



Migration Multi-Partner Trust Fund

**START-UP FUND FOR SAFE, ORDERLY
AND REGULAR MIGRATION**

Ecuador: Final report

March 2024



Annual / Final Progress Report Template

Migration MPTF ANNUAL / FINAL PROGRESS REPORT

PROJECT INFORMATION	
Joint Programme Title:	Enhanced socio-economic integration of migrants and host community members (with an emphasis on women and youth) focused on entrepreneurship opportunities through and innovation and community-based approach in Imbabura and Sucumbíos.
Country(ies)/Region (or indicate if a global initiative):	Ecuador
Project Identification Number:	00129727
Convening UN Organization:	International Organization for Migration - IOM
PUNO(s) (PUNOs):	United Nations Development Programme - UNDP United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women - UN Women
Key Partners: <i>(include Implementing Partner)</i>	<p>Local Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Imbabura Provincial Government • Sucumbíos Provincial Government • Ibarra Municipal Government • Lago Agrio Municipal Government <p>National Governments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CONGOPE (Consortium of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador) – AME (Association of Ecuadorian Municipalities) – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility – Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion <p>NGO:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COOPI – Cooperazione Internazionale • ADRA – The Adventist Development and Relief Agency • RFD • AVSI • FUDELA

	Other Key Partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESTUDIO SUR • Ibarra GTRM • Lago Agrio GTRM • Red Panas • Altior • La Ince • Manthra • Specialized consultants.
Project Period (Start – End Dates):	16 December 2021 – 31 March 2024
Reporting Period:	16 December 2021 – 31 March 2024
Total Approved Migration MPTF Budget: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	IOM: USD 600,000.00 UNDP: USD 550,000.00 UN WOMEN: USD 350,000.00 TOTAL: USD 1,500,000.00
Total Funds Received To Date: <i>(breakdown by PUNO)</i>	IOM: USD 600,000.00 UNDP: USD 550,000.00 UN WOMEN: USD 350,000.00 TOTAL: USD 1,500,000.00
Report Submission Date:	31 March 2024
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Executive Summary

The joint program (JP) seeks to strengthen the capacities of local and national governments, and civil society organizations in Imbabura and Sucumbíos, to promote socio-economic integration of people in human mobility and host communities, with an emphasis on women and youth. The program emphasizes on the generation of sustainable livelihoods with the private sector, strengthening the effective participation of women in integration processes.

Throughout the execution of the JP implemented in Ecuador by IOM, UNDP and UN Women, the JP has intervened in Imbabura and Sucumbíos, reaching a total number of 1920 direct beneficiaries, distributed as follows: 251 entrepreneurs trained to enhance their businesses, 400 people that have access to updated and evidence bases data, information and analysis, 129 people who have access to economic resources aimed to increase entrepreneurship opportunities, 205 people trained in digital livelihoods through the “En Marcha Digital” methodology and who received electronic devices as part of their learning process and socioeconomic insertion, 189 parents reached with the child-care services, 300 people in human mobility reached with comprehensive information regarding visa procedures and regularization requirements, 493 people trained in financial education, 210 of them articulated with financial products and services in coordination with local cooperatives, 94 get access to credit lines. In addition, 60 public officials, 20 representatives of civil society organizations and 18 representatives of private companies trained in ethical and gender-sensitive recruitment and employability of people in situations of human mobility. These results lead to a direct impact on beneficiaries’ lives, enhancing their abilities to integrate their communities, contribute to sustainable development and improve their qualities of life.

Implemented activities have successfully contributed to the achievement of the following GCM objectives in the provinces of intervention: 6: Facilitate fair and ethical recruitment and safeguard conditions that ensure decent work; 18: Invest in skills development and facilitate mutual recognition of skills, qualifications and competences; 19: Create conditions for migrants and diasporas to fully contribute to sustainable development in all countries; and, 20: Promote faster, safer and cheaper transfer of remittances and foster financial inclusion of migrants. Likewise, the JP has so far contributed to the achievement of the following SDGs: 8.8. Protect labour rights and promote safe and secure working environments for all workers, including migrant workers, in particular women migrants, and those in precarious employment; and 1.4. By 2030, ensure that all men and women, in particular, the poor and the vulnerable, have equal rights to economic resources, as well as access to basic services, ownership and control over land and other forms of property, inheritance, natural resources, appropriate new technology and financial services, including microfinance.

Annual / End-of Project Progress

1. Summary and Context

In essence, the joint program has aimed to strengthen the capacities of local and national governments, and civil society organizations to promote the socioeconomic integration of people in human mobility and host communities, with an emphasis on women and youth. This was made to increase access to formal employment opportunities and decent work, with gender parity, for migrants and members of host communities, considering the labor impacts caused by the COVID-19 pandemic in both local economies. Likewise, the project included producing updated

information on regularization procedures, communication campaigns to prevent and reduce xenophobia and discrimination, and provided seed capital and electronic tools to selected beneficiaries. In this context, the project has met the stated objectives, and its implementation has currently been completed.

Despite the success of the JP, it is important to mention that some of the activities, such as the information campaign for regularization was delayed because the new government decreed a state of emergency as of January 8, 2024, due to the serious security crisis that the country is experiencing. Since then, activities in the territory have suffered limitations, taking into account that the territory offices have suggested avoiding mass events as much as possible since these have been used by the State to collect information from migrants, which has led to a certain fear of the population to participate in crowded activities. Nevertheless, the regularization component of output 2.2 is a key to be implemented in parallel with the new livelihoods training and the financial education workshops in Sucumbíos to minimize risks.

Another limitation faced by the JP was the increased extortion crimes by organized crime gangs in the localities, especially for the delivery of seed capital; however, protocols for the delivery of these incentives were developed to counteract these risks. Because of the increasing level of insecurity in the country, which led to the temporary suspension of activities in certain institutions, causing delays, some meetings were conducted virtually, and the workshops were resumed in February 2024 to produce the expected outcomes.

2. Results

Outcome 1: *Migrants and host community members benefit from enhanced access to sustainable livelihood opportunities through the generation of entrepreneurship programs and increased access to decent work opportunities with an emphasis on women and closing gender gaps in Imbabura and Sucumbíos.*

Output 1.1: *Governments, international humanitarian actors, migrants and refugees have access to updated and evidence-based data, information and analysis on normative, policy and economic gaps that hinder the process of socioeconomic integration for people in human mobility and local needs for new businesses opportunities, including on available job positions with an emphasis on existing gender gaps and double discrimination factors confronted by women in human mobility and structural barriers. (IOM)*

- **1.1A** Number of technical documents produced which include infographics, datasets and statistics. Target: 1. (IOM)
- **1.1B** Number of government agencies supported with information (disaggregated by: Location). Target: 3. (IOM)
- **1.1C** Number of recommendations issued with emphasis on existing gender gaps and double discrimination factors issues in the medium and long term. Target: 1. (IOM)
- **1.1D** Number of migrants and refugees that have access to updated and evidence-based data, information and analysis. Target: 200. (IOM)

Under Output 1.1, by 2022, the Joint Programme (JP) with the experienced consultancy group ALTIOR conducted a study aimed at identifying local needs and new business opportunities,

including available job positions. The study focused on existing gender gaps, double discrimination factors faced by women in human mobility and structural barriers. This study following objectives:

1. Identify the labour market opportunities of the provinces of Imbabura and Sucumbios to understand the situation of migrants with an emphasis on women and youth (See Annex – Infography of Imbabura and Sucumbíos).
2. Carry out an analysis of 3-5 specific sectors that could offer integration opportunities for people in human mobility. (See Annex - Analysis of gaps and opportunities in economic sectors).
3. Collect qualitative information on the opportunities and needs for labor, social, and economic integration of people in human mobility, with a gender and generational approach. (See Annex - Qualitative report on Opportunities for Social Inclusion).
4. Conduct a qualitative study aimed at public and private sector institutions and potential employers to understand the opportunities, gaps, and difficulties of people in human mobility to integrate the labor market.
5. Contrast findings against current local and national regulations regarding the insertion of people in human mobility to employment and entrepreneurship.
6. Systematize strategies and recommendations for labor, social and economic inclusion.

The consultancy lasted for five months, during which qualitative and quantitative data were gathered and analyzed. It concluded that there is a prevailing need to invest in established local small and medium businesses rather than creating new entrepreneurial ventures in Imbabura and Sucumbios. According to the consultancy, strengthening established businesses with the potential to employ migrants and the local host community will generate economic development, social integration, and long-term positive effects for the communities. To achieve this goal, the consultancy identified gaps and opportunities for the economic inclusion of the local population and those in human mobility within economic sectors or productive chains.

A perception analysis conducted within the consultancy revealed that local actors expressed openness to work with migrants, particularly business owners and potential employers. However, at the community level, there was a general perception that migration has led to increased insecurity and discomfort, contradicting findings about willingness to hire people in human mobility.

As a result of the implementation of the activities under output 1.1, 400 people and four government agencies gained access to updated data and information. Two reports of surveys and analyses of quantitative primary data were conducted in each location, and one analysis of gaps and opportunities in economic sectors in Sucumbíos and Imbabura was developed to make visible the economic context faced by people in human mobility, with an emphasis on women and youth.

