

External Update • Honduras August 2022

Key Figures

12,058

Honduran Children returned so far in 2022. With the support of UNHCR, DINAF is providing children with psychosocial support.

742

asylum-seekers, returnees, IDPs as well as Hondurans assisted with cash and vouchers by UNHCR in August 2022.

CONTEXT

Every 20 hours

Honduran women are in risk of displacement according to the Honduras National Human Rights Commissioner (CONADEH), mainly by gender-based violence.

334

Returnees with protection needs were attended by UNHCR at Centres for Returned Migrants in San Pedro Sula and Omoa in August 2022.

22,261

Persons in mixed movements of more than 50 different nationalities entered Honduras through irregular points in the southern-east border in August 2022, according to the INM.

101

New asylum applications were filled in Honduras so far in 2022, an increase of 50% in comparison with the same period in 2021, according to the INM. 83% of the requests are from Nicaraguans.

IDPS | Several extortion incidents have been reported by bus drivers in Honduras during August. Extortion is one of the main causes of internal displacement in Honduras, according to the National Human Rights Commissioner (CONADEH).

In addition, more than a hundred people from seven ethnic groups of Honduras were displaced or are at risk of forced displacement in the country, according to complaints received by National Human Rights Commissioner between 2016 and June 2022. Mass migratory movements of ethnic groups from Honduras have been observed in August, with some 70 Miskitos in transit in Mexico and larger groups expected to leave La Mosquitia region.

MIXED MOVEMENTS | Legislative Agreement No. 42-2022 came into force on August 4, lifting payment of fines for irregular entry but still requiring biometric registration at the offices of the National Migration Institute (INM). INM reported that since the application of the migratory amnesty, a high flow of persons in transit through the country has been registered.

RETURNEES | Some 7,008 Hondurans were returned in August 2022, a 54% increase in relation to the same period in 2021.

ASYLUM-SEEKERS | 25% of all asylum applications received in Mexico by July 2022 were from Honduran nationals, being the top nationality to request asylum in Mexico so far this year. 54% of Honduran nationals want to leave the country because of violence, lack of access to education, the lack of livelihoods options, and other reasons.

HIGHLIGHT

An advocacy forum led by UNHCR in the Department of Ocotepeque was held with 100 persons including Congress, government, local media, citizen transparency commissions, and other institutions to sensitize them on the importance of approving the Law for the Prevention, Assistance and Protection of Internally Displaced Persons. This event was held one week after Congress reopened discussions of the draft Bill, as part of UNHCR's advocacy strategy for its approval.

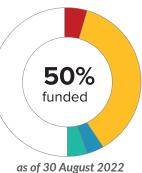


FUNDING

UNHCR is appealing for

USD 28.6 million

for its 2022 programme, of which USD14.4 million is already funded. USD14.2 million is still needed to continue supporting people forcibly displaced, at risk of displacement, asylum-seekers, refugees and persons in mixed movements.



Tightly earmarked Earmaked Softly earmarked (indicative allocation) Unearmarked (indicative allocation) Funding gap (indicative)

UNHCR Response

- LEGAL FRAMEWORK | As part of the efforts to foster the approval of the Forced Displacement Law by the Honduran Congress, UNHCR San Pedro Sula accompanied the monthly session of the Municipal Council for the Rights of Children and Adolescents and agreed that two awareness and advocacy campaigns will be implemented in the next months to discuss the differentiated impacts of forced displacement on children and youth. In addition, UNHCR and its partner Caritas Honduras developed a radio program called "learning about internal displacement", in which the draft Bill was discussed in depth.
- CASE MANAGEMENT | UNHCR directly attended several internally displaced persons or at risk of displacement, providing information and referring to protection services such as psychological health and internal relocation. UNHCR also assisted those with protection needs in the three Centres for Returned Migrants (CAMRs) in the Cortes Department.

Similarly, in August, UNHCR's partner Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) assisted asylum-seekers, refugees, and persons in need of international protection with multi-purpose cash grants, referral to health services, relocation, and temporary shelter.

