STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS AND INCREASE PROTECTION FACTORS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA LIBERTAD
SOLUCIONES PROJECT
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<td>ADESCO</td>
<td>Asociación de Desarrollo Comunal – Community Development Association</td>
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<td>CDMYPE</td>
<td>Centros de Desarrollo de Micro y Pequeñas Empresas – Small Business Development Centers</td>
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<td>CNSCC</td>
<td>Consejo Nacional de Seguridad Ciudadana y Convivencia – National Board of Public Security and Coexistence</td>
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<td>COMURES</td>
<td>Corporación de Municipalidades de la República de El Salvador – Association of Municipalities in the Republic of El Salvador</td>
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<td>CMPV</td>
<td>Comité Municipal de Prevención de la Violencia – Municipal Committee on the Prevention of Violence</td>
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<tr>
<td>CONAMYPE</td>
<td>Comisión Nacional de la Micro y Pequeña Empresa – National Commission for Micro and Small Enterprises</td>
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<tr>
<td>DYGESTIC</td>
<td>Dirección General de Estadísticas y Censos – General Directorate of Statistics and Census</td>
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<td>EHPM</td>
<td>Encuesta de Hogares de Propósitos Múltiples – Multi-purpose Household Surveys</td>
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<td>ENPV</td>
<td>Estrategia Nacional de Prevención de Violencia – National Violence Prevention Strategy</td>
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<td>FEPADE</td>
<td>Fundación Empresarial para el Desarrollo Educativo – Corporate Foundation for Educational Development</td>
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<td>FODES</td>
<td>Fondo de Desarrollo Económico y Social de los Municipios – Municipal Economic and Social Development Fund</td>
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<td>FUNDE</td>
<td>Fundación Nacional para el Desarrollo – National Development Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>FUSADES</td>
<td>Fundación Salvadoreña para el Desarrollo Económico y Social – Salvadoran Economic and Social Development Foundation</td>
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<td>FUSAL</td>
<td>Fundación Salvadoreña para la Salud y el Desarrollo Humano – Salvadoran Foundation for Health and Human Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>INSAFORP</td>
<td>Instituto Salvadoreño de Formación Profesional – Salvadoran Institute for Vocational Training</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISDEMU</td>
<td>Instituto Salvadoreño para el Desarrollo de la Mujer – The Salvadoran Institute for Women’s Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>ISNA</td>
<td>Instituto Salvadoreño para la Protección de la Niñez y la Adolescencia – The Salvadoran Institute for the Protection of Children and Adolescents</td>
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<tr>
<td>IUDOP</td>
<td>Instituto Universitario de Opinión Pública – University Public Opinion Institute</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAG</td>
<td>Ministerio de Agricultura y Ganadería – Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock</td>
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<tr>
<td>MINED</td>
<td>Ministerio de Educación – Ministry of Education</td>
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<td>MINSAL</td>
<td>Ministerio de Salud – Ministry of Health</td>
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<td>MJSP</td>
<td>Ministerio de Justicia y Seguridad Pública – Ministry of Justice and Public Security</td>
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<td>OIT</td>
<td>Organización Internacional del Trabajo – International Labor Organization</td>
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<td>PNUD</td>
<td>Programa de las Naciones Unidas para el Desarrollo – United Nations Development Program</td>
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<td>UCSF</td>
<td>Unidad Comunitaria de Salud Familiar – Community Family Health Unit</td>
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<td>UNESCO</td>
<td>Organización de las Naciones Unidas para la Educación, la Ciencia y la Cultura – United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture</td>
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<td>UNICEF</td>
<td>Fondo para la Infancia de las Naciones Unidas – United Nations Children’s Fund</td>
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<td>USAID</td>
<td>Agencia de los Estados Unidos para el Desarrollo Internacional – US Agency for International Development</td>
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INTRODUCTION

The SolucionES partnership is led by the Corporate Foundation for Educational Development (FEPADE), together with its partners National Development Fund (FUNDE), the Salvadoran Foundation for Health and Social Development (FUSAL), Glasswing International and the Salvadoran Economic and Social Development Foundation (FUSADES), with the support from the US Agency for International Development (USAID).

SolucionES aims to contribute to violence prevention, through the strengthening of local governments, increasing private investment for violence prevention and preparation of studies on this topic. This project indeed seeks to encourage the involvement of the private sector in the area of violence prevention.

Social welfare in its broadest sense, is a very important concept linked to peaceful and harmonious coexistence of human groups in a same space. Different activities are being developed by El Salvador government institutions and civil organizations, geared towards the consolidation of social welfare; under theoretical principles, this must be based on respect for others, for things and the environment that we live in and where we carry out our daily activities.

El Salvador is still a dangerous country, which has very troubling violence rates despite the drop in the homicides statistics. It is important to work on the creation of a less insecure environment and slow down the deterioration of the social fabric resulting from so much violence, to address the crucial risk factors, such as family conflicts, the few options for optimum development of basic social skills, or the limited educational and working opportunities for so many youths, to name a few.

Although the reduction of crime is not sustainable in time, it should in itself generate a minimum environment of security and trust for the Salvadoran population. However, it is possible to conclude that the population shows a low mark of confidence on the institutions in charge of public security and considers that the
STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS AND INCREASE PROTECTION FACTORS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS (NNAJ) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA LIBERTAD

Three priority components have been considered for this intervention:

2. Involvement of the private sector on crime and violence prevention.
3. Investigations for crime and violence prevention

work of institutions that contribute to violence prevention are more reliable, such as churches or the municipalities. This is where the role of the local governments is decisive.

According to the Participative Violence Assessment from the Municipality of La Libertad from October 2, 2015 which was carried out by FUNDE in the mentioned municipality, there is “(a) there is an epidemic situation of violence where the crime rates in the municipality exceed the departmental and national levels, with the exception of the homicide rate, which in 2014, stood at 27.3 homicides for each 100 thousand inhabitants; (b) the denunciations of criminal acts during the last three years, were reduced by 28.7% and in absolute numbers, all of the crimes had a considerable reduction, except for culpable homicide and robberies; (c) the urban center is the area with the greatest amount of criminal incidence in the municipality; approximately 1 out of every 3 crimes were reported occurred in this zone; (d) 61.4 % of the victims were male and 38.6% females; (e) nearly 45 % of the victims had an age range between 0 and 29 years of age; (f) 50 % of the criminal
acts occur between 08:00 and 16:00 hours; (g) 60% of all of the sexual assaults are violations, including rape; (h) violation is the only crime where most of the affected victims are females; (i) sexual assaults are offences that mainly affect girls, since 85% of these occur in females between 0 to 19 years of age.”

In this regard, it is very important to keep in mind the violence prevention practices that are, or have been carried out in the Municipality of La Libertad, as well as the ones that occur around the country in general, in order to obtain valid referents. Prevention practices can contribute to making the reduction of crimes a lot more sustainable, to the extent that they may be oriented with precision, to control the risk factors associated with violence. For this reason, the focus on the analysis of factors must be based on risk factors that aim to control, and on the protection factors that are implemented by the programs, to offer solutions to the situation of violence in the country.

This document shows the results obtained from an investigative process that was executed in 10 districts that form the Municipality of La Libertad, whereby some reviews were obtained from the resident population and key personal from other institutions, as part of the social fabric of this municipality. Additionally, we sought to detect the persistency and coexistence of the population to risk factors and its culture; just as the strategies which in time, have served them better and have generated the expected impact within the communities.
BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Territorial context

This study took place in the Municipality of La Libertad, Department of La Libertad, which is one of the 22 municipalities that form the Department. This municipality has an altitude of 10 meters above sea level; the distance from San Salvador and vice versa is 32 kilometers; to the north, it borders with the Municipalities of Comasagua, Santa Tecla, Zaragoza, San José Villanueva, Huizúcar, Rosario de Mora and Panchimalco (these last two municipalities belong to the Department of San Salvador); to the east, with the Municipalities of Olocuilta and San Luis Talpa (both from the department of La Paz), to the south with the Pacific Ocean and to the west with the Municipality of Tamanique. It is divided administratively in three districts, 10 in three districts, 10 cantons and 60 villages, besides its 18 settlements.

The area of the municipality is Kms\(^2\), which represents 9.8% of the department’s total area, with 159 km\(^2\) of rural area and 3 km\(^2\) urban areas. It is located with the following geographic coordinates: 13° 32’ 47” in the far north and 13° 25’ 03” N on the south end of the municipality and east to west between the coordinates 89° 08’ 18” E y 89° 22’ 53” O.\(^1\)

The city of La Libertad communicates with the city of San Salvador through the CA045 road, with the road that interconnects with the municipalities of Zaragoza and Santa Tecla, with San Luis Talpa and San Juan Talpa (both located in the department of La Paz), CA02E, paved roads and in very good condition; with the municipalities of San José Villanueva and Comasagua (of its same department) through ballasted dirt roads that allow easy circulation during the rainy season. The rest of districts and villages are linked with the department head through ballasted dirt roads.

Mapa 1. Map showing the geographic division of the Department of La Libertad

Source: CDMYPE, Matías Delgado University.

