Newsletter -June, 2022

Guate's Wrap-up

Our impact last month

INTEGRATION THROUGH LAUGHTER

They say that laughter is the music of the soul. According to **Clowns Without Borders (CWB)**, when we experience positive emotions through laughter and play, a feeling of wellness is generated, and stress is relieved.

We at UNHCR believe in **building strong human relationships based on empathy and trust**. Therefore, we paired up with CWB to bring joy to many kids and refugees in a tour full of happiness and laughs throughout the country.

Clown shows were performed with CWB and local authorities in Petén, Izabal, Huehuetenango, and Guatemala. Through these performances, we conveyed messages of **peaceful coexistence, local integration, and the importance of psychosocial rehabilitation** to more than 280 children and adult refugees and their host communities' members.

THE STORY ON A TWEET

ACTION FROM THE FIELD

Huehuetenango

- UNHCR supported the implementation of vocational courses at the Training Centre offered for Guatemalans at risk in areas such as baking, tailoring, and cosmetology.

Petén

- UNHCR delivered three ultrasound machines to clinics in Poptún, San Benito, and Sayaxche public hospitals in Petén to enhance the quality of the services provided to women, children, and LGBTI persons, including survivors of sexual and gender-

Guatemala

- In Amatitlán, UNHCR provided training on international protection to 20 young adults who are part of the Civic Service program of the Community Youth Centre run by the Social Welfare Secretariat.

- In Villa Nueva, in coordination with the Municipal Office for Women Affairs, a workshop was carried out for 24 inhabitants on gender-based violence as one of the main root causes of forced displacement.

based violence.

- 10 water purification filters were delivered to our partner FUNDAECO to be used in the camps Dos Lagunas, El Cedro and El Jabalí in the Mayan Biosphere Reserve, where 41 asylum-seekers and refugees work as park rangers as part of the Green Corps initiative.

Jutiapa

- In Tiucal, Jutiapa, the mobile unit of UNHCR and the Human Rights Ombudsperson's Office (PDH) trained 12 teachers at a local school on the inclusion of refugees in the education system. The mobile unit also trained 34 students in Tuna, Jutiapa; and 21 community leaders and personnel of the Health Centre in San Juan Ermita on the work carried out by PDH's mobile unit, including the protection of refugees rights.

- UNHCR's livelihood partner World Vision provided a workshop to 21 asylum-seekers on the use of the business model CANVAS to improve the marketing strategies for their businesses.

Izabal

- In Santo Tomás de Castilla (Puerto Barrios, Izabal), a Virtual Resource Centre at INTECAP (one of the leading institutions in providing vocational trainings in Guatemala) was set up by UNHCR through its partner Refugio de la Niñez.

- UNHCR organized a group session with 15 refugees to strengthen their employability and entrepreneurship skills. In addition, exchanges took place with six park rangers who are part of the Green Corps initiative

Quetzaltenango and San Marcos

- UNHCR together with IOM provided a training on international protection to staff members of 9 Municipal Assistance Offices for Migrants and Refugees located in the departments of Quetzaltenango and San Marcos.

Alta Verapaz

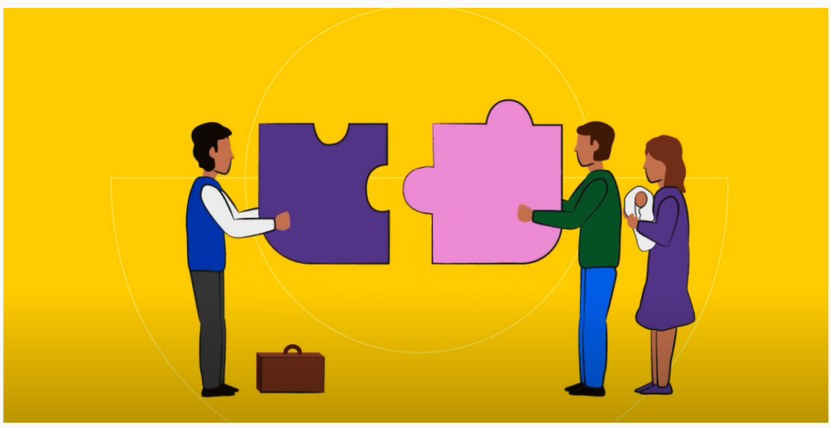
- UNHCR delivered 1,200 face masks, 400 soaps and 40 bottles of alcohol gel to the community organizations Ak'Yuam and Alcanzando Estrellas, to the Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women (DEMI) and the Nuevo Horizonte Women's Association to support COVID prevention in Guatemalan communities at risk.

STARTING OVER IN GUATE: LABOR INCLUSION FOR REFUGEES

Celebrated internationally on the 1st of May, Labor Day is an annual commemoration of **labor and solidarity**. For refugees and asylum-seekers, inclusion into the labor workforce is essential for integrating into their host community and country.

UNHCR and the Ministry of Labor launched the campaign **"Starting Over in Guate"** to raise awareness among the Guatemalan population and promote decent employment opportunities that allow refugees and asylum-seekers to restart their lives. It tells the story of Hugledys, Lucía, and Héctor sharing how Guatemala has given them a chance to be reborn and rebuild their lives after fleeing their countries of origin.

To date, **1082 persons have benefited from UNHCR livelihood interventions in Guatemala.** 345 refugees and asylum-seekers have obtained work permits, and 574 persons have benefited from entrepreneurship processes, including 92 capital seed grants.



HOW DOES THE GRADUATION MODEL APPROACH CONTRIBUTE TO THE PROMOTION OF SUSTAINABLE LIVELIHOODS?

The Graduation Model Approach is a comprehensive support program of UNHCR and its partner Action Against Hunger (ACH) based on a **sequential and multi-sectoral intervention to help the most vulnerable access employment.**

The program's actions are designed to provide personalized attention in consumption support and financial inclusion skills training to promote access to employment or self-employment while receiving psychosocial support, mentoring, and follow-up of their Family Action Plan.

The **Family Action Plan** exercises co-responsibility between the professionals who monitor the program and the participant families. Together, they define agreements for their family on issues of health, education, housing, and work, among others.

LEARN MORE

2022 WORLD REFUGEE DAY!

Every year on **June 20**, World Refugee Day is designated to celebrate the strength and courage of the people who have been forced to flee. This celebration is an occasion to build empathy and mobilize support for the rights and needs of refugees worldwide.

World Refugee Day is marked by a variety of events in many countries around the world, and this year, the focus will be on the right to seek safety. Every person on this planet has a **right to seek safety** – whoever they are, wherever they come from, and whenever they are forced to flee.

UNHCR has been helping people forced to flee for 72 years. And we will continue – **whoever, wherever,** and **whenever** someone is seeking safety. Join us on June 20th and stand #withrefugees!

UNHCR Guatemala Factsheets

Read our operation's latest general factsheet

We recommend the use of Google Chrome to read the newsletter.

Would you like to support any of our initiatives and projects?

Please contact:

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UNHCR is grateful for the contributions from our donors, which make our work possible.

UNHCR's financial requirements for the Guatemala operation in 2022 (as of 7 June 2022)

Funded: 6.6 million USD (15%)	Unfunded: 35.9 million USD (85%)

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

Private donors Australia I Italy I Japan I Republic of Korea I Spain I Sweden

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