



MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT OF CHILDREN IN LATIN AMERICA THE CARIBBEAN



Save the Children

REGIONAL CONTEXT



6.3 million children and adolescents are migrants or refugees.



Colombia has more displaced children than any other country in the world: **2 million** children displaced by conflict.²



62% of victims of trafficking and abuse in LAC are children.¹



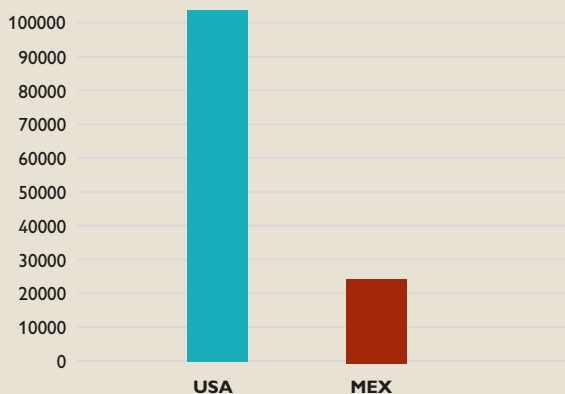
600,000 people crossed from Venezuela to Colombia in 2017. **48%** were children.³



¹UNODC (2016)
²Save the Children, (2017)
³OIM (2017)

MIGRATION AND DISPLACEMENT IN CENTRAL AMERICA

120,254 unaccompanied children detained in 2016/2017 – US and Mexico



Source: CBPUSA and SEGOB-México

Returned children - 2016/2017



Source: Source: SEGOB-México

2016/2017

300,000 children from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras were detained in U.S. and Mexico.



Around **120,000** unaccompanied children and adolescents were held in detention for extended periods.

76 children were returned to the Northern Triangle every day.





Every hour
3 adolescents
are killed due
to homicide
in LAC

CAUSES

Violence

Latin America has the highest rate of child homicides in the world due to organized crime and drug trafficking.

1 of every 2 migrant children makes the trek due to violence.



The top **10** countries in the world for child homicide are: **Honduras, Venezuela, El Salvador and Colombia**



Poverty



1 of every **4** migrant children has economic deficiencies at home and the lack education opportunities.

Family Reunification



1 of **5** migrant children started the trek to the U.S. because they had relatives there.



Risks

Migration puts children and adolescents at risk of becoming victims of abuse. The danger is even greater for unaccompanied children.



Physical, sexual or psychological abuse



Used to transport drugs



Becoming victims of homicide



Falling victim of people-trafficking and smuggling networks



Victim of Trafficking Accidents



Going without food or water



MARIANA, 11

"I was born in Guatemala and now I live in Mexico. We came here because there was no money and no work. We had no flip flops and it was difficult to get clothes".



ROBERTO, 18

"Policemen caught us and drove us in the dog pound truck o "perrera". We call the police truck that because that's how they take dogs to the pound".



OUR WORK IN THE REGION

- Prevent the causes of forced migration, stressing education and the culture of peace, while improving the economic condition of families.
- Strengthen protection systems to care for children and adolescents in their home communities, as well as during transit and return, so that they can access their rights to dignity, protection, and security.
- Advocate for the rights of migrant children and adolescents in collaboration with other civil society organizations the national, regional and global levels.



Save the Children works with migrant and displaced children through programs by:

- **Preventing Unsafe Migration** by improving livelihoods and the opportunities for personal, economic and social development within their communities of origin in the Northern Triangle.
- **Peace-Building in Schools** strengthening the capacities of students, parents, and teachers to achieve schools free of violence and safe spaces in 70 schools in Mexico, Guatemala, and Honduras.
- **Preventing Trafficking and Smuggling of Migrants** defending women and youth at risk or victims of human trafficking in Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala and the Dominican Republic.
- **Improving Child Protection Systems** by strengthening local and cross-border protection systems (both formal and informal) and building in quality services for children in the Northern Triangle and Mexico.
- **Protecting Internally Displaced Children** by improving protection systems for children who have been displaced and/or returned to their countries after migration in El Salvador and Honduras.
- **Providing Sexual and Reproductive Health Services** to returning adolescents in El Salvador and Guatemala.

“BUSCANDO EL NORTE” CAMPAIGN

The “Buscando el Norte” campaign is petitioning governments to:

1. Strengthen protection for children within the transit countries.
2. Stop detaining children and adolescents.
3. Provide safe spaces instead of detention.
4. Provide access to basic services and developmental opportunities.
5. Protect children from organized crime.
6. Create protection systems.

Partners

Civil Society •
organizations
Private sector •
Governments •
Amexcid •
UNHCR •
UNICEF •
OIM •



To know more about
the campaign scan
the QR code





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