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MIRPS WORKING GROUP ON INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT REPORT 2021

ONGOING INITIATIVES TO ADDRESS INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT IN
EL SALVADOR, HONDURAS AND MEXICO



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INTRODUCTION

In 2020, the first specific working group was formed within the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS). The group focused on internal displacement, with the aim of having a specific space to strengthen their capacities and develop legal and institutional frameworks that would enable them to respond to internal displacement in their countries. The working group is composed of El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico since its inception, and Costa Rica is currently participating as an observer State.

Since its creation, the Working Group on Internal Displacement has been supported by a panel of international experts from Colombia and Italy on internal displacement with the support of the Technical Secretariat of MIRPS, composed of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Organization of American States (OAS). The panel of experts facilitated the sharing of good practices between MIRPS countries that are members of the Working Group and other countries with extensive experience in responding to internal displacement.

The group continued under the MIRPS Pro-Tempore Presidency 2021 by the Government of Guatemala. During its second year, and under the leadership of Mexico as a leading country, the Group decided to give continuity to the needs and issues of interest identified in the recommendations presented in 2020, mainly with the following topics:

- Prevention and addressing the root causes of displacement
- Community-based approach (methods for identification, prioritization and intervention in communities at risk of displacement)
- Innovative Protection responses and/or Solutions (e.g. internal relocation programs)
- Cross-cutting: information systems and inter-institutional coordination

The present document compiles the discussions that took place during the working sessions; it also systematizes the main experiences of the countries of the group to feed the discussion on prevention, care, treatment, protection, and durable solutions to the issue of internal displacement.



KEY CONSIDERATIONS RESULTING FROM THE WORKING SESSIONS CARRIED OUT BY THE MEMBERS OF THE GROUP AND THE PANEL OF EXPERTS, ACCORDING TO TOPICS ADDRESSED:

1. ON POLICY FRAMEWORKS FOR ADDRESSING INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT:

With the accompaniment of the panel of experts, in the first working session, the MIRPS countries that make up the Working Group outlined the advances they have made in prevention, responses and solutions to internal displacement.

- Honduras noted the main milestones of its national and local responses to the matter, including the delivery of the Bill for the Prevention, Care and Protection of Forced Displaced Persons to the National Congress, two characterization studies, the criminalization of forced displacement, and two pilot projects on protection of returnees and humanitarian assistance.
- Mexico, for its part, mentioned as actions taken to recognize internal displacement as a public problem, the unanimous approval in the Chamber of Deputies of the draft decree issuing the General Law to prevent, treat and repair fully the internal displacement, the adoption of the National Human Rights Program 2020-2024, which includes internal forced displacement and the implementation of a pilot program for the inclusion of internally displaced persons.
- Representatives of El Salvador indicated progress since the 2018 Constitutional Court judgment declaring recognition of internal displacement caused by violence. In 2020, the Special Act for the Care and Protection of Persons in Condition of Internal Displacement was also adopted.



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: GENERAL LAW TO PREVENT, ADDRESS AND COMPREHENSIVELY REPAIR INTERNAL FORCED DISPLACEMENT IN MEXICO

After the unanimous approval by the Chamber of Deputies (2020), work has been done on the analysis and argumentation regarding the relevance of legislating on Internal Forced Displacement.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

Ministry of the Interior through various bodies, including: Unit of Migration Policy, Registration and Identity of Persons, Directorate General of Public Policies, National Council of Population and the Mexican Commission for Assistance to Refugees.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- Legislators
- Civil society organizations
- UNHCR

OBJECTIVE

The main objective is for the State to have a legal instrument that is the basis for preventing, attending to, and generating lasting solutions to the occurrence of internal forced displacement in Mexico. This is possible through the positioning of the public problem of internal displacement in the country because of various structural causes, such as agrarian, armed, communal and property conflicts, natural disasters, large-scale development projects, human rights violations, among others. To this end, various forums and spaces of discussion have been used, as well as developed various efforts, to know the virtues and challenges that this Law represents for the Mexican State. Approaches have been made with legislators interested in the matter, to explain the phenomenon and distinguish it from other problems of human mobility. It is important to note that one of the main concerns has been the construction of a long-term institutional framework, which is articulated with different federal government bodies, as well as between the three levels of government.

