UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Internal Displacement in Mexico

January – June 2023

A look at the progress and challenges in protection and solutions for internally displaced personas during the first half of 2023

Photo: SEBIDES

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Introduction

This Newsletter seeks to provide an overview of the main advances made and challenges encountered in the protection of internally displaced persons in Mexico[1] during the first half of 2023[2], as well as the work of the UN Refugee Agency (UNHCR) in Mexico to support the response of the Mexican State and other actors in the protection of internally displaced persons.

I. Current overview of internal displacement in Mexico

On the occasion of the official visit to Mexico of the then Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, Ms. Cecilia Jiménez-Damary, in 2022, a report was presented to the United Nations Human Rights Council in Geneva, Switzerland in 2023 with the main findings on internal displacement. In the report, the Special Rapporteur highlights that the causes of internal displacement are diverse and multifactorial, such as diffe-

Photo: UPMRIP.

1 Newsletters 1 and 2 are available at: UNHCR, Internal Displacement in Mexico (June 2022): https://tinyurl.com/boletin-di-2022a and Internal Displacement in Mexico (July-December 2022): https://tinyurl.com/boletin-di-2022b.

2 As it is an overview, valuable contributions may have been omitted which, if notified to UNHCR, could be considered for inclusion in the next edition.

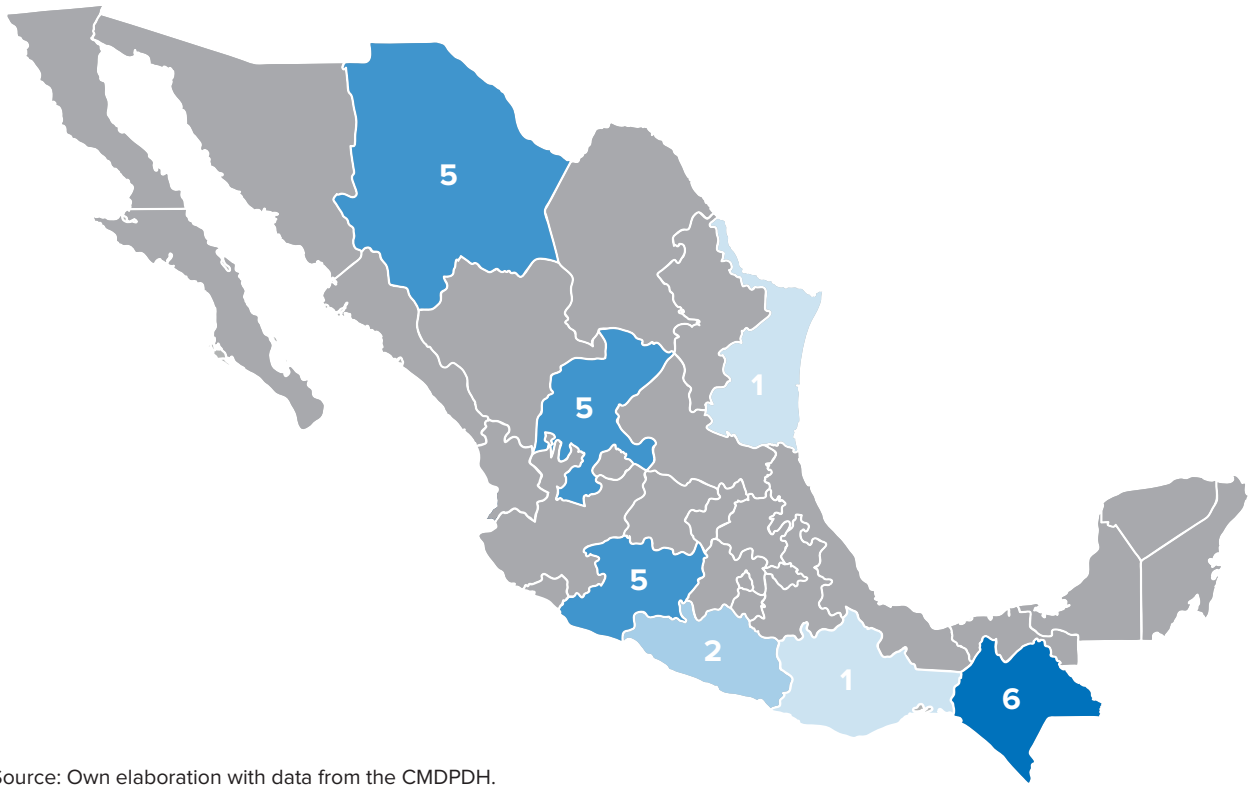
rent types of violence, often originating from organized crime, development projects, including mining and illegal logging, community land conflicts, adverse effects of climate change, and disasters. She was also able to take note of cases of internal displacement linked to disappearances, sexual violence, gender-based violence, femicides, homicides, massacres, recruitment, forced labor or extortion, among others.

The Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons was also able to confirm that internal displacement affects mostly indigenous persons, and has a differentiated impact on women and girls, children and adolescents, relatives of disappeared persons, human rights defenders and journalists, and LGBTIQ+ persons. In addition to these findings, she was able to take note of the progress made by the authorities, civil society organizations, academia, and the international community, and issued several recommendations to ensure a comprehensive response.[3]

This report was presented by the current Special Rapporteur, Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, during the International Conference on Human Mobility 2023 in Mexico upon the invitation of the authorities, on her academic visit.

In the absence of official data on the subject, according to the monitoring of mass internal displacement events[4] caused by violence conducted by the NGO Mexican Commission for the Defense and Promotion of Human Rights (CMDPDH, as per its Spanish acronym), during 2022, 9,602 internally displaced persons were registered in 25 episodes that occurred in seven states (Chiapas, Chihuahua, Zacatecas and Michoacán, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Tamaulipas), 21 municipalities and 33 localities[5] (see Map 1). According to the same monitoring, between 2006 and the end of 2022, 386,197 people remained internally displaced by violence in mass events.[6]

Map 1. Mass internal displacement episodes due to violence by state (2022)



Source: Own elaboration with data from the CMDPDH.

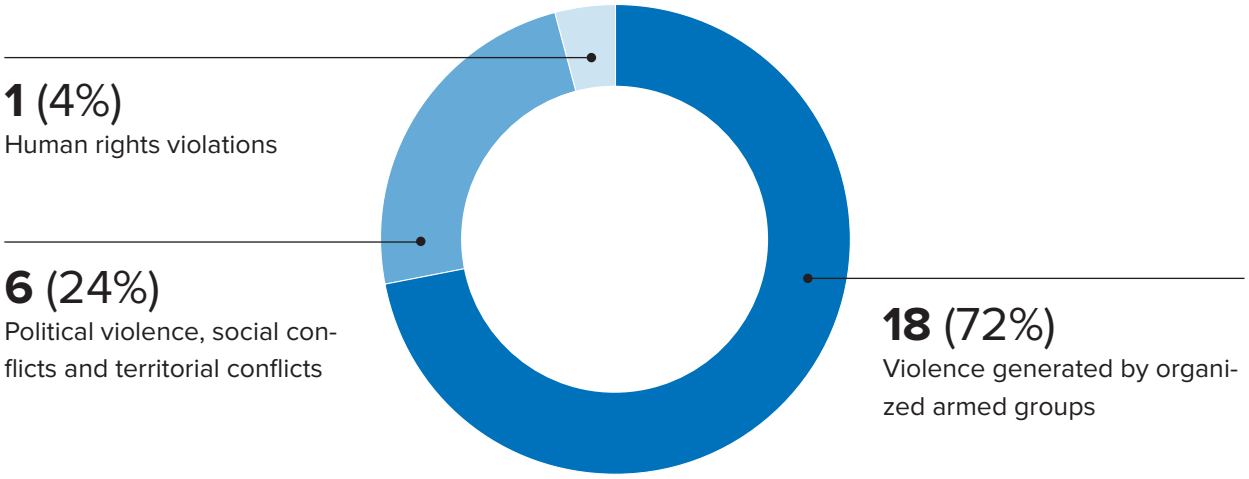
3 Report available at: https://tinyurl.com/informe-visitaREPDI-2022.
4 CMDPDH considers episodes of mass internal displacement to be those in which 5 or more families or 20 persons are displaced.
5 CMDPDH, Episodes of Massive Forced Internal Displacement in Mexico Report 2022, available at: https://tinyurl.com/informe-cmdpdh-2022.
6 IDMC, Displacement Data, Country Profile Mexico, available at: https://tinyurl.com/idmc-mexico.

Regarding the causes of internal displacement in 2022 (see Graph 1), the CMDPDH reported that 9,171 IDPs were displaced due to violence generated by organized armed groups (96 per cent), 409 IDPs due to political violence, social conflict and territorial conflicts (4 per cent), and 22 IDPs due to human rights violations (<1 per cent).

The most recorded triggers of Internal Displacement were armed incursions and violent attacks in eight episodes (32 per cent), expulsions and/or threats in seven episodes (28 per cent), and armed confrontations in six episodes (24 per cent).

In terms of violent acts and forms of victimization, the use of weapons or presence of armed persons was present in 23 episodes (92 per cent), armed incursions and attacks in 15 episodes (60 per cent), threats and intimidation in 13 (52 per cent), and confrontations in nine episodes (36 per cent).

Graph 1. Mass internal displacement episodes by cause (2022)



Source: Own elaboration with data from the CMDPDH.

