



The OAS Department of Access to Rights (DAR) continues to strengthen the implementation of the MIRPS Fund in coordination with States and strategic partners, within the framework of the National Action Plans. During the second quarter of 2026, various activities were carried out to strengthen the regional response to displacement.



GUATEMALA MODERNIZES PLATFORM TO FACILITATE REFUGEES' ACCESS TO FORMAL EMPLOYMENT

On June 25, 2026, Guatemala launched the new version of the Work Permit Platform for Foreign Nationals (PEX), a digital tool that modernizes and simplifies the application process for special work permits for refugees, asylum seekers, and other foreign nationals.

The platform update is one of the main outcomes of the project ["Facilitating the Labor Inclusion of Asylum Seekers and Refugees in Guatemala,"](#) implemented by the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MINTRAB), with technical support from the Department of Access to Rights (DAR) of the OAS General Secretariat. The project is part of the MIRPS Fund's first portfolio and is being implemented with the support of the Government of Spain.

The new version of PEX makes procedures faster, simpler, and more accessible, including from mobile devices, reducing technological and geographical barriers that have historically limited access to this service. This facilitates access to formal employment for people in situations of human mobility and strengthens their socioeconomic integration. The event presenting the new platform also received financial support from the Governments of the Republic of Korea and Portugal, reflecting the contribution of different partners to strengthening the actions carried out within the framework of the MIRPS. More information [here](#).





BELIZE STRENGTHENS ACCESS TO ASYLUM THROUGH THE BORDER PRESENCE PROJECT

During the first half of 2026, Belize continued to strengthen access to asylum and the protection of refugees through the [Border Presence Project](#).

Implemented by the Refugees Department of Belize's Ministry of Immigration, the project seeks to strengthen the capacities of frontline public officials and other key stakeholders to facilitate access to the refugee status determination procedure.



As part of these efforts, workshops were held in different areas of the country to expand knowledge of the national asylum system, international protection principles, and the work carried out by the Refugees Department. These training sessions aim to ensure that institutions that are often the first point of contact for people in need of international protection can provide clear, accurate, and accessible information on the procedure for applying for refugee status, their rights, and the opportunities available in Belize.

The initiative has engaged personnel from various public institutions, including the Belize Police Department, Immigration and Nationality Services, Customs, the Belize Coast Guard, the Belize Defence Force, community health workers, municipal authorities, traffic enforcement personnel, and social security staff.



JOIN THE MIRPS FUND

The MIRPS Fund remains open to new contributions to continue implementing field-based initiatives.

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Learn more about the MIRPS Fund here.



The administration and financial management of the MIRPS Fund are carried out by the Department of Access to Rights of the OAS.

Thanks to the contribution of:

