A Brief History of the Protection of Internally Displaced Persons: El Salvador as a Case Study

#### **Panelists:**

Todd Scribner, Moderator, <u>USCCB/MRS</u>

Father Robert Stark, <u>Vatican Dicastery for Integral Human Development</u>

· Noah Bullock, Cristosal

 Elizabeth Ferris, <u>Institute for International Migration</u>, <u>Georgetown University</u>

Jana Mason, <u>United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees</u>



#### World Day of Migrants and Refugees 2020

**Like Jesus Christ, FORCED TO FLEE:** 

Welcoming, protecting, promoting & integrating













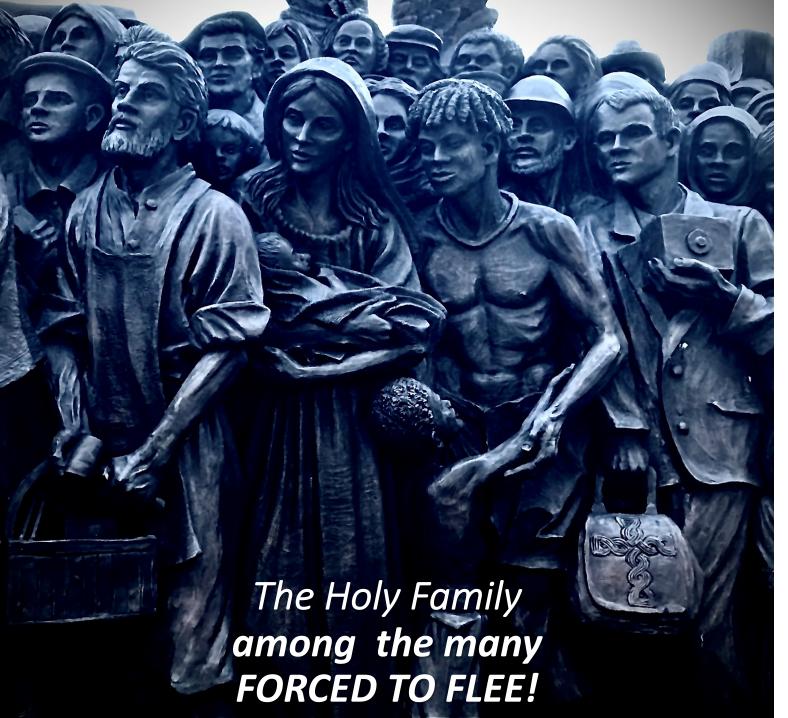
www.migrants-refugees.va www.migrants-refugees.org













# How can the church accompany internally displaced persons?





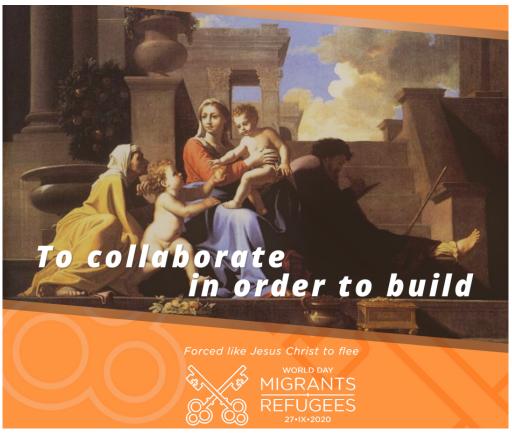
# **Accompanying: LISTEN & INVOLVE**





# Building the future we need together!





### **PASTORAL** ORIENTATIONS **ON INTERNALLY** DISPLACED PEOPLE

"If any of your kin fall into difficulty and become dependent on you, you shall support them; they shall live with you as though resident aliens."

Leviticus 25:35



MIGRANTS & REFUGEES SECTION INTEGRAL HUMAN DEVELOPMENT PALAZZO SAN CALISTO 00120 VATICAN CITY



www.migrants-refugees.va

www.migrants-refugees.org

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refugees-section



Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCl2EWji335

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On The Ground in El Salvador: The View from Cristosal

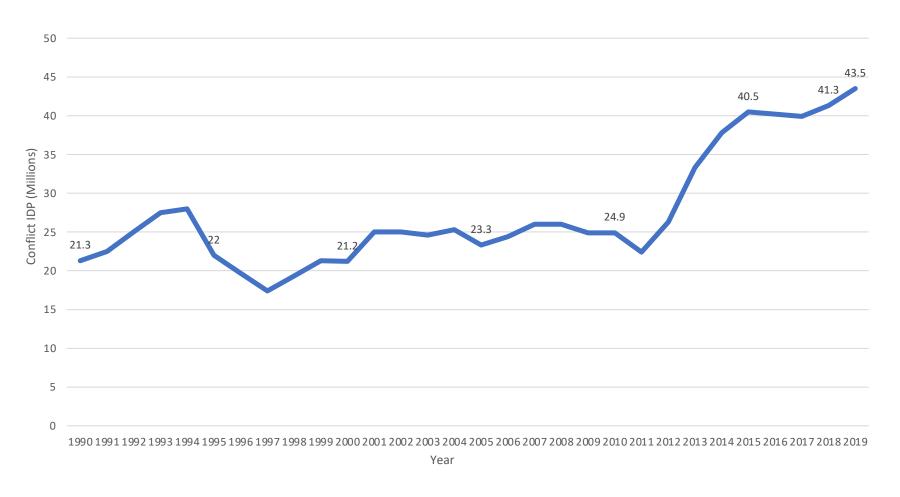




# A Global Perspective

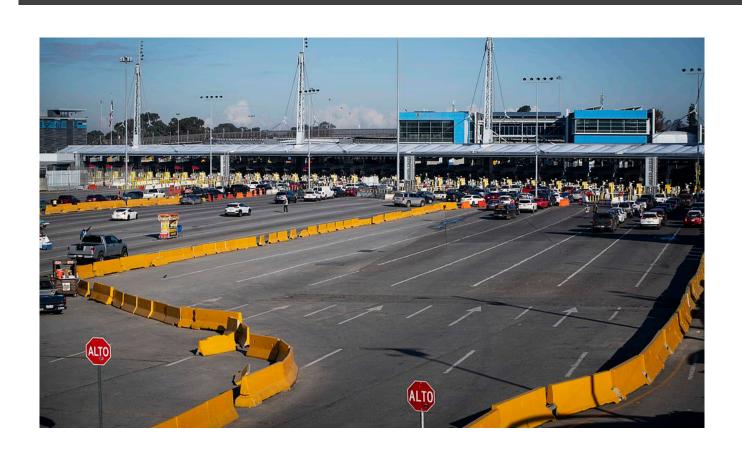
- Internally displaced persons: a large and growing number of people forced to leave their communities but who remain within the borders of their own country.
- Often more vulnerable than refugees
- Out of sight, out of mind. Sketchy data.
- International definition of IDPs includes those forced to leave because of conflicts, human rights violations and disasters
- Under international law, national authorities are responsible for IDPs
- Most of the increase in global displacement is in internal displacement: today around 44 million IDPs, 26 million refugees.

# Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) by Conflict: 1990-2019



Source: Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre Global Internal Displacement Database, 2019

### Internal and cross-border displacement



- Internally displaced first –
   then cross-border
- Returned refugees often become IDPs
- Closing borders
- US policy toward asylumseekers
- Protracted internal displacement – desperate for solutions

# International response to IDPs:

- Complicated because of the pesky issue of national sovereignty
- While refugees can count on a UN Convention, a legally-binding definition of refugees and a UN
  agency (UNHCR) mandated to protect and assist refugees, IDPs face a different reality
- 1998: Guiding Principles on Internal Displacement
- A human rights success story, but still desperate and growing needs
- UN High-Level Panel on Internal Displacement 2020-21