Regarding the profiles of internally displaced persons for 2022, the CMDPDH reported that six episodes (24 per cent) affected 557 indigenous persons. In particular, 269 Tzotzil internally displaced persons in Chiapas (51 per cent), 123 Rarámuri internally displaced persons in Chihuahua (23 per cent), 30 Mixes internally displaced persons in Oaxaca (6 per cent) and 105 indigenous internally displaced persons without any particular group affiliation (20 per cent).

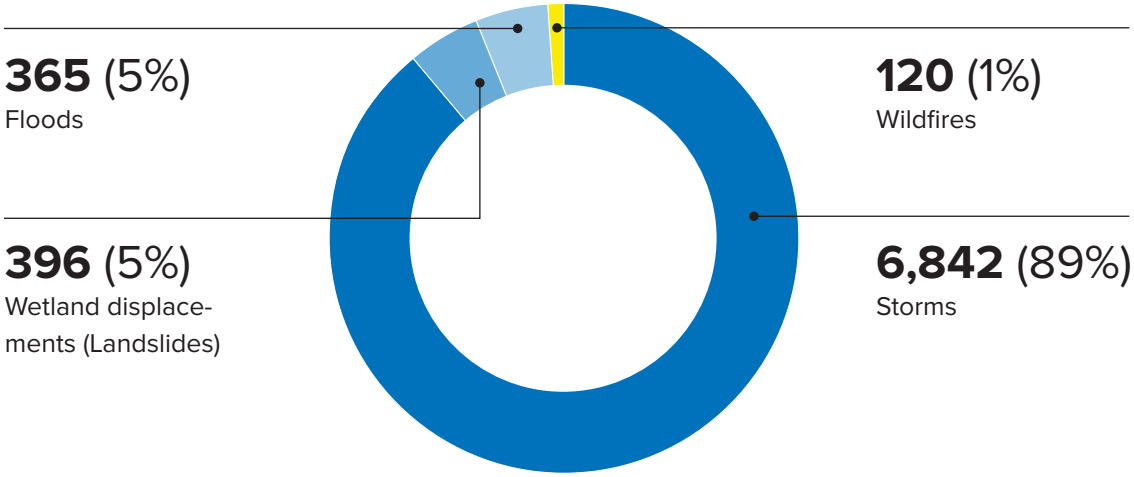
The CMDPDH monitoring was also featured in the Global Report on Internal Displacement (GRID), a publication by the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) presented in May 2023.[7]

7 IDMC, 2023 GRID, available at: https://tinyurl.com/grid-2023.

Regarding the data for the first half of 2023, preliminary information from the CMDPDH indicates that between January and June 2023, 26 massive episodes of internal displacement by violence have been registered in eight states -Chiapas, Chihuahua, Guerrero, Michoacán, Oaxaca, San Luis Potosí, Tamaulipas, and Zacatecas- which have affected at least 7,710 persons. This represents, on average, the occurrence of one episode per week and 43 internally displaced persons per day.[8]

In relation to internal displacements due to disasters, IDMC reported 11,000 internally displaced persons during 2022 and a cumulative figure of 3,600 internally displaced persons remaining in this situation until the end of that year. Of the internal displacements that occurred in 2022, 73 per cent were related to events associated with the adverse effects of climate change (see Graph 2) and 27 per cent to geophysical issues, particularly earthquakes (97 per cent) and dry land displacements (3 per cent).

Graph 2. Internal displacements due to disasters by type of climate category (2022)



Source: Own elaboration with data from the IDMC.

As mentioned in the previous Newsletter, the community of El Bosque, in the municipality of Centla, Tabasco, is one of the cases of internal displacement due to the adverse effects of climate change. In March 2023, the organizations accompanying the community reported the destruction of 26 more houses, the elementary school and the kindergarten, leaving 56 people without home and 26 children without school.[9]

8 CMDPDH, Internal displacement in Mexico Newsletter, June 2023, available at: https://tinyurl.com/boletin-di-cmdpdh-jun23.

9 Greenpeace Mexico and allied organizations, Organizations demand that the relocation process be fair for the community of El Bosque in Centla, Tabasco, February 2023, available at: http://tinyurl.com/elbosque23.

II. Progress made by UNHCR to support the State's response in Mexico

While UNHCR's primary mandate is to support States in providing international protection to refugees and stateless persons, as well as in the search for durable solutions, its vast experience and knowledge in these contexts has enabled it to complement primarily State efforts for the protection of internally displaced persons. UNHCR collaborates with the Resident Coordinator and other agencies of the United Nations System to ensure a coordinated response to internal displacement.

