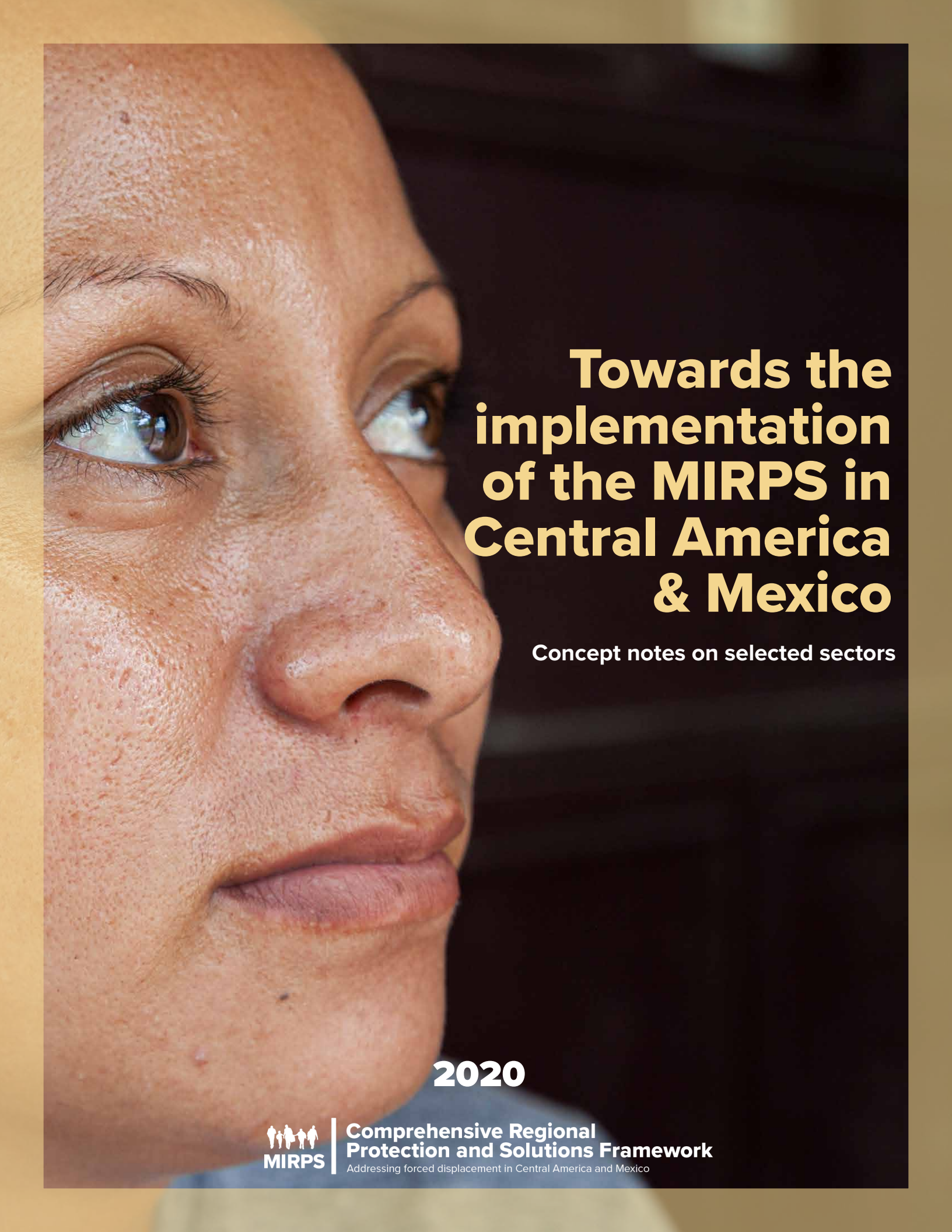




Towards the implementation of the MIRPS in Central America & Mexico

Concept notes on selected sectors

2020



**Comprehensive Regional
Protection and Solutions Framework**

Addressing forced displacement in Central America and Mexico

Context

Impacted by increasingly complex forced displacement situations, Central America hosts hundreds of thousands of people who have fled their homes, either within or across their country's borders, in search of safety. This includes IDPs in El Salvador, Honduras and Mexico; together with refugees and asylum-seekers from the northern Central American countries who have fled chronic gang violence, persecution and insecurity. The vast majority of refugees and asylum-seekers from these countries are hosted in Mexico and the USA, with several thousands more having sought asylum in Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, and Panama. In addition, tens of thousands of people have fled the social and political crisis in Nicaragua, the vast majority arriving in neighbouring Costa Rica where asylum claims have increased exponentially.

In 2019, the Americas was the largest recipient of asylum applications worldwide. An additional several hundred thousand persons are returning to their countries of origin as deportees, including those with protection needs. With an increasing trend of people forcibly displaced in the region exerting pressure on national protection and asylum systems, the MIRPS seeks to expand the operational capacity of States in Central America and Mexico to respond to forced displacement. This includes making the necessary arrangements to ensure safe reception and admission of people forced to flee, facilitating access to safe spaces and shelters, engaging community and municipal leadership, promoting durable solutions and livelihoods, as well as fostering an environment of peaceful coexistence.

In 2017, Belize, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama adopted the San Pedro Sula Declaration, to address forced displacement by strengthening the protection and assistance to affected persons, as well as promoting durable solutions. Through the Declaration, countries agreed to participate in the MIRPS as a regional contribution to the Global Compact on Refugees, where all states committed to adopt and implement national action plans, aligned to country specific commitments and priorities. In 2019, El Salvador joined this regional effort and held the Pro-tempore Presidency for 2020. Nationally, MIRPS Technical Teams (NTTs) are comprised of relevant government institutions who plan and coordinate the implementation of work plans with support from UNHCR and OAS as the technical secretariat.

Identification of resources required

Through the State-led quantification process, NTTs have assessed the financial resource requirements and steps required to implement select national commitments, defining specific costed activities in the areas of protection, social protection, health, education and livelihoods. The related Concept Notes presented within this document have informed the elaboration of detailed Concept Notes, that were informed by consultations and working sessions of the NTTs which brought together national counterparts in the areas of planning, financing and international cooperation with the technical support from the UNHCR-OAS MIRPS Secretariat and the Pro-Tempore Presidency.

This process has served to strengthen the national planning process to implement MIRPS national action plans, and is a basis for partnership engagement and resource mobilization. Key consideration was given to identifying commitments that aligned closest to the humanitarian context and prevailing protection needs, and were dependent on establishing new partnerships and forms of financing to implement. In a number of instances, focus areas also align to Pledges that were also made at the Global Refugee Forum.

The scale of the forced displacement crisis in the region - compounded by the pandemic - and the projections of a possible increase in the numbers of people fleeing once the opening of borders is regularized, requires the **strengthening of partnerships** to be a priority for 2021. In this sense, MIRPS countries have diverse national, regional and international partners, as well as the backing of the **Support Platform, international financial institutions, development actors, the civil society and the private sector** as a true example of responsibility-sharing.



