

Annual Results Report

2024

Mexico

Acknowledgements

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Note:

The baseline values presented in this document reflect previous year's progress when available. If such data is not available, strategy baseline values are used instead.

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- 4.1 - Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Section 1: Context and Overview

1.1 Changes to the Operational Context

Mexico recorded 78,900 new asylum claims in 2024, 70% filed in Chiapas and mostly from Central America, Cuba, Haiti, and Venezuela. Violence, insecurity and threats were indicated as the primary reasons for fleeing, highlighting the need for international protection. Mexico's recognition rate remained over 60%. The protection environment was impacted, however, by a 97% reduction in the issuance of Temporary Visitor Cards for Humanitarian Reasons (TVRH), restricting asylum-seekers' access to work and exposing them to protection risks. Mexico City continued to see an increase in arrivals with shelters often at 500% capacity, leading people to sleep on the street with heightening risks of violence against women and girls.

In 2024, nearly 13,000 refugees joined UNHCR's Local Integration Programme (PIL), the highest number since the programme started. Nearly 50,000 refugees have been relocated to cities with more labour demand through the programme since 2016. UNHCR also supported 113,000 people since 2021, who were already in cities of integration (in-situ integration).

Internal displacement due mostly to confrontations between organized crime groups surged in 2024. Already in 2023, 320,000 households had to leave their homes in Mexico due to violence and organized crime, according to the National Victimization Survey conducted by Mexico's National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI). UNHCR supports federal and eight state authorities in developing and implementing public policies, legal frameworks, and operational emergency responses to protect internally displaced people (IDPs) and promote durable solutions. In 2024, UNHCR supported efforts to develop local laws preventing and addressing internal displacement in Michoacán and Oaxaca, including through a wide consultation process with indigenous and displaced people and host communities.

1.2. Progress Against the Desired Impact

1. Impact Area: Attaining Favorable Protection Environments

People UNHCR serves access comprehensive protection in policy, law and/or practice, with adequate consideration of their specific needs and their age, gender, and diversity.

People UNHCR serves access the territory without being detained and can satisfy their basic needs and access their rights upon arrival and during the asylum process in Mexico with an age, gender and diversity perspective.

Indicator		
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
1.1 Proportion of people seeking international protection who are able to access asylum procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	67.59%	97.43%
1.2 Proportion of people who are able to move freely within the country of habitual residence		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	32.65%	81.09%
Stateless Persons	100.00%	100.00%

While the asylum system continued to be overstretched with more than 78,900 people seeking asylum, the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) increased its capacity and digitalization with UNHCR's support. The new case management system allows interoperability between institutions, including cases of prevention of refoulement and their inclusion in the national ID system. Mexico's recognition rate stands at more than 60%.

COMAR applies the extended refugee definition of the Cartagena Declaration to Haitians since July, improving access to protection and increasing their recognition rate from 23% to 49%.

Through the Quality Assurance Initiative, UNHCR provided technical and financial support to COMAR to improve the quality, fairness and efficiency of asylum procedures, with a focus on differentiated Refugee Status Determination case processing.

Until November 2024, the National Migration Institute issued some 3,700 Temporary Visitor Cards for Humanitarian Reasons, compared to nearly 129,000 in 2023. The limited access to documentation for asylum-seekers hampers access to formal employment, essential services and increases protection risks like violence against women and girls, fraud and extortion, which may lead to abandonment of cases to search for safety further north.

With authorities, UNHCR developed a guide for the registration of IDPs, provided technical assistance, emergency support and developed more than 20 tools to respond to internal displacement. The guide sets a precedent worldwide and shows the importance of state registries to identify IDPs and their specific needs. It empowers governments to deliver targeted assistance, improve protection efforts and enhance long-term solutions.

To ensure refugees and asylum-seekers access legal aid, UNHCR works with an extensive legal network, including lawyers, paralegals, law clinics and more than 40 pro-bono law firms in 40 cities, which assisted 185,000 people in need of legal counselling and support.

3. Impact Area: Empowering Communities and Achieving Gender Equality

People UNHCR serves are empowered, informed and participate in key decisions that affect them, and are organized into self-identified community initiatives.

Indicator		
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
3.1 Proportion of people who have the right to decent work		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%
3.2a Proportion of children and young people enrolled in primary education		
IDPs	74.17%	74.17%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	53.43%
3.2b Proportion of children and young people enrolled in secondary education		
IDPs	66.15%	66.15%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Unknown	41.89%
3.3 Proportion of people feeling safe walking alone in their neighbourhood after dark		
IDPs	24.91%	24.91%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	75.01%	71.16%

In 2024, through supporting Refugee-Led Organisations (RLOs) and community initiatives, UNHCR continued its efforts to foster meaningful participation of refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people (IDPs). As a result, refugees and IDPs led 20 community-driven initiatives this year. RLOs recognized UNHCR as a strategic ally, valuing its role and collaboration towards shared objectives. Central to this was the Dialogue Mechanism between RLOs and UNHCR (MERLOS Mexico). It secured funding for the first National Meeting of Refugee Community Speakers and RLOs, bringing together 42 refugee and IDP spokespersons from 12 nationalities and 17 cities, with the aim of fostering collaboration, sharing best practices, and promoting action strategies to strengthen networks that enhance access to rights, essential services, and policy advocacy.

To amplify refugee voices, UNHCR and COMAR established the Quadripartite Mechanism for the Protection and Integration of Refugees and Persons with Complementary Protection in Mexico. This innovative initiative includes refugee representatives and RLOs alongside COMAR, UNHCR, and NGOs to create a common decision-making space to advocate for the rights of refugees in Mexico. It was implemented both at the national level and in 10 localities with COMAR and UNHCR's presences. The initiative has enabled 50 refugees to influence public policies that positively impact their protection and integration in Mexico.

