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PROJECT AID-OFDA-G-14-0097

“Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response”



FINAL REPORT

“EXTERNAL ENDLINE EVALUATION OF THE INTERVENTION”

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ACRONYMS

ADP	Area Development Programme
CODECES	School Security and Emergency Committees
CODELES	Local Emergency Committees
CODECEL	Emergency Committee in Workplace
CODEM	Municipal Emergency Committee
COPECO	Contingency Standing Commission
CURLP	University Center in the Pacific Coast Region
DME	Design, Monitoring and Evaluation
DRR	Disaster Risk Reduction
ET	Technical Team
LEAP	Learning through Evaluation with Accountability and Planning
LB	Base Line
MNIGR-RS	Risk Management Advocacy National Panel –Southern Region
D&M	Design and Monitoring
OFDA	Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance
SO	Support Office
SINAGER	Risk Management National System
UNAH	National Autonomous University of Honduras
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
WVH	World Vision Honduras
WV	World Vision
WVUS	World Vision United States

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

By focusing on Disaster Management and Reduction, the “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” Project is working in line with World Vision’s National Strategy and responding to local needs of Honduras’ Southern region, due to its vulnerability when facing adverse events.

The project goal is to “**STRENGTHEN LOCAL CAPABILITIES IN DISASTER RISK REDUCTION AND RESPONSE IN THE URBAN CONTEXT OF THE CITY OF CHOLUTECA**”, which addresses a total of 9, 527 people from a total amount of people affected in the area of 32, 420.

In order to achieve this goal, the intervention strategy was carried out in **La Cruz, Buenos Aires, Los Mangos, Brisas de Rio, Santa Rosa de Sampire, San Francisco del Palomar, Gracias a Dios, Las Arenas and Morazán** barrios, which are identified as the communities with the highest level of **SOCIAL, POLITICAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL** vulnerability. The elements described in the base line show how relevant and important the project is.

The evaluation methodology used has allowed a systematic analysis of the design, execution and outcomes of the project. The external evaluation for “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” in the period from July 2014 to October 2015 has been structured according to each one of its phases, for each one of which a set of questions have been created.

THE RELEVANCE CRITERIA is valued as “**HIGH**” taking into account conceptualization, design and execution of the “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” project. This is identified as a very positive intervention since the area of influence is considered **as one of the most vulnerable regions in terms of disasters nationwide**.

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Among the different factors that determine its high vulnerability we find the levels of organization, knowledge and poverty. The project contemplates national priorities and aligns them to the international framework of Disaster Risk Reduction DRR.

When developing the outcome analysis among the quantitative and qualitative elements we can affirm that the project attained **94%** efficiency, leaving a gap of **6%**. The gap is related with the sub-sector of capacity building and training which achieved 80.75 and the subsector of Integration/Improvement within the Education and Research systems which achieved 87.5. These gaps are directly related to elements of project design since they did not consider time and resources to achieve what was programmed.

It is evident that the Project is **EFFICIENT** in regards to the creation of teams for coordination and field technicians, justified used of funding and restructuring, tool creation and design and methodological approaches, concepts and tools among other factors like: **The capability in lobbying and agreement, management of coordination spaces and bringing together all key stakeholders during project implementation**.

This analysis highlights work relationships WVH has achieved throughout its interventions with different organizations and institutions. The Southern Region MNIGR platform stands out. It includes 20 organizations of the civil society that work for risk management. During the consultation process they were willing to continue unconditional contributing for future projects.

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The incorporation, commitment showed and acquired by the Chamber of Commerce of Choluteca is also considered important with all its 220 members, in addition to the University Center of the Pacific Coast, UNAH, COPECO Regional and the Municipal Corporation of Choluteca through the CODEM. Each one of these elements fosters, but does not guarantee sustainability of the advances in regards to reducing vulnerability in urban contexts generated by the project implemented by World Vision.

We conclude that the capacities in management, implementation of planned activities, obtained outcomes and disaster preparedness and response from the structures created are evident in World Vision in terms of development. However, since there isn't a follow-up and sustainability plan defined by the municipality there is grave risk that the capacities built within the communities will not have the expected impact.

Sustainability of the processes started in the education sector require a greater commitment from the education authorities. The activities described in the school security plan must be included in the annual planning of each school and they must be aligned to the PEC in order to monitor its implementation at least once a year.

As a recommendation we can define the importance of having in writing a permanent linkage strategy between the technical staff of the private non-sponsorship project and the ADP facilitator, in future interventions, in order to complement actions that will contribute to positioning the work carried out by the organizations in the HEA permanent programmes.

Additionally, it is recommended that WV and the CODEM prepare a transition and follow-up plan to the activities involving the MNIGR and CODEL in order to ensure proper monitoring, taking into account the achievements of the project and the challenges that remain after the project's intervention. Especially in the creation of action protocols between municipal structures, Regional N°6 from COPECO, MNIGR and private sector to ensure that proper and efficient response is being given when an emergency or disaster happens in the urban context.

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II. INTRODUCTION

This report aims at presenting the main outcome obtained during the participatory evaluation process of the “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” project, implemented by World Vision Honduras and funded by the Agency for International Development, Office of Foreign Disaster Assistance, USAID / OFDA.

