Honduras

Operational Update

N.45 | September 2025

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

Population figures

Internal displacement

+247,000

people have been internally displaced in Honduras as a result of generalized violence. **Numbers could be higher in 2025**, as triggers of internal displacement persist.

Return

4,278

Hondurans were returned to the country in September 2025, marking a 17% increase compared to over **3,256** people returned in August.

According to the Returned Migrant Attention System of the Secretariat of Social Development, **28,848 Honduran nationals had been returned in 2025 by the end of September.** A 23% decrease compared to 37,430 people recorded during the same period in 2024.

+1,830

people who arrived irregularly registered their entry with the National Migration Institute (INM) from 1 to 30 September, marking a 56% increase compared to over 1,838 people registered in August. Of those registered in September, 76% entered via Danli, 23% Trojes and 1% via Choluteca. The top five nationalities were Cuban, Haitian, Ecuadorian, Venezuelan and Chinese. Among them, **50% were women and children.**

According to INM, around 26,320 refugees and migrants entered and crossed through Honduran territory as of 30 September 2025. An approximately 92% decrease compared with 312,553 people registered during the same period in 2024.

Refuge

239

refugees & **almost 529** asylum-seekers currently residing in Honduras. Between 1 January and 30 September 2025, the National Migration Institute registered **529 new asylum applications.**

Our Response

923

people traveling north-south direction were identified by UNHCR and partners in September 2025.

+560

individuals received protection information and orientation by UNHCR and partners in September 2025, including guidance on asylum procedures, access to services, and protection pathways.

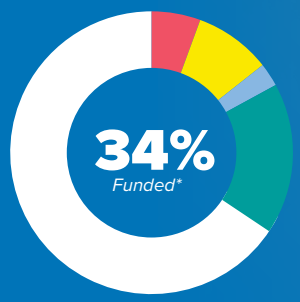
Between 1 January and 30 September 2025, over 8,520 internally displaced people, at-risk of displacement, Honduran returnees, asylum-seekers, and refugees received this support nationwide.

+213

individuals received medical care, mental health assistance, and information on sexual and reproductive health by UNHCR and partners in September 2025.

UNHCR supports community plans that strengthen women's economic autonomy through safe and sustainable livelihoods.

Funding



As of 30 September 2025

- Tightly earmarked
- Earmarked
- Softly earmarked (indicative allocation)
- Unearmarked (indicative allocation)
- Funding gap (indicative)

*UNHCR appealed for USD 30,7 million for its 2025 programme, of which only USD 10.6 million (34%) has been funded. USD 20,1 million is still needed to continue supporting people forcibly displaced, at risk of displacement, returnees with protection needs, asylum-seekers and refugees

Context

In September, levels of violence remained high. Honduras recorded around **170 women killed in 2025**, with cases expanding to municipalities that previously reported low incidence of violence against women and girls. The National Teachers' Committee reported that **over 300 teachers had been forcibly displaced and 1,472 were at risk due to extortion and threats.** Extortion continued to affect micro and small businesses, forcing many into informality and financial distress.

Forced displacement continued to affect children. A report by the Ombudsperson, supported by UNHCR, indicated that **one in five people displaced by violence in Honduras is a child,** representing **more than 3,700 minors affected** between 2019 and 2024.

Persistent rainfall and flooding affected more than 9,000 people across western and southern departments, exacerbating risks of displacement and disrupting livelihoods, particularly among fishing and agricultural communities. The Seventh Report on the State of the Region highlights that extreme weather events in the region, including Honduras, **have triggered displacement from coastal and rural communities,** reduced agricultural productivity, and affected energy generation.

In the lead-up to the General Elections, the official campaign for the 30 November 2025 vote began on 1 September, with five political parties participating, three of which represent the largest blocs of supporters. Between September 2024 and July 2025 Honduras recorded **560 incidents of political violence,** with 83% concentrated in Francisco Morazan department and women among the most affected groups. By early September, **four political candidates had been assassinated in 2025.**

In this context, the compounded impact of violence, economic hardship and climate shocks underscores the **urgent need for coordinated and sustained protection efforts** to safeguard the rights, security and human dignity of affected populations across Honduras.

Activities

Protection and Legal Assistance

In Comayagua department, 50 staff from the National Commissioner for Human Rights (CONADEH) received **training on internal displacement analysis and differentiated attention**, improving their operational response under the Law for the Prevention, Assistance and Protection of Internally Displaced Persons.

In Tegucigalpa, UNHCR supported the Secretariat of Social Development (SEDESOL) in a multi-institutional workshop with 42 representatives from 20 government institutions and NGOs to **validate findings on vulnerabilities linked to extreme weather events** and prioritise measures for the forthcoming Adaptive Social Protection Policy and Action Plan, positioning displacement and climate vulnerability as cross-cutting priorities for social programming.

At the local level, UNHCR trained 36 members of the Municipal Emergency Committees (CODEM) from five local governments in Choluteca and Valle departments on **risk management and disaster response**, strengthening municipal capacities to integrate displacement risk into contingency planning. Local governance was further consolidated through the adoption of the Municipal Policy on Human Mobility in El Triunfo, Choluteca, providing a rights-based framework for municipal action for refugees and migrants in the region.

