



UNHCR delivers information on access to services and assistance during an inter-institutional fair of services in Santa Ana.
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El Salvador July 2022 External Update #7

Key Figures

COMMUNITY-BASED PROTECTION

 **639** individuals assisted through UNHCR's helpline in July, and **2,888** in 2022.

 **303** people assisted at the Support Spaces in July, and **2,064** in 2022.

5,540 people reached via Support Spaces mobile brigades in July, and **16,390** in 2022.

CASH ASSISTANCE



448 households (**1,367** individuals) at heightened risk received cash assistance in July, and **907** households (**2,793** individuals) in 2022. This support helps cover basic needs such as food, rent, documentation, and transportation.

FUNDING



49% of UNHCR's financial requirements for El Salvador received by 3 August 2022.

Highlights

1 Over 75 internally displaced persons, returnees with protection needs and people at risk of displacement displayed their products and services at a **networking event**, organized by UNHCR and World Vision, for entrepreneurs who developed microenterprises as a result of the Súper Pilas programme in 2021. In attendance were businesses, financial service providers, universities, representatives of the Government's National Commission for Micro and Small Businesses and NGOs, who also participated in a Q&A session on access to credit, entrepreneurship in the tourism industry, and expanding into foreign markets.

2 The LGBTIQ+ rights organization DIKÉ, with the support of UNHCR and IRC, organized the first national congress on sexual medicine, transgender health and sexology for medical professionals in El Salvador. Presentations included sexology, sexual therapy, sexual education, plastic surgery for trans patients, and good practices from the participating countries. The Congress generated an important dialogue amongst physicians about providing services to transgender people, which is essential for their health, wellbeing and for the prevention of forced displacement.

3 UNHCR accompanied the Ombudsperson's office (PDDH) in a protection monitoring exercise in Sonsonate, San Miguel, and San Vicente departments. The PDDH conducted 240 surveys (general population); 52 interviews with local actors (members of institutions, municipalities, and organizations); and 16 workshops with their territorial staff and communities.

4 UNHCR, in coordination with authorities, partners and community leaders, delivered emergency assistance, such as hygiene kits, mattresses, roofs and cleaning products, among others, to communities affected by the heavy storms. People affected by flooding, loss of personal belongings, and damages in houses were moved to safe shelters by the authorities.



UNHCR delivers emergency assistance for people affected by floodings caused by the heavy storms in San Salvador.
©UNHCR/Alejandro Villela

Protect

UNHCR and the General Directorate for Migration and Foreigners (DGME) trained 49 Airport Migration Officials on international refugee protection to strengthen access to asylum and improve services provided to asylum-seekers.

UNHCR and NRC carried out border monitoring visits in four communities at the border with Honduras, and interviewed community leaders regarding cross-border movements, protection needs and access to services.

Assist

UNHCR donated kitchen equipment to the first community dining room in San Nicolas, Zaragoza municipality, which will be managed by the local Community Development Association with the support of NGOs and the municipality. Through a community-managed structure, nutritional needs of people at heightened risk will be improved contributing to the local economic development.

UNHCR, IRC and DIKÉ inaugurated a LGBTIQ+ safe space in San Salvador. The space, managed by DIKÉ, provides psychosocial, legal and healthcare attention to LGBTIQ+ people.

UNHCR joined 14 other organizations in an inter-institutional fair of services organized by the municipality of Santa Ana along IOM. UNHCR informed on its mandate and the services provided for internally displaced persons and people at risk of displacement through the support spaces and mobile brigades.



UNHCR and IRC Representatives inaugurated DIKÉ's LGBTIQ+ secure space in San Salvador.
©Courtesy DIKÉ

Solve

As part of its livelihoods strategy to improve the skills, qualifications, and employability of IDP and at-risk younger persons, UNHCR delivered IT equipment to training centres that implement courses for the Salvadoran Institute for Technical Education (INSAFORP). Some 200 students annually will use the equipment in formal certification in Web and App design, among other vocational training courses that respond to labour market needs. Since 2021, UNHCR expanded the alliance with INSAFORP in line with the MIRPS commitment to enhance access to vocational training and job placement for the forcibly displaced.