Below is a detail of the dominant economic activities:

- Crafts: producers/women associations.
- Trade: activities destined to retail business from the formal and informal sectors predominate.

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Conceptual context

SOCIAL VIOLENCE

It is recognized that until 2015, the Salvadoran society is affected by high levels of violence, crime and fear that restrict the freedom of persons, affecting their quality of life and harmonious coexistence, limiting their human development options and eroding the Rule of Law and democracy.

It is also recognized that under the problem currently being faced by the country, youths are the most affected part of the population; several world, regional and national publications have also centered on the future situation and perspectives of youths. A common message seems to be that nowadays, youths are facing the risk of being unable to access the traditional social inclusion and mobility mechanisms such as education and work; should they be forced to leave their country of origin and look for opportunities elsewhere, they could fall prey as victims or victims of violence, of being politically set aside and being unable to fully exercise their citizen rights, of not reaching their full potential and not having the conditions to contribute to society corresponding to them.

El Salvador acknowledges that violence and insecurity is concentrated in territories that are characterized by their high levels of social exclusion, convergence of risk factors, of restricted access to public services and weak coordination of the services in a context of cultural patterns.


that bear and replicate violence, and of families being undermined during the fulfillment of their mission to socialize.4

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In its overall picture (September 2015) according to the World Bank, the Salvadoran economy has started to make a slow recovery in the last few years. Between 2011 and 2013, it grew by 1.9 % per year, but below the Latin American and Caribbean average (3.7 %). In 2014, growth was 2 %; in 2015, there was a growth of 2.3 %. The climate of uncertainty translates into being the economy with the least private investment of the Central American region at 13.3 %5. These two key elements of the country’s life impede and constrain the possibilities of reaching human development and a better quality of life for the young population and especially, development opportunities for women and young men who represent more than 30% of the total country’s population.

YOUTH AND GENDER IN EL SALVADOR

There are about one million 757 thousand youths in El Salvador, which represents 28% of the population. Of this percentage 49% are men and 51% women; 62% live in the urban areas and 38% in the rural areas. Moreover, 4 out of every 10 youths are poor, 3 are relatively poor and 1 lives in extreme poverty conditions. Of this group, women face a more unfavorable situation. They are worse off in terms of accessing the job markets, such as jobs without social protection in private companies or in domestic work. In addition, fewer women participate in the job markets, particularly because of the limits posed to the female gender in the form of maternity and housework. The differences of gender are notable, even among the most underprivileged. In fact, the chance that a young woman will either not study or work is three times higher than that of a young man6. Victimization suffered by youth resulting from the insecurity situation, is also added to the above. As a matter of fact, in 2014 and many of these deaths were linked to gang violence, where the youths were counted among their more frequent victims.

At the time of any survey, the Salvadoran society coincides in pointing out that violence is one of the main problems the country has. The population believes that gangs are the main cause of the problem, which even though victims of all different ages are targeted, it mainly affects the young population: the homicide rate of persons between 18 and 30 years doubles the national rate; virtually all of the fatalities are men7.

The Latin American Youth Organization (OJU) states that the messages contrast with the young population’s expectations regarding their future. For example, notwithstanding that the young population has evaluated the quality of life in their countries as fair, in Latin American most of the youths think that in five years’ time, the situation in their countries will have improved.

7. Ídem ant.
This expectation increases their opinion regarding their future personal life, which is complemented by encouraging messages of confidence in their own capacities to shape the future they wish to have.8

EDUCATION

Currently in El Salvador, social welfare is a very important topic and the government institutions, international organizations and society in general are making great efforts to enhance this issue. However, the social problems continue to affect the Salvadoran population in different areas. First and foremost, education; according to the UNDP’s human development report it states that the educational systems does not ensure the development of its capacities; according to the national standardized achievement tests, the quality of the available education system is not able to develop adequate academic formation and it also does not extend the correct vocational training. Also, as a result of school dropouts, 30% of the economically active and young population has barely even had primary studies; therefore, the little education received does not comply with the promise of social mobility.

According to the United Nations Organization for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO), the educational development sector is linked to the development of the country itself, since investments in operational, technical and scientific skills training for the country’s human resources, helps the people to perform their occupational promotion and leadership work for the development of the national economies with greater efficiency.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Opportunities for the young population in the labor markets are limited. More than 40% works in unskilled, low stability activities; this restricts the possibility that work will be a source of achievement and satisfaction. Worse still, more than half of the young population has none or very few possibilities to access any job. As a matter of fact, 21 out of every 100 youths (24.8 % of the Salvadoran youths) do not study or work; therefore their expectations for the future are hopelessly compromised unless their situation makes a sudden radical turn9. On gender-related issues, it is estimated that young men have greater participation in the job market (being busy or looking for a job) than women, as 61.5 % of the young women are economically inactive. 28.3% of the young people that are working, receive salaries that are below the minimum wage rank. The salaries of adolescents that do not study, range between USD$131 up to USD$295 per month, the young adults between $169 and USD$353 per month and adult youths between USD$197 and USD$452. This percentage has not changed in over 20 years, which means that youth employment is not one of the country’s priorities10. The unemployment rate among young people is nearly double that of the national unemployment rate. What is even more serious is that in the extremely poor subgroup it is 8 points higher

10. Youth employment analysis in El Salvador 2013. OIT.
than the average rate for young persons and nearly 4 times greater than the national rate.\textsuperscript{11}

**SOCIAL COEXISTENCE**

In point of fact, coexistence is a way of existing, of being specific of human beings; somehow, we can say that all things coexist in the universe and also gives us conditions of some type of independence. However, while all of the things are being offered to us as passive subjects of that coexistence, man is presented to us as an active subject, an actor, a player. That is why among all of the possible aspects of human life, it is possible to highlight a new one: the study of coexistence. In other words, the base and basis for coexistence is social interaction, which is a more or less conscious active participation in space and time of relations of men and women in community\textsuperscript{12}.

Salvadoran society and with a greater impact in young people has occurred under an “abnormal normalcy”, in dehumanizing relations that do not recognize another individual as a person. This type of society has caused young people to grow up in an environment where the social relations have been undermined, which are the basic structures under which the human being develops as a person and as a member of the community. This decline of social coexistence is in itself a severe disruption that reduces the collective ability to work and assert the distinct identify of social development. The deterioration of coexistence and of the constant violence environment promote the idea of a “superhero” on the child-adolescent, so that he, in order to survive – becomes more likely to keep up a constant fight against “the others” or simply seeks to stand out. Even though this is seen as a natural thing during this phase of life, and particularly during adolescence, the psychological identification with force (even if it’s illegitimate or illegal) might not be serious, unless the Salvadoran youths have found organized spaces to carry out this fantasy; in such a case, we would observe the affiliation to the gangs.

A series of identities are highlighted in the gangs: to be young, poor and excluded; outcast and with a strong macho culture. These statements establish different “us” that are distanced from “others”; they acquire different forms that can be more or less antagonistic and threatening for social cohesion, or leading to conflict that may seem irresolvable; at the same time, they do not have a tangible reason, making it even more difficult to address. If these multiple identities are not identified or understood and if there are no ways of pre-

\textsuperscript{11} Multi-purpose household surveys (EHPM), DYGESTIC, 2012.

\textsuperscript{12} Social actions in and with the community, Marchioni, M, 2004.
venting the progressive dehumanization of one another, they run the risk having a long lasting conflict.13.

Another issue that affects the identity of the Salvadoran youth is the grown up look that rests upon them and that in the context of violence, it is charged with negativity, which is a suspension of indefinite nature over the intra-family communications processes, in case one can count with an established core; on the other hand, social deterioration is harbored as a result of family disintegration.14

YOUTH RESILIENCE – PROTECTIVE FACTORS

The family is the only institution that remains through the history of humanity. Family is defined as a human group that is united by a bond of consanguinity, or without these bonds and lives together in what is considered a home where expressions of affection and values are exchanged and there is mutual protection. The family is thus recognized as the primary child and youth socialization center and throughout the process of growth and development of a child; he can be accompanied, or could be overprotected or abandoned if he has to face the daily reality at some point in time, together with the risks that this action brings about. The family will play a crucial role and could be the guide that will accompany a child all the way from birth until he achieves full autonomy, at the end of his late teens.15

After reading the opinion of young adolescents included in the “Study: Youths 99”, we were able to note that when they speak about the value of the families, 92% believes that “the child needs a father and a mother to have a happy life” and that “the family provides that stability that cannot be found elsewhere (86 %)” and also, that “the time dedicated to the children’s education is the most important job that parents have, even if this means earning less money (82 %)”16.

Any one person will be less frail when the resistance is greater in case of an assault. Each person, child or adolescent can influence their own destiny, bearing in mind the new reference frameworks they are exposed to during their growth, some of them disguised as risk factors and others as protection factors; the latter is where the family plays a leading role. The term “resiliency” is comes from physics; it refers to the capacity of the body to withstand, of being strong and not become distorted. Adapting this term to human beings, resiliency would be the capacity to prevail, grow, be strong and even to succeed despite adverse fate; in more advanced approaches, we can also take the capacity to adapt to experiencing an incomplete achievement of personal goals into account. Certain characteristics or personal or contextual conditions are capable of neutralizing or moderate the impact of exposure to risk, being a subject of study of the reasons why some individuals that grow up under adverse situations seem to live in a healthy and productive manner, while others

are never able to overcome the adversities experienced during the first few years.

