

Guatemala City (Field Office)

October 2022

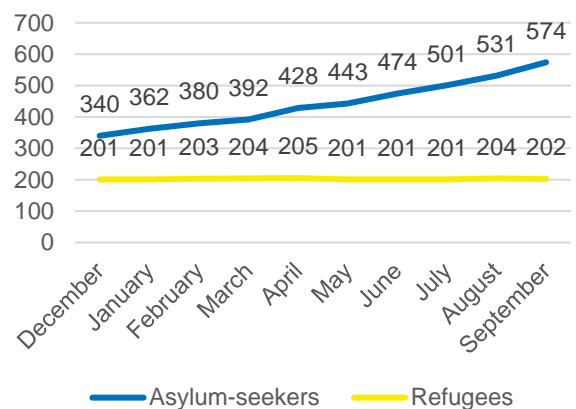
Guatemala has a **dynamic context of mixed movements** as it is a country of origin, transit, destination and return of people with different profiles and needs. In addition, it has positioned itself as a destination country, welcoming more and more **refugees and asylum-seekers**.

In **response to these flows of people in mixed movements**, UNHCR has six field offices in the departments of: San Marcos, Izabal, **Guatemala**, Huehuetenango y Chiquimula. The Guatemala Field Office covers the departments of Chimaltenango, Escuintla, Sacatepéquez, Santa Rosa, Suchitepéquez and Guatemala

The Office assists cases with international protection needs at La **Aurora International Airport** and the Returnees Center. UNHCR provides **protection and solutions** response with the support of partners who provide shelter, legal and psychosocial advice, and durable solutions.



Refugees and asylum-seekers in the area



- +12,000** People benefited from municipal services and programs strengthened in partnership with UNHCR.
- 4,860** Families benefited from biosecurity and personal protection equipment.
- 1,935** People assisted with information services through the UNHCR telephone line and WhatsApp.
- 776** Refugees (202) and asylum seekers (574) assisted by UNHCR in the area.
- 551** People benefited from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions.

*Data as of September 2022



Identification of protection needs for returnees at the Guatemalan Air Force. ©UNHCR/Victor Sanchez/2022

Field Office's Activities in Guatemala in 2022



- The Field Office in Guatemala has **direct contact** with the refugee population through a **telephone hotline, text messages/chatbox, and face-to-face assistance**. This facilitates attention and response to their protection needs and strengthens the identification mechanisms of Guatemalans at risk, which can be referred to the PTA program. In 2022, **1,935** people were assisted through the service line, 813 by telephone, and 1,122 through WhatsApp. Additionally, 178 face-to-face attentions have been offered, whose cases involve 360 people.



Participatory assessments with communities.
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- Up to September 2022, **455 people** from the municipalities of Guatemala, Villa Nueva, Amatitlán, and Mixco have been **trained on issues of international protection** and prevention of gender-based violence.



- To **promote health access** in the City of Solidarity of Villa Nueva, UNHCR donated **15,500 facemasks, 5,400 bottles of gel, and 12 infrared thermometers** to strengthen the municipality's capacity in the development of programs for the protection and inclusion of refugees, asylum-seekers, and Guatemalans.

Livelihoods and Durable Solutions



- Together with partner Action Against Hunger (ACH) and within the Cities of Solidarity initiative framework, UNHCR donated computer and video equipment, board games, books, and educational platforms to strengthen the projects of the Municipality of Guatemala that will **benefit more than 12,000 people**.
- To create educational, technological, and service access spaces, UNHCR has donated to the Municipality of Guatemala spaces. More than 2,896 young Guatemalans and refugees will benefit from the **Mobile Workshop School** project through technical training.



Bicycle tour for World Refugee Day. ©UNHCRVictor Sanchez/2022

- In addition, together with the Municipal Directorate for Women, UNHCR equipped study rooms for the English for Us project, which will benefit **1,032 women**, including host communities and refugees.

- Within the framework of the **Cities of Solidarity** initiative and together with the Municipalities of Guatemala and Villa Nueva, UNHCR has carried out activities of **peaceful coexistence and inclusion** aimed at asylum-seekers, refugees, and host communities, such as the making of murals, night bike tours, Turibus around the city, peaceful coexistence fairs with sports and recreational activities.



Peaceful coexistence fair in Villa Nueva.
©UNHCR/Victor Sanchez/2022



Entrepreneurship fair organized by the Municipality of Guatemala. UNHCR/ 2022

- To promote the **economic inclusion and self-reliance** of refugees, asylum-seekers, and returnees, UNHCR, and its partners implement three livelihood programs:

Graduation Model: together with Action Against Hunger, since 2020, it has benefited more than **560 people** through a sequential and multisectoral intervention for the most vulnerable.

Youth Ready: in coordination with World Vision, it has supported more than **320 people** and hopes to reach 400 people by the end of 2022.

Green Corps: together with FUNDAECO, it benefits more than **45 participants and their families** through internships as forest rangers in various ecological parks in the city.

- Livelihood interventions also include an essential component in supporting **entrepreneurship**. Through joint work with the Municipal Center for Entrepreneurship of the Municipality of Guatemala, **30 asylum-seekers and refugee entrepreneurs** have participated in **4 entrepreneurship fairs** in different public spaces and shopping malls.



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UNHCR's financial requirements for the Guatemala operation in 2022 (as of 14 September 2022)

Funded: 18 million USD (42%)

Unfunded: 24.5 million USD (58%)

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is grateful for the support of:



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