



Reporting Period: January- December 2022

COVID-19, children on the move and other crises in Mexico and Central America

Humanitarian Situation Report

unicef 
for every child

Highlights

- The flow of migrants and children on the move continues to increase in Central America and Mexico. The movement of population is multi-directional: migrants and children on the move not only move toward the north (aiming at reaching the United States or Mexico), but move between neighbouring countries, many are returnees, and increased number of people have become Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs).
- Mexico and Central America countries continue facing multiple and complex humanitarian situations affecting 4.8 million children due to violence, climate shocks, food insecurity, and increasing inequity; all compounded by the health and socioeconomic impacts of COVID-19 pandemic and fuelling cross-border migration and internal displacement.
- As of December 2022, UNICEF-supported actions in response to migrants, host communities, IDPs and other vulnerable groups affected by the impacts of the pandemic, have reached over 640,000 people with access to safe water, nearly 198,000 children and caregivers received mental health and psychosocial support, more than 27,000 children accessed formal or non-formal education -most of them migrants, over 84,000 caregivers received nutritional counselling, and 1,476 families received cash transfers. In addition, 5.4 million people have been reached with messaging on prevention and access to services.
- By the end of 2022, UNICEF's appeal was 64 per cent underfunded. In 2023, urgent support is needed to maintain and further scale-up response actions in the field, particularly in response to the changing migration dynamics in the sub-region and the draining of local and national resources.

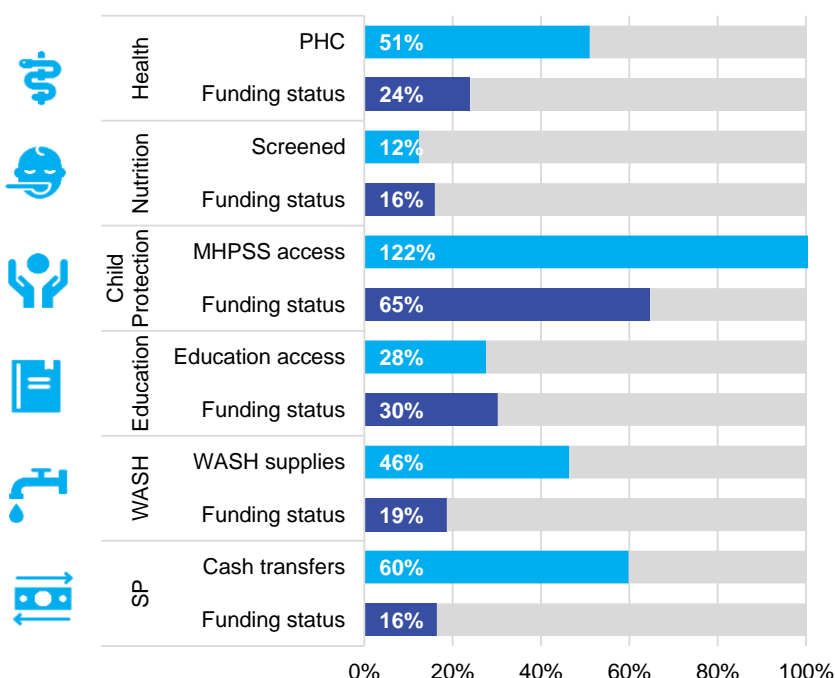
Situation in Numbers

 **4.8 million**
children in need of assistance
(UNICEF HAC, 2022)

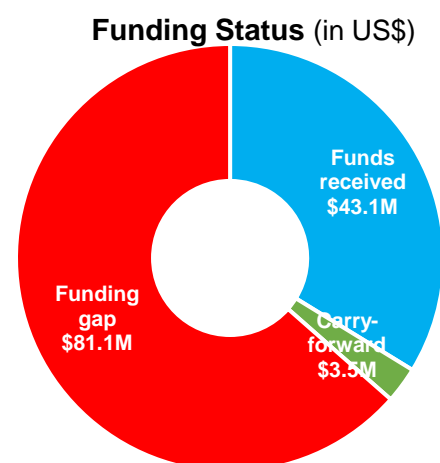
 **12.2 million**
people in need of assistance
(UNICEF HAC, 2022)

 **+248,000**
people transited the Darien gap in 2022
(Panama Migration Service, Jan 2022)

UNICEF's Response and Funding Status



UNICEF Appeal 2022 US\$ 127.7 million



*Funding available includes: funds received in the current year; carry-over from the previous year; and repurposed funds with agreement from donors.

Regional Funding Overview & Partnerships

As of December 2022, UNICEF had US\$46.6 million available against the US\$127.7 million appeal: US\$3.4 million carried over from 2021 and US\$43.1 million received in 2022. Critical funding received to scale-up the response in 2022 included contributions from the US Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (BHA), United States Agency for International Development (USAID), the Directorate-General for European Civil Protection and Humanitarian Aid Operations (DG ECHO), Republic of Korea, allocations from OCHA's Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF), and UNICEF's Global Humanitarian Thematic Funds, which have helped UNICEF Country Offices to address children's humanitarian needs.

UNICEF acknowledges the sustained support from donors to the humanitarian response for children and families on the move across Mexico and Central America, a crisis that continues to exacerbate across the region, with emerging needs, demanding increased response from UNICEF and partners. In 2023, UNICEF will continue advocating for flexible and sustained funding, as it is critical to be able to adapt its response strategy to the ever more complex and fluid humanitarian situations.

Regional Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The increased flow of children on the move continued throughout 2022 across Central America and Mexico to an unprecedented level. The movement has become multidirectional, with more families and children returning (both forced and voluntary) and traveling along irregular routes due to tightened border controls. This puts children at risk of abuse, exploitation and family separation. Children's growth, development and well-being is under threat in what is truly a children's crisis.

More than 152,000 unaccompanied children were apprehended at the southwestern border of the United States between October 2021 and September 2022ⁱ. Moreover, 2022 trends show a dramatic increase in the number of asylum applications, which has an impact in and beyond the region.

Violence remains one of the main drivers of migration in Central America and Mexico. For many unaccompanied adolescents, staying home means limited future prospects and the risk of gang recruitments and death. Violence is also a main risk for those migrating. For example, the Darien Gap is controlled by armed groups: migrants traveling through this route are exposed to robbery, physical and sexual violence.

Multiple protracted and compounding crises - due to climate hazards, socio-political turmoil, inequity, food insecurity, malnutrition and limited access to quality essential services - continue to fuel migration and internal displacement in the region. The humanitarian needs of vulnerable children and families add pressure to existing services, often already scarce in remote communities, and overwhelm local authorities in transit and destination countries.

By the end of 2022, the countries included in this report recorded 11.3 million COVID-19 cases and nearly 378,000 deaths. About 62 per cent of its population had received all doses prescribed by the initial vaccination protocolⁱⁱ. As the recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic has been slow and unequal, poverty remains high, extreme poverty is expected to worsen in 2023ⁱⁱⁱ. By considering the impact of the high climate change scenarios alone, the Latin America and Caribbean region could experience up to a 300 per cent increase in extreme poverty by 2030. The situation is compounded by the global disruption of supply chains and inflation triggered by the war in Ukraine, and by the residual effects of natural hazards in the region. All these factors challenge access to food, goods and essential services for the poorest, most shock-prone, migrant families and host communities. There are at least 7.8 million people suffering food insecurity crisis (IPC Phase 3) or worse levels across Central America^{iv} exacerbated by an active rainy season in the latter half of 2022 that caused widespread flooding and landslides.

As per the Global Humanitarian Overview 2023, the number of people in need in Latin America and the Caribbean continues to rise. In Northern Central America alone (El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala), an additional one million people will require critical humanitarian assistance in 2023 compared to the previous year. Multidimensional vulnerabilities and increasingly interconnected protection risks and humanitarian needs are likely to worsen in 2023^v: food insecurity, recurring natural disasters compounded by climate change, displacement within and across borders and wide-spread violence will continue aggravating children's needs in protection, health, nutrition, water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH), education, and overall access to social protection.

Regional Humanitarian Leadership, Coordination, Response and Support to COs

Across all programme and cross-cutting areas, the Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office (LACRO) provided technical support and quality assurance for humanitarian action, offering tools and resources for a quality and evidence-based humanitarian response, and building capacities of UNICEF's teams and partners. In 2022, UNICEF continued to represent/lead regional sectoral groups in coordination platforms.

Sector	Highlights of coordination, regional-led activities and support to COs
Nutrition	UNICEF as a Nutrition Sector Lead, in collaboration of the Global Nutrition Cluster, organized a hybrid training targeting Central American countries to strengthen the Nutrition components of the 2023 Humanitarian Needs Overview (HNO) and Humanitarian Response Plans (HRP) in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras. The training consisted of a set of online courses on Nutrition humanitarian needs analysis and response planning followed by bilateral follow-up with countries to discuss specific challenges. UNICEF also provided support to countries on infant and young child feeding in emergencies, data generation, and resource mobilization for Nutrition.
Water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH)	The Regional WASH LAC Group is co-led by UNICEF and PAHO. During 2022, UNICEF continued promoting and tracking the minimum requirements to improve national WASH coordination platforms in Belize, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, and Panama. Dedicated operational and technical support to WASH national coordination platforms was provided for the development of response plans and need analysis, review of partners' projects and key planning figures. During the last quarter of 2022, UNICEF held an in-person WASH in Emergency training with a migration chapter, allowing UNICEF staff to improve their understanding and capacities in migration response. A "WASH Inclusion" webinar was conducted to improve and ensure inclusive WASH responses in the region.