Output 1.2: Migrants, returnees and host community members have access to skills-based livelihood trainings and economic resources aimed to increase entrepreneurship opportunities in each locality, with emphasis on women and youth, run through locally based partners and in close collaboration with civil society actors. (IOM & UN Women)



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- **1.2A** Number of migrants, returnees and host community members that Improved their economic inclusion with a focus on the specific needs of women and children. Target: 200. (IOM)
- **1.2B** Number of migrants, returnees and host community members who have access to economic resources aimed to increase entrepreneurship opportunities in each locality, with emphasis on women and youth. Target: 50. (UN Women)

The activities under output 1.2 aimed to provide socioeconomic integration opportunities to migrants, returnees and the host community in Ibarra and Lago Agrio through the promotion of initiatives to strengthen entrepreneurship with an emphasis on women and youth, to increase access to decent economic opportunities.

As a result of the activities implemented in 2023, 251 people were trained, 125 in Imbabura and 126 in Sucumbíos across three training blocks:

- Entrepreneurship training.
- Gender training.
- Product photography and digital marketing workshops.

After completing the entrepreneurship training, the top 129 business plans were selected to receive seed capital totaling USD 700 in goods and supplies. This top business ideas were developed from 129 migrants, returnees and host community members. Evaluation criteria included the quality of the business plan and effectiveness of their presentation pitch. This initiative aimed to enable members of the host community and local population to either start their businesses or strengthen an existing one.

Furthermore, a support business plan was designed for each participant to enhance the likelihood of their entrepreneurial success. This plan of the included strategies to incorporate their business ideas into product fairs and a digital catalog for advertising their products and/or services. A key takeaway from this activity is the importance to establish a medium- and long-term support plan to further enhance the success prospects for entrepreneurs who are in the startup phase and still need active guidance. Feedback from participants indicated that 90% of them considered that at the end of this activity, their skills and capacities increased.

Output 1.3: *Women and youth from migrant and host communities have access to digital and remote livelihood opportunities in coordination with local implementing partners and the private sector, considering new needs which have arisen from the COVID-19 context. (UNDP)*

- **1.3A** Number of target population accessing to digital and remote livelihood (disaggregated by status: refugees and migrants, sex, disability status, and single carer's status). Target: 200. (UNDP)

Through the digital livelihood program, a total of 205 people completed the process successfully, 101 people in the province of Imbabura and 104 people in Sucumbíos, of this total, 89% of the businesses served were led by women. 60% of the participants were young people between 18

and 35 years old and 81% were people in a situation of human mobility. Among the main milestones of the program, it stands out that 75% of the businesses served reported having an increase in their level of sales. Additionally, 61% of the participants indicated that they had innovated in their business model, and 67% indicated that they began using social networks to promote and sell their products and services.

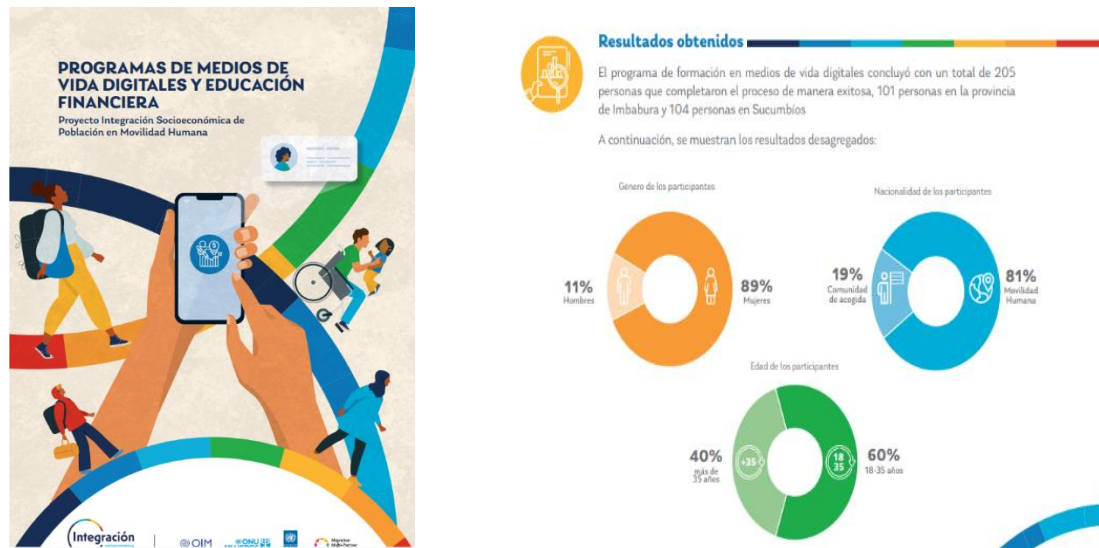


Figure 1 digital livelihood program

As the final phase of the training process, electronic devices were assigned to people to complete the digital livelihood program. The delivery of digital devices to the participants was intended to help them put into practice the knowledge and tools taught in the digital livelihoods program in their businesses, in addition to facilitating access to new business models that can be executed remotely.

The activities described have contributed directly to outcome 1, promoting that migrants and host community members benefit from greater access to opportunities for sustainable livelihoods through the generation of entrepreneurship programs and greater access to job opportunities and decent work with an emphasis on women and closing of gender gaps in Imbabura and Sucumbios.

Output 1.4: Civil society organizations', private sector stakeholders' and local governments capacities are enhanced in order to increase access to formal employment opportunities and decent work, with gender parity, for migrants and host community members, considering the labour impacts brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic in both local economies. (UNDP & UN Women)

- **1.4A** Number of local government public servants trained who show improved knowledge and skills for promoting formal employment opportunities and decent work, with gender parity (disaggregated by: location, sex, agency). Target: 20. (UNDP & UN Women)

During the period from August to November 2023, the JP carried out the Ethical and Gender-Sensitive Recruitment and Employability Program for People in Human Mobility. This program aimed to train and raise awareness among representatives of local governments, private companies, and civil society organizations about recruitment and ethical employability of people in human mobility, with a special focus on gender sensitivity. The intervention pursued stimulating inclusive, equitable, and ethical work practices, promoting equal opportunities and effective integration in the workplace. Through capacity-building sessions, the JP also sought to raise awareness about the specific barriers that people face when seeking employment. In addition, participants were provided with the necessary tools and knowledge to implement labor policies and practices that respect ethical principles and consider the various gender dimensions in employability processes.



Figure 2. Participants in Capacity-building sessions

The training program concluded with a total of 68 people in both locations who completed the process successfully, 32 in Ibarra and 36 in Lago Agrio, 40 participants were women, 28 were men, 30 were representatives of the local government, 20 were representatives of civil society organizations, and 18 were representatives of private companies. Some disaggregated data to highlight is that 93% of the participants increased their knowledge regarding the labor inclusion of people in human mobility in Ecuador. Likewise, 95% know the legal framework and public policies related to migration and employment, and 90% have improved their knowledge of how to prevent gender discrimination, among other acquired skills. While these are disaggregated data by theme, it's important to note that the total number of participants improved their knowledge for promoting formal employment opportunities for people in human mobility.

Furthermore, as part of the strengthening of public officials' capacities, a training process was conducted between October and December 2023. As a result of this process, 30 individuals working in local government protection spaces in Imbabura and Sucumbíos, as well as representatives from civil society organizations, obtained their participation certificates. The topics were:



- **Economic rights of women:** pay equity, access to job opportunities, decision-making, and economic empowerment.
- **Women, human mobility, and economic and labor rights:** analysis of challenges in labor rights through case studies of best practices in the integration of women.
- **Gender equality and labor barriers:** tools and knowledge to promote gender equality in the workplace, identify and disseminate best practices and effective strategies aimed at safeguarding women's labor rights in public spaces.
- **ILO Convention 190:** protection against exploitation and mistreatment of women in the workplace as well as to enhance public officials' understanding of human rights issues, gender equality, and their application in their daily duties.
- **Masculinities:** sensitizing participants about gender stereotypes and how they persist in workspaces.

The worldwide strategy "Safe Cities Free of Violence against Women" was implemented to improve the inclusion of women in human mobility and consider the levels of violence they are exposed to in public spaces, where many of them conduct their economic activities. To this end, one assessment was conducted in each location aimed to identify the type of violence and the locations with the highest incidence of violence against women and girls. This process involved the participation of local governments and social organizations.

In December 2023, the results of the assessments were presented to the local authorities to identify public policies that could be generated for the prevention of violence against women and girls in public spaces. Following these assessments, the JP conducted meetings and workshops, with the participation of authorities and social organizations representing women and people in human mobility in January and February 2024, to develop a proposal for a plan to prevent violence against women and girls in public transportation in Ibarra and a proposal for an ordinance for Lago Agrio.

Finally, as part of the advocacy process, from February 21st to 22nd, 2024, an exchange event of "Safe Cities" experiences was held in the city of Cuenca, with local authorities, where officials from the provincial government of Imbabura and municipal governments of Ibarra and Lago Agrio participated.