Find out more about
the Annual Report
in the new [MIRPS
webpage](#)

Prioritized focus areas

Total requirement \$63,152,181
Total gap \$54,479,442

MEXICO **Total requirement \$8,289,178**

 Strengthening schools in the public education system in host communities in southern Mexico

Total Required Financing

\$7,042,800

 Strengthening first level health care in the state of Chiapas, Mexico

Total Required Financing

\$1,246,358

HONDURAS

Total requirement \$3,999,725



Guaranteeing a harmonized approach to provide long term solutions such as access to work and social protection

Total Financing Required

\$3,999,725

GUATEMALA **Total requirement \$346,170**
Total gap \$333,442



Creation of specialized, differentiated, safe, and decent reception conditions

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$4,546 \$39,935



Strengthening institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents in border areas

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$4,286 \$232,208



Public-private sectors alliances for the inclusion of refugees and refuge applicants in Guatemala into the workforce

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$3,896 \$61,299

BELIZE

Total requirement \$2,596,861



Establish demand-driven technical and vocational training in key economic sectors associated with climate change, benefiting refugees, asylum seekers, migrants and Belizean youth

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$0 \$2,596,861

EL SALVADOR **Total requirement \$11,993,682**
Total gap \$10,336,910



Improve the technical, inclusive, and operational capacity of the Salvadoran educational system to support the rights of the forcefully displaced population

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$1,513,561 \$6,854,890



Expand opportunities of access to work and sources of livelihood to encourage self-reliance of people who have been forcibly displaced in El Salvador

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$0 \$3,266,520



Strengthen the capacity of the National Health System to provide better health and psychosocial services to forcibly displaced people in El Salvador

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$143,211 \$215,500

COSTA RICA **Total requirement \$7,966,225**
Total gap \$4,980,215



Voluntary temporary insurance for asylum seekers and refugees in Costa Rica

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$0 \$3,033,333



Social protection of the populations with international protection needs through services provided by the Social Welfare Institute (IMAS)

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$836,397 \$641,655



Institutional strengthening to support the refugee and migrant population in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$2,149,613 \$1,305,227

PANAMA

Total requirement \$27,960,340



Expanding social coverage to meet the basic needs of vulnerable refugees and applicants for refugee status

National Financing

Financing Gap

\$4,017,229 \$23,943,111

 **Education**

Total requirement \$18,008,112
Total gap \$16,494,551

 **Social protection**

Total requirement \$33,438,117
Total gap \$28,584,491

 **Protection**

Total requirement \$3,813,551
Total gap \$1,345,162

 **Child protection**

Total requirement \$236,494
Total gap \$232,208

 **Health**

Total requirement \$4,638,422
Total gap \$4,495,211

 **Jobs and livelihoods**

Total requirement \$3,331,715
Total gap \$3,327,819

Guatemala.

Persons of concern in Guatemala

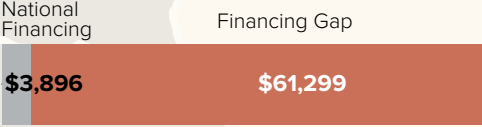
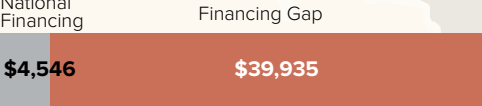
Asylum seekers
in Guatemala*

1,978

Refugees in
Guatemala*

471

*Official data provided to UNHCR by October 2020

SECTOR	DESCRIPTION	IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES	FINANCING NEEDS
 Jobs and livelihoods   In support of national GRF pledge	Strengthen support from institutions and the community in general, including the private sector, so that refugees and refugee applicants may exercise their right to employment and sources of livelihoods, through associations between the public and private sectors, processes of labor inclusion for refugees and refugee applicants, and tools such as the National Employment Service.	Ministry of Labor and Social Planning	
 Protection   In support of national GRF pledge	Carry out an institutional capacity assessment for the opening of open shelters for people in need of international protection for a subsequent phase of increasing capacity for the care, reception and protection of this population.	Guatemalan Migration Institute	
 Child Protection   In support of national GRF pledge	Strengthen institutions governing the protection of children and adolescents, such as the Social Welfare Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic in order to establish and implement protection mechanisms of children and adolescents in border areas.	Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	

Context

Despite improvements in the region, national poverty rates in Guatemala have worsened, and have risen from 56.2% in 2000 to 59.3% in 2014, while extreme poverty has increased from 15.7% to 23.4% in the same period. Extreme poverty among indigenous people has increased by 12.7 points compared to an increase of 5 points among non-indigenous people. Likewise, multidimensional poverty, which encompasses several areas of need such as lack of education or employment, inadequate housing, poor health and nutrition, low personal security, and social isolation, is greater in rural areas (87.5% in 2014) and among indigenous people (86.6%).

Human mobility is a phenomenon related to the country's challenges in regard to poverty and inequality, violation of human rights, climate change and natural disasters, among others.

To respond to these problems on a national level, a national plan for development called K'atun: Nuestra Guatemala 2032 (Two Decades: Our Guatemala 2032), was established, and 10 national priorities were identified which connect the plan goals with the Sustainable Development Goals (ODS, by its Spanish acronym). This proposal is in line national priorities related to employment and investment: decreased job insecurity through the creation of decent, quality employment as shown by a) a gradual decrease of the underemployment from the last available data: 16.9%; b) a gradual decrease in informal employment from the last available data: 69.2%; c) a gradual decrease in the unemployment rate from the last available data: 3.2%; and d) eradication of the percentage of workers who live in extreme poverty.

Trends in displacement

According to the United Nations, Guatemala can be seen from three different perspectives: as the country of origin of migrants and refugees who live outside of its borders and similarly, as country of return, mainly for people in Mexico and the USA; as a transit country, mainly for people from Central America, but also for people other places; and as a country of refuge for a small, but growing number, of foreigners who seek international protection.

Between 2015 and 2016, most applications for refugee status in Guatemala came from Honduran and Salvadoran citizens. Although movement is due to several different causes, one of the most resounding is the high level of violence by non-state armed actors (maras and gangs), which affects some countries in the region. The violent situation in Honduras and El Salvador has also impacted the refugee system in Guatemala. In 2016, the number of Hondurans and Salvadorans sought refuge in Guatemala increased by 276% compared to 2012. People from Honduras and El Salvador make up 84% of refuge seekers who waited for a determination of merit on their applications in Guatemala, thus becoming one of the main population groups who seek international protection in Guatemala.

Traditionally, Guatemala has predominantly been a transit country for migrants and people who seek international protection in neighboring countries. The Agreement CA4, signed on June 2005, established free mobility of citizenry within the territories of any of its parties. This agreement constitutes an important regulatory framework for protection, as it facilitates access to the territory and safe and regular

transit for citizens from Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua seeking protection in Guatemala or crossing the country to seek protection in neighbouring countries. On this note, statistics registered since 2002 by institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs suggest a growing trend of people in need of international protection choosing Guatemala as their country of refuge, protection and local integration.

Statistics also imply that the escalation of violence in El Salvador and Honduras, when added to restrictive migratory policies and the violence suffered by people in transit to main countries of refuge, resulted in a greater number of people who seek refuge in Guatemala and wait for a ruling on their requests for international protection.

According to UNHCR (2020), in Guatemala, refugees and people who seek refuge face limitations, especially single women and women with children, large families, minors, members of the LGBTI community, and the elderly, who do not have an income to cover their basic needs. These groups face problems such as the cost of obtaining an ID document that allows them to work freely in the country.

¹ Segeplán, 2015: 52

² UNDP, 2016 : 31

³ UN Guatemala, 2019

⁴ UN Guatemala, 2019

⁵ Ministry of Foreign Affairs, 2016

National response

The State of Guatemala is committed, at a regional and international level, to offering a specialized, distinguished, safe, and decent reception to people seeking refuge. In 2016, a new Migration Code recognized the statuses of refugee and political asylum and the concept of humanitarian assistance. Article 53 of the Code established that “applicants for refugee or political asylum status under the legal concept of territorial asylum are entitled to a special, personal ID document for access to education and health services until their application is decided.” The document will also be considered valid for the purpose of obtaining paid employment in agreement with current legislation.