During the first semester of 2023,[10] UNHCR focused its interventions on providing technical assistance to the development of regulatory and public policy frameworks, referral pathways, capacity-building, information management and promotion of a coordinated response, which are summarized in the following areas of work:

1. Technical assistance for the development of regulatory and public policy frameworks and capacity-building

National

UNHCR and the Unit for Migration Policy, Registration and Identity of Persons (UPMRIP, as per its Spanish acronym) held the "Workshop on the Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement and their influence in Mexico", to commemorate the 25th anniversary of this important international instrument, which has set the standards for the protection of the rights of internally displaced persons. The workshop had the virtual participation of the Special Rapporteur, Ms. Paula Gaviria Betancur, in addition to more than 70 assistants from 35 federal and local institutions, as well as international agencies, who discussed and reflected on the impact that this instrument has had on the understanding of internal displacement and the challenges for its comprehensive attention.

This semester, UNHCR and UPMRIP initiated developing the "Guide of considerations for the elaboration of registers of people in a situation of forced internal displacement in Mexico", to address good practices and present considerations related to the registration processes of internally displaced persons. As part of this effort, a questionnaire was shared with various institutions across all 32 states to detect good practices and opportunities regarding the registration of internally displaced persons for their attention, protection and the achievement of durable solutions. The information will be analyzed in the second half of the year for the drafting of the document.

At the International Conference on Human Mobility 2023, UNHCR and UPMRIP convened the "Round Table on early warnings of forced internal displacement" with the participation of civil society organizations. During the event, organizations presented initiatives mapping the risks which could generate displacement, e.g. the Early Warning Project of the Mixteca in Oaxaca, which, through an application, seeks to alert and prevent flood risks. The event also included important permanent monitoring initiatives carried out by the Regional Observatory of Human Security of Apatzingán, the Observatory of the Autonomous University of Guerrero, and CMDPDH, as well as the participation of UNHCR, IOM and UPMRIP.

10 To consult the activities of the first semester, see the First Newsletter, available at: https://tinyurl.com/boletin-dfi-2022a.

Photo: UPMRIP.

Sinaloa

On 15 March, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Government of the State of Sinaloa, in which it was agreed to continue providing technical assistance in response to internal displacement in the state. A meeting was also held with the members of the Inter-Secretarial Comission on Internal Forced Displacement, where dialogue was held on coordinating efforts between the different secretariats and the response to the needs of internally displaced persons.

Photo: SEBIDES.

UNHCR provided support to the Secretariat of Welfare and Sustainable Development of the State of Sinaloa (SEBIDES, as per its Spanish acronym) in creating a participatory methodology for formulating the regulations of the current law in force, as well as developing a Program. In this regard, SEBIDES coordinated, with the support of UNHCR, five thematic roundtables on: i) General Provisions, ii) Prevention, iii) Comprehensive Assistance, iv) Protection, and v) Durable Solutions, with various authorities belonging to more than 30 institutions, and three in-situ roundtables with the participation of 167 internally displaced persons, which were held in the localities of Choix, Concordia and Culiacán. The reports of the roundtables will be delivered to SEBIDES as support for the development of both instruments.

Photos: SEBIDES.

In March, the national focal point for the Prevention of Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (PSEA) and Gender-based Violence (GBV) of UNHCR Mexico gave a workshop to the State Women's Secretariat and members of the Inter-ministerial Roundtable to provide them with information to identify the needs of survivors of gender-based violence and to provide them with techniques for the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse.

As part of the piloting of the registration instrument for IDPs in Sinaloa coordinated by SEBIDES, UNHCR trained the team responsibly of registering IDPs on basic concepts on internal displacement, interview techniques, data management, Psychological First Aid and psycho-emotional strengthening. Likewise, UNHCR provided support for the piloting of the registration instrument in the localities of Tepuche, Culiacán, Concordia, Mazatlán and Choix. Once the piloting was completed, work was carried out together with SEBIDES, the Universidad Autónoma de Occidente, UPMRIP, and the Mexican Commission for Refugee Aid to strengthen the instrument.

On 4 and 5 May, UNHCR met with state authorities and internally displaced persons, with the objective of learning about the main needs related to internal displacement and analyzing possible routes for durable solutions that include livelihood, education, and access to health, among others.

Finally, with the support of UNHCR, DRC gave workshops to strengthen the capacities of municipal authorities. During March, DRC trained officials of the Municipal Institute of Women of Culiacán on basic concepts of internal displacement, strategies for identifying protection risks, and good practices for their attention. Also, in coordination with UNHCR and SEBIDES, DRC held three workshops for municipal officials in the southern (Mazatlán),

northern (Los Mochis) and central (Culiacán) areas of the state on the legal framework, the findings of the Protection Monitoring carried out in the state, as well as challenges and best practices.

Photo: SEBIDES.

Guerrero

At the request of the Undersecretary of Government, Legal Affairs and Human Rights, in January UNHCR carried out an exploratory mission to Guerrero, in which it was asked for support to reform and regulate Law 487 to "Prevent and Attend to Internal Displacement in the State of Guerrero", as well as mapping social programs and providing training to assist internal displacement in the state.

Photo: Government of Guerrero.

