

TOWARDS THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE MIRPS IN COSTA RICA

Through the quantification process undertaken in 2020, each MIRPS State assessed the financial needs and activities required to implement their priority commitments, highlighting where they can meet their own needs, and where international cooperation is required.

As one of seven countries in who adopted the Comprehensive Regional Protection and Solutions Framework (MIRPS in Spanish), Costa Rica is expanding its operational capacity to respond to forced displacement in the region through the adoption and implementation of the commitments in their National Action Plan.

Costa Rica prioritized three commitments: Institutional strengthening to assist asylum seekers, refugees and migrants through the development of infrastructure of the Northern Bicentennial Migratory Station; Provision and expansion of the Health Collective Assurance Framework through voluntary temporary insurance for refugees and asylum seekers in Costa Rica; Guarantee asylum seekers and refugees access to state social protection services provided by the Social Welfare Institute.

DISPLACEMENT CONTEXT

Costa Rica plays an important role in the region as a host country for displaced asylum seekers and refugees. During the last five years, the country has shown a sustained increase in the total number of applications from people from Latin America and the Caribbean. Nicaraguan and Venezuelan displacement circumstances added more pressure on the Costa Rican system and its the asylum program.

**Asylum seekers
 in Costa Rica***

87,153

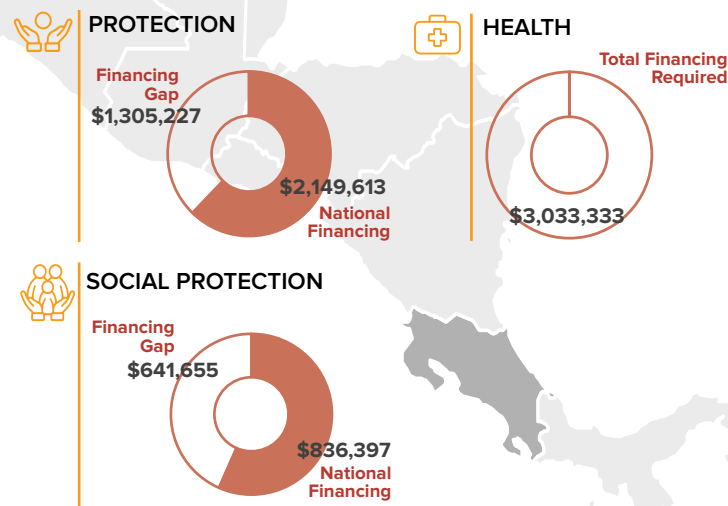
**Refugees in
 Costa Rica***

6,204

*Official data provided to UNHCR

QUANTIFICATION PRIORITIZED AREAS

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





PROTECTION

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

Costa Rica has been recognized for its tradition of respecting human rights and has demonstrated its commitment to ensure improved living conditions for refugees and asylum seekers and their integration through public policies and initiatives founded on sound inter-institutional coordination.

The General Directorate of Migration and Foreigners (DGME) established the project “Construction of the North Bicentennial Migration Station” (North EMIBI) for the management of safe spaces for the protection of people who are part of mixed population flows. At present, the Temporary Attention Centre (CATEM) in the northern zone operates as a temporary camp, this arrangement presents limitation in the provision of services to meet basic needs, and the identification of claimants of international protection and asylum. DGME has implemented measures to improve the condition of the CATEM to strengthen the management of migratory flows, improving physical space and expand the coverage to these populations, strengthening protection and comprehensive care. This proposal seeks to support the construction of infrastructure in the northern area of CATEM, with 50% of resources provided directly by Costa Rica.

DURATION	BENEFICIARIES	IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES	ESTIMATED BUDGET
Estimated duration 2021-2022 Subject to the availability of resources	7,000 persons, including asylum seekers, refugees and migrants	Department of Migration and Foreign Affairs (DGME, by its Spanish acronym)	Total Required Financing: \$3,454,840 National Financing: \$2,149,613 Financing Gap: \$1,305,227



HEALTH

Voluntary temporary insurance for asylum seekers and refugees in Costa Rica

The Costa Rican Social Security Fund (CCSS), in conjunction with UNHCR, developed a pilot project in 2019 to provide health insurance to 6,000 refugee applicants or refugees in a situation of economic vulnerability by 2020. This proposal seeks to establish a second phase that will allow for the expansion of health insurance coverage to 10,000 vulnerable persons. This entails an increase in the contributory coverage of health insurance, in the form of a collective contribution for refugees and asylum seekers in conditions of economic vulnerability or with specific health needs that do not currently benefit from support. The selection of beneficiaries has been based on their assessment of being in a situation of economic vulnerability.

DURATION	BENEFICIARIES	IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES	ESTIMATED BUDGET
12 months (2021)	10,000 asylum seekers and refugees	Costa Rica Social Security Fund (CCSS, by its Spanish acronym), UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)	Total Required Financing: \$3,033,333 National Financing: \$0 Financing Gap: \$3,033,333



SOCIAL PROTECTION

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

Through the Social Protection and Promotion Programme, the Costa Rican Mixed Institute of Social Assistance (IMAS) has established a package of promote processes of comprehensive care that responds to the needs of people in situations of economic vulnerability. However, at the number of refugees and asylum seekers eligible for these services has increased, it requires additional institutional operational capacity to provide social care, assessment and access to services. This proposal seeks to provide the material resources required to ensure the inclusion of the eligible population within IMAS’s programme.

DURATION	BENEFICIARIES	IMPLEMENTING ENTITIES	ESTIMATED BUDGET
2021	2,306 refugees and asylum seekers	Social Welfare Institute (IMAS, by its Spanish acronym)	Total Required Financing: \$1,478,052 National Financing: \$836,397 Financing Gap: \$641,655



The expanded summaries of the aforementioned programmes can be access with the QR code

For more information, please contact:
Elisabet Diaz San Martin
diazsanm@unhcr.org