UNHCR and the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, with the support of World Vision, carried out another round of preparatory sessions for participants of the My First Job programme. A total of 57 IDP and at-risk younger people from San Salvador and Santa Ana attended the three-day workshops facilitated by job specialists on soft skills and preparation for formal employment. In 2022, 169 people have completed the preparatory workshop and received a diploma of participation from the Ministry of Labour.

Empower

To boost UNHCR inter-partner collaboration, COMCAVIS Trans trained other UNHCR allies -FUNDASAL, World Vision, IRC- on mainstreaming an LGBTIQ+ inclusive approach, included protection mechanisms, persecution due to sexual orientation or gender identity, among other issues. This was the first of the three sessions that will be implemented until September.

UNHCR and World Vision began the process of sharing feedback to the communities' part of participatory assessments conducted in May and June. The pilot was implemented in Tinetti, a San Salvador community.

UNHCR tested its new ChatBot – By Your Side online with a focus group of outreach volunteers to assess accessibility with users from different community contexts and technological backgrounds. The tool includes information and automatic responses on 15 topics as access to asylum in the country or UNHCR's activities. The chatbox will be officially launched at the end of August.



Child learns about forced displacement and rights through the illustrated story "Tintino" during an informative fair in Santa Ana.
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Stories from the field

Wrapping dreams by hand

Jenny* left her former neighbourhood in San Salvador after she realized it was too dangerous for her daughter. With her family, she fled to another city in the country in search for a safer place to rebuild her life. Thanks to Súper Pilas, a UNHCR and World Vision joint programme, she runs a now burgeoning small business that she wants to expand.

After Jenny* and her family fled from the insecurity in their hometown in San Salvador, she began searching for ways to earn a living. She then heard about the Súper Pilas programme, which World Vision and UNHCR implement in El Salvador in support to displaced persons, returnees with protection needs and people at risk of displacement. As Jenny, some 700 people have already participated in this programme that helps boosting opportunities as entrepreneurship or job searching depending on their personal goals.

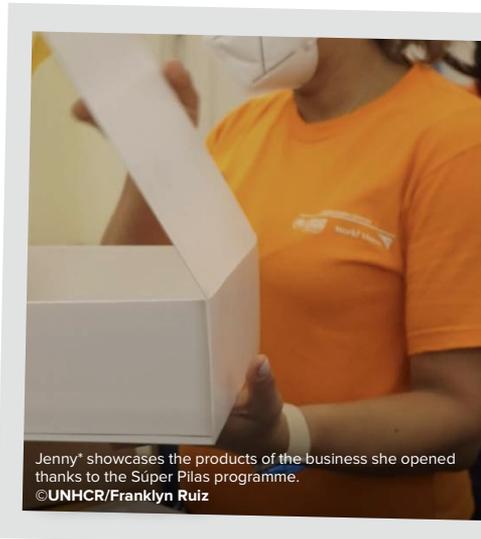
Jenny* attended capacity building sessions to learn and develop all the skills needed to start a new business. "I decided to begin my small business with the goal of making it a source of income for my family. I could not have done it without Súper Pilas' guidance", said Jenny*.

She received training on entrepreneurship, orientation, and assistance in cash to bring her business idea to realization. Thanks to this support, and the accompaniment that guided her efforts, she launched a customised gifts and packaging business: "I have big dreams for my business. I would like to expand, make new clients to get more orders. Thus, to generate job opportunities for other people that faced similar situations to mine", said Jenny* while showcasing her products during a networking event organized by UNHCR and World Vision with the private sector.

*Name changed for protection reasons

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

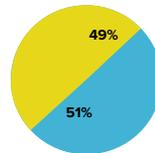
Global Focus: <https://reporting.unhcr.org/elsalvador>



Jenny* showcases the products of the business she opened thanks to the Súper Pilas programme.
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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

UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, is grateful for the support in 2022 of:



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