

United Nations Development Programme
REGIONAL CENTER FOR LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

ANNUAL PROJECT PROGRESS REPORT

Name:	Comprehensive Security and Prevention of Violence that Affects Children, Adolescents and Youth in SICA Countries
ID:	00095275
Implementing Agency:	UNDP
Project Budget :	US\$ 4,000,000.00
Participating countries:	Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panamá y República Dominicana
Host country:	El Salvador
During the reporting period:	01/01/2016 to 31/12/2016
Total expenses in the period:	See summary in Table 1.

Brief Description

The "Integral Security and Prevention of Violence that Affects Children, Adolescents and Youth in Central America" aims to contribute to the overall outcome of reducing factors associated with insecurity and violence in SICA countries. Particularly the specific and different types of violence affecting children, adolescents and young men and women in Belize, Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Costa Rica, Panama and Dominican Republic. It will make an explicit strategy to address all types of violence affecting target populations in both the public and private sphere, based and gender, intergenerational and others socioeconomic and cultural dynamics. In this framework, it is a direct contribution to the priorities of the Central American Security Strategy (ESCA, Spanish acronym) and Youth Violence Prevention project (BB1).

The project will achieve four main outputs: (1) SICA and its countries formulate and implement comprehensive, measurable and evidence-based citizen security policies with a clear link to ESCA. (2) Plans and institutional capacities developed and implemented to improve social prevention violence that affects children, adolescents and youth. (3) Innovative solutions and best practices in violence prevention are promoted systematized, evaluated and transferred in the region. (4) Project adequately managed, monitored and evaluated.

Project deliverables will include: national citizen security policies; national youth violence prevention plan; institutional strengthening plans and training for violence prevention entities; secondary and tertiary violence prevention programs; SICA regional violence prevention intervention model; systematizations of youth violence prevention best practices and intervention models; new and innovative approaches and methodologies tested through seed funded pilot initiatives; and south-south cooperation knowledge transfers, among others.

Description of the main achievements of the project in 2016

COMPONENT 1: Public security policies in the framework of the ESCA

The PREVJUVE project has provided support for the development and review of comprehensive citizen security policies, with emphasis on linking national policies with ESCA's regional priorities.

At the regional level, following the approval of Agenda 2030 at the end of 2015, the project supported technically SG-SICA in aligning its thematic priorities with the Sustainable Development Objectives (SDG's), in particular SDG 16.

Comprehensive *policy support* work has been channeled through the presentation and dissemination of SICA's Strategic Framework for Violence Prevention, as well as the analysis of the different citizen security and violence prevention policies affecting children, adolescents and young boys. This analysis has taken as a reference its coherence and congruence with the macro policies of childhood, adolescence and youth, as well as with the guidelines of the ESCA. The final product, conducted by the Central American Institute of Public Administration (ICAP) - member institution of SICA - has a regional and a national chapters, as well as specific recommendations for each country. In 2017, a round of consultations is expected in each of the countries for the consideration of the general recommendations.

A *compilation of successful citizen security policies, programs and projects with a focus on violence prevention in the Mesoamerican region* was also carried out. This product follows up on the High Level Meeting of Cartagena de Indias (December 2016) that will serve to promote horizontal exchange among the countries of the region.

It is also worth mentioning two ongoing public policy *knowledge management* efforts linked to the above-mentioned works: (i) the development of a Guide to Good Practices in Citizen Security for the geographical scope of SICA, based on existing regional efforts And (ii) updating and adapting a Guide for the Prevention of Armed Violence affecting children and adolescents in SICA countries (in coordination with UNICEF).

Finally, in terms of *political incidence*, numerous efforts have been made at the level of SICA and countries on the topic of tertiary prevention and juvenile criminal justice. An example of this is the visit of the Vice President of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, Renate Winter, whose proposal was adopted by the President of the Republic of El Salvador in the framework of the 25th anniversary of the Peace Accords. This proposal - centered in El Salvador - seeks to strengthen programs for the reintegration of adolescents in conflict with the law, particularly those between 12 and 14 who have committed minor offenses.

At the national level, it is worth highlighting the advances in public policy developed - particularly by Belize, Panama, Honduras and Costa Rica.

In Belize, the project supported the adoption of a Comprehensive Citizen Security Policy and Strategic Plan 2016-2020 by RESTORE-Belize. Similarly, together with UNICEF, the design of the new National Action Plan for Children and Youth (NPA) has been supported, aligned with Agenda 2030. Part of this Plan is to have an effective menu of services that will be offered to various categories of Young people at risk. The study evaluated youth violence prevention services, gaps and opportunities and evidence on the ground to identify potential opportunities to support these initiatives.

