

Overview of MIRPS Regional Pledges - Second Global Refugee Forum

The following Information is an overview of the four MIRPS Regional Pledges made at the Second Global Refugee Forum, accompanied by related national-level pledges. This document is *not* an exhaustive list of all pledges made by MIRPS States. For further information, please consult the <u>GRF pledge database</u>, or contact the MIRPS Technical Secretariat for a complete list for each country.

MIRPS Pledges on Asylum Capacity Building

REGIONAL MIRPS PLEDGE

In support of the Multi-Stakeholder Pledge on Strengthening Asylum Capacity, and within the framework of the MIRPS Working Group on Reception, Admission, and Case Processing, MIRPS States commit to continuing to strengthen the national institutions responsible for refugee status determination processes. This will be achieved by enhancing technical capacities and developing national asylum/refugee procedures, systems, and practices that improve efficiency, fairness, and quality — according to each country's capacity and needs — with the support and assistance of MIRPS Support Platform members, UNHCR, the OAS, and other actors.

NATIONAL PLEDGES

BELIZE

- **GRF-07996:** The Government of Belize is committed to strengthening the fairness, efficiency, and integrity of the national asylum system through the review of legislative and regulatory frameworks and the implementation of innovative case management systems.
- GRF-07987: The Government of Belize commits to develop a Communication with Communities and a Mass Information strategy in order to: Promote a better understanding of mixed movements; Sensitize the host community on the reality faced by the persons in need of international protection; Display protection information advising on the right to seek asylum in Belize at main entry points.

COSTA RICA

• **GRF-10538:** Modernization of the national asylum system to provide a fair, efficient, and high-quality response to refugees.

EL SALVADOR

• **GRF-03540:** Expand the capacity of the national asylum system through legal reform, digitization of the registration system, and other actions aimed at creating a modern, agile, and increasingly efficient system.



GUATEMALA

- **GRF-08057:** Facilitate access to the National Refuge System through the decentralization of the services of the Department for Refugee Status Recognition (DRER) of the Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM).
- **GRF-08058:** Strengthen the Department for Refugee Status Recognition (DRER) with technical, technological, and financial resources.
- **GRF-08059:** Propose reforms to national legislation on migration and refugee matters aiming to updated and streamlined processes.
- **GRF-08024:** Guarantee the protection of children and adolescents in contexts of human mobility through the training competent courts.

HONDURAS

• GRF-00627: Ensuring that individuals in need of international protection can enter Honduran territory under dignified and safe conditions, and have access to efficient procedures, reflects Honduras' commitment to the core principles of human rights and the protection of those seeking refuge and asylum. This approach is part of the country's broader response to mixed migratory flows and its international obligations regarding refugee protection. The procedures designed by the National Institute of Migration aim to identify immediate needs and coordinate, in a timely manner, with the relevant authorities in cases that require international protection, voluntary return assistance, or show signs of gender-based violence, irregular migration-related crimes, human trafficking, or migrant smuggling. This comprehensive approach not only focuses on facilitating the entry of vulnerable individuals but also strives to ensure efficient procedures, enabling asylum seekers to access the necessary resources and services promptly and effectively. This initiative aims not only to fulfill Honduras' legal obligations but also to build a more humane and compassionate environment for those seeking protection in the country.

MEXICO

- **GRF-08742:** Maintain and promote the innovation of strategies and tools that ensure a fair, non-discriminatory, and efficient refugee status determination procedure. This includes reducing the time required to access the procedure, strengthening institutional assistance actions in accordance with the Law on Refugees, Complementary Protection and Political Asylum, and international human rights treaties, as well as case analysis and issuing substantive decisions through the use of digital technology at the national level.
- GRF-08745: Strengthening asylum capacity within the framework of the MIRPS Working Group on Strengthening Asylum Systems. MIRPS States commit to continuing to strengthen the national institutions responsible for refugee status determination by enhancing technical



capacities and developing national asylum procedures, systems, and practices that improve efficiency, fairness, and quality based on each country's capacity and needs—with the support and assistance of MIRPS Support Platform members, UNHCR, OAS, and other partners.

