



Cooperative Agreement Number: AID-523-A-12-00001

Quarter Report

Project: Scout Experience: Ready for life.

Asociación de Scouts de México, A.C.

# Quarter Program Report

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*Reporting period: Q2 2013 / January – March 2013*



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## General Project Information

**Cooperative Agreement Number:** AID-523-A-12-00001

**Project Name:** Experiencia Scout, Listos para la vida. | Scout Experience: Ready for life.

**Project Timeframe:** August 17, 2012 to August 16, 2015.

**Project Target Zone:** Tijuana, Baja California, Mexico.

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## Project Summary

The Scout Experience: Ready for life project addresses the issue of youth 7-29 years old who are at risk of engaging in criminal activities in Tijuana, Mexico. Additionally, the project will impact all ongoing scout violence prevention projects around the country, especially those in States located along the Mexico-US border, with the development of a social intervention model that is scalable and replicable. This model will set the national standards of our organization for the work on character, education and leadership among adolescents and youth in highly vulnerable environments. The Scout Experience: Ready for life project will impact a total of at least 1,500 youth and 1,000 parents from the Camino Verde, Mariano Matamoros and Granjas Familiares neighborhoods of Tijuana during the three years of its implementation.

In Tijuana, this project will provide dedicated support to adolescents and youth in the areas of character, education and leadership. Activities related to character will focus on learning to be and learning to live together through the strengthening of various dimensions of the individual; character activities will also provide direct psychosocial support to adolescents and youth. Activities related to education will focus on learning to know and learning to do by using a "learning by doing" approach to math, language and logic, and will develop skills in the areas of ecology, sports, humanities, communication, security and technology. Education activities will provide dedicated support to adolescents and youth currently out-of-school, that have low academic performance, have a learning disability, and/or are in transition between primary and secondary or secondary and high school. Activities related to leadership will develop competencies related to social project management and will use the learning through service approach to develop social leadership competencies, strengthen the sense of community and promote dialogue and understanding among young people. Leadership activities will have a strong voluntary service component in the areas of peace, environment and development, and will receive national and international scouts. All the activities implemented in the fields of character, education and leadership will use the Scout Method and the five programming principles of the United Nations as crosscutting practices. The project will put special emphasis on developing monitoring and evaluation systems that provide useful information for measuring social impact, strengthening organizational learning and supporting decision-making processes.

The Scout Experience: Ready for life project will build the capacity of local community members for them to become the actors of their own development. The Scout Center model will test a financial and operational strategy designed to eliminate dependency to external assistance through various activities and sound financial management. Scouting will be accessible to all adolescents and youth, and will promote a sense of dignity and responsibility among project beneficiaries.

The Scout Experience: Ready for life project focuses on ensuring adolescents and youth understand and enjoy their rights. We believe that by contributing to the education of young people as active, responsible and productive citizens, this project will promote safe and healthy environments for everyone around the country. Understanding violence and crime as a consequence of the non-fulfillment of human rights, poor urban planning and lack of community participation helps us design holistic and self-sustainable long-term interventions that contribute to broader aspects of development such as health, education and employment. The purpose of this project is to strengthen the capacity of young people to play a productive role in their community.



## Results Monitoring

### Quarter performance report

#### Performance Management Matrix - *Scout Experience: Ready for life* - SCOUTS|USAID Year 1 - August 2012 to September 2013

##### Expected Impact: Build Strong and Resilient Communities (Pillar IV of Merida Initiative)

ID	Type	Indicators	Target Q2	Actual Q2	Target 2013	Actual 2013	Frequency	Data Source / Means of Verification
1	Outcome	1.0.1 Percentage of out-of-school youth participating in the <i>Scout Experience, Ready for life</i> activities that have not finished primary, secondary or high-school and enroll in a formal education system.	0%	0%	20%	20%	Semi-Annually	Beneficiary Management System.
2	Outcome	1.0.2 Percentage of students participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> activities that successfully transition from primary to secondary school.	0%	0%	40%	40%	Annually	Beneficiary Management System.
3	Outcome	1.0.3 Percentage of young people participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> activities that show an improvement in their psychological resilience evaluation score.	0%	0%	30%	30%	Semi-Annually	Beneficiary Management System; GPS Evaluation Reports.
4	Output	1.1.2 Percentage of youth between 7 and 29 years of age participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> program that acquire the knowledge, attitudes and practices pursued by the educational program of the youth center.	0%	0%	20%	20%	Semi-Annually	Beneficiary Management System; Scout Educational Objective measurement tools.
5	Output	1.2.1 Percentage of enrolled students participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> activities with a performance below the "good" level in the Spanish component of the national standardized academic evaluation (ENLACE) that show improvement in their evaluation score.	0%	0%	30%	30%	Annually	Beneficiary Management System
6	Output	1.2.2 Percentage of enrolled students participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> activities with a performance below the "good" level in the math component of the national standardized academic evaluation (ENLACE) that show improvement in their evaluation score.	0%	0%	30%	30%	Annually	Beneficiary Management System; Copy of official ENLACE results.
7	Output	1.2.3 Percentage of youth between 7 and 29 years of age participating in the <i>Scout Experience: Ready for life</i> activities that show improvement in their skills for life evaluation score.	0%	0%	20%	20%	Semi-Annually	Beneficiary Management System; Backpack Evaluation Results.
8	Output	1.3.1 Percentage of adolescents and youth between 11 and 29 years old that have been or are members of local gangs participating in the youth involvement program have decided to reenroll in school or a professional development program.	0%	0%	20%	20%	Semi-Annually	Beneficiary Management System; Scouts of the World Performance Reports.