The report is divided in twelve (12) sections. The first seven include the executive summary, introduction, project background, context and current situation of the area of intervention, purpose of the participatory evaluation, the methodology used to achieve the proposed outcomes and questions and evaluation criteria.

The eighth section analyzes the main findings during the implementation process by comparing the targets foreseen with real achievements and level of scope of the reference indicator.

The ninth section presents the outcome assessment in terms of relevance, efficiency, efficacy, durability, sustainability and impact of the project.

The tenth section presents the main conclusions on the intervention

The eleventh section, describes recommendations and

Finally the twelfth section, presents annexes that support the process.

III. BACKGROUND

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The “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” Project was implemented by World Vision and funded by **AID-OFDA-G-14-00097**

Interventions started five years ago in the urban context which generated a stronger relationship with local authorities due to the high vulnerability they are under. However, the growing challenge of urban expansion has encouraged World Vision to develop intentional work to strengthen the capacities for disaster prevention at southern region level of Honduras.

USAID /OFDA has supported World Vision in the past in Honduras from 2006 – 2009, by strengthening capabilities through two projects:

- 1. Disaster preparedness in schools of the Southern Area of Honduras Project**
- 2. Resilience in the Southern Area of Honduras Project**

Both projects are focused on promoting risk management education along with World Vision Honduras to build capacity for preparedness in the southern area. This foundation and actions taken by prior projects have been leveraged and strengthened by the OFDA strategy in this region.

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The institution has broad experience in the promotion of risk management focusing on child and adolescence rights in the region and working in such a complex context has required a holistic approach, influence strategies and impact of all factors.

Disasters show a high level of vulnerability existing in a society and affects especially the most vulnerable groups like girls, boys, women, people with disabilities and elderly people.

By promoting holistic actions that reduce risk, the project, allows the transition of a culture of focusing on disaster assistance towards a culture of resilience, which allows saving lives and protecting the livelihood of the most vulnerable people who are directly affected by disasters.

The intervention was carried out in the urban and semi-urban area including the following 9 barrios: **Barrio Arenas, Barrio Brisas del Rio, Barrio Morazán, Barrio Buenos Aires, Barrio La Cruz, Barrio Los Mangos, Barrio Santa Rosa Sampire, Barrio San Francisco Palomar and Barrio Gracias a Dios** from the municipality of Choluteca, in the Department of Choluteca in Honduras.

According to assessments and analysis, the municipality of Choluteca has a history of threats, vulnerability and risk. Recurrence of these events makes the need of implementing these kinds of project imperative and for the municipal and local emergency committees to have the knowledge and tools necessary to face threats in a coordinated way between the instance that belong to the National Risk Management System (SINAGER).

The external evaluation of this project, aside from being a transparency exercise, has been stated by World Vision Honduras to learn about the actions carried out and assess the level of compliance towards project outcomes. The project lasted for 12 months from July 2014 to July 2015 with a no-cost extension of 3 months from August to October 31, 2015. The evaluation was held between September and October of 2015 and was supported by the general coordination of the project and World Vision Honduras' technical team.

The methodology used was participatory and based on semi-structured surveys, focus group discussions in the field directed to the local structures of SINAGER (CODEL and CODECE), in-depth interviews with key stakeholders at municipal, departmental/regional and institutional level as well as observation visits of the infrastructure designed in line with the project.

There is full satisfaction from the external evaluation team with WVH in regards to the approach of the project in line with a **methodology based on institutional and community strengthening** as well as with the support to located entrepreneurship with the **Organizational and Institutional strengthening, Urban Resilience with vision for Disaster Risk Reduction Approach**.

The proposed initiative directly contributes to two strategic objectives from the Contingency Standing Committee (COPECO) in its 2014-2018 strategic plan, which identifies at least three binding areas:

1. Promoting risk management education in primary and secondary school (Basic Education).
2. Strengthening local capacities through organization and training of Prevention and Response Officials.
3. Promotion of public investment (Municipalities) in disaster reduction.

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In order to keep a methodological logic focusing on outcomes, it is important to highlight that WVH has been present in the intervention area on previous years in line with disaster risk reduction through holistic programmes like the development platform of territories. This project strengthens alliances in DRR since due to its approach it involves other key stakeholders like the private sector.

Therefore WVH, develops an assessment that created a roadmap to follow on approaches, differentiated methodologies that had to be implemented by the differences marled among stakeholders and beneficiaries. This process was supported by the application of the base line which created important information.

An element that stands out is that WVH and its technical team have **credibility and respect** among the community and local institutions. This is key in order to achieve outcomes. The trust people have in the organization allows having the necessary support in each one of the activities that were implemented.

The contribution from **USAID OFDA** contributes in a significant way, not only financially or with support and advice but also due to the flexibility that allows the coordination team to adapt to new requirements that the project demanded throughout the 15 months of implementation.

IV. CONTEXT AND CURRENT SITUATION

The city of Choluteca has an approximate population of 160,000 people in urban and semi-urban contexts, where the lack of employment, access to utilities and poverty makes them vulnerable to adverse events, leaving a setting of greater risk for families living in the most impoverished areas.