Costa Rica has adopted a model of entrepreneurship and job placement of young people at risk around the project activities of the Plan "Emprendiendo para una vida sin violencia". This Plan, implemented in its pilot phase in the municipalities of Quepos and Osa has already reached 175 young people from these territories.

An agreement has been signed with the Ministry of Public Security and 10 metropolitan municipalities, for the design of a methodology for Integral Analysis of Security and Citizen Coexistence and the construction of joint pilot municipal safety plans.

In El Salvador, the project works in support of the implementation of the "El Salvador Seguro Plan" (PESS) in the municipalities of Zacatecoluca and Ciudad Delgado. In these two priority municipalities of the PESS, the "Jóvenes emprendedores en ciudades seguras" initiative has been implemented since 2014, a project to provide attention for at-risk youth of both sexes, between 14 and 29 years of age, with one or more risk. These actions are developed in coordination with the Ministry of Justice and Public Security, municipalities, municipal committees for the prevention of violence (CMPV) of the prioritized municipalities, with the collaboration of other national bodies based in the territory, such as schools, health units, churches and non-governmental and community organizations.

In Guatemala the commitment of the National Committee was to focus on one of the departments with the highest rate of violence: Chimaltenango; Incorporating the approach of secondary and tertiary prevention in the policies and local plans of the institutions of security and justice in charge of adolescence and youth in that department. To this end, the inter-institutional articulation spaces have been strengthened through the Municipal Commission for the Prevention of Violence in the Department of Chimaltenango. As a result, there is a proposal for a Municipal Policy for the Prevention of Violence and Crime, prioritizing the strategic axis of prevention of violence against adolescence and youth. It is under review and validation by the City Council.

The PREVJUVE project in Honduras is implemented in the cities of Tegucigalpa and San Pedro Sula located in the list of the 5 most violent cities in the world. The intervention incorporates strategic actions of secondary and tertiary prevention, with emphasis on those who are in situations of high vulnerability, in conflict with the law and those who have been victims of violence, as well as their families and communities. The results of the project in 2016 include the formulation of 1) Five-Year Plan for the Prevention of Violence affecting NNAJ 2016-2020, 2) A National Training Strategy on Violence Prevention.

The PREVJUVE project has technically accompanied a national process for the formulation of public policy on citizen security **in Panama**, as well as the beginning of a local and participatory planning process in the municipality of Colón. At the national level, within the framework of the formulation of the National Citizen Security Strategy 2017-2030, and with funding from the Panamanian government, a citizen consultation process has been carried out (about 30 consultations in municipalities with more than 50,000 inhabitants, As well as in the indigenous districts), as well as consultations with various sectors of Panamanian society and the different institutions. This efforts are highlighting the violence prevention that affects children, adolescents and youths as well as the active consultation with young people in the formulation phase of this public policy, which has benefited from technical support from PREVJUVE.

Likewise, the PREVJUVE project has been a key factor in the establishment of a Youth Secretariat in the municipality of Colón, the second city in the country, and the first in insecurity facts, where the project interventions are implemented.

In the Dominican Republic, the impact on the first output of the project has been more timid due to the country's electoral calendar. The activities have focused in the supporting of "Mesas de Seguridad Ciudadania y Género" (Citizen Security and Gender Tables). These Tables are spaces for analysis, reflection and decision making to prevent insecurity affecting women from a comprehensive and preventive approach. These seek the articulation and creation of "Mesas de Seguridad Ciudadania y Género", in all the municipalities of the country.

Component 2: Development of plans and institutional capacity to improve the prevention of social violence affecting youth and women.

The second of the expected results of the PREVJUVE project is the development and implementation of institutional plans and capacities to improve social prevention of violence affecting young people and women at primary, secondary and tertiary levels, with emphasis on at-risk populations and territories Of greater criminal incidence.

