



The Department of Social Inclusion (DIS), responsible for the administration and management of the MIRPS Fund, has made significant efforts to implement the Fund, in line with the support required by the MIRPS States and in addition to the existing mechanisms to respond to the challenges of forced displacement in Central America and Mexico.

After a coordinated working process with the MIRPS States and strategic partners, the initiatives included in the First Portfolio of Projects have begun their implementation in the field:



Unanimous approval of the MIRPS Fund by the OAS Permanent Council.

Announcement of the 1 million Euros pioneering contribution from Spain in the First MIRPS Solidarity Event.

Start-up and creation of the MIRPS Fund operational framework & launching of the first call of project proposals.

**May:**  
Launching of the MIRPS Fund and its first project portfolio.

**September - December:**  
Signature of 4 of the 6 execution agreements as a starting point for implementation in the field.



### HONDURAS

**Signing of the Agreement between the GS/OAS and the Secretariat for Human Rights for the implementation of the project "Strengthening the response of the of Honduras for the care of persons internally displaced by violence".**

This project will benefit more than 100 displaced persons in the communities most affected by internal displacement due to violence in Honduras through:

- The delivery of humanitarian assistance and inter-institutional coordination of protection measures, for people internally displaced by violence and/or at risk of displacement.
- The provision of seed capital to internally displaced persons and/or at risk of displacement.
- Institutional strengthening through focused training to improve the attention of displaced persons.





## EL SALVADOR

**Signing of the Agreement between the GS/OAS and the National Council for Early Childhood, Children and Adolescents (CONAPINA) for the implementation of the project "Enhancing the Livelihoods of Returnee Children and Adolescents in need of Protection and their families".**

This project will benefit more than 60 families of returned children and adolescents in need of protection through the provision of humanitarian assistance, seed capital for entrepreneurship and scholarships for studies and/or technical specialization.



### Awarding of technical specialization scholarships

As part of the project's first activities, in January 2024, CONAPINA awarded the first technical specialization scholarships to the project's beneficiaries from the central region of the country, who will receive training in cosmetology, barbering, specialized acrylic nails techniques, baking and pastry making, among others. In addition, adolescents from the beneficiary families received scholarships to learn English as a second language.

Through capacity building, more opportunities will be created to the beneficiaries of the project to access the labor market, generating roots in their communities, strengthening their self-esteem, contributing to local economies, and beyond that, providing hope and self-improvement.







**PANAMA**

Signing of the Agreement between the GS/OAS, the Ministry of Government of the Republic of Panama and the City of Knowledge Foundation, for the implementation of the project "Strengthening the care, integration and protection of refugees, asylum seekers and host communities in the Darien province".

This project will benefit more than 800 refugees and asylum seekers through:

- The delivery of basic humanitarian assistance kits with health and hygiene products (taking into account the differentiated needs of women, men, girls and boys);
- The delivery of school kits for children and adolescents.
- Training in microenterprises and basic equipment to women entrepreneurs in the area.



**COSTA RICA**

Signing of the Agreement between the GS/OAS, the General Directorate of Migration and Foreigners (DGME) and the Foundation of the University of Costa Rica for the implementation of the project "Strengthening the Identification and Referral of Persons Applying for Refugee Status and/or with Profiles of Special Vulnerability through the Modernization of Costa Rica's Refugee Unit Platform".

With the implementation of this project, improvements will be made to the procedures of the Refugee Unit of the General Directorate of Migration and Foreigners, to provide more agile attention to persons requesting refugee status and deserving international protection. Some 23,000 people will benefit directly, as well as approximately 10,000 other people applying for refugee status with some type of vulnerability, located throughout Costa Rica.





### GUATEMALA

**Project: "Facilitation of labor inclusion of asylum seekers and refugees in Guatemala."**

The Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MINTRAB) is working on the final internal arrangements to complete the signing of the corresponding agreement, which will allow project execution to begin during the first quarter of 2024.



### MEXICO

**Project: "Institutional strengthening of the operational capacity to recognize the identity of asylum seekers, with a focus on children and adolescents. "**

The project is in the final stage of the institutional approvals required to sign the agreements that will allow the Mexican Commission for Refugee Assistance (COMAR) to begin implementing the project during the first quarter of 2024.



### BELIZE

**Project: "Public Awareness Campaign and Border Presence"**

At the end of 2023, the Belize Ministry of Immigration through its Refugees Department officially submitted the project proposal. The High Level Selection Committee (CSAN for its acronym in Spanish) will be convened in the coming weeks to evaluate the proposal, thus adding one more initiative to the First Portfolio of Projects of the MIRPS Fund.

The implementation of these projects during 2023 and 2024 is possible with Spain's pioneering contribution, as a clear commitment to the principle of solidarity and shared responsibility.



The initiatives include a cross-cutting perspective of rights and inclusion.



It is expected to benefit more than 100,000 people in the MIRPS States.

#### JOIN THE MIRPS FUND

The MIRPS Fund is open to receive new contributions, and to continue implementing initiatives and projects on the field in the MIRPS States.

✉ More information: [OEAREfugiados@oas.org](mailto:OEAREfugiados@oas.org).