Geographical conditions and the lack of land management are some of the elements that contribute to having population continuously affected by different events like flooding which is the one that creates greater damage and loss.

High vulnerability to adverse events and its effects on people’s livelihoods are seen every year with the severe problem with physical infrastructure like roads, households and water systems especially in the southern area of Honduras. The municipality of Choluteca has registered a total of 103 adverse events. Therefore, Choluteca and Marcovia are the municipalities with greater number of adverse events in the region and in the country.

V. PURPOSE OF THE EVALUATION

Conduct an Endline Evaluation that will allow identifying the final status of indicators during project implementation in order to analyze and compare the initial situation stated at the project’s base line.

This report is the result of an external evaluation process of the “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” Project, which has been conducted for twelve weeks. It included three phases, the first phase was desk work, the second phase was participatory field work and the third was the preparation of the final report.

The evaluation starts with an exhaustive and detailed research on aspects like project design, projection and implementation, participation of counterparts, management, fundraising and the impact on beneficiaries.

In this regards and in regards to the project design, the evaluation gave relevant information on the design of the intervention and the level of scope in regards to the reference objectives from the two sectors defined in the intervention. **Sector 1: Risk Management Practice and Policy and Sector 2: Humanitarian**

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Coordination and Information Management. Each sector has sub-sectors which add up to a total of seven and its twenty five indicators.

Likewise, the consistency of the objectives set is analyzed in regards to the different tools, strategies and methodologies implemented by WVH and in regards to the guidelines from the governing entity SINAGER and international strategies.

The level of establishment and ownership of the executed activities has been assessed by analyzing the implication of institutions, leaders, community in general without neglecting the commitment acquired by the national, regional and local authorities to continue with the actions and thus, guarantee medium and long term sustainability. Furthermore, the evaluation has given information on the outcomes obtained in the project according to plan, as well as the administration of resources both in regards to human and technical resource like financial.

During the field work phase of the evaluation we have promoted the participation of a number of key representative informants from the different institutions and agents related to the project. Thus, the final report includes content on each one of the points and criteria agreed on the ToR while taking into account the comments from people who have participated in the desk and consultation process.

From the point of view of the evaluation structure, once the desk work was conducted with the preparation of tools and validated by the Project Coordinator. We proceeded to implement the field work phase. We then applied the survey with guidance questions keeping in mind respect and idiosyncrasy, beliefs, culture and traditions of the area of intervention.

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The specific objectives of the evaluation have considered the following aspects: **relevance, efficacy, and efficiency, level of implementation, sustainability and lessons learned.** Likewise, the evaluation emphasizes on its recommendations phase and criteria like sustainability of the developed outcomes, contribution and cooperation which means governance among stakeholders and institutions implications or collaboration and the gender and participation factor.

VI. METHODOLOGY OF THE EVALUATION

The methodology employed on the external evaluation has included the revision of information and documents available, interviews to key informants, as well as coordination of the Project from the technical team and institutional linkage to the development of activities including focal groups to members of local risk management structures. Qualitative techniques have been fundamentally used to collect data and information which has allowed supporting the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation. Likewise, from the desk report we state the revision of quantitative information from secondary sources to the evaluation.

Additional to quantitative data given, we have foreseen developing a balance table and it can be found in the eighth section. It includes three columns describing the foreseen target, implemented target and level of scope; which contrasts with the advances by measuring outcome indicators according to the methodology that was used in the assessment phase.

According to what was described in the work plan of this evaluation and what was established along with WVH in the work meeting, three communities were selected for the field work according to level of vulnerability and representativeness of the risk situation in the municipality which are detailed as follows:

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1. Las Arenas
2. Gracias A Dios and
3. Barrio La Cruz

The identification of stakeholders and institutions was agreed upon by the Project coordination, who aside from the communities also facilitated the necessary logistics to establish proper contacts, communications, and internal mobilization and thus execute the assessment tasks proposed with the different stakeholders.

The evaluation analysis has kept in mind characteristics from specific contexts in which the different activities of the project have been executed. Likewise, the methodology has kept in mind the participation of different stakeholders in the project since their collaboration participation and ownership of the objectives has been paramount for the success of the foreseen activities as well as the work of the project. Therefore, field work has had participation from different stakeholders obtaining information from different points of view and responsibility.

The consulted stakeholders have been:

At Institutional level:

- General Coordination of World Vision Honduras, Tegucigalpa Office and Choluteca Office
- Representative from the Departmental and District Directorate of Education, Ministry of Education.
- Representative from the University Center of the Pacific Coast CURLP-UNAH
- Representatives from the Risk Management Advocacy National Panel – Southern Region
- Representatives from COPECO, Regional N° 6
- Representatives from the Chamber of Commerce in Choluteca
- Representatives from the Municipal Emergency Committee in Choluteca

At community level:

- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Arenas
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Brisas del rio
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Morazán
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Buenos Aires
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio La Cruz
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Los Mangos
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Santa Rosa Sampire
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio San Francisco Palomar
- Representative from the Local Emergency Committee in Barrio Gracias a Dios
- Representative from the workplace emergency committee in the Market

The evaluation methodology used has allowed a systematic analysis of three aspects of the project: **design, implementation and outcomes**. The external evaluation has been structured in three phases which are: **Document Research, Field Work, Report Preparation and finally socialization, validation and closure of the process**. The level of participation and empowerment of key stakeholders at national and local level and the benefited population has been valued, especially in regards to gender, children, people with

disabilities, effects on the environment, respect to human rights and measuring relevance in topics of preparedness and response.

