



UNHCR
ACNUR
La Agencia de la ONU
para los Refugiados

Violencia de género
protección NNA
Discriminación
Riesgo de apatridia
Acceso a la justicia
Educación
Salud
Inmigración
Vivienda y estructura
Pruebas de
Organización
Medios de

El Salvador May 2022 External Update #5

Key Figures

COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION



438 individuals assisted through UNHCR's helpline in May, and **1,748** in 2022.



267 people assisted at the Support Spaces in May, and **1,421** in 2022.

1,906 people reached through Support Spaces mobile units in May, and **7,147** in 2022.

CASH ASSISTANCE



381 households (**1,146** individuals) at heightened risk received cash assistance in May, and **698** households (**2,151** individuals) in 2022. This support helps cover basic needs such as food, rent, documentation, and transportation.

FUNDING



17% of UNHCR's financial requirements for El Salvador received by 31 May 2022.

Highlights

- 1** In the framework of the International Day against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia UNHCR participated in the Forum "Sharing our experiences as a form of resistance" organized by COMCAVIS Trans. Through this space, LGBTIQ+ people affected by forced displacement shared challenges, concerns and priorities, promoting response mechanisms adapted to their needs.
- 2** The Cañaverales community, San Vicente department, met with the Paracentral Regional Health Unit and UNHCR to share their concerns and needs on access to basic health care, an issue included in the community workplan created with support of FUNDASAL and UNHCR. As a result, the Health Unit organized a health brigade in the community and committed to hire a health promoter.
- 3** A UNHCR's donation of 30 computers to the Fe y Alegria training centre in the Zacamil neighborhood will benefit young people, both displaced or at high risk of displacement, with trainings on graphic design and app development software sought by employers. The donation will benefit 300 students annually.

- 5** UNHCR and partner World Vision held the first of a series of workshops on building leaderships with members of San Salvador's Iberia community. The workshop promoted a discussion on how leaders can best represent the community's interests, as well as the power of coordinated actions to boost opportunities.

Comunidad Iberia, San Salvador



Protect

UNHCR trained 30 staff and delegates of national institutions at the Government-run reception centre for migrants, known as GAMI, on humanitarian protection and case management, and on human rights and assistance to victims.

Assist

The General Directorate of Civil Protection along UNHCR conducted a practical exercise on the assembly and use of temporary shelters in the context of disaster preparedness and emergency situations.

Empower

UNHCR along the Municipal Committee for Violence Prevention (CMPV) visited five Outreach Centres in Jiboa, Achichilco, Brisas de Jiboa, Navarra y La Galera communities, in San Vicente department. The outreach centres are safe areas for children and young people in marginalized and at-risk communities. UNHCR is financially supporting these centres as part of a community strategy to provide opportunities and mitigate risks for children and youth.

UNHCR delivered a second distribution of equipment and supplies for the youth houses called Social Prevention Centres of the Municipalities of Apopa, Zaragoza and Cuscatancingo. This activity is part of a joint strategy to prevent and mitigate risks of forced recruitment of youth and children.

UNHCR participated in two Municipal Committees for Violence Prevention (CMPV), in San Miguel and Santa Ana, to support local actors in the provision of services to internally displaced people. In both municipalities, inter-institutional committees focused on the revision and update of referral pathways for internally displaced people and survivors of gender-based violence.



Solve

Twenty-one businesses in San Salvador took part in an event organized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, UNHCR, and World Vision to encourage private sector participation in 'My First Job' programme. Participants from last year's pilot phase highlighted the programme's value to formal employment for young Salvadorans from marginalized neighbourhoods who struggle to find employment without prior job experience.

The first Youth Employment fair in Zacamil neighborhood took place, organized by the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, UNHCR and World Vision, as part of My First Job programme. Some 28 young people from San Salvador attended a three-day workshop facilitated by job specialists on soft skills and abilities, followed by apprenticeships' enrolment in allied enterprises.



Stories from the field

Learning together: the importance of listening the communities where we work

UNHCR held group discussions with communities in San Salvador, San Miguel, Santa Ana, Sonsonate and San Vicente departments to gain a better understanding on the risks they face and the underlying causes, to assess the capacities they have, and to hear their proposed solutions.

“That happened to me, but I didn’t know what was called”, said Erica*, one woman in a focus group organized by UNHCR discussing about internal displacement. “My children and I were threatened by armed men last year and we had to flee to my sister’s house. I’ve never felt so much fear, it was the hardest experience of my life and I hope no one has to go through this”, she continued.

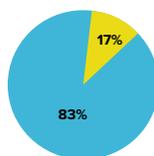
As many members in her community, Erica took part in a “participatory assessment”, one of the multiple discussion groups organized by UNHCR and partners Comcavis Trans, Fundasal and World Vision in El Salvador with women, men, youth, and children of different backgrounds to jointly share their perspectives on services, forced displacement, mental health, and other topics prioritized by them.

On a yearly basis, UNHCR and partners organize diverse structured dialogues with communities to gain a better understanding of their perspectives and situations. The exercise also helps mobilize communities to take collective action to enhance their own enjoyment of rights. “If we work together we could talk to the municipality about the lack of public lighting and ask for help” shared another woman when the group was asked to think about solutions to the problems their community encounters. Through introspection and debate often people want to get involve in making their communities better. After the discussions, it was clear that community members felt more a part of the work. This process lets internally displaced people and people at risk of displacement know that they can speak freely and that their views are being considered.



Funding

In 2022, UNHCR is appealing for USD 23.6 million to provide protection, assistance and solutions to refugees, asylum-seekers, and forcibly displaced persons in El Salvador. The best way to support UNHCR’s appeal is through unearmarked contributions. Such flexible funding at global level is key in allowing a timely response to the evolving needs wherever required.



- Funded
- Funding gap

* Name changed for protection reasons

Website: <https://www.acnur.org/el-salvador.html>

Global Focus: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/elsalvador>

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is grateful for the support of:



| Private donors Australia | Private donors Japan | Private donors Republic of Korea | Private donors Spain

For more information, please contact:

Sonia Aguilar, External Relations Officer, aguilars@unhcr.org
Alejandra Romo, Reporting Officer, romo@unhcr.org

Twitter: @ACNUREISalvador