

PROJECT EVALUATION LEARNING BRIEF

29/03/2021

This is a summary of the key findings, conclusions, and recommendations prepared by the evaluator for use by the donor (United States Government through USAID), IOM staff and project management. Details on all findings, conclusions and recommendations can be found in the full evaluation report.

Evaluation type: External independent final evaluation
Evaluator(s): Ricardo Castellon Zamora
Independent consultant
Evaluation visit: 14-18 December 2020
Final report: 15 March 2021
Commissioned by: IOM Mission in El Salvador

Managed by: Julio Quan, Project Manager

Evaluation purpose:

1. Assess whether the results established from the beginning of the project were achieved and determine the form in which community participation contributed to these results.
2. Know how the new school facilities benefit the community of Quezaltepeque, as well as the general experience of the beneficiaries before, during and after the intervention.
3. Assess the role and methods that IOM used in an infrastructure project and as a project with actions such as the involvement of stakeholders, strengthening the municipality and Increased knowledge on specific topics can serve as a catalyst for actions local (community component).
4. Identify what were the success factors and barriers in the implementation of the project (efficiency and effectiveness) and how IOM solved / overcame the obstacles encountered.
5. Assess the sustainability of the project's products, specifically the continuation of the council advisor, community participation, actions that promote the care of the school and the environment

In November 2009, Tropical Storm Ida struck El Salvador, leaving extensive material damage.

In the aftermath of the storm, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) has supported reconstruction efforts.

The José María Peralta Lagos National Institute (INJMPL) was one of the schools selected to rebuild. As a result of all the damage caused to the infrastructure of the school, students and teaching staff developed their school activities for five years in foreign facilities with less safety and comfort. Within the framework of human rights, the project sought to guarantee the right to education with basic conditions of dignity, health and well-being to ensure quality educational services.

At the end of the project, it has contributed to the strengthening of educational programs and the resilience capacity of the municipality of Quezaltepeque through three main products:

1. The construction of the INJMPL.
2. Members of the educational community participate in the care and maintenance of the school.
3. Community members have been trained and can apply concepts of disaster risk reduction and / or management and migration.

USAID Tropical Storm IDA Reconstruction Project – JMPL Schools”

Geographical coverage: Municipality of Quezaltepeque, department of La Libertad, El Salvador.

Project type: DR– Disaster Risk Reduction

Project code: 72051918CA00006 OIM-USAID

Project period: 30 August 2018 - 30 December 2020

Donor: USAID

Budget: USD \$2,879,609.44



KEY FINDINGS/CONCLUSIONS

The project has a high performance. In the period of its implementation, extended by the COVID-19 pandemic, the project has managed to articulate a supply of school infrastructure that responds to the demand of children and adolescents to exercise their right to education in a safe school, to a life without violence and the prevention of migration.

The evaluation has shown that the project was pertinent, relevant and efficient, it created precedents for alliances and public-private coordination in its implementation.

The perception of the project stakeholders on its effectiveness shows a general consensus indicating that the results and objectives under which the project was designed reached the expectations thanks to the implementation and execution of its actions.

The project has been successful in creating awareness in the educational community about the commitment in the maintenance and care of the works.

The project is highly identified and valued by the children and adolescents and young beneficiaries. Training in risk mitigation, disaster management, migration, prevention against the spread of COVID-19, strengthened this credibility.

GOOD PRACTICES

- Promote a sense of belonging in the community..
- Cultivate innovation: minimize cost and maximize resources.
- Stimulate leadership. The participation of the Advisory Council and the Directorate of the INJMP was fundamental to make the participation of the educational community.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Communication between USAID and IOM has contributed to efficiency to ensure that implementation activities are being developed in accordance with the project design.
- Although disaster risk mitigation was not incorporated into the educational curricula, Risk Management was recognized as an important issue that was integrated with training processes in the school and the community.

- For the implementation of this type of project, the use of a participatory and inclusive approach, from the beginning of planning and aligned to the needs

KEY RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendations for INJMP

1. The INJMPL leadership, within the framework of the Institutional Emergency and / or Disaster Response Plan of the Ministry of Education of El Salvador (MINED), must create a community committee for school disaster management that includes different relevant and priority protocols on risk reduction in school facilities.
2. The direction of the INJMPL must manage before the MINED, the incorporation of disaster risk reduction issues as a recreational extracurricular activity; For the reduction or elimination of vulnerabilities, teachers and students must participate with the support of civil protection agencies.
3. Continue organizing awareness days on the risks of unaccompanied migration and the prevention of violence.