Resiliency will be based on the protective factors of each person, whilst vulnerability will depend on the personal deficit aspects and its surroundings. The sensitizing and hardening experiences that life offers will be the best way to face all and any adverse experiences that may arise through exposure control.

THE REALITY OF THE YOUTH ON THE APPROACH OF SOCIAL PROJECTS

It is important that successful experiences are repeated in El Salvador and that from a historical approach one can compare the development of the projects that are directed at youths, using the projects that have made a great impact in this field as reference. The building of a violence approach has come about through contributions from many regions, each one of which has their own vision of the phenomenon that makes their view a rich one and singles them out; similarly, each one is conditioned by contexts from different political, economic and state organizational characteristics, to name some. The understanding of the characteristics of the country, the presence of violence and the level under which these methods will be analyzed and the effects of these phenomena, are factors that contribute to the strength of the projects. There is a lot of information and experiences available regarding the analysis of violence and its linkages with young people, among the countries where violence is a large-scale social reality such as in Brazil and Colombia.17

For Latin America, in the case of Brazil, data of studies from the Interamerican Development Bank (IADB) are being reported, which underscores the fact that the country loses 10.5% per year of the Gross Internal Product (GDP) as a result of acts of violence within and outside of schools. Given that many of the acts of violence occur inside of the school environment, the cost for schools is also quite significant. Additionally, the violation of human rights at schools have a direct relation with the increase of school dropouts. In this case, the costs and consequences could be greater due to the loss of productivity of the students-victims, as well as by committing the training of citizenry on the victims. Different statistical data are mentioned that describe the increase of children and adolescents involved in acts of violence, which is intensified through access and availability of fire arms and to drug traffic—related organized crime. The culture of violence associated to exclusion was a key factor on the approaches of the “Paz nas Escolas” program. In its outlook, it states that violence in the Brazilian schools is a real phenomenon and it is currently being included unavoidably into that nation’s political agenda. The department in charge of executing this program has said that this is a multi-cause and very complex phenomenon that requires more in-depth analysis and studies. Poverty, unemployment, social inequalities and the lack of opportunities for youths, as well as the insufficient and unsuitable presence of the State, increases and intensifies the expressions of violence in the country. Successful Brazilian projects recognize the weight of structural violence and concluded that the impact of violence in schools is much broader than it can seem at first glance, as it conceals structural splits, of which some are evident and others implicit. This does not deal

however, only with a phenomenon restricted to structural socio-economic factors; violence must also be understood as being in the cultural and psychosocial environment of individuals, groups and society. Within the framework of the Skills for Life Program project in Colombia, it underlines that the image of armed violence is very strong, besides the violence that is broadcast through mass communication media and with the existence of entertainment programs loaded with violence-based expressions. All of this bolsters the minds of the persons, where the normal and common is to make war; that the road to conflict resolutions is subjection of the others and others by force 18.

Through a participatory appraisal carried out between 1991 and 1993, this project was able to identify factors that stemmed from exclusion. It found evidence with regards to the living conditions of adolescents that attended their educational centers located in areas where under-privileged social groups were living, specifically in urban marginal zones. It found that besides the poverty components, there also were present insecurity factors, deficiencies in their family relations and assimilation of current values in their surroundings, such as obtaining easy money and violent behaviors as a way to relate to other persons, to name a few. Values such as honesty, non-violent conflict resolution, tolerance or affection seemed far away from reality of a large number of children. The school dropout indexes were very high for 1999: 3.11 % for 5th grade and 9.19 % for 6th grade, especially for the underprivileged groups. The dramatic nature of violence at schools in Europe is a reality that is ever present in the view of national reality and derives in support of projects structuring.

As a historical fact, during year 1983 three adolescent males from the north of Norway committed suicide, which was a consequence of severe intimidation on the part of their peers. From that moment on, the Ministry of Education of that country commissioned Dan Olweus to carry out a large scale investigation and develop a project for these types of problems. Later on, during years 1989-1990, the issue of bullying began to play a prominent position in the mass communications media and was also a serious public concern for the English population. By then, the Department of Education (DFE) had not yet carried out any specific actions with regards to the issue of bullying and it had also not been considered as a topic of great importance in the educational sector. Nevertheless, one of the first studies carried out by a local university attracted the attention of the communications media, when it was pointed out that the findings suggested that the ‘bullying’ rates were quite considerable and even in two of the surveyed schools this data was double of what had been found in Norway. From that point on the media began publishing phrases such as “Is Great Britain the bullying capital of Europe?” Said affirmation was unjustified as at that time there was insufficient information in that respect; it was useful however, as it opened the eyes of the public opinion. This is how the enabling conditions were established for the design and implementation of the project against bullying in Sheffield 19.


It is possible to mention that in the framework of projects in Spain and within the reality of school life, there are strong conflicts, abusive and ill treatments between students and projects emerge that are looking to include prevention within the educational system, where previously there was no space for social development aspects and the value of emotional and affective development was almost completely ignored.  

Annex 1 details concepts relevant to the investigation.

STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS AND INCREASE PROTECTION FACTORS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS (NNAJ) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA LIBERTAD
METHODOLOGICAL PROCESS

The current investigation carried out a survey on risk and protection factors, which is centered on identifying the perceptions relative to the experiences of the target population with regards to the mentioned risk. There was a need to discover apparent issues on the way people think, feel or act, to find out how these can turn into clear ideas that delimit a starting point (positive precept) and those that can evidence the outcomes of interactions with the population on factors that are considered adverse (negative precept).

This was a cross-cutting investigative process; the gathering of information was conducted in accordance with the actions that were facilitated by the municipalities and by other projects\(^1\). We have attempted to analyze and rescue the experiences and results of developed actions, of some general limitations and recommendations by the target population and participating institutions.

The current investigation includes a participative process, as for part of the process; different actors have already become involved and they contributed with their opinion regarding the review and study of the situation in the selected areas of the municipality. For this we worked with:

a) Women and NNAJ (children, adolescents and youths).

b) The technical team from other involved institutions.

The following technical-operational sequence was followed for the development of the investigation of the basic and necessary steps, as shown under Scheme 1.

**Sampling plan**

One of the priorities to conduct the sampling plan was the representativeness of the target population for the investigation, founded on two investigative logics: a quantitative logic and a qualitative logic.

---

A representative sample was obtained with the quantitative logic; this led to the establishment of statistical parameters of central tendency the results of which can be extrapolated to the population in general and whose data was based on La Libertad municipality’s projections.
ranges. Only 15.2% of the surveyed persons are older than 36 years. Below is a detail of the sample calculation process.

**Table 1. Projection of the population from the La Libertad Municipality.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
<th>2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>40,337</td>
<td>40,696</td>
<td>41,047</td>
<td>41,371</td>
<td>41,662</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Projections according to gender and age**


**Table 2. Share relative to gender and age of the population from the Municipality La Libertad.**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age range</th>
<th>Men</th>
<th>Women</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>from 0 to 15 years</td>
<td>18.95 %</td>
<td>18.09 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from 16 to 29 years</td>
<td>13.34 %</td>
<td>14.23 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>from 30 to 59 years</td>
<td>12.51 %</td>
<td>15.04 %</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older than 60 years</td>
<td>3.54 %</td>
<td>4.31 %</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Will not be taken into account in the study unless it is part of the target population.


**SAMPLE CALCULATION**

The sample calculation was based on projections made for year 2016 and are disaggregated by age group and gender of the potential persons to be interviewed, details follow:

\[
n = \frac{k^{2}p^{*}q^{*}N}{(e^{2}(N-1)) + k^{2}p^{*}q}
\]

**Chart 1. Relative proportion and distribution for gender and age of the inhabitants of the Municipality of La Libertad, in accordance with the 2016 Projections.**

**Men**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From 0 to 15 years</td>
<td>48.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 16 to 29 years</td>
<td>18.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 30 to 59 years</td>
<td>13.34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older than 60 years</td>
<td>12.51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>48.26</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Women**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>From 0 to 15 years</td>
<td>18.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 16 to 29 years</td>
<td>14.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>From 30 to 59 years</td>
<td>15.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Older than 60 years</td>
<td>4.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>51.74</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Population outside of the study.


In total, we obtained a universe of 34 thousand 397 persons. Below is a detail of the formula used to calculate the size of the sample:

- \( N \): is the size or universe of the population (total number of possible surveyed).
- \( k \): is a constant that depends on the level of confidence we assign. The level of confidence indicates the probability that the results from our investigations are true: 95.5% confidence
is the same as saying that we cannot be wrong with a 4.5% probability.

The most used $k$ values and their levels of confidence are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>$k$</th>
<th>1.15</th>
<th>1.28</th>
<th>1.44</th>
<th>1.65</th>
<th>1.96</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>2.58</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Level of confidence</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>95%</td>
<td>95.5%</td>
<td>99%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

A value of $k$ of 85% was used for the case because not all of the persons with the N population have formed part of the activities of the SolucionEs project; also, it was not possible to project the benefits of the Violence Prevention Committee or of the Municipality at a percentage higher than 85%.

