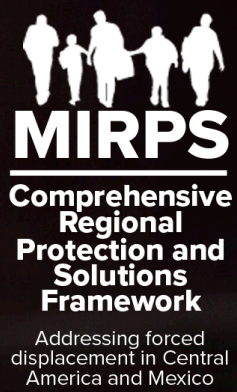


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October - December 2020

APPLYING THE GLOBAL COMPACT ON REFUGEES IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO

- MIRPS Strategic Sectors
- Protection
- Jobs & Livelihoods
- Social Protection
- Education
- Health

THIRD ANNUAL MEETING:

Central America and Mexico reaffirm commitment to address the needs of hundreds of thousands forced to flee

The seven countries that form part of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) for Central America and Mexico presented progress made to address the forced displacement crisis in their region and defined priorities for the year ahead during the group's third annual meeting.

Facing a growing number of people forced to flee in Central America and Mexico, MIRPS countries – Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama – took stock of the current context and identified much needed policies at the national and regional levels to offer comprehensive solutions on protection, education, health, jobs and livelihoods to those forcibly displaced in the region.

Violence and persecution have forced nearly one million people in Central America to flee within or across the borders of their countries. These include some 833,000 people from northern Central America and an additional 108,000 from Nicaragua.

The root causes that have prompted this forced displacement crisis, coupled with the intrinsic challenges of local integration, have been severely exacerbated by the emergencies of COVID-19 and recent tropical storms that caused widespread damage.

In this context, the MIRPS is well-placed as a political and operational instrument to respond to critical humanitarian and development needs of hundreds of thousands of people, including those forced to flee and their host communities.

[Find out more.](#)



Coming up in 2021



International Cooperation

New Pro-tempore Presidency Guatemala

MIRPS IN ACTION: AREAS OF QUANTIFICATION

In light of the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, the PPT supported a strategic orientation process with each MIRPS State mid-year. The aim was to identify priority investment areas amongst the respective national MIRPS commitments, in light of the new public health context, to and support engagement with strategic partners and the mobilization of additional resources. The outcome of these sessions informed the second phase of the quantification exercise, an initiative led by each MIRPS country to strengthen national planning.

With the support of the Technical Secretariat, the quantification exercise made it possible to define precise activities and exact financial resources required for implementing identified priority focus areas, which provided a basis for an evidence-based national dialog within each MIRPS country, and externally with other relevant national partners.

In this regard, MIRPS States are developing national funding strategies to align identified gaps to potential financing sources through international cooperation. Spaces such as the MIRPS Support Platform and MIRPS Voluntary Fund of the OEA are key mechanisms for the coordination of support required by individual States.

In addition, MIRPS States developed concept notes related to the following interventions, aligned with national commitments and pledges made at the Global Refugee Forum.

MEXICO



Strengthening schools in the public education system in host communities in southern Mexico



Strengthening first level health care in the state of Chiapas, Mexico

BELIZE



Establish demand-driven technical and vocational training in key economic sectors associated with climate change, benefiting refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and Belizean youth

HONDURAS



Guaranteeing a harmonized approach to provide long term solutions such as access to work and social protection

EL SALVADOR



Improve the technical, inclusive, and operational capacity of the Salvadoran educational system to support the rights of the forcibly displaced population



Expand opportunities of access to work and sources of livelihood to encourage self-reliance of people who have been forcibly displaced in El Salvador



Strengthen the capacity of the National Health System to provide better health and psychosocial services to forcibly displaced people in El Salvador

GUATEMALA



Creation of specialized, differentiated, safe, and decent reception conditions



Strengthening institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents in border areas



Public-private sectors alliances for the inclusion of refugees and refuge applicants in Guatemala into the workforce

PANAMA



Expanding Social Coverage to Meet the Basic Needs of Vulnerable Refugees and Applicants for Refugee Status

COSTA RICA



Voluntary temporary insurance for asylum seekers and refugees in Costa Rica



Social Protection of the Populations with International Protection Needs through Services Provided by the Social Welfare Institute (IMAS)



Institutional strengthening to support the refugee and migrant population in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

Quantification of MIRPS commitments

Total requirement **\$63,152,181**

Total gap **\$54,479,442**

Protection

Total requirement
\$3,813,551
Total gap
\$1,345,162

Education

Total requirement
\$18,008,112
Total gap
\$16,494,551

Child protection

Total requirement
\$236,494
Total gap
\$232,208

Social protection

Total requirement
\$33,438,117
Total gap
\$28,584,491

Health

Total requirement
\$4,638,422
Total gap
\$4,495,211

Jobs and livelihoods

Total requirement
\$3,331,715
Total gap
\$3,327,819

REGIONAL COORDINATION: THE PRO-TEMPORE PRESIDENCY IN 2020

PROTECTION

Asylum systems

Create partnerships with cooperating states to provide technical assistance, particularly to establish national registration systems

MIRPS countries identified specific areas that require **bilateral cooperation**. Spain facilitated a **virtual training** on the management of asylum claims and the integration of refugees for key government staff.

Internal displacement

Creation of a Working Group to guide activities and actions for interested states on Internal Displacement established

3 sessions on registration and information systems, budget planning and development.

Follow up bilateral meetings between Mexico, Honduras and El Salvador with the expert panel.

DURABLE SOLUTIONS

Local governments

Create partnerships to expand the number of Cities in Solidarity hosting displaced people

21 alliances confirmed in the region.

Costa Rica: San José, Escazú, Curridabat, Desamparados, Upala, Los Chiles, Montes de Ocas

Guatemala: San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Quezaltenango, Esquipulas, Flores, San Benito, National Association of Municipalities

Honduras: San Pedro Sula

El Salvador: San Salvador, Santa Ana, Zacatecoluca, La Unión

Mexico: Saltillo

Panama: Panama City

Private sector

Increase private sector partnerships to generate employment opportunities and facilitate integration within host communities

Partnerships with **finance, tourism, environmental** sectors to promote durable solutions for displaced persons.

The **mapping of relevant actors** is ongoing.

RESOURCE MOBILIZATION

To provide a basis for dialog among MIRPS countries and their Support Platform members, each MIRPS country elaborated concept notes in selected focus areas that explain in detail the following: context, objectives, specific measures, implementing partners, and budget estimates, in order to provide funding and specific assistance in the implementation of commitments.

A document containing all concept notes by country can be found [here](#).



PARTNERSHIPS

Civil society

United Nations System

Regional Conference on Migration

VISIBILITY

New website is live

Under the coordination of the Pro-tempore Presidency, the MIRPS launched a new website that reflect the latest progress and updates.

Visit the website in [English](#)



With the support from



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