PANAMA

- GRF-07384: Panama will continue working to identify innovative and digital technology solutions to improve its case management procedures, including the digitization of individual case files and the introduction of interoperable procedures (both for central and border locations). It also commits to improving its registration system, applying a biometric system, and providing reliable statistical data.
- **GRF-07385:** Panama is increasing the capacity of its institutions both at the central level and at key border points by hiring and training qualified staff, and by improving office infrastructure, including reception and interview rooms.
- **GRF-07386:** Panama commits to implementing child-sensitive procedures within its refugee status determination system, in accordance with the Convention on the Rights of the Child and national legislation.

MIRPS Pledges on Economic Inclusion and Social Protection

REGIONAL MIRPS PLEDGE

In support of the "Multi-Stakeholder Pledge on Economic Inclusion and Social Protection," and within the framework of the MIRPS Working Group on Jobs and Livelihoods, MIRPS countries pledge to promote the self-reliance of refugees and other displaced or stateless communities by facilitating access to decent work and entrepreneurship. This will be done through employability mechanisms of relevant government institutions, national legislation and policies, and by enabling the recognition of skills, knowledge, and competencies—with the support and assistance of members of the MIRPS Support Platform, and in partnership with the private sector and civil society.

NATIONAL PLEDGES

BELIZE

• **GRF-08001:** The Government of Belize will promote the organization of regional learning activities and twinning opportunities to share best practices and technical support related to livelihoods and local integration for refugees.



COSTA RICA

 GRF-09055: Strengthen socio-economic inclusion processes for asylum-seekers, refugees, persons at risk of statelessness, and stateless persons through employability mechanisms that enable skills recognition, access to work permits, and training and capacity-building for employment.

EL SALVADOR

• **GRF-03542**: Continue to expand opportunities for vocational training, entrepreneurship initiatives, and access to formal employment for displaced persons, persons at risk of displacement, refugees, asylum-seekers, and returnees in need of protection. More specifically, the state aims to expand opportunities through the government-led program "My First Job," so that the displaced population can access their first formal employment opportunity.

GUATEMALA

- **GRF-08068:** Develop a labor competencies certification model and vocational technical training programs for refugees, asylum-seekers, and returnees, aligned with the National Employment Policy and regional efforts to standardize competencies in Central America.
- **GRF-08069:** Strengthen systems for registering the profiles of returnees, refugees, and asylum-seekers to support their safe and legal insertion or reintegration into the Guatemalan labor market.
- **GRF-08070:** Strengthen national employment services so that refugees, asylum-seekers, and Guatemalan returnees can access job opportunities.

HONDURAS

• **GRF-08200:** Establish inter-institutional dialogue spaces among various government agencies and local governments to facilitate access for returnees to socio-economic inclusion mechanisms, specifically through the Municipal Returnee Assistance Units (UMARs). These spaces for dialogue aim to coordinate efforts and work closely with local authorities to ensure the successful and sustainable reintegration of people who have returned to the country after being displaced or away from their place of origin. UMARs serve as key contact and support points, providing information, assistance, and helping returnees connect with available programs and resources for their socio-economic inclusion. This strategy not only seeks to address the immediate needs of returnees but also to promote effective, personalized integration tailored to the specific circumstances of each host community. Inter-institutional collaboration is essential to ensure the effectiveness of these efforts and to foster ongoing dialogue that allows for adjustments and improvements based on direct feedback and experiences from returnees and local communities.



MEXICO

Integration Program, strengthen and implement a public policy to address the needs of refugees, asylum-seekers, and beneficiaries of complementary protection. This will be done by enhancing the development of thematic actions, strategies, and inter-institutional mechanisms related to identity, health, education, and employment, across all three levels of government. The aim is to articulate and coordinate the actions carried out by federal agencies, without prejudice to the initiatives already being implemented by authorities within their mandates.

PANAMA

• GRF-03605: As part of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS), Panama will continue to provide comprehensive services for economic inclusion and social protection, promoting the self-reliance of refugees and other displaced or stateless communities by facilitating access to decent work and entrepreneurship. This will also include strengthening the institutions responsible for refugee status determination processes, among other actions.