As established in Article 51 of the Migrating Authority Agreement No. 4-2019, Regulations for Guatemalan Residency, “Required to present a work permit: Any foreigner who intends to engage in paid labor as an employee within the Guatemalan territory, once notified of their residency decision, must present a work permit issued by the Ministry of Labor and Social Planning to the Guatemalan Institute for Migration within a maximum period of three months. Failure to comply with this requirement will be considered grounds for the annulment of the residence granted.”

The MIRPS

Honoring the long tradition of regional cooperation to respond to the protection challenges caused by forced displacement, and as a member state, Guatemala is committed, within the MIRPS framework, to addressing the three following main points: 1: Reception and admission; 2: Immediate and ongoing needs; and 3: Durable solutions. This is done through the implementation of 30 commitments detailed in the National Action Plan, under the direction of the National Technical Team (ETN, by its Spanish acronym). The ETN is made up of four government entities: The General Directorate of Consular and Migratory Affairs (DIGRACOM, by its Spanish acronym) of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Labour and

Social Planning; the Guatemalan Migration Institute; and the Social Welfare Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic. In 2019, Guatemala prioritized three focus areas in order to respond to its commitments: protection; protection of children; and employment and sources of livelihoods. The Labour Mobility Committee, coordinated by the Ministry of Labor and Social Planning, was created to follow-up on fulfillment in the employment and livelihoods areas, to continue with the commitments assumed by the State of Guatemala within MIRPS related to the promotion of labor inclusion processes for people in need of international protection.

**COUNTRY:** Guatemala**SECTOR:** Jobs and livelihoods

Public-private sectors alliances for the inclusion of refugees and refuge applicants in Guatemala into the workforce



Executive Summary

Over recent years in Guatemala, there has been large movements of people, including migrants in transit and refugees. To meet the commitment of the Government of Guatemala to facilitate the orderly and safe mobility of people, it is necessary to strengthen institutional capacity and support the community, including the role of the private sector, to ensure that refugees and asylum seekers can exercise their right of access employment and livelihood opportunities. In 2020, the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare made significant progress in reducing the processing times and the requirements to ensure refugee access to work permits. In 2021, further investments will be made to improve the understanding of the labour rights of refugees within the provide sectors and the amongst the general population.

To achieve this objective, public-private partnerships will be established to further labour inclusion for refugees and asylum seekers. Specific activities include; awareness raising within the private sector concerning the obstacles the population faces in its search for employment and family support; sensitization amongst the general population through a digital campaign on non-discrimination towards refugees and asylum seekers, and their right to access the labour market; and the promotion of corporate social responsibility programmes within the private sector to support access to employment opportunities through the National Employment Service.

DURATION

2021

IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Ministry of Labor and Social Planning

LOCATION

National

BENEFICIARIES

Population in need of international protection,
specifically refugee and refugee applicants.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Total Required Financing:	\$ 65,195
National Financing:	\$ 3,896
Financing Gap:	\$ 61,299

1. Context of the livelihoods and jobs sector in Guatemala

At present, refugees and refugee applicants face limitations to reentry in the workforce because a large portion of the corporate sector is still unaware of the formal proceedings for this group to reenter the workforce in this country.

Because of this, a large number of people are forced to find informal employment, exposing themselves to various kinds of abuses and exploitation, particularly in the case of women, the elderly, and members of the LGBTI community .

In the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, the government of Guatemala declared a state of national emergency in the entire country which, among other measures, limited the right of free movement and allowed for the issuing of specific measures to safeguard international borders. During this

period, many services were suspended to safeguard health interventions of public officials and users. Therefore, in the context of the national emergency declared by the executive powers and to guarantee the certainty and legal security of labor administrative processes, the Ministry of Labor and Social Planning, through the Ministerial Agreement Number 136-2020, suspended the computing of legal terms and deadlines, and considers any working permit which expired during the state of national emergency declared in the country as still valid.

2. Detailed approach

General objective

Facilitate, through associations between the public and private sectors, the insertion of refugees and refugee applicants into the workforce by using tools such as the National Employment Service.

Resultado esperado

Facilitar mediante alianzas público-privadas, procesos de inclusión laboral para solicitantes de refugio y refugiados, utilizando herramientas como el Servicio Nacional de Empleo.

Specific objective1

Greater awareness in the private sector about the refugee population and the obstacles they face when seeking employment and supporting their families.

Activities

A.1.1: Design a campaign aimed at private sector in traditional and digital media to inform them about the rights of the refugees, especially their right to a revenue-generating employment in accordance with current national legislation.

A.1.2: Prepare a communication strategy including the design of the campaign and preparation of materials for the campaign (videos, posts, radio spots, etc.)

A.1.3: Distribute the materials through unions and associations in the private sector, as well as through social networks and traditional means of communication.

Specific objective 2

Raise awareness in the general public, through a digital non-discrimination campaign, to the condition of refugees and refugee applicants and their right to access the job market.

Activities

A.2.1: Design a digital campaign to raise the general public's awareness of non-discrimination against refugees and refugee applicants due to their condition, and their rights to access the job market.

A.2.2: Prepare a digital communication strategy (define target groups, key messages, media)

A.2.3: Prepare digital materials (gifts, tags, stories, copies, etc.)

A.2.4: Circulate the digital campaign to raise the general public's awareness about non-discrimination of refugees and refugee applicants due to their condition, and their rights to access the job market.

3. Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this initiative would be the population in need of international protection, specifically refugee and refugee applicants.

In 2019, the Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM, by its Spanish acronym) registered 77 refugees in Guatemala and 494 refugee seekers whose processes are still under consideration. In 2020, the IGM has registered 263 asylum seekers, a number which has decreased due to COVID-19; however, for 2021, there is a projection of 272 new applications for refuge.

4. Estimated budget

OBJECTIVE	REQUIRED FUNDING*	NATIONAL FUNDING	FUNDING GAP
	2021		
1. A greater sensitization within the private sector towards the refugee population and the obstacles they face when seeking employment and support for their families	\$34,221 Q 263,500	\$ 1,948 Q 15,000	\$32,273 Q 248,500
2. Raise awareness in the general public, through a digital non-discrimination campaign, to the condition of refugees and refugee applicants and their right to access the job market.	\$ 30,974 Q 238,500	\$ 1,948 Q 15,000	\$ 29,026 Q 223,500
TOTAL	\$65,195 Q 502,000	\$ 3,896 Q 30,000	\$61,299 Q 472,000

*Exchange rate: 7.7 GTQ a 1 USD

The quantification started with a planning process in which focus areas were selected and key participants and institutions for each focus area were identified. In this case, for the focus area of livelihoods, the Ministry of Labor and Social Assistance was called on to establish goals and products and to devise a work plan for the year 2021. An analysis was carried out in order to identify the services and activities within the focus area so as to put the commitments of the national plan into operation.

The financial resources required for the services and activities planned for 2021 within the focus area were quantified, including the identified state investment and the funding deficits.

The quantification also includes mapping of current external funding opportunities and resource deployment activities to reduce the existing funding

deficit.

The cost methodology implemented for quantifying the costs was carried out through the following steps:

- 1) Identification and prioritization of activities for the focus area;
- 2) Breakdown of costs by activity (using historic costs, average operative costs, use of equipment and materials, and infrastructure investment);
- 3) Verification of planned programming in the Operations Plans (POA, by its Spanish acronym) and estimated budgets for 2021, which were named National Funding; and
- 4) Determination of the funding deficits that resulted from the difference between required costs and national funding.