Education	UNICEF co-leads, with Save the Children, Education sectoral coordination mechanisms. Throughout 2022, the regional education group provided support to national education platforms for their coordination, supported capacity building for national education coordination mechanisms (core skills training Core 1 and 2), supported revision of national education indicators and facilitated exchanges of experiences between national platforms. In addition, UNICEF supported strengthening the capacities at the country levels on early childhood development (ECD) and early childhood education to incorporate activities for young children and their parents in the humanitarian plans and responses. UNICEF developed contents for an interactive virtual course on ECD in emergency contexts, with focus on migration, in collaboration with UNICEF HQ and the Inter-agency Network for Education in Emergencies (INEE).
Child protection, GBVIE and PSEA	<p>UNICEF co-leads, with World Vision, the regional Child Protection Humanitarian Action Sub-group. The sub-group developed an online mapping of child protection services provided to migrant and refugee children throughout the region. UNICEF developed and validated with Country Offices (COs) the Theory of Change and strategic framework for children and adolescents in the context of human mobility in LAC region. UNICEF continued supporting the Regional Conference on Migration (CRM), providing technical assistance for development of a training process (implemented during the last quarter of 2022) on the application of the best interests of the child in human mobility processes. To continue building capacities on protection from sexual exploitation and abuse (PSEA), a training for PSEA focal points was concluded in November with the participation of all COs in the sub-region. During the training, experiences of working in contexts of human mobility were exchanged. UNICEF, together with the regional sub-group for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action, concluded the virtual course on Child Protection in Emergencies, delivering key knowledge to practitioners responsible for leading child protection response interventions in the sub-region. Training tools and materials are available in the following link.</p> <p>A virtual training on Gender Based Violence (GBV) in Emergencies was conducted between September and October, with 20 UNICEF participants, to strengthen their technical expertise, skills and tools needed to effectively and rapidly launch the UNICEF GBV programme approach and operational guidance in emergencies. In addition, with the aim of enhancing the capacities of 25 Mexican GBV service providers, between September and October, a virtual training was conducted on the remote psychosocial support model for migrant and refugee girls and adolescents survivors of GBV.</p>
Social Protection	As coleader of the Regional Cash Working Group (part of the Regional Inter-Agency Coordination Platform for Refugees and Migrants from Venezuela - R4V), UNICEF published a Review of Coordination Mechanisms between humanitarian Cash Working Groups and Social Protection systems in LAC (available in the following link), in collaboration with The CALP Network and Save the Children. The report provides an overview of the state of coordination across the region, including Central America and Mexico, as well as a deep dive in the case of Guatemala. UNICEF also finalized case studies on shock responsive social protection between 2020-2022, including the response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Guatemala. The complete report will be published in 2023 and will contribute to the overall knowledge on cash transfers in emergencies.
Gender	UNICEF supported key advocacy around the situation of migrant girls and adolescents in Mexico and Central America. On 8 November, UNICEF organized the XV Regional Women's Conference side event "The role of migrant women and girls in the ecosystem of care work and human mobility in Latin America and the Caribbean: evidence and pending challenges," in partnership with IOM, UN Women, UNHCR, Quito Process, Regional Conference on Migration (CRM), the Council of Ministers of Women's Affairs of Central America (COMMCA), the Latin American and Caribbean Demographic Centre (CELADE), representatives of States and civil society. UNICEF moderated the high-level panel "Good practices and recommendations for a better distribution of care for migrant women and girls in Latin America." The policy brief with recommendations "Girls and adolescents, migrant, refugees and displaced in Latin America and the Caribbean. An urgent reality in the care agenda" was developed to support advocacy and raise awareness about the situation faced by migrant, refugee, and displaced girls and adolescents in the region. The regional report " Affective Cartographies: Migrant, Displaced and Refugee Girls and Adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean ," developed by UNICEF and HIAS, was launched in June, as one of the key events to mark World Refugee Day, including high-level regional dialogue on the challenges that girls and adolescents experience and resilience strategies they use to increase their ability to survive and thrive in times of crisis, displacement and return.
Monitoring	To continue strengthening the regional capacity to monitor migration flows across Central America and Mexico, UNICEF is developing a mechanism to generate real-time information on children on the move and their access to services, including humanitarian response services and service capacity available throughout the most common migration routes. The mechanism informs UNICEF programmes to quickly respond and adopt to the rapidly evolving needs of children on the move and their families. UNICEF is implementing an innovative methodology looking at: a) engaging people on the move; b) generating information about the services and their current occupancy; and c) providing an early warning mechanism to alert the overwhelming of services due to increased migration flows. Further information on the methodology is available in the following link .
Supply & Logistics	UNICEF strengthened its support to all country offices in the Central American and Mexico to improve their Supply and Logistics commitments.

Content Summary – Quick links

[Belize](#) – [Costa Rica](#) – [El Salvador](#) – [Guatemala](#) – [Honduras](#) – [Mexico](#) – [Panama](#)

BELIZE

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Belize is a country of origin, destination, transit and return where management of migration remains complex, and integration and social cohesion are challenging. Care options for unaccompanied migrant children are still limited while the lack of data challenges the assessment of the conditions and needs of migrants. A substantial achievement of the Belize government in 2022 was the launch of the National Amnesty Programme, which seeks to offer permanent residence status to migrants and asylum seekers who have been living in Belize for several years. This provides an opportunity for UNICEF and partners to strengthen their support in ensuring rights of the migrant population, improve their access to basic social services, and foster social cohesion with host communities.

As of November 2022, approximately 6,500 people had completed their amnesty applications. Given the low number of persons registered, UNICEF, IOM and UNHCR advocated for an extension of the amnesty programme, resulting in a three-months extension of the application period. Sustained support services through Amnesty Hubs for beneficiaries will be required.

Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic in Belize, by the end of 2022, 345,830 doses of COVID-19 vaccines had been administered and 51 per cent of the total population was fully vaccinated. A total of 69,675 confirmed cases, 68,755 recoveries and 688 deaths had been reported. Given the increase in the number of COVID-19 cases reported in December 2022, public health interventions have scaled up.

On 2 November 2022, Hurricane Lisa made a landfall in Belize City as an upper category one storm with winds at 95-100mph with heavy rainfall. A total of 67,000 people in coastal Belize City were directly affected, including migrant communities. An estimated 500 houses were destroyed, and 5,000 homes suffered from light, medium and heavy damages.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

UNICEF reached 615 primary caregivers of children under 23 months old with Infant and Young Child feeding (IYCF) counselling through visits for distribution of early childhood development (ECD) kits for families in migrant communities, and through the Roving Caregivers Programme, reaching families in rural villages.

UNICEF supported the Ministry of Health (MoH) in conducting a national breastfeeding study to identify the levels and inequalities of key indicators on breastfeeding and other feeding practices in the most vulnerable communities, including among migrant families. Preliminary findings from the study show that both non-exclusive breastfeeding and breastfeeding in addition to complementary feeding are practiced in vulnerable communities. The study will be validated in 2023, and the results will inform nutrition and Social and Behaviour Change (SBC) programming.

Health

The two-years lockdown of the country due to the COVID-19 pandemic had a negative impact on the economy, resulting in budget reductions for the MoH. This affected the provision of health services for women and children leading to a slight increase in the maternal mortality rate and vaccine preventable diseases. To prevent maternal, neonatal and infant mortality, UNICEF supported the strengthening of the healthcare system through capacity building of health workers and procurement of critical maternal and child health equipment for primary health care services, that are accessed by migrants across the country. At least 8,000 women accessed maternal child health services, and 6,342 live births were reported in UNICEF-supported health centres.

UNICEF supported the 'zero dose' vaccination programme aiming at increasing rates of routine immunization in hard-to-reach communities, considering the impact of COVID-19 on general immunization coverage. UNICEF-supported initiatives contributed to reach over 6,418 children with vaccines, including through training of nurses and community health workers, support for vaccine administration and storage, contact tracing of unvaccinated children and adolescents, and overall support for monitoring all immunization 'zero dose' strategies.

WASH

With UNICEF support, the Ministry of Education (MoE) started remodelling/refurbishing sanitation and hygiene facilities in eight primary schools in migrant communities, benefiting approximately 1,200 children. Support to these school is critical, as these are often used as shelters during emergencies.

In partnership with the Stockholm International Water Institute (SIWI), UNICEF started a baseline study to assess the management system of WASH facilities in 310 primary schools to inform WASH-in-schools strategies. The study will be completed in early 2023. Training materials have been developed for upcoming capacity building sessions for school principals and senior teachers on the use of Kobo for data collection.

Capacity building efforts included a 'WASH in emergencies' training for 20 key stakeholders, targeting staff from the National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO) and other WASH partners.

UNICEF distributed 30 water tanks to 15 schools and 15 migrant and vulnerable communities (including some affected by hurricane Lisa), improving access to safe water for 12,500 people. Through this intervention - in collaboration with the ministries of education, health and rural development and transformation, UNICEF provided practical solutions to address the issue of low water pressure and shortage of water. These tanks will ensure a constant supply of water for schools to remain operational, contributing to UNICEF's humanitarian-development nexus efforts, helping to make schools and communities

more climate resilient. Additionally, tarps and tents were provided to schools and communities which infrastructure is susceptible to damage in times of disaster.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

The number of unaccompanied and separated children (UASC) transiting Belize continues increasing. With UNICEF support, 113 UASC were provided alternative care or family reunification in 2022.

UNICEF, jointly with IOM and UNHCR, supported migrants in their applications for the National Amnesty Programme. In November, UNICEF and IOM supported three Amnesty Mobile Hubs where 645 families, including 149 children, accessed services to complete their Amnesty applications. At these hubs, UNICEF provided information on birth registration processes and assisted over 40 families in completing birth registration applications.

Directly linked to the UN Migration Joint Plan (UNICEF, IOM, UNHCR), the agencies established a working table with the Government to implement the protocols for supporting Children on the Move and determining their best interest. One of the key actions supported by the UN agencies was ensuring that the Ministry of Human Development's preparedness and response plan consider displaced and migrant children, guaranteeing that hard-to-reach, and left-behind populations are identified and supported with timely information and services. Through the implementation of the protocols for accompanied and UASC, over 21,600 children were referred to national systems to access health, social or justice services in 2022.

UNICEF completed a Gender Programmatic Review which helped to identify sectors where gender socialization is critical for the social behaviour changes necessary for the gender transformation, as outlined in UNICEF's country programme. The report revealed two key components of this achievement: i) the intergeneration dialogue between caregivers and children, teachers and students and adults and adolescents and children across sectors; and ii) the strengthening of data generation and knowledge management systems. The Gender Programmatic Review will be validated with implementing partners and staff during the first quarter of 2023.

Education

Linked to the humanitarian, peace and development nexus, and education recovery in the learning crisis of the COVID-19 pandemic, UNICEF started supporting a comprehensive, inclusive and holistic programme to ensure inclusive and equitable access to learning for all children aged five and six years old nationwide, including those in migrant and host communities, through an innovative partnership with Think Equal, Mission 4.7 and the Ban Ki Moon Centre for Global Citizens. Capacity building and rolling out of Think Equal materials in the new national primary school curriculum for the first two grades will commence in early 2023.

With partners RESTORE Belize and Hope Haven, UNICEF focused on remedial interventions and literacy skills building among primary and secondary school students. Full digital assessment A-Z licenses were provided for eight schools in migrant communities for meaningful literacy interventions, benefiting over 1,600 students. These schools were provided with reading resources which included online assessments and remedial intervention support, through the Early Identification Intervention System (EIS) programme, which aims at improving the reading skills of students in primary school by building the capacity of teachers to incorporate the core components of literacy in all areas. A total of 39 teachers and school staff were trained by the A-Z providers. In addition, through the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA), adolescent girls and women participated in non-formal courses to raise awareness on women's empowerment and encourage gender transformative programmes to tackle gender stereotypes. The gender transformative courses include driving and barbering, certifying approximately 30 women in 2022.

Social Protection

Belize is starting innovative digital cash-transfer payments for migrant families with children. UNICEF partnered with the Belize Red Cross (BRC) and the DigiWallet Ltd to implement a Cash Plus pilot programme, reaching 329 families (including nearly 900 migrant children) with cash-based support, based on a vulnerability assessment. UNICEF established a partnership with the DigiWallet Ltd to serve as financial service provider to use digital wallet for cash assistance for the first time, a ground-breaking shift in the provision of cash-based support to children. Three additional rounds of digital payments will take place in early 2023, providing the much-needed financial support to migrant households with children.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population (AAP)

UNICEF, jointly with IOM and UNHCR, assisted approximately 6,600 people to prepare documents and apply for Belize's National Amnesty Programme. As a complement to this partnership, UNICEF shared critical online messages promoting the rights of migrant children and their families, including stories, infographics, and others tent. UNICEF, in collaboration with the BRC, produced an informational brochure for recipients of the cash transfers in migrant and host communities. UNICEF and UNHCR partnered to produce a web series to provide information on vaccine efficacy, targeting migrant populations ([Fast Facts with Dr. Hidago Series Playlist](#)).

