

SAN PEDRO SULA

Although **internal displacement** is increasing in rural areas of Honduras, cases are mainly in urban areas. Among its main causes are mobility restrictions, extortion, forced recruitment of children and youth, and gender-based violence. For this reason, UNHCR has a **presence** in the urban areas with the greatest impact of forced displacement in San Pedro Sula. In addition, UNHCR **serves** returnees with international protection needs, and people in mixed movements, which are increasingly arriving and passing through the north of Honduras.

In the **Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS)**, UNHCR is strengthening the efforts in the prevention and response to the triggers of forced displacement, emphasizing protection by presence.

UNHCR, through the strengthening of local **organisational processes** upheld by the population, supports victims of internal displacement at times when violence has increased.

THE PEOPLE WE SERVE

FIELD OFFICE SAN PEDRO SULA 2023

The San Pedro Sula field office covers the entire north-western part of the country, working directly in the departments of Atlántida, Cortes, Santa Bárbara and Yoro, in 20 high-risk urban and rural communities, as well as the Corinto border with Guatemala. UNHCR has a established presence in the Centres for Attention to Returned Migrants (CAMR) Omoa and Lima and the Centre for Attention to Families and Minors (CANFM) Belén. The main profile of people we serve are internally displaced or at risk of displacement, returnees, and people in mixed movements in need of protection.



UNHCR PRESENCE



 Field Office
 FUSAP

Staff:
25 National staff
10 International staff
57% women and 43% men

PARTNERS



Response

UNHCR's response integrates regional protection mechanisms and community protection mechanisms at the national level. In addition, UNHCR works with case management, strengthening of institutional frameworks and community-based protection activities, amongst several other actions to prevent, care and respond to forced displacement in Honduras.

PROTECT

Displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement benefit from a comprehensive protection mechanism.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT | UNHCR supports the authorities in the construction of Local Plans to respond to internal displacement, in coordination with the Inter Institutional Commission for the protection of Internally Displaced Persons by Violence (CIPPDV), in prioritized municipalities in the north of the country, including San Pedro Sula, Choloma, El Progreso and La Ceiba.

LEGAL PROTECTION | UNHCR provides technical assistance for the design and piloting of the Municipal Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Mechanism (MMAHE) of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, which consolidates a path of prevention and response to internal displacement. This mechanism plays a crucial role in the implementation of the law for the prevention, care, and protection of internally displaced persons that entered into force in March 2023.

TRAINING | In order to strengthen the state's response capacity at the local level and enhance the identification and referral pathways related to returnees, IDPs and people at risk of displacement, UNHCR conducts training on the centrality of protection and forced displacement to local institutions, organisations and prioritised municipalities involved in providing assistance in CAMRs and CANFM. By July 2023, UNHCR has trained 140 people from 28 institutions and NGOs that help the State in delivering services.



RESPOND

Displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement meet their basic needs in a safe environment.

GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE | UNHCR strengthens the state's response capacity to protection cases through funding equipment and kits (food and hygiene) for the Office of the Municipal Emergency Humanitarian Assistance Mechanism for Internally Displaced Persons by Violence (MMAHE) and Casa Refugio for the care of survivors of gender violence.

CARE CENTRE | UNHCR provides technical assistance to the Municipality of San Pedro Sula for the design of an Integrated Attention Centre that guarantees access to the municipality's social care system for people in vulnerable situations, including displaced persons and/or people at risk of displacement.

RETURN | UNHCR has a consolidated presence in the two CAMR and in the CANFM for direct identification, registration, and attention to cases of returnees with protection needs. In the first seven months of 2023, more than 300 cases were attended.

HEALTH | UNHCR has financed infrastructure for six health clinics in communities at high risk of displacement of San Pedro Sula, seeking to improve community protection mechanisms, the availability of medicines for health emergencies, as well as the identification and referral of cases of people forced to flee or at risk of displacement. With the partner Medicos del Mundo, UNHCR provides complementary physical and psychological attention to forcibly displaced people and people at-risk of displacement.

EMPOWER

Displaced communities and communities at risk of displacement can mitigate the differentiated impact of violence.

RISK MITIGATION | UNHCR offers technical assistance to the Municipality of San Pedro Sula for the design of the Municipal Strategy of Art and Culture for risk mitigation in communities at high-risk of displacement due to violence. Part of the efforts include the adaptation of cultural spaces for social and community inclusion through artistic workshops, the reactivation of municipal libraries and tactical urbanism interventions.

The Tactical Urbanism strategy specifically seeks to promote the inclusion and rooting of the population in its public spaces and promote people's access to state services such as health, education, sports, art, and culture. Transforming public space into a key asset for the optimal functioning of communities.

COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION | UNHCR provides protection by presence and accompaniment in communities at high-risk of forced displacement, for the construction of community mechanisms based on participatory consultations, regardless of sex, gender, age, ethnicity. These mechanisms serve for the differential mitigation of their risks, enjoyment of their rights and the identification and referral of cases with protection needs.

LEADERSHIP | UNHCR offers technical assistance to promote dialogue and the participatory capacity of 87 local communities' leaders in the formulation of community committees, early warning plans for floods, inclusive strategies such as sport for protection, Tactical Urbanism through cultural festivals, response for gender-based violence and forced recruitment and the presentation of the Municipal Art and Culture for Social Inclusion policy.

SOLVE

Displaced persons and persons at risk of displacement have access to solutions that contribute to breaking the cycle of violence and forced displacement.

LIVELIHOODS | Partners Fe y Alegria and Business Development Centre (CDE) together with UNHCR continue to support business development services and legalization procedures to Proli+cen, a community entrepreneurship that reverts its income to sustain activities run by La Central Youth Community Centre (CCJ) in the high-risk Riviera Hernandez sector. For the project's second year, Proli+cen is facilitating attendance of technical courses for 46 youth and adults from La Central in the areas of Computing, Electricity, and Refrigeration with the collaboration of the National Vocational Training Institute (INFOP).



In addition, UNHCR and partner Fe y Alegria are initiating livelihoods interventions with a Garifuna community in Alfonso Lacayo at the same sector, Riviera Hernandez. An entrepreneurship training has been launched for around 15 community leaders to support the creation of a community business that serves the inclusion of forcibly displaced persons and at-risk youth and adults from this sector.

TRAINING | UNHCR provides technical assistance to strengthen the offer of technical-vocational training services in the territory and equipping Municipal Technical and Training Centres to guarantee the inclusion and employment of populations in vulnerable situations and at risk of internal displacement due to violence.

As part of these efforts, UNHCR has a partnership with Graphx Academy and INTUR Foundation to support formal and technical education in graphic design for 35 at-risk and forcibly displaced youth and adults from San Pedro Sula. Both programs aim at facilitating access to the labour market through internships and employment opportunities.

TRAINING OF TRAINERS | UNHCR developed a soft skills course for leaders in the form of training of trainers at the La Central Community, in the Riviera Hernandez sector, at high risk of forced displacement. The leaders and members of the community are trained in skills such as computer, cooling, electricity, as a form of providing durable solutions for people at risk of internal displacement due to violence, and fight stigmatization of these communities.

We thank the contributions of our donors

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