5. Risks and assumptions

RISK	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE	INTENSITY OF IMPACT	MITIGATING STRATEGY
Staff turnover within the different state institutions involved, which can slow down the initiated processes.	Medium	Medium	The initiative will be monitored by a focal group, which should keep all department members informed in order to achieve its institutionalization.
The procurement of insufficient financial resources to implement information campaigns and supplementary measures.	Medium	High	A mapping of donors will be carried out to fill the funding deficit identified in 2020 quantification.

6. Monitoring and evaluation

The goals established for 2021 will be achieved through the measures established in this concept note, under the leadership of MINTRAB, and in coordination with the National Technical Team, the civil society and international cooperation. The initiative's progress will be monitored every three months through the tracking that MINTRAB performs on its Annual Operative Plan.

Goals have been established to measure the advancement of the activities prioritized for the year, and MINTRAB will follow-up with them to determine their fulfillment in 2021. The tables with indicators, baselines and goals can be found in the annex of this concept note.

Annex: Logical Framework and Estimated Budget

	Indicator	Baseline	Goal Means of Verification	Duration	Required Financing	National Financing	Financing Gap
General Objective							
Facilitate, through associations between the public and private sectors, the insertion of refugees and refugee applicants into the workforce by using tools such as the National Employment Service.	Amount of refugee applicants and refugees employed through the National Employment Service.		SNE statistics.	2020-2021			
1. Specific Objective							
Greater awareness in the private sector about the refugee population and the obstacles they face when seeking employment and supporting their families.	A campaign to generate more information for the private sector on refugee population and their rights within the labor market.	There is not an information campaign to raise private sector awareness.	Document with communications strategy.	2020-2021			
1.1 Activity	Effect of awareness-raising campaign.	There is not an information campaign to raise private sector awareness.	Reports of effects obtained with the campaign.	2020	GTQ 13,500		GTQ 13,500
Campaign design aimed at the private sector in traditional and digital media.							
1.2 Activity				2021	GTQ 150,000		GTQ 150,000
Creation of material for the campaign (videos, etc.)							
1.3 Activity				2021	GTQ 100,000	GTQ 15,000	GTQ 85,000
Distribution of materials through labor unions and associations.							
Subtotal					GTQ 263,500	GTQ 15,000	GTQ 248,500
				USD	USD 34,221	USD 1,948	USD 32,273
2. Specific Objective							
Raise awareness in the general public, through a digital non-discrimination campaign, to the condition of refugees and refugee applicants and their right to access the job market.	Existence of a digital campaign for non-discrimination of refugees and applicants due to their condition and their rights to access the job market.	There is not an information campaign at national level.	Document with communications strategy.	2021			

2.1 Activity	Effect of awareness-raising campaign.	There is not an awareness-raising campaign for the general public.	Reports of effects obtained with the campaign.				
Design a digital campaign to raise the general public's awareness of non-discrimination against refugees and applicants due to their condition, and their rights to access the job market.				2021	GTQ 13,500		GTQ 13,500
2.2 Activity							
Prepare a digital communication strategy (define target groups, key messages, media)				2021	GTQ 50,000	GTQ 15,000	GTQ 35,000
2.3 Activity							
Prepare digital materials (gifs, tags, stories, copies, etc.)				2021	GTQ 75,000		GTQ 75,000
2.4 Activity							
Circulate the digital campaign to raise the general public's awareness about non-discrimination of refugees and refugee applicants due to their condition, and their rights to access the job market.				2021	GTQ 100,000		GTQ 100,000
SO 2 Subtotal					GTQ 238,500	GTQ 15,000	GTQ 223,500
				USD	USD 30,974	USD 1,948	USD 29,026
TOTAL					GTQ 502,000	GTQ 30,000	GTQ 472,000
				USD	USD 65,195	USD 3,896	USD 61,299

Exchange rate 7.7 GTQ to 1 USD.

**COUNTRY: Guatemala****SECTOR: Protection**

Creation of specialized, differentiated, safe, and decent reception conditions



Executive Summary

Over recent years in Guatemala, there has been large movements of people, including migrants in transit and refugees. In this regard, it remains a priority to support people in need of international protection along their migration route, with a need for ongoing investments in the capacity of concerned institutions to ensure the provision of the necessary conditions for a safe and specialized reception of these populations. This initiative will seek to create the necessary conditions to ensure the provision of specialized, differentiated, safe and dignified reception through open shelters.

To achieve this goal, the objective of this intervention is to identify and prioritize the areas of institutional strengthening for the creation of open shelters in dignified and specialized conditions for those with international protection needs. Likewise, the specific activities include the identification of international cooperation for the provision of technical assistance that facilitate a diagnosis for the creation of open shelters; though an assessment of the capacities (technical, infrastructure, financial, regulations) required for the opening of open shelters, and establish a roadmap for institutional strengthening.

DURATION

2021-2022

IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Guatemalan Migration Institute

LOCATION

National

BENEFICIARIES

Population in need of international protection, specifically refugee, refugee applicants and migrants.

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Total Required Financing:	\$ 44,481
National Financing:	\$ 4,546
Financing Gap:	\$ 39,935

1. Sector Context

Due to an increased number of the refugee applicant population, it is necessary to strengthen the Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM, by its Spanish acronym) so it may have shelters for voluntary and temporary stay administered by the state, to strengthen these shelters with human and financing resources, and to create operational guides, rulebooks and protocols so that these shelters can operate by securing refugees' and refugee applicants' human rights and to be host places that include psychosocial and legal support services and referrals to other support services.

Guatemala has signed the main international treaties on human rights, and in 1983 ratified the two main regulatory frameworks on the international protection of refugees: the 1951 Convention about Refugee Status and its 1967 Protocol. Guatemala adopted the 1984 Cartagena Declaration, and in its 30th anniversary, adopted the Brazilian Declaration and Plan of Action, together with other 28 Latin American countries, in 2014.

In December 2001, through the Governmental Agreement N.º 383-2001, the Regulations for Protecting and Determining Refugee Status were passed in the State of Guatemala. The agreement adopts the definition of refugee of the 1951 Convention and of the Cartagena Declaration, as well as incorporating sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence as foundations for recognizing refugee status.

Since 2002, Guatemala has registered approximately 1,200 refugee applications from citizens of over 42 different countries. In 2019, the General Directorate of Migration, now the IGM, registered 77 refugees in Guatemala and 494 refugee seekers whose processes are in different phases of processing. In 2020, the IGM has registered 263 refugee applicants, a number that decreased due to COVID-19; however, in 2021, an increase in refugee applications is expected, since in some years an increase of up to 206% has been observed in the total amount of new refugee applications.

Complementary initiatives

Regarding protection, there are a series of initiatives to be implemented in a supplementary manner to support the creation of specialized and decent shelters for populations in need of international protection. These supplementary initiatives include strengthening of institutional capacities of the IGM to aid protection through more hired and trained specialists and better and broader equipment and infrastructure. This requires an increase of human resources specialized in the IGM for assisting and protecting refugee applicants. It is suggested that these interventions be carried out in a parallel and supplementary manner.

Currently, there are shelters administered by civil society organizations, such as the Pastoral for Human Mobility and the Scalabrinian Missionaries of St. Charles, who aim to support people in transit along the migration route. Some of these spaces have been broadened to accommodate people in need of international protection, even though they do not comply with the appropriate conditions for providing comprehensive services to people in need of international protection.

2. Detailed approach

General objective

Prepare an assessment for the creation of open shelters in decent conditions, tailored to populations in need of international protection, using specialized and trained teams.

Expected result

The expected result for this initiative is the creation of necessary conditions in the Guatemalan Institute of Migration and other institutions that make up the National Council for Assistance and Protection in order to provide a differentiated, safe and decent reception tailored to the population in need of international protection.