VII. EVALUATION QUESTIONS AND ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

The evaluation methodology used has allowed a systematic analysis of the design, execution and outcomes of the Project “**Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response**” Project in the period from July 2014 to October 2015. The external evaluation has been structured according to each one of its phases. Each phase has generated a set of questions.

In this regard, it has been verified if the **design** of the objectives has been coherent with reality and national priorities, implementing a policy of promotion of disaster resilience and risk reduction by strengthening the institutions and stakeholders involved as well as building capacity in local population.

Thus, the evaluation system has proven the level of **implementation** of the carried out actions and lastly, attainment of the **expected outcomes**.

Therefore, it was used as an indicator mean of verification through the Monitoring and Evaluation system of the project and the quarter reports of the advances presented to the donor. Each one of these processes has been structured according to different **evaluation criteria**, considered as a core topic in the carried out external evaluation:

- **Relevance** of the Project in terms of adaptation of outcomes, objectives and coherence of the intervention statement to characteristics of the urban contexts in the project. This is, from the project design at the different levels of programming, fundamentally in line with the relevance for the regional and local context and within national priorities.
- **Efficiency** of processes inherent to Project management (identification, formulation, execution and follow up) at different levels, paying special attention to the management procedures of the intervention at each one of the phases.
- Especially, the efficiency **of the management model** in planning, coordination and execution of the allocated resources.

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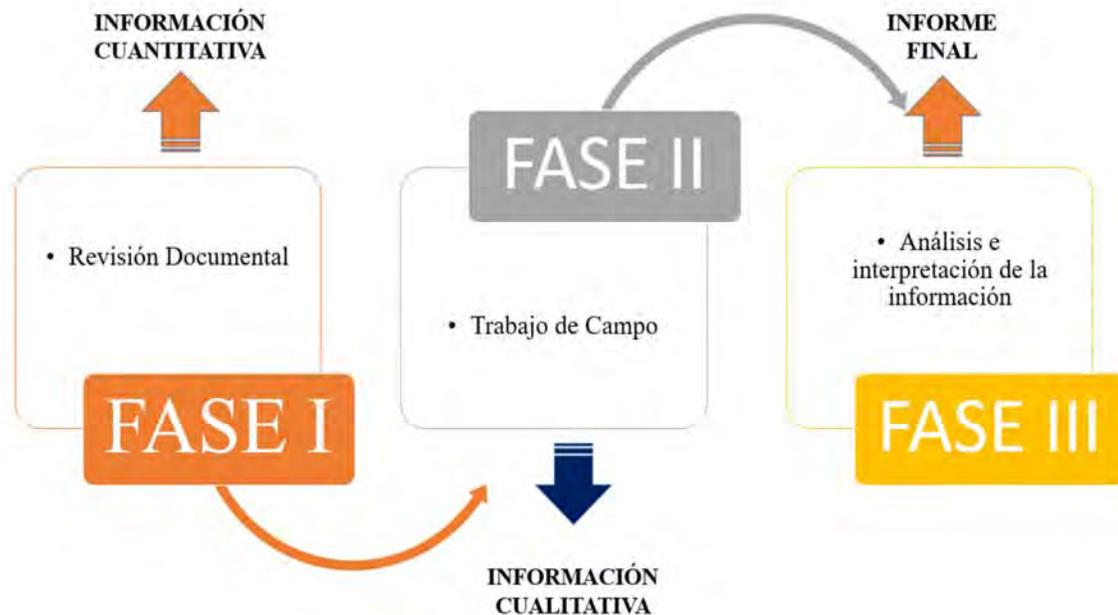
Efficiency is determined by taking into account:

- **Clear and precise definition of outcomes and specific objective of the activity**
- **Determination of the direct and indirect beneficiaries on which we want to have influence**
- **Foreseen time.**

Durability of the Project, oriented to identifying the implementation period and scope of the outcomes in the 15 month period, which is also useful to identify efficiency and efficacy values. Sustainability of the outcomes obtained and how these can be maintained throughout time with support from local, regional, departmental and national authorities, counting on the commitment from the community as agents of change. Impact in regards to the beneficiaries of each one of the actions and other stakeholders related to the activities. In this regard, the evaluation has intended to analyze:

- Influence and positive effects on institutional capacities and at community level.
- The level of empowerment and ownership of the beneficiaries and
- The organizational and institutional capacity to develop activities and comply with the outcomes.

SUMMARIZED OUTLINE OF THE PROCESS



VIII. Analysis and Interpretation of the Collected Information

Level of compliance: the scope obtained in regards to the foreseen indicators are stated in the following table at attempt to consolidate the process of the project. The first part is within the quantitative analysis on what was planned and the goals achieved during project implementation.