These efforts **strengthened Honduras's institutional capacity to prevent and respond** to internal displacement, protect people at risk, and align local mechanisms with national protection frameworks.

UNHCR, together with the Municipality of Marcovia and the Pespirense Development Association (ADEPES), completed the process of developing the Community Risk Management Plan with the participation of 35 community leaders who are members of six Local Emergency Committees (CODEL).

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Child, Women, and Community Protection

In Choluteca, the establishment of the Municipal Children's Council, supported by UNHCR, created a **participatory space for children to raise protection concerns and influence local actions.** In Tegucigalpa and Comayaguela, UNHCR and partners held protection fairs and workshops that reached more than 300 children, creating safe and peaceful environments and promoting violence prevention.

UNHCR, in collaboration with Mariposas Libres and Foro de Mujeres por la Vida, disseminated a **protection protocol for survivors of violence in Garifuna language** in Tornabe, Atlantida, enabling 55 Afro-descendant community leaders to strengthen women's participation and access to protection services. Collaboration with Ciudad Mujer and the Secretariat of Women's Affairs (SEMUJER) in southern Honduras enhanced women's leadership through a diploma on human rights for 15 community leaders, while 25 leaders in Cedeño, Choluteca, improved preparedness to prevent violence against women during emergencies.

In San Pedro Sula, UNHCR and Children International held **social-skills and art-based activities with over 100 children, youth and women**, promoting cohesion, community empowerment and reducing exposure to forced recruitment by criminal structures and violence. These efforts complemented tactical urbanism initiatives that revitalised public areas and strengthened social bonds.

In September, UNHCR contributed to **expanding community ownership of protection strategies** in areas most affected by violence, forced displacement, and natural hazards.

With support from UNHCR, in collaboration with Mariposas Libres and Foro de Mujeres por la Vida, 55 Afro-descendant community leaders strengthened women's participation and access to protection services through the dissemination of a protection protocol in Garifuna language.

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Local Capacity Strengthening and Integration

In northern Honduras, UNHCR, in collaboration with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Honduran Red Cross, **enhanced institutional response at the Centre for Returned Migrants (CAMR) in Omoa**, training 25 staff to identify people in need of protection and support tailored assistance. The initiative also enabled the Secretariat of Human Rights (SEDH) to deploy dedicated personnel to the CAMR, strengthening oversight and coordination in protection monitoring for Honduran returnees.

In southern Honduras, UNHCR, through the Training of Trainers Diploma implemented with SEMUJER and Ciudad Mujer, reached its fourth module on economic entrepreneurship, **equipping 15 women leaders with practical skills to promote self-reliance and community protection.** Similarly, in Tegucigalpa, the finalization of a candle-making workshop enable 10 women to strengthen their income generation capacities through safe and sustainable livelihoods.

In San Pedro Sula, UNHCR supported an Employment Fair under the Employability Technical Roundtable, where **36 companies offered 806 job vacancies**, expanding access to formal employment for displaced persons, individuals at-risk of displacement, and Honduran returnees.

These initiatives contributed to strengthening labour-market integration and advancing Honduras's commitments to **durable and integrative solutions for displaced and at-risk populations.**

Strategic Coordination

UNHCR facilitated an exchange of good practices between the Honduran National Migration Institute (INM) and the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) to **advance asylum system strengthening in Honduras.** The collaboration reinforced the operational implementation of commitments under the Comprehensive Regional Framework for Protection and Solutions (MIRPS) and the Global Refugee Forum (GRF).

UNHCR, in coordination with Save the Children and the National Teachers' Committee, presented the study **"Forced Displacement of Teachers and the Impact of Widespread Violence in Honduras"**, highlighting systemic risks faced by educators and the urgent need for coordinated protection measures. The recommendations aim to strengthen coordination among the Government and humanitarian actors, while promoting specialised training in protection, psychological first aid, and conflict resolution.

At the regional level, Honduras advanced its MIRPS commitments on refugee status determination for women and girls survivors of violence, and on the **inclusion of displacement data in the Permanent Multipurpose Household Survey**, led by the National Statistics Institute (INE) and the Secretariat of Human Rights (SEDH). Both initiatives contributed to integrating protection and displacement into public policy and statistical systems.

At the local level, UNHCR, together with the Interinstitutional Commission to Prevent Sexual Exploitation and Human Trafficking (CICESCT) and the Western Border Local Team (ELFO), conducted a prevention workshop in Ocotepeque, strengthening coordination to **prevent trafficking and abuse of children and adolescents.**

These collaborations reinforced UNHCR's catalytic role in **aligning humanitarian and institutional efforts** through integrated and sustainable mechanisms.

UNHCR, with support from the National Teachers' Committee and Save the Children, presented the study "Forced Displacement of Teachers and the Impact of Widespread Violence in Honduras."

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*As of September 2025

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