Outcome 2: *Migrants and host community members, mainly women, benefit from improved and equitable access to social integration and wellbeing opportunities through the enhancement of local stakeholders' capacities (local governments, civil society organizations and private sector) in Imbabura and Sucumbíos.*

Output 2.1: *Two community and locally based childcare services are available (one in each locality), to empower parents socioeconomic integration aiming to tackle changed dynamics due to the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. (UN Women & IOM)*

- **2.1A** Number of community and locally based childcare services available. Target: 2. (IOM)

- **2.1B** Number of parents reached with the child-care services designed. Target: 50. (*UN Women*)
- **2.1C** % of beneficiaries are satisfied with the childcare service provided for their children (disaggregated by: location, gender, age). Target: 60. (*UN Women & IOM*)

To promote socioeconomic integration of women in human mobility and host community, two community-based childcare models with a focus on gender and human mobility were designed and implemented from September 2023 to March 2024. The following steps were taken to achieve this goal:

➤ **Actor mapping:**

Childcare centers were mapped using the snowball methodology involving three national and governmental actors, coordinators of childcare development centers, local protection committees, and women in human mobility benefiting from other projects.

➤ **Diagnosis of existing childcare centers in the localities:**

Childcare centers were prioritized for intervention according to established criteria based on their relevance, including exploratory visits to childcare centers and interviews with key stakeholders. This helped define the childcare centers where the diagnosis was carried out, considering parameters such as admission requirements, types of services provided, work areas, infrastructure, capacity, coverage, best practices, community relevance, and staff capacity improvement needs. From the diagnosis, two childcare centers, one per locality, were selected for the implementation of the model to be built.

➤ **Training for community care members:**

To enhance the capacities of all childcare spaces identified in the diagnosis in Lago Agrio and Ibarra, a training program was conducted from November to December 2023. A total of 200 community care members (coordinators, caregivers, parents) were trained from which 189 were parents. The program covered various topics such as: social organization of care, childcare center management with a gender focus, co-education in gender equality and new masculinities, early stimulation techniques, child health and nutrition.

➤ **Design of community-based care models:**

To develop community-based care models, participatory workshops were held with community care members, community members, experts, and academia between November and December 2023. Through this collaborative process, two care models, one per locality, were developed. These models were tailored to specific needs of each space and took into account shared responsibility, gender focus, and human mobility as cross-cutting themes. The following five components were defined: administration and management of community childcare, community participation, collaborations and strategic partnerships, family awareness and promotion, and creation of protective and stimulating environments.

➤ **Implementation of community-based care models:**

Following the establishment of the models, implementation began in January 2024. This phase required adjustments to the infrastructure and the acquisition of furniture, didactic and play materials. Additionally, as part of the model entails community care for children during hours that enable mothers to engage in work activities, women from the community underwent training to support childcare tasks at the community care center.

In terms of the indicator **2.1C** % of beneficiaries that are satisfied with the childcare service provided for their children, 75 parents were surveyed through Post Monitoring Distribution exercise, and, 93,2% informed to be satisfied with the service provided.

Output 2.2: *People in human mobility benefit from increased access to information regarding visa procedures and regularization requirements in the country, as instrument to promote their social and economic inclusion and reduce their vulnerability, avoiding possible marginalization and exploitation. (IOM)*

- **2.2A** Number of people in human mobility reached with comprehensive information regarding visa procedures and regularization requirements in the country. Target: 400. (IOM)
- **2.2B** % of beneficiaries are satisfied with the information received regarding regularization (disaggregated by: location, gender, age). Target: 60. (IOM)

To generate information and strategies for disseminating information on the existing visa mechanisms and regularization process in Ecuador the JP carried out these activities:

- Collect and analyze available information and communication materials on visa and regularization process.
- Update existing information regarding visas and regularization processes in Ecuador.
- Generate communication actions and edu-communicational material.

Following these activities, the JP promoted a community activation methodology that applied to the campaign on March 23 and 24¹, and it was expected to reach 400 people in both locations. In addition, a communications strategy was developed, focusing on two key components: Offline strategies: information points and branding to make the process visible; edu-communicational brochures; playful and didactic material to be used in community activations, and advertisement that is reproduced at the information point. As a result of the activity, 159 people participated in this activity. In terms of the number of beneficiaries in this activity, it is important to mention that the activations were delayed due to the emerging insecurity in Ecuador. Since the new government decreed a state of emergency as of January 8, 2024 to address the serious security crisis, the activities in the territory have had limitations, with government measurements to avoid worsening insecurity situation including refraining to hold mass events as much as possible. In this context, a certain fear from insecure situation affected the participation of the population in crowded

¹ The information about this campaign will be available on 26 March.

activities, and it has been an obstacle to achieving the goal. For example, the case of the city of Lago Agrio, the State of Emergency remains in force until April 8, and it has affected to participation of people in activities. For these reasons, the strategy of community activation has been changed to strengthen digital media strategy in order to reach the initial target, tackling this situation.

- Digital campaign: eight static posts with eye-catching information about the campaign; informational carousels with six posts in carousel format, and a 45-second animated video.

Output 2.3: *Vulnerable migrants and host community members access financial education opportunities and credit lines, in order to reduce vulnerabilities exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. (UNPD, IOM & UN Women)*

- **2.3A** Number of vulnerable migrants and host community members who access financial education opportunities. Target: 200. *(UNDP & UN Women)*
- **2.3B** Number of vulnerable migrants and host community members who access credit lines. Target: 60. *(IOM)*
- **2.3C** Number of institutions committed to support financial inclusion of women in mobility. Target: 2. *(UN Women)*
- **2.3D** Percentage of persons, who express satisfaction with the current process of obtaining credit lines. Target: 60. *(UNPD, IOM & UN Women)*

Within the framework of the financial education program, a total of 419 people completed the process successfully, 201 people in the province of Imbabura and 218 people in Sucumbíos. Of this total, 84% were women, 61% were youth between 18 and 35 years old, and 79% were people in human mobility. 97% of participants improved their knowledge about the rights and obligations when using the Ecuadorian financial system, 64% developed a savings plan and 99% of people improved their knowledge about credit product management.

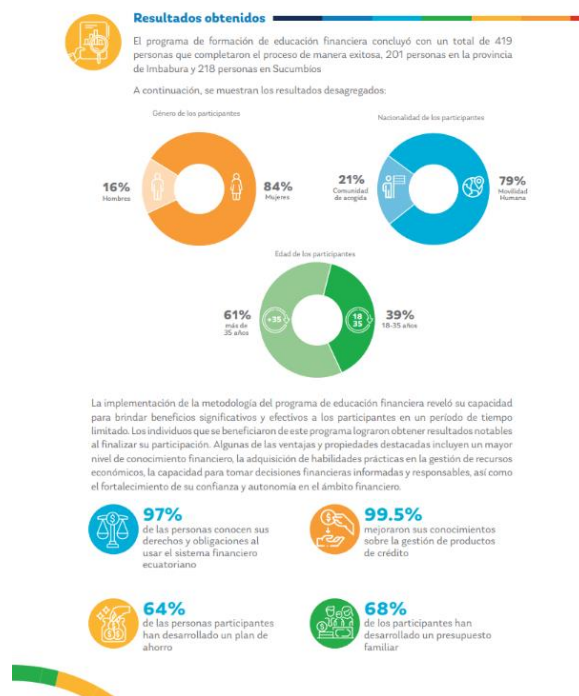


Figure 3. The result of financial education program

As a result of the actions undertaken within the framework of this component, alliances were made with five financial entities located in the provinces of Imbabura and Sucumbíos to promote access to financial services and products for beneficiaries of this project. Thanks to these efforts, it was possible to connect 210 people with financial products and services, 117 people in the province of Imbabura and 93 people in Sucumbíos. The financial entities with which alliances were developed are detailed below:

- Codesarrollo Bank.
- Mujeres Unidas Savings and Credit Cooperative.
- San Antonio Savings and Credit Cooperative.
- San Juan de Cotogchoa Savings and Credit Cooperative.
- Tulcán Savings and Credit Cooperative.

Understanding that people with irregular migratory status have several restrictions to access traditional financial systems, the JP has diversified its response to include, within its intervention, alternative financial services with social base. In this sense, the JP approached two local savings banks in Sucumbíos and one in Imbabura, to reinforce its structures and deepen their reach. Savings banks are participatory mechanisms that boost the local economy, articulating with strategic actors and allies to promote territorial development in favor of their associates and the community in general.

To strengthen the savings banks targeted in both localities, the JP carried out actions within four axes of intervention from August 2022 to March 2023. These actions also targeted the PANAS Network “PANAS Red de Organizaciones de Finanzas Populares y Solidarias”, which was

established as a savings bank network nation-wide, to generate fair and equitable financial access to people in human mobility, host community and vulnerable population in Ecuador. These axes were:

- Axis 1: continuous training on legal and governance advice.
- Axis 2: continuous training on consulting in accounting management. Financial Core System.
- Axis 3: development of associative business plans
- Axis 4: Strengthening of organizations.

