

Leave No One Behind: A Commitment to Address Forced Displacement

HIGH-LEVEL LEADERS' ROUNDTABLE
World Humanitarian Summit 2016
Foundation Cristosal Commitment

Core Commitment 1: Commit to a new approach to addressing forced displacement that not only meets immediate humanitarian needs but reduces vulnerability and improves the resilience, self-reliance and protection of refugees and . Commit to implementing this new approach through coherent international, regional and national efforts that recognize both the humanitarian and development challenges of displacement. Commit to take the necessary political, policy, legal and financial steps required to address these challenges for the specific context.

- Cristosal will advocate for the integration of refugees and IDPs into national development and security plans in Central America, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Brazil Action Plan, and international humanitarian and human rights law.
- Cristosal will commit to work across institutional divides and mandates to catalyze a coordinated response among state and non-state organizations at the national, regional, and international levels, and contribute to the development of required policy, financial and operational tools to address forced displacement by violence in the Northern Triangle of Central America (NTCA).
- Cristosal will support the development of evidence-based national legislation and policies and support national governments in the NTCA to assume their obligations and build their capacities for the protection of IDPs in the NTCA. This support will take the form of continuous dialogue, information gathering, and piloting of emergency protection, specialized assistance, and durable solutions models.
- Cristosal will commit to work in partnership with national, regional, and international allies to improve access to international protections for displaced people in Central America through the implementation of the objectives set forth in the Brazil Action Plan: achieve quality asylum processes, solidarity borders, and enhance durable solutions in such a way that leverages the differing levels of capacity, indigenous and traditional knowledge, and resources in communities.
- Cristosal will advocate to NTCA governments and countries hosting NTCA asylum seekers and refugees to provide access to quality education, health care, and housing to all internally displaced and refugee children and youth within three months of displacement adhering to the human rights and humanitarian principles of non-discrimination, impartiality, and operational independence.
- Cristosal will continue to develop regional documentation networks and pilot research instruments to monitor forced displacement in NTCA and identify humanitarian needs and access issues of victims to inform advocacy and development of strategic responses.
- Cristosal commits to advocate and work cooperatively with regional actors for the fulfillment of the agreement between the Central American Integration System (SICA) and the United Nations

High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to create a regional observatory on forced displacement.

- Cristosal will monitor the free and equal access of IDPS in NTCA to assistance provided by local and international humanitarian and human rights organizations, and advocate against any form of discrimination in the provision of assistance and protection to IDPs, especially discrimination based on perceived or real associations with territories controlled by criminal organizations, or relationships to persons involved in them.
- Cristosal commits to providing assistance to women and children forcibly recruited into criminal organizations or subjected to sexual or other forms of exploitation by them.

Core Commitment 2: Commit to promote and support safe, dignified and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees. Commit to do so in a coherent and measurable manner through international, regional and national programmes and by taking the necessary policy, legal and financial steps required for the specific contexts and in order to work towards a target of 50 percent reduction in internal displacement by 2030.

- Cristosal will commit to actively reduce internal displacement in the NTCA by providing quality disaggregated information regarding displacement trends (drivers and triggers) and IDP needs to local governments.
- Furthermore, Cristosal commits to provide technical assistance to NTCA governments to address capacity and mandate gaps in the national protection systems and identify institutional leads to coordinate responses to prevent displacement events, protect IDP's during and after displacement, and assist in achieving durable solutions to end the cycle of displacement.
- Cristosal will build awareness in the NTCA about the IASC Framework on Durable Solutions for Internally Displaced Persons and work cooperatively to adapt this framework to the specific country conditions in each individual country in the NTCA.
- Cristosal will pilot durable solutions models that improve the self-reliance and resilience of IDPs and host communities within the traditional IDP durable solution framework, while recognizing the limitations of achieving durable solutions within countries of origin in NTCA, we will work to strengthen relocation, quality asylum and integration processes in other Central American countries.
- Cristosal will identify best practices and viable community-based models for achieving durable solutions for displaced people from NTCA and advocate for governments and international organizations to support in scaling these efforts.

Core Commitment 4: Commit to collectively work towards a Global Compact on responsibility-sharing for refugees to safeguard the rights of refugees, while also effectively and predictably supporting States affected by such movements.

- Cristosal will work with our allies in the Regional Coordinating Group for the implementation of the Brazil Action Plan (GAP-PAB) to ensure refugees' legal rights to a secure stay in host countries, including adequate, safe, and dignified reception conditions and robust registration by building legal advocacy and litigation capacities and engaging in multi-lateral dialogue with regional governments and the UNHCR.
- Cristosal will promote the expansion of legal, social, and economic opportunities available for refugees, including access to education at all levels, health care, and other services necessary to build livelihoods and gain non-discriminatory access to labor markets in a manner that also supports host communities. This work will be accomplished through advocacy, building regional referral networks, and piloting integration programs in Central America.
- Cristosal will contribute technical expertise and participate in pilot programs to create additional and expedited pathways for admission of Central American refugees including the development of in-country processing mechanisms, resettlement and humanitarian admission programs, family reunification, and the strengthening of referral systems for resettlement of IDPs.

Core Commitment 5: Commit to actively work to uphold the institution of asylum and the principle of non-refoulement. Commit to support further accession to and strengthened implementation of national, regional and international laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs, such as the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol or the AU Convention for the Protection and Assistance of Internally Displaced Persons in Africa (Kampala convention) or the Guiding Principles on internal displacement.

- Cristosal will promote the the full and effective implementation of the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol to the current nonconventional armed conflict in NTCA. These actions will be accomplished through legal advocacy in adherence to the UNHCR Eligibility Guidelines for Assessing the International Protection Needs of Asylum-Seekers from El Salvador.
- Cristosal will engage in regional advocacy for the implementation of the expanded regional refugee definition established in the 1984 Cartagena Declaration and the fulfillment of the commitments made in the Brazil Declaration and 2014 Action Plan.
- Cristosal will work in cooperation with the Central American Council of Human Rights Ombudsmen to develop a technical council on displacement in Central America as a mechanism to strengthen the implementation of national, regional, and international laws and policy frameworks that ensure and improve the protection of refugees and IDPs.
- Cristosal will advocate for the official recognition of forced displacement by violence in the NTCA and support in the drafting of national legislation and policies to protect IDP rights and establish and fund national protection systems.
- Cristosal will engage in strategic litigation over the next four years to strengthen jurisprudence on IDP rights in the NTCA and establish constitutional mandates for the protection of IDPs.

- Cristosal will participate in the Humanitarian Country Team (EHP) in El Salvador to promote awareness and adapt the existing international frameworks to address displacement in El Salvador.
- Cristosal will provide leadership to the Civil Society Roundtable on Forced Displacement by Violence in El Salvador to fulfil its advocacy mission and promote increased regional coordination and exchange among organizations addressing displacement by violence in NTCA.