



Photo: UNHCR/Gabriela Villeda

## Highlights

- On 24 February, UNHCR Regional Director for the Americas, José Samaniego, and UNHCR Representative in Honduras, Andrés Celis, held a meeting with the recently appointed Vice Secretary of Foreign Affairs of Honduras, Antonio García, in which they agreed to impulse and invigorate Honduras' 2022 Pro tempore Presidency and national chapter of the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS).
- The President of Honduras, Xiomara Castro, sent a letter on 18 February to the United Nations to formally request the installation of a commission against corruption (CICIH) in Honduras.
- The Teachers Association of Secondary Schools in Honduras (COPEMH) estimates that at least USD one billion are needed to renovate schools nationwide. COPEMH informed that 86 per cent of the schools in Honduras are in a state of disrepair, with those in the north being the most affected by hurricanes Eta/ Iota. In Tegucigalpa, 60 per cent of schools are not ready for a safe return to presence learning modality.
- The National Congress approved a loan of YPY 11 billion (USD 85 million) with the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to address the COVID-19 crisis. Honduras is at one of the highest peaks in the pandemic with 48 per cent positivity, according to the Secretariat of Health.

## Protection

- On 9 February, UN Resident Coordinator, Alice Shackelford, and UNHCR Representative visited communities in Tegucigalpa at high-risk of violence. In Nueva Capital, Shackelford learned about the work carried out by UNHCR partners Save the Children and Youth Against Violence (JCV) and visited some of the public spaces rehabilitated within the framework of UNHCR projects, such as a recently inaugurated soccer pitch and a park. The delegation also visited the community of San Miguel, where they saw the construction of a roof on the soccer field that has allowed recreational activities in the area, in addition to serving as a protection space and even a premise for vaccination during the pandemic. In San Miguel they visited a youth training centre supported within the framework of the UNHCR project with Save the Children. Resident Coordinator praised the work conducted by the community leaders and UNHCR to strengthen peace-building and social cohesion.
- On 16 February, UNHCR held a deep dive session with the U.S. Government to present the IDP protection strategy. This meeting allowed to inform how the intervention to prevent forced displacement and protect IDPs is designed based on the evidence about dynamics and main triggers of forced displacement in Honduras. UNHCR's intervention is oriented to protect IDPs and persons at risks based on community-based protection and the strengthening of communities, coordinating the protection and assistance network, promoting and designing public policies and leading the engagement of international community.
- During the reporting period, the Municipality of San Pedro Sula, UNHCR, and partner Children International officially inaugurated a community infrastructure in Rivera Hernández. The refurbished infrastructure includes the renovation of a series of classroom modules of the Emanuel School, home of the Community Art Programme and recognized protection space in the community of Sinai 1 that articulates many community processes for the mitigation of risks associated with forced displacement. The organizations also delivered three community infrastructures in

## Key Figures

UNHCR, the Municipality of San Pedro Sula and partner Children International inaugurated a **community infrastructure** in Rivera Hernández. UNHCR is involved in the refurbishment of 13 social public infrastructures that will benefit some 200,000 persons.

### COVID-19

411,212 confirmed cases  
10,720 deaths by 23 February 2022  
10,960,328 people vaccinated (4,459,176 received second dose)

**10 per cent of funding needs received** by 1 March 2022.

UNHCR is appealing for **USD 28.6 million** to support people in need of protection in Honduras.

Chamelecón North, Chamelecón South, and Rivera Hernández, profiled as high-risk both IDP expeller and receiver. The refurbished infrastructures include two municipal parks located in Chamelecón and one module of classrooms of an educational centre located in Sinaí. UNHCR is currently involved in the refurbishment of 13 social public infrastructures that will benefit some 200,000 persons.

- On 4 February, UNHCR together with partner Children International delivered 35 computers for workshops of the Rosa de Russell School located in the community of Llanos de Sula. This process contributes to the adaptation and renewal of protection spaces in communities affected by forced displacement due to violence and is part of UNHCR's response to mitigate the impacts of hurricanes Eta/ Iota as the weakening of social fabrics, community networks and social infrastructure.
- In Tegucigalpa, UNHCR together with Save the Children provided students from high-risk community of Barrio El Chile with 220 educational kits and 250 hygiene and biosafety kits. On 23 and 24 February, both organizations provided students from high-risk communities of San Buena Ventura and Colonia Izaguirre with 450 and 250 educational kits respectively. In Rosalinda, 30 de Noviembre, and El Pedregal, students received 1,180 education kits.
- On 21 February, UNHCR celebrated jointly with Cáritas in Choluteca the remodelling of the Migrant House. This project is part of UNHCR's contingency plan developed for 2021 to strengthen the asylum system in Honduras by providing people with dignified spaces. The remodelling was made through partner World Vision.
- UNHCR handed over one of the three container offices for child protection to the National Directorate for Children, Adolescent and Family Affairs' (DINAF) protection office, located in the community of Cifuentes, El Paraíso Department.

### Livelihoods

- UNHCR and the Honduran Corporate Social Responsibility Foundation (FUNDAHRSE) analyzed further cooperation. FUNDAHRSE confirmed its willingness to continue to include people of concern in its internship programme and to re-new the memorandum of understanding with UNHCR. FUNDAHRSE will set up links for UNHCR to engage with its members and with the four most relevant universities in the country for bilateral engagements.
- UNHCR and partners Fe y Alegría and Children International equipped with hardware and training materials three vocational training labs in the Youth Community Center (CCJ) La Central in Rivera Hernández sector of San Pedro Sula. All the materials and equipment are aligned with the Vocational Training Institute (INFOP) training curriculum and people of concern who will undergo trainings in these labs will receive INFOP certification upon completion of the courses. UNHCR received positive feedback from the community members who participated in the implementation process and were present also during the delivery of equipment. The initiative is implemented in the framework of a regional joint UNHCR-ILO project funded by EU.

### Government and Inter-agency Coordination

- UNHCR held the first meeting in 2022 with the Vice Mayor of the new administration of the Municipality of San Pedro Sula and his team. As a result of the session, it was agreed to review the content of the memorandum of understanding signed in 2021 to proceed with its ratification.
- The Human Rights Secretariat (SEDH) with the support of UNHCR finalized the evaluation of the jointly implemented 2021 livelihoods programmes. The findings show that 62 per cent (55 per cent of them women) of the beneficiaries of these programmes achieved an average increase 35 per cent in income generation three months after the interventions were initiated. The evaluation concluded that the support received has contributed to the improvement of motivation, experience gaining and innovation perspective of the people of concern to UNHCR on the way to achieving full self-reliance.

### Public Information

- UNHCR launched on Twitter and on the UNHCR Honduras Help site the campaign Juntos, task force for family reunification. <https://twitter.com/ACNURhonduras/status/1495851406598848514/photo/1>

### Funding

- UNHCR is appealing for USD 28.6 million to provide comprehensive solutions to forcibly displaced persons in Honduras in 2022. The best way to support UNHCR's appeal is through unearmarked contributions. Such flexible funding at global level will be key in allowing a timely response to the evolving needs wherever required.

UNHCR is thankful to the donors who provide funds to Honduras.

Belgium | Canada | Denmark | European Union | Germany | Ireland | Netherlands | Norway | Private donors | Republic of Korea | Sweden | Switzerland | United States of America | UN Peacebuilding Fund

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#### For more information:

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