implementation of Standing Operating Procedures (SOPs) to facilitate the comprehensive identification and referral of persons with international protection needs.
- Ensure that persons arriving at official border points, including at the international airport, are provided with essential information on the right to claim asylum and related procedures.
- Promote understanding amongst the general population of the right to asylum, foster a climate of tolerance and mutual coexistence.
- Guarantee that all refugees and asylum seekers are provided with access to birth registration.
- Conduct a review of existing data availability, essential information needs, and potential digital tools and systems to integrate a comprehensive approach to Registration and Identity Management.
- Strengthen the timeliness, efficiency and quality investigation and adjudication processes of the national asylum system.
- Ensure the inclusion of up-to-date refugee and asylum seeker population data within national data, national development planning and implementation processes.

EDUCATION

- Ensure equitable access to primary and secondary education for refugees and asylum seekers on an equal basis as nationals.
- Support investments within the national TVET system, to ensure the delivery of demand-driven courses in key economic sectors associated with climate change, benefiting refugees, asylum seekers, migrants, and Belizean youths.

JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS

- Provide access to employment opportunities in priority sectors of the economy to respond to the needs of the private sector and labor market.