



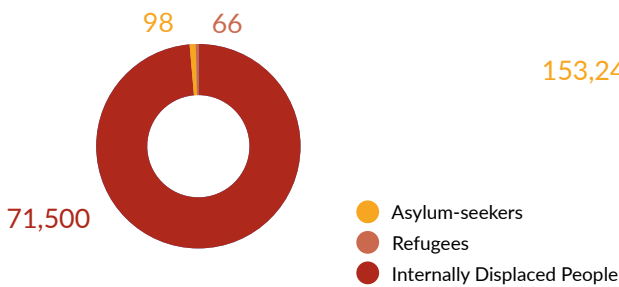
ADDRESSING FORCED DISPLACEMENT: THE MIRPS IN EL SALVADOR

From 2006 to 2016, 71,500 people were displaced in El Salvador, according to the first internal forced displacement characterization exercise led by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security in 2018. In January 2020, the country approved a law to provide protection and offer durable solutions to persons who are internally displaced or at risk of displacement due to violence. However, human mobility in Central America and Mexico remains a complex issue, and the number of asylum-seekers and refugees in El Salvador has continued to rise.

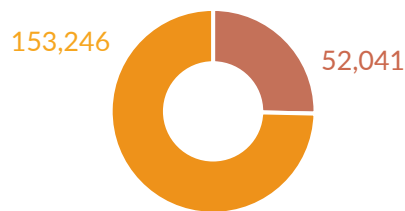
Existing advances in legislation and operational responses for the protection of forcibly displaced persons and refugees require strengthening. El Salvador joined the MIRPS in 2019 and expressed its commitment through a National Action Plan concerning asylum, livelihoods, education, psychosocial support, health, legal assistance, and the protection of rights. This National Action Plan complements the commitments made during the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.

FIGURES AT A GLANCE

PEOPLE OF CONCERN IN EL SALVADOR



PEOPLE OF CONCERN FROM EL SALVADOR GLOBALLY



Source: UNHCR / Dec 2021

NATIONAL ACTION PLAN

43 COMMITMENTS



PROTECTION
22 COMMITMENTS



EDUCATION
6 COMMITMENTS



JOBS & LIVELIHOODS
8 COMMITMENTS



HEALTH
7 COMMITMENTS

MIRPS IN EL SALVADOR

MIRPS NATIONAL TECHNICAL TEAM

- Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Ministry of Justice and Public Security
- Ministry of Health
- Ministry of Education, Science and Technology
- Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare
- Ministry of Local Development
- Ministry of Interior and Territorial Development
- El Salvador Agency for International Cooperation

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS*

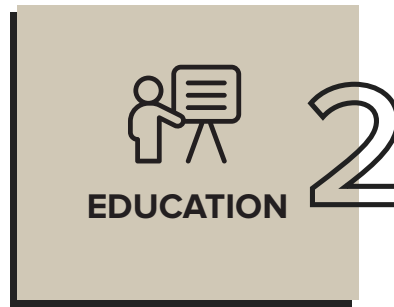
- International Rescue Committee (IRC)
- Save the Children
- World Vision
- Association Communicating and Training Trans Women (COMCAVIS TRANS)
- SOS Children's Villages
- Plan Foundation
- Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)
- Scalabrini
- Foundation for Salvadoran Development and Affordable Housing (FUNDASAL)

(* UNHCR in El Salvador contributes to institutional strengthening through the implementation of actions -directly or indirectly- through these partner organizations in 2022.

ACHIEVEMENTS



- In 2022, the Government of El Salvador obtained results from a pilot project as the basis for updating the characterization study on internal forced displacement. The quantitative and qualitative information on forced displacement to be collected in the study will allow evidence-based decision-making for the design of public policies.



- Strengthened educational modalities allow children and adolescents to continue their education through the implementation of both regular and flexible (accelerated, distance, blended, evening, and virtual) modalities, using a range of platforms including television, radio, and other communication channels.

- The School Councils offer improved psychosocial support services to internally displaced boys and girls. This programme works to create safe educational environments, which contributes to educational continuity.

- Displaced or at-risk persons who are in temporary shelters benefit from improved child, adolescent, and youth focused care, through the implementation of an educational continuity strategy.

- In 2022, the opening of two new “A tu Lado” attention spaces in the municipalities of San Miguel and Santa Ana strengthens the capacity of the local response to displaced populations, which includes the free provision of information on rights and assistance in a safe and confidential way.

- In 2022, the government has continued to make investments in State institutional capacity to enhance an effective response to humanitarian protection, case management, human rights, and victim assistance.