Specific objective 1

Identify instances of international cooperation for the management of technical assistance in order to draw up an assessment on the creation of open shelters.

Activities

A.1.1: Conduct a mapping of international cooperation agencies for the management of technical assistance.

A.1.2: Contact potential international cooperation partners for the management of technical assistance.

A.1.3: Formalization of partnerships with international cooperation agencies through letters of understanding.

Specific objective 2

Identify, through the assessment of capacities (infrastructure, and technical, financial and regulatory capacities), areas that require strengthening in order to launch open shelters.

Activities

A.2.1: Methodological design of the assessment of capacities and capacity building areas for the launching of open shelters.

A.2.2: Collection of information with key actors and conducting analysis for the assessment of capacities and areas to be strengthened for the launching of open shelters.

A.2.3: Creation of final document.

Specific objective 3

Create a guide to strengthen institutions in order to create open shelters in decent conditions and tailored to populations with international protection needs.

Activities

A.3.1: Presentation to and sharing with institutions that are competent on the populations with international protection needs, including cooperation agencies.

A.3.2: Validate the results of the capacities assessment by the National Technical Team and the authorities of the institutions that form it.

A.3.3: Prepare a guide, taking into account the results of the assessment, allowing for capacity building for the creation of open shelters.

3. Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this initiative would be the population in need of international protection.

In 2019, the IGM registered 77 refugees in Guatemala and 494 refugee applicants whose processes are in various phases of processing. In 2020, the IGM has registered 263 refugee applicants, a number that decreased due to COVID-19; however, for 2021, an increase in refugee applications is expected. This population usually faces great challenges regarding protection, access to food, healthcare, water, sanitation and shelter, since many are located in inadequate areas². The challenges that this population face regarding documentation and access to employment, bank services, healthcare services, education, housing programs, social security, and security against violence have been identified.

People arriving in Guatemala and seeking international protection have moved, in the majority of cases, under circumstances of persecution, leaving their homes with little luggage and, in many occasions, without personal or legal documents. This situation created a serious defenselessness that limits their recognition as subjects with rights in their destination country, and represents serious limitations to complete legal and social integration. In addition to this, lack of economic resources results in them living in overcrowded places and in conditions with a high risk of violence. This is why it is so important to have shelters that are safe and in adequate conditions³.

4. Estimated budget

OBJECTIVE	REQUIRED FINANCING*	NATIONAL FINANCING	FINANCING GAP
	2021		
OE1: Identify instances of international cooperation to provide technical assistance in order to draw up an assessment on the creation of open shelters	\$2,273 Q 17,500	\$ 2,273 Q 17,500	\$0 Q 0
OE2: Identify, through the assessment of capacities (infrastructure, and technical, financial and regulatory capacities), areas that require strengthening in order to launch open shelters	\$ 25,974 Q 200,000	\$ 0 Q 0	\$ 25,974 Q 200,000
OE3: Create a guide to strengthen institutions in order to create open shelters in decent conditions and tailored to populations with international protection needs.	\$16,234 Q 125,000	\$ 2,273 Q 17,500	\$13,961 Q 107,500
TOTAL	\$44,481 Q 342,500	\$ 4,546 Q 35,000	\$39,935 Q 307,500

*Exchange rate: 7.7 GTQ a 1 USD

The quantification started with a planning process in which the focus areas were selected and the key participants and institutions for each focus area were identified. In this case, for the focus area of protection, the IGM was called on to establish goals and products and to devise a work plan for the year 2021. An analysis was carried out in order to identify the services and activities within the focus area so as to put the commitments of the national plan into operation.

The financial resources required for the services and activities planned for 2021 within the focus area were quantified, including the identified state investment and the funding deficits.

The quantification also includes mapping of current external

funding opportunities and resource deployment activities to reduce the existing funding deficit.

The cost methodology implemented for quantifying was carried out through the following steps:

1. Identification and prioritization of activities for the focus area;
2. Breakdown of costs by activity (using historic costs, average operative costs, use of equipment and materials, and infrastructure investment);
3. Verification of planned programming in the Operations Plans (POA, by its Spanish acronym) and estimated budgets for 2021, which were named National Funding; and
4. Determination of the funding deficits that resulted from the difference between required costs and national funding.

² IACHR, 2017.

³ UNHCR and Human Mobility Subcommission, Episcopal Conference of Guatemala, 2015

5. Stakeholders

One of the institutions that will be strengthened by this initiative is the Guatemalan Migration Institute (IGM, by its Spanish acronym), which, in accordance with Article 16 of the Migration Code (Decree 44-2016), “has the exclusive power to authorize the entities that will provide shelter and temporary care to migrants, who will have to comply with regulatory dispositions for their location and functioning⁴”.

In turn, the IGM, together with the National Council for Assistance and Protection presided over by the Director of the IGM, will be able to create the necessary connections to manage the support and coordination mechanisms with institutions, such as the Ministry of Public Health and Social Welfare (MSPAS, by its Spanish acronym), the Ministry of Labor and Social Planning (MINTRAB, by its Spanish acronym), the Ministry of Social Development (MIDES, by its Spanish acronym), the Ministry of Government (MINGOB, by its Spanish acronym), the National Procurator General’s Office (PGN, by its Spanish acronym), the Social Welfare Secretariat (SBS, by its Spanish acronym), and the Human Rights Procurator’s Office (PDH, by its Spanish acronym)⁵.

The initiative will need to be discussed with the National Migration Authority, Executive Committee composed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNHCR, UNDP, OAS and the UN Resident Coordinator in Guatemala, to find support and collaboration opportunities to enhance its results and to allow for new milestones to be reached once the assessing stage is complete. At the same time, and to carry out a unified effort at a national level, there will be coordination with CONARE, who is responsible for enforcement of the provisions set forth by the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol, as well as any other regulation related to the recognition, protection, and assistance of refugees and the regulations and provisions within its rulebook, according to the Government Agreement 383-2001⁶.

At the same time, during the implementation of this initiative, the IGM will be able to promote the participation of the civil society, and the private sector.

6. Cross-cutting themes

The assessment, conducted on areas that require strengthening in order to launch open shelters, will need to take into account a differentiated analysis so that shelters can have decent conditions and be tailored to populations with international protection needs. The assistance and protection needs of accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents will need to be considered according to the principles established by the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁷. To do so, associations with governing institutions which are mandated to support children and adolescents with specialized assistance, whether psychological, legal, medical, recreational, or other assistance, will need to be identified. During the assessment process, discussions will be held with civil society organizations and specialized institutions with work experience in subjects related to minors.

Taking into account the differentiated analysis, and in order to guarantee that the refugees of the LGBTI community are protected once they arrive or seek assistance of the shelters, the assessment will also consider the actions, routes and mechanisms required to facilitate such support.

Likewise, during capacity assessment, referral pathways for support services and coordination methods necessary of survivors of gender-based violence, mostly women, will be identified.

Interinstitutional coordination methods will be identified in order to perform an effective, differentiated protection for children, adolescents, women and the LGBTI population in the shelters which will be created and implemented so that they may be safe spaces for these vulnerable populations.

⁵ Congress of the Republic of Guatemala, Decree 44-2016.

⁶ MIRPS, 2017.

⁷ This convention is the international legal instrument for the protection of children, as it establishes global regulations for the protection of minors, taking into account practically every aspect of a child’s life.