In response to this request, UNHCR, ICRC and UNICEF, in collaboration with the Government of Guerrero, jointly developed a training plan for high-level and technical officials from the various secretariats, as well as for municipal authorities.

In March, a conference was held as part of the "4th RELADES International Seminar: Violence, Disappearances and Forced Internal Displacement" organized by the Latin American Network of Subnational Studies, the master's in Violence Studies and Conflict Management of the Acapulco Law School and the Autonomous University of Guerrero, in the conference, various lessons were shared in regard to the protection of internally displaced persons.

Photo: UNHCR/ Nancy López.

During April and May, UNHCR, ICRC and UNICEF jointly taught the 18-hour course-workshop "Internal Forced Displacement and Public Policy", this initiative provided a platform to share standards on prevention, assistance and durable solutions for the support of internally displaced persons to 54 officials from 14 different institutions in the State of Guerrero. UNHCR conducted sessions on protection standards related to internal displacement, early warnings, registration, and elements for the development of legal frameworks for the assistance of internally displaced persons.

Michoacán

UNHCR continued to provide technical assistance as agreed in the Memorandum of Understanding between UNHCR and the Government of Michoacán. In February, UNHCR met with the Secretariat for Migrants of the State of Michoacán to establish the Work Plan for 2023 on internal displacement. As part of the agreements, UNHCR committed to continue collaborating with technical assistance advocating for the approval of the specific law draft, to support the development of the work plan of the Inter-Institutional Committee for Attention to Forced Displacement in Michoacán (Inter-Institutional Committee), as well as the Protocol for attention to internally displaced persons in the state, and to provide training programs to strengthen the capacities of state authorities.

Photo: Secretariat of Migrants of the State of Michoacán.

In March, UNHCR participated in the first regular session of the Inter-Institutional Committee, where the timetable for the presentation of the Committee's Rules of Procedure, the Work Plan, and the Protocol for attention towards internally displaced persons was agreed upon. Latter, in May and June, UNHCR met with the Secretariat of Migrants of the State of Michoacán to share and clarify public policy standards and mechanisms to assist internally displaced persons, which are intended to be incorporated into the bill.

Photo: Secretariat of Migrants of the State of Michoacán.

To strengthen local capacities and differentiated protection mechanisms, on 26 January, UNHCR and UNICEF conducted the module "International protection: refugee children and adolescents in Mexico" was given to officials of the National System for Integral Family Development (DIF, as per its Spanish acronym), the National System for the Protection of Children and Adolescents (SIPINNA, as per its Spanish acronym), the Office of the Attorney General for the Protection of Children and Adolescents (PPNNA, as per its Spanish acronym), the State Executive Commission for Attention to Victims (CEEAV, as per its Spanish acronym), and the State Human Rights Commission of Michoacán (CEDH, as per its Spanish acronym).

Photo: UNHCR/Miriam Heredia.

On 8 March, UNHCR participated in the Panel on the Challenges and Rights of Migrant Women organized by the Secretariat for Migrants of the State of Michoacán, with a presentation on the importance of the gender perspective and intersectionality, as well as tools on the subject for comprehensive attention towards internal displacement in the state.

Photo: State Executive Commission for Attention to Victims of the State of Michoacán.

On 13 and 14 March, UNHCR held a workshop for the CEEAV on the construction of an attention route for internally displaced persons, asylum-seekers, as well as persons in transit seeking international protection. It is expected that this initiative will contribute to the consolidation of an internal protocol for action while the law on the matter is being approved by the local Congress.

From 12 to 14 April, UNHCR attended the first in-site assessment in Coahuayana, Michoacán, carried out by the authorities of the Inter-Institutional Committee with the aim of interviewing internally displaced persons to define individualized referral pathways, analyze the context of the host municipalities and the possibilities for solutions. Subsequently, on 11 May, UNHCR participated in the extraordinary session of the Inter-Institutional Committee, in which it shared its recommendations regarding the diagnostic exercise carried out in said municipality.

Photo: UNHCR/Miriam Heredia.

From 24 to 26 May, in conjunction with the Municipal Institute of Women of Morelia, the Forum on Prevention and Response to Gender-based Violence in Internally Displaced Environments was held in Morelia, Michoacán, to provide technical training to key government counterparts and NGOs on the prevention and response towards GBV and PSEA in contexts of internal displacement, as well as to conduct a Feminist Self-Defense Workshop.

Photo: UNHCR/Miriam Heredia.

Following the mass internal displacement event that occurred in the communities of “Las Bateas”, “Llano Grande” and “El Tepetate” in the municipality of Apatzingán, Michoacán, which was reported by the Human Security Observatory of Apatzingán on 16 June, UNHCR, together with the Secretariat of Migrants of Michoacán, UNICEF, and local organizations, conducted a joint mission to monitor protection needs and evaluate possible actions to be taken.

