



El Salvador

June 2022

External Update #6

Key Figures

COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

 **501** individuals assisted through UNHCR's helpline in June, and **2,249** in 2022.

 **340** people assisted at the Support Spaces in June, and **1,761** in 2022.

3,703 people reached via Support Spaces mobile brigades in June, and **10,850** in 2022.

CASH ASSISTANCE



386 households (**1,135** individuals) at heightened risk received cash assistance in June, and **796** households (**2,425** individuals) in 2022. This support helps cover basic needs such as food, rent, documentation, and transportation.

FUNDING



21% of UNHCR's financial requirements for El Salvador received by 28 June 2022.

Highlights

1 In the framework of the World Refugee Day Commemoration, UNHCR inaugurated a new Support Space "A tu lado" in San Miguel Municipality. The facility, a municipal property, expands UNHCR's presence in the oriental area of the country. In addition, UNHCR held a briefing session with media on the Global Trends 2021 and UNHCR's operations in El Salvador.

2 A new joint initiative between UNHCR, Ciudad Mujer and World Vision to support female entrepreneurship concluded three workshops carried out with 33 internally displaced women and/or survivors of gender-based violence from Santa Ana, San Miguel and San Salvador departments. The session marked the first of a series focused on providing psychosocial support and strengthening skills in client service for female-headed microenterprises.

3 UNHCR delivered canes, walkers, and wheelchairs during a brigade with the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Culture to 40 older people from indigenous and afro-descent communities in La Unión department. The Support Space's mobile brigades accompanied the activity and provided information and orientation on access to rights and services.

4 To date, 62 internally displaced people and at-risk youth from San Salvador and Santa Ana, as well as one asylum-seeker from Costa Rica, signed contracts with allied companies of the 'My First Job' programme and got enrolled in the Salvadoran Social Security Institute (ISSS). Participants attended three-day workshops facilitated by job specialists from the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare and World Vision on soft skills and abilities.

5 The Canadian Embassy, UNHCR and IOM presented the common initiative to empower women and girls in Central America. The event presided by the Minister of Culture, who is also the President of the Women Institute or ISDEMU, allowed to disseminate the scope and aim of the multi-country programme to be implemented jointly by UNHCR and IOM.



Protect

UNHCR coordinated a week of work with the head of information and analysis of the Global Protection Cluster, the information managers of the Protection Sector and the areas of responsibility for child protection and gender-based violence. As a result, severity levels and protection risks in specific geographic areas of the country were identified as part of the protection analysis framework.

UNHCR participated in the gender violence workshop given by the Gender-Based Violence Area of Responsibility of the Protection Sector. During the workshop, participants received training on the humanitarian architecture and coordination mechanisms to respond to gender-based violence in the country.



Assist

UNHCR and World Vision trained on emotional intelligence the internally displaced Victims Committee supported by the Human Rights Office of the Archbishop of San Salvador. UNHCR carries out activities twice a month with the Victims Committee, including trainings on the national and local protection mechanisms, which is the only advocacy space in El Salvador led by victims of forced displacement.

Solve

Enrolments into the livelihoods programme Super Pilas reached 300 participants. The 6-month programme, implemented by partner World Vision, supports refugees, internally displaced people, those at risk of displacement, and returnees with protection needs to develop soft skills and life skills and then in working toward achieving their desired livelihood.

UNHCR and NRC carried out three focus groups in San Salvador, San Vicente and Sonsonate with victims of forced displacement and communities at risk of displacement to gather information relating to access to land, housing and property rights. UNHCR also coordinated individual interviews with internally displaced people whose property and other assets were abandoned or usurped as a result of forced displacement.

Empower

UNHCR and World Vision launched the Community Sports programmes in Los Conacastes and San Jose communities in Soyapango municipality. A total of 145 girls, boys and adolescents enrolled to attend the sessions, which count with seven trained community referees and 40 community representatives who support the ongoing programmes.

UNHCR delivered equipment and material to the municipality of Zaragoza, La Libertad, in support of the Youth Centre where workshops of local handicrafts made of corn cob leaves (Tusa) are held. This activity aims to generate sources of income for the local population.

UNHCR participated in the third training session of the Human Rights and Community Organization School led by FUNDASAL that debated the "National System for the Protection of Human Rights and the Right to Adequate Housing". A total of 22 community leaders from the municipalities of Tapalhuaca, San Juan Talpa and San Vicente participated in the event.



Stories from the field

The power of giving back to your community

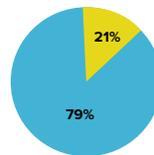
UNHCR recently renovated a community centre that serves eleven communities exposed to violence in Santa Ana department. The intervention facilitates a safe area to attend learning, cultural and recreational activities. Volunteers have been key to ensure the success of this centre.

“We have the support of the majority in the community and if we continue this way, I believe that it will improve much more” said Eduardo, a volunteer that teaches English to a group of twenty children. “We are promoting opportunities for our children, developing them for a better future and I think there is going to be a big generational change. The children have more interaction with others, there is greater harmony, and they help each other more through the different projects that are being carried out in the community centre,” added Eduardo. As many members in his community, Eduardo understands the power of giving back and improving conditions for new generations. He is currently studying a career specializing in education with a special focus on children. “If they find a leader who motivates them, who helps them, they improve their self-esteem, they think about the future, and about studying a profession, because they have found a person who supports them.” Since the community centre got renovated, everyone has pitched in helping to maintain it nice and clean. The centre currently has 58 volunteers that help run the centre and give workshops on origami, piñata making, and paper flower arrangements among others. “When I came, they told me that this community was not very active, it did not support much, but now the community has practically integrated itself into the various activities, it has been quite supportive. For example, for the inauguration of the centre, there were around 70 people supporting with cleaning and organizing.” Shared Yesica, the community centre coordinator supported by Santa Ana’s Mayor’s Office. In addition, thanks to the equipment donated by UNHCR the centre hosts INSAFORP certified technical careers such as cooking, bakery, and computing.



Funding

In 2022, UNHCR is appealing for USD 23.6 million to provide protection, assistance, empowerment and solutions to refugees, asylum-seekers, and forcibly displaced persons in El Salvador. The best way to support UNHCR’s appeal is through unearmarked contributions. Such flexible funding at global level is key in allowing a timely response to the evolving needs wherever required.



- Funded
- Funding gap

Website: <https://www.acnur.org/el-salvador.html>

Global Focus: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/elsalvador>

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