



El Salvador

Key Figures

COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION



UNHCR's call centre handled **125** calls, reaching **243** individuals.



207 people assisted through the Support Space.

CASH ASSISTANCE



610 households (**1,663** individuals) at heightened risk received cash assistance.

FUNDING



90% of UNHCR's financial requirements for El Salvador received by 29 November 2021.

Highlights

- UNHCR's High Commissioner, Filippo Grandi, [visited](#) El Salvador and met with President Bukele to discuss the Government's efforts to address violence and forced displacement, as well as UNHCR's commitment to work closely with the government and affected communities. The High Commissioner also visited a community centre, known as CUBO and "By your side" Support Space, where he

met with internally displaced people and community leaders. Along UNHCR's High Profile Supporter, Bianka Rodriguez, the High Commissioner discussed the challenges faced by LGBTIQ+ people with leaders of this group.

- UNHCR signed a letter of understanding with the San Vicente Mayor's Office to strengthen cooperation and coordination in the protection of internally displaced people and population at risk of displacement.
- UNHCR and World Vision [launched](#) a multimedia campaign to raise awareness on the El Salvador's law on forced displacement and on [UNHCR's helpline](#).
- UNHCR and SOS Children's Villages began the renovation of a soccer field nearby the urban centre or CUBO at Zacamil neighbourhood in San Salvador. The improvements planned in cooperation with the Directorate for the Reconstruction of the Social Fabric, will provide this community at heightened risk with a safe area for sports and leisure.



Protection



In November, 207 people received assistance through the Support Space.

Most users requested information on international protection, internal relocation, and livelihoods. The most frequently reported needs were legal and physical protection needs (61.7%), serious medical condition (18.45%), gender-based violence (9.71%) and children at risk (6.08%), among others. Since its creation, 518 individuals have been assisted.



In November, UNHCR's Call Centre handled 125 calls.

The most frequently reported needs were legal and physical protection needs (60%), serious medical condition (24.14%), gender-based violence (4.83%) and children at risk (2.76%), among others. Since its establishment in July, the call centre has received 821 calls, reaching 1576 individuals.



UNHCR and the Ministry of Health strengthened gender-based violence prevention and response mechanisms in a context of pandemic with additional staff, medical equipment, and renovations at the Santiago de María Hospital in Usulután, the Santa Rosa de Lima Hospital in La Unión, and the Soyapango Hospital in San Salvador.



In the framework of collaboration with the National Institute for Women's Development (ISDEMU) to prevent gender-based violence and improve protection services for forcibly displaced women, the Office took part in the inauguration of a UNHCR supported Specialized Attention Centre in San Salvador run by ISDEMU. Along partner World Vision, UNHCR donated equipment for interview rooms and common spaces. Under this collaboration, UNHCR and World Vision also renovated and equipped a shelter for survivors of violence and forcibly displaced women administered by ISDEMU.

Durable Solutions

- **As part of UNHCR's strategy to optimize employment prospects and access to formal jobs for IDPs and at-risk youth, 46 youth (27 men, 19 women) graduated from intensive 2 or 3-month vocational training courses.** Eleven graduates secured formal employment in the hospitality and tourism sectors or auto-repairs businesses, while the remainder receive support from partners in job seeking or in self-starting businesses.

- **Under a strategy to enhance job prospects and foster inclusive recruitment policies for IDPs and people at risk of displacement, UNHCR and World Vision organized two virtual employment fairs with companies to trigger job placement processes.** This is the first time UNHCR organizes a virtual fair with the private sector in El Salvador, and it has been key to create strategic alliances in the western, central, and eastern areas of the country, as well as to raise awareness on forced displacement with the business sector.

- **In November, UNHCR transferred cash assistance to 610 households (1,663 individuals) forcibly displaced or at risk of displacement.** In 2021, UNHCR has provided cash assistance to 2,025 households (4,909 individuals). This support helps people at heightened risk cover basic needs such as food, rent, documentation, and transportation, while some receive seed capital and cash for livelihoods.

Government and Inter-agency Coordination

- **In the framework of the IV Regional Comprehensive Framework for Protection and Solutions (MIRPS) Annual Meeting, El Salvador's Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, Adriana Mira, presented progress made by the country for its second year as a member state.** During the encounter held in

made in the implementation of the National Action Plans. The Government of Honduras assumed the Pro-Tempore Presidency for 2022 and Canada the new Presidency of the MIRPS Support Platform 2021-2022. The MIRPS member States approved the Declaration of the City of La Antigua Guatemala, to improve coordination of regional and national responses to mitigate the root causes of forced displacement, and prioritizing international protection of vulnerable groups, especially children, adolescents, and women.

- **UNHCR joined the local government of Ciudad Delgado in the creation of their annual plan for 2022.** UNHCR's proposal to include specific funding to strengthen protection mechanisms and special services for internally displaced persons was included.

Funding

- **In 2021, UNHCR appeals for USD 21.6 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 will be key in allowing a timely response to the evolving needs wherever required.

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

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