



SCOUT EXPERIENCE

Ready for life...



SCOUTS[®]
México



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**“Try and leave
this world a
little better than
you found it.”**
-Baden Powell

Acknowledgments

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Scouts of Mexico is a member since 1926 of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) founded in 1907, which counts with general consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations since 1947 for its invaluable contribution to global development in multiple areas.

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Dear readers,

When a member of the Scout Movement is asked, "what does being a Scout mean to you?" memories of adventures, friendships and learning could come to mind. However, without being able to explain it, they would feel that being a Scout is never losing hope of being able to create a better world.

When a young person joins the Scouts, they join to have fun, experience adventures, make friends and learn new things. Slowly they begin to discover a very special idea, the idea of being a Scout, and they start to convince themselves that they can do their best to fulfill their duty to God and their Country, to help other people at all times and obey the Scout Law. Progressively, boys, girls, young men and women begin to believe in themselves. They learn that during camp dogs may steal their food, that their belongings might get wet during a storm, that behind a hill there is a higher top, and that even if they are tired they must keep going. They learn to get up after they fall down, to live with joy, to value the small things in life and above all, to never lose hope. For over 89 years this has been the Scout Experience for hundreds of thousands of children and young people that have been members of our organization.

Nonetheless, our efforts are very far from being sufficient. What happens with children that do not need to go to camp to face adversities? Those whose food is not stolen by dogs and instead have parents that exchange their food for drugs or alcohol? Children that have to hide or endure abuse or mistreatment? Those children that are told they can no longer attend school because of lack of money or worse, because they are girls? What happens with teenagers that join gangs in order to have food or feel they have a family?

Scouts of Mexico has responded in the most difficult moments in our country, such as floods, hurricanes and earthquakes. In these last years, our country has gone through a social disaster in regards of security and Scouts of Mexico prepared a response to this, specifically supporting at-risk children and youth, doing what we know best: implementing the scout program. This is how the Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project was born, with the commitment to support the efforts carried out by the Mexican and the American Governments to strengthen capacities in at-risk young people in Mexico for them to be able to play a productive role in their community. This project generated a violence prevention model with elements that complement the scout program to meet specific needs, for example, literacy, school retention and reinsertion, psychosocial support for victims of violence, skills for life, employability and citizenship.

After three years we can proudly say, Mission Accomplished! The three Scout Groups founded as part of the project operate today under the leadership of community volunteers, without depending on external financing and with the same support that the Scout Movement offers to the rest of the Scout Groups in Mexico. The violence prevention model has been documented and prepared for replication on a national and international level. This model will be available for use of the Scout Movement and its partners to reach out to broader sectors of society and contribute to the reconstruction of the social fabric, as well as to strengthen the capacity of National Scout Organizations.

I deeply appreciate the support from the United States Agency for International Development, from the members of Scouts of Mexico, national and international volunteers, multiple partners, sponsors and friends of the Scout Experience: **Ready for Life** project. The following presented results belong to the at-risk children and youth that with the strength of their glance and smile motivate us to keep working towards building a more fair and equitable world - for all.

Yours in Scouting,



Project Director
Scout Experience: Ready for life.
Scouts of Mexico | USAID



1. Introduction



Adventures, friendships and learning; that is how day-by-day we help children and youth in México become the main agents of their own development. For them it is just a game, for us, it strengthens values, character, education and leadership of the citizens that will forge the path of our country. This report presents the results achieved from August 16, 2012 to August 17th, 2015 of the Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project implemented by the Asociación de Scouts de México, A.C. (Scouts Association of Mexico, Scouts of Mexico) in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in the city of Tijuana, Baja California.

The project generated a violence prevention model based on the Scout Method and the educational project of Scouts of Mexico, complementing it with elements that serve specific needs such as literacy, school retention and reinsertion, psychosocial support for victims of violence, employability and sense of citizenship in at-risk children and youth between the ages of 7 and 21 years old in Mexico. As well as generating the mentioned model and the creation of three Scout Groups in neighborhoods with high levels of crime and violence, the Scout Experience project included several key components of innovation, sustainability and institutional development to strengthen Scouts of Mexico.

In social impact, the project allowed access to activities of non-formal education in character, education and leadership for more than 10,889 scouts and non-scouts beneficiaries through 83,853 hours of scout youth program and 264 outdoor or cultural activities. Furthermore, three economically sustainable Scout Groups were created and are lead by community volunteers that are mostly parents of beneficiaries. Young people in the Scout Groups fulfilled over 900 hours of community service and over 19 projects on peace, development or the environment. The project generated four educational emphases complementary to the scout program, as well as tools and methodologies

for monitoring and evaluation.

In innovation, diverse information systems were used to assist the program and operations in the project. These include a system of content management, a collaborative learning platform, and crowd-funding platform, a geographical information system and a two way SMS system. Additionally, an analysis of alternatives and costs for the development of a Management Information System to support the main processes in the National Scout Organization was completed.

In sustainability, an international volunteer program was implemented and it rallied more than 123 volunteers from 6 different countries that completed 30,165 hours of voluntary service. More than 25 partnership documents were signed and self-sustainability strategies were implemented in the Scout Groups. Moreover, a strategy of internal and external communication was implemented through social media, email and events that allowed everyone involved to be informed.

In institutional development, an 86% of the institutional capacity areas of USAID's Organizational Capacity Evaluation were improved and a management system with process diagrams of the main functional areas of the Scout Experience model was created. Multiple policies, procedures and tools were also developed for operation, finance, security, human resources and organizational development. It is important to mention that the project's finances were annually audited according to USAID's rules and regulations.

We hope this report can transmit the vision and results of the Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project to motivate stakeholders in and out of the Scout Movement to continue creating a better world, especially for those who need it the most.

2. The Project

During 2012, Scouts of Mexico heeded the call of the Mexican and the United States Governments under the IV pillar of the Mérida Initiative, to build strong and resilient communities. One of the key components of this pillar is to strengthen the capacity of at-risk youth, ages between 7 and 29 years old, so they can actively play a productive role in their communities. With an experience of over 87 years in implementing non-formal education programs for children and youth, the Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project began, in cooperation with USAID, a model for crime and violence prevention that addresses the lack of psychosocial attention for children and youth that are victims of violence, truancy, unemployment and lack of civic education.

Through a team of experts in international development, Scouts of Mexico developed a model of violence prevention for at-risk children and youth that started with the identification of the existing gaps in the expected contribution from their family, school and community towards their development. Based on the Scout method and the educative project of Scouts of Mexico, four educational emphases were generated in the areas of character, education and leadership, each of them oriented towards the strengthening of psychological resilience through autonomy, purpose of life, social competence and problem solving capacity. With the implementation of the youth program of Scouts of Mexico, reinforced by the educative emphases and the parents' commitment, the project presents a model





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Ready for life...



that contributes to the psychosocial support of children and youth victims of violence, school retention and reinsertion, employability and civic education for at-risk children and young people between the ages of 7 and 29 years old in Mexico.

The project was implemented in the city of Tijuana, Baja California, México, with the creation of three Scout Groups located in the heart of three communities with high rates of crime and violence, one operations center and a house for national and international volunteers. The Scout groups were strategically located in the most socially and economically vulnerable zones within the community, with facilities that provided appropriate security conditions to executives, volunteers and beneficiaries. The Scout groups implemented three hours of Scout program three times a week to children and young people divided into four age groups: 7-10 years old, 11-13 years old, 14-17 years old and 18-21 years old. Volunteers contributed to the implementation of youth program or the governance of the scout group. While implementing the scout program, they are constantly engaging in activities related to awareness, education and sense of citizenship for young people between 7 and 29 years old in schools, public spaces or community events organized by public or civil society institutions.