Comprehensive consultative and participatory processes with internally displaced people were held in Chiapas, Oaxaca, Sinaloa, and Michoacán. As a result, their voices have influenced government plans aimed at reforming or drafting various local legislations on internal displacement. In Oaxaca, a total of 52 consultation processes with more than 2,000 displaced people and host communities were held with UNHCR technical assistance to inform a draft law on the prevention and response to internal displacement.

4. Impact Area: Securing Solutions

People UNHCR serves in Mexico achieve effective local integration, self-reliance, and peaceful coexistence with host communities, including through complementary pathways to Mexico.

Indicator		
Population Type	Baseline	Actual (2024)
4.2a Number of people who departed on resettlement		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	41	165
4.3b Number of refugees for whom residency status is granted or confirmed		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	21,296	26,855

UNHCR's Local Integration Program (PIL) enables refugees to integrate into Mexico's formal economy, enhancing their access to formal employment, education, healthcare, financial services and naturalization processes. In collaboration with authorities and the private sector, the programme gives refugees the opportunity to relocate from cities with less infrastructure and labour opportunities in southern Mexico, where most asylum claims are filed, to cities in regions with more employment offers and a greater capacity for integration.

The PIL reached its 9th year of implementation in 2024 and broke a new record: this year, 12,990 refugees participated in the programme, bringing the total number of participants to over 49,400 since the programme's creation in 2016. The largest relocation was carried out in May 2024 with nearly 2,000 individuals relocated in one day from southern Mexico to Aguascalientes, Guadalajara, Monterrey, Saltillo, and San Luis Potosí.

The private sector in Mexico is vocal about the value of integrating refugees into the labour market. A joint analysis of UNHCR and the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) found that the 45,000 PIL participants generated 14 million USD annually in tax revenue.

Following up on commitments from the Global Refugee Forum and the Los Angeles Declaration on Migration and Protection, Mexico is developing a public policy for the local integration of individuals in need of international protection.

In 2024, a significant milestone was achieved when, following UNHCR's advocacy efforts, the Ministry of Welfare took over the responsibility of providing financial support for refugees' participation in the PIL through the Social Emergency Program. This shift not only facilitated refugees' initial integration into their new communities through a financial start-up contribution but also demonstrates the sustainability of the programme.

Other Core Impact Indicators

Country	Population Type	Baseline	Actual(2024)
2.2 Proportion of people residing in physically safe and secure settlements with access to basic facilities			
Mexico	IDPs	92.98%	92.98%
Mexico	Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.48%	84.10%

1.3 Challenges to Achieving Impacts

One of the challenges encountered in 2024 regarding access to asylum and associated rights was the limited access to documentation (TVRH) for asylum-seekers. This year, only 3,755 TVRHs were issued, a 97% drop from 2023, hampering asylum-seekers' access to work, education, healthcare, banking and exposing them to heightened protection risks, including refoulement.

In 2024, several issues impacted refugees' ability to access formal employment. Many banks do not recognize documents issued by INM, preventing asylum-seekers and refugees from opening bank accounts. While three banks allow asylum-seekers and refugees to open bank accounts, others have not yet complied with applicable regulations. Taxpayer numbers are difficult to obtain. The Federal Labour Act limits foreign workers to 10% of a company's workforce, with no exemption so far for refugees.

Refugees are increasingly becoming a target of organized crime groups, exposing them to serious protection risks, such as extortion, kidnapping and violence. A UNHCR survey found that 61% of respondents faced security incidents, with 19% extorted. Organized crime groups control transport routes, exposing refugees to trafficking risks. Shelters are also vulnerable to attacks. Women face risks of violence, and unaccompanied children are especially vulnerable to exploitation and abuse. Mexico's child protection system in some states prioritizes returning children to their home countries over family reunification. Mexico and the United States of America have a binational mechanism to reunite unaccompanied children, but it is

not yet regulated.

There is increasing internal displacement, especially due to violence from organized crime groups in eleven states. While some states have laws, national policies are still fragmented. UNHCR works with local authorities to improve responses and IDPs' protection.

1.4 Collaboration and Partnerships

UNHCR collaborated with federal, state and municipal governments, civil society, faith-based organizations and NGOs through 37 partnership agreements. Key partnerships included an agreement with COMAR and close cooperation with the MoFA, the Ministry of Interior and INM.

The Interagency Group on Human Mobility (GIMH), co-led by UNHCR and IOM, served as a vital platform for information exchange and coordination. In 2024, the group invited government and donor counterparts to sessions to broaden coordination and local protection groups were established. UNHCR bolstered partnerships with UN agencies, including UNOPS, UN Women and ILO, and co-led with IOM Mexico's Response for Venezuelans (R4V) platform. Mexico played a key role in several regional processes, including the Regional Integrated Framework for Protection and Solutions in Mexico (MIRPS) and Cartagena +40, hosting one of the key dialogues to prepare for the Chilean Declaration and Action Plan.

To provide asylum-seekers with legal, social and psychological support, UNHCR collaborates with NGOs and more than 20 universities, some of which became Sergio Vieira de Mello Chairs. UNHCR expanded its legal network to 34 law clinics and more than a dozen private law firms that provide pro bono support.

UNHCR also forged strong partnerships with more than 12 sports teams across seven cities.

In 2024, RLO support was also increased, with enhanced collaboration with the Mexico Coalition for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and an MoU signed with the National Psychiatry Institute.

Providing technical assistance on IDP protection, UNHCR works closely with the federal government, eight state governments, the National Collective of Displaced People, more than 23 local organizations, eight academic institutions and UN agencies.

As part of local integration efforts, UNHCR has established close alliances with more than 650 private sector companies that support the formal employment of refugees.

