



Key Figures

PROTECTION

UNHCR signed a MoU with the **Secretary of Health** and the Municipal Council in Choluteca to support the re-establishment of a clinic for adolescents.

COVID-19

375,213 confirmed cases
10,236 deaths by 27 October 2021
6,936,606 people vaccinated
(2,771,434 received second dose)

76 per cent of funding needs received by 26 October 2021. UNHCR is **appealing for USD 26.7 million** to support vulnerable people in need of protection in Honduras.

Highlights

- The Government of Honduras, through the Task Force for Attention to Returned Migrants, requested the Governments of the United States, Mexico and Guatemala to guarantee Honduran migrants a dignified and safe return. The Local and National Protection Cluster led by UNHCR successfully coordinated and led the humanitarian response during one month to returnees at the Corinto border giving attention to approximately 6,200 people.
- UNHCR presented an analysis on protection concerns related to increase of violence in October to the Protection Cluster and to the Inter Institutional Commission for the protection of Internally Displaced Persons by Violence (CIPPDV). The participants highlighted their concern on the reported increase of violence and political violence one month prior to general elections.
- Brigades from the Ministry of Health visited border points of El Triunfo and La Fraternidad to immunize the Nicaraguan population seeking massively the first dose against COVID-19. By 28 October, 30,000 Nicaraguans were vaccinated. President Hernández announced a loan of 100,000 vaccines to Nicaragua.
- The United Nations General Assembly in New York elected Honduras as one of the 47 members of the Human Rights Council to serve a three-year term as of January 2022.

Protection

- On 20 October UNHCR signed a letter of understanding with the Secretary of Health, the Institute of José Cecilia de Valle and the Municipal Council of guarantee of the rights of children in Choluteca to support the re-establishment and development of the clinic for adolescents. The clinic will expand its services to people with international protection needs and persons with specific needs within mixed movements. The clinic provides assistance on reproductive and sexual health; mental health; physical health as well as activities to promote healthy environments and life projects.
- UNHCR along with partners Children International and Warriors Zulu Nation held cultural and artistic festivals in the communities of Rivera Hernández and North Chamelecón in San Pedro Sula. The festivals included activities led by youths from the artistic collectives accompanied by Warriors and UNHCR, such as breakdancing, freestyle rapping, traditional games and muralism. The festivals are part of both communities' protection plans to strengthen their organizational capacities and recover and occupy public spaces, as well as to promote participation and youth empowerment.

- On 18 October UNHCR in San Pedro Sula and Doctors of the World (MdM) concluded the day of socialization and adaptation of the health fair strategy. Health fairs aim at promoting protection services and access to health in medical clinics that are closed due to the impact of the Eta/ Iota and the pandemic, in the communities of Villanueva, Chamelecón, Rivera Hernández and Planeta. It is estimated that 700 people of concern to UNHCR will benefit, prioritizing children and adolescents, women, LGBTI population and the elderly.
- UNHCR supported partner Human Development Centre (CDH) to carry out three forums with youth networks of La Paz and Francisco Morazán Departments under the slogan “With one voice, let’s protect IDPs”. The forums are an initiative to advocate for the urgent adoption of the IDP bill. More than 40 young men and women participated and had the opportunity to speak out before local authorities, community leaders and other relevant actors.
- Partner Cáritas Honduras carried out a meeting with 25 representatives of the recently created National Platform of parish teams for the adoption of the IDP law. The Platform is a community-based initiative part of the advocacy strategy of Cáritas and UNHCR, that carried out several information and advocacy actions in October within the first anniversary after the draft bill was officially introduced to the National Congress.
- UNHCR in San Pedro Sula and implementing partners World Vision and Children International began the distribution of non-food items (NFIs) in the community of North Chamelecón (Colonia Suyapa). The delivery of humanitarian assistance will continue throughout the following weeks in nine high-risk communities intervened by UNHCR that were severely impacted by emergencies in 2020. Around 17,200 families will benefit from NFIs deliveries in the next few weeks in other prioritized communities of San Pedro Sula, La Lima, and Tela. The deliveries are expected to strengthen the participation and organizational capacities of the affected communities, while consolidating the humanitarian access of UNHCR and its partners to the communities.
- UNHCR provided a workshop on basic concepts of international protection to participants from local NGOs, civil society, and local authorities from border community of El Triunfo, Choluteca Department. The workshop served to establish a referral network at the local level and as a result a second workshop will be held to start working on the reference channels.

Government and Inter-agency Coordination

- UNHCR along with UNICEF held several meetings to review the implementation of the joint action plan for the Blueprint initiative that started in 2020 and will run now until 2022. One of the main findings was the impact of how the joint work has strengthened the National Directorate for Children, Adolescent and Family Affairs (DINAF) in its capacity to respond and give attention to IDPs and returned children. For 2020, following discussions with UNICEF and UNHCR at regional and global levels, Honduras will prioritize child protection for displaced children, coordination mechanisms and gender-based violence interventions focused on returned children.
- UNHCR Field Unit in Tegucigalpa will resume its participation at the inter-agency roundtable for children led by the municipality together with civil society organizations. The agreement was reached after holding a meeting with officials from the Mayor's Office of Tegucigalpa.
- The National Technical Teams of Honduras and the Technical Secretariat of the MIRPS UNHCR and OAS held a meeting to provide information for the next pro tempore presidency to be held by Honduras in 2022. The Technical Secretariat will support Honduras in the preparation of the Work Plan through a working day.
- UNHCR Protection Cluster coordinator joined a mission of the UN Resident Coordinator along with OCHA, IOM and implementing partners in San Pedro Sula and the Corinto border to assess the protection response in the Northern border and meeting government counterparts involved in the elaboration of the Contingency response such as COPECO, CONADEM, INM and DINAF as well as Border Police. The mission provided for an updated Contingency Plan Response.

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:

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