The Scout Experience Ready, for Life project's implementation strategy was divided into four axes: social impact, innovation, sustainability and institutional development. The axis of

social impact aimed to generate and document the model of prevention of violence, including the process of community engagement and the policies, procedures and tools that allow it to be replicated. As part of this axis, the results for development in psychosocial support, school retention, employability and citizenship education in the beneficiaries are monitored. The axis of innovation identified the technological tools required to strengthen the operation and implementation of the youth program. The axis of sustainability promoted strategic alliances and use of various communication channels. Within this axis human, material and financial resources at different levels and sectors are mobilized to achieve sustainability of the Scout group and an international volunteer program was implemented. In turn, the axis of institutional development aimed to strengthen the organizational capacity of Scouts of Mexico to become a strategic and trusted development partner. These four axes of implementation in the Scout Experience **Ready for life** project of Scouts of Mexico in cooperation with USAID framed the work that was performed for three years in favor of at-risk children and youth in Mexico.

2.1 Implementation Phases

Planning

August 17th, 2012 to September 30th, 2013.

During the planning phase of the project, the operational and programmatic activities began. An assessment of organizational capacity of the Scouts of Mexico Association was performed, as well as, an institutional strengthening plan began. Project staff was recruited, trained and deployed. In depth community assessments were conducted with the support of a geographic information system and three scout centers were strategically placed in the heart of the intervention areas of the project. Existing development gaps were identified in each community and the scout program was adapted according to the psychosocial conditions of at-risk children and youth. Throughout this period a spring rally and summer camp were completed during school breaks and the international volunteer program was established. Meanwhile, the stakeholders from the public, private, academic and civil society sectors were informed and involved on project activities.

Implementation

October 1st, 2013 to December 31st, 2014.

In the implementation phase of the project three Scout groups were opened, the volunteer section was consolidated, operational and programmatic processes were strengthened, and the four educational emphases were generated. During this phase, an organizational learning exercise was conducted to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of the educational program, community engagement and project management of the Scout Experience: *Ready for life* project. This exercise allowed the team to make key adjustments based on best practices and lessons learned from the project's inception. Parents and community leaders were involved in the project activities and a social mobilization team was established that updated the stakeholder analysis and generated a community engagement strategy. Similarly, communications, partnerships and resource mobilization in support of technological tools and a close collaboration with government stakeholders were strengthened. During this time, the implementation of the Scout program was reduced from 5 to 3 days a week to strengthen the processes of planning, monitoring and educational assessment.





Transfer

January 1st to August 16th, 2015

During the transfer phase the main achievements were that the Scout Groups became economically sustainable, were led by community volunteers and they were integrated accordingly to the structure of Scouts of Mexico. Similarly, the Scout Experience model was documented to facilitate a replica on a national or international scale. During this time, the recruitment and training continued for parents and young adults in the community about implementing the Scout program and governance of the Scout group.

Each scout group implemented a sustainability strategy designed to provide the human, material and financial resources needed to continue the activities of the Scout groups. In addition, a collaborative learning platform that contains guidelines for the areas of educational program, community engagement and management for a model replica was generated. With this platform, Scouts of Mexico shares with other organizations best practices and lessons learned in the areas of social impact, innovation, sustainability and institutional development.



3. Results



3.1 Social Impact

3.1.1 Beneficiaries

Within the Scout Experience *Ready for life* project there are two types of beneficiaries: non-scouts and scouts. Scout beneficiaries are young people between 7 and 21 years of age or volunteers between 22 and 29 years old that have participated in at least 30 hours of scout program in three months and are registered at Scouts of Mexico. The training that the scout beneficiaries received makes them replicators of knowledge, positive attitudes and practices in their family, school and community.



Beneficiaries



7-21 22-29
years old



Non-scout beneficiaries are young people between 7 and 29 years old that participated in at least 1 hour of scout program in three months through activities in schools, public spaces or community events.

The scout program in Mexico welcomes men and women, encourages the integration of children and young people with disabilities and contributes to the fulfillment of child and human rights.

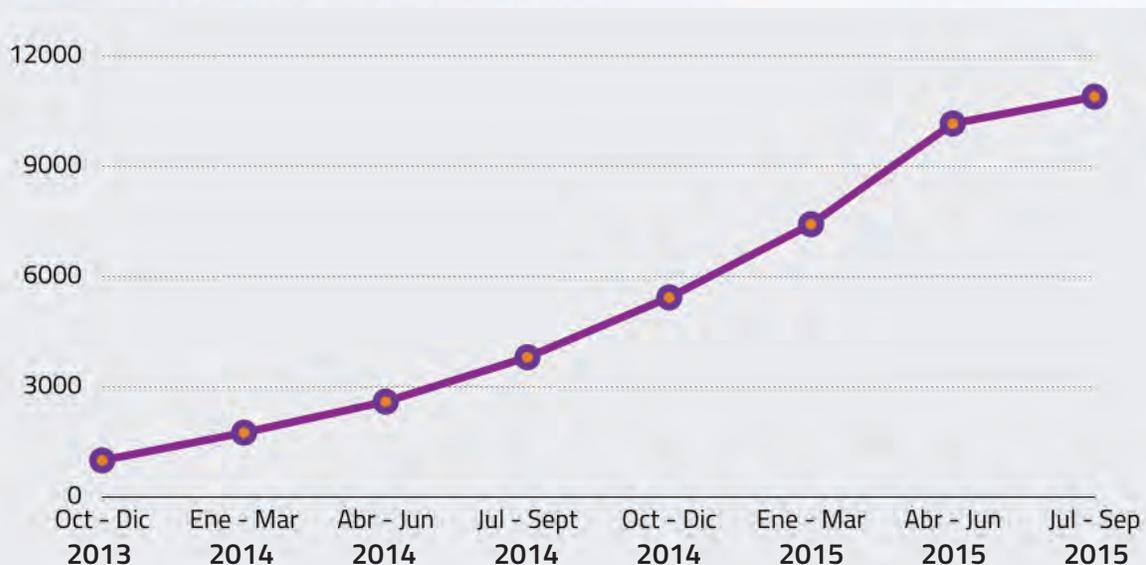
Beneficiaries members of the Asociación de Scouts de México	* Young people between 7 and 21 years old * Volunteers between 22 and 29 years old	Received at least 30 hours of scout program in three months.
Non scouts beneficiaries	* Young people between 7 and 29 years old	Participated in at least 1 hour of scout program in three months

Results

10,889 beneficiaries participated in at least one hour of non-formal education activities with a focus on character, education and leadership.

324 members of the project's Scout Groups registered with Scouts of Mexico, from which 142 had pledged their Scout Promise by August 16th, 2015.

Total Number of Beneficiaries



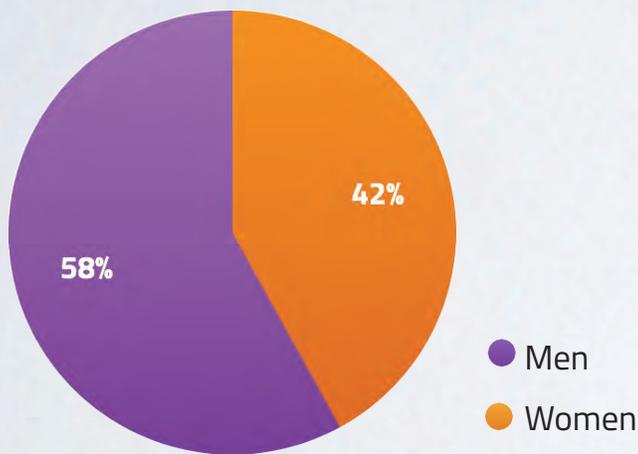
Scout Promise

On my honor
I promise that I will do my best;
To do my duty
to God and my Country;
To help other people at all times;
To obey the Scout Law.