Section 2: Results

2.1. Outcomes and Achievements

2. Outcome Area: Status Determination

Institutional and operational capacity strengthened to have adequate preparedness plans, identify people in need of international protection and refer to appropriate referral pathways.

Technical and financial capacity of the Government is increased, and the asylum procedure is further simplified and efficient.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
2.1 Average processing time (in days) from registration to first instance asylum decision			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	848.00	270.00	170.00
2.2 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to legal representation			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	95.00%	100.00%	100.00%
2.3 Proportion of people undergoing asylum procedures who have access to an effective appeal mechanism after first instance rejection of their claim			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	100.00%	100.00%	100.00%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
02.1.1 UNHCR has provided capacity development support to strengthen the national status determination system(s), in accordance with international standards	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

According to official data published by COMAR, Mexico received over 78,900 new asylum applications in 2024, a 44% drop from 2023. COMAR issued substantive decisions for 33,8 individuals, averaging 2,820 monthly decisions, a 14% improvement from substantive decisions in 2023. This was possible thanks to a collaborative effort between Mexican authorities and UNHCR, which improved tools and measures, introduced COMAR’s digital transformation and differentiated processing modalities. COMAR worked to reduce processing times, despite a 90-day legal limit, RSD cases were resolved in an average of 170 days in 2024. Recognition rates can be considered high, with more than 60% of decisions granting refugee status.

COMAR and UNHCR introduced COMAR Digital. This platform streamlines and enhances the asylum system, allowing asylum-seekers to track the status of their application, receive notifications and consult frequently asked questions.

UNHCR supported the improvement and presence of two COMAR offices in southern Mexico during 2024, one in Villahermosa, Tabasco and another in Oluta, Veracruz; the latter one being a move from Acayucan to Oluta. The two offices will increase COMAR's capacity to respond to the needs of asylum-seekers and refugees in the south, while ensuring closer case monitoring and enabling swifter integration processes for refugees.

UNHCR COMAR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs contributed to the construction and implementation of a Multiservice Centre in Tapachula (in process), providing asylum-seekers and refugees with streamlined access to essential services in a one-stop shop, promoting a more integrated and coordinated response.

Almost 35,000 asylum-seekers and refugees received legal assistance in 2024. asylum-seekers.

3. Outcome Area: Protection Policy and Law

There is a legal framework and public policy, and international conventions are fully applied to ensure protection and solutions for internally displaced people and stateless individuals in Mexico.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
3.1 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol			
None	Progressing towards alignment	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned
3.2 Extent national legal framework is in line with the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness			
None	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned	Broadly aligned

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
03.1.1 UNHCR has engaged in legislative and judicial processes to strengthen laws and policies for the protection of refugees, IDPs, returnees and stateless people and/or the reduction and prevention of statelessness	
IDPs	Yes
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Mexico is a signatory to key treaties and conventions that ensure the protection and solutions for refugees, asylum-seekers and internally displaced people (IDPs). Also, the first article of the Mexican Constitution guarantees full access to human rights as outlined in both international treaties and the Constitution itself. UNHCR continues to advocate with Mexico to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, a Mexican pledge of the 2019 Global Refugee Forum.

To address the challenges faced by IDPs, refugees and asylum-seekers, the government of Oaxaca developed a law initiative from more than 50 consultation sessions with displaced and indigenous communities, and UNHCR support. It was presented to Congress in December 2024. The Government of Nuevo León began to develop the basis for a protocol to assist IDPs. With UNHCR's technical support, the

Bylaw for Municipal Response to Internal Displacement Emergencies was approved in 2024 by the municipality of Apatzingán, Michoacán, making it the first municipal instrument to address internal displacement.

The Working Group to Preserve the Asylum System developed strategies to achieve favorable jurisdictional outcomes related to the issuance of documentation for asylum-seekers. The Working Group on Financial Inclusion supported legal cases to facilitate access to bank accounts and UNHCR collaborated with pro-bono law firms to provide financial institutions with legal certainty regarding the validity of documents issued by INM and the National Registry of Population and Identity (RENAPO). UNHCR also worked with parliamentarians to support legal reforms and to improve the family reunification process.

COMAR implemented faster and accelerated procedures for certain nationalities, due to their specific characteristics, a positive development to deliver faster recognition of refugee status for asylum-seekers of nationalities with a high recognition rate, such as Haitians.

4. Outcome Area: Gender-based Violence

Risk of gender-based violence is reduced for all people UNHCR serves and all survivors have adequate and timely access to services.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
4.1 Proportion of people who know where to access available GBV services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	64.99%	71.00%	64.71%
4.3 Proportion of survivors who are satisfied with GBV case management services			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	97.73%	100.00%	99.34%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
04.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from specialized GBV programmes	
Others of Concern	399
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	1,302

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR and partners assisted over 1,200 survivors of violence, mainly women and girls including 620 asylum-seekers and refugees, 320 others of concern, and 260 internally displaced people. 99% of them showed satisfaction with the assistance. UNHCR also provided direct support to 550 survivors.

The office updated a multi-sectoral service mapping to provide improved support to women and girls survivors of violence. UNHCR trained 1,300 actors on Minimum Standards in Emergencies to prevent violence against women and girls, including partners, shelters and authorities.

In terms of preventing violence against women and girls, UNHCR conducted a qualitative study on protection risks in Mexico and integrated the findings into its planning. Together with partners, UNHCR carried out 1,320 prevention and nearly 290 risk mitigation activities, including workshops on child-rearing,

sexual and reproductive rights, and the distribution of dignity kits with information about referral services. During the 16 Days of Activism on violence against women and girls, UNHCR held over 50 activities reaching 2,000 people, including refugees, asylum-seekers, IDPs and local communities. The prevention strategy included self-defence workshops for 230 women, and support for Women-Led and Refugee-Led Organizations. The Women-Led Organizations DHIA and IMUMI joined the Regional Meeting of Women-Led Organizations in November 2024 along with the refugee-led Association of Nicaraguans in Mexico.