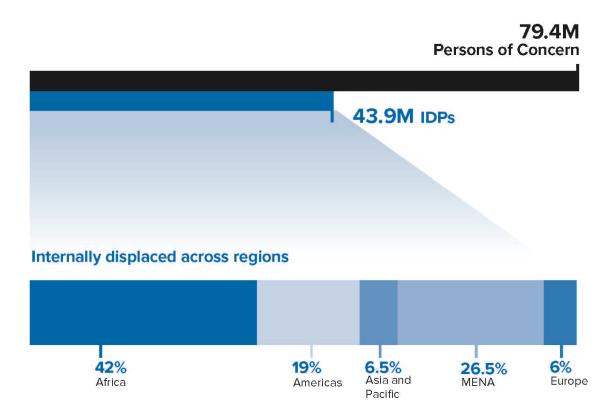


# UNHCR's Response to Internal Displacement

Jana Mason, Senior External Relations Advisor September 2020

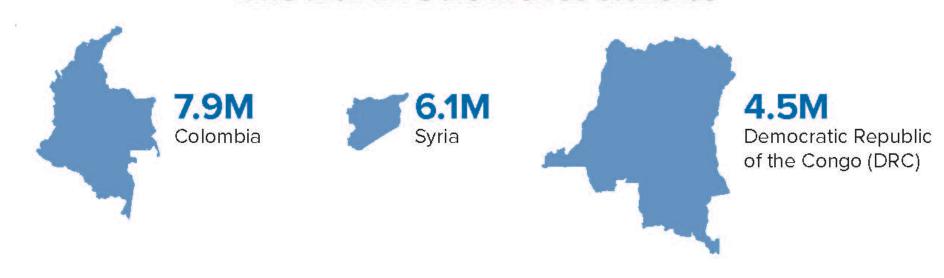


# Population figures at a glance





#### 42% of all IDPs are in three countries



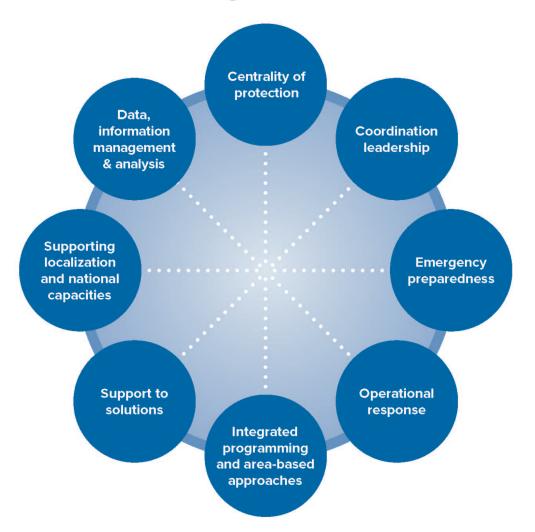


### **UNHCR IDP Initiative: Target Operations**





#### **Keystones**





#### **COLOMBIA**

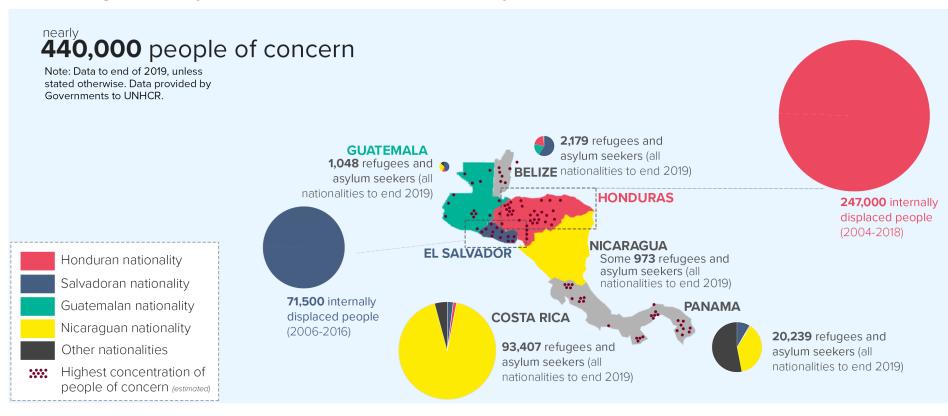


- Protracted displacement situation;
- 7.9 million IDPs;
- Widespread reports of forced recruitment, massacres, and homicides;
- Jan-Aug 2020: over 17k displaced



### **Central America**

#### Refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced people in Central America



4 out 10 countries in the world that generated the most asylum claims in 2019

#### Costa Rica

among the top 10 with most asylum claims in 2019

#### 790,000

Displaced people from NCA (IDPs, refugees & asylum seekers

#### +250,000

Deported in 2019 to NCA

#### +100,000

Nicaraguans that sought international protection



# A&9



we are one family under God

#### Please join us next Wednesday for the next Webinar in our Series

October 7, 2020 (English and Spanish versions of the webinar)

#### Different Ways You Can Support Migrants in Your Community During COVID-19 (2:00 PM)

This workshop will focus on different ways that you can support migrants in your local community during the COVID-19 pandemic. You will hear from advocates, service providers, and local diocesan leaders and learn about different programs and initiatives from across the country that work to support migrants and about how they are adapting their services. You will also have the opportunity to discuss best practices and challenges to providing support to migrants in your community during the pandemic as well as to discuss possible ways to overcome them.

#### Diferentes maneras en que puede apoyar a solicitantes de asilo y otros migrantes en su comunidad durante COVID-19 (3:00 PM)

Este taller se centrará en diferentes maneras en que puede apoyar a los migrantes en su comunidad local durante la pandemia COVID-19. Escuchará a defensores, proveedores de servicios, y líderes diocesanos locales y aprenderá sobre diferentes programas e iniciativas de todo el país que trabajan para apoyar a los migrantes y cómo están adaptando sus servicios. También tendrá la oportunidad de discutir las mejores prácticas y desafíos para proporcionar apoyo a los migrantes en su comunidad durante la pandemia, así como para discutir posibles maneras de superarlos.

Sarah Hoff, Moderator, USCCB/MRS
Bishop Bruce Lewandowski, Archdiocese of Baltimore
Lisa Lungren, USCCB/MRS
Elena Segura, Archdiocese of Chicago
Isaac Cuevas, Archdiocese of Los Angeles
Diana Otero, Catholic Charities of San Francisco