The most important interventions in planning, knowledge management and training in the prevention of social violence have already been outlined in component 1. This section focuses on the territorial level based on the work plans adopted by the Committees. The project has build evidence for the formulation of public policies. To this end, in 2016 precise instruments for measuring the progress of PREVJUVE were developed. The "Workshop on impact indicators to measure the prevention of violence affecting children, adolescents and young people" was held during the first four-month period of 2016 (March 10 and 11) in San Salvador. In the same workshop the annual work of 7 countries participating in the PREVJUVE Project were reviewed ; later on, 7 national workshops were developed with the support of a consultant specialized in monitoring and evaluation where all the national institutions members of the PREVJUVE Subcommittees participated. As a result, there is a proposal for regional and national indicators, as well as a proposal of an impact survey for beneficiaries of the project. Some countries have already started to apply the surveys, which will allow them to measure their impact and later replicability.

The most important achievements at the national level have been:

The PREVJUVE project **in Belize** has strengthened two safe spaces for educational and recreational insertion in two different zones (South Side of Belize City), targeted at adolescents at risk of being recruited by gangs and out from school (for example, 22 adolescents received accelerated vocational training prior to probation). Likewise, the juvenile justice system has been reviewed on the quality and relevance of the rehabilitation services offered. The guidelines, protocols and practices for the management of detention centres for female and male adolescents have been analysed in line with international human rights standards adopted by the State of Belize. This support is particularly relevant given that a serious incident occurred in the centre for adolescents (girls) just prior to the start the PREVJUVE project because of the lack of application of international standards for the detention of minors and weak human resources capacities.

In Costa Rica, the design of the "Emprendiendo para una vida sin violencia" program is aimed at adolescents in two high-incidence areas of violence in the Municipality of Quepos and the Osa as a replicable experience in the rest of the country. The program is composed of seven pillars that are linked together, achieving continuous actions of work with the community and young people in vulnerability: (a) Network of support sector public-youth-community-entrepreneurs; (B) Formulation and start-up of the entrepreneurs initiatives ; (C) Support for the academic, technical-professional of young people; (D) Systematization and institutionalization of the Program; (E) Institutional articulation and linkage; (F) Monitoring and Evaluation; (G) Dissemination of the results. So far the project has 179 beneficiaries, of whom 65% are men and 35% are women.

In El Salvador, support for the "Jóvenes emprendedores en ciudades seguras" Young (Entrepreneurs in Safe Cities) program, implemented in the municipalities of Zacatecoluca and Ciudad Delgado, and are linked to a comprehensive citizen security initiative that takes place in these two municipalities. The project activities include: individual, community and family care of selected adolescents. The intervention requires the institutionalization of the spaces and processes of coordination at the municipal level of the instances that make effective the processes of social insertion (Care Centres, Social Management and mediation points within the framework of the El Salvador Seguro Plan). The target population is 38 boys and girls during 2016, as well as the follow-up to 57 families in a collective processes. During the last three months, there was one meeting per month, 52 of the participants are women. Likewise, technical assistance has been provided to the Municipal Committees for the Prevention of Violence (CMV) (local coordination bodies led by the municipalities and in which there are representatives of state and civil society institutions that carry out prevention work in the municipality).

Also worthy of mention is the creation of the Zacatecoluca Human Development School. This initiative is convened by the municipality and has brought in a single table the international and national cooperation who have initiatives in both soft skills training and technical and vocational, among which: AECID, DEMUCA Foundation, Italian Cooperation, CIDEP, CORDES, UNDP, PREVJUVE and state institutions.

In Guatemala, the work of PREVJUVE in the Department of Chimaltenango is supported by a letter of understanding through which the inter-institutional coordination space has been created at a technical level, important and necessary agreement for the promotion of the Project. In addition, the municipality gave a Physical space in "Casa de la Cultura" (the House of Culture) to centralize actions of preventive programs, which young people participating in the Project called by them "Juventud 180 grados" (180th Youth Space). In total there are 615 beneficiaries (251 women and 364 men)

Important activities as the First Peace-Art Festival of Chimaltenango; Workshops in plastic arts and mural painting; visit to the exhibition "Why are we as we are?" For an approach of young people to the themes of Peace and historical memory. The construction of the youth labour insertion model for the Department of Chimaltenango is also underway, focusing on employment and youth entrepreneurship, as well as young people in conflict with the law. A tertiary prevention model for the

implementation of the Post Sanction Department of the Social Welfare Secretariat with the objective of conducting a pilot experience in Chimaltenango is also underway.

In Honduras, the PREVJUVE project has promoted a model of formal and non-formal education for the rehabilitation and reinsertion of adolescents in conflict with the law within pedagogical spaces, starting at the Jalteva Center (Francisco Morazán Department), where Comprehensive awareness and training processes are in place with in-house youth, centre staff, police, community, volunteers, parents and the private sector.