UNHCR strengthened coordination on protecting women and girls from violence in Mexico, co-leading the GBV Sub-Working Group with UNFPA and creating Standard Operating Procedures for violence Prevention and Response in human mobility contexts. UNHCR also continued collaborating with the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women (CONAVIM) on a programme for displaced Mexican survivors, strengthening referral services in 10 locations and providing trainings on forced displacement, prevention and response of violence against women and girls and local integration.

5. Outcome Area: Child Protection

Child protection system strengthened, and children's well-being ensured

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
5.1 Proportion of children at heightened risk who are supported by a Best Interests Procedure			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	89.58%	90.00%	88.79%
5.2 Proportion of children who participate in community-based child protection programmes			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	37.38%	40.00%	20.54%
5.3 Proportion of unaccompanied and separated children who are in an alternative care arrangement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	89.93%	80.00%	77.22%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
05.1.1 Number of children and caregivers who received child protection services	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	7,349

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR focused on strengthening the national child protection system. To address the needs of displaced children, improve reception conditions, and advocate for ending child immigration detention, UNHCR provided technical support to child protection authorities and trained over 2,000 staff, partners, government officials, and stakeholders on refugee child protection. In partnership with Save the Children, 800 asylum-seeking and refugee children at risk received support through case management, including survivors of violence, 89% of those identified by UNHCR. They were referred to the appropriate authorities and services.

Supporting Child Protection Authorities in developing a cross-border family reunification mechanism for unaccompanied children in the U.S., UNHCR shared its case management experience at the 2024 Global

Annual Meeting for Child Protection in Humanitarian Action.

UNHCR partner Save the Children offered psychosocial, artistic, recreational, and sports activities for over 3,800 children in 15 child-friendly spaces in Baja California, Chihuahua, Tamaulipas, Chiapas, and Tabasco. Over 2,700 parents and caregivers received psychosocial support and training on positive parenting techniques to prevent family violence. The Alliance House Foundation provided alternative care for over 20 asylum-seeking and refugee children without family reunification, offering psychosocial and legal support, school enrolment and life skill programs.

UNHCR participated in the National Child Protection Sub-Working Group, supported the Inter-agency Youth Working Network's work plan and developed a joint work plan with UNICEF and IOM to include refugee and migrant children in national child protection systems.

6. Outcome Area: Safety and Access to Justice

Refoulement is effectively prevented, legal reform ensures immigration detention is used as last resource, children are no longer detained and adult asylum-seekers benefit from alternatives to detention.

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
06.1.1 Number of people who received legal assistance	
Others of Concern	46,848
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	34,399

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Through close collaboration with legal professionals, civil society and the authorities, UNHCR works to ensure that people have the necessary legal support to access fair asylum procedures and find safety within Mexican borders. UNHCR's broad network of legal partners across 19 states provided 164,000 people with legal information and assistance in 2024. 45 lawyers, 45 legal assistants, and 43 public defenders from civil society organizations and pro-bono law firms helped people in need of international protection to reunite with their families or navigate their asylum process. Private law firms through the pro-bono network assisted over 150 refugees and trained more than 800 individuals, including lawyers, paralegals, and law clinic members, and supported refugees' financial inclusion. Meanwhile, the Mexican Bar Association made it possible that refugees can now be legally assisted in 27 out of 31 Mexican states.

To monitor detention conditions and to give detainees access to information, UNHCR conducted more than 200 visits to INM's migratory detention centers in 2024, informing 4,000 detained people of their right to seek asylum.

7. Outcome Area: Community Engagement and Women's Empowerment

Refugees and host community networks are consolidated and strengthened for people UNHCR serves to identify risks and organize through community initiatives and leaderships.

There is an effective two-way communication between people UNHCR serves and UNHCR; the community is fully engaged into programme design, monitoring and evaluation; and people

UNHCR serves are able to make informed decisions.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
7.1 Extent participation of displaced and stateless people across programme phases is supported.			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Moderate	Extensive	Extensive
7.2 Proportion of people who have access to safe feedback and response mechanisms			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	98.17%	100.00%	83.57%
7.3 Proportion of women participating in leadership/management structures			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	55.56%	60.00%	65.38%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
07.1.1 Number of people consulted through Participatory Assessments	
Others of Concern	237
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	831
07.2.1 Number of people who used UNHCR- supported feedback & response mechanisms to voice their needs/ concerns/feedback	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	223
07.3.1 Number of people who received protection services	
IDPs	136
Others of Concern	47,624
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	59,019

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

To foster participation of refugee and IDP populations, UNHCR prioritized participatory methodologies, and strategic meetings were held with RLOs and as part of the quadripartite mechanisms, where UNHCR, COMAR, partners and refugees discussed protection solutions, challenges and proposals.

Consultations with IDPs were promoted to inform law projects in Chiapas, Oaxaca, and Michoacán. In Oaxaca, UNHCR reached more than 1,000 IDPs, mostly from indigenous communities. Through the Community-based Complaint Mechanism, a total of 160 reports were received and 84% resolved, with an average response time of five days. UNHCR held trainings for the staff of 47 shelters to support implementing feedback mechanisms.

Active support for community-based initiatives and RLOs, and facilitating their participation in strategic forums with authorities, academia, and civil society, was a priority for UNHCR. Capacity-building sessions and technical guidance were provided to 42 refugee speakers and RLO representatives.

In 2024, UNHCR supported RLOs and promoted the participation of refugees and internally displaced

people, including through helping to capacitate leadership within refugee and IDP-led organizations and the inclusion of affected populations in community initiatives. In March, UNHCR provided capacity-building sessions to more than 20 field staff on refugee participation and mobilization, which enabled 600 additional trainings for staff, partners, authorities and RLOs.

