



NATIONAL ACTION PLAN MEXICO

Mexico has received increasingly complex mixed flows of migrants and refugees from the region and beyond in recent years. In 2021, it became the third highest recipient country of new asylum applications worldwide.

Mexico (through the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs) has participated in the MIRPS since 2017 and has sought to implement a range of commitments to provide protection and solutions for the forcibly displaced, strengthening the self-reliance of refugees, asylum-seekers and other vulnerable groups, as well as to adopt strategies to support host communities. The commitments made in the MIRPS process are complemented by a number of pledges made during the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.

At the regional level, Mexico took the lead of the MIRPS process assuming the first Pro-tempore Presidency in 2019. At the national level, Mexico designed the Inter-Institutional Roundtable on Refugees and Complementary Protection, chaired by the Under Secretary of the Interior, which offers a political forum to validate proposals made by four MIRPS National Technical Working Groups focusing on access to education (chaired by the Ministry of Education), access to health (Ministry of Public Health), employment (Ministry of Labor), as well as documentation and identity (National Population Registry - RENAPO). At the federal level, the Mexican Refugee Commission (COMAR), supported by UNHCR, acts as Secretariat of the four groups and provides technical support. Since 2020, COMAR has been convening MIRPS roundtables at the local level aiming at creating a favorable environment of inclusion and integration in major urban settings.

33 COMMITMENTS



PROTECTION
17 COMMITMENTS



EDUCATION
1 COMMITMENT



HEALTH
2 COMMITMENTS



**JOBS AND
LIVELIHOODS**
5 COMMITMENTS



**SOCIAL
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As part of its commitment to implement the MIRPS, the Government of Mexico has undertaken significant steps to expand its operational capacity to respond to forced displacement inside Mexico and in the region. Improved coordination between all three levels of territorial administration has helped to bridge the gap between fragmented normative frameworks at the national level and local disparities at implementation level.

As a result of the efforts led by the Government of Mexico, several milestones achievements have been reported: 1) In 2018, asylum-seekers were included in the National Population Registry (RENAPO), paving the way for labor market inclusion; 2) In 2019, refugees and asylum-seekers were included in the national health system as a result of a legislative reform process; 3) In 2020, Mexico simplified the issuance of stay permits which allows asylum-seekers and refugees to access formal employment; 4) The same year, the practice of immigration detention of children and adolescents was abolished, allowing families with children, as well as unaccompanied and separated children, to freely pursue their asylum process; 5) In 2021, Mexico streamlined the inclusion of asylum-seekers and refugees into its post-pandemic back-to-school campaigns, facilitating access to education for thousands of children. Implementing a series of pledges presented at the 2019 Global Refugee Forum, Mexico facilitated the relocation of 25,000 refugees and asylum-seekers from border regions, where livelihood opportunities are limited, to major urban areas in the central part of the country, providing job placement and local integration support.



PROTECTION

Improve efficiency in the registration and processing of refugee cases through the implementation of simplified procedures, and enhance the operational capacity of the involved officers through training and institutional strengthening.

- **Give continuity to COMAR's visits to the Immigration Stations**, for the follow-up of requests for recognition of refugee status.
- **COMAR will train and sensitize the INM staff at internment points and Migration Stations** in order to improve the identification and care of asylum-seekers.
- **Promote permanent information campaigns** that, in a simple language, inform about rights and the possibility of seeking asylum.
- **Continue providing training aimed at public servants**, as well as contracting companies, financial institutions, and other relevant actors that maintain direct contact with asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection, to ensure a favourable environment for their protection and integration in dignified conditions.
- **COMAR and UNHCR through "El Jaguar," in collaboration with other relevant authorities, continue to implement information and awareness campaigns.** In addition, the creation of spaces for dialogue in which asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection and civil society participate, will serve to monitor areas of opportunity and fill gaps for their adequate integration.
- The DIF National System and the DIF State Systems will **strengthen alternative care spaces for the temporary residential accommodation of unaccompanied children and adolescents**, preventing them from being in Immigration Stations.
- **Improve coordination mechanisms between the authorities that attend to children and adolescents in the context of migration** (COMAR, INM, PPNNA) to facilitate the identification of international protection needs and access to the refugee status determination procedure. SIPINNA will strengthen coordination between said authorities.
- The INM and the Attorney General's Offices for the Protection of the Rights of Children and Adolescents (federal, state, and municipal) will continue to promote the **application of the Initial Evaluation Protocol for the identification of international protection needs in unaccompanied or separated children and adolescents**, developed by COMAR, UNICEF and UNHCR and its interview techniques to identify international protection needs, for subsequent channelling to COMAR or competent authorities.
- **Increase the operational capacity of the federal, state, and municipal Child Protection Prosecutor's Offices**, mainly in the states with the largest population of people in the context of migration, applicants for refugee status, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection (Chiapas, Tabasco, and Veracruz).
- **The PFPNNA will generate coordination mechanisms with state and municipal protection attorneys** to standardize criteria that regulate restitution plans and the determination, coordination, execution, and monitoring of comprehensive protection measures and restitution of the rights of children and adolescents. Likewise, the SIPINNA will promote the creation, installation and operation of Commissions for the Comprehensive Protection of Girls, Boys and Adolescents in the context of mobility in the federal entities so that these collegiate bodies facilitate the link between the PFPNNA with state and municipal protection attorneys.
- CONAVIM and COMAR, within their jurisdiction, continue to carry out actions aimed at **preventing and eradicating gender-based violence against girls and women.**
- **Give continuity to the work of reviewing and approving the missing registration information**, with the aim of ensuring that the information collected is of good quality, using an appropriate language for children and adolescents.
- **COMAR, UNHCR and UNICEF will implement training and support tools for their staff, so that attention to children and adolescents is done while using appropriate language.** These techniques will be used during eligibility interviews and other procedures or questionnaires addressed to this population.
- **Promote institutional linkages and rapprochement with civil society and government shelters**, in order to safeguard the right of the targeted population to have a shelter.
- Work will continue on the implementation of mechanisms that allow COMAR to **provide care for the targeted population.**
- **Guarantee the right to identity targeted documentation** of asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries for complementary protection, from the issuance of the CURP (temporary and/or permanent) and establish coordination mechanisms between RENAPO, INM, and COMAR to strengthen management, implementation, and training.
- INM, COMAR and UNHCR will promote measures to **speed up the procedure of providing a signature before the COMAR or INM office as proof of presence** in accordance with the obligations of asylum-seekers, in order to facilitate their integration.