7. Risks and assumptions

RISK	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE	INTENSITY OF IMPACT	MITIGATING STRATEGY
Staff turnover within the different state institutions involved, which can slow down the initiated processes.	Medium	Medium	Ensure that the initiative maintains a focal point in charge of the implementation and tracking of the initiative, regardless of the person who occupies the position of institutional focal point.
Management of resources necessary to guarantee that, once the assessment and guide are finished, there are the resources necessary to put open shelters into operation.	Medium	High	Conduct a mapping of donors and implement a strategy of resource management. Likewise, during the implementation of the initiative, it will be important to include budget guidelines within Annual Operation Plans (POA) and Multiannual Operation Plans (POM, by its Spanish acronym) for the institutions that will be in charge of the implementation of open shelters.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

The fulfillment of the goals established for 2021 will be achieved through the actions established in this concept note under the leadership of the Guatemalan Migration Institute and in coordination with the National Technical Team, civil society and international cooperation organizations. The initiative's progress will be monitored every three months through the tracking that the IGM performs on its Annual Operative Plan.

Goals have been established to measure the advancement of the activities prioritized for the year, which the IGM will track to determine their achievement in 2021. The tables with indicators, baselines and goals can be found in the annex of this concept note.



Annex: Logical Framework and Estimated Budget

	Indicator	Baseline	Sources of Verification	Term	Required Financing	National Financing	Financing Gap
1. General Objective							
Prepare an assessment for the creation of open shelters in decent conditions, tailored to populations in need of international protection, using specialized and trained teams.	The number of areas to be strengthened for the creation of open shelters in decent conditions and tailored to populations with international protection needs is identified.	0	Assessment of capacities for the creation of open shelters.	2020-2021			
1.1 Specific Objective							
Identify instances of international cooperation for the management of technical assistance in order to draw up an assessment on the creation of open shelters.	Budget amount for the creation of open shelters funded by international cooperation agencies.		Letters of understanding/project documents with funding organization/agency.	2020-2021			
1.1.1 Activity	Existence of a mapping of donors for the management of financial and technical resources for the creation of open shelters.	None	Mapping of donors	2020	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 0
Conduct a mapping of international cooperation agencies for the management of financial and technical resources.							
1.1.2 Activity	Number of projects designed and submitted to international cooperation for the creation of open shelters.	0	Letters of understanding/project documents with funding organization/agency.	2021	GTQ 7,500	GTQ 7,500	GTQ 0
Contact with the international cooperation agencies identified with the mapping.				2021	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 0
1.1.3 Activity				2021	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 0
Formalization with international cooperation agencies through letters of understanding.					GTQ 17,500	GTQ 17,500	GTQ 0
SO 1 Subtotal				USD	USD 2,273	USD 2,273	USD 0
1.2 Specific Objective							
Identify, through the assessment of capacities (infrastructure, and technical, financial and regulatory capacities), areas that require strengthening in order to launch open shelters.	Existence of a capacity assessment for the launching of open shelters.	None	Assessment of capacities for the creation of open shelters.	2021			

1.2.1 Activity							
Methodological design of the assessment of capacities and capacity building areas for the launching of open shelters.				2021	GTQ 25,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 25,000
1.2.2 Activity							
Collection of information from key actors and conducting analysis for the assessment of capacities and areas to be strengthened for the launching of open shelters.				2021	GTQ 150,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 150,000
1.2.3 Activity							
Creation of final document.				2021	GTQ 25,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 25,000
SO 2 Subtotal					GTQ 200,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 200,000
				USD	USD 25,974	USD 0	USD 25,974
1.3 Specific Objective							
Create a guide to strengthen institutions in order to create open shelters in decent conditions and tailored to populations with international protection needs.	Existence of a guide for the creation of open shelters in decent conditions and tailored to populations with international protection needs.	None	Document with a guide for the creation of open shelters.	2021			
1.3.1 Activity							
Presentation to and sharing with institutions that are competent on the populations with international protection needs, including cooperation agencies.				2021	GTQ 20,000	GTQ 12,500	GTQ 7,500
1.3.2 Activity							
Validate the results of the capacities assessment by the National Technical Team and the authorities of the institutions that form it.	Number of presentation sessions and validation of the assessment of capacities for the creation of open shelters.	0	Minutes of information-sharing sessions, lists of participants' attendance	2021	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 0
1.3.3 Activity							
Prepare a guide, taking into account the results of the assessment, allowing for capacity building for the creation of open shelters.				2021	GTQ 100,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 100,000
SO 3 Subtotal					GTQ 125,000	GTQ 17,500	GTQ 107,500
				USD	USD 16,234	USD 2,273	USD 13,961
TOTAL					GTQ 342,500	GTQ 35,000	GTQ 307,500
				USD	USD 44,481	USD 4,546	USD 39,935

Exchange rate: 7.7 GTQ to 1 USD.

**COUNTRY:** Guatemala**SECTOR:** Child Protection

Strengthening institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents in border areas



Executive Summary

Over recent years in Guatemala, there has been large movements of people, including migrants in transit and refugees. An increase in the levels of violence in neighbouring countries of the region, has forced many children and adolescents (both alone or accompanied) to be forced to leave their countries of origin, particularly both originating from Honduras and El Salvador. They are often victims of physical, psychological, sexual violence and exploitation following their original displacement. As a result, it is necessary to strengthen institutional support for this group along the migrant route. This, in turn, requires the strengthening of institutional capacity to provide the necessary conditions for their safe and specialized reception upon arrival.

This initiative will seek to create within a year, the necessary conditions to strengthen the specialized, differentiated, safe and dignified reception through open shelters. To achieve this goal, the objective of this initiative is to strengthen governing institutions for the protection of children and adolescents, especially in border areas. The specific objectives include strengthening social protection services support children and adolescents in border areas through the Quédate Training Centres and the opening of a specialized shelter for the care of unaccompanied children and adolescents in the context of mobility who are in Guatemala outside your country of origin.

DURATION

2021

IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES

Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic

LOCATION

National

BENEFICIARIES

- 20 refugee children and adolescents
- 30 refugee applicants who are children and adolescents
- 25 returned children and adolescents in need of special protection
- 1,500 returned children and adolescents in need of social protection

ESTIMATED BUDGET

Financiamiento Total Requerido:	\$236,494
Financiamiento Nacional:	\$4,286
Brecha de Financiamiento:	\$232,208

1. Sector context

Regarding the protection of children and adolescents, Guatemala has legal frameworks in place for the protection of children and adolescents at a national level, such as the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents Act, which protects the rights of all children and adolescents to live a decent life free of violence, with access to healthcare, nutrition and education in order to develop their full potential.

In Guatemala, Ministerial Agreements 696-2017 and 2474-2018 have been approved, which seek to strengthen the inclusion of children, adolescents and young people (NNAJ, by its Spanish acronym) into the National Education System through the validation of studies, standardization and equivalences. The Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic (SBS, by its Spanish acronym) and the National Procurator General's Office (PGN, by its Spanish acronym), which are responsible for the legal representation and protection of children and adolescents in the country, have pursued strengthening mechanisms through UNHCR. In 2018, there were some achievements: articulation of a route of special protection for cases of children and adolescents with international protection needs seeking protection in the country, and the protection of returning children and adolescents who could not return to their homes or communities of origin due to violence¹.