More than 50 refugee speakers and 40 civil organizations across Mexico contributed to political advocacy and public policy changes benefiting refugee protection and integration. UNHCR supported 20 refugee and IDP-led initiatives. In Tenosique, refugees created the Committee for Solidarity and Support for Refugees to advocate for their rights and inclusion. UNHCR and COMAR implemented Quadripartite Mechanisms at the federal and local levels, establishing decision-making spaces for refugee advocacy.

8. Outcome Area: Well-Being and Basic Needs

People UNHCR serves have access to information, comprehensive assistance (including through more sustainable shelter options) and case management.

People with specific needs are supported, through adequate and timely identification as well as effective and specialized response.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
8.1 Proportion of people that receive cash transfers and/or non-food items			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	11.59%	12.00%	9.90%
8.2 Proportion of people with primary reliance on clean (cooking) fuels and technology			
IDPs	88.67%	90.00%	88.67%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	90.84%	100.00%	86.60%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
08.1.1 Number of people who received cash assistance	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	26,822
08.2.1 Number of people who received non-food items	
IDPs	50
Others of Concern	94,342
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	14,097

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

In 2024, UNHCR improved the inclusion of people with disabilities, mental health needs and LGBTIQ+. With the Mexican Coalition for the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the Christoffel Blinden mission, we developed a Humanitarian Response Guide for Persons with Disabilities in Human Mobility, piloting its application in shelters in Tijuana and Mexico City.

UNHCR registered more than 2,500 refugees with disabilities and organized a Training of Trainers session

for more than 20 staff as part of its capacity-building efforts, enabling the training of 260 additional staff, partners and government officials. Also, nearly 50 refugees and asylum-seekers participated in a pilot integration programme for LGBTIQ+ refugees.

Mental health services are a priority for UNHCR and partners, who provided psychosocial support to more than 14,300 people. The National Mental Health Working Group, formed in 2024, coordinates Mental Health and Psychosocial Support responses with 85 professionals. It is also developing a protocol for emergency assistance and a national referral pathway for specialized care. Through capacity-building, joint research and collaborative initiatives to enhance access to MHPSS services, UNHCR strengthened ties with the National Psychiatric Institute, and trained more than 90 psychologists and social workers from the Sinaloa government to support IDPs.

Shelters in Mexico are crucial in supporting people forced to flee, providing accommodation, essential services, healthcare and legal assistance. UNHCR supported over 140 shelters and conducted more than 1,500 monitoring visits in 136 shelters. We also strengthened the protection space in shelters with the introduction of the "Traffic Light Tool," assessing minimum standards of prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse, violence against women and girls, and child protection.

Holding 13 Partnership Agreements with 26 shelters nationwide, including three shelter networks, UNHCR allocated 20% of its budget to shelters, to fund staff positions for legal services, psychosocial support and integration. This support enabled more than 270 informational sessions in 56 shelters, reaching 8,000 people and 200 individual counseling sessions.

UNHCR made five infrastructure interventions and distributed core relief items to 96 shelters, including +196,300 hygiene items, +13,300 blankets, +600 bedding items, +69,100 cleaning supplies and +350 kitchen and office equipment. Over 50,000 liters of drinking water were provided to shelters in the north. Also, we developed campaigns to mitigate risks, like trafficking, abuse and fraud.

To understand refugees' information needs, UNHCR conducted consultations, engaging 65 people. The Helpdesk website offered information on our services, with 153,400 views and 26,000 inquiries from refugees and asylum-seekers. Our digital strategy reached 3.2 million Facebook users, with 625,000 page visits and 3,200 private messages.

13. Outcome Area: Self Reliance, Economic Inclusion and Livelihoods

People UNHCR serves in Mexico access the formal labour market, including through the adoption of related public policy.

Core Outcome Indicators

Indicator			
Population Type	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
13.1. Proportion of people with an account at a bank or other financial institution or with a mobile-money-service provider			
IDPs	Unknown	40.00%	34.92%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	50.47%	50.00%	47.95%

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
13.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from livelihoods and economic inclusion interventions	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	26,322

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR's PIL promotes sustainable refugee integration through access to the formal labour market. The programme offers comprehensive integration accompaniment, including housing orientation, help with applications for taxpayer IDs, home visits and phone calls.

In 2024, nearly 13,000 refugees were identified, relocated and supported by UNHCR in cooperation with the government and the private sector, bringing the total to over 49,700 since 2016. Of the participants, 51% were single adults and 42% were families. Honduras represented 69% of participants, followed by Cuba, Haiti, El Salvador and Guatemala.

In 2024, the Ministry of Welfare provided a one-time grant covering rent and installation fees for PIL participants. Introducing public support to cover basic needs of refugees, helps assure the sustainability of the program.

Through the EU4Decent Jobs project, UNHCR, ILO and the Mexican government developed the 'Mexico Employs You' portal, managed by the National Employment Service (SRE) and facilitating access to work for refugees and assisting over 4,760 people.

In Guanajuato, UNHCR set up an innovative project for people with disabilities and women and girls survivors of violence. A cooperation with the National System for the Integral Development of the Family (DIF), Guanajuato's Institute for Persons with Disabilities and shelters for survivors of violence fostered specialized integration services for refugees with specific needs. UNHCR and partners offered comprehensive care for single-parent families, including daycare for 250 children.

The PROFIL project with the German Society for International Cooperation (GIZ) ended in June 2024, having relocated over 3,000 refugees to Puebla, Querétaro and Jalisco in 330 companies. Through the project, over 5,700 refugees received financial support and 9,700 received legal assistance.