TARGET POPULATION

Internally displaced persons due to: Collective punishment, agrarian conflicts, armed conflicts, communal conflicts, property conflicts; disasters associated with natural phenomena, caused by human beings or by climate change; segregation practices motivated by cultural, social, political, ethnic, religious reasons, racial or sexual orientation of the affected population; large-scale development projects; human rights violations; sexual and gender-based violence; violence against freedom of expression and the right to information, and other types of violence.

Potential challenges:

- Limited budget, due to current conditions of public administration, as well as measures taken by the current government around public funds and trusts.

Next steps:

- Continuation of presentations of the characteristics of the Law in various forums.
- An analysis of the initial budget, as well as the budget underlying humanitarian assistance and care carried out in accordance with the definition of a protocol and the articulation with different bodies and levels of government.

Results to date:

- The approval of the initiative is expected in the Senate.
- While it is approved, the team of the Mexican Commission for Aid to Refugees and Internal Displacement (COMAR) is advancing in the design of protocols for its implementation.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

- Recognition in 2019 by the current administration of the existence of the situation.
- A proposal of a solid institutional structure with experience in human mobility through the Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid (COMAR).
- The unanimous approval of the General Law initiative by all the political groups represented in the Chamber of Deputies.

2. ON THE HARMONIZED APPROACH TO THE USE OF STATISTICS:

- The use of the harmonized approach responds to a rights approach, involves victims and organizations, territorial institutions and makes available tools and mechanisms for information management.
- The use of statistics in response to displacement must be integrated into the victim rights approach, include the various actors and must be equipped with tools to ensure a progressive capacity to sustain and update information flows and processes.



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: UPDATE OF THE STUDY ON THE CHARACTERIZATION OF INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT DUE TO VIOLENCE IN EL SALVADOR

The update of the Study on the Characterization of Internal Displacement by Violence is a key initiative that aims primarily to obtain up-to-date evidence on the magnitude, trends and demographic profile of the affected population.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

- National Department for Attention to Victims and Forced Migration of the Ministry of Justice and Public Security (MJSP)
- Ministry of Local Development

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- General Directorate of Statistics and Census (DYGESTIC);
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs;
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
- Civil Society Organizations.

LENGTH

1 year

The Supreme Court of Justice, in its judgment of July 13, 2018, recognized that there was a phenomenon of forced displacement of persons because of the violence and insecurity affecting different geographical areas of the country. In the decision, the Court established that the fundamental rights of the population are affected, recognizing victims of violence and forced displacement as subjects of rights. In the same year, the Ministry of Justice and Public Security published the study “Characterization of internal mobility due to violence in El Salvador” that allowed evidence on the magnitude, trends, and demographic profile of the affected population and at risk of internal displacement over a 10-year period from 2006 to 2016. Since the publication of the Study, El Salvador has made important advances in the legal protection of victims of displacement, mainly through the adoption of the Special Law for the Care and Integral Protection of Persons in Conditions of Internal Displacement. It also established 25 Local Offices for Victim Care and Forced Migration in the municipalities where most people live with the demographic profile indicated by the Study.

OBJECTIVES

- To provide accurate information on the demographic profile of persons affected or at risk for the development of public policies, programs and projects aimed at them.
- Deepen country-level analysis of key information regarding: I) identification of the most affected areas or communities; II) updates on estimates of the magnitude of the problem; III) profile of victims; iv) assessment of their protection needs.

To inform the design and implementation of institutional responses to help protect displaced populations, updated information is required to understand the size and characteristics of displacement in the country. This information will be essential for El Salvador to continue to strengthen its mechanisms for prevention, protection and response to the needs of displaced persons in line with the commitments made by the country under MIRPS since 2019 when

El Salvador joined this mechanism. The update of the study on the characterization of internal mobility due to violence in El Salvador represents a key action to provide the necessary evidence to all stakeholders, as well as to support the efforts of the State in the planning, design and implementation of actions that offer protection, durable assistance and solutions to internally displaced persons.

To this end, El Salvador has proposed to carry out this initiative in six phases: 1) Consolidation of a working group; 2) Establishment of the methodology; 3) Collection of information; 4) Presentation and validation of information; 5) Implementation of a dissemination plan among stakeholders.

Potential challenges:

- Study duration may be extended due to certain validation processes.
- Investment is estimated, so additional funding may be required on the move.
- The COVID-19 situation can affect the development of the methodology, particularly data collection.