In collaboration with the WASH Multisectoral body, UNICEF hosted a community fair to celebrate the Global Handwashing Day in the migrant community of Bella Vista in the Toledo District. Over 900 students received hand washing and hygiene messages. A mural was also installed and featured hygiene and education sector messages.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF plays a key role in the United Nations Emergency Technical Team (UNETT) where it leads the education, nutrition, WASH and child protection sectors with cross-sectoral programming in ECD, gender equity and C4D. In 2022, UNICEF participated in UNETT emergency preparedness coordination, including the finalization of the Belize Hurricane Contingency Plan and the simulation exercise of the Belize Continuity Plan. Coordination in 2022 focused on planning for close monitoring and organization of the emergency response to Hurricane Lisa, in collaboration with national authorities and civil society organisations (CSOs). In 2022, UNICEF, UNHCR and IOM continued to implement a joint migration action plan, working with

the government in various areas to strengthen the system to support migrant children and their families, including provision of humanitarian assistance and child friendly spaces for children and families in transit.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Media:

- LoveFM News: [UNICEF Representative visits schools to see how they are adjusting.](#)
- Channel 5 Belize: [A Joint U.N. Work Plan for Migrants, Refugees & Belize Amnesty 2022.](#)
- 7 News Belize: [Amnesty program being watched by UNICEF.](#)
- [Sunupon7 Media Appearance](#)
- LoveFM News: Global Handwashing Day [Part 1](#), [Part 2](#).

Press Releases:

- [IOM, UNHCR and UNICEF sign a joint work plan in support of the Government of Belize](#)
- [UNICEF, UNHCR, and IOM welcome the Government of Belize's extension of the Amnesty exercise](#)
- [UNICEF and DigiWallet Ltd. launch first joint mobile wallet for social assistance for vulnerable families](#)
- [Ministry of Health & Wellness and UNICEF commemorates Global Handwashing Month 2022](#)

Other materials:

- [A Child is a Child Reels](#)
- [Protect All Children](#)
- [DITL – Lisbeth](#)
- [My Pandemic Experience - Soila](#)
- [Cash Transfer Brochure](#)

COSTA RICA

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

The number of people crossing from Panama to Costa Rica increased by 61 per cent in 2022, compared to the previous year. According to official numbers of people leaving the Migratory Reception Station (ERM) in Chiriquí province in Panama, more than 200,000 migrants entered into and passed through Costa Rica border from Panama: 16 per cent of them were children and adolescents, mostly from Venezuela (around 65 per cent), Haiti, Cuba, Colombia and Ecuador, among others.

In October 2022, two relevant migratory decrees were issued by the Government of Costa Rica. The first decree corresponds to a reform to the Refugee Rules of Procedure, eliminating the automatic approval of work permits for asylum applicants. To receive work permits, asylum applicants should request it during the first month of entering the country and must be registered in the Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS). The second decree establishes a temporary two-year special migratory category for nationals of Cuba, Nicaragua and Venezuela, which apply for those who register with the CCSS and demonstrate that they have no criminal record in their country of origin. Another important milestone was reached in the last quarter of 2022: the government has worked closely with UN agencies, including UNICEF, to open the Center for Temporary Care for Migrants (CATEM) at the southern border with Panama, and has ensured direct transport services from the southern border to the northern border post of Las Tablillas, bypassing the Greater Metropolitan Area (GAM), in an effort to facilitate migration flows. Priority humanitarian needs among migrants in Costa Rica continue to be related to the lack of financial resources, insufficient access to food, water and shelter, and basic public services.

By the end of 2022, Costa Rica had reported 1.16 million COVID-19 confirmed cases and 9,076 deaths.^{vi} According to the MoH, the second half of 2022 showed a sustained increase in COVID-19 cases, hospitalizations, and associated deaths. As of November, only one out of five children between six months and five years old had received their first dose of the COVID-19 vaccine. In December, the Costa Rican Social Security Fund reported 12.7 million applied doses.

The Comptroller General issued a 2022 report highlighting that during the 2019-2021 period, the percentage of children with their full general vaccination scheme applied decreased, suggesting that COVID-19 anti-vaccination practices spilled over to the other kind of immunization.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

In coordination with UNOPS and the MoE, small-scale repairs of WASH facilities were completed in 11 prioritized schools from highly vulnerable migrant host communities in Barra del Colorado in the border area with Nicaragua, benefitting 850 children and adolescents. These works are key to broaden and strengthen the students' access to safe water and sanitation, supporting the school attendance and retention efforts, especially for adolescent girls.

Safe WASH facilities in key points along migration routes were supported by UNICEF, specifically in Paso Canoas in the border areas with Panama, San José metropolitan area, and in the bus station of Tablillas, Los Chiles, in the border area with Nicaragua, benefitting more than 10,683 migrants.

In partnership with the Costa Rican Red Cross, the Child Welfare Institute (PANI), the Municipal Emergency Committee of San José and the Llovéra Foundation, UNICEF provided WASH items with basic hygiene (soap, hand disinfectant gels,

menstrual hygiene products, toilet paper, etc.) to 38,920 vulnerable migrants in transit, in the southern (Corredores) and northern (Los Chiles) borders, and in San José (metropolitan area).

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

Through UNICEF-supported activities, over 28,000 children and caregivers accessed mental health and psychosocial support in 2022. In collaboration with PANI, the General Directorate of Migration (DGME) and participating local development associations, UNICEF supported the operation of 35 Child Safe Spaces throughout the country, for migrant children and host communities. These spaces provide protection, support services, referral, and information sharing to prevent and respond to violence, to support learning recovery and education inclusion, and psychosocial assistance and legal support for a monthly average of 2,800 highly vulnerable children and adolescents. In collaboration with UNICEF, DGME regularized the status of 5,087 migrant students, who in addition received legal and financial support from UNICEF.

UNICEF, IOM, DGME and local partners identified available hotels and shelters to provide short-term accommodation for 915 highly vulnerable migrant families with children and adolescents, who for different reasons were not able to continue their migration journey. A 40-hour virtual course on child protection and mental health was developed and conducted in coordination with the National University of Costa Rica, IOM and NGO Paniamor, benefitting 145 local leaders and volunteers from Child Safe Spaces and key civil society organisations (CSOs) from host communities. In addition, aiming at improving childcare and development services, this capacity strengthening exercise also focused on the social cohesion and inclusion of migrant population in host communities.

Education

In response to the need of stronger psychosocial, academic and recreational support for migrant students and host communities in primary schools, UNICEF and the MoE implemented the “Listening Classroom Programme” benefitting 4,778 students from 148 primary schools. Operational costs of Listening Classrooms are covered by the MoE, and UNICEF’s contribution focused on providing educational materials and high-level capacity building for 444 participating teachers and student counsellors. This is a crucial joint effort with national authorities towards the integration of migrant children in schools. Overall, through UNICEF-supported actions, nearly 16,000 children participated in skills development programmes and over 17,000 received learning materials in 2022.

Support for the educational permanence, reincorporation and academic success of migrant children and adolescents will kickstart with the “Community Teachers” programme, in close alliance with the MoE and the Viceministry of Peace. Based in the seven Civic Centers for Peace located nationwide in communities with high exposure to crime levels and low development, the programme offers personalized assistance, tutoring and interinstitutional support for at least 2,500 out of school children and adolescents. The goal of each Community Teacher is for at least 40 out-of-school children and adolescents to enrol, remain and have academic success in school.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

UNICEF continued supporting prevention of xenophobia, stigma and discrimination, while promoting social inclusion of migrant children and adolescents in five host communities through development of social and behaviour change strategies. Qualitative and quantitative research and consultation processes have been implemented to determine the knowledge, attitudes and practices of children, adolescents and community leaders regarding their social relations and realities with, or in their condition as migrants.

Through various campaigns promoting vaccination and healthy habits to prevent COVID-19 contagion, UNICEF reached about 61,000 people through the following campaigns: #SuperMasks, #GetVaccinated, #LasVacunasSalvanVidas, #AcabemosconlaCOVID19, #Protejámonos and #CompletaLaquetenfalta.

Together with the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO), MoH, the Costa Rican Social Security Fund and local stakeholders, vaccination fairs were held in 12 high-risk communities. Two informative leaflets on vaccination and educational games were produced, reaching 10,000 people. In addition, a special edition on COVID-19 and vaccination of the book series “Cuenticos en Familia” was produced. Two virtual conversations have been held with National Childcare Network, PAHO and the National Children’s Hospital. As a result of these dialogues, two didactic guides were developed to be used in SBC processes in communities with low vaccination rates.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF partnered with IOM, UNHCR, PAHO, UNFPA, OCHA and the Office of the Resident Coordinator in the development of an interagency contingency plan, centred in mixed migration flows. An interagency action plan was constructed with the DGME to respond to the growing humanitarian needs of migrants in transit. The government and the UN System have established a working group to jointly assess the changing conditions and provide humanitarian assistance for the different flows of migrants.

UNICEF has also centred its humanitarian assistance on strengthening of multisectoral alliances in close partnerships with the local protection systems and the UN System. In coordination with the Binational Permanent Commission for the Assistance and Protection of Migrants in a Condition of Vulnerability, an agile and interinstitutional mechanism was established to assess and respond locally to rapidly changing humanitarian needs.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Media:

- Delfino: [UNICEF urge a vacunar a menores entre 6 meses y 4 años contra la COVID-19.](#)
- Prensa Latina: [UNICEF llama a Costa Rica a mantener niveles de vacunación infantil.](#)

- El País: [UNICEF llama a las familias a proteger la salud de menores contra COVID-19.](#)
- La República: [“Vacune a sus hijos, protéjalos... no se la juegue”, Olga Arguedas, directora del HNN.](#)
- La Teja: [UNICEF: “Urge que Costa Rica siga cuidando la salud de los niños”.](#)
- El Independiente: [UNICEF llama a las familias a proteger la salud de sus niñas, niños y adolescentes.](#)
- Diario El Ciudadano: [Unicef llama a proteger la salud para los menores del hogar.](#)
- AM Prensa: [UNICEF pide a ticos acatar el llamado de vacunar a sus hijos.](#)
- 13 Noticias [\(Video\).](#)
- Noticias Repretel [\(Video\).](#)
- Telenoticias [\(Video\).](#)

Printed materials:

- Brochures: [immunization](#), [COVID-19 vaccination](#), [COVID-19 vaccination for children](#).
- Storybook [“Cuenticos en familia”.](#)
- Storybook [“Cuenticos en familia – COVID-19”.](#)

EL SALVADOR

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Between October 2021 and September 2022, at least 97,030 Salvadorans were detained by the United States Border Patrol, with 17 per cent of them (16,431) children. From January to November 2022, 13,721 Salvadorans were returned from the United States and Mexico: a 93 per cent increase compared to the same period in 2021, 32 per cent of them were children (2,035 girls, 2,360 boys) – a four-fold increase compared to 2021 figures.^{vii} As of October 2022, the General Directorate of Migration and Foreign Affairs (DGME) reported 873 unaccompanied children returnees (350 girls and 523 boys). The most frequently cited causes of migration were seeking improved living conditions, family reunification, violence in their communities, and lack of job opportunities.