15. Outcome Area: Resettlement and Complementary Pathways

Asylum-seekers and refugees with serious protection risks have access to internal relocation for local integration in Mexico or are resettled to third countries where they can benefit from protection and a durable solution.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
15.1 Number of refugees submitted by UNHCR for resettlement			
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	480	380	401

Core Output Indicators

Indicator	
Population Type	Actual (2024)
15.1.1 Country issues machine-readable travel documents	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	Yes

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

Aligned with the Global Compact on Refugees, the United States of America and Canada offered 300 and 80 resettlement slots in 2024 for refugees with heightened risks to their safety or lives. In record time, UNHCR successfully identified, interviewed, and referred 380 individuals to the resettlement countries in 2024. An additional 21 individuals at imminent risk were referred to special programs designed for such urgent cases, bringing the total number of refugees referred for resettlement from Mexico to 401 during 2024.

Of the overall number of individuals considered for resettlement in 2024, 58% were survivors of violence or torture, and 29% were women and girls in high-risk situations, including sexual violence. Regarding nationalities, the vast majority were from Honduras, followed by individuals from Guatemala, El Salvador, and Nicaragua. During 2024, 165 individuals departed from Mexico to be resettled in the United States of America or Canada.

In 2024, case identification and coordination with field offices were improved through training on the program's operations, prioritized profiles, referral mechanisms and fraud prevention. This had an impact, especially in the south, where 78% of all referred cases were identified. 64% of the individuals were refugees from Hondurans, 24% from Guatemala, El Salvador and Nicaragua and 12% from Venezuela, Colombia, Haiti, and Ecuador.

The resettlement programme is almost entirely implemented by UNHCR directly in its early stages. However, coordination with partners, UN agencies and resettlement countries contributed to reaching and exceeding the set goals.

Through the #TuSiPuedes (#YouCanDolt) initiative, UNHCR's PIL became a model for tailored integration pathways for people with specific needs. In 2024, the initiative supported more than 3,900 people from vulnerable groups, including single-parent families, internally displaced people, LGBTIQ+ people, non-Spanish speakers, elderly people, and persons with disabilities. All UNHCR integration cities developed a mapping for the services to promote integration opportunities in collaboration with state authorities, civil society actors, academia, private sector, and business partners.

In addition to its Local Integration Program, UNHCR also implements a program for people with significant protection needs and security risks and gives them the possibility to relocate within Mexico. 27 cases of asylum-seekers and refugees (67 persons) were internally relocated from the south of the country to safer locations. Of the total, 46% were women and girls at risk and 16% from the LGBTIQ+ community.

16. Outcome Area: Integration and other Local Solutions

Naturalization and family reunification are accessible for people UNHCR serves based on their interest and eligibility.

Opportunities for people in need of international protection UNHCR serves are expanded through complementary pathways.

People UNHCR serves in Mexico have access to public and private services including health, education, social security, housing, and financial services.

Refugees and asylum-seekers have access to relevant documentation recognized by public and private actors.

Core Outcome Indicators

Population Type	Indicator		
	Baseline	Target (2024)	Actual (2024)
16.1 Proportion of people with secure tenure rights to housing and/or land			
IDPs	33.36%	35.00%	33.36%
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	37.87%	66.00%	33.96%
16.2 Proportion of people covered by national social protection systems			
IDPs	69.71%	75.00%	69.71%

Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Indicator	Actual (2024)
16.1.1. Government Social protection system is inclusive of forcibly displaced and stateless people		
IDPs		Partially
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		Partially
16.2.1 Number of people supported by UNHCR to acquire nationality, permanent residency status or to access naturalization procedures		
Refugees and Asylum-seekers		2,591

Progress Against the Desired Outcome

UNHCR made significant strides towards achieving desired outcomes for forcibly displaced people, focusing on naturalization, family reunification, access to public services, complementary pathways, integration, and documentation.

UNHCR, COMAR and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA), enhanced access to naturalization processes for refugees, individuals with complementary protection and stateless persons. By covering fees and providing legal support, UNHCR and partners assisted 635 refugees with their naturalization applications and informed more than 1,400 refugees about the process. As a result, 305 individuals obtained their certificates. Additionally, we supported COMAR's family reunification efforts, contributing to 57 approved requests out of 210 submitted, directly assisting 40 refugee families. The establishment of an information module in Mexico City reduced documentation requests by 80%, streamlining the reunification process.

Building on Mexico's pledges at the 2019 and 2023 Global Refugee Forums, we advanced a complementary pathways initiative through higher education. 12 refugees from Syria, Somalia, and South Sudan arrived in Mexico under the "Habesha Programme," gaining access to university studies and participating in Spanish language courses at UNAM's Teaching Centre for Foreigners (CEPE). Also, we expanded our collaboration with Talent Beyond Boundaries to explore labour mobility initiatives in Latin America.

Alongside Mexican authorities, UNHCR facilitated access to health, education, housing, and financial services. Nearly 2,500 children received education support, and more than 500 individuals benefited from academic certification programmes. The tertiary education programme supported 135 refugees, including 60 DAFI scholars. The interinstitutional roundtables led by government agencies and UNHCR, contributed to improved service access in education, healthcare, employment, and documentation.

We promoted peaceful coexistence and integration through collaborations with cultural and sports organizations, benefiting refugee children and host communities. The "Days for Inclusion and Non-

"Discrimination" initiative engaged nearly 3,000 people in 10 cities, enhancing empathy and reducing xenophobia. The initiative involved over 640 authorities and diverse community members, showcasing refugees' positive contributions to society.

A major challenge in 2024 was the significant drop (97%) in the issuance of Temporary Visitor Cards for Humanitarian Reasons (TVRH) by INM, which hindered refugees' access to employment and services. UNHCR advocated for compliance with legal frameworks and facilitated an agreement with COMAR and the Tax Administration Service (SAT) to enable asylum-seekers to obtain taxpayer numbers. We also supported efforts to ensure that refugees could transition from temporary to indefinite Unique Population Registry Code (CURP) status, improving access to essential rights and services.