- The Preliminary Draft of the National Policy for Territorial Planning and Development incorporates guidelines related to the care of displaced persons.



- As part of the "My First Job" Programme supporting at-risk youth to strengthen their skills to access the labour market, 62 participants signed employment contract with local employers following their graduation during the first half of the year.



- Implementation of a public campaign to disseminate information on the rights of victims of violence to access essential healthcare.

- The ongoing facilitation of training for multidisciplinary and first-level health personnel is strengthening the timely care and monitoring of cases of forced displacement.

- Specialized workshops supporting internally displaced women and/or survivors of gender-based violence have continued, providing psychosocial support and strengthening their micro-entrepreneurial skills. A total of 33 women benefited from the workshops so far this year.

UPDATED COMMITMENTS

The MIRPS National Technical Team in El Salvador reviewed and updated its national action plan in 2022, to maintain the relevance and validity of the MIRPS and reflect the current challenges for addressing displacement.

Governmental institutions have identified strategic interventions that require urgent support for the implementation of the plan in the short term (2022-2023). These interventions would address critical needs for the protection of and solutions for displaced populations.

ESTIMATED COST FOR STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS (2022-2023): USD 9.5 M*

* This estimated cost only includes prioritized commitments that have been costed and can be implemented by governmental institutions in 2022 – 2023. It does not include activities by international organizations, civil society, and other stakeholders.

The full list of commitments are presented below by focus area:

PROTECTION

Strengthen the mechanisms for protecting the fundamental rights of people in conditions of internal forced displacement, and those who are at risk of being displaced, through prevention procedures and a more effective and inclusive care system.

- **Train personnel in specialized legal assistance** (economic, social, and cultural rights), concerning the protection of property and assets for people in need of protection.
- Review and update the **comprehensive care protocol for internally displaced persons**, establishing care routes according to specific profiles and their needs, as well as a follow-up route for cases and an updated mapping of existing services.
- Establish a **specialized unit for displaced populations** with technical teams trained to attend to different profiles within the Direction of Attention to Victims (DAV).
- **Creation of a single registry** of displaced persons and persons at risk of forced displacement, carrying out annual statistical analyses.
- Update the study on the **Characterization of Internal Displacement**.
- **Introduce the initiative “The Special Law for the Care of Persons in Condition or at Risk of Forced Displacement”** and other regulatory frameworks that provide a greater guarantee of protection to internally displaced persons.
- **Review and update existing protocols and routes in the Center for the Attention of Migrants (GAMI)** to include specialized care according to profile and vulnerability (children and adolescents, women, families, LGBTI population, people with disabilities, and older persons).
- Implementation by all institutions with a presence in the GAMI of the single migratory registry and software development and implementation of a protection module to **strengthen the identification and management of cases of deportees with protection needs** (children and adolescents, women, family groups, LGBTI population, people with disabilities, older adults).
- **Establish a training plan for GAMI staff** based on identified needs, where organizations join according to their mandates/expertise.
- Create, print, and disseminate **informative materials on the available services** provided by the institutions present at the GAMI.
- Dissemination at the national level for the population of the new **Immigration and Foreigners Law**.
- **Implement trainings z z** for the consular network in Mexico, the United States, Guatemala, and Belize for the identification of profiles with protection needs.
- **Design of a roadmap for the identification and care of people in need of protection** abroad, which includes routes directly linked to the services that exist at the national level.
- **Carry out training, as well as disseminate information and communication** on the right to international protection, the asylum process, and its corresponding identity document for asylum-seekers and refugees, aimed at government institutions and private companies.
- Technically and operationally **strengthen the Commission for the Determination of Refugee Status (CODER)** (the Secretariat and Sub-Commission) to increase the capacity to analyze and resolve requests.
- Design and print **informative materials on the asylum process in El Salvador**.

- **Develop a bill for the granting of “International Protection and Statelessness,”** for the integration of the refugee population in El Salvador.
- Design and implement **care routes for forcibly displaced women or women at risk**, as well as self-care processes aimed at technical staff at the Ciudad Mujer Centers.
- Incorporate **guidelines and directives aimed to respond to the situation of displaced persons**, in the formulation of the National Policy of Territorial Planning and Development (PNODT).
- **Incorporate guidelines for the sectors linked to forcibly displaced populations**, in the formulation of the Master Plan for Territorial Planning and Development (PLAMODT), in order to mitigate the situation.
- Enable spaces for the **dissemination and socialization of the Practical Guide** for planning, assembly, and coordination of shelters at the municipal, departmental, and national level.
- Creation of the **national network of sectoral technical teams for shelters (ETS-A)** at the municipal and departmental levels.