The risk of forced recruitment by armed groups and the generalized violence that children suffer at their homes, communities or schools, remain a trigger for displacement and migration. Armed groups are most active in the communities with the highest rates of poverty and social exclusion, where children and women are particularly exposed to harassment, abuse and sexual violence. In March 2022, the Government of El Salvador decreed a State of Emergency to fight gang violence, which the Legislative Assembly extended 10 consecutive times. By December 2022, 59,307 people had been detained, including approximately 2,000 adolescents (3.4 per cent were pregnant girls). This makes El Salvador one of the countries with the largest number of incarcerated citizens in the world (1 in every 100).

The 2022 trend suggests a steady increase in migrants deported/returned from the United States and Mexico, requiring humanitarian assistance. Most vulnerable groups include people displaced by violence, by natural disasters and in shelters, or returnees. People on the move across the country, including migrants in transit, need access to basic services such as shelter, water, food, health, WASH items, psychosocial support, and access to legal security and protection services.

By December 2022, El Salvador had reported 201,877 COVID-19 confirmed cases and 4,230 deaths. 4,329,694 people received two doses of COVID-19 vaccines by December 2022. Since the school reopening in April 2021, the MoE continued facing challenges to reintegrate out-of-school children to the education system, and to ensure that over 1.2 million students enrolled in 2022, access face-to-face education five days a week, complemented with online modalities and mental health care to recover learning outcomes and create safe spaces to motivate them to stay in school. By May 2022, there was a daily flow of face-to-face attendance of around 633,000 students. While this reflects a 211 per cent increase of face-to-face attendance compared to November 2021 (300,000), it is far from achieving it fully. Furthermore, the pandemic has caused great socioemotional distress in students, with 15.6 per cent reporting notable or elevated depression and 78.3 per cent of students presented notable anxiety symptoms. Overall, nearly 97,000 students need professional psychosocial care, according to the MoE estimations.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

WASH

In December, UNICEF, in coordination with the MoE, assessed the WASH needs of 28 schools in border areas, three border facilities, and one centre that provides services for migrant children and families in transit. According to the identified needs, cleaning and disinfection, menstrual hygiene, personal hygiene items and kits were procured for the distribution. UNICEF assessed the WASH infrastructure of three healthcare facilities and five border International Health Offices (OSI), aiming at identifying needs and improving the quality of healthcare services for migrants. In early 2023, water storage and treatment, drainage, and sanitary services will be improved in two of these health facilities, and water filters will be installed for the disinfection of drinking water in the assessed OSIs.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

By strengthening the child protection system, UNICEF supports child returnees, children in transit, and the internally displaced children, providing humanitarian, legal, and psychosocial assistance. UNICEF supported authorities in designing a programme to provide specialized services to returned children and adolescents and their families, based on best practices and lessons learned to guarantee their rights to health, education, legal counselling, and psychosocial support. In addition, UNICEF with partners, provided medical and psychosocial care to migrant children and their families in border areas.

During 2022, 361 operators of the child protection system at the national and local levels were trained on child protection and GBV topics. Additionally, in the last quarter of the year, 3,388 humanitarian kits were delivered to municipalities and child protection institutions, and 480 children and their families received legal and psychosocial support. A total of 90 children on the move participated in awareness activities on gender, GBV prevention, and child protection reporting mechanisms.

In September, the digital course for partners, designed by UNICEF on protection measures against sexual exploitation and abuse, was launched on UNICEF's learning platform (Agora), with 364 people accessing the course, 226 of them completing it successfully.

Education

UNICEF supported the MoE to strengthen and expand interventions that promote students' access and retention, focusing on children on the move, with Save the Children and the Don Bosco University. As a result, 243 migrant children (147 boys, 96 girls) were incorporated into the educational system, 31,060 children (15,539 boys, 15,521 girls) received educational materials, 100 teachers (20 men, 80 women) were trained to strengthen their capacities to provide specialized support to children on the move, and 24 staff (11 men, 13 women) from the Center of Comprehensive Care for Migrant People (CAIPEM) were trained to provide education services for children on the move.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

The Humanitarian Country Teams remains active and the sectors have jointly developed the HNO and HRP, in coordination with OCHA. The Protection sector, under the leadership of UNHCR and co-leadership of UNICEF, is active and the child protection sub-group lead by UNICEF monitors protection needs and response in relation to the State of Emergency and the increasing migration flows.

GUATEMALA

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

During 2022, given the upward trend in migration flows throughout Guatemala, already limited basic services were collapsed between August and October due to a dramatic increased flow of migrants in the transit. The Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM) recorded at least 10,370 irregular entries between January and November, 70 per cent of which were men, 23 per cent women, 4 per cent boys and 3 per cent girls; of this total, 65 per cent were nationals from Venezuela, 12 per cent from Ecuador, 6 per cent from Cuba, 5 per cent from Honduras and 3 per cent from Haiti.

Guatemala is also a country of origin and return of migrants, especially of unaccompanied children. The United States Government Border Patrol reported that during fiscal year 2022, 60,789 unaccompanied Guatemalan children and adolescents were detected in the United States southern border with Mexico, an increase of more than 2,000 children compared to the previous fiscal year. From January to November, the IGM registered 88,287 people returning to Guatemala from Mexico and the United States.^{viii} Of the returnees, 16,413 were children (18 per cent), of which 7,414 were unaccompanied.

In 2022, the COVID-19 pandemic in Guatemala remained in line with global trends, with a quantitative increase of cases in the months of October to December. The low vaccination rates and coverage, mainly in rural areas, together with the lack of understanding about the importance of vaccination and demand of the service, continues to be one of the main causes of low rate of vaccination against COVID-19: as of December, 8.3 million people had received the COVID-19 vaccine first dose (51 per cent); 7 million people had received the second dose (40 per cent); 3.6 million people had received a third dose - first booster dose (21 per cent); and 488,000 thousand people have been vaccinated with the fourth dose - second booster dose (3 per cent).

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

UNICEF-supported activities included the development and implementation of the Integrated Brigades Model, consisting of mobile teams that provided nutrition and health essential services in the most vulnerable areas of the country. This model and its guidelines were validated by the MoH in 2022. Ten brigades supported by UNICEF screened 9,082 girls and boys under 5 years old, and 3,349 women of childbearing age (including adolescents, pregnant and lactating women) in 83 communities of five departments with the highest incidence of acute malnutrition. The brigades identified and treated 123 children under 5 with acute malnutrition (102 with wasting and 21 with severe wasting). In addition, 135 children with overweight and 41 with obesity were identified, while 48 per cent of children screened had chronic malnutrition. In addition, 172 women were identified as underweight (5 per cent), 688 were overweight and 234 obese. The brigades provided other services: 2,800 children were supplemented with multiple micronutrient powders, 304 with Vitamin A, 1,575 with Zinc, and 2,678 were dewormed. Iron supplementation was provided to 797 women, 1,097 women received folic acid and 27,474 counselling services were provided.

Health

In 2022, 5,386 children on the move received primary health care in various migrant shelters run by civil society and government throughout the country, such as Casa Nuestras Raíces in Guatemala City and Quetzaltenango, Casas del Migrante and in the Mobile Unit of the CAPMiR (Center for Attention to Migrants and Refugees).

The MoH strengthened its cold chain and storage capacity for various COVID-19 and routine vaccines, in the most remote areas of the country, where there is no access to reliable electricity, by receiving UNICEF-supported solar refrigerators, as well as dual refrigeration and freezing equipment. This cold chain equipment ensured improved installed capacity for the

implementation of the routine immunization programme throughout the country. The MoH also received extra-large thermo flasks, vaccine carriers, cold packs, cold boxes, electric freezers, and spare parts for solar and electric refrigerators and freezers. In addition, technical staff was trained on vaccine management to ensure proper handling and safekeeping, and support was provided to strengthen inventory systems in place.

WASH

UNICEF provided technical assistance to carry out adaptations and improvement of water and sanitation facilities in two migrant shelters (Casa del Migrante), in Esquipulas, the border area with Honduras and El Salvador, and Entre Ríos, in Izabal department. Improvements included installation of gender-sensitive toilets and showers. Water filters were installed at the CAPMiR Centers located in order areas with Honduras, in El Cinchado and Agua Caliente de Esquipulas.

Through the installation of water delivery machines with filters in five shelters, approximately 145,000 people accessed safe water in 2022. Through UNICEF-supported activities, approximately 26,000 people benefited from WASH items, and 5,200 dignity kits were delivered to UNICEF's implementing partners for the most vulnerable children and families.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

As a result of the inter-agency initiative among UNHCR, IOM and UNICEF, the CAPMiR Attention Centres for Migrants and Refugees located in border areas and reception centres have strengthened and expanded a comprehensive response to migrants, refugees and returnees in Guatemala. At the CAPMiR, migrants can access humanitarian assistance, psychosocial support, legal counselling, information, other services provided by the child protection system, and guidance on regular migration channels. UNICEF is present at the CAPMiR through various modalities (e.g. mobile units, information desks), specifically at the Honduras and Mexico border areas, including in El Cinchado (Izabal), Santa Elena (Petén) and Agua Caliente (Chiquimula), where humanitarian assistance has been provided to 2,117 children and 3,456 adults on the move, mostly from Venezuela, Ecuador, Honduras and Haiti, with smaller numbers from Nicaragua, El Salvador, Colombia, Peru, Brazil, Chile, Cuba, Dominican Republic, and countries in Africa and Asia.

UNICEF continued supporting civil society-run shelters (i.e. Casa del Migrante), ensuring humanitarian and psychosocial care services, reaching 10,346 children and adolescents and 5,626 adults. With UNICEF support, the Social Welfare Secretariat (SBS) and the National Attorney General's Office (PGN), provided care to 7,543 unaccompanied children and adolescents returnees. Through this partnership, children benefited from psychosocial and medical care, as well as family reunification. A total of 4,625 kits were distributed to support psychosocial care of children on the move.

Since 2020, the SBS is benefitting from using the UNICEF-supported PRIMERO information system for registration and follow-up of protection cases, to monitor the interventions of multidisciplinary teams provided to migrant children. This tool is currently used by authorities in temporary shelters and at national level. By the end of the year, at least 18,740 cases had been registered using PRIMERO.

Through UNICEF-supported activities, 4,369 government officials, civil society actors and local leaders were trained in the implementation of protocols and methodologies for the care of migrant children, including the National Civil Police, the National Attorney General's Office, the SBS, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Trafficking, Child Judges, among others.

Education

Given the residual humanitarian needs from the impact of hurricanes Eta and Iota in 2020, and tropical cyclones Julia and Lisa impacting areas of Guatemala in 2022, UNICEF identified Alta Verapaz department as the most vulnerable region for school dropout, according to the analysis of vulnerability criteria. Most schools in this department are in remote areas, more than 95 per cent of families are indigenous and live in poverty. Alta Verapaz has also been prioritized by the MoE as its low school enrolment with 14 per cent. According to official MoE data, due to the impact of tropical cyclones, Alta Verapaz reported the highest number of damaged schools nationwide during 2020 and 2022.