Other Core Output Indicators

Population Type	Actual (2024)
01.1.1 Number of people registered on an individual basis	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	78,926
01.2.1 Number of people supported to obtain civil status, identity or legal status documentation	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	35,926
09.1.1 Number of people who received shelter and housing assistance	
Others of Concern	38,714
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	18,614
10.2.1 Number of consultations in UNHCR supported mental health and psychosocial support services	
Others of Concern	35,170
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	22,381
11.1.1 Number of people who benefitted from education programming	
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	3,248
12.1.1 Number of people supported with access to water and/or sanitation services	
Others of Concern	1,862
Refugees and Asylum-seekers	278

2.2. Age, Gender and Diversity

In 2024, UNHCR worked to ensure a response that all populations have access to rights and services, taking into consideration specific needs.

To enhance protection and solutions, UNHCR organized workshops for more than 260 government officials, partners, shelter workers, and refugee-led organizations (RLOs), focusing on the implementation of protection and solution strategies that are sensitive to women and girls, children, older people, people with disabilities, among others. .

Through the Tú Sí Puedes initiative, UNHCR's PIL continues to offer tailored integration opportunities for

refugees with disabilities, LGBTIQ+ people at risk of violence, single caregivers and those with mental health needs. Particularly in Mexico City, Tapachula and Tijuana, UNHCR also strengthened its engagement with the Haitian population, as they face additional language barriers.

Haitian refugees led community meetings and training sessions for local authorities in Tapachula to raise awareness of their cultural and social needs.

To encourage refugee participation in consultative processes, UNHCR's Dialogue Mechanism with RLOs was strengthened this year. Monthly sessions allowed refugees to raise concerns and propose solutions, integrating RLOs into protection forums.

In 2024, UNHCR organized self-defence workshops for 230 refugee, asylum-seeking and migrant women. UNHCR supported Women-Led and Refugee-Led Organizations and ensured that all Partnership Agreements included actions on protection from sexual exploitation, abuse and violence.

Section 3: Resources

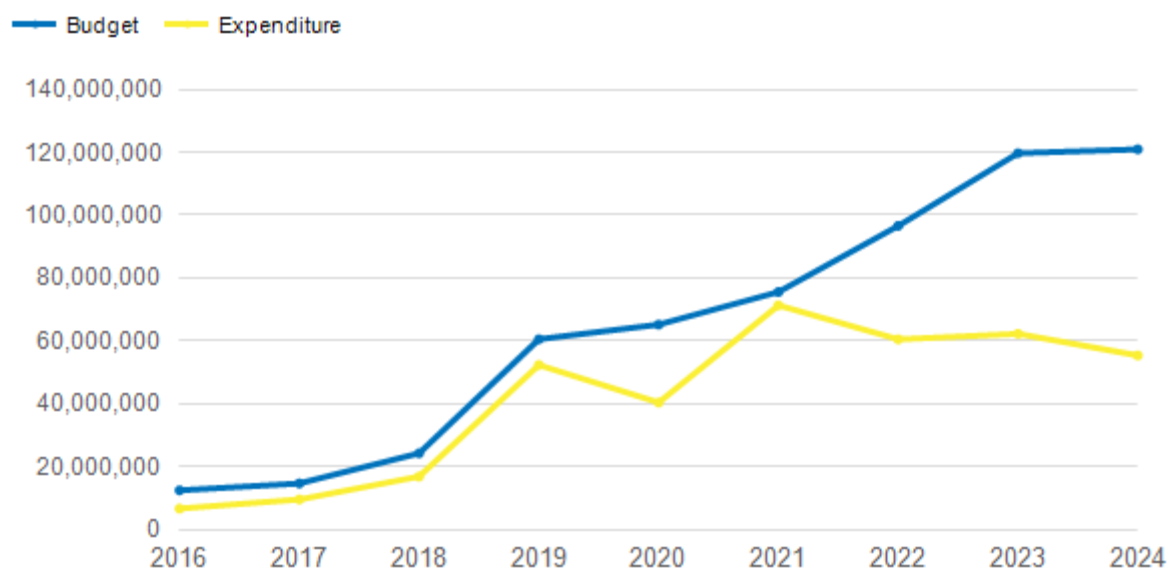
3.1 Financial Data

(Financial figures in USD)

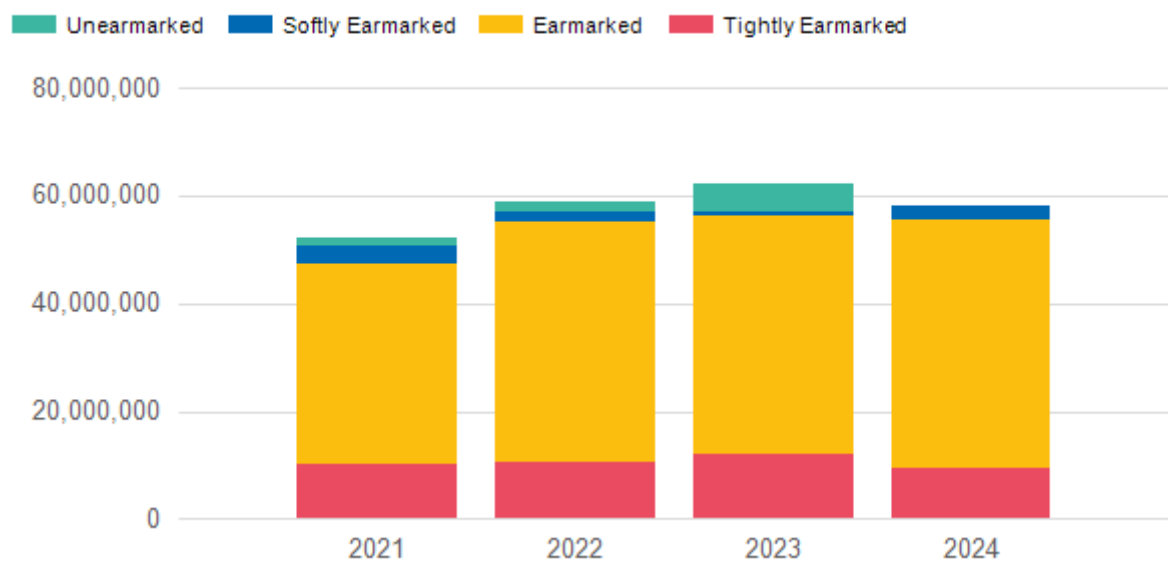
Impact Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
IA1: Protect	75,474,647	36,834,565	48.80%	36,328,201	98.63%
IA3: Empower	2,322,098	478,684	20.61%	478,684	100.00%
IA4: Solve	43,145,877	18,601,876	43.11%	18,601,876	100.00%
All Impact Areas		1,219,957			
Total	120,942,622	57,135,082	47.24%	55,408,760	96.98%

