

Huehuetenango (Field Unit)

November 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**.

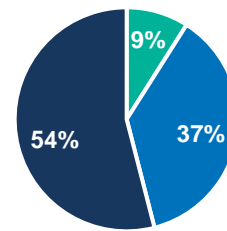
In response to these flows of people in **mixed movements**, UNHCR has **six field offices** in the departments of:

Peten, San Marcos, Izabal, Guatemala, Huehuetenango, and Chiquimula. UNHCR's Field Unit in Huehuetenango opened in March 2022 and covers the departments of Huehuetenango and Quiché.

The Field Unit's area of responsibility is characterized by being **multi-ethnic, multicultural and multilingual** with the majority being indigenous. In addition, it has **two official borders and many irregular crossings** into Mexico, making it a strategic point of human mobility in Guatemala.



Type of Assistance Provided



- Community participation and integration
- Registration and protection services
- Self-sufficiency and livelihoods

7,247	Assistances provided by UNHCR and its partners in the area,
821	Persons informed or sensitized on issues of interest to UNHCR.
920	Assistances provided to refugees and asylum-seekers.
101	Individuals benefited from in-kind assistance.
48	Field visits to programs implemented by UNHCR's partners.

*Data as of October 2022



Female entrepreneurs assisted. ©UNHCR/2022

UNHCR's Activities in Huehuetenango in 2022



- In coordination with the Local Government, UNHCR Field Unit in Huehuetenango promoted the creation of the *Technical Workgroup for Inter-institutional Coordination for the Attention to Migrants, Relatives of Migrants, Refugees, and Asylum Seekers*. This is an essential space for protecting the people UNHCR serves, allowing state institutions and civil society organizations to join forces for their inclusion.
- Since October 2022, UNHCR's Field Unit in Huehuetenango has trained 419 people (including 62 public officials) from local communities and institutions on international protection issues.
- In the upcoming months, UNHCR will install the Attention Center for Migrants and Refugees (CAPMiR) in Las Vegas, Huehuetenango. This aims to provide first-line assistance, through direct or referral to specialized services, for refugees, asylum-seekers, Guatemalans with protection needs and returnees, and people in mixed movements in transit. The CAPMiR is expected to benefit more than 120,000 people a year.



Participatory assessment in the community of Quisil, Huehuetenango. ©UNHCR/2022



- On the borders of Gracias a Dios and La Mesilla in Huehuetenango, UNHCR, in coordination with the Ministry of Health, equipped and expanded health clinics that benefit more than 6,000 people.
- UNHCR installed 60 hydration stations on the borders of Gracias a Dios and La Mesilla, benefiting more than 20,000 people directly and indirectly with access to water.
- In addition, the Field Unit in Huehuetenango supported the Support Center for Women Survivors of Violence (CAIMUS) with donations of non-food items (NFI) that benefit around 40 women, children, and adolescents affected by gender-based violence.



Training provided to individuals assisted by UNHCR in Huehuetenango. ©UNHCR/2022



- In Huehuetenango, UNHCR carried out participatory assessments with refugees, asylum-seekers, partners, and local protection network actors on challenges and opportunities for joint actions in the future.
- UNHCR supported the equipment of the Municipal Directorate for Women's (DMM) Training and Formation Center of the Municipality of Huehuetenango. Through this action, 4,500 women will benefit from training processes in their communities.



Social and peaceful coexistence activities with students in Huehuetenango. ©UNHCR/2022



- Through cash assistance, UNHCR has provided direct support for 31 entrepreneurial projects, 8 job internships, and 22 for basic needs.
- UNHCR supported the strengthening of 3 training centers in the municipalities of Cuilco, Aguacatán, and San Ildefonso Ixtahuacán, providing inputs for technical courses in makeup, bakery, sewing, and construction.



UNHCR and its partners donated equipment to the Municipal Training Centers in Huhuetenango. ©UNHCR/2022

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UNHCR's financial requirements for the Guatemala operation in 2022 (as of November 10th, 2022)

Funded: 20.95 million USD (49%)

Unfunded: 21.5 million USD (51%)

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