As part of a pilot experience in secondary prevention that will later be transferred to San Pedro Sula, alliances were established with the Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Tegucigalpa for the implementation of a model of capacity building and financing of entrepreneurship to young people in violent environments. These experiences focus on protective environments, open schools, including creative and recreational vacations, and promotion of youth entrepreneurship in partnership with UNICEF, Tegucigalpa City Hall and the 3 government institutions of PREVJUVE.

Output 2 activities of the PREVJUVE project **in Panama** have been concentrated in the municipality of Colón, where a consolidated monitoring plan was carried out through a participatory planning workshop held on July 20 and 21. The first camp of innovation and identification of the first group of 30 young leaders between 19 and 29 years of the communities of the *Casco Urbano* of the District of Colón was also carried out. In order to collectively construct innovative proposals focused on prevention of violence for their communities and in articulation with the Colón Urban Restoration Program.

Participatory diagnostics were designed and validated in coordination with UNICEF and the Ministry of Social Development, for the design of the field instruments (surveys) to the beneficiaries, aligned to the baseline indicators, and the determination of the strategies of approach to the groups prioritized in the District of Colón.

In the Dominican Republic, 1,100 students and residents of the National District and the municipality of La Caleta benefited from the Initiative "Reduction of Gender and Family Violence: " Una voz contra la violencia hacia las mujeres" . 55% were women and 45% men. There has also been an interagency effort aimed at primary and secondary prevention that promotes information and awareness about the issue of gender and couple violence, bringing a message of prevention to adolescent and young students through public figures and national talent in recreational showing the circle of violence, its identification, gender stereotypes and types of gender violence explained in an interactive way through musical dramatizations.

Workshops for the incorporation of young people from municipalities of Los Alcarrizos and Boca Chica to National Security, Citizenship and Gender Tables were held "and young people were incorporated into these spaces for consensus-based decision-making. It seeks to express the concerns and needs of young people regarding violence in adolescents and young people and their communities. The experience of the Dominican Republic is being refined with the new authorities to recalibrate its reach in 2017.

COMPONENT 3: Innovation lab and a reference platform and exchange on best practices.

The Innovation Lab seeks to foster the generation, exchange, systematization, south-south and triangular cooperation and adaptation of best practices and creative and innovative approaches to citizen insecurity, with an emphasis on vulnerable groups, as an alternative to traditional approaches and interventions.

To achieve this objective, a fund has been allocated to finance 4 small-scale pilot proposals that present an innovative and creative approach to citizen security, with possibilities to scaling up.

These funds will be implemented through the preparation of a proposal with the national counterparts (subcommittees), the UNDP Country Offices and the AECID Technical Cooperation Offices and the review of the SG-SICA, and will be managed by the National Work Plans. As a result of a selection process, four selected proposals were identified (two from El Salvador, one from Belize and one from Costa Rica) the results should showed throughout 2017.

Is underway the adaptation of innovative institutional platforms for efficient institutional management - implemented in some 200 institutions in Latin America and the Caribbean – to a comprehensive system mechanisms for the protection of children and adolescents, such as the CONNA of El Salvador). This can be an important step towards optimizing the public management of violence prevention institutions and improving their services to the vulnerable population.

An emerging element in the protection agenda of the Central American NNAJ population is related to the migration crisis that erupted from 2014. The PREVJUVE project has accompanied the General Secretariat of SICA in positioning on this issue, also fostering interagency in coordination with SICA, various agencies of the United Nations System and bilateral partners.

In terms of innovation, PREVJUVE is linked to the reflections on Agenda 2030 led by UNDP, both in the perspective of the implementation of "combos" (such as citizen security, which includes a variety of Agenda 2030 targets), As well as the implications of ODS 16 for the citizen security agenda in Central America (joint efforts with AECID).

Finally, the PREVJUVE project accompanies and encourages the exchange of experiences in secondary and tertiary prevention. In order to disseminate and exchange experiences and best practices with an emphasis on innovation and sustainability, regional workshops have been organized to systematize experiences and exchange, and will continue to be promoted in 2017.

COMPONENT 4: Project implemented, monitored and evaluated efficiently

The implementation of the project in 2016 has been satisfactory, with an execution of funds of 82% (see Table 2), for a total of 1,876,405 US dollars.