EDUCATION

Continue strengthening mechanisms for protecting the rights of the educational community in a situation of internal forced displacement or at risk of being displaced, through strategies that promote their protection and attention, through, among others, the harmonization of regulatory frameworks, and in accordance with the recently approved law, “Grow Together for the Comprehensive Protection of Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence.”

- Implement a process for **collecting reliable information in the System for information management of the Ministry of Education (SIGES)** on the impact of internal forced displacement on students and teachers at the national level.
- **Update and harmonize** the “Guide for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement” and the “Operational Manual for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement” to the law, “Growing Together for the Comprehensive Protection of Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence” and related regulations.
- **Design and print** the “Guide for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement,” the “Operational Manual for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement,” and the law, “Growing Together for the Comprehensive Protection of Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence” and related regulations.
- **Disseminate materials for students and teachers nationwide on** the human rights-based approach; the impact of forced displacement due to violence; protection mechanisms established in the “Guide for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement” and the “Operational Manual for Assistance to Displaced Children, Adolescents, Youth, and Teachers or at Risk of Internal Forced Displacement.”
- **Harmonize, design, and print education regulations with a human rights-based approach** to incorporate protection mechanisms against threats and violations of the rights of girls, boys, adolescents, and teachers in the Educational System.
- Implement actions to **prevent, protect, and restore the rights of children and adolescents against school violence** and forced internal displacement as a cause of school dropout and social risk.



JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS

Expand access to economic opportunities and durable solutions for people forcibly displaced in El Salvador or at risk of being displaced, to promote their self-sufficiency and conditions of respect and dignity.

- Design of **information and awareness campaigns** on the rights of displaced populations and existing services.
- **Creation of a specialized centre** that promotes technical/vocational programmes, access to tertiary education, livelihoods, and the promotion of labour insertion (in coordination with private companies) for forcibly displaced populations.
- **Promote programming for technical skills training and life-skills training**, prioritizing access for forcibly displaced populations.
- **Design of a local inclusion model** for refugees and asylum-seekers that includes actions from a legal, economic, and social perspective.

- **Priority access to job placement programmes** for displaced or at-risk populations.
- **Strengthen awareness-raising processes with the private sector** for hiring vulnerable, displaced, or at-risk populations, refugees, or asylum-seekers, in favour of diversity and inclusion.
- **Strengthen and coordinate the labour insertion table**, articulated with the different associations of the LGBTI population and INSAFORP for their technical training.
- **Provide access to income-generating programmes and services** that favour inclusion and economic autonomy for women who are forcibly displaced or at risk, referred from the Ciudad Mujer Centers and territories.



HEALTH

Expand specialized medical and psychosocial care adapted to the needs of victims of forced displacement by the National Health System of El Salvador, through services provided with quality and warmth, in favor of their dignity, inclusion and respect for human rights.

- **Design and implement information and awareness campaigns** on the rights of displaced persons, deported persons in need of protection, refugees, and asylum-seekers to access health services.
- **Develop a specialized protocol for the comprehensive health care** (medical and psychosocial) of displaced persons, deported persons in need of protection, refugees, and asylum-seekers.
- **Provide specialized training to health system officials** on psychological, psychiatric, and psychosocial care for people affected by forced displacement (internally displaced people, deported persons with protection needs, refugees, and asylum-seekers).
- **Coordinate comprehensive mobile care** (medical and psychosocial) for health services in shelters and reception spaces to care for displaced persons, deported persons with protection needs, refugees, and asylum-seekers.
- **Design a model of psychological/psychosocial care for people affected by violence** (internally displaced people, deported persons with protection needs, refugees, and asylum-seekers).
- **Design internal forced displacement indicators for inclusion in the Ministry of Health's Information System** for the analysis of the impact of internal displacement on health, as input for the design of programs and interventions.
- **Include within its policies and protocols comprehensive health care** (direct medical care, psychosocial care, care for chronic diseases, special health conditions) to guarantee continued care and access to specific medications for displaced persons, deported persons with protection needs, refugees, and asylum-seekers, without discrimination.

THE MIRPS

The Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) is a regional contribution to the Global Compact on Refugees formed by the governments of Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama to strengthen protection and promote solutions for forcibly displaced populations, addressing the underlying causes and promoting a stable environment that ensures security, economic development and prosperity.



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