$e$: is the desired sample error. The sample error is the difference that may exist between the result we obtain from asking to a sample of the population and what we would obtain if we would ask for the total of the population.

$p$: is the ratio of individuals that have the characteristic of survey within the population. Generally, this information is unknown and is often assumed that $p=q=0.5$, which is the safest option.

$q$: is ratio of individuals that have this characteristic; in other words, it is $1-p$.

$n$: is the size of the sample (number of surveys that were carried out).

Taking into account:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>N</th>
<th>k</th>
<th>e</th>
<th>p</th>
<th>q</th>
<th>n</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>34,000</td>
<td>1.44</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>0.5</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The total amount of 206 surveys was divided in the 10 districts that make up the Municipality of La Libertad, having an average sample requirement of 21 surveys for each district.

**IN-DEPTH INTERVIEWS**

This study used the phenomenological qualitative research method as a tool to reconstruct history, based on the provisions generated by the “key personnel” from institutions from the social fabric. This is a descriptive exploratory and analytical study. The data obtained from the interviews are presented with the complement of the research report.

This methodological proposal is justified by the need to look for comprehensive and relevant knowledge about perception.

The implementation of the qualitative methodology in a violence prevention environment makes it possible to investigate other points of view by individuals and groups. The aim is to build expertise that can contribute to planning from the social inclusion perspective, seeking the participation of most of the groups.

Qualitative investigation the analysis of the micro-process takes precedence as it takes up specific points regarding individual perception, such as the individual and group social action studies. In this case, it is very important to accomplish the investigation of isolated and individual perceptions, where the wealth of personal experiences leads each individual to develop a level of acceptance or rejection, in the specific case of the existence of risk factors within the municipality and the existence of protective factors for the population within the violence prevention framework.
It is very significant to include the viewing of the representatives for each explored dimension. In this investigative model, interpretation is characterized by the intensive analysis of data and its heterodoxy. The range of materials obtained in a qualitative manner required analytical and integration capacity on the part of the research team. This model made it possible to respond to the generation of impact conclusions without tying it to an extended period.

Table 5. Description of the target population according to the search for their characteristics and perception.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Population</th>
<th>Characteristics</th>
<th>Explored Perception</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**METHOD USED DURING INTERVIEWS**

Efforts were made during the collection of information meetings with the participants; these would be held in areas where they could feel comfortable and would be private, such as from the same institution where they came from (Morse & Field 1995); these were 45 minute-long semi-structured interviews preserving the in-depth characteristics (Arksey & Knight 1999); so these get-togethers were held in offices and available spaces, depending on their preference. According to their own words, the information was presented as an everyday conversation, which allowed the interviewee to talk about the facts in a detailed manner (Strauss & Corbin 2002); this was made possible thanks to textual transcriptions of the interviews, to back the meanings and interpretation presented in the results of the study. Once the transcriptions of the interviews had been drafted, we began on an open coding, analyzing perceptions, looking to extract the mentioned meanings from this fact.

According to Silvia Elena Cassiani and María Cecilia Almeida (1999), the ethical obligation with the participants is to reveal the perceptions in a mass scale so that these experiences can be taken as a referent for them or for persons who surround them.

Whenever we referred to their experiences and testimonies, the names of the participants were not disclosed, to preserve the identity of the participants of the study; additionally, we used an alphabetic code system to describe the location of the perceptions.

In summary and based on a qualitative logic, three focus groups and six in-depth interviews were held with persons responsible from other institutions that were related to the execution of the SolucioES project. The in-depth interviews were addressed with actors distributed in the following manner:
Table 6. Typology of the participating population on the gathering of information from the “in-depth interviews”, key population of the “Study of strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Geographical Area of Influence</th>
<th>No. of interviews</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head of the Social Promotions Department (PS).</td>
<td>Municipality of La Libertad.</td>
<td>Municipality of La Libertad.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotor of the Municipality</td>
<td>Municipality of La Libertad</td>
<td>District San Alfredo.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of the Women’s House.</td>
<td>Casa de la Mujer San Alfredo.</td>
<td>District Melara.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental and Sanitation Technical Expert.</td>
<td>Acua (Non-governmental Organization).</td>
<td>District Cimarrón.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotor of the Municipality.</td>
<td>Municipality of La Libertad.</td>
<td>District Tepeagua.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotor of the Municipality.</td>
<td>Municipality of La Libertad.</td>
<td>District Melara.</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Fonte: FUNDE, 2016

**Analysis on research development**

The research process was divided into three large phases:

**PHASE 1**

Coordination with Technical Experts from FUNDE, representatives from the Municipal Violence Prevention Committee (from hereon CMPV) and local actors. The first step during this phase was to review the instruments to be used through a focus group at the facilities of FUNDE, with the technical team that is present at the Municipality of La Libertad. After this step, there was a first get-together with the CMPV from La Libertad, in order for the committee to standardize some investigative interests that were included in the instruments. Afterwards, a level of direct work was consolidated with the department of “Social Promotion” of the Municipality of La Libertad; a total of four promoters were chosen to perform the accompaniment in seven districts: San Rafael, El Cimarrón, Tepeagua, Melara, Santa Cruz, Cangrejera and San Alfredo. In the case of San Diego, Toluca and El Majahual additional management efforts were consolidated with other local actors, to cover the territorial demand of the survey.

**PHASE 2**

Conducting surveys. During this process, there were eight interviewers that were sent to the different districts; a pre-designed survey was used for the collection of data, which was adjusted to the platform for MAGPI mobiles, producing a total of 44 reactive during a period of time of 10 to 15 minutes. The meetings with the population were carried out together
with personnel from the municipality that had been selected for that purpose; the invitation to meet was done through the ADESCOS and community leaders; on average, they made 22 surveys per district, divided into groups of the population detailed in the inclusion and exclusion criteria. Each survey was georeferenced in order to translate the areas where actions that are more specific are required into a mapping scheme.

**PHASE 3**

Semi-structured interviews according to gender, age and origin. This study used the phenomenological qualitative research method as a tool to describe findings in greater detail and offer greater precision within the series of strategies. A second data collection instrument was used for this purpose and these interviews were carried out during a maximum period of 45 minutes, taking into account the population described in the previous chapter.

The respective processes of phases 1 and 2 presented a degree of simultaneity, and taking a factor of advantage of having carried out the visits and coordination with the actors from the social fabric prior to the processes. The data collection process of the research lasted approximately four weeks, during which time the necessary processes were carried out; additionally, data tabulation was also carried out during this same period.

Other variables were taken into account during the research process, to have a better adjustment of the form of development of the process. In this specific case, variables such as the readiness of the communities, the security to enter them, the freedom to be able to use mobile phones and drafting of questions related to the security axis within the district, were some of the limitations that were overcome through prior management, the notification of the visit by community leaders and the need of the population to demonstrate improvement processes within their communities.
STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS AND INCREASE PROTECTION FACTORS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS (NNAJ) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA LIBERTAD
RESULTS

Characterization of violence and insecurity that touches women and NNAJ

The results obtained from the “Study of strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protection factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad” are presented based on the gender, age range and origin variables.

Three relevant areas were identified, which offer improvement opportunities, such as: a) Improvement of the security conditions and recovery of spaces, b) Educational opportunities, y c) Opportunities for employability (employment or self-employment); based on the inputs from the resident population at the districts for employability purposes (employment or self-employment); this is based on the reflections by the resident population from the districts that are included in this research, as well as the key population that belongs to other social fabric institutions.

In this regard, the series of recommendations and strategies must be understood as a bank of management initiatives and are mainly aimed at the CMPV and the municipality. The CMPV has the role of management representative body between the local and the central governments. Initially, as can be noted under Figure 3, the greater part of the persons that were surveyed was under 35 years, or 83.6 % of the population. According to the points raised in the original planning, the children, adolescents and women have been given priority participation. The frequency of the surveys remained uniform, with an average of 22 surveys per district, as seen under Figure No. 4.

Figure 3. Gender and age ratio recorded for surveyed persons within the “Study of strategies to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

Source: FUNDE, 2016
DATA DERIVED FROM THE SURVEY

Figure No. 3 highlights the relative distribution to gender and age, showing women between 18 and 35 years, which represent 67.3% of the surveyed population, as the largest part of the population. This data reflects a complete harmony with the project’s target population: “girls, boys, adolescents, youths and women from the Municipality of La Libertad, Department of La Libertad.” Figure No. 4 also details the demographic frequencies for each one of the districts; this process in some cases was not carried out in an equitable manner due to difficulties with the facility of convening, access and security conditions in the territory.