In addition, within output 2.3, 94 vulnerable migrants and host community members have acquired access to credit lines, which facilitates to improve their finances management capacity and more financial stability. Likewise, alliances made by the JP with 4 community-based savings banks and 5 local cooperatives/financial institutions, represent a 500% of completion of targeted financial institutions that have committed to support the financial inclusion of vulnerable migrants and host community members.

As part of the gender governance strategy for savings banks and the Panas Network, between March and June 2023, two of the savings banks in both localities were strengthened to improve socio-organizational composition, integrate women members in human mobility, and enhance the gender focus in their operations. In the capacity-building process, 102 members from the savings banks of the two localities participated, receiving training on topics such as women's leadership, economic empowerment, associativity, organizational management, accountability, social skills, and gender-focused governance.

In July 2023, a financial literacy process was conducted for both savings banks, benefiting 74 individuals, of whom 68.92% were women. As part of the intervention, two toolkits were designed, one for financial literacy and the other for mainstreaming the gender perspective.

To improve financial inclusion for individuals in human mobility, two Community Saving Banks "cajas de ahorro" located in Ibarra and Lago Agrio were strengthened, with a significant portion of their members being in human mobility. These "cajas de ahorro" represent legal community savings mechanisms in Ecuador, formed through the will and financial contributions of their members, and they are important within the popular and solidarity economy because they provide access to savings and credit for all people and strengthen social cohesion.

The strengthening process involved an initial stage of training for 102 members of the "cajas de ahorro" from the two localities. The training covered topics such as economic empowerment, associativity, organizational management, accountability, social skills, and gender-focused governance, aiming to provide women with the tools to lead the "cajas de ahorro". Additionally, seed capital was provided for the acquisition of office equipment and working capital for lending to members, as well as for opening accounts for women in human mobility to become members of the savings banks and access credit. At the end of this stage, in Ibarra, in the "caja de ahorro Fronteras Unidas" the percentage of female members was 67%, and in Lago Agrio in the "caja de ahorro Fundaesfuerzo" was 70%.



In a second stage, a financial literacy process was conducted for members of both savings banks, benefiting 74 individuals, of whom 68.92% were women. As part of the intervention, two toolkits were designed: one for financial literacy and another for integrating a gender perspective into the savings banks.

Output 2.4: *Communication campaigns and locally based dissemination materials to reduce xenophobia and gender stereotypes are launched in alliance with local governments, the private sector and civil society organizations working on the field, with the objective of reducing negative perceptions around migration, and promotion of gender equality. (IOM, UN Women & UNDP)*

- **2.4A** Number people (in human mobility and from host communities) reached with comprehensive gender information and campaigns on against xenophobia. Target: 30,000. *(IOM, UN Women & UNDP)*

The “Humano” campaign was launched to foster solidarity, empathy and raise awareness towards migrants and refugees through an exhibition and social media. The exhibition took place in the satellite exhibition hall of the MuNa with the support of the National Art Museum in Ecuador. It featured infographics, visual communications between interviewees and audiences using a application, workshops and guided tours. During the exhibition period, 132 people participated in the side events and 1,980 people visited the exhibition.



Figure 4. The exhibition: People use their phone to interact with the history of migrants, participation in side events.

In addition to the exhibition, people have been actively engaging with informative materials on social media. These materials included informative, musical, and historical content, aimed not only to deliver a message but also at encouraging interaction among social media users. As a result of the social media intervention, the content reached 4.056.264 individuals and generated 19,015 interactions.



Figure 5. Posters to interact with smartphone and social media.

Communication materials were distributed through three channels. Firstly, through traditional media was utilized to amplify all relevant messages of the campaign in each city of intervention. To achieve this result, collaboration was planned with local media, both radio and television. The second communication channel involved BTL (Below The Line) activities conducted in outdoor public spaces in both cities. Strategic selection of these locations ensured a good flow of visitors to the exhibition. To maximize the impact and guarantee greater attendance, exhibition modules were designed and installed in central public spaces in both locations. As parallel activities during the exhibitions, collective thinking workshops were held around the themes of the campaign. The third channel for disseminating communication materials was through social networks. Between October and December 2023, content published on social networks centered on three main themes: Prevention and addressing violence, combating xenophobia and workplace harassment, and addressing sexual exploitation. To address these topics in more deeply, various publication formats were utilized, including posts, testimonials, and short videos. The total reach report revealed that the campaign reached a total of 3,636,409 people.

Results Reporting Framework						
INDICATORS	Baseline	Results achieved for the reporting period			Cumulative Results	Notes
		2022	2023	2024		
OBJECTIVE						
Indicator A Number of vulnerable population of refugees and migrants benefitting from the assistance (disaggregated by sex, age, and disability status).	Baseline: 0 Target: 850	796	965	159	1920	1920 people from vulnerable situations among refugees, migrants, and host communities.
OUTCOME 1						
OUTPUT 1.1 (IOM)						
Indicator 1.1a (IOM) Number of technical documents produced which include infographics, datasets and statistics.	Baseline: 0 Target: 1	1	-	-	1	1 analysis of gaps and opportunities in economic sectors in Sucumbíos and Imbabura to make visible the economic context faced by people in situation of human mobility with emphasis on women and young people.
Indicator 1.1b (IOM) Number of government agencies supported with information (disaggregated by: Location)	Baseline: 0 Target: 3	1	3	-	4	1 analysis of gaps and opportunities in institutional frameworks for the recruitment of people in of human mobility in each location. 1 Minute of the Second Meeting of the Technical Committee for Supervision and Support to the Implementation of

						<p>the Programme established on September 13, 2023.</p> <p>Government agencies which participated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Sucumbíos Provincial Government / Local Government * Imbabura Provincial Government / Local Government * Lago Agrio Municipal Government / Local Government * Ibarra Municipal Government / Local Government * Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility / National Government * CONGOPE (Consortium of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador) / National Government * AME (Association of Ecuadorian Municipalities) / National Government
<p>Indicator 1.1c (IOM)</p> <p>Number of recommendations issued with emphasis on existing gender gaps and double discrimination factors issues in the medium and long term</p>	<p>Baseline: 0 Target: 1</p>	2	-	-	2	1 Report of survey and analysis of quantitative primary data in each location.
<p>Indicator 1.1d (IOM)</p> <p>Number of migrants and refugees that have access to updated and evidence-based data, information and</p>	<p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200</p>	400	-	-	400	200 people that have access to updated and evidence bases data, information and analysis in each location.

analysis						
OUTPUT 1.2 (IOM & UN Women)						
Indicator 1.2a (IOM) Number of migrants ,returnees and host community members that Improved their economic inclusion with a focus on the specific needs of women and children.	Baseline: 0 Target: 200	-	251	-	251	Male: 2 Female: 246 Others: 3 Ecuadorians: 20 Colombians: 45 Venezuelans: 186
Indicator 1.2b (UN Women) Number of migrants, returnees and host community members who have access to economic resources aimed to increase entrepreneurship opportunities in each locality, with emphasis on women and youth.	Baseline: 0 Target: 50	-	129	-	129	Male: 1 Female: 127 Others: 1
OUTPUT 1.3 (UNDP)						
Indicator 1.3a (UNDP) Number of target population accessing to digital and remote livelihood (disaggregated by status: refugees and migrants, sex, disability)	Baseline: 0 Target: 200	Imbabura: 101 beneficiaries have access to digital and remote livelihood. Migrants: 72	Sucumbíos: 104 beneficiaries have access to digital and remote livelihood.	-	205 beneficiaries have access to digital and remote livelihood.	

status, and single carer's status).		<p>Host community: 29 Sex: female 92, male 9 Disability status: Yes 1, No 100</p> <p>101 beneficiaries receive electronic devices based on the methodology "digital livelihood for people on the move"</p> <p>100 beneficiaries achieve a grade of 60% of higher in their post-training evaluations Location: Imbabura Gender: female 91, male 9</p>	<p>Migrants: 94 Host community: 10 Sex: female 90, male 14 Disability status: Yes 2, No 102</p> <p>100 beneficiaries receive electronic devices based on the methodology "digital livelihood for people on the move."</p> <p>104 beneficiaries achieve a grade of 60% of higher in their post-training evaluations Location: Imbabura Gender: female 94, male 10 Sex: female 90, male 14</p>		<p>201 beneficiaries receive electronic devices based on the methodology "digital livelihood for people on the move."</p>	
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		Sex: female 92, male 9 Disability status: Yes 1, No 100	Disability status: Yes 2, No 102			
OUTPUT 1.4 (UNDP & UN Women)						
Indicator 1.4a (UNDP & UN Women) Number of local government public servants trained who show improved knowledge and skills for promoting formal employment opportunities and decent work, with gender parity (disaggregated by: location, sex, agency)	Baseline: 0 Target: 20	-	68 individuals who show improved knowledge and skills. 30 were representatives of the local government. 20 were representatives of civil society organizations. 18 were representatives of private companies.	-	68 individuals who show improved knowledge and skills. 30 were representatives of the local government. 20 were representatives of civil society organizations. 18 were representatives of private companies.	Total participants of Ethical and Gender-Sensitive Recruitment and Employability Program who improved knowledge: 68 Total participants of strengthening of public officials' capacities in Economic rights of women, Women, human mobility, and economic and labor right, Gender equality and labor barriers, ILO Convention 190, and Masculinities who obtained their participation certificates: 30 Total participants trained: 98 Imbabura: 32 public officials trained Sex: female, 19 male 13 Sucumbíos: 28 public officials trained Sex: female, 19 male 9