Photos: UNHCR/Miriam Heredia.

Following the mission, UNHCR participated in the weekly technical roundtables for response coordination. For this purpose, it provided training to state and municipal authorities, as well as civil society, on the development and implementation of a rapid protection needs assessment tool, as well as basic standards on humanitarian assistance in emergencies. UNHCR will continue to provide support, particularly for establishing coordination schemes, setting standards for temporary shelter, conducting capacity-building activities, exchanging best practices, providing inputs to strengthen reception spaces, and offering mental health and psychosocial support. These activities will be carried out jointly with UNICEF.

Chihuahua

Within the framework of the Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Chihuahua and at the request of the State Population Council of the state (COESPO, as per its Spanish acronym), UNHCR visited the Center for Comprehensive Attention to Migrants (CAIM, as per its Spanish acronym) in Ciudad Juárez to map its reception and registration procedures. As a result, during the first semester, support has been provided to strengthen its procedures, such as referral pathways and/or channeling, identification of needs, data management, assistance registration forms and its digitalization. Likewise, guidance has been provided for the care of internally displaced persons in other municipalities.

In coordination with UNHCR, DRC conducted two workshops to local authorities. In April, one was held in Hidalgo de Parral for municipal authorities and from different parts of the mountainous area such as Valle de Zaragoza, Rosario, San Francisco del Otro, Santa Bárbara, Allende, Balleza, Coronado, El Tule, Huejotitán, Jiménez, López, Matamoros. During June, DRC promoted a workshop in the municipal capital of Guadalupe y Calvo where officials from different agencies of that municipality were approached.

Both spaces aimed at generating awareness of the basic concepts of internal displacement, disseminating a common understanding of the context and the current response, learning about standards and principles that should guide assistance and protection activities for IDPs, and discussing the challenges in the response and proposals for overcoming them. These workshops fostered knowledge sharing among participants.

Photo: DRC.

2. Information Management

National

During the Public Consultation on the Population and Housing Census 2025 of the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI, as per its Spanish acronym), UNHCR presented a formal proposal for the incorporation of questions to assist in the identification of internally displaced persons. The aim was to promote the production of official statistics in accordance with the International Recommendations on Internally Displaced Persons Statistics (IRIS) of the Expert Group on Refugee, Internally Displaced Persons and Statelessness Statistics (EGRISS). This proposal was an important follow-up to dialogues with the National Population Council (CONAPO, as per its acronym in Spanish), as well as discussions resulting from the “Workshop on Internal Displacement, Data Systems, International Standards and Practices and the Way Forward in Mexico” that was promoted last semester together with UPMRIP and other international organizations.

UNHCR also provided technical assistance to the College of the Northern Border (El COLEF, as per its Spanish acronym), shared a proposal for the inclusion of questions to assist in the identification of internally displaced persons in its Northern Border Survey (EMIF Norte, as per its name in Spanish) and offered to provide training to surveyors on standards in internal displacement.

Chihuahua

The Working Group of the Internal Displacement Profiling Exercise in Chihuahua completed the final report of the profiling exercise in the state. This study is the first of its kind in Mexico, as it is the result of a joint effort between more than 20 actors such as UNHCR, the Joint IDP Characterization Service (JIPS), the Government of Chihuahua, the Federal Government and local and national civil society organizations. It also contains the first survey of the internally displaced population developed by INEGI (ECADEFI-CHIH 2021), complemented with qualitative information obtained from interviews with key informants and focus groups with internally displaced persons throughout the state.

The study focuses on the dynamics of internal displacement in the state, the impact and needs it represents for internally displaced persons and the response mechanisms to the situation. Among them main findings are that housing and food, vehicles and transport are the main needs that people have at the time of being displaced. Meanwhile, the main impacts that people attribute to their displacement are psychological consequences, losing their job or source of income, as well as losing family and friends.

The Report also reveals that indigenous people are particularly vulnerable to internal displacement and experience a greater impact of it. Thus, while labor informality among the non-indigenous internally displaced population is similar to that of the non-displaced population (35 per cent), this proportion doubles among the internally displaced indigenous population (72 per cent). In addition, displacement impacts their culture and identity and leads to the disintegration of community ties.

The report was presented to the Government of the State of Chihuahua during the Second Ordinary Session of the State Commission on Internal Forced Displacement and may serve to strengthen the design of public policies to assist internally displaced persons and complement existing information in other instruments.

Sinaloa

During the first semester and as part of the joint project, DRC's Protection Monitoring activities in Sinaloa allowed progress in the mapping of internally displaced persons in the state and to highlight the protection situation they face in various municipalities of the state. For example, the monitoring showed the importance of strengthening efforts to achieve durable solutions in Sinaloa given the average time of displacement, which is more than ten years, and the fact that 97.4 per cent of respondents expressed an intention to remain in the place where they are.