From the “recovery of spaces” approach, according to Figure No. 5 two very clear problems are compared, which shows that the greater part of the population states that the biggest problems can be found between the variables of Neighborhoods with gang presence and dysfunctional families with highlighted percentages, which indicates there is a clear need to bring youth closer to educational processes (mainly soft skills\(^22\)) and eliminate the influence of the negative peers that are found in the communities. There is a clear wear of the population on this line, as they do not find a direct relation between studies and better job opportunities; on average, the families are made up of 5 to 7 members\(^23\), which generate a high probability of remaining in a

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\(^22\) http://www.ignasialcalde.es/soft-skills-habilidades-blandas-en-las-organizaciones/

\(^23\) Interview carried out with community promoters.
For that matter, the projects should ensure a greater investment model with this approach. Additionally, agencies linked to aspects like labor (labor intermediation, employment and self-employment) should be incorporated into the CMPV, to create the minimum conditions and generate revenues; as for example in this case, 100% of the surveyed persons in working age have not held a job with the respective employment benefits, which leads to — among other things — to the creation of an excess demand of public services, where the entrepreneurs from that zone have little involvement.

Figure No. 5 also highlights the percentages relative to the age group, regarding the greater scale risk factor within their community. For women between 10 and 36 years, the biggest problem is the category of “Neighborhoods with gang presence”, while unemployment appears as the second most important risk factor.

Figure No. 6 sets forth the risk factors that are well recognized by the persons surveyed during the study, in view of the reactive that was requesting “arrange the risk factors from largest to smallest, which individually are positioned as those of greater scale” for each one.
of the districts, where the greater tendency was aimed at “neighborhoods with gang presence” with 144 referrals for the first answer option and “Dysfunctional families” with 77 referrals, out of a total of 231 surveys. This data is confirmed under Figure No. 7, which shows that the problem area relative to “Neighborhoods with gang presence” is perceived as the most serious at 59.6% or more for all of the age ranges of the surveyed populations, who have placed this issue as a priority.

In addition, in accordance with the results presented in Figure No. 8, the most dangerous hours are experienced during daytime. In this case, because of the difficulty in accessing the zones and the lighting and pavement conditions, morning hours and night hours usually presents less traffic of persons in the semi urban and rural areas.

From the consultation outcomes, we found that the decentralization of educational services was within the necessary schema to steer appropriate educational opportunities; the opportunities that the Ministry of Education calles “flexible education methods”, as well as the generation of virtual learning settings; in particular because of the conditions of insecurity existing within the districts. The presence
Figure 7. Ratio of the most serious problem areas found by district under the “Study of strategies to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

¿Qué problemática es la más grave dentro de su comunidad? (Porcentaje)

Source: FUNDE, 2016

of the gangs and their control of the territories, represents for the students a clear risk factor at any time of day; they are exposed to the usual perils of assaults, rent money, provocations or physical abuse, “recruitment” and even putting their own lives at risk. When talking about the magnitude of violence in the different districts, we noted greater negative impact in Tepeagua, Toluca and Majahual. Of the protective factors expected by the population, more than 66% of the women were requesting greater police presence and more than 58% of the males surveyed (all less than 15 years old) were also requesting the same. This case, related to Figure No. 8 data, presents its best explanation, which is that “day time” in the districts is more dangerous. This factor contrasts with the idea of regular and daily attendance of students to schools and educational institutes, as it’s the only time that educational services are available.

Regarding employability opportunities, the persons consulted stated that it was necessary to center more on tourism and self-sustainable initiatives. In this case, the Municipality of La Libertad faces a situation of disadvantage; specifically, that most of the persons live in the rural areas and most count with ninth grade education, which surely largely conditions the aspirations of people to access a skilled employment.
Consequently, most of the people will have to dedicate their lives to working in the agricultural or tourism sector, which in the worst of cases will be subsistence employment. It is possible to activate tourism in the different zones included in this research as they become less risky and/or favorable for investment; visitors and investors need to count with sufficient guarantees that neither their lives nor their assets will be exposed in highly conflictive areas. In that regard it is to be expected that Development Objective 1 of the Economic Environment, of the Strategic Participative Plan for the Municipality of La Libertad, from November 2014, will work out, as it is believed that tourism development in the municipality will be boosted through a holistic and participative approach.\textsuperscript{24}

\textsuperscript{24} Strategic Participative Plan from the Municipality of La Libertad. November 2014.
Figure 9. Frequency of school dropout perceptions and unemployment rates within the “Study of strategies to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

![Bar chart showing frequency of school dropout perceptions and unemployment rates.](image)

Source: FUNDE, 2016

Figure No. 10 presents the suggestions provided by the surveyed population to the municipality, regarding the improvements that are need to be done in their communities; it is clear that within the range of the “productive” population, which includes persons from 18 years to 36 years, the suggestion is to “improve the basic services” with 47.20 % and 45.70 % respectively. This trend is marked by the difficulty of having access to potable water within the rural areas of the municipality, as well as other problems associated to sanitation, such as maintenance and construction of latrines and wells. The second trend is marked by the need of having “police security” with 22.80 % and 16.50 % respectively; this factor is closely linked to the perceived insecurity of the inhabitants from the districts and to the need of having greater police presence there.

Figure No. 11, presents a comparative vision through the categories suggested to the municipality as a needs improvement, which contrasts with the problem areas explained as “greater risk factor within the districts.” The three greater problems are exemplified: “basic services, employment and security.” In this case, it is evident that persons detect that the “presence of gangs” is one of the greatest problem areas in their community in 39.6 % of the cases and “access to employment and education” in 42.9 %, and suggest to the municipality to undertake efforts related to access to “potable
Figura 10. Ratio of considerations addressed to the municipality that are set to improve within the communities in the “Study of strategies to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

¿Qué considera que debería mejorar el Alcalde en su comunidad? (Porcentaje por rango de edad)

![Graph showing percentage of considerations addressed to the municipality by age group.]

Source: FUNDE, 2016

Figura 11. Percentage of considerations addressed to the municipality in the process of improvements within the communities in the “Study of strategies to reduce the risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

Lo que debería mejorar el alcalde en la comunidad vs. las problemáticas de la comunidad

![Graph showing percentage of considerations addressed to the municipality and community problems.]

Source: FUNDE, 2016
water, and construction and maintenance of wells and latrines.” Similarly, this phenomenon makes it evident that the population does not relate the issue of – public security – directly with the projects of the municipality; in this respect, they prefer the construction of “appropriate social settings”, which is the basis for the construction of peaceful coexistence. A similar situation occurs in descending order for the suggestions to improve access roads, public security and encouragement of sports activities, which are evident components of a social violence prevention program.

Finally, in Figure No. 12, it is possible to show a clear preference or “empathy” tendency to the – violence prevention – programs executed by non-governmental organizations; in this respect, the population sent clear signals that it has better internalized the programs prior to the study. Additionally, it shows that with the different age groups of the population, there is a clear difference between the local and central government where for the population of “young” people between 18 and 25 years, in 75.8% of the cases they referred an affinity towards NGO’s and the age group between 26 and 35 years, 47% of this group presented the same trend.

DATA DERIVED FROM THE INTERVIEWS

The results obtained from the in-depth interviews conducted among the key population are shown in the systematization matrix, which has already been encoded as precepts.
Table 7. Description of participants in the gathering of information from the “In-Depth Interview”, key population from the “Study of the strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the Municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participants</th>
<th>Gender</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>Head of the Department of Social Promotion (PS).</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>Municipality promoter.</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>Director of the Women Assistance Center [es. Casa de la Mujer].</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D</td>
<td>Environmental Sanitation Technical Expert.</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E</td>
<td>Municipality promoter.</td>
<td>Male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F</td>
<td>Municipality promoter.</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FUNDE, 2016.

Based on this, a total of 6 in-depth interviews were conducted, distributed as follows: three interviews with women (50%) and three aimed at men (50%).

**DESCRIPTIVE CATEGORIES ADDRESSED IN THE INTERVIEWS**

The descriptive categories focused on the level of frequency of a common factor. This represents the same arguments that are considered as “representative” or deemed positively, by the respondent; an assessment of each category was performed in order to identify those that resulted in a higher frequency; these comprise the “units of meaning”.

Table 8. Descriptive categories identified during the “In-Depth Interview”, key population from the “Study of the strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptive category/questioning</th>
<th>Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concerning social risk, what are the main problems in the field of work of your institution?</td>
<td>A 2 B 2 C 2 D 3 E 1 F 1 Total 12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you think that your institution carries out all possible actions in order to address these problems?</td>
<td>A 3 B 2 C 2 D 3 E 2 F 2 Total 14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What actions do you suggest should be taken into account in future planning?</td>
<td>A 2 B 1 C 1 D 2 E 2 F 2 Total 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you familiar with the work of the CMPV? How would you strengthen this work in order to obtain better results?</td>
<td>A 3 B 2 C 3 D 3 E 1 F 1 Total 13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What social factors do you deem appropriate or good in relation to the work of your institution (community organization, territorial scope)?</td>
<td>A 1 B 3 C 1 D 1 E 2 F 2 Total 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>What factors do you consider to be protective within the community?</td>
<td>A 3 B 3 C 1 D 1 E 1 F 2 Total 10</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FUNDE, 2016.
Table 9. Units of meaning identified during the “In-Depth Interview”, key population from the “Study of the strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptive category/questioning</th>
<th>Units of meaning</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concerning social risk, what are the main problems in the field of work of your institution?</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you think that your institution carries out all possible actions in order to address these problems?</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you familiar with the work of the CMPV? How would you strengthen this work in order to obtain better results?</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FUNDE, 2016.