						<p>Imbabura: 10 trained people from civil society Sex: female 8, male 2 Sucumbíos: 10 trained people from civil society Sex: female 9, male 1</p> <p>Imbabura: 8 trained people from private sector Sex: female 3, male 5 Sucumbíos: 10 trained people from private sector Sex: female 5, male 5</p> <p>2 public policies developed with local governments focused on creating safe cities for women and girls in situations of human mobility.</p>
OUTCOME 2						
OUTPUT 2.1 (UN Women & IOM)						
Indicator 2.1a (IOM) Number of community and locally based childcare services available	Baseline: 0 Target: 2	-	-	2	2	2 community-based childcare models designed and implemented in Ibarra and Lago Agrio.
Indicator 2.1b (UN Women) Number of parents reached with the child-care services designed.	Baseline: 0 Target: 50	-	189	-	189	189 parents were trained. Ibarra: 75 Female: 61 Male: 14 Lago Agrio: 114

<p>Indicator 2.3a (UNDP & UN Women) Number of vulnerable migrants and host community members who access financial education opportunities</p>	<p>Baseline: 0 Target: 200</p>	<p>Imbabura 201 vulnerable migrants and host community members benefit from the programs of financial education. Female: 174 Male: 27</p>	<p>Sucumbíos 258 vulnerable migrants and host community members benefit from the programs of financial education. Female: 210 Male: 48 Imbabura 34 vulnerable migrants and host community members benefit from the programs of financial education. Female: 20 Male: 14</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>493 vulnerable migrants and host community members benefit from the programs of financial education. Female: 404 Male: 89 Imbabura: 235 Sucumbíos: 258</p>	
<p>Indicator 2.3b (IOM) Number of vulnerable migrants and host community members who access credit lines</p>	<p>Baseline: 0 Target: 60</p>	<p>94</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>-</p>	<p>94</p>	<p>Male: 21 Female: 73 Ecuadorians: 31 Colombians: 15</p>

						Venezuelans: 48
Indicator 2.3c (UN Women) Number of institutions committed to support financial inclusion of women in mobility.	Baseline: 0 Target: 2	-	2	-	2	2 savings banks, one per locality, were strengthened and trained on the mainstreaming of gender perspective.
Indicator 2.3d (UNPD, IOM & UN Women) Percentage of persons, who express satisfaction with the current process of obtaining credit lines	Baseline: 0 Target: 60%	-	-	96%	96%	96% people in human mobility reached with financial education opportunities are satisfied with the training process
OUTPUT 2.4 (IOM, UN Women & UNDP)						
Indicator 2.4a (IOM, UN Women & UNDP) Number people (in human mobility and from host communities) reached with comprehensive gender information and campaigns on against xenophobia.	Baseline: 0 Target: 30.000	-	3,636,409 people reached through social media campaign 132 people participating in the side events 1980 people visited the events. Media intervention contents reached	-	3,636,409 people reached through social media campaign 132 people participating in the side events 1980 people visited the events. Media intervention contents	

			4.056.264 persons and interacted 19,015 times.		reached 4.056.264 persons and interacted 19,015 times.	
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3. Partnerships

Key partnerships	Role / Contributions / Involvement
<p><i>NGO</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - COOPI – Cooperazione Internazionale - ADRA – The Adventist Development and Relief Agency - RFD (Network of Financial Institutions for Development) - AVSI - FUDELA 	Implementing partners, the NGO contributed with their experience in the implementation of the activities.
<p><i>Association of savings and credits:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Banco Codesarrollo - Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Mujeres Unidas - Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Antonio - Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Juan de Cotogchoa - Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Tulcán 	Alliance to promote articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.
<p><i>Local Governments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Imbabura Provincial Government - Sucumbíos Provincial Government - Ibarra Municipal Government - Lago Agrio Municipal Government 	Support to implement the activities according population needs.
<p><i>National Governments:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CONGOPE (Consortium of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador) - AME (Association of Ecuadorian Municipalities) - Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility - Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion 	Key actor to develop national policy for the benefit of vulnerable population.
<p><i>Specialized consultants</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ESTUDIO SUR - Altior - La Ince - Manthra 	Implementing partners, the NGO contributed with their experience in the implementation of the activities.

- Specialized individual consultants.	
<i>Other Key actors</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ibarra GTRM - Lago Agrio GTRM - Red Panas 	These actors contributed with their experience to coordinate actions in the field.

Implementation Agreements			
Name & Type of Partner	Type of implementation agreement (please specify if any MOU or agreement was formally entered)	Relevant outcome and/or output; PUNO counterpart	Financial value (if any)
Local government and/or related entities			
<i>Patronato Provincial of Imbabura Provincial Government</i>	At present, a cooperation agreement is being pursued along with the Provincial Government of Imbabura towards improving and strengthening local institutions in matters of migration issues and challenges, promoting local economic development, and human rights for vulnerable populations in human mobility.	All outcomes and outputs; IOM	N/A
<i>Municipality of Lago Agrio Municipal Government</i>	A General Cooperation Agreement has been signed along with the Municipality of Lago Agrio and gives rise to close coordination and collaboration within the JP Staff from the municipality of Lago Agrio participated in a capacity-building process on gender and human mobility. Additionally, the project supported the participatory construction of local public policies for the prevention of violence against women in human mobility in public spaces.	All outcomes and outputs; IOM	N/A

<i>Municipality of Ibarra Municipal Government</i>	Staff from the municipality of Ibarra participated in a capacity-building process on gender and human mobility. Additionally, the project supported the participatory construction of local public policies for the prevention of violence against women in human mobility in public spaces.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
<i>Imbabura Provincial Government</i>	The "Warmi comisarias" from the center for women victims of gender-based violence of the Prefecture of Imbabura participated in the capacity-building process in order to better serve women in human mobility.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
<i>Sucumbíos Provincial Government</i>	The Local Government participated in the technical committee for the presentation of JP's progress. The committee's objective was to generate dialogue to strengthen the program's activities and its impact on the beneficiary population.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
<i>CONGOPE (Consortium of Autonomous Provincial Governments of Ecuador) National Government</i>	The National Government participated in the technical committee for the presentation of JP's progress. The committee's objective was to generate dialogue to strengthen the program's activities and its impact on the beneficiary population.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
<i>AME (Association of Ecuadorian Municipalities) National Government</i>	The National Government participated in the technical committee for the presentation of JP's progress. The committee's objective was to generate dialogue to strengthen the program's activities and its impact on the beneficiary population.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A

<i>Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility National Government</i>	The National Government participated in the technical committee for the presentation of JP's progress. The committee's objective was to generate dialogue to strengthen the program's activities and its impact on the beneficiary population.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
<i>Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion National Government</i>	The coordinators of the MIES childcare development centers in the cities of Ibarra and Lago Agrio participated in training workshops and in the construction of the community-based childcare model.	All outcomes and outputs; All agencies	N/A
Non-governmental stakeholders			
<i>RFD (Network of Financial Institutions for Development) Implementing partner</i>	A responsible party agreement was signed with RFD for the implementation of outputs 1.3 and 2.3 in Imbabura and Sucumbíos.	Outcome 1, output 1.3; Outcome 2, output 2.3; UNDP	\$ 289.955,00
<i>Banco Codesarrollo Savings and credit association</i>	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UNDP	N/A
<i>Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Mujeres Unidas Savings and credit association</i>	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UNDP	N/A
<i>Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Antonio Savings and credit association</i>	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UNDP	N/A
<i>Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito San Juan de Cotogchoa</i>	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UNDP	N/A

