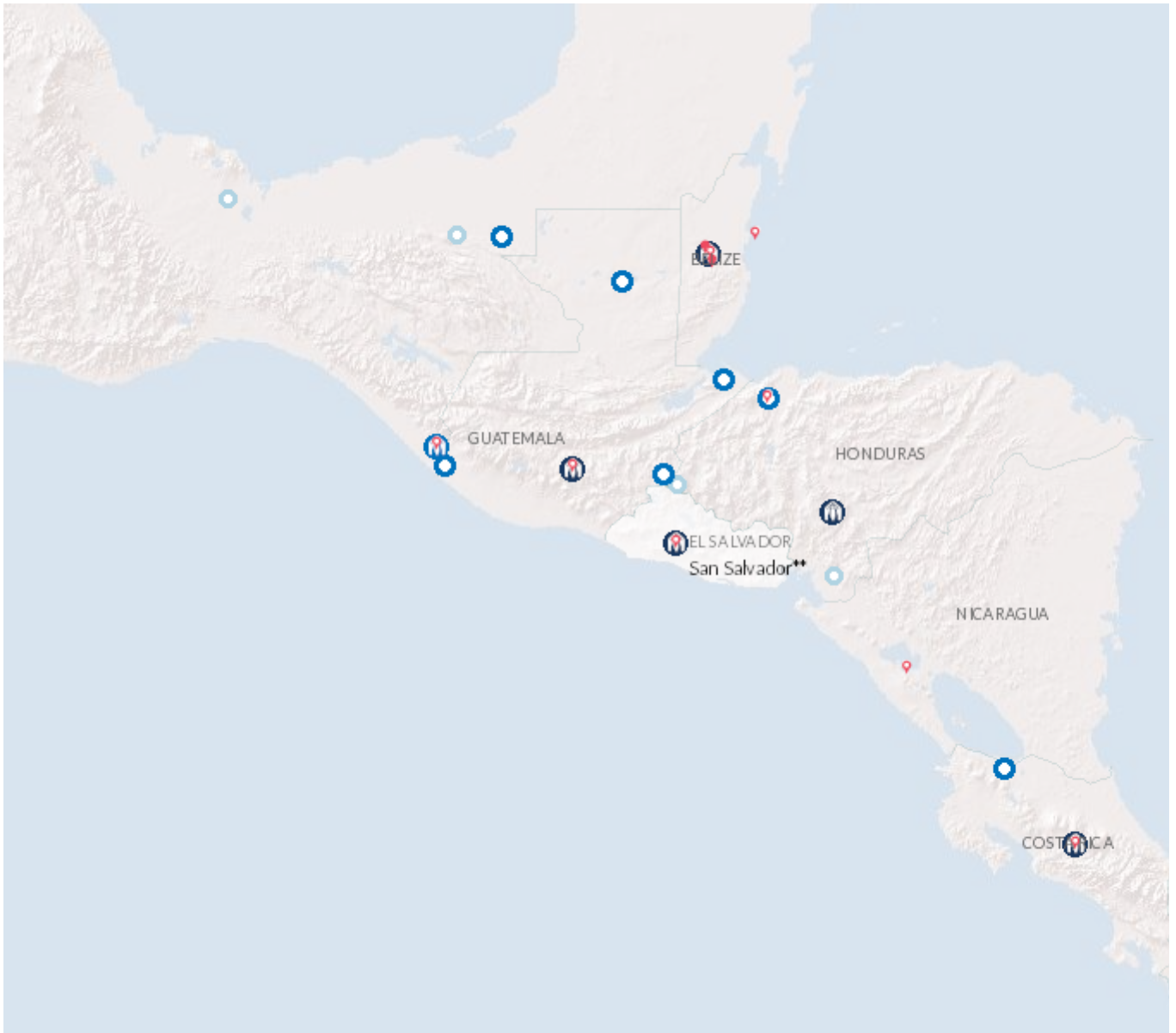
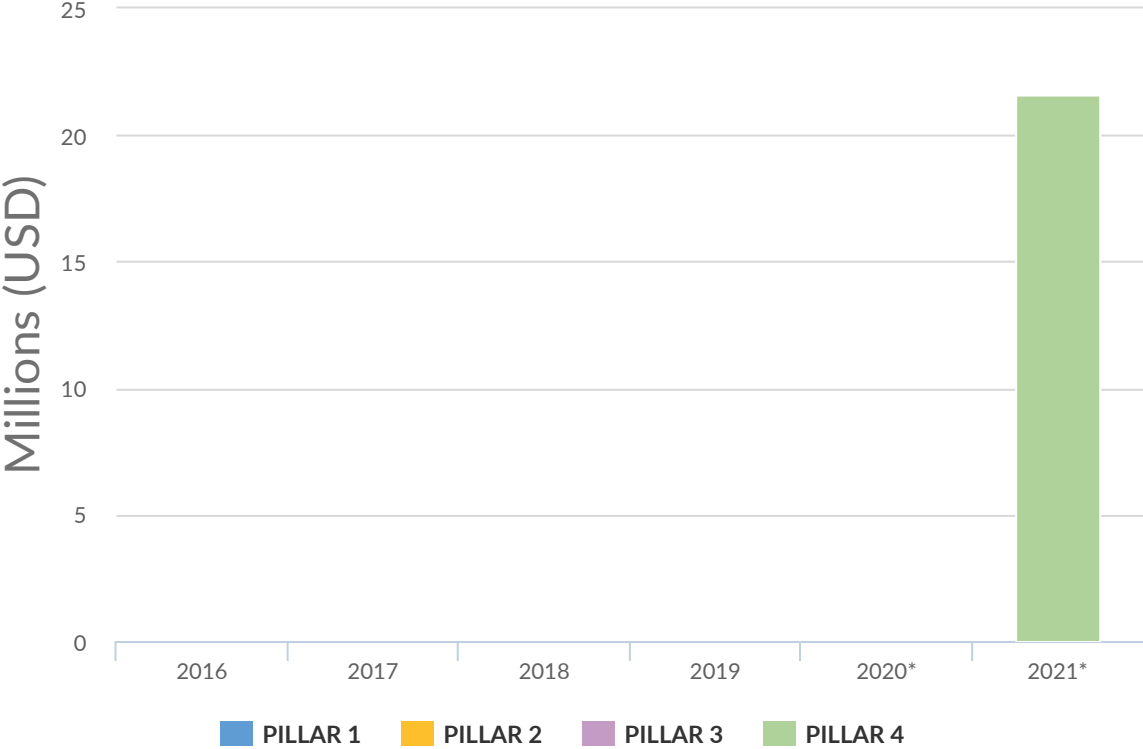