Scout Law

1. A Scout's honour is to be trusted.
2. A Scout is loyal.
3. A Scout's duty is to be useful and to help others.
4. A Scout is a friend to all and a brother to every other Scout.
5. A Scout is courteous.
6. A Scout is a friend to animals.
7. A Scout obeys with responsibility and makes things in order and complete..
8. A Scout smiles and whistles under all difficulties.
9. A Scout is thrifty.
10. A Scout is clean in thought, word and deed.

Pledged Scout Promises







"The pride of being Scout"
<https://goo.gl/EiZwzV>



3.1.2 Scout Groups

The strategy to reach at-risk youth was the following: 1) place the scout groups in highly vulnerable areas within the implementation zones, 2) perform community activities in previously identified meeting points, 3) organize scout activities at schools, public spaces and community events and 4) develop partnerships with parents, teachers, local authorities and representatives of civil society organizations to direct at-risk youth to the scout group. In all cases, the beneficiaries decided to participate voluntarily in the activities of the scout group without receiving any financial compensation.



Results:

83,853 hours of educational program implemented through 264 scout activities and 3 hours of scout program 3 times a week.

3 Scout Groups that are economically sustainable, led by community volunteers and with physical locations provided by civil society organizations, government and community leaders.



Photo galleries and summaries of the community transition events:



Group 101

Mariano Matamoros

<https://goo.gl/kt9NMH>



Group 102

Camino Verde

<https://goo.gl/NWeLUW>



Group 103

Granjas Familiares

<https://goo.gl/UT0Z0n>



Newsletter

<http://eepurl.com/bvZZeX>

3.1.3 Collaborative Learning Platform

The collaborative learning platform is an online tool that allows members of Scouts of Mexico and their partners, to consult, share and comment on over 700 policies, procedures and tools that exist in the four areas of knowledge: youth program, adults in the scout movement, management and the Scout Experience model. This tool is available at the following site <http://conocimiento.experienciascout.org.mx> and it requires an active membership with Scouts of Mexico.

Results

750 policies, procedures and tools generated in the youth program, adults in the scout movement and the Scout Experience model.



Collaborative learning platform

<http://conocimiento.experienciascout.org.mx>

3.1.4 Character



COMPASS
SCOUTS OF MEXICO

It is the educational emphasis that complements the Scout program in the areas of psychological resilience, psychosocial support for victims of violence and integration of people with disabilities. Compass was founded on the basis of the Scout Method to implement recommendations made by the United Nations, USAID, specialized Non- Governmental Organizations and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

Results

150 Scouts beneficiaries were evaluated by observing sessions.

142 Scouts beneficiaries had access to individual psychosocial care sessions.

240 Scouts beneficiaries had access to one hour per week of awareness in the character area within the scout groups.

Awareness topics:



Violence prevention



Human Rights



Physical and mental



Stress management



Self esteem



Communication

Topics addressed in individual sessions of psychosocial support:

Domestic violence

Sexual and Reproductive Health

Substance Abuse

Use of language

Physical development

Conflict resolution

Space management, neatness and cleanliness

Attention Deficit and Hyperactivity Disorder

Leadership skills

Control of emotions

Anger management



Nadia, A story about resilience

Nadia Rojas, aged 29, and Cub Scout of scout group 101 from Tijuana, Mexico received this past October 11 her scout uniform, including a scarf and a scout group badge. These elements were given to her by her sc leaders after observing a significant improvement in Nadia's knowledge, attitudes and practices in relation to living the values of scouting and participating enthusiastically with her peers. For Nadia, scouting has been a unique opportunity to strengthen her character, education and leadership considering her intellectual disability. It was no easy task for Nadia to integrate completely to the scout activities during her first weeks. After Camila and Julio Tenorio, two of her cub pack friends, invited her to join the scout group, Nadia was hesitating for a while to allow herself the opportunity to live the friendships, adventures and learning experiences offered by the scout program. Both the scout leaders and the mother of the Tenorio brothers were the ones who encouraged Nadia to decide to transition from being a passive observer to an active participant of the Scout Experience. When Nadia arrived to the scout group, she started by observing carefully what other girls and boys from the cub pack were doing, but decided not to participate in

the activities. Her face clearly denoted interest in joining in; nonetheless she was living an important internal process to gain the self-confidence needed to decide to participate. One of the key elements of the Scout Method is the support of an adult in a stimulating but non-interfering way in the development process of children and young people.





Progressively, Nadia began choosing the activities she wanted to participate in, being a matter of a few weeks before she decided to integrate herself completely and naturally to the cub pack. Nadia soon became part of the "grey den" of scout group 101, a small group of about six to eight cubs, and as was to be expected, she soon became eager to bear the scout uniform, of which she feels proud now. Nadia is now preparing herself to make her Cub Scout Promise by learning about the Law of the Pack and participating actively in all activities.

To outsiders, Nadia can be considered different, nonetheless for her brother and sister scouts she is one more of the cub pack and a fellow sister to world scouting. On her own pace she has shown significant behavioral and attitudinal changes in multiple areas. She has overcome her fears and today enjoys together with her friends the games and activities of the scout pack that continue to strengthen her character, education and leadership to become the best she can be. Her integration in the community is well noted and today she is a cub together with her nephews. At the Scout Experience, Ready for life project we are proud to have Nadia as a member of scouting and to listen to her proud call to be *"Always the best she can be!"*

"Always the best she can be!"

75%

Of parents consider that character is what has changed the most in their children since joining the Scout group.

76%

Of parents consider that companionship is the most important virtue that their children have learned in the Scout group.

52%

Of parents consider that irresponsibility is something that has diminished since their children have joined the Scout groups.

According to parents, their children have become more active and responsible in school.

3.1.5 Education



It is the educational emphasis that complements the scout program in the area of literacy, school retention and reinsertion. Through non-formal education activities, academic support techniques and encouraging peer and small groups learning systems, the development of competencies was achieved. Lantern based itself on the Scout Method to implement recommendations made by the United Nations, USAID, specialized Non-Governmental Organizations and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).



Results:

100% of scout beneficiaries between the ages of 7 and 17 years old that attended school remained there for the duration of the project.

100% of the beneficiaries that were attending elementary school continued with it and are now attending middle school.

70% of scout beneficiaries that were not studying or working returned to school.

86% of the beneficiaries that participated in the project showed progress in the results of the language evaluations.

The scout beneficiaries voluntarily formed homework groups in the scout centers after sensitization activities regarding academic responsibilities.



This educational emphasis complements the area of employability and skills for life in the scout program. The development of diverse skills and competences in relation to the ability of obtaining and maintaining a job was achieved through non-formal education activities, mentoring, stimulation of multiple intelligences and learning through projects. Insignia based itself on the Scout Method in order to implement recommendations by the United Nations, USAID, specialized Non-Governmental Organizations and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).



Victor, an example of outstanding educational growth

One of the main objectives of Scout Experience, Ready for Life is having young men and women that have dropped out of school return to their studies, but also, having those that are at risk of dropping out be able to continue with their education to achieve a better outcome in their future.

