



### HIGHLIGHTS

**16,715**

New asylum applications submitted worldwide by Guatemalan citizens during 2015. **80%** increase in comparison with 2014.

**106,488**

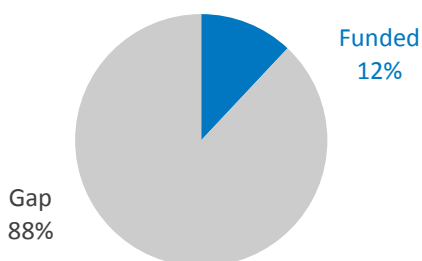
Guatemalans returned from United States and Mexico in 2015. **14%** were children and adolescents.

**400,000**

Migrants in transit crossed Guatemala into Mexico in 2015.

### Funding – Regional Office Panama

**USD 16.9 million** requested



- UNHCR’s Regional Office in Panama is implementing the Regional Protection and Solutions Strategy for the NTCA situation in close collaboration with partners.
- The Regional Office financially oversees UNHCR’s operations in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala, as well protection activities in Cuba, and Nicaragua.
- UNHCR plans to significantly scale up its operational capacity in El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras in order to better respond to complex protection and programmatic needs.

### UNHCR Presence

**Staff:**

2 national staff and 2 international staff

**Offices:**

1 national office located in Guatemala City

**UNHCR Guatemala: Operational Map**  
May 2016



The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.  
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## WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- UNHCR works in close coordination with governments, civil society, UN agencies, regional bodies, and persons of concern. The agency also works closely with the United Nations Development Group in Latin America and the Caribbean, alongside UN Resident Coordinators, to ensure UN coordination on protection issues in the region.
- Since June 2014, in Guatemala UNHCR co-leads, with UNICEF, the United Nations System Task Force regarding migratory issues with special focus on unaccompanied and separated children. UNHCR works with the government within the Child Protection network: Social Welfare Secretariat, Attorney General, SOSEP, as well as with MINEX, CONARE, Alba Kenneth and the Directorate General for Migration. UNHCR is also working in the establishment of a Protection Group in coordination with UN Agencies and International NGOs in the country.
- The Pastoral of Human Mobility has been UNHCR's implementing partner for many years. The Pastoral of Human Mobility provides legal assistance to refugees and asylum-seekers in Guatemala, supports financially asylum-seekers and refugees in vulnerable situations and coordinates local integration initiatives. A gradual expansion to implement community based response actions in coordination with Save the Children, World Vision, Refugio de la Niñez and Lambda is in process.

## MAIN ACTIVITIES

### Protection

- Strengthen the asylum system in Guatemala. In this framework, UNHCR and its partners developed a Protection and Monitoring Network to register, document and refer all the cases of people in need of international protection that transit through the country (antennas and sub-antennas for identification and profiling). The Network is active in the border departments with Mexico (Petén, Huehuetenango and San Marcos), in Guatemala City and in the department of Izabal, at the border with Honduras.
- Build the capacity of partners in the field of refugee protection, particularly protection of SGBV victims, child protection, case management and identification of persons in need of international protection.
- Assistance to refugees and asylum seekers including legal orientation and counselling, access to individual documentation, humanitarian assistance and local integration solutions.
- Coordination with governmental child protection agencies on the importance of developing protection responses for returned and in-transit children and adolescents with protection needs.

### Education

- Advocacy efforts for access to education for refugee and asylum-seeker children and adolescents through Children of Peace project. More than 100 children and adolescents in need of protection were identified and supported through Children of Peace (scholarships, child friendly spaces at shelters and peace education).

### Shelter and NFIs

- Strengthening of shelters, especially at border points. This will include the establishment of child friendly spaces and the implementation of differential protection approaches sensitive to age, gender and diversity.

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