In response, UNICEF focused on improving access to education for school-age children and adolescents. In 2022, 1,442 children participated in non-formal education programmes and received educational materials. Psychosocial support services were provided to 7,558 students, teachers and other educational personnel, including 28 tutors, 1,303 beneficiaries of the non-formal education programme, 597 teachers and their 5,630 students.

With UNICEF support, needs assessments were conducted with the support of School Management Committees and teachers, a WASH needs assessment tool was developed, and local MoE units have been trained for specific needs assessment in education facilities. By the end of 2022, 21 education facilities had been restored, benefiting 2,826 children, and repair works are ongoing in 19 additional facilities.

In addition, 591 teachers received teaching material packages and textbooks to facilitate their application of the learning modules that are implemented as part of the COVID-19 prevention training in schools.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

Information materials were designed to promote the rights of children on the move, the risks to which they and their families may be exposed, information on shelters and available services, including key information for returning children and adolescents.

Various platforms were used, including digital media, social networks, training activities, U-Report 'On the Move' and direct communication through the on-site approach of returning and transiting children and adolescents. Information was also shared through the work carried out by the technical teams of partner institutions that provide humanitarian assistance in the CAPMiR, reaching 19,137 people.

The "Voy a Paso Seguro" campaign was launched with the Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Trafficking of Persons in March, in the departments of Guatemala, Petén, Izabal, Chiquimula, San Marcos, Huehuetenango, Quiché and

Quetzaltenango. This campaign disseminated information on prevention and response to the risk of GBV and sexual violence, reaching 264,928 people.

The "Odisea" project was piloted to facilitate access to information for children and adolescents on the move, related to their rights and key aspects for the protection, including mental health. More than 200 messages were designed.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

Response to children on the move continues to be carried out within the framework of the Protection Sector and in coordination with the UN Migration Group. UNICEF actively participates in both forums, leading the child protection sub-cluster and co-leading the migration group. UNICEF also leads the Education, Nutrition and WASH groups and the Child Protection Area of Responsibility. Under UNICEF's leadership, sectoral groups have increased the emergency response capacities of institutional actors, and contributed to the development of the 2023 HNO/HRP.

In response to the increased migration flow, the Council for Attention and Protection (CAP), an inter-institutional governmental space for the attention of migrants created by the Migration Code, established roundtables to coordinate with the participation of United Nations agencies. Need to provide a protection approach to children and adolescents in transit was emphasized.

In September, the CAP established the subgroup on children in the context of mobility, which, with technical support from UNICEF, seeks to improve coordination. The development of the Migration Policy and its Action Plan is underway, with the participation of 46 government institutions, with support from UNICEF and other UN agencies.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Human interest stories

- ["Con el dinero que les podría haber mandado hubiera ayudado para que mis hermanos estudien", niñez no acompañados en contexto migratorio](#)
- ["Sufrió muchos traumas en el camino". Los retos de un retorno forzado](#)
- ["Antes hacíamos las entrevistas escritas, ahora somos más ágiles y breves, lo que estresa menos a los chicos", niñez en contexto migratorio y Primero](#)
- [Families and childhood on the move, Guatemala-Honduras border](#)

Multimedia

- [\(391\) Primero™ un innovador sistema para proteger a la niñez y adolescencia en contexto migratorio - YouTube](#)
- [\(391\) Familia migrante venezolana en tránsito por Guatemala - YouTube](#)
- [Derechos de la niñez migrante](#)
- [In Guatemala, solar refrigerators help maintain the cold chain of vaccines](#)
- [How to strengthen knowledge in the management of vaccines?](#)
- [Gobierno de Japón junto a UNICEF dona equipo para fortalecer sistema de vacunación en Guatemala](#)

Press releases

- [Plataforma digital mejorará atención a niñez migrante no acompañada | Secretaría de Bienestar Social \(sbs.gob.gt\)](#)
- [ENTREGA DE ACTUALIZACIÓN DE PROTOCOLO Y GUÍA A FAVOR DE LA NIÑEZ Y ADOLESCENCIA - Procuraduría General de la Nación PGN](#)
- [ACNUR - Centro de atención a personas migrantes y refugiadas abre sus puertas en Agua Caliente, en la frontera entre Guatemala y Honduras](#)

Social Media

- [Pastoral de Movilidad Humana - CEG, Guatemala en Twitter: "El día jueves de 17 de noviembre en las instalaciones de Gobernación Departamental de Izabal, se llevó a cabo la reunión de socialización del Protocolo de Detección, Atención y Derivación de Casos de NNA Víctimas de Violencia Atendidos en Casas del Migrante de la PMH-CEG. https://t.co/75ncREcBr6" / Twitter](#)
- [Pastoral de Movilidad Humana - CEG, Guatemala en Twitter: "El pasado mes de octubre, se realizó un encuentro con autoridades académicas del Depto. de Petén. Este encuentro tuvo como objetivo, propiciar un espacio de reflexión con autoridades universitarias sobre la realidad migratoria de niños, niñas y adolescentes en el departamento. https://t.co/9iQz30tciv" / Twitter](#)
- [¿Sabías quién es y qué hace un Operador de Protección Infantil?](#)
- [Lanzamiento de una nueva unidad móvil para atender niñez y adolescencia en contexto migratorio, en Jacaltenango, Huhuetenango.](#)
- [En el marco del #DialInternacionalDelMigrante queremos recordar lo importante que es la protección #ParaCafalInfancia 📍, en todas partes y siempre.](#)
- [Un "bálsamo" en el duro camino de las familias migrantes](#)
- [Adhesión de El Salvador y Honduras a la campaña "Voy a Paso Seguro"](#)

- [Hoy en el Día Mundial de la #AsistenciaHumanitaria, rendimos homenaje a tod@s l@s profesionales que brindan apoyo a la niñez y adolescencia en las diversas crisis en el país.](#)

HONDURAS

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

Honduras continues to be a country of origin, transit and returns of migrants in 2022. Over 188,000 migrants crossed into Honduras irregularly,^{ix} of whom 20 per cent were children and young people under 20 years old. In comparison, 16,853 irregular entries were recorded in 2021. In terms of migrant returnees, 85,716 Hondurans were returned from January to December,^x an increase of 62 per cent compared to returns in 2021. Children and adolescents represent 16 per cent of the total returnees in 2022.

In 2022, the country confirmed 463,685 COVID-19 cases cumulatively since the start of the pandemic, and 11,063 related deaths. COVID-19 awareness raising, and vaccination promotion remain priorities. Honduras has been cyclically affected by natural hazard-related disasters: an estimated 188,000 people were affected by heavy rains and hurricane Julia between September and November, with most affected areas in the northeast of the country.^{xi} In response to the floods, UNICEF provided immediate child protection, WASH, health and nutrition support.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

A total of 2,598 children on the move under 5 years old (1,300 girls, 1,298 boys) received nutritional screening and provision of nutritional supplements provided by mobile nutrition teams. The screening identified 48 children with wasting (24 girls and 24 boys) and two girls with severe wasting. All of whom received the initial dose of ready-to-use therapeutic food (RUTF) to commence treatment. Additionally, 178 pregnant women received prenatal check-ups to ascertain the baby's health status, micronutrient supplementation, counselling on breastfeeding, and IYCF.

Through UNICEF-supported activities, 32,213 children (16,203 boys, 16,010 girls) between 13-28 months old from the country's most vulnerable communities were screened for malnutrition, of whom 783 (439 girls, 344 boys) were diagnosed with a form of acute malnutrition, with 56 per cent being girls. Of these, at the time of this report, 299 children had recovered (184 girls, 115 boys) with remaining children in the process of recovery in line with the established protocol, 41 among children who recovered had suffered from severe acute malnutrition, which means UNICEF support contributed to mitigate further complications and their possible death due to malnutrition.

Health

UNICEF and local partners vaccinated 1,318 children on the move under five years old with a booster vaccine against polio and measles, provided medical care and delivered medicines to 2,023 children under five years old and 192 pregnant women. UNICEF and partners also provided health promotion and awareness messages to 9,821 migrants in transit on the prevention of COVID-19, acute respiratory infections, healthy habits, warning signs of pregnancy, biosafety, contraceptive methods, dengue prevention, diarrhoea, and prevention of dehydration.

Through dedicated support from UNICEF, 800 health establishments (53 per cent of the total number of health establishments offering primary health care in Honduras) have strengthened their cold chain through cold boxes and thermoses for vaccines, dedicated freezers at a low temperature and temperature data loggers to verify adequate temperature of the vaccines, and special gloves to handle ultra-low temperature vaccines. The safe storage and subsequent availability of vaccinations has resulted in 1.6 million children accessing vaccinations against COVID-19, human papilloma virus and other vaccine-preventable diseases.

WASH

In 2022, 117,303 migrants on the move/in temporary shelters (12,059 boys, 9,607 girls, 95,637 adults) accessed safe water at mobile and stationary hydration points, with 16,940 migrants provided with hygiene supplies, including menstrual kits. A total of 16,016 migrants in temporary shelters benefited from improved WASH facilities such as showers and bathrooms, and 48,894 migrants accessed sex-segregated sanitation services in temporary shelters in key transitory hotspots.

UNICEF ensured access to safe water to vulnerable communities affected by other situations, including 10,786 people in violence-affected areas and 1,477 people in communities affected by floods. WASH facilities were improved in 13 child friendly spaces in communities affected by violence, and in 56 schools affected by hurricanes Eta and Iota.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

UNICEF and consortium partners provided child protection interventions on the southern border with Nicaragua to 6,637 migrants in transit (1,641 boys, 1,469 girls, 3,527 adults). UNICEF led the construction of a Temporary Rest Center for migrants and continued its support to other migrant shelters in Trojes and Danli (El Paraiso department), where psychological support, safe spaces and child protection services have been provided.

UNICEF, in cooperation with the National Directorate for Childhood, Adolescents and Family (Dirección de Niñez, Adolescencia y Familia - DINAF), provided care and protection to 15,928 children and adolescent returnees (7,008 girls, 8,920 boys). Through the reintegration teams supported by DINAF, 40 families of returned children and adolescents received financial support to ensure a safe resettlement. UNICEF, through its partners, identified and referred 1,394 children and adolescents to health, social welfare and justice services. Psychosocial and mental health support was provided to 53,317 children, parents and caregivers in Child Friendly Spaces.

Education

UNICEF provided educational support to 1,465 migrant children in Child Friendly Spaces located in migrants' transit routes of Danli and Trojes. Among them, 846 received educational materials to use during their further travel. Information on the educational situation of children and adolescents on the move continues to be a challenge, and UNICEF continues to improve the availability of information. UNICEF works with the Secretary of Education to develop a comprehensive plan for children on the move, in contribution to the regional Learning Passport initiative.

Through dedicated advocacy, a nationwide campaign to safely return to school after the COVID-19 pandemic, alongside a COVID-19 vaccination campaign, contributed to the return of 1.9 million children and young people to school, with an increase in enrolment of 200,000 children and young people in the 2021-2022 school year. Despite this success, the pandemic fostered a setback of 10 years in learning in Honduras, with 44 per cent of school-aged children out of school. UNICEF supported the rehabilitation of 126 schools which were closed due to heavy rains, enabling 14,756 children and adolescents to return to school. Approximately 16,000 children and adolescents affected by school closures, received self-learning materials.