Regarding coordination methods, three committees have been created (the National Commission for Refugees [CONARE], the Commission for the Comprehensive Assistance to Migrant Children and Adolescents, and the Labour Mobility Committee) in order to give continuity to the commitments acquired within the framework of MIRPS in relation to refugees, assistance to migrant children and adolescents, legal framework of the Migration Code (Decree 44-2016), and the creation of employment for people with international protection needs. The SBS has been governed by the processes of coordination, assistance and referral of cases through the Commission for the Assistance to Migrant Children and Adolescents (Governmental Decree 146-2014), which has the objective of conducting interinstitutional coordination, evaluating, promoting and tracking the compliance with strategies made on the technical committee. Likewise, the commission must have institutional and interinstitutional plans and programmes in place related to migrant children and adolescents that provide protection, assistance and comprehensive support and guarantee the respect of their fundamental rights. As a mechanism creating/strengthening programs and routes focused on the following main points: Care, Protection, Reintegration y Prevention. In the same way, through this Commission, the programs of each institution should be articulated (SBS, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs [MINEX, by its Spanish acronym], MINGOB, the Secretariat of Social Works of the First Lady [SOSEP, by its Spanish acronym], PGN and MINEDUC) in order to create

routes for reintegration and prevention of migrant children and adolescents.

As part of the actions implemented in order to provide shelter for unaccompanied children and adolescents, the Division of Special Protection and Non-Residential Care of the SBS, through the Department of Unaccompanied Migrant Children and Adolescents, is in charge of planning, coordinating, organizing, managing, supervising and evaluating the services and care addressed at unaccompanied migrating children and adolescents.

As regards services and interventions to be implemented, included are such entities as the Casas Nuestras Raíces Guatemala shelter and the Quetzaltenango shelter. These shelters aim to assist and protect unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents who are returned by air or land from the United States of America and the United Mexican States, as well as safeguard their rights². Professionals at the shelters write psychological and social work reports for cases in which children and teenagers need special protection, if they have been victims of any kind of violation of their Human Rights (before or during their migration). These reports are then referred to the representatives of the National Procurator General's Office, PGN.

The SBS has a reception protocols for unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents with a focus on rights and psychosocial aspects. The teams must apply this protocol at the time of the reception and placement in shelters.

The Quédade learning and training centers are available for social welfare and learning. These centers were established to respond to the needs of the returning children and adolescents at risk of migrating irregularly. The centers serve as a viable and accessible option for boosting their skills and abilities in their communities of origin through educational processes with a technical and vocational approach, carried out in a way so they adapt to their cognitive, motor and psychomotor needs, and certified by the Ministry of Education, through the Dirección General de Educación Extraescolar (General Directorate of Extracurricular Education, DIGEEX) and the Instituto Técnico de Capacitación y Productividad (Technical Institute for Training and Productivity, INTECAP)³.

Among the lessons learned that have been highlighted in the MIRPSs monitoring reports there is a need for effective interinstitutional coordination and for the existence of committees that allow MIRPS to fulfill its commitments in a unified and organized manner, with roles and responsibilities clearly identified.

¹ UNHCR, 2019

² Social Welfare Secretariat, 2020.

³ ídem

Complementary Initiatives

As regards the protection of the children and adolescents, there are a few initiatives to be implemented in a complementary manner to support the creation of specialized shelters for unaccompanied children and adolescents populations in need of international protection.

In 2018, training sessions for officials involved with the assistance of children and adolescents were carried out on various subjects, including asylum, international protection, protocols, implementation of directives for the determination of the best interest of the child (DIS, by its Spanish acronym), the Migration Code (Decree 44-2016), the Children and Adolescents Comprehensive Protection Act and the interinstitutional assistance route.

Based on the above, the identification of unaccompanied migrant children and adolescents returning to Guatemala in need of special protection has been strengthened. That same year, of at least 3,091 children and adolescents repatriated from January to July 2018, 12 protection processes were started and 25 more were referred to regional delegations of the National Procurator General's Office for follow-up.

Among other initiatives, there is also the strengthening of the Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic which, through the Department of Unaccompanied Migrating Children and Adolescents and together with UNHCR, was devoted to the planning for the implementation of an assistance model for children and adolescents in a context of human mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin and in need of international protection in foster homes.

The assistance of the United Nations system in Guatemala has been oriented towards facing the humanitarian crisis as regards migration, but it gives a greater and special treatment to the issue of unaccompanied children and adolescents and, consequently, through agencies such as UNICEF, it has been focused on strengthening institutions such as the SBS regarding reception and accommodation in shelters, consular protection, psychosocial support, integration/reintegration and prevention, communication and incidence, and modernization and legal framework reforms support⁴.

Despite the progress, there are still some challenges to overcome regarding strengthening institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents, especially in relation to their ability to respond in border areas.

2. Detailed approach

General objective

Strengthen institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents, especially in border areas.

Specific objective 1

Strengthen social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border areas through the Quédate learning and training centers.

Activities

A.1.1: Formulation of a study to establish border and convergence municipalities with a higher identified number of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility according to their migratory flow

- A diagnostic study will be carried out to analyze the current mobility situation in border municipalities of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility. Apart from providing information on migratory flows of unaccompanied children and adolescents, this study will also evaluate which municipalities have the suitable conditions for the opening of shelters specialized in assisting unaccompanied children and adolescents.
- The assessment will also identify best practices and lessons learned from shelters opened in other countries in the Latin American region and will compile successful experiences implemented in other MIRPS countries.
- Key actors at the level of the institutions involved will participate in the evaluation to get a general outlook on the context of children and adolescents in need of international protection, and to understand the capacities needed in terms of infrastructure, human resources, equipment, and financial resources for the opening of a specialized shelter.

⁴ Guatemala: United Nations Development Assistance Framework 2015-2019 (UNDAF)

A.1.2: Selection and prioritization of border municipalities according to the study

- Use the assessment of unaccompanied children and adolescents in border municipalities to determine selection and prioritization criteria.

A.1.3: Lobbying with municipal governments to establish an agreement of mutual cooperation

- The study performed will be presented to municipal corporations in the prioritized municipalities to procure, together with municipal governments, their support for the strengthening of social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border zones through the Quédade learning and training centers, and for the creation of the necessary conditions for the opening of a specialized shelter for the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin.

Specific objective 2

Opening of a shelter specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin.

Activities

A.2.1: Formulation of the initiative for a specialized shelter for the assistance of unaccompanied m a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin for presentation to international cooperation agencies for funding.

- The initiative for the opening of a shelter specialized on the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility will be developed with the goal of deploying necessary technical and financial resources, with an initial implementation in 2021. This initiative will include an assessment of the needed infrastructure, equipment, human resources, and regulatory framework for its operation, as well as a cost plan (for installation and maintenance).

A.2.2: Creation of the conditions, in terms of infrastructure and regulations, for the opening of a specialized shelter for unaccompanied children and adolescents

- Thenecessaryconditionsfortheopeningofaspecializedshelterforunaccompaniedmigrantchildrenandadolescentsinacontext of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin will be established. Among these conditions are the following:
 - Definition of geographic location
 - Identification of an area for its location
 - Deployment of resources for the acquisition of infrastructure and equipment
 - Preparation and approval of operation manuals and protocols
 - Identification of necessary human resources and position profiles

A.2.3: Creation of conditions in terms of infrastructure and regulations such as the opening of a specialized shelter for unaccompanied children. Conditioning of physical infrastructure, remodeling, creation of protocols.

3. Beneficiaries

The direct beneficiaries of this initiative will be, for 2021, a total of 1,575 refugee children and adolescents in need for protection. Among which, there are:

- 20 refugee children and adolescents
- 30 refugee applicants who are children and adolescents
- 25 returned children and adolescents in need of special protection
- 1,500 returned children and adolescents in need of social protection

On the other hand, the SBS has projected that, in 2022, a total of 1,900 unaccompanied migrant and refugee children and adolescents will benefit from the strengthening of social protection through the Quédade learning and training centers and the opening of a specialized shelter, and by 2023, a total of 2,225 children and adolescents will have benefitted.