Next steps:

When the results of the updated study are obtained, it is expected that the findings will be shared and that they will be used as inputs for the development of public policies, social programs, prevention and response plans at the local level, as well as to guide cooperation and humanitarian assistance agencies in the support they may eventually provide to the State in this area.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

- Establishment of a multidisciplinary team;
- Having a competent national authority in relation to information collection (DIGESTYC).

3. ON UNDERLYING CAUSE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACHES:

The Guiding Principles (like the Kampala Convention) do not use the term “prevention of internal displacement”, in recognition of the fact that displacement may have a protective nature, consistent with the individual’s freedom of movement and choice of residence. The Guidelines speak of the need to “protect people from displacement,” which implies “prevent and avoid conditions that may lead to displacement” (Guideline 5) and “protect people from arbitrary displacement” (Guideline 6). Guiding Principle 7 establishes procedural safeguards that must be respected when displacement is inevitable. The Guiding Principles and the Code of Conduct also emphasize the special obligation to protect certain groups against displacement (indigenous peoples, farmers, shepherds, and other groups with special relations to their lands).

Prevention of the causes of internal displacement consists of:

i) knowing and addressing the causes of displacement to develop effective prevention strategies; ii) community-based approach: protection of their livelihoods, strengthening their coping capacities and harnessing local and indigenous knowledge as the basis for risk reduction strategies; iii) Coordination, competences, roles and responsibilities: Community level, international protection actors, expected response of the State, application of the law and investigation and punishment for non-compliance; iv) Anticipatory investment for sustainability of solutions: It is necessary to promote funding based on forecasts.

Institutional management for risk prevention requires:

i) strengthening institutional and social capacities; ii) mechanisms to encourage research; iii) strengthening community capacities for prevention; iv) partnership with organizations for risk analysis and implementation of prevention measures; v) Promotion of community leadership; vi) inclusion of youth as promoters of prevention; vii) National strategy for the evaluation of institutional and territorial capacities for prevention; viii) Information management for prevention, strengthening of the provision of information, human rights observatories and tools for informed decision-making.

It is recommended that the comprehensive prevention plans contain the following elements:

i) diagnosis of the risk situation in the respective jurisdiction and risk map; ii) risk scenarios; iii) general and specific objectives; iv) strategies, activities and managers; v) institutional action protocols; vi) management and monitoring targets and indicators; vii) human and financial resources and funding sources; viii) implementation schedule; ix) accountability mechanisms.

In Colombia, since Decree 2078 of 2017, collective protection measures have been implemented, aimed at countering risk, vulnerability and threat factors arising from the activities of the collective. These measures should have a differential, territorial and gender approach, and should be based on risk analysis and consider proposals submitted by groups or communities. Collective protection measures are implemented by national and territorial entities and may consist of: (i) individual protection actions, when they have an impact on the collective object of protection; (ii) support to the physical infrastructure for collective integral protection; (iii) organizational and community strengthening; (iv) strengthening of the institutional presence; (v) strategies for communication, participation and interaction with entities of the local, departmental and national order that reduce the risks of the collective; (vi) promotion of legal and administrative measures that counteract risk and threat factors; (vii) support for collective complaints activity in the territories; (viii) formulation and implementation of strategies to counter the causes of risk and threat; (ix) psychosocial care measures; (x) material and intangible measures to strengthen self-protection and counter stigmatization.



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: COMMUNITY ART AS A STRATEGY TO STRENGTHEN THE PARTICIPATION AND INCLUSION OF AT-RISK COMMUNITIES IN SAN PEDRO SULA, HONDURAS

"Arte Comunitario" ("Community Art") is a community intervention strategy that seeks to promote social inclusion and the participation of communities affected by violence and forced displacement.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

- Municipality of San Pedro Sula

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- Children International
- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

GEOGRAPHIC COVERAGE

Communities of Llanos de Sula and Sanaí in the Rivera Hernández sector in San Pedro Sula, in the north of the country.

"Community Art" is a community intervention strategy led by the Municipality of San Pedro Sula and implemented in collaboration with Children International and UNHCR that seeks to promote social inclusion and participation of communities affected by violence and forced displacement as well as strengthening the protection environments of young people in high-risk urban communities in the city of San Pedro Sula. The initiative promotes art and culture as a means and space for reconciliation and dialogue among local authorities, organizations, community leaders and youth, as well as an opportunity to enhance the skills and capacities of young people in these communities.