<i>Savings and credit association</i>			
Cooperativa de Ahorro y Crédito Tulcán <i>Savings and credit association</i>	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UNDP	N/A
Simon Bolivar (Imbabura) Savings Bank	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	N/A
Fronteras Unidas (Imbabura) Savings Bank	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	N/A
Funda Esfuerzo (Sucumbíos) Savings Bank	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	N/A
Tricolor (Sucumbíos) Savings Bank	Alliance to promote the articulation of project beneficiaries with financial products and services.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	N/A
Adventist Development and Relief Agency (ADRA) Implementing partner	Partner agreement to strengthen savings banks with a focus on gender and financial inclusion, as well as to enhance the capacities of public servants in gender and human mobility issues. Additionally, it provided support in the creation of local policy proposals benefiting women in human mobility and led the process of designing and implementing two community-based childcare models in the provinces of Imbabura and Sucumbíos.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; UN WOMEN / IOM	\$ 191.875,00 Distributed as follows: UN Women: \$134.500,00 IOM \$ 57.375,00
Altior Cia. Ltda. Consultancy	Service contract for the development of 1 analysis of gaps and opportunities in economic sectors in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Imbabura, and 1 analysis of gaps and opportunities in	Outcome 2, Output 1.1; UN WOMEN / IOM	\$ 41.872,00 Distributed as follows:

	institutional frameworks for the recruitment of people in human mobility in each locality.		UN Women \$ 22.868,00 IOM \$19.004,00
La Incre S.A. Consultancy	Service contract to carry out focus groups to validate the perception study on mobility and gender equality in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Imbabura. This process was carried out by the consultancy La INCRE and supported by PUNOs.	Outcome 2, Output 2.4; UN WOMEN	\$ 14.380,00
Fundación de las Américas - FUDELA Implementing partner	Contribute to the strengthening of the RED PANAS through training and technical advice and assistance, and the provision of in-kind contributions, as well as in cash, and the development of a face-to-face meeting between its member.	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	\$ 28.976,04
Lizeth Maza (Axis 1) Geovanna Gallardo (Axis 2) Fernando Oyervide (Axis 2) Pilar Pauta (Axis 2) Consultancy and provision of services Webcoopec Cía. Ltda. (Axis 2) Goods and services provider	Contribute to the strengthening of the RED PANAS through the implementation of two capacity building axes: 1) providing legal advice and continuous training in Popular and Solidarity Economy for the development, regularization, social and economic strengthening of the savings banks in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Imbabura that conform to the RED PANAS; and 2) strengthening the economic management of each savings bank in the provinces of Sucumbíos and Imbabura through guidance, support and advice in the implementation of an automated accounting administrative management system (Financial CORE).	Outcome 2, Output 2.3; IOM	\$ 28.398,96

Cooperazione Internazionale - COOPI Implementing partner	Partner agreement for contribution to the strengthening of capacities for the economic inclusion of people in human mobility through a process of entrepreneurship.	Outcome 1, Output 1.2; UN Women / IOM	\$ 199.999,27 Distributed as follows: IOM \$ 152.999,27 UN Women \$ 47.000,00
Manthra Editores (Manthra Publishers) Consultancy	Service contract for the generation of information and strategies for the socialization of information related to the visa mechanisms, and the regularization process in Ecuador as an international protection tool to promote the economic and social inclusion of people in human mobility in the cities of Lago Agrio and Ibarra.	Outcome 2, Output 2.2; IOM	\$ 19.936,00
Studio Sur SAS Consultancy	Service contract to design a communication strategy to generate empathy and solidarity for the refugees and migrants in Ecuador, promoting the respect to their rights, responsibilities and obligations, and mostly, raising awareness about their situation through their personal and life stories.	Outcome 2, Output 2.4; IOM	\$ 42.560,00

4. Cross-Cutting Issues

The intervention has adopted a human rights approach, promoting equality, non-discrimination, participation, access to information and accountability in all its areas. A policy of zero tolerance towards any form of distinction or preference has been established, ensuring equal opportunities for all.

The human mobility approach has been mainstreamed to guarantee access to rights, services and information for this population, also working on social cohesion and the reduction of discrimination and xenophobia.

Regarding the gender approach, the intervention has sought to advance the equality and empowerment of women. Affirmative action criteria have been put into practice to facilitate and ensure their participation and retention in the programs.

In the same manner, the gender and human mobility approach has been mainstreamed into all capacity-building processes for the population in both localities. A shared responsibility approach to caregiving within families and communities has been promoted, and the methodology of non-violent and shared masculinities has been socialized with decision-makers and public officials. More than 50% of the benefited population were women. The participation of both the mobile population and host communities was essential to ensure socio-economic integration.

The actions implemented through the JP considered strategies aimed at development through sustainable solutions focused on the medium term.

5. Innovation, Good Practices and Lessons Learned

Good practices

- Establish an alliance with the implementing partner Network of Financial Institutions for Development) (NFD)) that brings together various savings and credit cooperatives in the intervention territories, which has facilitated access with them and the opening to make entry requirements more flexible for new beneficiaries in vulnerable situations.
- Carry out beneficiary targeting actions well in advance of the start date of the training processes.
- Run socialization sessions with potential beneficiaries prior to the start of the training processes to explain objectives, scope and align expectations regarding their participation in the project.
- Coordinate training schedules based on the availability of the majority of participants and maintain flexibility if someone needs to move their schedule to one of the other established options.
- Conduct in-person training and provide technical assistance processes, ensuring that training centres are strategically located in central locations to facilitate participant mobilization.
- Promote participation and prevent women from dropping out through the implementation of childcare spaces and delivery of snacks.
- Hire refreshments from the same entrepreneurs participating in the program to support their businesses.
- Create WhatsApp groups to facilitate communication between participants and trainers.

- Implement reinforcement sessions on topics that are difficult to understand for each group of participants, as well as provide spaces so that people who for some reason did not attend a session can raise their level.
- Maintain continuous communication with the public sector entities of the intervention localities linked to the project to promote their involvement and active participation.
- Organize events to acknowledge the commitment and efforts of the people who successfully complete the different training programs.
- Implementing two pilot community-based care models constitutes a contribution to overcoming inequalities, achieving gender equality, and fostering social cohesion. These models contribute to a balanced distribution of household chores, the economic autonomy of women, and the fair distribution of time invested by men and women in caregiving. Once they achieve self-sustainability, they can be replicated in other territories as practical examples for reconciling family and work life and integrating people in human mobility.
- The strengthening of savings banks has been crucial for the socio-economic integration of women in human mobility, who were supported with their inclusion and, in some cases, with a small seed capital for the opening of accounts. The training processes involving individuals in human mobility and the host community have not only strengthened their capacities but also their social integration, through the creation of support networks.
- The exchange of best practices on "Safe Cities and Spaces for Women and Girls" contributed to local government authorities promoting the creation of public policies for the prevention of violence in these spaces. This is positive, considering that many women in human mobility conduct their economic activities in these areas.

Learned lessons

- It is important to cross-reference participant information between different agencies to prevent beneficiaries from accessing duplicate programs or benefits, and rather broaden the spectrum of beneficiaries.
- Coordination with other agencies in the territory is important to prevent the training schedules of the different programs from overlapping each other.
- It is essential to coordinate visibility actions with the different organizations in the territory to position the project.
- Groups larger than those required to begin the training processes should be targeted, since it is normal for there to be dropouts, especially for reasons of mobilization of beneficiaries to other territories.

- The information collection processes with the beneficiaries must be carried out in person since by other means people often do not feel safe to deliver the information. ’
- Communication and having a clear understanding of the link between humanitarian aid and development have been important factors within inter-agency coordination for project implementation.

Limitations

- Referrals need to be checked, given that databases often have outdated information, incorrect telephone contacts or beneficiaries were no longer residing in any of the territories. This is of special importance given that although Sucumbíos and Imbabura are places of destination, they constitute transit territories due to their location in the northern border of the country. To overcome this barrier, neighbourhood leaders were contacted within the JP to request their help in identify potential beneficiaries and disseminate information on workshops and trainings.
- A high percentage of participants have an irregular migratory status, which limits articulation actions with traditional financial institutions, for beneficiaries to access financial products and services. To overcome this setback, migratory regularization workshops were implemented with beneficiaries.
- Although face-to-face showed to be the best approach in both territories, there were beneficiaries that had to move from different cities to access capacity building activities and to others work schedules were a difficulty.
- Another limitation occurred because some people who were being trained withdrew from the saving banks and others returned to their country of origin, leading to the need of identifying alternative beneficiaries.
- Vulnerability conditions have an impact on learning abilities of participants, including employment and safety concerns.
- The insecurity indices in the country have increased in a general way, which has represented a limitation in terms of the extension of training hours at night, since the beneficiaries use public transport and mobilizing at those times can be a risk to their welfare.

6. Challenges Encountered and Measures Taken

- Despite the actions undertaken by the National Government, there is still a high percentage of people in an irregular situation or that are currently undergoing a regularization process, which has made the planned actions in terms of financial inclusion especially difficult. The regularization component of output 2.2 has been a key to be implemented in parallel with the new livelihoods training and the financial education workshops in Sucumbíos, to minimize risks.