One of these young people at risk is Victor Guerrero, a member of the scout Troop in group 103 in Granjas Familiares. He is currently enrolled in his first year of middle school at Telesecundaria 37, Salvador Novo, (telesecundaria is a middle school where students learn at a distance mode and prerecorded lessons are usually transmitted on a monitor in place of a teacher). Víctor's grades were not good; he was failing some of his classes and was barely passing others. In Mexico it is common for a student that fails all of his classes to become disheartened and quit school, which is why he was at risk of dropping out.

The telesecundaria's principle had recommended Victor's mom to take him to the scout centers since other students had improved their academic performance because of the academic mentoring program it offers. Victor was also invited to go by a classmate that was part of group 103, Edward Vizcarra, and is the reason why he was persuaded to join the movement.

Just like his peers, Victor received academic support in subjects such as mathematics, language and logic. This helped his grades to improve from failing to having the highest scores. His academic performance had radically changed.

Victor thought that his story could be repeated by the rest of the members of group 103; therefore, with the help of his friends Edward and Edgar, they have created a homework club, where they help each other solve academic doubts. Cub scouts also participate in this club, led by the group and section chiefs in Granjas Familiares.

Just like Victor, many other young men and women from Scout Experience have acknowledged the importance of helping each other and staying in school, to have a better future and build a better world.



Ricardo returns to school as part of his advancement trail

Ricardo Escárrega is a 15 year old Venture Scout from group 101 in Mariano Matamoros. "Rica" as he is known by his friends, is young man that has grown significantly since becoming part of the Scout movement.

One of the highest points in his scout life was returning to his studies. Ricardo had abandoned school a few years ago after being expelled because of bad behavior from the elementary school he attended and he had not made an effort to return.

What does the future hold for a young man that has not completed elementary school? Facts prove that there are not many options of personal development, or social integration, which is the reason why Scout Experience, Ready for Life became an amazing opportunity for Ricardo; a place where someone is able to interact in a friendly manner with other peers and have other ways of personal development.

Ricardo has had an important advancement as a Venture scout. Nowadays he is at the pathfinder stage which leads him to ask himself, what is his role as a young man in his community? Being witness to Rica's growth, the leaders of group 101 decided to give him a challenge, to return to his studies and finish elementary and middle school through the Instituto Nacional de Educación para los Adultos (National Institute of Education for Adults), which has a program for regularization and reception of education certificates for people who did not attend school in a traditional way.

A few months have gone by since Ricardo has been studying for the exam that he will present in the coming weeks. If he passes them all, he will receive the necessary certificates to be able to enroll in high school. Rica has the confidence that he will achieve a high score during the test since he has made an enormous effort and has also received support and tutoring from one of the project's volunteer, Polly Rakshi.



This is a big step for Ricardo, who is close to entering the next phase of his advancement trail, which ends with the Summit award, the stage of completion within the journey of the Venture scouts, where next to his peers; they will be ready to live their own adventure, well prepared for life.



Results

143 personal progress and merit badges were given to scout beneficiaries.

19 community projects were implemented, these included: the creation of a football team, conforming a group of Venture scouts in a local high school, an environmental campaign, an entrepreneurship workshop and a community orchard.

Javier and Ricardo, an example of transforming leadership

A milestone is reached in a social Project when a beneficiary reaches a certain level of acceptance from the help they receive, and then they decide to embrace it and join the implementation process and the search for more people that are able to obtain the same benefits they are receiving. This is the current situation in Scout Group 101 (Mariano Matamoros) with the Venture Scouts.

Javier Huerta and Ricardo Escárrega joined Group 101 in 2013. Since their entry, the group leaders perceived their leadership potential, which needed to be developed and has been nurtured during the months they have been living the Scout Experience. Since Javier joined the group, he showed his interest in learning more, his inquisitiveness and was also goal oriented, but had yet to find a suitable environment for his leadership skills. Ricardo, a shy young man with a dry sense of humor, that caused rifts within his group on occasions, lacked seriousness. They are now an example for the rest of their peers.

On January 2015 Javier and Ricardo spoke with teacher Joel Ramírez from CBTIS 237 (a high school close to Scout Center Mariano Matamoros). This teacher is also coordinator of a program called Contruye-T, oriented towards empowering the school to develop social and emotional skills within the students to improve the school environment. As a benefit from teacher Joel's empathy, the Venture Scouts spoke to him about the activities at the Scout Center and the advantages of promoting them with the other students.

Javier and Ricardo's proposal consisted in implementing Scout activities for young men and women from ages 14 to 18 at the high school, looking to form a larger group of Venture Scouts. The proposal was accepted by the high school's principal, Engineer Jorge Nuñez. Additionally, participation gives the students class credits.

Scout activities started on February 21st and are programmed to take place once a week until the month

of July, when the school year ends.

The activities consist of promoting the Scout method, outdoor activities, playing challenging games and encouraging team building. During the first session a total of 14 students participated.

Javier and Ricardo will not stop, they are aware of their leadership skills and the potential they have of replicating their experience in the project, therefore, they are searching for new alternatives to create social impact and have Scout Experience, Ready for Life keep benefitting a large group of young people in their community.



3.1.6 Leadership



Young Citizens

The educational emphasis in Young Citizens complements the area of education for citizenship and culture of legality in the scout program. A sense of global citizenship, culture of legality, respect for human rights and social leadership were encouraged through the implementation of the World Scout Environment Program, Messengers of Peace Initiative and the Scouts of the World Award.

Young Citizens based itself on the Scout Method in order to implement recommendations by the United Nations, USAID, specialized Non- Governmental Organizations and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

Results

900 hours of community social service completed by scout beneficiaries from ages 7 to 21 years old, advocating for peace, environmental awareness and sustainable development.

130 scouts beneficiaries from ages 18 to 21 years old were sensitized about sustainable development topics.

Community Service Hours.



Number of beneficiaries sensitized in sustainable development topics



**“We never fail when we try to do our duty,
we always fail when we neglect to do it.”**

-Baden Powell



“Think Globally, Act Locally”



3.1.7 Community Engagement

The efforts completed in community engagement had as a purpose the empowerment of local leaders and to have them assume the roles and responsibilities required for the continuity of the Scouts Groups. A human rights-based approach, Communication for Development (C4D) and tools for social change were used to achieve this goal. Furthermore, management abilities, communication and problem resolution strategies were developed to encourage a democratic exchange between beneficiaries and volunteers in the Scouts Groups. The Community Engagement Model based itself on the Scout Method in order to implement recommendations by the United Nations, USAID, specialized Non- Governmental Organizations and the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

Results:

29 parents assumed a voluntary role in the governance or implementation of the scout program.

104 economic sustainability activities were completed by parent committees.



100% of community leaders consider having a Scout group in their community a positive asset and work towards keeping it in the community permanently.

50% considers extracurricular activities the most important activity that Scout group offers.

From mother to cub leader. This is Flor's story

Being a parent is not an easy task. Educating and raising children, as a parent, is a daily job that demands effort and responsibility. This is already a praiseworthy task and it is enhanced when a mother decides to guide other children throughout their development as well.

That is the story of Flor Zárata, a young mother whose children participate in the Scout Troop and the Cub Scouts respectively, in group 103 which originated from Granjas Familiares. She is also a mother to a one year old boy that has the opportunity to spend time with other children in the Scout center.

Flor started out as many other mothers from the Scout Experience family do, she was led by the curiosity of finding out what was the source of her children's positive changes. By being present in the Scout center she was able to witness the learning process her children were having and became more and more involved.

A few months later, Flor became a Community Promoter for the project at Granjas Familiares. Her job was to meet with different people from the community and with that collaborate with the cohesion that has been emerging towards the Scout center. She is a well-known

and appreciated member of the community; these traits have allowed her to perform her job in a natural way and by that, help other families to participate in the project.

