



HIGHLIGHTS

3,126

Persons of concern, mostly from the Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador

273

Households provided with cash grants in 2016

56

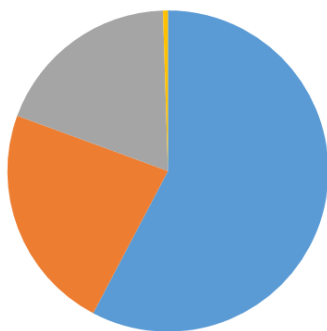
Households provided with shelter or housing material in 2016

Population of concern

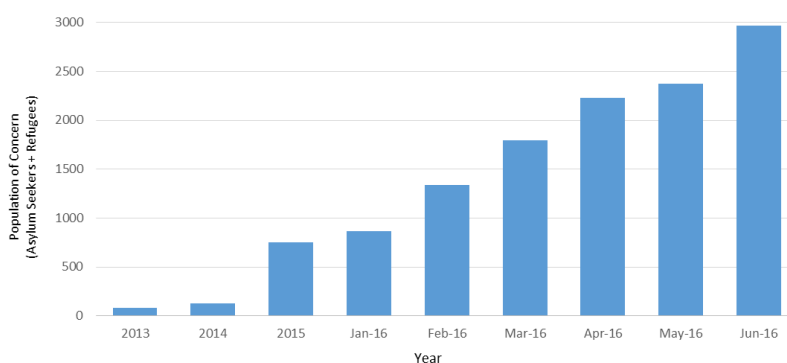
UNHCR established a presence in Belize in October 2015 to promote the reactivation of the asylum system in the country and to respond to a growing numbers of asylum-seekers, mostly from El Salvador.

Countries of origin

- El Salvador (58%)
- Honduras (23%)
- Guatemala (19%)
- Other (>1%)



Population of Concern in Belize 2013-June 2016*

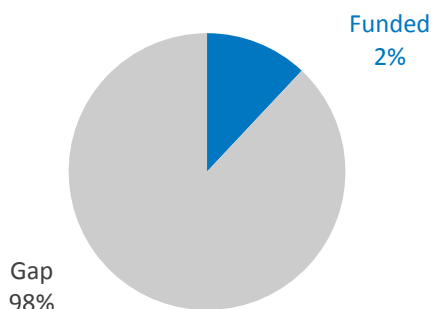


*This graph was prepared based upon data available to UNHCR through registration, its local partner, and Government sources. The graph includes data recorded from end of year 2013 to 9 June 2016, where the year value is based on the end of year data.

Funding Regional Office Washington

- UNHCR's Regional Office in Washington operationally and financially oversees UNHCR's operations in the Caribbean Region including The Bahamas, Belize, the Dominican Republic, Haiti and Trinidad and Tobago.

USD 17.1 million requested



UNHCR Presence

Staff:

- 2 International staff
- 2 Affiliate Workforce staff
- 1 National staff

Offices:

- 1 National Office located in Belmopan



Map Sources: UNCS, UNHCR
The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations. Printing date: 15 Jun 2016

WORKING WITH PARTNERS

- In 1995, UNHCR partnered with a local non-governmental organization, Help for Progress, to carry out micro-financing and development projects in refugee communities. A few years later, with UNHCR's support, Help for Progress assumed legal protection activities to assist asylum-seekers and refugees.
- Based on the host country agreement signed in September 1992, UNHCR re-established its presence in Belize in October 2015. UNHCR continues to work in close partnership with Help for Progress to address the needs of increasing numbers of asylum-seekers who presented themselves for registration throughout the first half of 2016. With funding provided by UNHCR, Help for Progress provides direct assistance to these persons in the form of cash grants and relief supplies.

MAIN ACTIVITIES

Protection

- Provide technical support on refugee status determination procedures for adjudicators and members of the Refugee Eligibility Committee, including through the assessment of individual asylum claims and the sharing of country of origin information.
- Support capacity-building for Government officials through training, conferences and the provision of equipment to the newly re-established Department of Refugees;
- Support the Department of Refugees to register asylum-seekers and with the installation of UNHCR's registration database, proGres;
- Advocate on behalf of persons of concern for access to public services and enjoyment of rights;
- Conduct needs assessments for persons of concern;
- Advocate for the release of detained asylum-seekers.

Health

- Assist asylum-seekers pay for medical expenses not covered by public hospitals. Cash assistance is given to the most vulnerable individuals to pay for prescription drugs, x-rays, ultrasounds and overnight hospital stays, among other services. Approximately 35 vulnerable individuals have been assisted in the first six months of 2016.

Food Security and Nutrition

- Provide cash assistance and distribute food items to the most vulnerable to ensure food security. Food items frequently include rice, beans, flour, eggs, potatoes, cooking oil, and sugar, and are adjusted according to family size. Approximately 180 individuals have been assisted so far in 2016.

Shelter

- Support to a shelter, managed by Help for Progress, which has accommodated more than 12 families since the beginning of the year.
- Disburse rental assistance and building materials for single family homes, such as siding, plastic sheeting and butane. Approximately 48 families were assisted in the first six months of 2016.

Community Empowerment

- The implementation of small-scale community-based projects to support host communities is envisioned.

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