2024 | MAY

UNHCR
The UN Refugee Agency

FACT SHEET

PETEN FIELD UNIT

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OPERATIONAL CONTEXT AND KEY FIGURES

Guatemala is a country of origin, transit and return and has increasingly become a destination for refugees and asylum seekers. UNHCR has 7 offices in the country including Petén.

The Petén Department´s shared borders with Belize and México result in high flows of people in mixed movements with protection and humanitarian needs. The department also receives approximately 400 Guatemalans deported from México and the United States monthly.

UNHCR coordinates with the municipal and departmental authorities, international agencies, communities, and partner organisations to provide humanitarian assistance and access to livelihoods. UNHCR also ensures local integration of people in need of international protection by working with local communities and authorities, including through the City of Solidarity initiative.

388
refugees and asylum-seekers

4,700
Guatemalans at risk

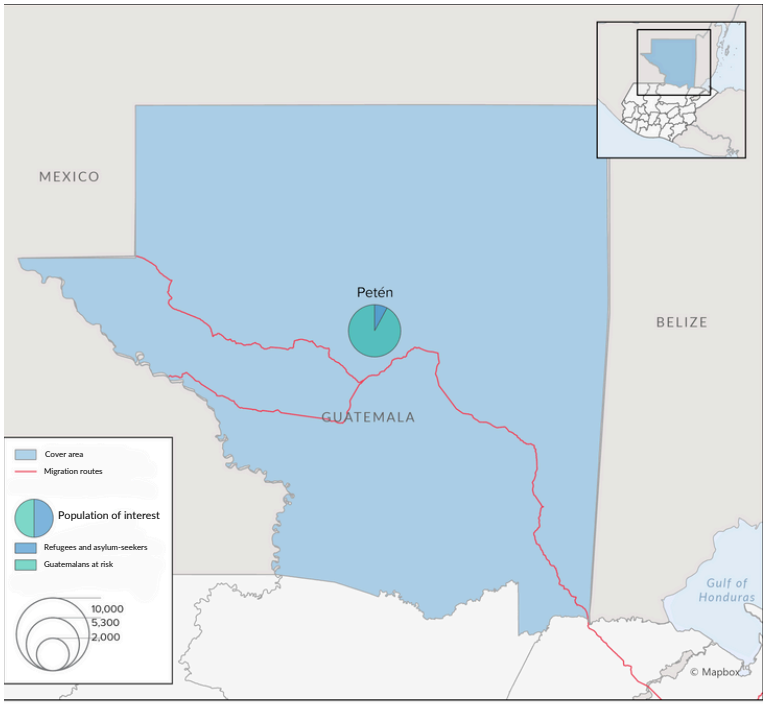
20,545
people served in 2023

47,600
assistance provided in 2023

OTHER RELEVANT DATA

- 7,071 with protection needs (2024)
- 12,300 people in food insecurity (2024)
- 11% illiteracy (2018)
- 5% child labour (2018)
- 41% poverty (2014)
- 270 crimes against women per 100,000 population (2021)
- 43% unemployment (2018)
- 29% without access to water and sanitation (2018)

Source: Humanitarian Response Plan (2024) and National Statistics Institute (INE). ***Data for the municipality of Flores.***



MAIN IMPACTS OF THE 2023 RESPONSE

Assistance

- **20,545** people provided assistance by UNHCR and its partners. **4,784** were assisted at the Santa Elena CAPMiR in Flores.

Training

- **10,766** people from government and civil society were trained in international protection, gender-based violence prevention and response and child protection.

Livelihoods

- **52** refugees and asylum-seekers participated in livelihood programmes on employability and entrepreneurship, thereby improving their income.

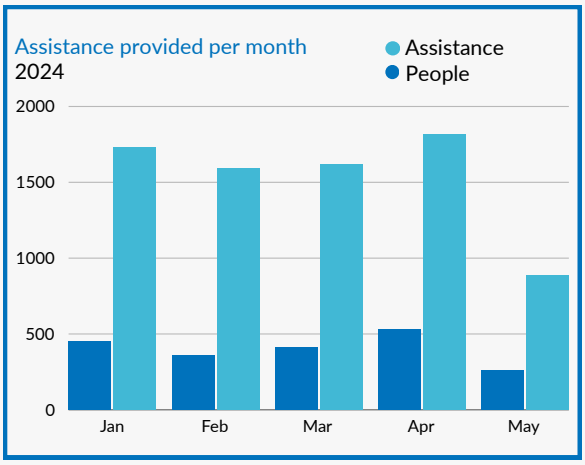
Monitoring and institutional strengthening

- Forty-three border monitoring missions conducted. UNHCR installed **4** containers for the use of SAT, IGM, OIRSA, PNC at the El Ceibo border point.

At CAPMiR we provide information, counselling, medical and psycho-social assistance, among other services. © UNHCR/Victor Sanchez

CAPMiR Santa Elena

The Centre for Attention to Migrants and Refugees (CAPMiR) serve as a key protection space to facilitate access to territory and shelter, provide humanitarian assistance, share official information and identify risks and protection needs. In 2023, five CAPMiRs assisted **25,814** people, of which **4,784** were facilitated in CAPMiR Santa Elena.



Source: Monitoring CAPMiR 2024

Other interventions

- **160** children and adolescents from San Benito and 13 refugees and asylum seekers participated in sports activities for inclusion and the promotion of physical and mental health.
- **46** young people and refugees participated in the 'San Benito Bullying Free!' campaign promoted by San Benito Municipality and UNHCR to raise awareness about bullying.
- **36** young people and refugees participated in a meeting to reflect on human rights in the framework of World Refugee Day.
- Awareness-raising activities were held to prevent xenophobia against people in mixed movements and self-care sessions were provided to both members of the host community and refugees.
- **600** women from the host community and **26** refugee women participated in activities to prevent gender-based violence through economic empowerment.