The most representative categories (units of meaning) are extracted from the interviews: concerning social risk, what are the main problems in the field of work of your institution? Do you think that your institution carries out all possible actions in order to address these problems? Are you familiar with the work of the CMPV? How would you strengthen this work in order to obtain better results?

Table 10. Assessment of the descriptive categories identified during the “In-Depth Interview”, key population from the “Study of the strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptive category</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concerning social risk, what are the main problems in the field of work of your institution?</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you think that your institution carries out all possible actions in order to address these problems?</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you familiar with the work of the CMPV? How would you strengthen this work in order to obtain better results?</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Approximate value of units of meaning per respondent</td>
<td>2.16</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FUNDE, 2016.
Table 11. More commonly encountered related precepts for each one of the descriptive categories during the “In-Depth Interview”, key population from the “Study of the strategies to reduce risk factors and increase protective factors for women and NNAJ in the municipality of La Libertad”

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Descriptive category</th>
<th>Precepts</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concerning social risk, what are the main problems in the field of work of your institution?</td>
<td>“Provision of resources”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Territorial Availability”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Technical capacity”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Personnel”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do you think that your institution carries out all possible actions in order to address these problems?</td>
<td>“Yes, it does the work it can do”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Yes, It does help in the best possible way”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Are you familiar with the work of the CMPV? How would you strengthen this work in order to obtain better results?</td>
<td>“Yes, we are part of the Committee”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Allocate more resources”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Include more institutions”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Establish better working axes”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Provide more openness”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>“Improving the dissemination”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: FUNDE, 2016.

CHARACTERIZATION OF EACH DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cantón</th>
<th>Risk factors</th>
<th>Protective factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| San Rafael | Entrance to the district has gang presence.  
Very difficult access.           | Well-equipped and functional school. Community organization. Place not controlled by gangs. |
| Majahual | Areas controlled by territorial conflicts.  
High levels of unemployment.     | High potential for tourism.                                                        |
| Cimarrón | Lighting.  
High levels of unemployment.     | Accessible. Territory not controlled by gangs.                                    |
| Tepeagua | Controlled territories.  
High rates of violence.  
Difficult access.  
Problems in public transportation.  
High school-dropout rate. | Organized population.                                                             |
| San Diego  | Insecurity for inhabitants.  
High levels of unemployment. | High potential for tourism.  
Community organization.  
Private partnerships.            |
| Melara    | Gang presence.  
Low employability. | Community organization.                                                           |
| Cangrejera | Poor lighting.  
Little police presence.  
Street pavement.  
Potable water. | Institutional personnel committed to the area and good community relations. |
CHARACTERIZATION OF EACH DISTRICT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cantón</th>
<th>Risk factors</th>
<th>Protective factors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz</td>
<td>No lighting at certain points.</td>
<td>Battery of previous projects with the NGOs Plan International and Gran Solar.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>The condition of the streets.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>High school-dropout rates starting from the 9th grade.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Controlled areas.</td>
<td>Tourist areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Few skills among the population.</td>
<td>Investment potential.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Alfredo</td>
<td>Deteriorated main street.</td>
<td>Organized ADESCO.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Need for potable water.</td>
<td>Good relationship with institutional authorities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Low interest in schooling, average studies go up to the 6th grade.</td>
<td>Sectored gang presence.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Battery of strategies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nº</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Lines of action/ Specific actions</th>
<th>Leads</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Improvement of the security conditions in the municipality, with an emphasis on the prevention of violence.</td>
<td>• Perform significant improvements in security in the territory, recovery of spaces, and the prevention of violence.</td>
<td>• CMPV. • PNC. • SolucionES</td>
<td>• Number of surveillance activities carried out during the first quarter. • Number of territorial recovery activities carried out during the first quarter. • Number of specific “prevention of violence” initiatives carried out in the municipality with the participation of communities belonging to the 10 districts, during the first year of implementation. • Amount of people who have been trained in “prevention of violence”, inhabitants from all over the municipality of La Libertad during the first year of implementation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Fostering of alternative training modalities.</td>
<td>• Reduction of educational gaps based on national plans. • Consolidating municipal actions in order to promote the comprehensive training of people. • Eleven grades of schooling for the entire population and promoting technical and technological training at a proficient level.</td>
<td>• CMPV. • MINED. • Soluciones</td>
<td>• Number of educational programs with flexible modalities for basic and intermediate education implemented in the next school year. • Number of people who have completed their basic education. • Universal preschool. • Number of literacy programs for youth and adults.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
THREE RELEVANT AREAS WERE IDENTIFIED, WHICH OFFER IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES, SUCH AS: A) IMPROVEMENT OF THE SECURITY CONDITIONS AND RECOVERY OF SPACES, B) EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES, Y C) OPPORTUNITIES FOR EMPLOYABILITY (EMPLOYMENT OR SELF-EMPLOYMENT)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Programming</th>
<th>Indicative Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>• To be determined through:</td>
<td>• At least one surveillance program operational by the first 30 days of implementation</td>
<td>• Weekly implementation.</td>
<td>• To be determined through:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• PNC Map of reports.</td>
<td>• CMPV.</td>
<td>• Fortnightly follow-up must be conducted, sharing the results thereof at each CMPV meeting.</td>
<td>• MINED departmental report in enrollment and schooling.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Official crime figures.</td>
<td>• PNC.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Population census.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• CMPV projects file.</td>
<td>• MINED.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Departmental report on those registered and active in programs that work with flexible education modalities and/or alternative training.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Soluciones</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To be determined through:

• MINED departmental report in enrollment and schooling.
• Population census.
• Departmental report on those registered and active in programs that work with flexible education modalities and/or alternative training.

• Decrease the dropout rates in the municipality of La Libertad by 85%.
• Annual implementation. Monthly follow-up must be conducted, sharing the results thereof at each CMPV meeting.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Nº</th>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Lines of action/ Specific actions</th>
<th>Leads</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| 3    | Promoting productive and employment inclusion opportunities (employment or self-employment). | • Develop and implement strategies that enable people to develop decent employment/career paths.  
• Consolidate a framework of actions with cross-cutting axes: gender equality, residence (urban-rural), vulnerable youth groups, the environment, innovation, and reducing the underemployment (invisible) rate of the population in the municipality of La Libertad. | CMPV. MITRAB. Municipality. SolucionES | • A diagnosis on the employment situation with its respective recommendations, including territorial variants.  
• A social communication plan developed and implemented in the 10 districts of the municipality of La Libertad, in the first 6 months.  
• Number of actions to improve the national regulatory framework, within the Municipality. |
| 4    | Investment in public works.                                               | • Participatory design of a program for neighborhood improvement and recovery of public spaces within the 10 municipalities of La Libertad.  
• Job creation from public works.                                               | CMPV. Municipal mayoralty. With the support of:  
• Fovial.  
• MOP.  
• FISDL. | • A management plan for implementing the program for neighborhood improvement and recovery of public spaces within the 10 municipalities of La Libertad, during the first 8 months.  
• Number of cooperation agreements set out during the first year.  
• Number of works performed towards improving streets, parks, and sanitation systems, such as latrines and wells, performed during the first year. |

**Assessment plan**

**CONCEPTS**

Based on the analysis of the presence of risk and protection factors in the areas included in the research, the development of an evaluation plan is proposed for the actions that are linked to the strategies set forth and whose development is suggested. Due to the fact that the proposed actions and strategies coincide or are also part of different action plans that belong to the municipality in general and/or to the CMPV in particular, it will become necessary to ensure the implementation thereof, to appoint people who are directly responsible thereof, in addition to recording any progress, as well as generating relevant information periodically and/or at the request of municipal authorities.

It is of particular importance to the municipality that prevention and/or security strategies be effective as well as sustainable over time; therefore, it is of a vital importance to identify good practices as well as those that exhibit shortcomings. In this regard, the information
STRATEGIES TO REDUCE RISK FACTORS AND INCREASE PROTECTION FACTORS FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN, ADOLESCENTS AND YOUTHS (NNAJ) IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF LA LIBERTAD

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baseline</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Programming</th>
<th>Indicative Budget</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>To be determined through:</td>
<td>• 15% decrease in unemployment rates in the municipality.</td>
<td>• Implementation: Three years.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• National report on the labor situation (MITRAB).</td>
<td>• Increase job insertion by 15% under valid regulations.</td>
<td>• Follow-up: it must be conducted every six months.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>• Report “World Employment and Social Outlook”, ILO.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

that arises from the territorial approach with the 10 districts that make up the municipality of La Libertad would enable carrying out relevant measurements prior to performing any action. The opportunity also remains open to perform all necessary measurements after the implementation thereof: whether with or without a control group, as suggested by levels 2 and 3 of the Maryland Scale for the Assessment of Methodological Rigor.

In that regard, it is important to note that the evaluation of projects and/or programs, and for this case actions under specific strategic lines, rests on the basis of a good follow-up and monitoring system, which is a fundamental tool to: a) Ensure a proper implementation, b) Refocus its planning whenever necessary c) Measure its effectiveness, efficiency, and impact. It is also a tool that can be used by the project’s decision-making processes, which enables a continuous analysis of their progress.