Social protection and cash transfers

UNICEF supported 1,147 migrant families with humanitarian cash transfers. Given the urgency to provide effective support to those affected by the changes in the United States' migration policies, UNICEF scaled up its cash programme to ensure families on the move can meet urgent needs.

UNICEF provided technical advice to the stakeholders to ensure that data protection management protocols are implemented, and continued to build capacity with multipurpose monetary transfers and Cash Plus to support the new government's proposals to improve care for vulnerable groups, prioritized by national social protection programmes.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

UNICEF takes a leading role in ensuring AAP across humanitarian actions in Honduras, and regularly meets with different stakeholders to ensure principles are understood and reflected in programme strategies. In addition, UNICEF includes feedback/complaints mechanisms across its programming, for example, in temporary shelter for migrants in Trojes, as well as through questionnaires for service recipients of WASH, child protection and education.

UNICEF distributed messaging on the prevention of COVID-19 and hygiene practices in schools in vulnerable communities. By targeting vulnerable communities with low vaccination rates, UNICEF helped the government to reach almost 11,000 children between 1-6 years old with regular vaccination programme and 138,000 persons over 6 years old with COVID-19 vaccinations, with the help of community-based volunteers who sensitized communities on vaccination benefits. This initiative helped raise the vaccination rates (polio and measles) from 38 to 51 per cent, and COVID-19 vaccination rates among children from 65 to 74 per cent.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF leads the WASH Cluster, Child Protection Area of Responsibility (under the Protection Cluster) as well as the Nutrition Working Group (as part of the Food Security Cluster), in close coordination with their relevant government counterparts, stakeholders and local organisations on the ground. UNICEF contributed to intersectoral assessments including MIRA (multi-sectoral initial rapid assessment) and similar assessments on the migration response in hotspots. UNICEF works closely with key government counterparts, UN agencies and NGOs to ensure coordination and planning of humanitarian response for children.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Human interest stories

- [The LIFE Consortium continues with emergency response activities for people in human mobility](#)
- [Una mochila llena de potencial para impulsar la educación escolar](#)
- [Japan provides assistance to population most affected by Storms Eta and Iota](#)

Press releases

- [Centros de Descanso Temporal ofrecen a familias migrantes protección y cuidado](#)
- [Con apoyo de UNICEF, el desarrollo de la cadena de frío permite vacunar a más personas contra COVID-19](#)
- [Honduras vacuna a su niñez contra COVID-19 para asegurar la matrícula escolar](#)

MEXICO

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

From January 2022 to November 2022, the National Migration Institute identified 388,611 irregular migrants transiting through Mexico, which represents an increase of 97,225 people compared to the same period last year. Of these, 60,020 (15.4 per cent) were children and adolescents, including 12,159 unaccompanied children. Most of these children were from Honduras (11,568), followed by Guatemala (11,255), Venezuela (10,209), Colombia (6,092), Cuba (4,370) and Ecuador (3,421). These children and their families have very limited access to essential health, nutrition, education, and protection services.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Health and Nutrition

A total of 92,000 children on the move, pregnant women, and caregivers received health care and nutrition counselling by trained health workers, in UNICEF supported facilities and mobile units. Through UNICEF and partners activities, 3,142 children between 6-59 months old were screened for wasting. Out of the screened children, 11 cases of severe wasting and 21 cases of wasting were identified and treated by mobile health units. The number of children screened for wasting in 2022 surpassed the planned targets due to the gradual increase of the care services offered by UNICEF and implementing partner CADENA-ADRA, in collaboration with the MoH, which started in Tapachula, and gradually expanded to Tijuana, Ciudad Juárez and Nogales.

WASH

To support migrants' basic needs in WASH, UNICEF distributed 101,523 hygiene kits benefiting 21,739 girls, 24,714 boys, 23,747 women and 31,323 men. WASH infrastructure rehabilitation was carried out in 39 shelters across Chiapas, Chihuahua, and Baja California, and 131,246 persons benefited from clean and safe water distributed through filters installed in shelters and other field locations. Through UNICEF handwashing and behaviour-change programmes, implementing partners sensitized over 52,638 people.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

UNICEF-supported activities reached nearly 48,000 people on the move. Of these, 12,816 children and 20,605 caregivers benefited from psychosocial support, resilience building and education in emergency activities. In addition, 10,057 children on the move were reached with child protection case management services through the deployment of 12 multidisciplinary teams seconded within the child protection authorities in charge of conducting best interest determinations. In addition, 1,732 children were provided with appropriate alternative care arrangements.

Through foster care programmes supported by UNICEF, targeting both foreign migrant and Mexican children, 117 families were certified, and 171 children were fostered by families, including 12 children on the move. GBV risk mitigation, prevention and response interventions reached 12,501 people, including 382 were children and women who benefited from GBV response services - including psychosocial and legal support, dignity kits, and prophylaxis post-exposition to sexual violence. Furthermore, 409 children were reached with recreational and sensibilization activities on GBV and child sexual abuse, 238 caregivers and 25 authorities were trained on GBV prevention, mitigation and care, and 1,441 people were reached through communicational campaigns on GBV and child sexual abuse.

During 2022, technical assistance was provided to UNICEF implementing partners to establish internal reporting mechanisms for potential SEA cases. Approximately 75,000 beneficiaries were reached through awareness materials and trainings.

Education

UNICEF provided migrant children and adolescents with early childhood and basic education programmes in shelters located in the border states of Chiapas, Baja California and Chihuahua, reaching about 7,000 children. Early childhood education interventions targeted children between 0-5 years old, providing guidance to parents on babies' care and positive parenting. A total of 2,169 young children and 1,206 care-takers attended these activities. Through UNICEF-supported activities, nearly 2,300 children and adolescents (6 to 17 years) strengthened their basic literacy and numeracy skills. An additional 2,089 children and adolescents were reached in shelters through activities to strengthen their basic knowledge of the English language as a tool for integration in host communities at their destinations.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

UNICEF implemented a comprehensive strategy to address the information needs of children on the move and their caregivers, including a strategy to eradicate xenophobia and discrimination within host communities through the "Voces en el camino" (Voices on the road) strategy. This strategy comprised the dissemination and implementation of a mini-series and theatre plays, aimed at improving knowledge amongst children and caregivers in shelters, on critical topics (i.e. WASH, mental health, protection, education and GBV). The strategy is supplemented by interventions in schools, where host community children learn about tolerance and inclusion of migrant children. The pilot activities started in Tapachula, and will be replicated in Tijuana and Ciudad Juárez, with an estimated reach of 100,000 people.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF participates in humanitarian coordination mechanisms focusing on the migration situation, such as the Protection Working Group, the Health and Migration Working Group, the GBV and Migration Sub-Working Group, the PSEA Sub-Working Group and the Inter-agency Shelters Group. Moreover, UNICEF leads the WASH Working Group and the Child Protection in Migration Discussion Group, the later in which key NGO and UN agencies participate and have prepared key advocacy documents to advance the protection of accompanied and unaccompanied children on the move to be presented to the federal government.

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Through the year, a narration of UNICEF's work was shared through video, social media and press. Some of the highlights include the work on [WASH, Nutrition and Health](#), and [Education](#). The portrayal balanced the work done for [rapid response](#) and [humanitarian response](#), as well as the efforts to [strengthen capabilities, involve migrants into the community, and contributing to their protection](#).

PANAMA

Situation Overview & Humanitarian Needs

According to the national authorities, 248,284 people transited through the dangerous Darien jungle in 2022 of which 39,432 were children and adolescents, accounting for 16 per cent of the total. In October, the highest number of people in transit was recorded with a total of 59,773. In 2022, people of 70 nationalities transited Darien, with Venezuela accounting for 60 per cent of the total, followed by Ecuador, Haiti, Cuba, Colombia, and India.

Since mid-October, the number of people and the nationalities shifted due to new policies announced by the United States Government for Venezuelan migrants. By the end of 2022, Venezuela made up less than 5 per cent of the total of the migrant population, and families from Ecuador seeking protection and Haitian families with small children (0 – 5 years) born in Chile or Brazil, made up the majority of the migrants in transit through the Darien. The number of unaccompanied children reached a historic high of more than 1,000 transiting through the Darien. The transit of young adults and families from countries such as Afghanistan, Senegal, Bangladesh, Dominican Republic, and Nepal also increased by the end of 2022.

Summary Analysis of Programme Response

Nutrition

UNICEF provided technical assistance to the MoH in the development of a protocol for the rapid identification of children with acute malnutrition ("Protocol for the use of the mid-upper arm circumference tape in emergencies") and supported the review of the food and nutrition guide in emergencies for children under 9 years old, contributing to national response systems.

Health

A total of 14,556 maternal and child health care consultations took place, including nutritional screening and follow-ups of migrant pregnant and lactating women, in two communities in the Embera-Wounaan indigenous area, and at the three border Migration Reception Stations in Darien and Chiriquí provinces. In addition, UNICEF provided Post-Exposure Prophylaxis (PEP) kits to the MoH, to assist survivors of sexual violence.

UNICEF provided continuous support to authorities to ensure the implementation of protocols for care of survivors of sexual violence, including children, and to guarantee access to health services, in line with the Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) Committee's recommendations. With UNICEF support, COVID-19 prevention and vaccination information was disseminated via audio messages, at the Migratory Stations in Darien.

WASH

All migrants who entered Panama through the Darien jungle, approximately 248,000 people and children, accessed safe water through UNICEF-supported activities. Throughout the year, UNICEF provided technical assistance and operational support to national authorities for the construction of the new Migrant Reception Station in San Vicente (Darien), including technical advice for the construction of sanitary services, such as showers, laundry facility, water storage tanks, and drainage system. Aiming at straightening local capacities, UNICEF supported the rehabilitation of water system and provision of water in host communities (Bajo Chiquito and Villa Caleta) in Darien province, and the implementation of a sustainable provision of water and sanitation services to migrants at the Migrant Reception Stations in coordination with the National Migration Service. In addition, UNICEF delivered hygiene supplies for 1,975 people.

Child Protection, GBViE and PSEA

Through UNICEF-supported activities, 22,097 children and caregivers received psychosocial services in Child Friendly Spaces in the community of Canaan and the Migrant Reception Stations of San Vicente, Lajas Blancas in Darien and Los Planes de Gualaca in the border areas with Costa Rica. Alternative care measures were provided to 253 UASC, and case management support was ensured for 1,225 children at risk of statelessness, survivors of sexual violence, and UASC. In addition, UNICEF provided technical assistance to the country's Ombudsman Office, and protection authorities for the development of the Protocol for the Care of Unaccompanied and Separated Children in Panama.

Approximately 6,200 people participated in activities in Self-Care Spaces at the San Vicente, Lajas Blancas and Los Planes de Gualaca Migration Reception Stations, aiming at promoting listening, conversation, and self-care for adolescent girls and women in transit, in coordination with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Pan American Development Foundation.

Communications for Development (C4D), Accountability to Affected Population

UNICEF launched version 2.0 of [an online dashboard](#) to present response actions by UNICEF and its partners in critical locations for the migration flow, monitor the number of people benefiting from WASH, maternal and child health services, and protection against all forms of violence.

