

MIRPS SUPPORT PLATFORM EXPERTS BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

JUNE 29TH, 2022
VIRTUAL, ZOOM PLATFORM
11:00 AM (EST)



THE VOICE OF BUSINESS IN SUPPORTING EMPLOYABILITY OF FORCIBLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO

INTRODUCTION

The **MIRPS** is a **state led-process** created in 2017 which promotes regional cooperation among countries of origin, transit and destination for greater responsibility sharing in matters of prevention, protection and durable solutions to address forced displacement in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama.

The work of MIRPS is facilitated by a **Technical Joint Secretariat composed of the OAS and UNHCR**. Since 2020, the OAS jointly with UNHCR have been working on initiating an approach to increase the engagement of the business sector to complement and support the efforts of MIRPS countries, taking into account their vital role in supporting MIRPS States to address the challenges of protection and inclusion of refugees, asylum seekers, and returnees.

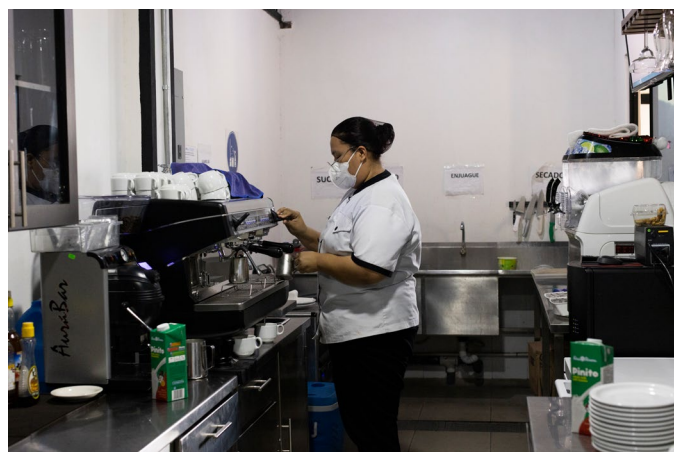
The MIRPS also integrates cooperating member states in the MIRPS Support Platform and works along regional and international organizations committed to the humanitarian and development agenda to mobilize additional support from other States, international financial institutions & other stakeholders to provide more protection and solutions to populations.

In 2022, the **MIRPS Support Platform chaired by the government of Canada** is seeking ways to continue increasing participation in the MIRPS agenda and mobilizing support from the private sector to generate viable solutions for displaced populations in Central America and Mexico.

DESIRED OUTCOME

Taking advantage of an important Canadian business presence in MIRPS countries, this event will seek to provide a space for discussion to expand the involvement of the Canadian business community with operations in Central America and Mexico to **encourage inclusive hiring practices and employability of displaced population workforce in Central America and Mexico**.

The discussions could also be a starting point to identify an interest of forming a network of Canadian companies and corporations that could join efforts and collaborate in favor of more inclusive corporate policies in their respective MIRPS countries operations. The events can also serve to identify the need to develop additional resources to help businesses navigate the hurdles in the process of recruiting and hiring displaced persons in Central America and Mexico.



PARTICIPANTS

- Canadian based companies.
- Canadian Chambers of Commerce and business associations with presence and operations in Central America and Mexico.
- Other Business leaders from Central America and Mexico.

METHODOLOGY

The discussion will be in a **peer-to-peer format** between business leaders with presentations from MIRPS countries with initiatives in place of inclusive working environments and corporate policies bringing value into their own corporations.

The event will also highlight some resources that can help the business community to **navigate the process of hiring displaced populations**. Canadian business participants will also have an opportunity to present their perspective on inclusive practices and additional resources or tools they may need to put into place or expand existing practices.

SOME OF THE INITIATIVES IN PLACE

- Best business practices and hiring guide for the inclusion of refugees in Costa Rica lead by a Coalition of corporations Western Union, Accenture, Boston Scientific and Manpower Group.
- Hiring Guide for Refugees and Asylum Seekers in Mexico lead by Tent Partnership for Refugees.



AGENDA

Time (Washington, DC)	Section	Person in charge
11:00 - 11:05 am	Welcoming remarks	<p>Ms. Sylvia Cesaratto, Director General, Central America & Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada.</p> <p>Mr. Wilson Paz, General Directorate for the Protection of Honduran Migrants, Honduras.</p>
11:05 - 11:15 am	How can the private sector support displaced populations?	<p>Ms. Betilde Muñoz-Pogossian, Director of the Department of Social Inclusion, Organization of American States (OAS).</p>
11:15 - 12:05 pm	Presentation of Best Business practices and Initiatives in MIRPS countries	<p>Representative of Central America Regional Private Sector (TBC)</p> <p>Representative of Rotary International based in Guatemala (TBC)</p> <p>Representative of Canadian company based in Central America (TBC)</p> <p>Representative of Private Sector based in Honduras (TBC)</p>
12:05 - 12:25 pm	Dialogue between participants/ Possible areas of collaboration	Open to all participants
12:25 - 12:30 pm	Closing remarks	<p>Ms. Sylvia Cesaratto, Director General, Central America & Caribbean, Global Affairs Canada</p>

*Interpretation in English and Spanish will be provided.