MIRPS Pledges on Statistical Inclusion

REGIONAL MIRPS PLEDGE

In support of the Multistakeholder Pledge: Inclusion of Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons in National Statistical Systems and Surveys, MIRPS States commit to furthering systematic inclusion in data collection efforts, including through identification questions and solutions indicators in national population censuses and household surveys, as appropriate, to enable data disaggregation and reporting on forcibly displaced- refugees, asylum seekers, people with protection needs, internally displaced (as applicable) and stateless persons, with the support and assistance of members of the MIRPS Support Platform and other partnerships.

NATIONAL PLEDGES

BELIZE

 GRF-08004: Inclusion of Forcibly Displaced and Stateless Persons in National Statistical Systems and Surveys: The Government of Belize pledges to monitor the socio-economic integration and protection needs of immigration amnesty beneficiaries through a targeted data collection exercise.



COSTA RICA

- **GRF-09412:** Strengthen national capacities to collect and manage data on refugees and asylum-seekers at the national level, in order to improve data analysis and monitoring of this population for decision-making purposes.
- GRF-082327: The National Institute of Statistics and Censuses (INEC) has developed a project titled "Toward an Integrated Household Survey System for Costa Rica." As part of this project—and in the context of producing and improving social indicators related to forced displacement—the following commitments are proposed: (1) Design a short set of questions that considers the international recommendations of the Expert Group on Refugee, IDP and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS) for measuring statistics on refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs), and stateless individuals. For this, it is essential to analyze the scope and limitations of including these questions in a multipurpose survey. (2) Evaluate the design of these questions through testing in order to determine the statistical quality and accuracy of the resulting indicators.

EL SALVADOR

• **GRF-03539:** To update the characterization study on internal displacement in order to obtain quantitative and qualitative information that will allow evidence-based decision making for the development and strengthening of public policies.

HONDURAS

• **GRF-08218:** Through the National Institute of Statistics (INE), an information system will be established to provide periodic updates on the internal displacement situation in the country and its differentiated impact based on age, gender, and diversity. This system will generate official data and figures on: dynamics, trends, affected areas, risk profiles, and the main rights impacted (education, housing and property, employment, and access to public services, among others). The pledge outlines five specific actions for the INE related to the production of data on forced displacement in 2023-2025.

MIRPS Pledges on Local Governance

REGIONAL MIRPS PLEDGE

In support of the Multistakeholder Pledge: Call to Action for Refugees and Migrants, and in the framework of the MIRPS Working Group on Local Governance, the municipalities that form the Group commit to promoting the leadership of local governments and strengthen coordination with relevant institutions to facilitate the integration at the local level of displaced persons, together with their host communities.



GUATEMALA

• **GRF-08063:** Advocate and sensitize local governments to promote actions facilitating the integration and insertion of refugees and refugee status applicants in their host communities.

HONDURAS

• **GRF-00629:** Municipalities and local governments play a crucial role in the effective implementation of responses, with coordination of actions emerging as an essential strategy. This approach addresses the need to establish close collaboration between government entities at the local level and the organizations responsible for managing and mitigating the effects of internal displacement. The impact of internal displacement has created an urgent need for a more integrated and localized response. Various municipalities and local governments have been significantly affected by this issue, highlighting the importance of coordinated efforts to address the specific needs of these communities.

Furthermore, experience has shown that the active participation of municipalities and local governments is key to developing effective protection mechanisms and ensuring the inclusion of displaced persons in civic spaces. Focusing on specific groups, such as adolescents, youth, and women, reflects an understanding that these populations often face unique challenges during displacement. Coordination efforts therefore seek not only to establish general protection mechanisms but also to adapt strategies to meet the particular needs of these vulnerable groups, ensuring their active participation in decision-making processes that affect their lives and community environment.

MEXICO

• **GRF-00675:** On the basis of the inter-agency board of integration already established, the Mexican Refugee Commission will promote compliance and will follow up on the commitments of Mexico in the MIRPS and other international instruments and commitments, including the Global Forum on Refugees, promoting the effective local integration of asylum seekers and refugees. It will work with civil society organizations and international agencies. The following aspects will be prioritized through thematic boards: health, education, identity and employment. Thematic boards will also be established in the localities with the largest number of applicant and refugee populations, and places with favourable environments for local integration.