4. Estimated budget

OBJECTIVE	REQUIRED FINANCING*	NATIONAL FINANCING	FINANCING GAP
	2021		
OE1: Strengthening social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border areas through the Quédade learning and training centers	\$156,623 Q 1,206,000	\$ 2,338 Q 18,000	\$ 154,286 Q 1,188,000
OE2: Opening of a specialized shelter for the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin.	\$ 79,870 Q 615,000	\$ 1,948 Q 15,000	\$ 77,922 Q 600,000
TOTAL	\$236,494 Q 1,821,000	\$ 4,286 Q 33,000	\$ 232,208 Q 1,788,000

*Exchange rate: 7.7 GTQ to 1 USD

The quantification started with a planning process in which focus areas were selected and key participants and institutions for each focus area were identified. In this case, for the focus area of protection for unaccompanied children and adolescents, the Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic was called upon to establish goals and products, and to devise a work plan for the year 2021-2022. An analysis was carried out in order to identify the services and activities within the focus area so as to put the commitments of the national plan into operation.

The financial resources required for the services and activities planned for 2021-2022 within the area of focus were quantified, including the state investment and the funding deficit identified.

The quantification also includes mapping of current external funding opportunities and resource deployment activities to reduce the existing funding deficit.

The cost methodology implemented for quantifying was carried out through the following steps:

1. Identification and prioritization of activities for the focus area;
2. Breakdown of costs by activity (using historic costs, average operative costs, use of equipment and materials, and infrastructure investment);
3. Verification of planned programming in the Operations Plans (POA, by its Spanish acronym) and estimated budgets for 2021, which were named National Funding; and
4. Determination of the funding deficits that resulted from the difference between required costs and national funding.

5. Stakeholders

As the governing institution in matters of services which are crucial for the special protection of children and adolescents whose rights have been threatened or violated, this initiative would be implemented by the Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic (SBS), in agreement with the Migration Code (Decree 44-2016).

In turn, the SBS, together with the National Council for Assistance and Protection (NCAP) will be able to create the necessary connections to manage the support and coordination mechanisms with the institutions who are part of the NCAP, such as MSPAS, MINTRAB, MIDES, MINGOB, PGN, SBS, and PDH.

The initiative will need to be discussed with the Executive Committee composed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, UNHCR, UNICEF, UNDP, OAS and the UN Resident Coordinator in Guatemala, to find support and collaboration opportunities to enhance its results and to allow for new milestones to be reached once the assessing stage is complete. At the same time, and to carry out a unified effort at a national level, there will be coordination with CONARE, who is responsible for enforcement of the provisions set forth by the Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol, as well as any other regulation related to the recognition, protection, and assistance of refugees and the regulations and provisions within its rulebook, according to the Government Agreement 383-2001.

At the same time, during the implementation of this proposal, the SBS will be able to promote the participation of the civil society, municipalities, the private sector, and communities.

6. Cross-cutting themes

The assistance and protection needs of accompanied and unaccompanied children and adolescents will need to be considered according to the principles established by the Convention on the Rights of the Child⁵. To do so, associations with governing institutions which are mandated to support children and adolescents with specialized assistance, whether psychological, legal, medical, recreational, or other assistance, will need to be identified. During the assessment process, discussions will be held with specialized organizations and institutions with experience working with issues of minors.

On the other hand, the strengthening of social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border areas will strengthen the capacity to care for girls, adolescent girls and women who are survivors of gender-based violence.

7. Risks and assumptions

RISK	PROBABILITY OF OCCURRENCE	INTENSITY OF IMPACT	MITIGATING STRATEGY
Staff turnover within the different state institutions involved, which can slow down the initiated processes	Medium	Medium	Ensure that the initiative maintains a focal point in charge of the implementation and tracking of the initiative regardless of the person who occupies the position of institutional focal point.
Obtaining insufficient financial resources to guarantee goal fulfillment	Medium	High	During the implementation of the initiative, it will be important to include budget guidelines within the institutions' Annual Operation Plans (POA, by its Spanish acronym) and Multiannual Operation Plans (POM, by its Spanish acronym). These institutions will be in charge of the strengthening social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border zones, through the Quédate learning and training centers and the opening of a specialized shelter for the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin.

8. Monitoring and evaluation

The fulfillment of the goals established for 2021 will be achieved through the actions established in this concept note under the leadership of the Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic and in coordination with the National Technical Team. The initiative's progress will be monitored every three months through the tracking that the SBS performs on its Annual Operative Plan.

Goals have been established to measure the advancement of activities prioritized for the year, which the SBS will track to bring about their completion 2021. The tables with indicators, baselines and goals can be found in the annex of this concept note.

⁵ This convention is the international legal instrument for the protection of children, as it establishes global regulations for the protection of minors, taking into account practically every aspect of a child's life.

Annex: Logical framework and estimated budget

	Indicator	Baseline	Means of Verification	Duration	Required Financing	National Financing	Financing Gap
General Objective							
Strengthen institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents, especially in border areas.	Number of strengthened institutions that govern the protection of children and adolescents to provide services in border areas.	0	Reports of institutional efforts	2021			
Specific goal 1.1							
Strengthen social protection services directed towards children and adolescents in border areas through the <i>Quédate</i> learning and training centres.	Number of strengthened social protection services directed towards children and adolescents.	0	Reports of institutional efforts	2021			
1.1 Activity	The existence of a diagnostic study which establishes border and convergence municipalities with a higher identified number of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility according to their migratory flow.	There is no study that determines which municipalities have a greater flow of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility.	Study document				
Formulation of a study to establish border and convergence municipalities with a higher identified number of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility according to their migratory flow.				2021	GTQ 10,000	GTQ 10,000	
1.2 Activity							
Selection and prioritization of border municipalities according to the study				2021	GTQ 1,188,000		GTQ 1,188,000
1.3 Activity	Number of municipalities who sign cooperation agreements for the opening of shelters specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility.	0	Mutual cooperation agreements with municipalities				
Lobbying with municipal governments to establish an agreement of mutual cooperation.				2021	GTQ 8,000	GTQ 8,000	
SO 1 subtotal					GTQ 1,206,000	GTQ 18,000	GTQ 1,188,000
				USD	USD 156,623	USD 2,338	USD 154,286

Specific objective 2.1							
Opening of a shelter specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin.	Existence of a shelter specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in at least one prioritized department.	0	Reports of institutional efforts	2021			
2.1 Activity							
Creation of a study of the necessary conditions for the opening of a shelter specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents.	A study of the conditions for the opening of a specialized shelter for unaccompanied children and adolescents.	0	Study document	2021	GTQ 10,000	GTQ 10,000	GTQ 0
2.2 Activity							
Creation of the proposal for a shelter specializing in the assistance of unaccompanied children and adolescents in a context of mobility in Guatemala who are outside of their country of origin to present to international cooperation agencies for funding.	A project for the deployment of resources for opening of a specialized shelter for unaccompanied children and adolescents.	0	Project document	2021	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 5,000	GTQ 0
2.3 Activity							
Creation of conditions in terms of infrastructure and regulations such as the opening of a specialized shelter for unaccompanied children. Conditioning of physical infrastructure, remodeling, creation of protocols.	Number of protocols and manuals established for the operation of the specialized shelter for unaccompanied children and adolescents.	0		2021	GTQ 600,000	GTQ 0	GTQ 600,000
SO 2 Subtotal					GTQ 615,000	GTQ 15,000	GTQ 600,000
				USD	USD 79,870	USD 1,948	USD 77,922
TOTAL					GTQ 1,821,000	GTQ 33,000	GTQ 1,788,000
				USD	USD 236,494	USD 4,286	USD 232,208

*Exchange rate: 7.7 GTQ to 1 USD.