3. Promotion of a coordinated response

The Inter-Agency Group on Internal Displacement (GTDI, as per its Spanish acronym), coordinated by UNHCR, IOM and OHCHR, continues to act as the main coordination mechanism for the agencies of the United Nations System and stakeholders to promote actions on internal displacement in Mexico.

During the first half of 2023, the Group met on five occasions, during which UNICEF presented the findings of a study it conducted on the northern border with 30 internally displaced children and adolescents from Guerrero and Michoacán, and Medecins Sans Frontieres (MSF) presented its work with survivors of violence in the country, including internally displaced persons.

The GTDI also followed up on the Work Plan, such as the second edition of the Course on Internal Displacement. The latter was held between February and March and consisted of 12 virtual sessions facilitated by personnel from several of the organizations that make up the GTDI. An average of 1,161 applications were received (744 of which were from women) and an average of 45 people participated, including internally displaced persons, journalists, researchers, federal and local authorities, civil society organizations, academics, among others. The broad profile of the participants favored the exchange of different points of view and enriched the dialogue on internal displacement. In addition to the course, a first GTDI workshop was held on the definition of the causes of internal displacement.

4. Coordinated response to IDPs

In coordination with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (SRE, as per its Spanish acronym), the Ministry of the Interior (SEGOB, as per its Spanish acronym) and the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (CONAVIM, as per its Spanish acronym), UNHCR continues to collaborate on the implementation of a joint pilot project to benefit GBV women survivors.

On the other hand, within the framework of the joint project with UNHCR, DRC carried out information dissemination activities in Sinaloa to orient internally displaced persons on education alternatives for the elderly, access to federal social protection programs and other priority issues. DRC also maintained accompaniment processes for displaced communities in the municipalities of Choix, Culiacán and Mazatlán. In Choix and Culiacán, DRC worked with the communities to generate community action plans and accompany the actions planned to strengthen organizational capacities and collective self-protection. In both municipalities and in Mazatlán, assistance was provided to promote the effective integration of the communities.

Photo: UNHCR/Andrea Rojo.

III. Some additional developments in Mexico

In June, the International Conference on Human Mobility 2023 was promoted by UPMRIP in collaboration with various stakeholders such as UNHCR, IOM and GIZ. Its intention was to provide an open space for experts, civil society, academia, students, people in mobility contexts, as well as decision makers, to exchange ideas and discuss the progress and challenges around the processes of human mobility in Mexico and the world, including internal displacement.

As part of the activities of the EIMH 2023, various initiatives were carried out in Sinaloa, such as conferences, workshops, and photographic exhibitions, with the main objective of raising awareness among the general population about internal displacement and providing tools that contribute to addressing internal displacement in the state.

Photo: DRC.

El COLEF and UNHCR inaugurated the Permanent Seminar on Asylum, International Protection and Forced Internal Displacement to analyze the main challenges and opportunities in addressing forced displacement from a human rights, humanitarianism and development approach.

In addition, the Mexican Council of Social Sciences (COMECSO, as per its Spanish acronym) held the first cycle of seminars of the Working Group on Internal Forced Displacement and Violence in Mexico, as a space for collaboration, dialogue and dissemination of research on the subject.

In Chiapas, authorities carried out some actions in favor of internally displaced persons, such as granting public deeds to ten families in condition of internal displacement as a measure of integral reparation of damages, which oversaw the Municipality of Comitán and the State Human Rights Commission of the state (CEDH, as per its Spanish acronym).

Finally, the Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons and UNHCR , the Internally Displaced Persons Protection Expert Group (IPEG), partnered with the International Institute of Humanitarian Law (IIHL) in Sanremo, Italy, to convene an Inter-regional Forum on the Implementation of Laws and Policies on Internal Displacement. Participants included officials from various regions of the world, such as authorities from Azerbaijan, Colombia, Georgia, Honduras, Mexico, Mozambique, the Philippines, Somalia, and Ukraine, as well as expert facilitators who moderated a four-day peer-to-peer exchange led by the Special Rapporteur.

The Inter-regional Forum was organized in response to a clear gap that was detected in various processes on the subject, and by focusing on the implementation of legislation and policies on internal displacement, it generated dialogues ranging from institutional arrangements to be established to concrete actions that can be taken to promote protection and solutions for internally displaced persons, as well as to prevent arbitrary displacement. This was done through exchanges in which diverse approaches and experiences were shared, also generating an important platform for learning.[11]

Photo: UNHCR/Martina Caterina.