C4D strategies were launched and disseminated through audio and cartoon graphics delivered with key messages as part of the hygiene kits at the Migrant Reception Stations. Feedback surveys using mailboxes, tablets and micro-surveys to assess the level of satisfaction with UNICEF's services have been implemented in Child Friendly Spaces, Safe Spaces and public areas at the Migrant Reception Stations as well as in host communities.

Humanitarian Leadership and Coordination

UNICEF coordinates the WASH Group under the local coordination mechanism led by the Human Mobility Group of the United Nations, participates in the the Protection Group under the local coordination mechanism led by the Human Mobility Group of

the United Nations, leads the Child Protection and co-leads the GBV component under the umbrella of the Protection group at local level, and provides technical assistance to the Child Protection Roundtable led by the child protection authority (SENNIAF).

Human Interest Stories and External Media

Human interest stories

- [UNICEF micro-stories of children on the move through the Darien jungle: “We didn’t know how to proceed with the registration of our child”.](#)

Media

- [The Telegraph, The ‘road of death’: A treacherous, jungle trafficking route lined with rotting corpses.](#)

Press release

- [Record number of children crossing the Darien Gap toward the US this year.](#)

Next SitRep: July 2023

UNICEF Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Office: www.unicef.org/lac

UNICEF LAC Facebook: www.facebook.com/uniceflac

UNICEF Humanitarian Action for Children Appeal: <https://www.unicef.org/appeals/mexico-and-central-america#download>

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Annex A: Summary of Programme Results

Sector		UNICEF Target 2022	Result
Indicator	Country		
Nutrition			
# children aged 6-59 months with SAM admitted for treatment		8,283	70
Guatemala		1,750	
Honduras		6,533	70
# children 6-59 months screened for wasting		319,852	39,863
Honduras		140,000	32,213
Panama		2,852	4,508 ¹
Guatemala		175,000	
Mexico		2,000	3,142 ²
# primary caregivers of children 0-23 months receiving with IYCF counselling		553,259	84,038
Belize		12,069	615 ³
El Salvador		4,100	
Guatemala		343,090	
Honduras		114,000	1,423
Mexico		80,000	82,000
# children 6-59 months receiving multiple micronutrient powders		140,000	2,598
Honduras		140,000	2,598
Health			
# children and women receiving primary healthcare in UNICEF supported facilities		224,850	114,711
El Salvador		90,000	
Guatemala		1,100	5,386 ⁴
Honduras		51,250	2,769
Mexico		80,000	92,000
Panama		2,500	14,556 ⁵
# healthcare facility staff and community health workers trained in infection prevention and control (IPC)		289	679
Honduras		289	679 ⁶
# children receiving the minimum set of vaccines		50,170	2,035,604
Belize		9,070	386,572 ⁷
Guatemala		15,400	
Honduras		25,700	1,649,032 ⁸
# of health workers reached with PPE		2,850	
Guatemala		2,500	
Honduras		350	
Water, sanitation, and hygiene			
# people accessing a sufficient quantity of safe water for drinking and domestic needs		285,115	641,467
El Salvador		2,000	
Guatemala		144,122	145,000 ⁹
Honduras		58,000	117,373 ¹⁰
Mexico		16,400	131,246 ¹¹
Panama		64,593	247,848 ¹²
# children use safe and appropriate WASH facilities and hygiene services in learning facilities and safe spaces		91,678	35,182
Belize		21,982	10,555
Costa Rica		7,846	10,683

¹ Increase in migration flows led to UNICEF scaling up services.

² The number of children screened for wasting in 2022 surpassed the planned targets due to the gradual increase of the care services offered by UNICEF and implementing partner CADENA-ADRA, in collaboration with the MoH, which started in Tapachula, and gradually expanded to Tijuana, Ciudad Juárez and Nogales.

³ Results reached through distribution of ECD kits, complemented by Care for Child Development (CCD) counselling for families in migrant communities, while the Roving Caregivers Programme reached families in rural villages in Toledo. Pregnant and lactating mothers also received counselling. Underachievement is mainly attributed to delays of the pilot for the new home-visiting programme.

⁴ 5,386 children and adolescents in mobility received primary health care in the various migrant shelters run by civil society and government throughout the country, such as Casa Nuestras Raíces Guatemala and Quetzaltenango, Casas del Migrante de la Pastoral de Movilidad Humana and in the Mobile Unit of the CAPMiR.

⁵ Increase in migration flows led to UNICEF scaling up services.

⁶ Implemented a virtual training program on COVID-19, this program with an open license and digital content for health workers developed by UNICEF, WHO and John Hopkins University, led to the training of much more health workers than the initial planned target.

⁷ Results include achievements through UNICEF support to the Zero dose vaccination programme, aiming at increasing rates of routine immunization in rural hard-to-reach communities, given the impact of COVID-19 on immunization coverage. UNICEF-supported initiatives included training of nurses and community health workers in both government and private sectors; vaccine administration and storage; contact tracing of unvaccinated children and adolescents; and overall support for monitoring all immunization Zero dose strategies.

⁸ The target set for the HAC did not take into account a considerable funding received to strengthen the cold chain equipment for health facilities, which contributed to the national vaccination program, therefore, the amount of vaccinated children exceeded the initially established target.

⁹ At least 145,000 rations of safe water were served to boys, girls, adolescents, and their families in mobility conditions in 5 Casas del Migrante, which was possible through the installation of Water Delivery machines with filters.

¹⁰ The data reported includes migrants on the move who received drinking water (in bottles) at different hydration points which initially were not considered for this indicator but given the situation in the field, this need had to be addressed.

¹¹ Target is overachieved due to the large numbers of migrants benefitting from safe clean water distributed through "on the field" water filters installed in high transit areas in Tapachula, Chiapas (i.e. markets, Migration Institute premises, etc).

¹² Increase in migration flows led to UNICEF scaling up services.

Sector		UNICEF Target 2022	Result
Indicator	Country		
El Salvador		2,500	
Guatemala		8,500	2,826
Honduras		50,000	11,118
Panama		850	
# people reached with hand-washing behavior-change programmes		178,922	52,638
El Salvador		2,000	
Guatemala		144,122	
Mexico		32,800	52,638 ¹³
# people reached with critical WASH supplies (including hygiene items)		427,973	198,559
Belize		64,651	12,500
Costa Rica		37,200	38,920
El Salvador		2,000	
Guatemala		166,122	26,000
Honduras		90,000	18,341
Mexico		49,000	101,523 ¹⁴
Panama		19,000	1,275
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA			
# children, parents and caregivers accessing mental health and psychosocial support		161,504	197,087
Belize		47,500	33,150
Costa Rica		4,776	28,153
El Salvador		8,000	480
Guatemala		16,000	26,469
Honduras		58,000	53,317
Mexico		18,000	33,421 ¹⁵
Panama		9,228	22,097 ¹⁶
# women, girls and boys accessing GBV risk mitigation, prevention or response interventions		127,080	327,763
Belize		14,000	2,880
Costa Rica		5,660	2,109
Guatemala		40,000	269,950
Honduras		50,000	32,123
Mexico		15,000	12,501
Panama		2,420	8,200 ¹⁷
# people with safe and accessible channels to report sexual exploitation and abuse by aid workers		203,973	196,159
Costa Rica		4,973	8,102
Guatemala		10,000	
Honduras		189,000	188,057
# unaccompanied and separated children provided with alternative care or reunified		9,420	9,641
Belize		150	113
Guatemala		2,500	7,543
Honduras		100	0
Mexico		6,500	1,732
Panama		170	253 ¹⁸
# children identified as in need of specialized services who are referred to health, social welfare and justice services		30,199	43,840
Belize		6,000	21,620 ¹⁹
Costa Rica		2,199	20,826
Honduras		22,000	1,023
# people reached with awareness activities and community mobilization interventions on PSEA		20,150	8,205
Belize		20,000	8,115
El Salvador		150	90
Education			
# children accessing formal or non-formal education, including early learning		101,687	27,991
Belize		7,669	
Costa Rica		9,915	4,778
El Salvador		3,500	200
Guatemala		38,953	1,442
Honduras		37,500	14,756

¹³ The reported number includes all beneficiaries reached with PRM funds, in collaboration with IOM, World Vision and Cántaro Azul. Particularly, World Vision and Cantaro Azul pitched in with their own funding, making it possible to expand interventions and reach more migrants in more shelters.

¹⁴ Target is overachieved due to the distribution capacity increased thanks to our implementing partners in the field (NGOs and UN agencies). Kits distributed during humanitarian crisis such as Tapanatepec (migration) and Michoacan (earthquake), and in new shelters in Tamaulipas State.

¹⁵ In 2022, UNICEF continued offering psychosocial support, resilience building and education in emergency activities for children and caregivers on the move. Additionally, three new lines of action were added to UNICEF's MHPSS Strategy: 1) Connection with the environment and community inclusion of children and their families; 2) Awareness and training workshops for families and shelter staff on protection and mental health capacities; and 3) Referral pathways with local services and networks for children and families who need specialized services". Mental Health and Psychosocial support services were also offered through online platforms Contacto Joven and U-Report Uniendo Voces. The expansion of the strategy and new alliances with NGOs and CPAs allowed us to achieve and exceed the target.

¹⁶ Increase in migration flows led to UNICEF scaling up services.

¹⁷ Increase in migration flows led to UNICEF scaling up services.

¹⁸ Increase in the number of unaccompanied children crossing through Darien, which led to UNICEF scaling up services.

¹⁹ The activity is linked to the Protocols for supporting accompanied and unaccompanied children, as soon as children were referred to the national system an assessment was completed to ensure that further referrals to health, social services and justice were made as needed

Sector		UNICEF Target 2022	Result
Indicator	Country		
Mexico		4,150	6,772 ²⁰
# children/adolescents accessing skills development programmes		26,800	16,832
Costa Rica		22,200	15,825
El Salvador		2,100	
Mexico		2,500	1,007
# schools implementing safe school protocols (infection prevention and control)		670	
Costa Rica		70	
Honduras		600	
# children receiving learning materials		105,842	37,405
Belize		6,534	1,670
Costa Rica		22,855	17,469
Guatemala		38,953	1,442
Honduras		37,500	16,824
# of teachers trained on EiE including psychosocial support, education preparedness and response		39,546	3,758
Belize		283	
Costa Rica		19,266	3,016
El Salvador		4,250	100
Guatemala		10,247	
Honduras		5,500	642
Social protection and cash transfers			
# households reached with cash transfers through an existing government system where UNICEF provided technical assistance and funding		43,890	
Belize		640	
Guatemala		1,250	
Honduras		27,000	
Mexico		15,000	
# households reached with UNICEF funded multi purpose humanitarian cash transfers		2,467	1,476
Belize		467	329 ²¹
Honduras		2,000	1,147
# households benefitting from new or additional social transfers from governments with UNICEF technical assistance support		13,000	
Guatemala		13,000	
C4D, community engagement and AAP			
# people reached through messaging on prevention and access to services		3,267,750	5,658,744
Belize		200,000	437,000 ²²
Costa Rica		602,750	61,000
El Salvador		155,000	676,592 ²³
Guatemala		1,500,000	
Honduras		800,000	4,219,224 ²⁴
Panama		10,000	
# of people with access to established accountability mechanisms		147,200	4,077
Guatemala		145,200	
Panama		2,000	4,077
# people participating in engagement actions (for social and behavioral change)		48,840	1,050
Costa Rica		440	1,050
Guatemala		48,400	

²⁰ The end year result of 6,772 are children and adolescents reached directly through UNICEF implementing partners at border points. Additionally, through GIZ supported programme, it is estimated that 22,980 children were reached indirectly thanks to training of teachers.

