

Project description

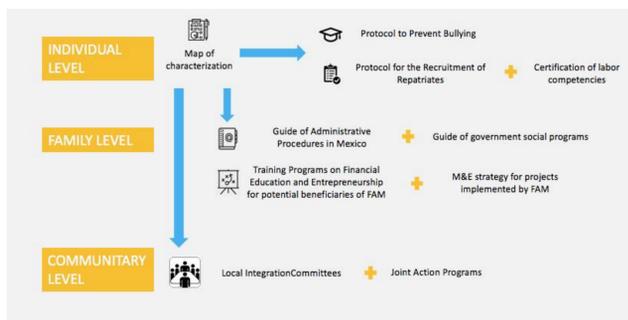
- **What?** strategy towards the social and economic inclusion of returning migrants
 - **Where?** Mexico
 - **Goal?** design a new strategy to change the role of the Mexican government in the implementation of policies for returning migrants
 - **How?**
- 1) **Intervene in the operation of the Migrants Support Fund (FAM),** which is the main federal policy to “support working return migrants and their families so that they can reintegrate into the national workforce, find self-sustainable income schemes, generate capital and improve their overall human and housing capital” (DOF, 2012: 1).

2) Identify the results of this policy in the economic inclusion of returning migrants & its implementation

Main findings shared by authorities and stakeholders:

- ❖ The program does not consider differences within the target population without considering their vulnerabilities and specific conditions (e.g. age, disabilities, health, economic conditions).
- ❖ Most of the projects implemented by beneficiaries without adequate procedures of M&E by state authorities.
- ❖ The training programs provided to potential beneficiaries were poorly evaluated and, mostly lead to better implementation
- ❖ Many beneficiaries used the allocation to return to the United States due to lack of effective monitoring procedures.

3) Design a proposal to implement an integral strategy for the effective social and economic inclusion of Mexican repatriates → to improve FAM



1. Elaboration of assessments: 3 levels to identify needs & vulnerability

L.1: **Individual level:** age, gender, period in US, social & economic conditions, disabilities, immediate needs and psychological support.

L.2: **Family level:** Number of children, elders in the family and marital status of family members.

L.3: **Community Level:** social & economic conditions, social cohesion, networks & shelters, local support policies and job opportunities.

4) Based on assessments, elaborate different materials/activities

L.1 **Individual Level:** Map the characteristics of each individual, protocol to prevent bullying in schools and certification of labor competencies.

L.2 **Family Level:** a guide of administrative procedures & governmental social programs, training programs on financial education & entrepreneurship

L.3. **Community Level:** sensitization workshop for local authorities, private sector, NGOs & Local Integration Committees ...

DEVELOPMENT IMPACT

- ✓ New strategy developed
 - ✓ This strategy was presented to local authorities and members of the academia → refined strategy
 - ✓ Formally invited some state authorities to finance its implementation, considering that UNDP lacks funding for supporting these initiatives.
 - ✓ Government of Jalisco approved the implementation of a pilot trial.
- **A training program on financial education and entrepreneurship** for potential beneficiaries of FAM, located in seven communities of Jalisco (Nov 2018) with the aim of improving the design and implementation of their projects.
- ✓ First time that the government of Jalisco **collaborates with UNDP in the implementation of FAM**
 - ✓ First step for UNDP in Mexico to promote in practice the **migration and development nexus**.



Photo: Training program in Tultitlán El Alto, Jalisco. Author: Erick Hernández.

What I learned at IOB? & TIPS FOR STUDENTS

- ✓ IOB helped me to understand the **different process in the design and implementation of projects** focused on development.
- ✓ IOB made me a very **observant and critical** person on the expectation of population from governmental policies.
- ✓ Classes on **qualitative data analysis, migration & development, law & development and governance** helped me to design my project and consider different elements in that process.

TIPS FOR STUDENTS

1. Do not hesitate about **your role as agent of change**. IOB prepares you for that. Time and effort undoubtedly pay off in the future.
2. **Being critical** about how things are handled is a fundamental part of your work as students but **only the first step to identify possible solutions**.
3. **Optimism** is a good ally when things get difficult. Be patient and trust in your knowledge. Development issues are not straightforward. Prepare yourself by **reading and discussing as much as you can**.

CONTACT PERSON

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