Therefore, technical monitoring and follow-up activities must be streamlined, realistic and exhaustive: a) Streamlined means that its
management can be easily performed by the people who are responsible therefor, in collaboration with all stakeholders, without requiring any great technical effort or time; b) Realistic implies that they must be adapted to the realities of the implementation of the actions as well as to the information-gathering capabilities possessed by the different actors involved in the implementation; c) Exhaustive means they must encompass all relevant aspects, in order to enable the quantitative and qualitative assessment of their progress and the measurement of the scope of results and objectives. Follow-up for this evaluation plan must provide the necessary information for making decisions on the refocusing of the implementation of actions, whenever necessary.

The objectives guiding this evaluation plan are as follows:

• To systematically and objectively determine the degree of progress in the implementation of strategies and activities, the means used, and the resources invested.
• To systematically and objectively determine the efficiency and efficacy of the strategies and their impact on the intended beneficiaries.
• To obtain useful lessons for planning other future actions and refocus them, whenever necessary, for a better reformulation and implementation. In that regard, the evaluation plan is not an instrument to criticize or identify deficiencies; but rather a method to learn from experience and to constructively help to improve the implementation of the project.

Follow-up of actions must be systematic and objective. By being systematic, it must be based on processes and information flows that are well defined and periodic. By being objective, it must be based on the use of objectively verifiable indicators.

RESPONSIBLE PARTIES

It is suggested that an ad hoc commission be generated within the CMPV that is responsible for following up on the evaluation plan for the activities, which shall have the following technical functions:

• Supervise the effective implementation of planned and scheduled actions in the field.
• Prepare technical reports (monthly, quarterly, or as requested) on the progress of actions.
• Refocus and adjust the strategic lines according to the behavior and results obtained during the implementation of actions.

This work must be assisted by prominent municipal personnel in the territories, or by other members of the CMPV, who have the ability to generate and record data and information that can feed the evaluation plan, pertaining to their specific responsibilities related to the strategic lines. To this end, established time-frames and formats designed therefore must be provided.

FREQUENCY

The Battery of Strategies sets out defined indicators for each strategy, as well as for the Lines of Action and/or Specific Actions, which must be reviewed periodically but at different points in time. See Table 12.
The indicators of the strategies must be reviewed either annually or more frequently, given their added character and their relation to the impact of the intervention, which will only occur in the medium term. Specifically, the baseline will be determined early on during the first year, an interim assessment will be performed on the progress made at the end of the year, and so on.

Indicators for the Lines of Action will be reviewed quarterly. Likewise, the baseline will be determined early on during the first year and it must be assessed every quarter. A completion date may be set for the Project in order to carry out a final assessment.

Indicators for the Specific Actions will be reviewed on a monthly basis, according to the annual planning calendar that is set out and they will make up most of the follow-up reports.

The evaluation plan must be dynamic in nature and adapt to the reality of the implementation of the intervention. Therefore, the ad hoc commission shall be responsible for reviewing the feasibility of the indicators and for modifying them whenever necessary or deemed relevant, especially during the annual planning meeting in the event that new activities are included or that existing ones be disaggregated.

The Battery of Strategies includes goals. It shall be pertinent to conduct a review of said goals based on the results of the baseline studies. Redefining the goals for activity indicators shall be performed during each annual planning meeting.

**INSTRUMENTS**

Four instruments are presented to conduct the follow-up and monitoring activities, which are complemented with other formats used on a daily basis to keep records of activities such as attendance lists, work plans, and so on.

Three of these proposed instruments are task reports related to different periods, namely: per month, per quarter, and per year.

Finally, a follow-up and monitoring matrix is proposed, which seeks to consolidate information on the indicators for each strategy, as well as for the Specific actions and/or Lines of Action, making it mutually comparable.

**MONTHLY REPORTS**

These reports shall be internal for the intervention and their aim shall be to assess the progress made on Specific Actions concerning the calendar set out in an annual plan. It is prepared by the personnel from the ad hoc commission based on the activities undertaken and it is then submitted to the CMPV and to the municipality. This report will be the basis for identifying potential delays and implementation issued sufficiently in advance.

The following content is proposed:

1. Month: _________________.
2. Specific actions planned and undertaken by strategy.
3. Comments about delays at start-up.
4. Comments on the duration.
5. Comments on the level of implementation.
6. Specific actions planned and not undertaken by result.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specific actions</th>
<th>Main obstacles</th>
<th>Solutions provided</th>
<th>Rescheduled date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

7. Comments on Specific actions not undertaken.
8. Annexes: attendance lists and other records.

QUARTERLY REPORT

The quarterly follow-up and monitoring report is intended to provide a succinct assessment of the progress of the implementation of the intervention, based on the specific actions included in an annual plan. It will be prepared by the ad hoc committee in collaboration with CMPV staff and/or whomever the municipality appoints. The contents of the report are described below:

1. Executive Summary (3 pages)
The executive summary includes a brief and consolidated reference of the following:

- Technical implementation.
- Financial implementation.
- Main sensitive points and corrective measures.

2. Technical progress of the project (10 pages)
This section will assess the level of quarterly compliance with the annual plan for each line of action. From each result, the following shall be analyzed:

a. The indicators for the specific actions. An assessment will be conducted on the progress of the indicators for specific actions concerning the targets set in the annual plan. It will analyze whether the progress is adequate. Otherwise, the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the goals shall be described.

b. Specific actions planned for the quarter and actually undertaken. These specific actions will be listed, as well as their compliance based on the proposed indicators shall be assessed, and all comments deemed pertinent on their level of implementation should be made.

c. Specific actions planned for the quarter and not actually undertaken. Said activities
shall be listed, as well as the main problems that caused their failure to implement, the corrective measures planned for the next quarter, and the rescheduled date.

d. The hypotheses and risks. An analysis shall be undertaken on their compliance with the previously designed hypotheses in relation to specific actions. In the event of non-compliance, the alternative measures taken to minimize the risks shall be described. New hypotheses and risks deemed relevant shall also be identified.

In addition, this section should make a quarterly assessment on cross-cutting issues related to the gender and age of the participants of the intervention.

3. Financial progress of the intervention (no more than 3 pages)
This section will contain a quarterly assessment of the level of implementation of the budget set out in the annual plan. The main problems identified and proposed solutions shall be analyzed.

4. Management and coordination activities (2 pages)
This will address the specific actions taken by the CMPV with regards to the progress of the intervention, such as: meetings with personnel from other institutions, mayors, attendance in events relevant to the intervention, etc.

5. Annexes
Monthly reports and any other documents deemed relevant may be attached as an annex.

6. Proposed index for the Quarterly Report
1. Executive Summary (3 pages)
   1.1. Technical implementation

1.2. Financial implementation
1.3. Main sensitive points and corrective measures
2. Technical progress of the intervention (8 pages)
   2.1. Analysis of technical progress by action line and/or strategy (5 pages)
   2.2. Cross-cutting gender and age issues (1 page)
   2.3. Hypotheses and risks scenario (1 page)
3. Financial progress of the intervention (3 pages)
   3.1. Level of budget implementation for the quarter compared to what was planned
   3.2. Main problems and proposed solutions
4. Management and coordination activities (2 pages)
   4.1. CMPV Actions (1 page)

ANNUAL REPORT

The annual follow-up and monitoring report aims to provide an assessment of the efficacy of the intervention based on the level of production of the expected results and the achievement of objectives. It shall be prepared by the ad hoc commission in collaboration with CMPV staff and/or those designated by the municipality, on the basis of baseline studies and evaluation studies performed. The proposals of contents for the report are described below:

1. Executive Summary (3 pages)
The executive summary includes a brief and consolidated reference of the following:

- Analysis of the efficacy of the intervention.
- Analysis on financial implementation.
- Main sensitive points and corrective measures.
2. Analysis of the effectiveness of the intervention (10 pages)

This section shall conduct an assessment on the progress of the indicators of the results of the intervention and strategies. An analysis shall be conducted on whether the annual progress of the indicators is adequate in order to reach the goals expected for each year. Otherwise, the main delays and their causes shall be described, as well as the necessary measures to ensure compliance with the goals. These measures shall be reflected in the next annual plan.

In addition, this section should make an annual assessment on cross-cutting issues of gender and age of the participants of the intervention.

Compliance of the goals concerning the results will be analyzed. In the event of non-compliance, the alternative measures taken to minimize the risks shall be described. New hypotheses and risks deemed relevant shall also be identified.

The annual report for the first year will include an analysis of the impact of the intervention, depending on the progress of the indicators for each strategy. The impact analysis must assess whether the intervention meets the expected goals and, if not, what measures shall be taken to improve their impact.

3. Analysis on the financial implementation of the intervention (3 pages)

This section will contain an annual assessment of the level of implementation of the budget set out in the annual plan. It will analyze the main problems identified and the solutions proposed to be included in the next annual plan.

4. Annexes

The Follow-up and Monitoring Matrix and any other documents deemed relevant may be attached as an annex.