## USAID Common Indicator

### USAID Common Indicator\*

#### Expected Impact: Build Strong and Resilient Communities (Pillar IV of Merida Initiative)

ID	Type	Narrative Summary	Frequency	Q2 '13	Total	Data Source / Means of Verification
1	Outcome	Young people studying between 6th grade of primary school and 3rd grade of secondary school have access to academic counseling and interactive activities in three communities in Tijuana	Quarterly	No	No	Beneficiary Management System.
2	Outcome	1500 youth 7-29 years old in Tijuana receive access to non-formal education activities that promote their physical, intellectual, social and emotional development	Quarterly	0	0	Beneficiary Management System.
3	Output	50% of project beneficiaries between the sixth grade and the third year of secondary school demonstrate adequate academic performance and plan to stay in school	Quarterly	0%	0%	Beneficiary Management System.

\* Pending USAID finalization.

\*\* The activities in this quarter did not include specific academic performance monitoring.

- No results for the USAID common indicator were achieved during this quarter.

## Social statistics

### Gender Statistics - Scout Experience: Ready for life Year 1 - August 2012 to September 2013

ID	Type	Data	Number	Disability	Data Source
1	Gender	Male beneficiaries	0	0	Beneficiary Management System.
2	Gender	Female beneficiaries	0	0	Beneficiary Management System.

- No beneficiaries were registered in activities during this quarter.

## Quarter result level achievements

- There were no result level achievements during this quarter.

## Result level constraints

- There were no result level constraints during this quarter.

## Result level opportunities

- There were no result level opportunities identified during this quarter.



## Activity Monitoring

### Quarter activity level achievements

- 3 community assessments completed.
- 3 Scout Center location analyses completed.
- 3 Community social marketing campaigns completed.
- Increased situational awareness due to local community insights related to security, community assets and development challenges.
- 3 Community engagement and entry strategies developed.
- 3 activity programs prepared for the spring break vacation period.
- 4 operation manuals created and approved: Human Resources, Accounting, Procurement, and Project Management.
- 2 USAID trainings completed: Financial Management of USAID Funds (USAID Regulations and Policies), and USAID Audit Requirements.
- 15 local volunteers have been recruited and trained in basic security on the field.

### Activity level constraints

- Coordination between operations and finance offices in Tijuana and Mexico City requires strengthening.
- Involvement from internal key stakeholders requires strengthening through systematic communication mechanisms.
- Internal change management has started with the implementation of content management systems, as well as with the new human resources, accounting, procurement, and project management manuals.

### Activity level opportunities

- Develop rapid feedback systems to ensure the timely adaptation of the project entry strategy to local social conditions and response.
- Continue strengthening local stakeholder engagement to support the start of community Scout Centers.
- Strengthen communication mechanisms between the project management office in Tijuana and the organization's top management in Mexico City.
- Support the operations and finance office in Mexico City with the implementation of new procedures related to the human resources, accounting, procurement, and project management manuals.

### Gender and disability related constraints and opportunities

- Young people with disabilities were integrated to the activities during the community social marketing campaigns. Parents were informed that the Scout program integrates in its activities people with disabilities.



## Organizational Development

### Organizational capacity assets

- 4 operation manuals created and approved: Human Resources, Accounting, Procurement, and Project Management.
- 2 USAID trainings completed: Financial Management of USAID Funds (USAID Regulations and Policies), and USAID Audit Requirements.
- USAID's Organizational Capacity Assessment Report was presented to the board of directors to support decision-making in capacity building matters.
- 25 local volunteers have been recruited and trained in basic security on the field.

### Organizational climate

- Project staff are highly motivated and with high expectations for the start of Scout Centers in each of the intervention zones.
- The organizations Board of Directors and top leadership are motivated to present the capacity building results related to the project in national meetings and conferences.

### Organizational learning

- A longer review and adaptation process of the new manuals would have helped significantly the buy-in from internal stakeholders. The actual manuals are extensive and focused on USAID rules and regulations. Simplification to respond to the organization's culture and operational context will be needed.
- The current Administration and Finance Director has limited insight in conducting organization wide implementation of new policies and procedures.



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## Expected Activities

### Q3 2013: April 1 to June 30, 2013

- Spring Break educational activities.
- Outdoor educational and leadership activity.
- Scout Center rent and refurbishment.
- Activity program design of summer camp.
- Scout activities in local schools.
- Start of project baseline surveys.
- Start implementation of educational activities.
- Gather direct insight about specific needs in character, education and leadership through assessments and direct observation from specialists in order to perform program adjustments.
- USAID Financial Management Review.