Operation: Mexico

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

#### INCREASE IN

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>291,708</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>165,506</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>19,398</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Pie Chart Breakdown

- **Refugees**: 28,533
- **Asylum-seekers**: 69,470
- **Stateless**: 13
- **Others of concern**: 140,710
- **Venezuelans displaced abroad**: 52,982

The increase in 2019 is 76%.
Budgets and Expenditure for Mexico

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Budget</th>
<th>Expenditure</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>80</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020*</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Millions (USD)
Operational context

The initial open and human rights-based migration policy, adopted by President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador when he took office in early 2019, was challenged as a result of regional dynamics and a series of policies from the United States of America aimed at reducing irregular migration. Although Mexico declined to negotiate a safe third country agreement with the United States of America, it nevertheless increased its control over movements of migrants and asylum-seekers by deploying the National Guard, increasing incidents of detention and returns.

Separately Mexico also acknowledged internal displacement within the country and began adapting its legal and institutional framework to address it.

Mixed movements from countries in the north of Central America, as well as from Cuba, Haiti, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and other countries, towards Mexico continued in 2019, and asylum claims increased considerably. Despite efforts to support the Government, the capacity of the National Refugee Commission (COMAR) to undertake quality refugee status determination (RSD) remained limited and given the rise in asylum applications in Mexico, the backlog in asylum decisions increased.

Population trends

Some 70,400 individuals applied for asylum in Mexico in 2019, a 137% increase from 2018, with an average of 5,900 applications per month.

Almost 90% of applications were filed by nationals of Honduras (43%); El Salvador (13%); Cuba (12%); the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (11%); and Haiti (8%). Some 43% of applicants were female, and children accounted for 26% of applicants.

Achievements

- UNHCR strengthened its response in border and main receiving areas as a result of expanded operations in Aguascalientes, Ciudad Juárez, Guadalajara, Mexicali, Monterrey, Palenque, Querétaro and Tijuana.
- Registration capacity improved in Tapachula with a new centre serving up to 6,000 people per month. The registration period was reduced from eight weeks to a single day.
- UNHCR support allowed COMAR to expand its presence to Monterrey, Palenque and Tijuana.
- A detailed assessment of 60 shelters was conducted to identify capacities and needs.

Unmet needs

- The operation was funded at 92% by the end of 2019.
- Access to quality legal representation remained a challenge, particularly in detention centers, which in turn limited access to the asylum procedure and disincentivized the filing of claims.
- UNHCR continued to urge the Mexican authorities to adapt and translate UNHCR interventions into public policies.
The following table presents the final budget and funds available by pillar and the final expenditure at the objective-level, as reported at year-end.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Pillar 1</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Final Budget</strong></td>
<td>60,565,518</td>
<td>60,565,518</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Income from contributions*</td>
<td>55,643,269</td>
<td>55,643,269</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other funds available / transfers</td>
<td>-616,539</td>
<td>-616,539</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total funds available</strong></td>
<td>55,026,730</td>
<td>55,026,730</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Expenditure by Objective**

**Favourable Protection Environment**
- Legal remedies and legal assistance: 2,374,920
- Access to territory: 747,297
- Public attitudes towards persons of concern: 1,873,935
**Subtotal**: 4,996,153

**Fair Protection Processes and Documentation**
- Reception conditions: 9,036,348
- Registration and profiling: 2,903,992
- Status determination: 1,771,441
**Subtotal**: 13,711,781

**Security from Violence and Exploitation**
- SGBV prevention and response: 603,285
- Non-arbitrary detention: 510,733
- Child protection: 1,780,854
**Subtotal**: 2,894,872

**Basic Needs and Essential Services**
- Basic and domestic and hygiene Items: 14,351,426
- Services for persons with specific needs: 944,966
- Education: 761,261
**Subtotal**: 16,057,653

**Community Empowerment and Self Reliance**
- Community mobilization: 917,648
- Co-existence with local communities: 1,024,563
- Self-reliance and livelihoods: 876,631
**Subtotal**: 2,818,842

**Durable Solutions**
- Integration: 10,087,896
- Resettlement: 51,207
**Subtotal**: 10,139,104
# Leadership, Coordination and Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Coordinate and partnerships</th>
<th>478,384</th>
<th>478,384</th>
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</thead>
</table>

**Subtotal** 478,384 478,384

# Logistics and Operations Support

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Operations management, coordination and support</th>
<th>1,273,111</th>
<th>1,273,111</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Subtotal** 1,273,111 1,273,111

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>2019 Expenditure Total</strong></th>
<th><strong>Total</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>52,369,900</td>
<td>52,369,900</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Income from contributions includes indirect support costs that are recovered from contributions to Pillars 3 and 4, supplementary budgets and the "New or additional activities – mandate-related" (NAM) Reserve. Contributions towards all pillars are included under Pillar 1.