

LAST UPDATE JULY 2020

SUPPORT PLATFORM

Solidarity in Action

The MIRPS Support Platform was set up in December 2019, on the occasion of the first Global Forum on Refugees to support the efforts of the MIRPS countries (Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama) to offer protection and seek solutions to the forcibly displaced in Central America and Mexico, and to mobilise support for other players, whether international or national, public or private, in these efforts.

Supported by the Organization of American States (OAS), UNHCR, and El Salvador (as Pro-tempore President of the MIRPS), the Support Platform exists as a mechanism for greater responsibility sharing, as provided for in the Global Compact on Refugees. It seeks to leverage support from the broadest possible range of states, international financial institutions, the private sector, regional bodies and other stakeholders to offer further protection and solutions to forcibly displaced people.

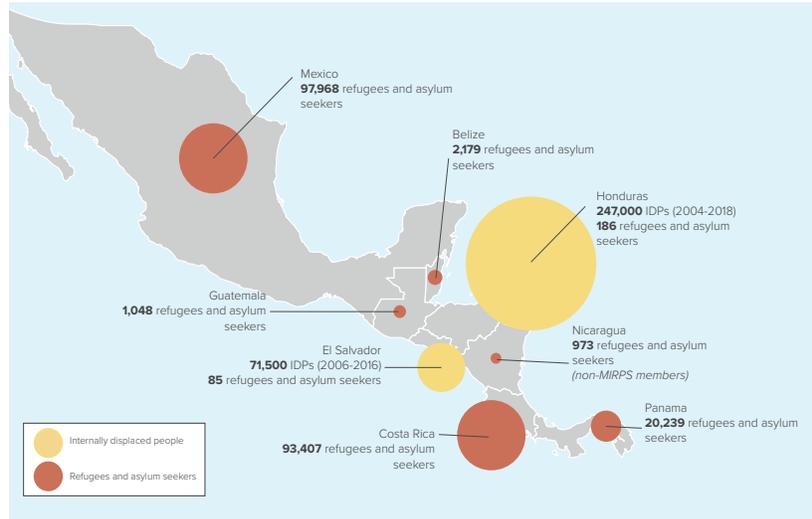
PLATFORM OBJECTIVES

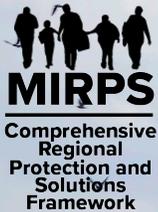
Through the mobilization of financial, material and technical assistance, as well as political commitment and advocacy, the Platform aims to advance the MIRPS as a regional CRRF mechanism responding to forced displacement in the region, through the following actions:

- ✓ Focus the attention of the international community on the regional situation by **engaging and leveraging support** from interested states, regional institutions and other stakeholders, calling for a comprehensive, international response;
- ✓ Establish **dialogue to coordinate and exchange of good practices** within the framework of existing regional and multilateral instructions and other forums, including within OAS;
- ✓ Support MIRPS through **greater visibility and calls to expand regional cooperation** in addressing displacement, as well as, highlighting individual national level efforts and achievements, and continued needs, to further greater burden and responsibility sharing; and
- ✓ Document the lessons learned and good practices of this process and share lessons learned from **other Support Platforms** to MIRPS States.

DISPLACEMENT IN NUMBERS

- +470,000** ASYLUM-SEEKERS AND REFUGEES FROM THE NORTH OF CENTRAL AMERICA
- 320,000** INTERNALLY DISPLACED FROM HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR
- +100,000** NICARAGUANS FORCED TO FLEE WORLDWIDE





MIRPS
Comprehensive
Regional
Protection and
Solutions
Framework

Addressing forced
displacement in Central
America and Mexico



PLATFORM MEMBERS

Borne from the experience of the Friends of MIRPS Group, the Support Platform is currently composed by **Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, the European Union, France, Italy, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Uruguay and the United States of America.**

In June 2020, the Government of Spain assumed the leadership as Chair of the MIRPS Support Platform for a period of one year. Having facilitated the adoption of a governance structure for the Platform, Spain will now provide leadership for the implementation of a workplan.

HOW MEMBERS CAN SUPPORT THE MIRPS

- ✓ **Provide technical support in one or more focus areas;** education, jobs, and livelihoods, strengthening the asylum systems, child protection, etc. based on the MIRPS national action plans.
- ✓ **Provide financial support to MIRPS countries** to cover financial gaps of the MIRPS national action plans, in line with the quantification process.
- ✓ **Help bring additional actors into the response** through the Platform to broaden the support base.
- ✓ **Become a MIRPS Ambassador** and facilitate engagement with development actors.
- ✓ **Map private sector actors within your country** that can be engaged in supporting the MIRPS.
- ✓ **Become part of the Cities of Solidarity initiative.** Municipalities in Platform members countries and those in MIRPS countries can strengthen local responses together, including safety nets for displaced people.
- ✓ **Increase the number of resettlement places and complementary pathways** such as education grants and private sponsorship programmes for asylum seekers and refugees from Central America.

THE MIRPS

In 2017, the governments of Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama decided to follow a joint approach at managing forced displacement in their region. With the adoption the San Pedro Sula Declaration, the states agreed to strengthen protection and promote solutions for affected persons, address the underlying causes of forced displacement by promoting a stable environment that ensures security, economic development and prosperity. Through the Declaration, countries agreed to implement the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS) as a regional contribution to the Global Compact on Refugees (GCR) to strengthen regional cooperation and shared responsibility. All 6 states committed to adopt and implement national action plans, aligned to country specific commitments and priorities. In July 2019, El Salvador joined the MIRPS, and currently hosts the Pro-Tempore Presidency (PPT) for this year.

Current platform members:



With the support of:



For more information:

Elisabet Diaz San Martin,
Senior Policy Officer, diazsanm@unhcr.org