Project Goal: Strengthen local capabilities in Disaster Risk Reduction and Response in the urban context of the City of Cholulteca.		
SECTOR N° 1	RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE	
Sector Objective: Promote the institutionalization of risk management in the academic and private sector		
SUBSECTOR: 1.1 BUILDING COMMUNITY AWARENESS/MOBILIZATION		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: 410 people trained, 150 men / 260 women	2, 879 People 1, 179 men / 1,700 women	702.19%
The proposed target was exceeded in 70% due to the fact that local structures made replicas of the training at each barrio including the education community, including the Pacific coast regional university center, participants from the Chamber of Commerce of Cholulteca as well as members of the structures included in the MNIGR. All of this allowed achieving more than what was originally planned, however in comparison to the total population of the barrios it only represents 30% of 9, 527 which is the total population of all nine barrios.		

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Indicator 2: 85% de people trained who retain skills and knowledge after two months	64%	79%
It is important to mention that at the moment of the evaluation 94% of people surveyed said that they have participated in some kind of training process in line with the project, however only 64% achieved finishing the entire training process and retain their knowledge and are supporting the grass root structures in their work for DRR locally.		
Indicator 3: 90% (369) attendees at joint planning meetings who are from the local community.	596	161%
Meetings were led by the board of directors from 9 CODELES at level of each community achieving the attendance of 394 women and 202 men in the socialization and planning processes of DRR.		
SUBSECTOR: 1.2 CAPACITY BUILDING AND TRAINING		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>455</u> people trained in disaster preparedness, mitigation, and management, 275 women and 182 men	449	99%
The disaster preparedness process was developed considering first of all the local structures of SINAGER (CODELES and CODEM) the MNIGRRS, Nuevo Mercado CODECEL and CURLP-UNAH, Fire Department, red Cross and Green Cross and youth volunteers from the barrios of intervention achieving training 449 people from which 240 are men and 209 are women. When analyzing the gender approach 47% were women and 53% men which is favorable since there is only a different of 3% which would be a gap to overcome in future interventions.		
Indicator 2: <u>11</u> trainings conducted	15	136.36%
The trainings that were conducted with participant stakeholders in the Project were 15 in total related to DRR according to topics identified in the attendance lists. 65 different moments were necessary to complete the process. The target was exceeded in amount and quality of the training process.		
Indicator 3: <u>387</u> passing final exams or receiving certificates, disaggregated by sex.	174	45%
Out of the 387 people the indicator had, only 135 members of CODELS participated in the certification process and 60 teachers from the area of influence, according to findings 114 members of CODELS have been certified as well as 60 teachers which represents 45%. This figure is lower than what was planned. This is due to the fact that the certification process was only possible for the organized structures, the rest of trainings were not considered as formal certification.		
Indicator 4: <u>85%</u> people trained who retain skills and knowledge after two months.	64%	79%
It is important to mention that at the moment of the evaluation 94% of surveyed people said that they have participated in some kind of training on disaster preparedness in line with the Project. However only 64% mentioned having knowledge since they were in the entire training process with all topics, which represents 79% of trainees who retain knowledge from the training processes.		

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SECTOR N° 1	RISK MANAGEMENT POLICY AND PRACTICE	
Sector Objective: Promote the institutionalization of risk management in the academic and private sector.		
SUBSECTOR: 1.3 INTEGRATION/ENHANCEMENT WITHIN EDUCATION SYSTEMS AND RESEARCH		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>1</u> DRR curricula developed by educational level	0	0
The expected outcome was negotiated with the Ministry of Education, World Vision Honduras and the Donor since when making the analysis of the time and resources required to consolidate the curriculum, it was not feasible to achieve in the project's implementation period. Therefore WV agreed with USAID/OFDA that this indicator would not be addressed during Project implementation. It may be possible for future interventions.		
Indicator 2: <u>300</u> students educated on DRR, 120 men and 180 women	326	109%
The achieved outcomes have exceeded the target, this is due to the good coordination between the departmental and municipal authorities of the education centers since they are interested in including and promoting the Holistic Risk Management National Plan in the education sector of the schools. Among the participants we can mention 141 men and 185 women.		
Indicator 3: <u>4</u> DRR-related programs established within educational institutions.	3	75%
Among the programmes that can be clearly identified, established in the education centers, we can mention three: use and management of the risk management methodological guide in education centers, school security course and the community prevention and violence programme in coordination with the ministry of security. However the programmed target was not achieved which was 4 DRR-related programmes.		