Based on this context, the strategy proposes the following objectives: (i) to strengthen the protection environments for young people within the community through the development of artistic and cultural initiatives; (ii) to support the development of soft skills and technical skills in different artistic disciplines; (iii) strengthen dialogue between local authorities and communities through innovative, participatory methodologies that promote social inclusion; and (iv) strengthen social cohesion, spaces for dialogue and participation within the community using the potential of art and culture as means of expression.

OBJECTIVES

- Strengthen protective environments for young people within the community through the development of artistic and cultural initiatives.
- Support the development of soft skills and technical competences in different artistic disciplines.
- Strengthen dialogue between local authorities and communities through innovative, participatory methodologies that promote social inclusion.
- Strengthen social cohesion, spaces for dialogue and participation within the community using the potentialities of art and culture as means of expression.

The implementation of the strategy has led to the consolidation of a multidisciplinary technical and operational team composed of representatives of three actors (Municipality of San Pedro Sula, Children International and UNHCR) with diverse experience in protection, community strengthening, cultural promotion and management, psychosocial intervention, artistic disciplines, program coordination and management that has enabled the intervention to be enriched and as comprehensive as possible. As a result, an environment of trust has been established around intervention and ownership by community leaders who constantly support all actions.

Sula, a permanent review of personal safety standards and risk analysis is needed to minimize any risks that may be faced by staff or community members involved in the process. In relation to the training opportunities available to the

community, the importance of reviewing the curriculum offered by the program and defining with the community whether the existing offer should be professionalized and/or if it could be part of the formal or non-formal educational offer in the sector. In addition, some training strategies for trainers, cultural promoters and cultural volunteerism must be incorporated.

Such interventions should also strengthen the articulation with municipal programs and services that can respond to the needs of the young beneficiaries, the school and the communities where the workshops are held. Similarly, it requires strengthening the articulation with other existing programs and actors in the sector that work with young people and in youth empowerment processes that can complement the intervention. In addition, it is necessary to consider other elements of the strategy, such as being the role of parents, as well as the adaptation or improvement of the physical spaces in which the activities are carried out.

Potential challenges:

- Sustainability of the intervention model because of the limited resources available in municipalities disproportionately affected by emergencies (COVID-19, ETA/IOATA) in their fundraising
- Biosecurity restriction measures due to the suspension
- Context volatility and security incident may represent a limitation on humanitarian access

Next steps:

- Expansion of the program to two new sectors of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula
- Articulation of the program to a network of municipal libraries
- Development of a municipal policy of art and culture for social inclusion in cities that allows the allocation of resources and technical personnel.
- Articulation to a formal education offer from SEDUC (Professional Technical Baccalaureate in Community Art and Creative Industries) and non-formal with INFOP (Diploma in Community Art and Creative Industries) that can be applied in educational centers and/or municipal technical centers respectively
- Conceptualization and construction of a Technical School of Community Art
- Transversalization of the program to other municipal managers so that they can integrate technical personnel into the different components of the program (prevention direction, education direction, and community participation management, in addition to the culture direction with which the program was initiated).
- Creation of a learning management platform.

Results to date:

- Comprehensive community protection strategy structured and adapted to high-risk urban areas
- Toolbox and methodology developed for interventions in high-risk areas by encouraging participation and outreach with local government
- Certification of curriculum mesh workshops with SEDUC and virtual implementation of certified workshops
- Design of a methodological manual on psychosocial accompaniment, through which the services of municipal psychosocial accompaniment are articulated to participants, as well as the identification and reference of cases at risk of displacement to the Municipal Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Mechanism
- Virtual psychosocial accompaniment in platform
- Theoretical and physical conceptualization of the Technical School of Community Art
- Elaboration of a participatory draft of municipal policy of art and culture for social inclusion.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

- Signing of a Letter of Understanding in 2018, renewed this year, between the Municipality of San Pedro Sula and UNHCR, aligned on MIRPS commitments at the regional level
- Adaptation in the social agenda of the municipality of San Pedro Sula, and to the Municipal Development Master Plan.
- Toolbox and methodology that allows to develop community interventions in risk zones without raising the risk of beneficiaries, as well as generating safe participation and empowerment
- Articulation with the integral work of the Municipal Committee for the Response to Forced Displacement
- Articulation with strategic community partner Children International that allows the consolidation of humanitarian access to zones.
- Flexibility and adaptation of supply in the context of high risk to enable better response and ownership of programs.