EDUCATION

Establish institutional mechanisms that allow access to the educational system.

- The SEP, as the coordinating authority of the Thematic Table on Educational Inclusion, together with COMAR, will continue working to **guarantee access to educational programmes and recognition of accreditation.**



HEALTH

Guarantee free access to health services and medicines to all people who are in Mexico, regardless of their immigration status.

- COMAR, in collaboration with the Technical Secretariat of the National Mental Health Council, will **carry out actions aimed at ensuring access to mental health services for asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection.**
- The Ministry of Health will promote coordinated actions to **continue guaranteeing access and inclusion of asylum-seekers, refugees, and those with complementary protection to the public health system throughout the country.**



JOBS AND LIVELIHOODS

Facilitate access to the labor market, vocational training, and skills certification.

- Within their jurisdiction, CONOCER and CECATI will continue including **asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection in public and private job training institutions, as well as skills certification processes or standards.**
- In coordination with key federal and state agencies, UNHCR will promote the implementation of **projects to promote peaceful coexistence between the refugee population and host communities, fostering spaces for exchange and cultural learning.**
- COMAR and the National Employment Service, through the implemented channelling mechanism, will facilitate the labour **inclusion of applicants, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection, including linking them with job offers.** Additionally, they will promote and disseminate the calendar of job fairs that are organized throughout the country.
- The National Commission of Banks (CNBV) will promote actions together with the Association of Banks of Mexico, to **address the reforms of regulations for credit institutions, facilitating the financial inclusion of asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection.**
- Mexico will support the **integration of refugees and beneficiaries of complementary protection into the Mexican labour market,** through intergovernmental and interinstitutional coordination, with the support of UNHCR, and through the involvement of the private sector in different states of the country.



SOCIAL PROTECTION

Promote actions for social inclusion that allow access to programs and services granted by the State.

- In conjunction with COMAR and UNHCR, the participating institutions of the Inter-institutional Table on Refuge and Complementary Protection will develop **materials that describe the programs and services available to applicants, refugees and beneficiaries of complementary protection and the steps to access them.**
- **COMAR will replicate the Inter-institutional Tables on Refuge and Complementary Protection** at the state and municipal levels in order to identify the gaps faced by the population in need of international protection and will promote access to public services and programmes.
- CONAPRED, COMAR and UNHCR will **promote awareness days to counter xenophobia** against migrants and people in need of international protection.
- **Promote actions of social inclusion of applicants, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection for older persons,** to the services offered by INAPAM at the national level, including the issuance of membership cards.
- COMAR, in coordination with UPMRIP, **will generate and make public statistical information including data disaggregated** by sex, age, place of origin, and other variables, with the aim of knowing the characteristics of the applicants, refugees and beneficiaries of complementary protection, to facilitate their inclusion in programmes and services.
- UPMRIP, in coordination with COMAR, will promote synergies and the optimization of efforts between government institutions, academics, and civil society organizations for the **generation of studies and information linked to the design and evaluation of public policy** that serves asylum-seekers, refugees, and beneficiaries of complementary protection.
- The Ministry of Welfare, through the Social and/or Natural Emergency Program (PESN) on the Southern Border, **will promote actions for the inclusion of asylum-seekers, refugees and/or beneficiaries of complementary protection, including direct financial support of MX\$5,119.00,** with the purpose of mitigating vulnerabilities experienced by pregnant women, single parents, families with children and adolescents, the elderly, and people with disabilities and/or terminal or chronic degenerative diseases.
- **Mexico will continue to facilitate the admission of naturalization procedures for refugees and persons with complementary protection residing in Mexican territory,** with the support of the UNHCR, in accordance with relevant legislation.