- In that context, it is important to mention that the activations have been delayed because the new government decreed a state of emergency as of January 8, 2024, due to the serious security crisis that the country is experiencing. Since then, activities in the territory have suffered limitations, taking into account that the territory offices have suggested avoiding mass events as much as possible, since these have been used by the State to collect information from migrants, which has led to a certain fear of the population to participate in crowded activities.
- A community activation methodology that ran on March 23 and 24² However, this activity reached 159 people given context difficulties related with the insecurity in Ecuador. In this regard, it is important to mention that the activations were delayed due to the fact that the new government decreed a state of emergency as of January 8, 2024 because a serious security crisis that the country is experiencing. Since then, activities in the territory have suffered limitations, taking into account that the territory offices have suggested avoiding mass events as much as possible since the communitarian activities have been used by the State to collect information from migrants, which has led to a certain fear of the population to participate in crowded activities. In the case of the city of Lago Agrio the State of Emergency remains in force until April 8. For these reasons, the strategy of community activation has been changed by strengthening digital media strategy given the reduced capability to reach the initial target.
- There was a delay in the execution of the communication campaign due to the delay in the generation of materials intended for the dissemination process. As a corrective measure, it was decided to shorten the duration of the campaign's dissemination, but expand its intensity, to meet the established goals.
- Due to the increase in extortion crimes by organized crime gangs in the localities, there was a risk in the delivery of seed capital; however, protocols for the delivery of these incentives were developed to counteract these risks.
- The workshops scheduled for January 2024 for the development of public policies in Ibarra and Lago Agrio were suspended due to the increasing level of insecurity in the country, which led to the temporary suspension of activities in certain institutions, causing delays. However, some meetings were conducted virtually, and the workshops were resumed in February to produce the expected outcomes.

Conclusion and Next Steps

Throughout the execution of the programme, the JP intervened in Imbabura and Sucumbíos, reaching a total number of 1920 direct beneficiaries. Out of these, 205 beneficiaries accessed digital and remote livelihoods, and 201 of them received electronic devices to boost their businesses; 493 vulnerable migrants and host community members benefited from financial education programmes;

² The information about this campaign will be available on 26 March.

94 vulnerable migrants and host community members acquired access to credit lines through the alliances made by the JP with five local cooperatives/financial institutions; 189 people were trained in childcare with gender approach and two community-based childcare models were strengthened. These results lead to a direct impact on beneficiaries' lives, enhancing their abilities to integrate their communities, contribute to sustainable development, and improve their quality of life.

The successful implementation of the JP has been notable. The programme has effectively addressed the intended objectives, generating positive changes in the socioeconomic conditions of the target population. Notable achievements include the establishment of sustainable income-generating activities, improved skills development and access to essential services for participants. As the next steps, in addition to presenting this final report, a closing event took place on 26 March through which the milestones achieved and the final results of the different interventions are communicated to the stakeholders.

Regarding sustainability actions, within the framework of the recruitment and ethical employability intervention, a process of knowledge transfer was carried out to local government officials with the objective that these organizations have this new tool and can continue to replicate it in the near future.

The various training methodologies aimed at enhancing capabilities not only empower individuals but also equip them with a versatile set of tools and knowledge applicable across various situations over the medium to long term.

The introduction of pilot community-based care models, as facilitated by the project, establishes a framework for replicable interventions in diverse regions and among populations experiencing human mobility. Such initiatives serve as a protective measure, bolstering individuals' commitment to stability and permanence within their communities.

ANNEX

Testimonials

Financial inclusion

- Angelina Landazuri. Saving Bank Fronteras Unidas - Ibarra:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3J1H8arF5AE&t=43s>
- Gabriela Torres Community-Based Care Model:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7fNrA9yxihU&t=1s>



Johana Rodriguez
Propietaria GlobalCell
Imbabura

“ Del programa lo que más me gustó fue el ahorro y lo compartí con toda mi familia. Por eso, a partir de esta oportunidad decidí aperturar una cuenta de ahorros. Mi hija me motiva diariamente a que ahorremos más, ya que antes todo lo que ganábamos lo gastábamos en golosinas en tiendas, comida, y más. Ahora no, ahora estamos ahorrando para eventos especiales y más que todo, para la salud. ”



Nilda Lofren
Propietaria Manchas y Colitas
Imbabura

“ A partir de los programas de PNUD, aprendí más sobre cómo se manejan los programas de crédito en el país y actualmente estoy gestionando un crédito para el crecimiento de mi negocio. Los conocimientos adquiridos en los cursos han sido de gran ayuda para mi crecimiento personal y profesional. ”

Digital livelihood program



Ellen Bustamante
Propietaria Salón y
Belleza Priorato
Imbabura

“ En esta capacitación me enseñaron a manejar las redes sociales, que era de mis grandes debilidades, y mis ventas han aumentado manejando únicamente Facebook y WhatsApp, lo que ha mejorado increíblemente la notoriedad de mi negocio. Estoy súper agradecida, yo soy de las que pienso que a las personas no se les tiene que entregar el pescado, sino se les debe enseñar a pescar. Felicito enormemente a todos los involucrados en esta capacitación, porque nos enseñaron a desarrollar nuestros emprendimientos, a mejorar nuestra calidad de vida y darnos más bienestar. ”



Judernilys Montero
Propietaria Yudemakeup15
Sucumbios

“ Desde que formé parte del programa innové en mi negocio las promociones, que no tenía, con las redes sociales he atraído más clientes y con WhatsApp he creado catálogos. Desde que participé en el programa también mejoré mis registros de cuentas, llevo un cuaderno y un libro contable, puedo tomar mis agendas de manera más ordenada y estar pendiente de todas las clientas. Así, mis ventas y mis utilidades incrementaron; he mejorado muchísimo y he visto la diferencia. ”

Ethical recruitment and employability



Esteban Medina

Analista de la Unidad de Atención
a Grupos Prioritarios
GAD Municipal de Ibarra

“Este proceso no solo nos proporcionó conocimientos técnicos, sino que también nos ayudó a comprender las realidades que viven los migrantes. Los talleres fueron una plataforma para generar debates significativos y promover la empatía y la comprensión entre personas de diferentes culturas.”



“Como trabajadores de las empresas a las que representamos, los conocimientos adquiridos durante los talleres nos permitirán acceder a nuevas formas de realizar los procesos de contratación de manera más inclusiva, con igualdad y equidad. Gracias por la organización de este tipo de proyectos y los animo a continuar con estas iniciativas para llegar a más personas.”

Doménica Dávila
Responsable del Área Administrativa
Empresa Ecosierra

Campaign “Humanx”

SUGEY: VIOLENCIA PSICOLÓGICA



MICHELLE: DISCRIMINACIÓN



MAIGUALIDA: VIOLENCIA ECONÓMICA



ANTONIO: ACOSO LABORAL



VALERIA: DISCRIMINACIÓN



MEILYN: DISCRIMINACIÓN





DIANA Y JAIR:
ACOSO LABORAL
/ VULNERABILIDADES



REBECA Y CRISTINA:
DISCRIMINACIÓN



MARLEN Y MARÍA:
RACISMO Y XENOFOBIA



MILDRED Y LINCOLN:
EXPLOTACIÓN SEXUAL
/ MASCULINIDADES



ÉRIKA Y ANGIE:
EXPLOTACIÓN SEXUAL
/ REDES DE APOYO



JOSÉ Y JUAN DIEGO:
ACOSO LABORAL - LEYES

Communications and Visibility

Joint program launch event

- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/pnud-oim-y-onu-mujeres-unen-esfuerzos-para-promover-la-inclusion-socioeconomica-de-poblacion-en-movilidad-humana>
- https://www.facebook.com/pnudecuador/videos/473340814323660?paipv=0&eav=AfaS-rAgcjURsxn2VJQdnLVZAW8YfbT-GHCR9PaZwBNLK1fNDghtcniOCq2JgnKQj44&_rdr

Digital livelihood program in Imbabura

- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/mas-de-100-mujeres-jovenes-y-personas-en-movilidad-humana-finalizan-programa-de-medios-de-vida-digitales-en-imbabura>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nGN3OuSRUxY>

Financial education program in Imbabura

- <https://bit.ly/3ZII7do>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7019410607804182528>
- <https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1613644916952899584>
- https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=pfbid0JaEMzQNnuiNT3YSyYg7hau5aqV1VtVCbReo6rQwGV9w48zEDGdeWE4p9J1yKzynNI&id=100064414553045&mibextid=Nif5oz
- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=681RfUarRqA&list=PLcu7i8O7xP2tYusfRQ4vXR7xvAc_gTIQ3&index=2

Digital livelihood program in Sucumbíos

- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/mujeres-y-jovenes-emprendedores-finalizan-programa-de-formacion-en-innovacion-y-transformacion-digital>
- <https://www.facebook.com/100064414553045/posts/pfbid02GuiVQdjAaDoCcNsJPmv3RX6KSBbGZ46SNhqi17LwNam2SP7FLZ3BJ9oLpYcfgjKbl/?d=n>
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pnudecuador_mujeres-y-j%C3%B3venes-emprendedores-finalizan-activity-7037114541293338624-wyoc?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios
- <https://twitter.com/pnudecuador/status/1631351105173987331?s=21>

Financial education program in Sucumbíos

- <https://bit.ly/3MfSxeB>
- <https://www.facebook.com/100064414553045/posts/pfbid06sfdzWNvsfATBmqVtcL2CqNYKXJBSMuQdzmoDVnPFxtnuFMdEhTSiSaUCisCiSwgl/?d=w&mibextid=qC1gEa>
- <https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1656739682124722181?s=20>
- <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7062505372757946369>

Closing event components digital livelihoods and financial education

- <https://www.undp.org/node/410646>
- <https://www.facebook.com/100064414553045/posts/pfbid02NTK7Mg86jJXSaxYjFpXBpk5NgLVvqAewYEZWzcmCd8b7Z2HZGGWBFijBJHYpv5v7l/?mibextid=cr9u03>