Flor's growth has had a logical sequence. Her commitment as a mother of three could be utilized to accompany other children through their progress, which is the reason why she became Akela, the character from The Jungle Book, a wolf pack leader that adopted Mowgli, a human, into the pack. It is important to mention that Rudyard Kipling's The Jungle Book is an essential component to the Cub Scouts' (children ranging from 7 to 11 years old) dynamic.

Every Akela's responsibility is to guide the Cub Scouts, just as it happens in the book, the source of inspiration for the Cub Scouts concept. They can accomplish their goals through the progress with the support of their guide and the learning by playing system.

Flor has set the example of how a mother became conscious of how the social impact that has benefitted her children can be able to reach many other people within the community. This is the reason why we are proud of her contribution to the project and especially group 103, in the process of shaping more young leaders.



3.2 Innovation

3.2.1 Scout Management System

An analysis of alternatives and costs for the development of an Information Management System that supports the main functional areas in a National Scout Organization (NSO) was elaborated in collaboration with Accenture Development Partnerships (ADP). This exercise allowed the identification of Customer Relationship Management (CRM) tools and applications that would allow a NSO to properly manage its membership, monitor and evaluate the implementation of the educational program and adult training, as well as, optimize processes that are associated with event organization, supporting their governance and knowledge management.

3.2.2 Knowledge Management System

Scouts of Mexico collaborated with Box, global leader in online content management, and used a knowledge management system to generate, safeguard and share project documentation in a safe, fast and simple way. Moreover, Box is a system that allows the Collaborative Learning Platform to operate; this platform was designed to facilitate the model replica of Scout Experience and to strengthen the capacity of National Scout Organizations on a local, provincial and national level.



Did you know that Box sponsored the Scout Experience project?

Learn more about Box at: <http://scoutsmx.box.com>

3.2.3 Resource Management System

The project used a resource management system named Fundwise to implement online crowd funding campaigns. This tool permitted the invitation of people from around the world to join a cause and mobilize human, material and financial resources through an online platform capable of receiving input via cash, credit or debit card from people abroad or in the country, in full compliance with tax regulations in Mexico.

3.2.4 Geographic Information System

Geographic information systems are a leading tool for community assessment's processes, risk management and the implementation of educational program. With support from Google Earth platform (<http://earth.google.com>), the project generated virtual maps of implementation areas with a detailed inventory of community assets, risk areas and strategic stakeholders. This inventory is combined with socioeconomic geo-referenced data from the National Institute of Statistics and Geography (INEGI in Spanish) to generate a deeper understanding of social dynamics in the communities. This information has enabled project specialists into making informed and strategic decisions regarding the Scouts centers location, development of contingency plans and community engagement decisions.

3.2.5 Mobile Technology

Mobile technology is used through a two way SMS system that maintained effective communication with beneficiaries and parents belonging to the Scouts groups. The SMS communication system was developed internally and has duly informed parents about the Scouts groups' activities and involved the beneficiaries in consultation and opinion exercises.

The diffusion rate of the mobile market in Mexico makes the SMS channel system ideal for communicating notices and messages effectively as well as involving the beneficiaries and volunteers into the Scout group life. Mobile technology has been used within the Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project to strengthen security, communication, monitoring and marketing.



3.2.6 Virtual Learning Centers

The Scouts centers serve as Virtual Learning Centers (VLC) of Tecnológico de Monterrey, offering 184 online courses and 197 educational materials. Beneficiaries and volunteers have free access to online education and entrepreneurial advice. In addition, the Scout program recognizes, through its educational emphasis Insignia, skills and competencies developed through this platform. The VLC are tools that aim to cut back the digital gap among at-risk children and youth, as well as parents. To learn more about the VLC we kindly ask you to visit the webpage www.centroscomunitariosdeaprendizaje.org.mx



3.3 Sustainability



3.3.1 Communications

The communications strategy used various channels to disseminate the activities and results and to promote social interaction among beneficiaries, parents, volunteers and other important stakeholders in the project.

Additionally, the communications team completed daily media monitoring on issues associated with the Scout movement, childhood, youth, education, health, safety and human rights in order to keep the Scouts of Mexico leaders informed on relevant news to the Scout Movement.

Results:

27,568 visits to our website:
www.experienciascout.org.mx

4,230 followers on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/scoutsdemexico.experienciascout

3,541 followers on our volunteer page:
www.facebook.com/scoutsdemexico.voluntariadoes

38 videos on our YouTube account:
www.youtube.com/experienciascout

521 followers on our Twitter account:
www.twitter.com/scoutses

633 subscribers and 25 editions of our fortnightly newsletter: <http://goo.gl/T8BslQ>

70 blog entries at Wordpress:
<https://experienciascout.wordpress.com/>

17 Issuu publications:
www.issuu.com/experienciascout

57 photo galleries on our Facebook page:
www.facebook.com/scoutsdemexico.experienciascout

24 press releases about the project published in the media.

Instagram: www.instagram.com/experienciascout

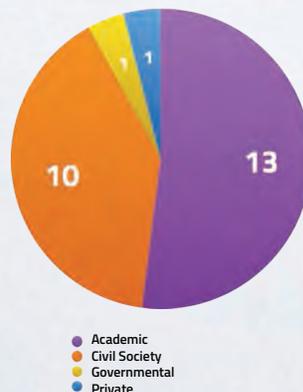
Flickr: www.flickr.com/experienciascout



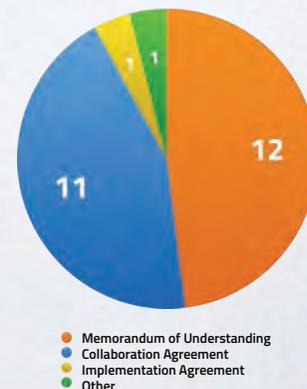
3.3.2 Partnerships

Strategic alliances involved the public, private, academic sector as well as civil society in the scope of development results through various instruments of cooperation. In the duration of the project 25 cooperation agreements with the private sector, academia and civil society were established to support the scope of the project results. Moreover, the participation of Scouts of Mexico in the Municipal Committee for the Prevention of Violence of the Municipality of Tijuana was achieved. This committee is composed of various municipal bodies and civil society organizations in order to coordinate and conduct activities in the field of violence prevention. At the MCPV we were part of the following subcommittees: Youth, Community Cohesion and Social Participation. Likewise, we belong to the network of the Municipal Institute for Citizen Participation in the Municipality of Tijuana, which is composed of citizen's representatives and municipal officials that advocate a culture of civic participation within the Tijuana's community.

AGREEMENTS SIGNED WITH ORGANIZATIONS BY SECTOR



TYPES OF SIGNED AGREEMENTS





3.3.3 Resources

The mobilization of material and financial resources is essential for the sustainability of the Scout Groups. To achieve this, community, local, national and international initiatives have been used. In the community, beneficiaries and parent committees have conducted individual and group economic development activities that have allowed them to generate resources to participate in outdoor activities and strengthen the work done in the Scouts groups. In addition to these activities, the project used Fundwise as a tool to summon local, national and international organizations to make online donations for the project's social causes.



"Buena Acción a Distancia"
<https://goo.gl/LeX4dE>



"El Orgullo de Ser Scout"
<https://goo.gl/KNACYN>

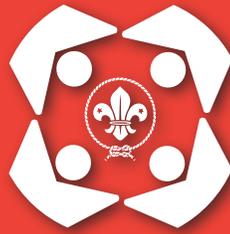
Results

USD \$14,415 received through online fundraising platform.