5. Proposed index for the Annual Report

1. Executive Summary (3 pages)
   1.1. Analysis of the effectiveness of the intervention
   1.2. Analysis on financial implementation
   1.3. Sensitive points and corrective measures

2. Analysis of the effectiveness of the intervention (10 pages).
   2.1. Level of compliance with intervention strategies
   2.2. Level of compliance of the intervention results
   2.3. Cross-cutting gender and age issues
   2.4. Hypotheses and risks scenario

3. Analysis on the financial implementation of the intervention (3 pages).
   3.1. Level of annual budget implementation compared to what was planned
   3.2. Main problems and proposed solutions

4. Annex: Follow-up and monitoring matrix

3.4.4. FOLLOW-UP AND MONITORING MATRIX

The follow-up and monitoring matrix consolidates information on the indicators of the strategies and lines of action and specific actions; and enables the annual comparison of the results, starting from the baseline that was determined at the beginning of the intervention, until the expected date of completion. It is fed with data from records, publications, studies and surveys or samplings. The follow-up and monitoring matrix is filled out by the ad hoc commission, in collaboration with staff from the CMPV and/or whomever the municipality designates, and it is the basis for carrying out annual monitoring and subsequent evaluations. A sample template can be found in Table 7.
Table 13.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategies/Lines of action/Specific actions</th>
<th>Indicators</th>
<th>Source of verification</th>
<th>Value of the indicator</th>
<th>Progress %</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Baseline</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Year 2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Expected goal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Technical</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Financial</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Conclusions

a. The results show that in the 10 districts addressed by the municipality of La Libertad, there are three major fields in which the efforts must be prioritized, these are: Security, Education, and Employment; these problems work in a joint manner and it would be difficult to improve just one, therefore the work or initiatives carried out within the areas must aim to improve them all simultaneously, since social conditions do not allow for any one field to be clearly identified as the top priority.

b. It was observed that violence prevention initiatives have not achieved the expected dissemination within the districts, as there is a perception that most initiatives have been isolated; therefore, the expected level of impact cannot be perceived among the population. The population surveyed is not able to clearly and concisely recognize the original intent thereof, which constrains their chances of transcending to an environment of sustainability.

c. In the long term, the sustainability of social processes of communities and/or ADES-COS is compromised; due to the fact that, somehow, the population has not been able to observe an axis for continuous work with public institutions. In the case of the municipality, most of the population acknowledges it as the key player in development, whereas the central government is only visualized through “establishments” such as schools, the Health Unit, and National Civil Police outposts.

d. It is very important to strengthen inter-agency coordination at the territorial level, seeing as public value or service institutions with a presence in the area have the exclusivity to obtain improved results for the problems laid out by the population.

e. Fostering greater and more diversified participation from the population (through AD-ESCOS, for example) would help to achieve the metrics set forth within the operational plans of State institutions. This factor would ensure both the relevance - as it responds to national needs - and the level of sustainability of the effort.

f. Additionally, the results obtained through interviews show that the personnel in charge of the institutions possess well-positioned work objectives and goals; but, at the same time, they must overcome some difficulties related to the availability of resources that may allow them to reach the expected results.

g. There is little evidence that existing resources are used for any sort of research or planning. There are several “municipal plans” with valuable contents that can be implemented with the prospect of a social policy and logic of violence prevention. For example, in late 2011 the NGO Plan en El Salvador conducted a study on the labor market and business opportunities in the department of La Libertad and another three, with the purpose of analyzing and identifying the types of activities and businesses that could offer the best opportunities for employment and entrepreneurship for young people.
Recommendations

a. It is essential that the municipality strengthen and operationalize its institutional vision.

b. It is necessary for the municipality to make the most of the CMPV and that, through direct and constant coordination therewith, it can maintain awareness in order to identify the needs of the population and be the engine that fosters fields such as:
   - The development of vocational skills, because the youth in the area state that income generation is a sensitive and unresolved need, for which they need basic skills and expertise that complement national education services.
   - A sports axis with special emphasis on soccer and surfing, to take advantage provided by the coastal area.
   - Management of continuous training processes aimed at the population to ensure the sustainability of leadership.
   - Take advantage of the captive population of schools, in order to publicize prevention activities that are taking place locally, such as supporting the marching bands, workshops, etc.
   - Replicate some services and successful actions that have occurred in other areas and/or schools, in order to gradually scale up the radius of action.

c. It is important for the CMPV, as part of the Municipal Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Violence in the municipality of La Libertad, to develop a community engagement strategy and its respective “Community Outreach Plan” which would prepared jointly with the target population, with the aim of establishing greater openness within the areas, as well as ensuring greater community participation. This plan should reflect the actions in all districts and those aimed at consolidating social peace, minimizing the exposure of those that are repressive in nature.

d. It is important for the CMPV to promote greater visibility of their actions through computer media, using social networks and other applications that allow young people to stay in touch, and to present results in a friendlier way with that same population.

e. Something that would have a high impact would be to work with the Ministry of Education (MINED) to coordinate the implementation of flexible education modalities, such as distance learning or other mechanisms that may, enhance the structured and installed capacity in existing schools in the districts in an innovative manner.

f. Facilitate and promote the active participation of ADESCOS during the implementation of future projects, especially in the implementation stage and include the possibility of investing in the creation of material related to projects that enable participants to identify more with it.

g. It would be valuable for the municipality to use the different existing plans and the actions contemplated therein to facilitate public participation and set a work horizon that is homologous and consistent to what has already been set out; seeing as they already possess the Municipal Strategic Plan for the Prevention of Violence in the municipality of La Libertad, the Participatory Strategic Development Plan of the Municipality of La Libertad, the Municipal Competitiveness Plan of the municipality of La Libertad, and the Municipal Disaster Risk Management Plan.
## Annex 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Concept</th>
<th>Definition</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Risk factors, according to the Plan El Salvador Seguro (SSEP) [A Safer El Salvador Plan].</td>
<td>Negative contextual or personal situations that increase the likelihood that individuals or communities would develop emotional, behavioral, health, or relationship problems.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protective factors, according to the Plan El Salvador Seguro (SSEP) [A Safer El Salvador Plan].</td>
<td>Elements that can be effective in countering threats and vulnerabilities; they help create or strengthen the resilience of communities, groups, and individuals against the “risk factors”.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk factors, as per the WHO.</td>
<td>The World Health Organization recognizes four types of risk factors: individual, including biological and psychosocial characteristics; the level of relations composed of the influence of the family and the influence of peer groups; the community level, with the influence of the neighborhood and integration of capital; and finally the social level, which incorporates demographic and social changes, income inequality and poverty, institutional development and social protection, as well as cultural influences.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk factors, as per the World Bank.</td>
<td>The World Bank also identifies four levels which are similar to those of the WHO, but with different specific contents: at the individual level, it identifies alcohol abuse, a lack of identity and early sexual initiation; at the community level, it identifies the low enrollment in secondary school and school completion, paltry enrollment from poor youth, school violence and the availability of firearms; at the interpersonal level, it identifies poverty in the home, dysfunctional families, and friends who are gang-affiliated; finally, at the societal level, there is a culture of violence, poverty and income inequality, rapid and uncontrolled urbanization, unemployment and youth inactivity, migration and drug trafficking.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk factors, as per the IDB.</td>
<td>The Inter-American Development Bank classifies risk factors into three groups: those related to the family and social position and status of people, in which they identify gender, age, education, socialization and consumption of alcohol and drugs; social, economic and cultural factors, among which unemployment, poverty, overcrowding, social inequality, violence in the media and the culture of violence; finally, contextual and institutional factors including war, drug trafficking, corruption, availability of firearms, and festivities.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Primary prevention.</td>
<td>Primary prevention is a strategy to support relatively large segments of the population, whose social environment presents various risk factors and few protective factors, especially for NNAJ. This prevention is implemented through social factors (community organization, education, sports, art, job opportunities, social and psychological work, modifying the community environment) and is, therefore, defined as social prevention.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Concept</td>
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<tr>
<td>Secondary prevention.</td>
<td>The so-called secondary prevention is aimed at specific individuals or social groups, clearly identified as likely to incur in habitual violence and crime behaviors, and is aimed at influencing young people who are about to commit crimes or who are being initiated in this type of activity. Children and youth living high-risk communities, and whose households do not offer minimum conditions for their care or assurances for their security are typical beneficiaries of this type of prevention. They are young offenders or youths in conflict with the law.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tertiary prevention.</td>
<td>Tertiary prevention refers to the processes of rehabilitation and reinsertion of people who have broken the law and are serving prison sentences, including youth and minors for whom special (procedural and criminal) legal regimes are required. This type of prevention includes strategies to readapt the individual into the social dynamics, with an emphasis on the productive structure.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive category</td>
<td>In qualitative research under a hermeneutical approach, which is known as the structure that generates units of meaning or the reactive structure, and it is the question by which the population provides information that is relevant to the purpose of the research.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Units of meaning</td>
<td>All arguments described by the population that are aligned with the purpose of the research in a qualitative survey.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Precept.</td>
<td>The fundamental structure of the units of meaning, usually described as ideas, affirmations, denials, or other manifestations generated by the interviewee.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Soft skills.</td>
<td>It is a sociological term, related to the ratio of emotional intelligence, which is the set of personality traits, social skills, communication, language, personal habits, friendship, and optimism that characterize relationships with other people.</td>
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</tbody>
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