- The national coordinators of Belize, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, Panama, Guatemala and Honduras have been hired.
- The official presentations of PREVJUVE and the Strategic Framework for the Prevention of Violence of SICA have been carried out in launches in El Salvador, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama and Nicaragua.

It should be noted, however, that the project management team (a coordinator and an assistant) has proved insufficient in 2016 for the multiple operational, management, and monitoring requirements of the project. Although the UNDP Panama regional team has provided ongoing support to the project, UNDP has already submitted to the technical committee for consideration by the end of 2016 the need to expand the regional team with an additional staff (monitoring and evaluation) with a favorable opinion Of AECID and SICA. This decision is now under consideration by the Project Steering Committee, which will meet in February 2017.

On the other hand, it is necessary to point out the need to increase this equipment (whose size had been decided by the Project Steering Committee), with a view to improving the analysis and risk management of the project, whose management at the national level has been mainly led by Country offices.

The indicators matrix is presented separately.

PROJECT RISKS

Núm.	Descripción of the risk	Start date	Type of risk	Action taken
1	Political sensitivities of governments to evaluative analysis	2/2/2016	Political	All documents are discussed in Technical Committee as well, in special meetings with the DSD. The most sensitive documents are submitted to the National Subcommittees after consultation with the aforementioned committees.
2	Non-participation of one of the countries in the project	1/5/2016	Political	The non-participation of one of the countries in PREVJUVE was notified at a Steering Committee meeting, following high-level consultations between SICA and RBLAC management. In 2017 this same instance will decide on the use of the funds originally allocated to that country.
n	Limited knowledge and management on the issues of childhood, adolescence and youth of one of the main partners.	3/3/2016	Technical	The PREVJUVE is collaborating to reduce the gap that exists in of the project partners on the subject, which is obtained by technical debates. The alliance with UNICEF is key to overcoming this difficulty, although inter-agency communication needs to be improved in situations of crisis such as Belize, through an information exchange protocol.

MAIN PROBLEMS IN IMPLEMENTATION AND IMPLEMENTATION.

Núm.	Descripción	Date of identificación	Type of problem	Action taken
1	Delays in decision-making by one of the main partners to analyse, select and approve the 4 innovative proposals 4/5/2016 General Bilateral approaches and meetings.	4/5/2016	General	Lobbying and meeting with stakeholders.
2	The multiple actors that make up the PREVJUVE make that the consensuses to be able to develop an activity take excessive time to consult and to approve.	3/1/2016	General	Lobbying and meetings with stakeholders. The Executive Committee will evaluate a possible extension of the coordination team.

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LESSONS LEARNED

The multiplicity of partners and allies, especially the non-traditional are key to being able to innovate	Alliances with non-traditional sectors such as the private sector are a key element of PREVJUVE
Interagency coordination is one of the strengths of PREVJUVE	Coordination with UNICEF and other agencies of the system is very important and has been maximized in 2016.
The PREVJUVE becomes an opportunity to position the issue of childhood, adolescence and youth in SICA as well as to open spaces for related issues such as: NNAJ migration and its different expressions of violence towards them and the situation of adolescents in the criminal justice system	As a result of the analysis and studies developed by PREVJUVE, internal debates in SICA begin to take place. The appropriation of the project by SICA is quite remarkable.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

TABLE 1

UNDG Harmonized Budget Categories	Budget	Expenses 2015	Expenses 2016*
Staff and other personnel costs	87,122.00	17,718.31	7,117.27
Supplies, Commodities, Materials	48,642.00	8,541.82	5,303.75
Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	11,079.56	49,933.31	3,114.91
Contractual Services	327,333.00	99,925.13	318,061.50
Travel	66,008.29	80,894.48	23,316.87
Transfers and Grants Counterparts	1,211,667.00		804,461.70
General Operating and Other Direct Costs	117,307.03	20,260.58	113,818.93
Total programme amount	1,869,158.88	277,273.63	1,275,194.93
Indirect support costs	130,841.12	21,011.65	74,615.07
TOTAL	2,000,000.00	298,285.28	1,349,810.00

*The Accumulated Delivery as of 31 December 2016 has achieved an execution rate of 72% (US\$1,439,734.74) with regards to the budget approved for the SDGTF's first tranche (US\$2M).

If we take into consideration "Utilization" rate this percentage rises to 82% (US\$1,648,095.28 M), since it includes Commitments raised during 2016 (US\$208,360.54).

Available resources of first tranche are US\$351,904.72 as of January 1st 2017.