ESQUIPULAS
FIELD UNIT
2024

Protection Workshop for teachers of municipal schools in Esquipulas ©UNHCR/

627 REFUGEES AND ASYLUM-SEEKERS

796 GUATEMALANS AT-RISK

72,720 PEOPLE ASSISTED

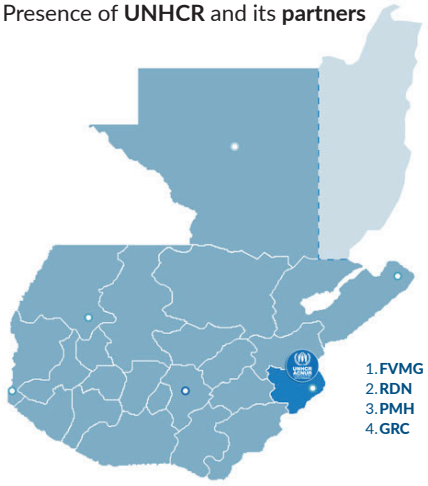
50,651 PEOPLE RECEIVING INFORMATION ON THE ASYLUM PROCEDURE

7 CITIES OF SOLIDARITY

In 2024, UNHCR operated six field offices across Guatemala, including its field unit in Esquipulas, a key border municipality in Chiquimula that is a critical entry point for displaced populations fleeing violence and instability. The Field Unit is dedicated to safeguarding refugees, asylum-seekers, displaced Guatemalans, including returnees. Working with local authorities, NGOs, communities, and four partner organizations, UNHCR fosters local integration while ensuring access to essential services such as shelters, clean drinking water, hygiene kits, legal assistance, mental health support, pre-hospital care, and durable solutions.

Additionally, UNHCR promotes the labor inclusion of refugees, asylum-seekers, and returnees through events with the private sector, scholarship programs, and support for technical training initiatives. In Izabal, it collaborated with the Technical Institute for Training and Productivity (INTECAP) to deliver a course on local ecosystem protection, with internships provided by the National Council of Protected Areas (CONAP).

Presence of **UNHCR** and its **partners**



CITIES OF SOLIDARITY

The municipalities of Esquipulas, Chiquimula, Jutiapa, Asunción Mita, and Santa Catarina Mita, along with the Governorships of Chiquimula and Jutiapa, remain dedicated to integrating refugees through the Cities of Solidarity initiative.

In 2024, Esquipulas, Jutiapa, and Chiquimula further strengthened their roles as Cities of Solidarity. In collaboration with UNHCR and local health services, they trained community health promoters and organized service fairs offering medical care, and legal assistance, among others.
These efforts also included investments in healthcare infrastructure, school improvements to create safer learning environments, and the development of sports spaces like Deportes por la Paz to engage young people. Additionally, protection and migration committees were established to enhance coordination, while the Regional Trifinio Women's Training Center was reinforced to promote economic opportunities.
Together, these municipalities continue to uphold resilience, solidarity, and inclusive support for those in need.

219 TRAINED IN PREVENTION, MITIGATION & RESPONSE TO VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

613 TRAINED IN INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION, ACCESS TO RIGHTS AND SERVICES, & UNHCR MANDATE

3,370 PERSONS INVOLVED IN PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE ACTIVITIES

514 PEOPLE PARTICIPATING IN EMPOWERMENT ACTIVITIES

Source: UNHCR Response Monitoring 2024. Data for Esquipulas

*1. FVMG | World Vision Guatemala, 2. RDN | *Refugio de la Niñez* , 3. PMH | Human Mobility Pastoral, 4. GRC | Guatemalan Red Cross .

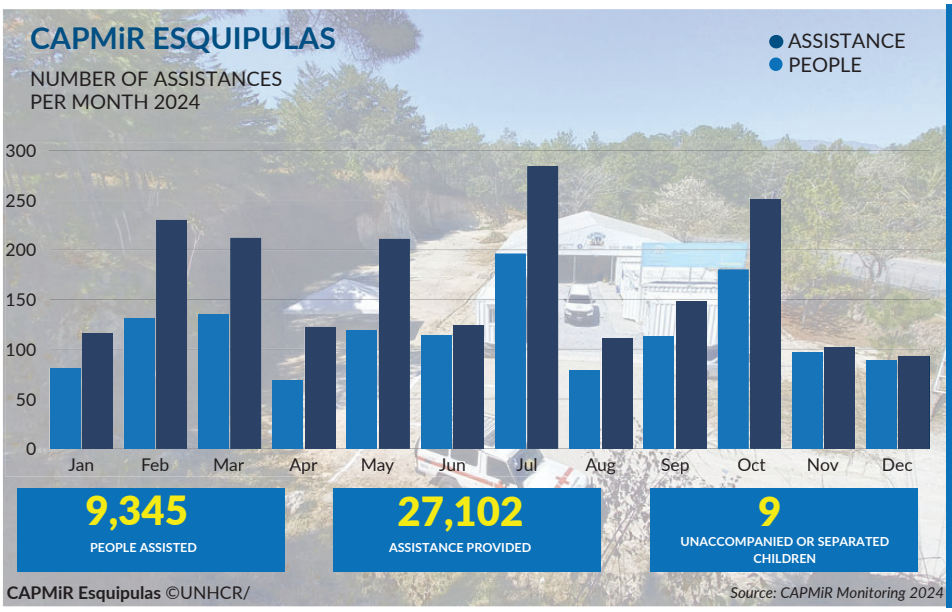
*The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING

UNHCR empowered over 500 individuals in host communities across Jutiapa and Chiquimula, particularly in Esquipulas, fostering resilience, integration, and social cohesion in an inclusive environment. Four community groups, led by 40 women, established a protection network to support vulnerable populations. Additionally, people received training to identify and address violence against women and girls and were equipped to assist their communities in recognizing and referring cases related to violence against women and girls and international protection.

First meeting of women leaders of Esquipulas, Workshop on leadership and self-care ©UNHCR/

Closing of Vacation Courses for Young People, within the framework of Sports for Peace, Esquipulas©UNHCR/



CAPMiR Esquipulas ©UNHCR/

The Reception Center for Refugees (CAPMiR) provide essential services, including pre-hospital care, hydration, hygiene kits, mental health support, and guidance on the asylum and protection system.

In 2024, five CAPMiR centers assisted 28,092 people, of whom **9,345** were served at the CAPMiR in Esquipulas. Of the beneficiaries in Esquipulas, 81% were Venezuelans.

UNHCR is grateful for the contributions of donor countries that contribute to our operation in Guatemala and to global programmes with flexible funding:

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**As of 31 December 2024*

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