## Operation: El Salvador



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

# Budgets for El Salvador



## Operational environment

Despite national efforts to reduce homicide rates and regain control of the territory in 2020, violence and insecurity related to gangs and organized crime continue to force thousands to flee their communities and seek protection in other parts of El Salvador and across borders. During the COVID-19 pandemic, violence continued unabated in the country.

El Salvador registered 71,500 IDPs between 2006 and 2016 due to violence. In 2021, UNHCR will continue advocating an updated profiling of the IDP population to inform the development and implementation of national programmes targeting this population.

Communities in El Salvador are severely affected by gang violence. The main risks faced by people include extortion and threat to life; physical violence and homicide; gender-based violence and feminicides; forced recruitment of children and youth; violence against LGBTIQ+ populations; as well as a lack of basic and adequate emergency assistance, effective protection measures, livelihoods and durable solutions. The pandemic exacerbated the needs of IDPs and other vulnerable people by impacting their access to protection options and the ability to carry out livelihood activities.

In January 2020, El Salvador passed legislation to protect, aid and offer durable solutions to people internally displaced by violence. UNHCR will continue to support the Directorate General of Migration in the identification and referral of persons with protection needs among those deported.

In 2021, the implementation of the commitments made within the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) will be a priority for UNHCR, with a special focus on the pledges made by El Salvador in the areas of health, education, protection and livelihoods. This will include the implementation of protocols to identify people of concern; the enactment of legislation to grant international protection; private sector engagement; and the implementation of local integration models.

UNHCR will continue to lead the Protection Cluster of the Humanitarian Country Team, where at least 28 organizations converge to coordinate the response to vulnerable people affected by different risks including forced displacement.

## Key priorities

In 2021, UNHCR will focus on:

- Reinforcing border monitoring in order to ensure access to territory and improving reception conditions with a focus on the identification of protection needs.
  - Supporting national capacities and efforts to update the Government's profiling study on IDPs and create a unified register for victims affected by violence and displacement.
  - Strengthening the national asylum system.
  - Enhancing protection networks in 30 prioritized communities including 17 local governments, and improving the network of safe spaces; ensuring that management of cases and referral mechanisms are sensitive to age, gender and diversity.
  - Providing life-saving assistance through cash support, while also promoting self-reliance and livelihoods opportunities in cooperation with the State as a mean to achieve durable solutions.
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