



Key Figures

PROTECTION

The Human Rights Secretariat assisted 14 cases (**42 people**) in the frame of the piloting of the Assistance Mechanism supported by UNHCR.

COVID-19

339,841 confirmed cases
8,932 deaths by 31 August 2021
4,077,054 people vaccinated
(1,308,136 received second dose)

67 per cent of funding needs received by 31 August 2021. UNHCR is **appealing for USD 26.7 million** to support vulnerable people in need of protection in Honduras.

Highlights

- The mayor of San Pedro Sula and UNHCR Representative in Honduras signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on 16 August to continue pursuing a strategic alliance for the strengthening of a comprehensive local response for the prevention of internal forced displacement, the protection of IDPs and/or persons at risk of displacement, as well as the development of durable solutions.
- Honduras requires USD 222 million to implement the Humanitarian Response Plan 2021, presented by the Humanitarian Country Team, which will provide multisectoral humanitarian assistance to 1.8 million people. The Plan seeks to protect and save lives of affected people and those most at risk. UNHCR, as a leader of the Protection Cluster, assured that all partners included their projects, budgets and target population to the Plan.
- Honduras is facing the highest peak in COVID-19 infections and deaths since the beginning of the pandemic, with a daily average of 55 deaths. Ninety-seven percent of people admitted to hospitals in the last weeks had not received any doses of the vaccine, according to the Secretariat of Health, and most hospitals in Honduras have reached 100 per cent of the Intensive Care Units capacity.

Protection

- UNHCR carried out with partners Children International, World Vision and community leaders a training of trainers aimed at 57 community leaders regarding the proper use and care of non-food items (NFIs) and reviewed and validated 17,500 households affected by hurricanes ETA/IOTA that have been prioritized to receive assistance.
- UNHCR and the Human Rights Secretariat participated in a meeting of the Municipal Committee for Response to Displacement by Violence of San Pedro Sula to approve the response plan to force displacement. The plan aims to consolidate the implementation of the municipal mechanism for emergency humanitarian assistance, validation of a contingency plan in cases of mass displacement, and technical support case management of displaced women and their children through the strengthening of the municipalities women's shelters.
- On 6 August UNHCR provided medical supplies to the medical dispensary "Casa Visitación" in López Arellano, Choloma, Cortés Department, to improve protection through the strengthening and access to health services to groups, communities at risk of displacement or people with protection needs. The "Casa Visitación" medical dispensary receives approximately 415 patients a month, mostly single mothers, elderly, and LGBTI persons.

- UNHCR, World Vision and FLACSO Honduras launched the first Certificate Programme on Internal Displacement. The programme aims to strengthen capacities of 35 community leaders and local authorities.
- UNHCR and partner Foro de Mujeres por la Vida held a session with women’s grassroots organization Mariposas Libres in Tela (Atlántida Department) to develop an awareness-raising campaign for the rights of women disproportionately affected by GBV and forced displacement in the Garifuna communities of the Tela Bay. Main results of the session include the prioritization of community sensitization activities for the prevention of forced displacement to be carried out in five Garifuna communities: Tornabé, San Juan, Triunfo de la Cruz, Río Tinto, and La Ensenada.
- From 24 to 26 August, UNHCR, Save the Children and the National Teachers’ Committee carried out three workshops with more than 70 teachers in Copán, Ocotepeque and Lempira to train them on basic concepts of internal displacement. UNHCR also presented the results of the 2018 study on violence in 220 schools of the Central District. As a result of the workshops, the participants identified and emphasized the need of a transfer protocol for teachers at risk.
- UNHCR held a meeting with the Unit of Procedures of the National Migration Institute (INM) to discuss the evaluation of the registration and status determination procedures that is being carried out. The meeting was the first dialogue space to discuss a formal plan to aid the evaluation and identify procedural gaps that must be addressed to improve the quality of the asylum system.

Livelihoods

- UNHCR, Children International and the Fe y Alegría foundation started a training process on “soft skills” for community leaders and facilitators in Rivera Hernández sector, a prioritized area of San Pedro Sula due to high rates of violence. The initiative is aligned with the implementation of a community pilot project aimed at improving access to livelihoods opportunities indirectly for some 100 young and adults affected by violence. Lack of soft skills represents a huge barrier for vulnerable people to find a job, as identified by the private sector in San Pedro Sula. Twenty-five adults and young people attended the training.

Shelter

- In Cifuentes, Trojes (El Paraíso Department), the delegation of the INM jointly with the Civil Protection Honduran National Agency (COPECO) installed two Refugee Housing Units (RHU) donated by UNHCR for reception, registration and identification of needs, as well as to ensure safe transfers of persons from mixed movements.
- UNHCR handover three sites to the supplier awarded for the remodelling works from a process previously launched by the end of 2020. The remodelling consists in layout changes for the National Directorate for Children, Adolescents and Family Affairs (DINAF) office in Choluteca, which include in the design an interview room, a child-friendly space, bathrooms, and office space. In Trojes, the intervention will be executed in the INM (interview room, bathrooms, and a dormitory for persons in transit), which assists persons in transit entering from the Nicaragua border.

Government and Inter-agency Coordination

- The Government of Honduras and the United Nations System signed on 3 August the new United Nations Development Cooperation Framework for the period 2022-2026, with a strong focus on human rights and gender equality, environmental sustainability, food security, and peace.

Public Information

- In the frame of World Humanitarian Day, UNHCR Representative, Andrés Celis, participated in renowned Honduran TV programme “[Frente a Frente](#)” together with the UN Resident Coordinator and World Vision Honduras. Celis analyzed the challenges that the region and specifically Honduras are facing and highlighted that “those who have left everything behind to prioritize others’ lives and well-being deserve admiration and respect.”

Funding

UNHCR is appealing for USD 26.7 million to provide comprehensive solutions to forcibly displaced persons in Honduras in 2021. 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.

UNHCR is thankful to the donors who provide funds to Honduras:

| Belgium | Denmark | European Union | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | United States of America | UN Peacebuilding Fund | Private donors Italy | Private donors Japan | Private donors Republic of Korea | Private donors Spain | Private donors Sweden

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