

EVALUATION BRIEFS

FINAL INDEPENDENT CLUSTER EVALUATION

TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS IN MEXICO (TIP): “Detection and Prevention of TIP within Indigenous Communities in Mexico” (MEXW55) & “National Project to Strengthen Shelters, Refuges and Halfway Houses that Provide Assistance to Victims of TIP in Mexico” (MEXW64)

Region: Mexico.

Duration: 12/12/2017 - 12/12/2021 (MEXW55) and 20/09/2018 - 31/12/2022 (MEXW64).

Donors: ACCBP Canada (MEXW55) and INL USA (MEXW64).

Evaluation team: Edgar Arredondo Casillas (lead evaluator) and Diego Lorente Pérez de Eulate. (substantive expert)

Full report:
https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/evaluation/reports_year_2022.html

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

Both interventions were designed and implemented by the Liaison and Partnership Office Mexico (LPOMEX). MEXW55 was implemented with a budget of \$752,110.31 USD from the ACCBP of the Canadian Government. Its general objective was “To prevent trafficking in persons within indigenous communities of Mexico, with special emphasis on women and girls.” This was to be done through capacity building activities and a prevention campaign. MEXW64 had a budget of \$2,933,023.00 USD from INL, in the Department of State of the US Government, and its general objective was to “Strengthen shelters, refuges and halfway houses of TIP victims so that they can provide them an integral assistance and facilitate their participation in judicial processes”. This was to be done through five activities.

MAIN FINDINGS

Both interventions were highly relevant to the needs of beneficiary institutions and communities, as well as to the mission and objectives of UNODC. Their original design presented important areas of opportunity that were solved during implementation. Achieved partnerships and cooperation were considered one of the main accomplishments of both projects and were highly praised by partners and allies. Assigned resources were sufficient and were used in a cost-effective manner although, in both cases, an efficient achievement of results was hindered by the COVID19 pandemic and the change of government in 2018. MEXW55 attained all its planned products and results and, in doing so, contributed to provide indigenous communities with better tools to detect and prevent TIP at a local level. MEXW64 had achieved 90% of its goals when this evaluation finished, and there is a high probability that it will strengthen the capacities of shelters specialized in TIP victims to improve their results. The sustainability strategies of both interventions were highly successful in involving beneficiaries in all processes in order to generate a full appropriation of results and in inserting both interventions within the framework of the IC. Both projects successfully included considerations on human rights, gender equality and leaving no one behind.



Poster elaborated by LPOMEX for the MEXW64 Campaign

LESSONS LEARNED

It was learned that working with social organizations for prevention can generate more sustainable impacts for these organizations remain active longer than governments and their members are highly committed with their work. It was also learned that doing field work, directly with people and attending the structural causes of a problem, generates greater impact. It was learned that capacity building through trainer of trainers programmes is better than through direct training workshops – due to the high rotation of personnel in institutions – because it leaves more sustainable results and multiplies impact.



Map 1: México. Source: Geospatial United Nations Map, 01/07/2020

GOOD PRACTICES

To strengthen and organize a TIP shelter's system is a good practice for prosecuting this crime because it helps involving victims in judicial processes. Involving partners, beneficiaries and counterparts during the whole process of decision making of an implementation, facilitating appropriation of its products, and following up achieved results is a good practice of sustainability. To work with most vulnerable populations, giving them voice, is a good practice.

METHODOLOGY

Contribution analysis was used as a methodology – that is, to analyse the contribution that activities had in the development of products, products in results and all of them in the achievement of the objectives. Intentional and convenience sampling techniques were used to select participants. Information was gathered from primary and secondary sources, obtained from documents reviewed and from interviews, questionnaires and

focus groups. Data obtained was crossed-referenced and triangulated to determine findings for each of the criteria established by the TORs (relevance, coherence, efficiency, effectiveness, impact, sustainability, human rights, gender equality and leaving no one behind). Conclusions, recommendations, lessons learned, and best practices were obtained. The evaluation was supervised by IES and was aligned to the Norms and Standards of Evaluation of UNEG and UNODC.

For the Liaison and Partnership Office Mexico (LPOMEX), UNODC:

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Impact:** Strengthen and follow up on the work and capacities of the Mexican State to prevent, prosecute, sanction and eradicate the trafficking in persons, and its capacities to generate and systematize information about this crime, to help diminish criminal impunity and the risks on victims and allies.
- Design:** Improve the design of interventions, by investigating more profoundly the problem matter before the design is done, conducting a deeper risk analysis and developing better indicators of impact, amongst other things.
- Resources, impact and sustainability:** Help strengthen the capacities of implementing partners to secure funds and broaden their support networks.
- Impact, sustainability and victim centred approach:** Continue building capacities and supporting those in charge of the CAMIs, Shelters, Refuges and Halfway Houses, strengthening both their auto-care policies and their understanding of the victim centred approach.
- Human Rights, Gender Equality and Leaving No One behind:** Keep reinforcing an effective and transversal implementation of human rights, gender equality and leaving no one behind approaches in UNODC's interventions and partners' activities.
- Impact, sustainability and follow up:** Give continuity to the collaboration agreements developed with private sector companies that can be central for delivering prevention messages against TIP, helping sustain the Blue Heart campaign in strategic spaces.



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