143 resource mobilization activities implemented by beneficiaries.

FUNDWISE
Español ▾ Precios en MXN

<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 100 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">EQUIPO DE BOLSILLO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Los Scouts hacemos una buena acción cada día. Ayúdanos con nuestro equipo de bolsillo para estar ¡Siempre listos para servir!</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 200 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">AVENTURA</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Las aventuras en la naturaleza acompañados de nuestros amigos nos dejan muchísimo aprendizaje. Para realizarlas necesitamos de tu apoyo ¿Quién dijo yo?</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 300 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">PROYECTO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Nos motiva mucho dejar el mundo mejor de cómo lo encontramos. Con tu apoyo podremos hacer proyectos en paz, medio ambiente o desarrollo</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 500 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">TRANSPORTE</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Ayuda a la Súper Van Scout a ofrecer un mes de transporte redondo a los voluntarios. Ellos nos ayudan todos los días. ¡Merecen buen Karma!</p>
<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 1,000 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">HOSPEDAJE</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">¡Nuestros voluntarios vienen por 3, 6, 9 o 12 meses! Podrían sobrevivir acampando pero puedes apoyar para que se queden en la Casa de Voluntarios :)</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 2,000 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">SCOUT</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">¡Apadrina un Scout! Su registro anual les da seguro de accidentes, uniforme, pañoleta, credencial, revista y acceso a nuestros eventos</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 5,000 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">EVENTO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Pocas experiencias se pueden comparar con un evento scout nacional. ¡Apoya a un Scout para que viva esta gran aventura en alguna parte de México!</p>	<div style="position: absolute; top: -15px; right: -15px; background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px 5px; transform: rotate(-45deg);"> \$ 10,000 </div> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; margin: 5px 0;">CENTRO</p> <p style="font-size: 0.9em; margin: 0;">Un Centro Scout ofrece actividades 3 días por semana en liderazgo, educación y carácter a niños y jóvenes. ¡Ayúdanos a seguir operando!</p>



VOLUNTEER

SCOUTS OF MÉXICO

3.3.4 International Volunteer Program

Volunteering is a reflection of our commitment as citizens to contribute to the restoration of the social fabric and promote a spirit of solidarity. For their selfless and caring attitude, a volunteer represents an example and motivation for our beneficiaries. Volunteers implemented specific initiatives that answered to the needs and interests in the community. The allocation of specific roles and responsibilities for the volunteers, as well as, the guidance through the implementation of specific projects guaranteed that every hour dedicated to the project transformed into a significant contribution towards development.

Results





Videos de voluntarios
<https://goo.gl/u2elqM>



3.4 Institutional Development

3.4.1 Organizational Capacity Assessment

The organizational capacity assessment (OCA) is a tool designed by USAID to help its partners assess their level of institutional development and design a plan of action to strengthen key elements of organizational performance. Scouts of Mexico applied this tool in 2012 and 2015, identifying an advancement of 86% of the seven groups of established indicators for the areas of:

- Governance
- Management
- Human resources
- Finance
- Organizational development
- Program management
- Project management



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Result

An advancement of



in the groups of indicators from the Organizational Capacity Assessment during the period of **2012 to 2015.**

3.4.2 Risk Management

In terms of risk management, tools were designed to ensure the safety of beneficiaries, volunteers, executives, infrastructure and equipment, as well as, compliance with current regulations on privacy, use of personal image and civil liability.

Resultados

14

Legal instruments on liability, privacy, human resources and procurement were developed and implemented.

4

CCTV allowed remote monitoring of project locations.

1

Fiscal, legal and procedural analysis.

1

Safety system designed to strengthen prevention and emergency response.

3.4.3 Scout Experience Management System

During the project a management system was developed and includes every key process of the operation, starting with managerial and administrative activities to operations. The system allows the project to be understood entirely and to facilitate an easy reproduction. The Scout Experience management system will be available at <http://calidad.experienciascout.org.mx> for members registered with Scouts of Mexico, National Scout Organizations and partners through the Collaborative Learning Platform.



3.4.4 Operations Manual

In compliance with the operating rules and regulations of the Government of the United States of America, the project developed operative policies, procedures and tools reinforced in the areas of purchasing, procurement and petty cash, human resources, control of assets, travel, registration of beneficiaries and volunteers and also risk management. In collaboration with Deloitte, a review of these elements was conducted to identify those that could strengthen National Scout Organization's operative and others that are only useful for International Cooperation projects.



3.4.5 Business Plans

The project developed business plans for the use of the scout vehicles and also for the organization of scout events. These plans have as an objective to propose an economically viable and operationally attractive model for the National Scout Organization without compromising the quality or safety of their activities. These business plans will act as a basis for the integration of an economically sustainable vision that will generate the greatest social value to the organization and its members in compliance with its corporate purpose.

4. Finance

Scout Experience *Ready for Life* project finances are a reflection of the joint effort of Scouts of Mexico and USAID to achieve development results. We present the most relevant financial information in the project: income, social investment and financial audit. It is noteworthy, that in addition to financial resources provided by Scouts of Mexico and USAID, there are donors and sponsors that with their generous contribution of human, material and financial resources, contributed to project activities. This report presents the income, social investment and audit exercises completed since the start of the project until August 16th, 2015.

4.1 Income

The project's income comes from three different sources: USAID, Scouts of Mexico and our resource management system. USAID provides 79% of the total project cost through direct and indirect costs. Scouts of Mexico accounts for 21% of the total cost through direct costs. The resource management system allowed us to receive online contributions from Mexico and abroad that have totaled an amount of \$14,415.08 USD by August 16th, 2015.

Likewise, discounts and sponsorships have managed a total worth of \$838,815.77 USD

Total Budgeted

Direct Costs USAID	USD\$ 2,136,314.50
Indirect Costs USAID	USD\$ 363,173.50
Direct Costs ASMAC	USD\$ 685,657.00
Total (Cooperation Agreement)	USD\$ 3,185,145.00

Generated Discounts and Sponsorship value as of August 16th, 2015

Discounts and sponsorships	USD\$ 838,815.77
----------------------------	------------------

Total Executed as of August 16th, 2015

Direct Costs USAID	USD\$ 1,898,228.00
Indirect Costs USAID	USD\$ 305,049.26
Direct Costs ASMAC	USD\$ 605,328.11
Total (Cooperation Agreement)	USD\$ 2,808,605.37

Project Assets as of August 16th, 2015

USAID Contribution	USD\$ 137,281.25
ASMAC Contribution	USD\$ 49,485.85
Discounts and Sponsorships	USD\$ 39,672.68
Asset Value	USD\$ 226,439.79

Other income as of August 16th, 2015

Income generating activities	USD\$ 14,415.08
------------------------------	-----------------

Real Property

Land loan <i>Centro Scout Granjas Familiares</i>	7,000 m2
Allocation of land <i>Centro Scout Mariano Matamoros</i>	5,000 m2

Discounts

For the start and implementation of the project, items related to audiovisual, furniture, security, technology, transportation and outdoor life were acquired. Being a non-profit project, all of the items purchased were given at different prices than of the general public.