1. Update of legislation and public policies on internal displacement

Some Bills (not in effect)	Laws, public policies and other instruments (current)	Coordination mechanisms and other actions
National, 2019 - Bill 2019 Bill amending the Federal Criminal Code, to criminalize internal forced displacement.	**National, 2017-** Protocol for the assistance and protection of victims of Internal Forced Displacement, National Human Rights Commission.	**Chihuahua, 2022-** Establishment Comission on Internal Forced Displacement of the State.
National 2020 - Executive Branch Bill to prevent, assist and fully repair Internal Forced Displacement (unanimously approved by the Chamber of Deputies in 2020).	**National, 2020-2024-** National Human Rights Program, Federal Government.	**Michoacán, 2022 -** Establishment of an Inter-institutional Committee of the state of Michoacán for the Attention of Forced Displacement.
National, 2020 and 2022 - Domestic Bill for the prevention, protection, generation of durable solutions and sanctions on FID - Federal Criminal Law - Mining Law Reform.	**National, -** Assistance Protocol in cases of Forced Displacement, Executive Commission for Victim Assistance (CEAV, as per its Spanish acronym).	**Sinaloa, -** Inter-Secretarial Commission on Internal Forced Displacement.

11 Available at: https://tinyurl.com/forum-idps.

Some Bills (not in effect)	Laws, public policies and other instruments (current)	Coordination mechanisms and other actions
National, 2022 - Bill to enact the General Law to Prevent and Assist Forced Internal Displacement.	**Chiapas, -** 2012 - Law for the Prevention and Assistance of Internal Displacement in the state of Chiapas (no regulations available). 2019 - Crime Investigation Protocol in cases of Internal Forced Displacement of the Attorney General's Office for the state of Chiapas.	**Chiapas -** State Council for Integral Attention to Internal Displacement of the Government of Chiapas.
Michoacán, 2022 - Bill for the Prevention and Assistance of Internal Displacement in the state of Michoacán de Ocampo.	**Guerrero, -** 2014 - Law Number 487 to Prevent and Assist Internal Displacement in the state of Guerrero (no regulations available). 2021 - Criminalization of internal forced displacement in section 220 Bis of the Criminal Code for the state of Guerrero.	**Michoacán, 2022 -** Collaboration Agreement between the Government of Michoacán and the Government of Baja California for the comprehensive assistance of people in a context of mobility from Michoacán.
State of Mexico, 2022 - Bill to Prevent, Assist and Repair Internal Forced Displacement Comprehensively in the state of Mexico.	**Sinaloa, -** 2020 - Law to Prevent, Assist, and Repair Forced Internal Displacement Comprehensively in the state of Sinaloa (regulations pending). 2020 - Criminalization of forced internal displacement, section 175 Bis of the Federal Criminal Code.	
Oaxaca, 2021 - Bill to pass a decree suing the Law to Assist Internal Forced Displacement in the state of Oaxaca.	**Zacatecas, 2022 -** Law for the Prevention and Assistance of Internal Forced Displacement in the state of Zacatecas (no regulation available).	
	Chihuahua, - 2023 - Criminalization of the crime of forced internal displacement in Article 206 Quater of the Criminal Code. 2020 - Action Protocol for the staff of the State Attorney General's Office in the investigation of crimes related to the internal forced displacement of people, State Attorney's Office for Chihuahua.	
	Mexico City, 2018 - Inclusion of IDPs in the Mexico City Victims Law.	
	Morelos, 2013 - Inclusion of the IDPs as a consequence of victimizing acts in the Law of Victims in the State of Morelos.	

2. Documents of interest published during the first half of 2023

- *Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Cecilia Jiménez-Damary, on the occasion of her visit to Mexico.*[12]
- *2023 Global Report on Internal Displacement, IDMC.*[13]
- *Report of the Internal Displacement Characterization Exercise in Chihuahua 2023, Profiling Exercise Working Group.*[14]
- *Report. Human Rights Defenders and Displaced Journalists in a Situation of Forced Internal Displacement in Mexico, Espacio OSC.*[15]
- *Vision and thematic priorities: addressing new challenges and consolidating gains. Report of the Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons, Paula Gaviria Betancur.*[16]
- *Internal displacement, migration and return in the northern border of Mexico. An approach from twelve cities, International Organization for Migration.*[17]
- *The situation of forced internal displacement in the west-central region of Mexico, Consejo Nacional de Población.*[18]
- *Fleeing Home. Forced Displacement of Women from Michoacán to Ciudad Juárez, Unidad de Política Migratoria, Registro e Identidad de Personas.*[19]
- *Migrants from Mexico's Northern Border - Survey on Migration in Mexico's Northern Border (Emif Norte), El Colegio de la Frontera Norte.*[20]
- *Episodes of massive forced internal displacement in Mexico Report 2022, CMDPDH.*[21]
- *Cross-Regional Forum on Implementing Laws and Policies on Internal Displacement.*[22]

12 Available at: https://tinyurl.com/informe-visitaREPDI-2022.
13 Available at: https://tinyurl.com/grid-2023.
14 Available at: https://tinyurl.com/profiling-chih.
15 Available at: https://tinyurl.com/informe-espacioosc.
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