Outcome Area	Final Budget	Funds Available	Funds Available as % of Budget	Expenditure	Expenditure as % of Funds Available
OA2: Status	22,295,133	16,150,447	72.44%	15,644,082	96.86%
OA3: Policy/Law	6,441,065	1,033,598	16.05%	1,033,598	100.00%
OA4: GBV	2,166,803	994,183	45.88%	994,183	100.00%
OA5: Children	3,585,469	1,238,878	34.55%	1,238,878	100.00%
OA6: Justice	3,009,829	144,014	4.78%	144,014	100.00%
OA7: Community	2,322,098	478,684	20.61%	478,684	100.00%
OA8: Well-being	33,678,974	16,819,006	49.94%	16,819,006	100.00%
OA13: Livelihood	24,986,589	14,244,621	57.01%	14,244,621	100.00%
OA15: Resettle	870,313	417,700	47.99%	417,700	100.00%
OA16: Integrate	16,136,032	3,762,012	23.31%	3,762,012	100.00%
EA17: Systems	3,427,061	36,740	1.07%	36,740	100.00%
EA20: External	2,023,256	595,243	29.42%	595,243	100.00%
All Outcome Areas		1,219,957			
Total	120,942,622	57,135,082	47.24%	55,408,760	96.98%

Budget and Expenditure Trend



Contributions Trend by Type



3.2. Resources Overview

The operation successfully mobilized US\$61.7 million, which represented 48% of its operational funding requirements — the highest level of funding in the operation's history. Funding came from 14 different sources, including the Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM), Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC), the European Community Humanitarian Office (ECHO) and the Government of Mexico, among others. Two new donor partners, Japan and Global Affairs Canada, joined in supporting refugees through UNHCR. Private donors, channelled through USA for UNHCR and individual donors in Mexico, provided great flexibility, allowing UNHCR to allocate resources where they are most needed. Mexico received no unearmarked funds and relied solely on strong fundraising efforts.

Additionally, interagency proposals were initiated to further enhance support by leveraging complementary activities that provide comprehensive support to refugees and others forced to flee. Collaboration and contributions from other UN agencies, such as the World Food Programme (WFP), have been crucial for data collection, analysis and response.

Through more than 20 field missions with diplomatic representatives and several multidoor briefings, the operation raised awareness on refugee needs and rallied support for UNHCR's work. Additionally, a record number of 40 reports were shared to ensure a timely information flow with counterparts. The operation also produced joint communication materials with key allies, such as the European Union, France, Canada, and Japan, among others.

UNHCR fostered strong private partnerships and saw a marked increase and diversification in funding sources. Awareness-raising initiatives, including an international journalist mission and several advocacy campaigns, helped position key issues and topics in targeted donor countries. These efforts, alongside efficient resource management, strengthened private sector partnerships, increased donations and diversified funding streams.

The annual Palomazo concert for Refugees event was piloted as a resource mobilization initiative beyond awareness raising objectives and attracted a live audience of 2,000 people.

Section 4: Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

4.1 Lessons Learned and Future Outlook

Looking ahead to 2025, it is essential to reflect on lessons learned from efforts to strengthen refugee protection and integration in Mexico. In 2024, many achievements were made in enhancing the asylum system. COMAR introduced differentiated and expedited procedures, establishing a regional benchmark. In 2025, UNHCR will focus on digitalization and sustainable solutions, partnering with local governments, civil society and stakeholders to provide refugees with protection and integration opportunities. A key priority is enhancing tools like SIRE, biometric systems, and COMAR Digital for more efficient processes, improving data management and protection monitoring, efficiency and accessibility. 2025 will also be key for the Multiservice Centers in strategic locations, including Tapachula, Monterrey, Tijuana and Mexico City.

UNHCR will continue to collaborate with the Mexican government, enhancing protection services and shelters. Initiatives like Mexico Employs You, the PIL, and in-situ integration promote self-reliance and local integration, fostering the dignity of refugees and increased government ownership in line with a sustainable response. UNHCR will expand law clinics and academic collaborations, such as the Sergio Vieira de Mello Chair at Universidad Autónoma de Chiapas.

In 2025, we will also support the Chile Action Plan for regional displacement and protection solutions, emphasizing cross-border cooperation.

UNHCR will continue to consolidate its operation in the country and ensure efficient and agile responses, including the establishment of mobile teams, in alliance with government entities and strategic partnership alliances.

Through continued investments in protection, support and opportunities for refugees, we foster their integration and resilience, building a strong foundation for the future. We stay and deliver, helping refugees rebuild their lives with dignity, safety and hope.



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