Discounts and sponsorship value generated by August 16th, 2015:	
Discounts and sponsorships.	USD\$838,815.77

4.2 Social Investment

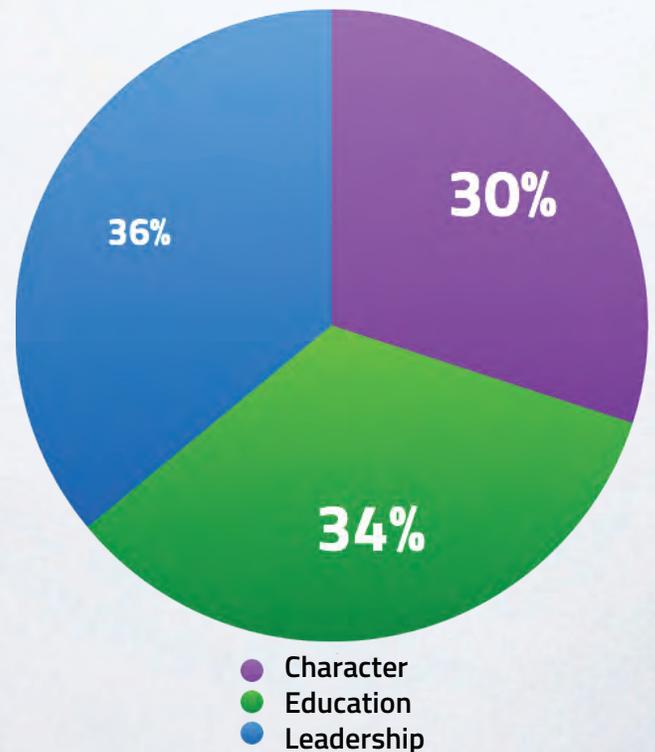
The costs understood as social investment can be divided into three major areas: operations, program and indirect costs. Overall, the investment in program and operations provide the necessary resources to achieve the expected results in the four areas of implementation: social impact, innovation, sustainability and institutional development. Likewise, the investment in social impact contemplates the resources required for the implementation of activities in character, education and leadership. It is worth noting that in case of a potential replication of the violence prevention model, the operational and programmatic costs would be significantly reduced.

Total Budgeted	
Operations	USD\$ 956,088.36
Program	USD\$ 1,858,831.89
Indirect Costs	USD\$ 370,224.75
Total	USD\$ 3,185,145.00

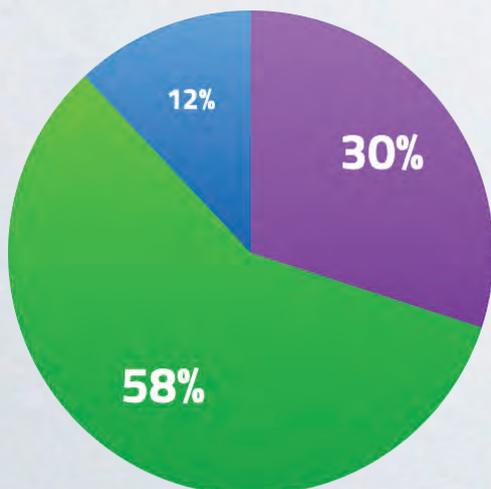
Total Executed as of August 16th, 2015	
Operations	USD\$ 878,338.11
Program	USD\$ 1,625,218.00
Indirect Costs	USD\$ 305,049.26
Total	USD\$ 2,808,605.37

Social Investment divided by area of social impact as of August 16th, 2015	
Character	USD\$ 267,058.90
Education	USD\$ 306,027.21
Leadership	USD\$ 321,856.70
Total	USD\$ 894,942.81

SOCIAL INVESTMENT BY AREA OF SOCIAL IMPACT



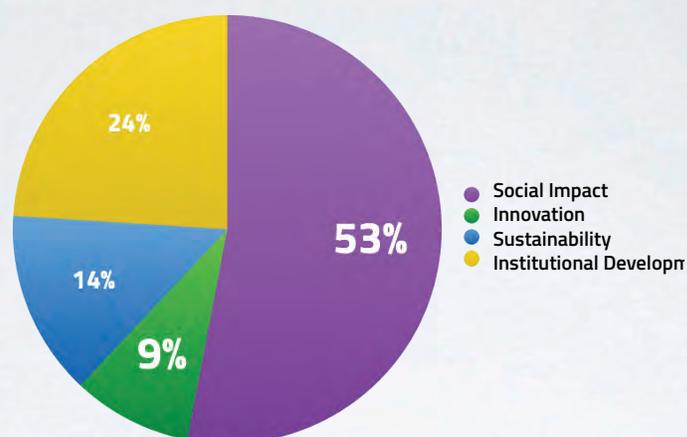
SOCIAL INVESTMENT Management and Operations (Purple), Program Services (Green), Indirect costs (Blue)



SOCIAL INVESTMENT BY IMPLEMENTATION AXIS

Social Investment by implementation axis as of August 16th, 2015

Social Impact	USD\$ 1,289,544.17
Innovation	USD\$ 213,398.92
Sustainability	USD\$ 346,410.05
Institutional Development	USD\$ 597,518.82
Total	USD\$ 2,446,871.97



IOS Offices (www.iosoffices.com) one of our sponsors, which provides us with world-class facilities to our Operations Center.

Deloitte (www.deloitte.com/mx) has been the consulting firm of the project in fiscal, legal and operative matters as part of its social responsibility program.

Accenture Development Partnerships (<https://www.accenture.com/adp>) was our partner in the analysis of alternatives and costs of an Information Management System for Scouts of Mexico as part of its program that support NGOs.

Box (www.box.com) gave a significant discount to Scouts of Mexico for the use of its corporate version of online Content Management System.

Netsuite (www.netsuite.com) gave Scouts of Mexico a significant grant in the use of licensing of its online ERP / CRM to support the administration of Scouts of Mexico.

4.3 Audit

The Scout Experience *Ready for Life* project is subject to the Mexican and American rules and regulations due to the operation in Mexico of United States Federal Funding. This means that internal control and the terms of reference of the financial audit are subject to both existing standards in Scouts of Mexico, and those established in the cooperation agreement with USAID. In addition to external financial audits, USAID conducts financial reviews that allow early identification of improvement opportunities and adjustment to comply with its guidelines. This has led to a close cooperation between the project's team, the National Scout Treasury and Scouts of Mexico's Audit Commission to ensure that our organization complies in a timely manner with all the requirements of transparency and accountability stipulated by our partner.

The audited amounts for the time of the project are:

Periods and audited amounts	Aggregated	Disaggregated
December 31st 2013	USD\$ 1,086,088.45	USD\$ 1,086,088.45
December 31st 2014	USD\$ 2,045,973.57	USD\$ 959,885.12
August 16 2015	USD\$ 2,808,605.37	USD\$ 762,631.80

5. Additional contributions in the project



Scout Experience acknowledges that through the implementation of its youth program around the country, as well as the results derived from the Scout Experience project, it contributes to the achievement of development objectives at a national and global level. For this reason we present an executive summary of the indicators from Mexican Government, United Nations in Mexico, USAID Mexico and the World Organization of the Scout Movement that we expect to have contributed to with the project.

5.2 Global Support Assessment Tool (WOSM)

The Global Support Assessment Tool (GSAT) is a recently implemented tool by the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) that evaluates skills, needs and strengths in National Scout Organizations.

Objectives of the Global Support Assessment Tool:

- Provide a common cross-regional assessment that measures compliance with good governance principles and quality scouting across the globe.
- Become a tool that can be used by scout organization leaders to identify nonconformance to these principles.
- Sharpen the support given by WOSM (at World and Regional levels) towards its NSOs, based on the specific identified needs and trends.

- Make certification possible through a third party, if desired by the NSO. This certification can help stakeholders become donors after identifying principles of governance and delivery of qualitative results.

Towards the end of 2013, the Scouts of Mexico Association was subjected to this evaluation and searched for three objectives:

- Evaluate the level of conformity regarding the World Organization of the Scout Movement.
- Measure the level of performance regarding international better practices.
- Receive specific recommendations that can be translated into internal administration tools for the purpose of continuous improvement.