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SUBSECTOR: 1.4 POLICY AND PLANNING		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>3</u> hazard risk reduction plans, strategies, policies, disaster preparedness and contingency plans developed and in place.	11	367%
This target was exceeded. The Project achieved reviewing and updating 9 preparedness and response plans from the nine benefited communities, as well as two municipal plans: the Drought Contingency Plan and updating of the Municipal Prevention and Response Plan 2015. Each one of the emergency plans are made available and ready to be implemented.		
Indicator 2: National and local risk assessment, hazards data and vulnerability information is available within targeted areas (Y/N)	Yes	Yes
For effective management of the DRR-related information a virtual information management platform was built managed by the MNIGR and available to all stakeholders working on the topic at municipal, regional and national level.		
Indicator 3: <u>23</u> communities and stakeholders involved in the development of plans, policies, and strategies	39	170%
This target was achieved through processes that involved the regional platforms including: MNIGR, CC and SAN. These three include at least 30 stakeholders who the Project developed strategic actions with linked to DRR work. This also included the participation from the 9 communities that the project worked with, achieving exceeding the planned target.		
Indicator 4: <u>250</u> people participating in discussions regarding national risk reduction strategies as a result of the program, by sex.	214	86%
Debates managed in line with the Project were developed at two different moments, one through an Exchange with the institutions included in the MNIGR and COPECO at central level where the participation of 19 people was achieved and the second one in line with the Every Drop of Water Mini fair, where attendees could have access to information and be part of the debates		

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SUBSECTOR: 1.5 PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>2</u> private sector businesses engaged in response or DRR-related activities as a result of the program.	10	500%
This indicator is one of the most important ones to highlight since the private sector has been one of the excluded sectors and they haven't been considered within the DRR projects in the past. The project achieved getting 21 companies involved, however, it was considered that only 10 companies have been actively incorporated into DRR activities. This is an achievement that has to be potentiated in future actions. This outcome was possible thanks to the coordination with chamber of commerce and the importance that this sector will give to risk management focusing on continuing with their businesses at the moment of an emergency or disaster.		
Indicator 2: <u>9,527</u> of individuals indirectly benefiting from DRR-related activities as a result of the program	12,947	136%
9,527 people represent the total population of 9 barrios in the influence area of the Project according to the base line, however the project achieved reaching more population due to the work carried out in the Concepcion Market where 1920 people, according to CODECEL data, were benefited and 1500 students were benefited in the Pacific Coast regional university center, achieving 36% more than what was originally planned.		
Indicator 3: <u>20%</u> of business in the target business category in the program area incorporated into project activities.	47-220 (21%)	105%
According to data and information given by the project, 47 businesses out of the 220 registered in the Chamber of Commerce of Choluteca were incorporated into DRR-related actions. Specifically, in training processes to reduce risk in their businesses and ensure they may continue operating at the moment of an emergency, thus achieving exceeding the target. However, it is necessary to continue the coordination process since there was to be more awareness raising on the importance of linking the topic to permanent actions of the sector like the risk analysis for collaborators and infrastructure.		
Indicator 4: <u>50%</u> of government disaster contingency plans that incorporate private-sector aspects.	50%	100%
Through the CODEM, the prevention and response municipal plan was updated including analysis of the response by incorporating structures managed by the private sector in the area, since the prior version does not have this kind of vision. However, it should be mentioned that the final version of the plan will be made official after the end of the Project because it will go under an approval process through the municipal corporation prior detailed revision of the plan since it is an official document.		

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SECTOR N° 2	HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	
Sector Objective 2: Increased local capacity for coordinated disaster management		
SUBSECTOR: 2.1 COORDINATION		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>16</u> humanitarian organizations actively coordinating	21	131.25%
The foreseen target was exceeded for this indicator achieving 31.25% additional organizations to coordinate with like Plan International, ICADE, ADETRIUNFO, CARE, Fire Department, Green Cross, Red Cross, CODEM Choluteca, ASONOG, CARITAS, Ayuda en Acción, Sur en Acción, COMUDENA, UTPR-MESA ACRACC, Doctors of the World, COPECO Regional N° 6, ADEPES, CDH, Swiss Red Cross, Scouts and including World Vision.		
Indicator 2: <u>3</u> humanitarian agencies participating in joint inter-agency assessments	3	100%
This indicator achieved the foreseen target identifying active coordination with the following organizations: MNIGR southern Region, AGRACC and SAN. All of them are part of the RM and CC platform in the Gulf of Fonseca Region		
Indicator 3: <u>8</u> humanitarian agencies participating in joint inter-agency assessments	10	125%
The following institutions or organizations were identified for this indicator: Plan International, ICADE, CARE, Fire Department, Green Cross, CODEM Choluteca, Caritas, Sur en Acción, CDH and UTPR-MESA AGRACC. They have participated in humanitarian work evaluations.		
Indicator 4: <u>2</u> other key humanitarian actors (e.g., private sector, military) actively participating in humanitarian coordination mechanisms.	3	150%
This indicator was exceeded by considering the following key institutions for the humanitarian coordination mechanisms in the region: Armed forces through 101 brigade in Choluteca, Chamber of Commerce in Choluteca, MNIGR Southern Region, RM Platform from the civil society including 21 organizations and a network of volunteers that activate at the moment of an emergency.		