²¹ In partnership with Belize Red Cross and Digi Wallet as the Financial Service Provider, UNICEF implemented a Cash Plus programme for migrant children reaching 329 households (898 children) with cash transfer and 60 households with trainings for skills development and other services, such as counselling and psychosocial support.

²² Information and advocacy messages reached over 437,000 persons through our online and digital platforms and revamped country office website.

²³ 1,200 children and 1,200 families received printed informative materials on the importance of education. An estimate of 676,592 people was reached indirectly through social media and community outreach.

²⁴ A massive communication campaign was developed to support the MoH to promote vaccination against Covid19 which was spread through popular TV and radio channels and social media. That is one of the reasons target was over exceeded.

Annex B: Funding Status

2022 Funding Status against the Appeal by Sector (US\$)

Sector	Requirements	Funds Available Against Appeal as of 31 December 2022*		% Funding Gap
		Humanitarian Funds Received in 2022	Carry-Forward	
Nutrition	19,514,947	2,901,314	215,841	84%
Health	10,070,797	2,366,565	43,638	76%
WASH	24,440,284	3,995,554	561,037	81%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	36,461,780	22,588,748	991,724	35%
Education	21,503,534	4,904,059	1,590,630	70%
Social Protection	8,991,021	1,459,048	17,000	84%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	3,546,087	147,326	-	96%
Regional Support	3,200,000	1,440,000	6,368	55%
Multisector	-	3,330,562	48,142	
TOTAL	127,728,450	43,133,176	3,474,379	64%

* Funds available includes funds received against current appeal and carry-forward from previous year.

2022 Funding Status against the Appeal by Sector (US\$) by Country

BELIZE					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	92,800	73,414	-	19,386	21%
Health	194,605	1,001,377	-		
WASH	670,170	-	-	670,170	100%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	597,980	344,988	-	252,992	42%
Education	996,247	745,583	-	250,664	25%
Social Protection	1,087,651	634,638	-	453,013	42%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	87,957	-	-	87,957	100%
Total BELIZE	3,727,410	2,800,000	-	927,410	25%

COSTA RICA					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition		-	-	-	
Health		-	-	-	
WASH	1,038,490	-	-	1,038,490	100%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,354,590	1,437,320	100,000		
Education	1,941,666	1,015,354	-	926,312	48%
Social Protection		-	-	-	
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	623,790	147,326	-	476,464	76%
Total COSTA RICA	4,958,536	2,600,000	100,000	2,258,536	46%

EL SALVADOR					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	2,500,000	-	-	2,500,000	100%
Health	500,000	-	8,000	492,000	98%
WASH	1,032,516	524,945	2,000	505,571	49%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	3,179,850	1,549,114	45,065	1,585,672	50%
Education	4,114,254	725,942	8,503	3,379,809	82%
Social Protection		-	-	-	
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	673,380	-	-	673,380	100%
Total EL SALVADOR	12,000,000	2,800,000	63,568	9,136,432	76%

GUATEMALA			
Sector	Requirements	Funds available	Funding gap

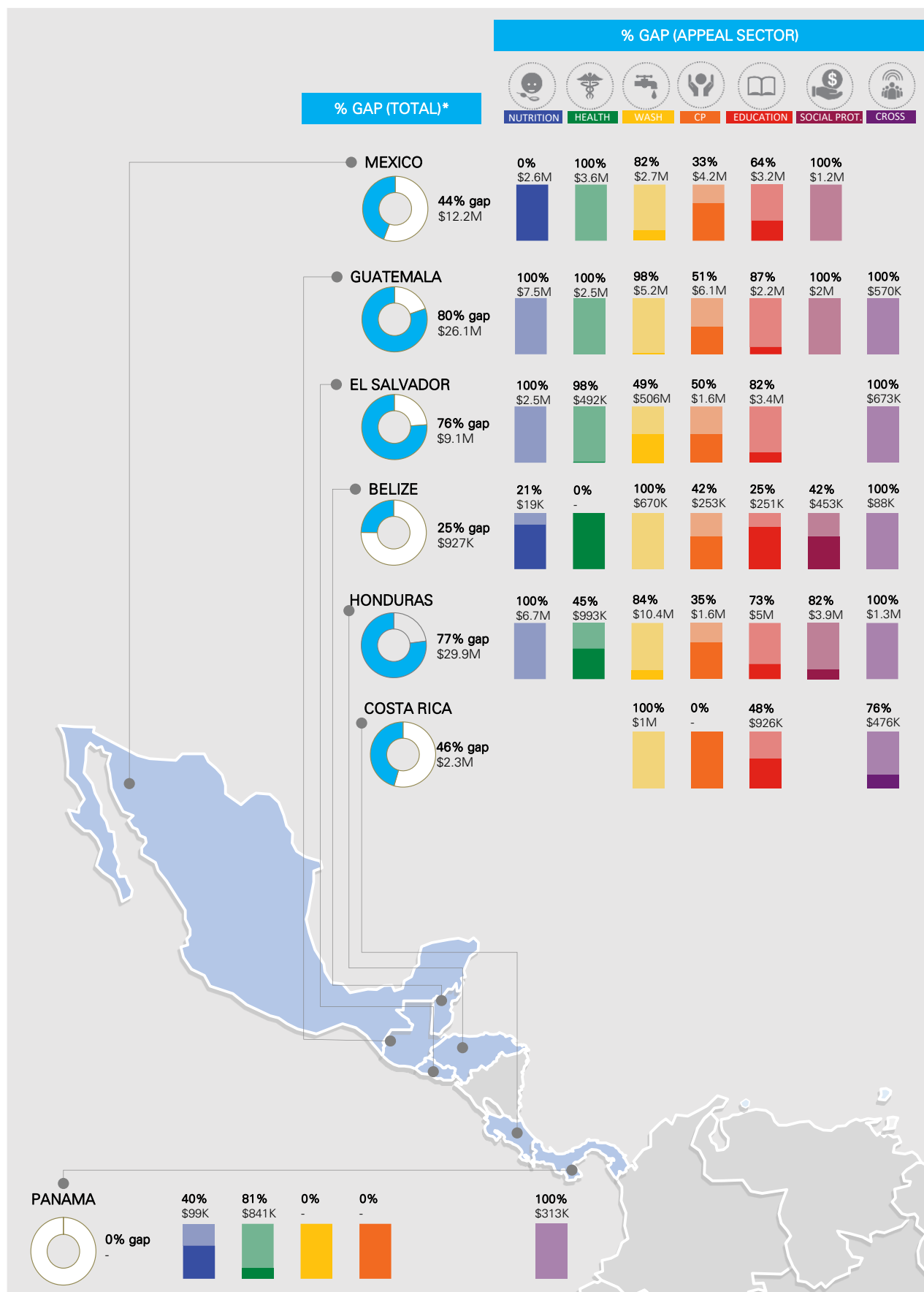
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	7,459,319	-	-	7,459,319	100%
Health	2,546,200	-	-	2,546,200	100%
WASH	5,258,149	-	103,515	5,154,634	98%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	12,064,000	5,300,000	643,113	6,120,887	51%
Education	2,565,505	-	330,105	2,235,400	87%
Social Protection	1,975,770	-	-	1,975,770	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	569,560	-	-	569,560	100%
Total GUATEMALA	32,438,503	5,300,000	1,076,733	26,061,770	80%

HONDURAS					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	6,661,429	-	-	6,661,429	100%
Health	2,193,472	1,165,189	35,638	992,646	45%
WASH	12,342,052	1,484,609	455,522	10,401,921	84%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	4,654,000	2,905,746	106,144	1,642,111	35%
Education	6,851,463	615,323	1,252,022	4,984,118	73%
Social Protection	4,767,600	824,410	17,000	3,926,190	82%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	1,278,200	-	-	1,278,200	100%
<i>Multisector</i>		-	32,153		
Total HONDURAS	38,748,216	6,995,277	1,898,477	29,854,462	77%

MEXICO					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	2,552,000	2,677,900	215,841		
Health	3,596,000	-	-	3,596,000	100%
WASH	2,668,000	486,000	-	2,182,000	82%
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	12,644,000	8,473,681	-	4,170,319	33%
Education	5,034,400	1,801,857	-	3,232,543	64%
Social Protection	1,160,000	-	-	1,160,000	100%
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)		-	-	-	
<i>Multisector</i>		1,760,562	15,989		
Total MEXICO	27,654,400	15,200,000	231,831	12,222,569	44%

PANAMA					
Sector	Requirements	Funds available		Funding gap	
		Humanitarian resources received in 2022	Carry-Forward	US\$	%
Nutrition	249,400	150,000	-		
Health	1,040,520	200,000	-	840,520	81%
WASH	1,430,860	1,500,000	-		
Child protection, GBViE and PSEA	1,967,360	2,577,899	97,403		
Education		-	-	-	
Social Protection		-	-	-	
Cross-sectoral (HCT, SBC, RCCE, AAP)	313,200	-	-	313,200	100%
<i>Multisector</i>		1,570,000	-		
Total PANAMA	5,001,340	5,997,899	97,403		

Annex C: Funding gap by country/sector



*Total funding gap estimated considering total funding available against the total appeal per country.

Endnotes

ⁱ Corresponds to 'encounters' statistics, including Title 8 Apprehensions, Title 8 Inadmissible and Title 42 Expulsions. Source: U.S. Customs and Border Protection Department of Homeland Security, Southwest Land Border Encounters, online dashboard, available at <www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/southwest-land-border-encounters>.

ⁱⁱ Source: OurWorldInData.org, accessed February 2023.

ⁱⁱⁱ Source: Jafino, Bramka Arga et al., Revised estimates of the impact of climate change on extreme poverty by 2030, Poverty and Shared Prosperity 2020, background paper, The World Bank, September 2020, available at <www.preventionweb.net/publication/revised-estimates-impact-climate-change-extreme-poverty-2030>.

^{iv} OCHA, Press release, 'Equipos humanitarios buscan \$505 millones para asistir a 4,9 millones de personas en El Salvador, Guatemala y Honduras en 2023', February 2023.

^v OCHA, 'Latin America and the Caribbean in the Global Humanitarian Overview', December 2022.

^{vi} Source: OurWorldInData.org, accessed February 2023.

^{vii} According to IOM data (2023).

^{viii} The departments with the highest migratory incidence, according to place of origin, are Huehuetenango (11,243), San Marcos (10,532), Guatemala (7,326), Quiché (7,215), Quetzaltenango (5,761), Petén (4,989), Alta Verapaz (3,934), Escuintla (3,730), Suchitepéquez (3,639), Jutiapa (3,483) and Chiquimula (3,143).

^{ix} Source: Instituto Nacional de Migración, Honduras, <<http://inm.gob.hn/estadisticas.html>>.

^x Source: Observatorio Consular y Migratorio de Honduras, <<https://conmigho.hn/>>.

^{xi} Source: OCHA, <<https://response.reliefweb.int/honduras/temporada-lluviosa-2022>>.