During the evaluation it was acknowledged that Scout Experience: **Ready for life** project has contributed towards organizational development in the following areas:

- Strategic framework. A strategic mapping of stakeholders was provided, as well as a risk management strategy.
- Openness to external audits that cover finance, program and management.
- Creation of policies, procedures and tools oriented towards and improvement of the organizational management system.

The products generated in the project will facilitate achieving better results in this and other evaluations completed by external stakeholders.



5.3 WOSM Triennial Global Plan

In 2013, the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) presented their triennial global plan for the period of 2014- 2017, which has as its mission to contribute to the achievement of the 2023 vision objectives “By 2023, scouting will be the leading educational youth movement worldwide, encouraging 100 million of young people into becoming active citizens that create a positive change in their communities and in the world based on shared values”.

The plan is developed through six working areas:

- Youth involvement.
- Educational methods.
- Diversity and induction.
- Social impact.
- Governance.
- Communications and external relations.

At Scout Experience: *Ready for life* we understand the importance of the triennial global plan and we embrace this actions to achieve the objectives. Our activities and tasks contribute to the indicators in the following way:

- We include peace and human rights in our youth program.
- We encourage young people to learn about and participate in the WOSM programs: messengers of peace, scouts of the world award and the world scout environment program.
- We advocate leadership and active youth participation through our volunteer program.
- We have contributed in the growth of the scout movement by taking it to vulnerable areas and in at-risk communities.
- Our planning of public affairs and communications is aligned with the strategy of communications and external relations at WOSM.



5.4 WOSM Regional Plan

On September 2013 the XXV Interamerican Scout Conference took place in Argentina, where national scout organizations from the American continent reunited. In this meeting the 2014-2016 plan was created and divided in three strategic areas: youth program, adults in the scout movement and institutional development.

The regional plan was designed as a tool to consolidate the organizational and formative capacity in all fields, recognizing, training and maintaining within the movement adults that make the scout method development possible, while promoting the spirit of service and creating spaces for the strengthening of youth participation.

In the project we contributed to the achievement of the given indicators by completing the following actions:



- An updated, relevant, attractive and consistent with the interamerican policy, youth program is implemented in the groups.
 - We have a monitoring and evaluation system that enables updating of the evaluation tools.
 - We empower young people to become self sufficient and able to develop the youth program.
 - We encourage skills development and specialization for adults in charge of developing the youth program and the staff that assists them.
 - We develop instruments and tools for innovation that strengthen management systems.
 - We promote financial independence of the scouts groups by creating tools that diversify the sources of funding for groups.

5.5 National Development Plan

The guiding document that governs the actions of the federal government is the National Development Plan. Its range is for the duration of six years and it is presented during the first months of a new president taking office. The current plan is for the 2013-2018 period.

The current national development plan has five main goals: A peaceful Mexico, an inclusive Mexico, quality education in Mexico, a prospering Mexico and a Mexico with global responsibility.

The main objectives in Scout Experience are oriented towards the prevention of violence and we work within the framework of the Merida Initiative signed between the governments of Mexico and the United States, therefore, our efforts are aligned with the goal “a peaceful Mexico” of the national development plan.

Scout Experience: **Ready for life** supports these actions with the goal of a peaceful Mexico:

- We prioritize the prevention of violence against children and adolescents, addressing its underlying causes and risk factors in a comprehensive manner.
- We strengthen social stakeholders to promote social development in vulnerable and at-risk groups.
- We strengthen capital and social cohesion through the organization and participation of communities, advocating trust and co-responsibility.
- We increase co-responsibility and citizen participation by advocating peace culture, the culture of legality and civil coexistence.
- We reduced vulnerability to violence and crime in priority populations.
- We created environments that favor coexistence.
- We strengthened institutional skills for social prevention.
- We coordinated effectively with different levels in government.



5.6 Development Action Framework of the United Nations in Mexico

Mexico and the United Nations (UN) have had a relation for over 65 years. One of the UN main priorities has been to advocate for a cooperation that supports the reinforcement of their institutional capabilities and strengths in Mexico.

Continuing that relationship, in 2013 the United Nations Cooperation Framework for Development in Mexico from 2014 to 2019 was signed. This document works with the framework of the National Development Plan and its five main goals, to develop six areas of cooperation validated by the Mexican government.

Scout Experience relates to the area of citizen security cooperation, social cohesion and justice. Considering that the UN’s objectives in Mexico are aligned with the

“*Peaceful Mexico*” goal, the UN actions we are aligned to be similar to the action of the National Development Plan.

We support the efforts of UN in Mexico by:

- Developing social cohesion strategies as a basis for violence prevention.
- Creating trustworthy and timely information systems in the communities where our actions are implemented.
- Strengthening citizen participation mechanisms in security.
- Preventing violence by advocating rights, strengthening skills and facilitating the empowerment of children and young people.



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5.7 Country Development Cooperation Strategy (USAID)

The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is a partner of Scouts of Mexico in the implementation of the Scout Experience: *Ready for life* project with the purpose of strengthening the capacity of young people to play a productive role in their community.

The actions of USAID in Mexico derive from the strategic plan of the United States Mission in Mexico. The Country Development Cooperation Strategy (CDCS) was updated in 2013 to cover the 2014-2018 period based on four main goals, among them that local stakeholders replicate crime and violence prevention models. USAID's CDCS,, similar to other agencies and international organizations, is aligned with the national development plan.





The Scout Experience project contributes to USAID's CDCS 2014-2018 in the following way:

- Forging an innovative crime and violence prevention model.
- Providing development alternatives for at-risk youth, by developing their skills and abilities.
- Strengthening character, education and youth leadership to support their training as well-rounded citizens.
- Supporting young people that attend school to continue with their studies and avoid the risk of dropping out.
- Encouraging youth leadership through the scout method and volunteer participation that work as a reference model, providing an alternative to violence and crime.





SCOUT
EXPERIENCE
Ready for life...



Scout Experience: Ready for life Team.

Raymundo Tamayo, ***Project Director***
Miguel Fernández, ***Operations and Finance Chief***
Paula Fuentes, ***Educational Program Chief***
Sergio Velasco, ***Public Affairs and Communications Chief***
Roberto Flores, ***Monitoring and Evaluation Chief***
Gabriela Sánchez, ***Psychosocial Support Specialist***
José Antonio García, ***Scout Center Manager***
Hugo Uslé, ***Scout Center Manager***
Jocelyn Brambila, ***Community Engagement Executive***
Shantal Martínez, ***Volunteer Program Executive***
Karen López, ***Communications Executive***
Marisol Chairez, ***Operations and Finance Executive Assistant***
Grace Angulo, ***Scout Center Executive Assistant***
Claudia Martínez, ***Scout Center Executive Assistant***
Jorge Calderón, ***Scout Center Executive Assistant***
Pedro Montoya, ***Logistics Staff***
Eulalia Pérez, ***Community Mobilization Staff***
Juventina Zárate, ***Community Mobilization Staff***
Maricela Aguilar, ***Community Mobilization Staff***
Heide Patrón, ***Janitorial Staff***
Caleb Ramírez, ***Janitorial Staff***
Enrique Barrón, ***Janitorial Staff***



The Scout Experience: *Ready for life* project thanks the National Board and the National Executive Team of Scouts of Mexico, the Justice and Citizen Security Office at USAID Mexico, as well as the following people who contributed to the scope of the results reflected in this report.

Scouts

Efrain Acosta
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