- <https://www.linkedin.com/feed/update/urn:li:activity:7090341069258641408>
- <https://twitter.com/PNUDEcuador/status/1684574650565787650?s=20>
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pnudecuador_digitalizaci%C3%B3n-y-educaci%C3%B3n-financiera-m%C3%A1s-activity-7090341069258641408-syMx?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_ios

Ethical recruitment and employability program

- https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/42-organizaciones-publicas-privadas-y-de-la-sociedad-civil-concluyen-el-proceso-de-inclusion-laboral?fbclid=IwAR2Zk2Ub873Bg5iOLQo5M1znpJ0_u7v2NvtIMQXFjgcHQ0EgZJj9q_TW2H0
- https://www.linkedin.com/posts/pnudecuador_42-organizaciones-p%C3%BAblicas-privadas-y-de-activity-7130646215121084417-ZtMJ?utm_source=share&utm_medium=member_desktop
- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/42-organizaciones-publicas-privadas-y-de-la-sociedad-civil-concluyen-el-proceso-de-inclusion-laboral>

Campaign “Humanx”

- <https://ecuador.iom.int/es/news/humanx-una-exposicion-interactiva-para-reflexionar-sobre-la-xenofobia-y-la-realidad-de-las-personas-migrantes-en-ecuador>
- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/noticias/campana-humanx-llego-imbabura-y-sucumbios-para-fomentar-la-cohesion-social-y-visibilizar-los-efectos-positivos-de-la-migracion>



Key Project Deliverables

Summary of digital livelihoods education and financial articulation program:

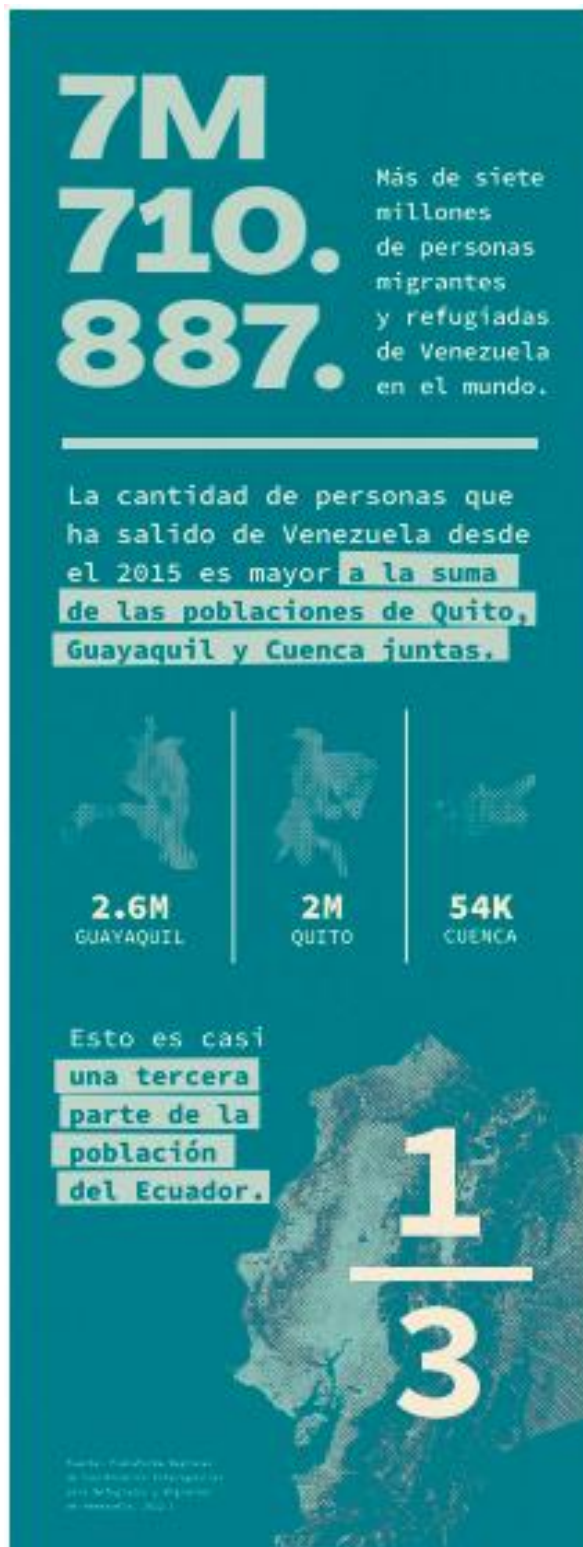
- <https://www.undp.org/es/ecuador/publicaciones/programas-de-medios-de-vida-digitales-y-educacion-financiera>

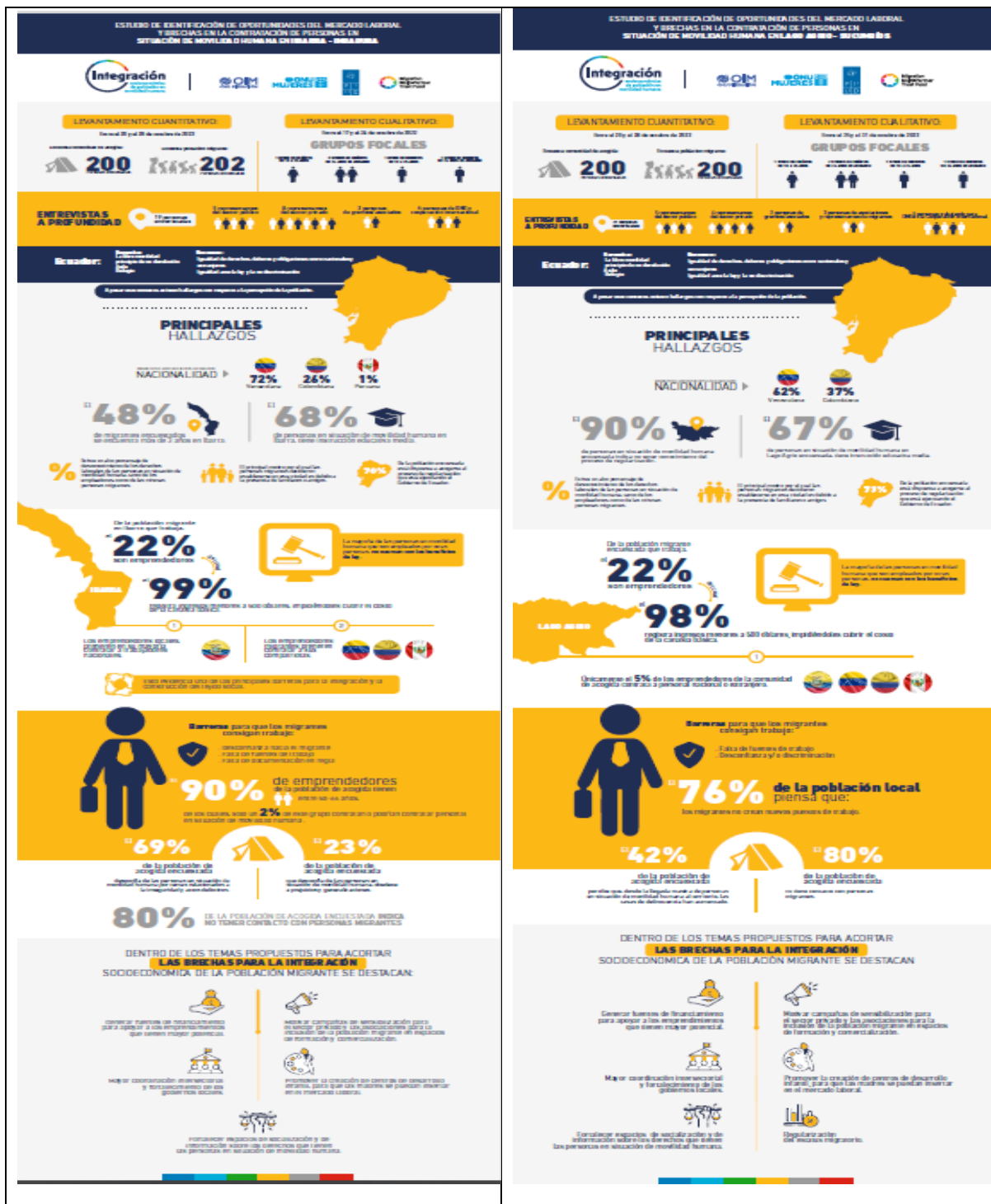
Summary of ethical and gender-sensitive recruitment and employability program:

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1wZKLgf7GBxD1Ey-NsXKXobdegHTEeWaO/view?usp=sharing>

Infography

Ecuador





<i>Imbabura</i>	<i>Sucumbíos</i>
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Key Documents related:

- [Output 1.1](#)
- [Output 1.2](#)
- [Output 1.3](#)
- [Output 1.4](#)
- [Output 2.1](#)
- [Output 2.2](#)
- [Output 2.3](#)
- [Output 2.4](#)
- [Other Annex](#)