4. ON DIFFERENTIATED APPROACHES IN THE GENERATION OF SOLUTIONS:

Some of the recommendations discussed for the application of differentiated approaches in the generation of solutions are:

- Create mechanisms and instruments for the mainstreaming of approaches consistent with institutional competencies and capacities.
- Implement affirmative measures such as short or medium-term actions subject to periodic monitoring and evaluation, without sacrificing structural adjustments necessary to ensure the transformative approach.
- Design and implement differential participation protocols that consider the limitations and/or risks of each differential group.
- Expand the conception of gender-based violence and radiate its effects on all peace systems and victims / include sexual rights and reproductive rights as a measure of prevention and guarantee of non-repetition.
- Rethinking the paradigm of differential approaches in the light of the call for cross-compliance and the current challenges /territory (Latin America/Global South).



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: IMPLEMENTING PROTECTION MECHANISMS FOR INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN HONDURAS WITH A DIFFERENTIATED APPROACH

The Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Mechanism (MAHE) Manual is an institutional humanitarian assistance route through which individual cases of displaced persons and at risk of displacement are addressed.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

- Secretariat for Human Rights (SEDH)

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- CIPPDV and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The MAHE consists of an institutional humanitarian assistance route implemented by the SEDH through which individual cases of displaced persons and at risk of displacement are addressed. The MAHE provides various components of assistance over a three-month period to cover temporary housing, internal relocation, food, early childhood inputs, inputs for school-age children, cash support for transfers and communication. Its implementation began in 2019, through a pilot in which 27 cases were handled within the framework of a project financed with national funds from the National Council for the Protection of the Honduran Migrants (CONAPROHM), focusing on the care of returnees with protection needs. This was complemented by technical and financial support from the International Committee of the Red Cross to provide seed capital, with which 7 families managed to establish productive ventures. Currently, THE MAHE continues to be implemented, this time, with funds from UNHCR, allowing SEDH to expand its experience and knowledge in humanitarian assistance, having handled 38 cases, of which 17 have protective measures.

In 2019, the Inter-Agency Commission for the Protection of Persons Displaced by Violence in Honduras (CIPPDV) published the “Practical Guide to the Application of Differentiated Care Criteria with Psychosocial Approach for Persons Internally Displaced by Violence in Honduras”. The methodological design was led by the Human Rights Secretariat, in coordination with a technical group composed of the Ministry of Health, the National Institute of Women, the Directorate of Children, Adolescents and Family, and with the operational and financial support of the Norwegian Refugee and Medical Council of the World.

OBJECTIVE

Systematize the pilot experience of humanitarian assistance, to generate the necessary knowledge and experience to inform the development and implementation of public policies and measures of assistance and protection to internally displaced persons.

Potential challenges:

Enough funding to continue providing assistance and protection.

Next steps:

Develop a proposal for a national care program based on the systematization of the experience.

Results to date:

To continue the pilot experience, SEDH plans to address 20 cases with CONAPROHM funding in 2021, and 30 cases with UNHCR technical and financial support. In addition, the aim is to update the MAHE from the lessons learned identified in its piloting.

So far, the pilot has highlighted the need to strengthen the capacities of SEDH staff in case analysis and context analysis, to ensure that protection measures are tailored to the needs of individuals, according to the risk they experience in their contexts. In addition, it has highlighted the importance of strengthening capacities in the livelihoods component, as an opportunity to connect the humanitarian assistance scheme with a durable solutions strategy.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

While the process of adopting the legal framework was advancing at the National Congress, the CIPPOV prioritized the design of a scheme of protection for displaced persons and at risk of displacement based on information provided by the studies of characterization of internal displacement (published in 2015 and 2019). Thus, the Secretariat for Human Rights (SEDH) designed the Manual of the Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Mechanism (MAHE).





ONGOING INITIATIVE: PILOT PROJECT FOR THE INCLUSION OF INTERNALLY DISPLACED PERSONS IN MEXICO

It provides for the physical relocation of internally displaced persons, as well as their labor, educational, access to health and housing for persons and/or families in situations of internal displacement in Mexico.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

- Ministry of the Interior (SEGOB)

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

- United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

The program provides for the physical relocation of the person, as well as their employment, educational, access to health and housing. It proposes the integration of a certain number of persons and/or families in situations of internal forced displacement into the program for refugees in some cities of the national territory, giving favorable results in terms of integration in the host communities, as well as for the persons who joined it.

