

El Salvador

May 2019

- **71,500** people are internally displaced in the country, according to the latest government-led profiling.
- **More than 19,700 persons of concern were assisted by UNHCR in 2018.**
- **4,690 persons of concern** directly benefited through **community based interventions** in 2018.
- **36,970*** new asylum applications were submitted worldwide by Salvadoran citizens in 2018. (*Preliminary data, subject to possible changes)
- **26,379** Salvadorans were returned from the United States and Mexico during 2018. **16.5%** of adults and **31%** of children reported that they left the country due to **insecurity and violence.**
- El Salvador registered **3,430 homicides in 2018** according to official data from the National Civil Police. This figure represents **50.3 homicides per 100,000 inhabitants**, a rate that is considered epidemic by the World Health Organization.

POPULATION OF CONCERN IN EL SALVADOR (END OF 2018)

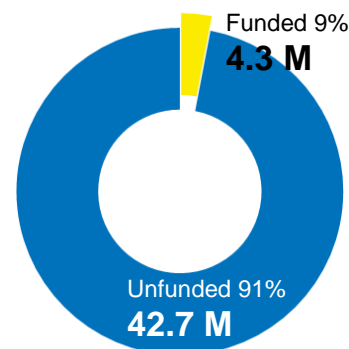
Refugees	48
Asylum Seekers (pending decisions)	18
IDPs	71,500
Others of concern to UNHCR	4,700

Source: Information Provided by Government and partners to UNHCR.

FUNDING (AS OF MAY 2019)

USD 47M

Requested for North of Central America Situation*



*Include requirements in Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama

CONTEXT:

In 2018, a profiling exercise led by the Ministry of Justice and Public Security revealed that between 2006 and 2016, there were approximately **71,500 internally displaced persons** (IDPs) in El Salvador.

In July 2018, the ruling **411/2017** of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Justice ordered to the Executive and the Legislative power **the official recognition of internal forced displacement** in El Salvador.

UNHCR PRESENCE

Staff:

10 National Staff
9 International Staff

Office:

1 National Office in San Salvador

UNHCR El Salvador



Working with Partners

UNHCR works in close coordination with the Salvadoran State, civil society organizations, UN Agencies, Funds and Programs, regional bodies, and persons of concern to provide **a comprehensive response that includes prevention, protection and solutions to internally displaced persons, deported persons with protection needs, refugees and asylum seekers.**

The work of the National Office in El Salvador is structured following the UNHCR'S Strategic Directions 2017-2021

Community-based Protection and AGD (Age, Gender and Diversity) Approach

- **PREVENT:** Mitigate risks through community-based interventions, focusing on **persons of concern with specific protection needs** including girls and boys, youth, SGBV victims, LGBTI individuals, among others.
- **PROTECT:** Humanitarian access to affected populations, by all actors, is increased to ensure protection by presence, with concrete and visible projects that strengthen the protection of communities, as well as their resilience. In 2018, UNHCR provided **humanitarian assistance through cash-based interventions; 310 families** were benefited from these activities.
- **INCLUDE:** The territorial expansion strategy of UNHCR is designed to build a bridge between the strengthened communities and the responses provided by the State institutions at local level in terms of public policies (the Municipality, Local Office of Victim Assistance, child protection institutions, among others).
- **RESPOND:** **Strengthen community structures** and promote dialogue with State and Government institutions at local level.
- **INCLUDE:** **Protection by presence in 29 communities** affected by forced displacement due to violence, to strengthen leadership processes, community structures and the development of protection networks and solutions. Community support is also provided to **a network of 16 parishes, 7 LGBTI community groups** and **4 host communities** of displaced persons.

Direct support to legal protection frameworks and State and Government institutions

- **PROTECT:** **Technical and financial assistance** to the Ministry of Justice and Public Security for the strengthening of the 20 Local Offices of Victim Assistance.
- **Technical assistance** to the Legislation and Constitutional Affairs Commission of the Legislative Assembly for the adoption of a legal framework for the protection of internal displaced persons.
- UNHCR alongside the Ombudsperson's Office provide a comprehensive protection response to internally displaced persons.
- **RESPOND:** **Design and implement** a Protection Module at the Directorate of Attention to Migrants (DAMI) for the identification and referral of deported persons with protection needs. Ensure the presence of UNHCR in the reception center.
- **RESOLVE:** Since 2016, UNHCR has worked in the implementation of the Protection Transfer Arrangement (PTA), a regional cooperation mechanism that aims to provide a safe and legal alternative for a limited number of persons with specific profiles to access the international protection system. To this date, **319 people** have been resettled.



Young woman shows a shirt made in one the livelihoods projects which provides serigraphy and printing services. These initiatives are directed to internally displaced and deported persons with protection needs.
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In 2019, UNHCR received unremarked funding from:

Sweden 90.4 million | **Norway** 44.5 million | **Netherlands** 37.5 million | **United Kingdom** 31.7 million | **Germany** 26.7 million | **Private donors Spain** 26.3 million | **Denmark** 24.4 million | **Switzerland** 15.1 million | **Private donors Republic of Korea** 10.4 million