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SECTOR N° 2	HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT	
Sector Objective 2: Increased local capacity for coordinated disaster management		
SUBSECTOR: 2.2 INFORMATION MANAGEMENT		
FORESEEN TARGET	IMPLEMENTED TARGET	LEVEL OF SCOPE
Indicator 1: <u>16</u> humanitarian organizations utilizing information management services.	20	125%
This indicator exceeds 25% than what was originally planned by including the following institutions utilizing information management services like Alert bulletins, meteorological forecast, assessments and information relevant to the risk management topic: Plan International, ICADE, ADETRIUNFO, CARE, Fire Department, Green Cross, Red Cross, CODEM Choluteca, ASONOG, CARITAS, Ayuda en Acción, Sur en Acción, COMUDENA, UTPR-MESA ACRACC, Doctors of the world, COPECO Regional N° 6, ADEPES, CDH, Swiss Red Cross and Scout.		
Indicator 2: <u>8</u> humanitarian organizations directly contributing to information products.	10	125%
Among the organizations that contribute with information products actively in line with the Project we have: ASONOG, CARE, CARITAS, Ayuda en acción, Sur en acción, CDH, ICADE, Red Cross, Regional 06 from COPECO and Fire Department, this allows knowledge management in terms of DRR regionally that will contribute to make better decisions and avoid duplicity of efforts among the stakeholder participating in the networks.		
Indicator 3: <u>3</u> products made available by information management services that are accessed by clients.	4	133.33%

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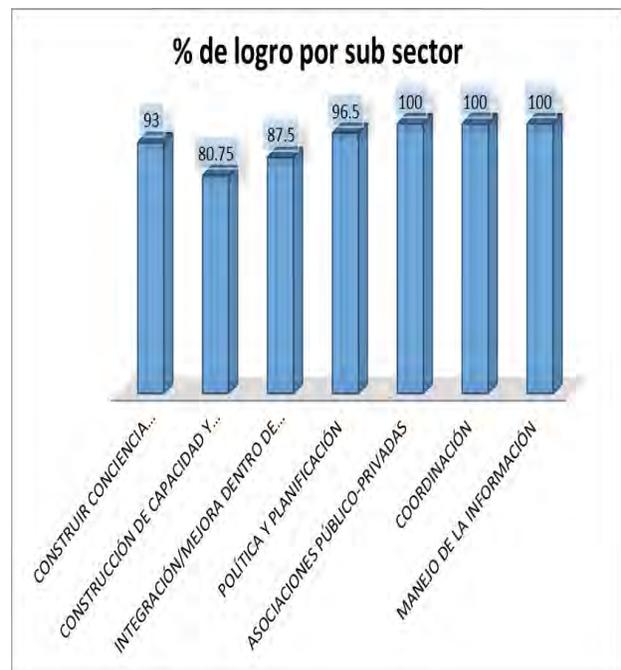
Through the virtual platform we created RM information management regionally supported by the Project. Four documents have been made available as information services to all humanitarian actors. The documents are: Sendai Action Framework, CENAOS Weather Forecast, official alert declarations and bulletins from COPECO and positioning of the society in terms of Risk Management and climatic change.

IX. Information Assessment

This section begins with a graphic description of the overall achievements and by sub-sector to have a clear view on the outcomes achieved graphically.



When developing outcome analysis, we can affirm that the Project achieved 94% efficiency. There is a gap of 6%, of under-achievement. The explanations are in the table by indicator.



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This graph shows the percentage achieved by sub-sector. Capacity building and training only achieved 80.75, even though overall training was exceeded. When certifying and assessing knowledge it was only done with the organized structures like the CODELs and teachers from schools.

In regards to integration within education centers, the amount of trained students was exceeded, however only 3 programmes were worked on out of the 4 targeted in line with the project.

Also, necessary explanations on the information described are incorporated herein by establishing cause and effect relationships. These explanations will be presented, addressing criteria and components according to the terms of reference: **relevance, efficiency, efficacy, durability, sustainability** and **impact of the project** as follows.

RELEVANCE

The relevance criteria is assessed as **“HIGH”** from the premise of conceptualization, design and implementation of the **“Local Capacities for Urban Disaster Risk Reduction and Response”** project. This is identified as a very positive intervention since the area of influence is considered as one of the most

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vulnerable regions in terms of disasters nationwide. Among the multiple factors that determine its vulnerability are the levels of organization, knowledge and poverty.

From the analysis of the consulting team responsible for this evaluation, the project is coherent in regards to the current reality in the area of intervention, especially in the communities located throughout the Choluteca and Sampile river bank, which are highly vulnerable to flooding and quakes.

The project is also relevant and contemplates national priorities and aligns with the international reference framework like the Hyogo Action Framework and identifies its five priorities and the Holistic Risk Management Central American Policy – **PCGIR**. On the other hand it has advanced in positioning the new **Sendai Action for Disaster Risk Reduction Framework 2015-2030**, highlighting Resilience and Non-Discrimination.

We conclude that Project relevance has been very well valued in the implementation phase by the different stakeholders and institutional representatives linked to this evaluation. They say they have achieved increasing their capacities and increasing their knowledge on the importance of incorporating resilience and livelihood protection as a cross-cutting theme in Holistic Risk Management.