Under State responsibility, the pilot program will be implemented in cooperation with SEGOB, among other reasons, with the objective of articulating with the responsible bodies, as well as with the three levels of government.

In this regard, the phases of the project will be monitored to determine with which authorities and institutions coordinated actions are required and in which cases to formalize requests for support to meet specific needs for children and adolescents, women, older persons, individuals with physical and mental health care needs, indigenous populations, among others, as well as case-by-case monitoring and periodic analysis of results.

OBJECTIVES

- Implement a program aimed at generating durable solutions and avoiding care schemes by the time when an approved legal framework is in place to serve the internally displaced population.
- Generate care protocols with guidance on durable solutions to forced displacement.
- Generate durable solution protocols, tracking, and documentation.
- Establish mechanisms for articulation with other federal, state, and municipal government bodies.

This pilot project consists of:

- Financial support per person for transportation from the place of departure to the place of reception.
- During the first month of arrival at the place of reception, the Marist Migrant Support Center (CAMMI) will oversee providing shelter and food to the persons involved in the pilot project.
- Only financial support for 1 month of income and one basic pantry per household.

Potential challenges:

- To address internally displaced persons is, of course, a different problem in contrast to refugees, which is where the program has been successfully carried out.
- There is a risk in terms of labor integration, as it must be tailored to the interests and skills that the population has to serve.

Next steps:

- Accompanying people and/or families in the place of reception for 1 month.
- 1-year monitoring and evaluation of individuals and/or families at the relocation site.
- Integrating more people into the program. The possibility of incorporating 25 displaced persons per month is considered.

Results to date:

- The Basic Questionnaire, Comprehensive Care Plan, and Vulnerability Scoring Prioritization tools were developed, which helped identify the needs, vulnerabilities, and capabilities of the people included in the pilot.
- Developed the comprehensive care plan and prioritization of vulnerability score based on the information collected from this questionnaire.
- Start of the pilot with the first group of 15 people (three families) from the State of Guerrero who were forced to leave their community on November 11, 2018.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

- Publication in the Federal Official Gazette of the National Human Rights Program 2020-2024 (PNDH), which considers as an urgent matter to address the dynamics of conflict conducive to internal forced displacement.
- Framework Cooperation Agreement concluded between the Ministry of the Interior and UNHCR on 21 February 2012.
- Successful experiences of UNHCR in the implementation of comprehensive care strategies for the return, reception, integration or voluntary relocation of refugees in Mexico.
- Political will of the bodies of the Undersecretariat of Human Rights, Population and Migration to generate lasting solutions to the public problem because of the recognition in 2019 of this situation.
- Finally, the successful experience of the program currently coordinated by the National Institute for Social Development (Indesol) and UNHCR, which is being implemented with women victims of violence who have been forced to move.



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS PROGRAMME 2020-2024

PNDH 2020-2024 is a program that derives from the National Development Plan and is part of the Federal Government's Democratic Planning System. It is the program document that defines the Federal Government's human rights policy and is the first official document in Mexico that recognizes the problem of internal displacement and proposes a road map for its attention.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

Its implementation depends on the Ministry of the Interior but it involves all the dependencies and bodies that make up the Federal Public Administration.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

All secretariats and decentralized bodies, other powers and orders of government, autonomous and international bodies, as well as organized citizens.

For the construction of the NPDH, thematic forums were held and within them a specific one on internal displacement which led to the inclusion of 7 specific actions which become mandatory and have to be reported on their compliance on a regular basis. Actions that were included are:

- To disseminate information on the phenomenon of internal forced displacement to sensitize the population, to avoid environments of discrimination and stigmatization, and to prevent violations of the rights of persons in this situation.
- Enforce a policy framework on internal forced displacement that recognizes the problem, provides comprehensive attention to victims, provides lasting solutions, and provides for a register of displaced persons.
- Implement special comprehensive care measures for the return, reception, integration or voluntary relocation of persons in situations of internal displacement, in safe and dignified conditions.
- Perform risk analysis, from a differential, gender and specialized approach, to identify, prevent and address in a timely manner the causes of internal displacement.
- Ensuring the implementation of mechanisms for the participation of persons in situations of internal displacement, in the processes of prevention, care and integral repair.
- To promote the elaboration of a diagnosis about internal displacement to know, prevent and treat the problem comprehensively.
- Promote training and awareness-raising actions aimed at public servants, within the scope of their powers, in the field of internal forced displacement.