- PROTECTION TRANSFER ARRANGEMENT | UNHCR interviewed 35 cases of 99 people for the Protection Transfer Arrangement program and submitted 24 approved cases of 69 people to the United States and Australia.
- CHILD PROTECTION | UNHCR conducted three different training sessions on child protection topics with Child Protection Officers from the National Directorate for Children, Adolescent and Family Affairs (DINAF) who are based in the northwest border points in Honduras, as well as with DINAF's new staff of the Forced Displacement Unit and Protection Antennas.
- FAMILY REUNIFICATION | In the last two weeks of August, in the framework of the family reunification program "Together", UNHCR received referrals of six new eligible individuals by its partner KIND for the assessment of their protection needs and future assistance for family reunification.
- INFORMATION | UNHCR and World Vision through its Mobile Information System on the southeast border of Honduras provided information to 2,189 persons in mixed movements on international protection and the asylum system to persons that enter Honduran territory and identified cases of persons at risk of internal displacement conducting appropriate referrals.
- PREVENTION | In the framework of the Working Group for Migrant and Displaced Women, 35 Honduran organizations were trained on the application of "Toolbox" to strengthen prevention and response actions for women displaced by violence. The use of these toolkits reached approximately 107 women in August.
- BASIC NEEDS | UNHCR ensured the first delivery of humanitarian assistance for 790 vulnerable in-transit women with protection risks, mainly in shelters providing support for mixed movements in El Paraiso and Choluteca departments, through the distribution of biosafety items for COVID-19 prevention.
- INTERNAL DISPLACEMENT At the end of August, UNHCR conducted the last training session with 10 members of the Teachers Committee as part of a course on internal displacement and protection of schoolteachers in contexts of generalized violence. Now the teachers will design a course to improve the protection skills of other teachers in communities highly affected by violence.

- COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION | In August, a total of 85 young people from the San Miguel, La Era, La Esperanza, La Izaguirre, Nueva Capital, San Buenaventura, San Francisco, Rosalinda and, El Pedregal communities participated in arts and painting workshops as part of the UNHCR efforts to strengthen protective spaces and prevent forced recruitment to crime.
- IDPS | On August 15, UNCHR trained their Internal Forced Displacement Unit staff on risk analysis in the context of generalized violence, as part of the annual training plan on IDP protection to strengthen CONADEH'S capacities to assist IDPs



LIVELIHOODS AND DURABLE SOLUTIONS

- ENTREPRENEURSHIP | The Honduran Human Rights Secretariat (SEDH) identified and disbursed seed capital for livelihood activities to 17 internally displaced people. UNHCR has also selected three new livelihoods partners that will work on entrepreneurship training and support business start-ups through seed capital distribution to 145 targeted families.
- STRATEGIC ENGAGEMENT | UNHCR Honduras presented its 2022-26 Livelihoods and Economic Inclusion Strategy during two workshops organized in partnership with the Norwegian Refugee Council, attended by 84 persons representing 44 organizations from the public and private sectors and civil society. Both agencies presented three studies finalized in 2022 on market analysis, value-chain and, financial services for migrants and displaced persons.
- SKILLS TRAINING | As part of an agreement signed with UNHCR, the National Institute of Vocational Training of Honduras (INFOP) certified market-relevant training courses in community training centers located in areas at high risk of displacement previously equipped and supported by UNHCR.
- ENGAGING MUNICIPALITIES | As part of cooperation efforts to facilitate employment for youth internally displaced or at-risk of displacement, UNHCR, Municipality of San Pedro Sula, Comisión de Acción Social Menonita (CASM), and the Youth Network Generation with Voice launched a digital graphic design course for 15 to 20 persons. Similarly, an internship program for 20 youth was launched, upon completion of which the municipality will assist the participants with job placement.

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COORDINATION

- CLUSTER | To address cases of Hepatitis A and prevent the spreading of the virus, the local response group for the southern border, Protection Cluster, Health Cluster and, CCCM Cluster coordinated actions in Jesus Está Vivo shelter, on the Honduran border with Nicaragua. In addition, the local response group for the southern border, led by UNHCR, remained the main coordination space for the humanitarian response in this area supporting the enhancement of reception mechanisms, strengthening the asylum system, and coordinating with 19 organizations to ensure access to basic shelter, food, water, primary health services and access to psychological first aid for persons on mixed movements.
- MIRPS | The MIRPS Technical Team and UNHCR discussed possible contributions from the Secretariat for Women (SEMUJER) to Honduras' commitments to the MIRPS framework. A designated focal point for the MIRPS will be provided by SEMUJER, and they will include MIRPS efforts in the construction of the II justice and gender plan with a focus on migration and forced displacement.

UNHCR is thankful to the donors who provide funds to Honduras

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