OBJECTIVES

The PNDH has 5 objectives:

- Ensure an articulated APF response to the human rights crisis.
- Ensure attention to victims of serious human rights violations.
- Enforce targeted actions to guarantee the human rights of historically discriminated groups.
- Improve the management and response capacity of APF for the protection and guarantee of human rights.
- Provide tools and comprehensive training to public servants to ensure compliance with their human rights obligations.

Results to date

Dissemination of information:

- The publication of a book was structured in a logic that covers the fundamental issues of the three-time phenomenon of internal displacement, prevention, care and lasting solutions. Authors with extensive experience and knowledge were involved at the national and international levels, some of which are part of the Ministry of the Interior, international organizations, academia, civil society, among others. (COMAR)
- Identification of good government care practices toward internal displacement in Latin American countries. (Unit of Immigration Policy, Registration and Identity of Persons - UPMRIP)
- Diagnosis and characterization of people in internal displacement situation and of the characteristics of the phenomenon in some federative entities. (UPMRIP)
- Identification of government care measures granted to the internal displacement in some federal entities. (UPMRIP)
- Diagnosis of the institutional capacity of some state governments to deal with the internal displacement in Mexico. (UPMRIP)
- Support decision-making and drive attention to the topic of internal displacement, based on evidence about the phenomenon and the attention capacities of federative entities. (UPMRIP)
- Launching of the Diffusion Campaign on Internal Displacement. (UPMRIP)
- Creation, development, publication and updating of the internal displacement microsite hosted on the UPMRIP institutional website. (UPMRIP)
- Creation, development, publication and updating of the microsite of the Pro-Tempore Presidency of the Regional Conference on Migration (CRM) of Mexico, hosted on the institutional website of the UPMRIP. (UPMRIP)

Promotion of a normative framework on internal forced displacement:

- The analysis of the various proposals of the Law on Internal Displacement that are in the Senate was carried out and the preparation of proposals for regulations, guidelines, protocols and models is continued. (COMAR)
- Synergy was achieved with the legislative liaison of the Ministry of the Interior in order to define a joint strategy. (COMAR)
- To generate tools to promote the creation of local laws on internal displacement and/or their alignment with the General Law to prevent, treat and repair fully internal forced displacement. (UPMRIP)
- Elaboration of the protocol of care in cases of forced displacement. (CEAV)

Special measures of integral attention:

- Established the basis for the implementation of the pilot project for “Inclusion of internally displaced persons” that includes relocation, labor intermediation and accompaniment for the integration of persons and/or families in the situation of internal displacement; this pilot considers the possibility of incorporating 25 displaced persons each month. (SEGOB)
- To generate useful technical tools for the impulse to the implementation of comprehensive care measures for people in situations of internal displacement and possible displacement in the federal entities of Mexico. (UPMRIP)

Risk Analysis

- Geographic areas, causes, facts and population affected by the internal displacement were identified through the compilation and systematization of journalistic notes related to this problem in order to begin the construction of a risk map of internal displacement. (COMAR)

Participation mechanisms:

- Direct approach with the first concrete case to be incorporated into the pilot project for the “Inclusion of internally displaced persons” consisting of 15 persons (three family nuclei) originating in the State of Guerrero who were forced to leave their community on November 11, 2018. (SEGOB)

- Multiple meetings have been held with international organizations in order to generate joint work, as well as to receive their feedback and recommendations to enrich the tools developed by UPMRIP. (UPMRIP)

Preparation of a diagnosis:

The diagnosis is currently being worked on by the National Population Council (CONAPO).

Training and awareness-raising actions:

- Coordination with international agencies such as UNHCR, the International Red Cross (ICRC) and the Observatory of Internal Displacement (IDMC) for continuous training. (COMAR)
- Permanent participation in the MIRPS in coordination with the Secretariat for Foreign Affairs. (COMAR)
- In the area of prevention, the basis was laid for the implementation of a continuous cycle of discussion on the prevention of internal displacement whose main objective is to promote dialogue and the exchange of ideas on internal displacement and prevention, in order to standardize criteria among the attending public servants and to promote the culture of prevention of this problem of human mobility. (COMAR)
- Through a public event, on August 12, 2021, the internal displacement was disseminated as a public problem, the government's position regarding the phenomenon and the strategies for its attention were presented, with the presence of relevant high-level actors on the subject. (UPMRIP)
- Good practices in Colombia were considered for the establishment of the Internally Displaced People Registry in Mexico. (UPMRIP)
- The Government of Mexico has a presence in the highest level international forums on the internal displacement. (UPMRIP)
- Realization of the Guide to Prevention, Humanitarian Assistance, Comprehensive Care and Durable Solutions to Internal Displacement. (UPMRIP)

More information about the PNDH here: http://derechoshumanos.gob.mx/Programa_Nacional

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

It is a document published by presidential decree and all institutions have an obligation to comply with it. The Ministry of Finance and Public Credit monitors its compliance as part of the National System of Democratic Planning.



INITIATIVE UNDERWAY: STRATEGY FOR THE LOCAL INTEGRATION OF WOMEN, THEIR CHILDREN WHO HAVE EXPERIENCED GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

The UNHCR “Local Integration Program” model was adapted to serve women who have been forced to move internally because of violence and who are not sure of returning to their home community. It envisages its incorporation into the formal labor market.

INSTITUTIONS IN CHARGE

- National Institute of Social Development of the Secretariat of Welfare.

STRATEGIC PARTNERS

Governmental agencies or civil society organizations that operate specialized shelters for women victims of gender-based violence and their children in the country, mechanisms for the advancement of women in the federal states through PAIMEF care centers, local governments, private companies for labor integration, UNHCR.

The shelters specialized in assisting women in situations of violence identify users who, due to violence, cannot return to their community of origin or who do not have solid support networks and whose life project includes the possibility of moving to a new location. To this end, UNHCR provides the ticket for the transfer and accompanies the women and their children to the destination and provides them with accommodation in hotels, where job training workshops are given. Subsequently, they are presented with job options, supported with the initial deposit to rent a house, and linked with schools, if required. Monthly home visits are made for one year, after which integration is considered to have been achieved.

Indesol, through the specialized shelters and the Centers for attention to violence against women, is responsible for preparing the users for local integration and following up on psychological, legal and social work attention for them and their children.

OBJECTIVES

To strengthen the life project of women who have survived extreme violence, to contribute to the restoration of the full exercise of their rights, through their access to all opportunities for development, in the legal, economic and sociocultural fields, by integrating them into a community other than the source community.

COVERAGE

32 states of Mexico

TARGET POPULATION

Women in situations of violence and their children who leave specialized shelters:

- who cannot return to their home community and/or have no secure support networks.
- who are willing to initiate a life plan in another location.
- Have the possibility to enter the labor market or, where appropriate, any of their children, older than their age.
- That pending legal proceedings have as their notification address that of the channeling instance to ensure follow-up.
- That in the channeling instance, users have worked a life plan that can be developed in any federal entity, according to their educational level and work profile.

Potential challenges:

- Diversity of profiles and levels of harm generated by violence.
- Most of them have experienced structural and systematic violence.
- The cause of internal displacement is violence and their safety and that of their children.
- A process of preparation for integration into the strategy should be strengthened from the channel, through the specialized care model. Strengthen links with other actors and social programs to ensure the full exercise of their rights and facilitate the integration process according to the individual needs of each user.

Next steps:

Add more instances that can contribute to the consolidation of the life project of women and their children, in the environment where integration is taking place.

Results to date:

The project is in the piloting stage.

- Work has been done with 23 life projects, seeking the right alternative to respond to the needs of each family by contemplating the harm caused by the systematic violence they have experienced.
- Large areas of opportunity have been identified in the process of attention and follow-up to the damage caused by violence and new protocols of action are in the process of being developed to respond to the findings. Improve inter-agency communication and individual follow-up of each case.
- Strengthen the model of care in the Shelters in relation to autonomy, self-determination, empowerment and life project among others.

ELEMENTS THAT ENABLE IMPLEMENTATION

- General Law on Women's Access to a Life Free from Violence
- Specialized Shelter Support Program for Women Victims of Gender Violence and their children.
- Support program for women's instances in Federative Entities for Violence Prevention and Care.





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The UN Refugee Agency