EFFICIENCY

The Project was efficient in regards to the creation of coordination teams and field technicians. There is a justified use of funds and restructuring, formulation and design of tools and methodological approaches, concepts and tools among factors like: **capacity in lobbying and agreement, management of spaces for coordination and bringing together all key stakeholders during project implementation.**

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Within the efficiency analysis we highlight the following outcomes and activities:

Sector N°1 Risk Management Policy and Practice:

- **Subsector 1.1 Building Community Awareness/Mobilization and Subsector 1.2 Capacity Building and Training:** the substantial achievement in indicator 1 is highlighted where the foreseen target of 410 was exceeded, achieving 2,879 which represents 702.19%. More importantly is seeing participation of women increased from 53.6% described in the base line to 59% by the end of the project. On the other hand participation of men decreased from 46.4% to 41%. This is valuable if we consider that women are more likely to be the ones who remain at home with their children at the moment of an emergency.
- **Subsector 1.5 Public-Private Partnerships:** Indicator 1 is highly valuable by achieving 10 businesses to be participating in DRR as a result of the programme, with an achievement of 400%. This is related with what was achieved in indicator 2 reaching 36% more than the foreseen target in regards to the indirect beneficiary population.

Sector N° 2 HUMANITARIAN COORDINATION AND INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

This sector stands out for the three indicators that were exceeded. The most important thing was seeing how twenty one organizations are benefited by World Vision Honduras' project in strengthening coordination, decision making and risk assessment processes altogether and sharing and managing first-hand information.

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This analysis, highlights work relationships that WVH has achieved throughout its interventions with different organizations and institutions, who left the doors for unconditional contribution open for future projects.

This evaluation highlights an important finding in terms of project efficiency and this corresponds to **subsector 1.5 public-private partnerships:** indicator 1 with 10 businesses linked with the disaster risk reduction topic. On the other hand, the project currently covers, in **indicator 3**, 20% of businesses that are linked to the DRR from a total of 220 that represent the Chamber of Commerce in Choluteca, a very important percentage considering that it is a sector that had been excluded from DRR processes.

Each one of the elements described are very important within the evaluation process, since this is the implementation of a pilot project focused on urban risk with a short time of intervention, over urban population and it is very difficult to count on the support and continuity of processes. Empowerment shown on interviews and workshops with focus groups and especially women manifest that they acquired knowledge to reduce their vulnerabilities and properly respond to any adverse event.

Additionally, within this section it was proven, that the project worked accordingly in regards to the security protocol manual, which analyses risks faced during the intervention, as well as mandatory measures to be respected within the intervention.

The application of the security plan, periodic update, staff and technical team dissemination has allowed coordinating the technical team to make proper decisions in time management and this is part of the efficiency the project has shown.

SUSTAINABILITY

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Sustainability was analyzed in regards to the benefits given to the Project, the effects it has created among the beneficiary population and the likelihood that these positive benefits may be kept once the intervention has finished. The sustainability of the outcomes in line with the project interventions is visualized on the strengthening process given to the CODEL as a permanent structure that will continue actions the project has developed. However, to guarantee long term actions, it is necessary to have support from the municipal and regional authorities of SINAGER; especially for the area of influence of the municipality of Choluteca. The municipal authorities are willing to designate an amount of budget for the preparation and mitigation activities, a budgetary line hasn't been defined in the municipal budget to support the most vulnerable barrios of the municipality of Choluteca.

It is important to analyze the legal framework of the municipalities in-depth, as well as the SINAGER law, so there are no contradictions within them that would make the work by the CODELEs vulnerable. However, there are elements that guarantee sustainability of some outcomes and this has to do with the participation of institutions like MNIGR Southern Region, an entity that due to its dynamic guarantees long term sustainability, especially in knowledge management for disaster risk reduction as well as alliances and coordination at regional level.

The Ministry of Education of Honduras, without a doubt can give follow up to the actions and outcomes obtained in the education centers and to the capacity of 27 teachers with knowledge on DRR and CC to expand coverage.

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An important sustainability ally in Honduras is the Department of Environmental and Health Communication and Education DECOAS, which aside from enriching the curriculum proposal with new theme fields on DRR and CC, also promote new strategies within the Education Sector Risk Integral Management National Plan, to build capacity in teachers; without forgetting the production of pedagogic tools on Risk Management, as auxiliaries in education processes. The compliance of activity 1.5 from outcome 1 which has strengthened alliances with the private sector to ensure business continuity post disaster, since it has action plans with procedures in case of disaster. This can facilitate funding for mitigation projects that CODELES present to reduce disaster risk in their territory, considering actions of prevention and mitigation described in their community emergency plans.

An essential element to strengthen this process is the link between the chamber of commerce of Choluteca with MNIGR Southern Region, as well as regional 06 from COPECO to work on a regional agenda on matters of DRR and CC. additionally, strategic partners may be sought within the private sector to promote development projects focused on DRR in the urban area.

Likewise within activity 3.1 from outcome 1, **Integration/improvement within education and research systems** it is considered there is a very strong foundation for the studies executed in coordination with UNAH may be assumed with municipal government funding since there is a link between risk management and land development which is being see by all stakeholders that converge in the region.

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Finally, it is clear that within sustainability there is will from the SINAGER structures in the region to continue working along with structures organized by the Project. All of this in coordination with the organized structures linked to the risk management and climatic change platform in the region.

IMPACT

In order to make a greater in-depth analysis, in this section, we make the difference among four environments or levels where the Project has had impact: **local environment, education community, private sector and the risk management regional platform**. In spite this difference we understand that each one of them are interrelated and interdependent, therefore at the moment of an adverse event we must work in team to avoid duplicity of efforts and resources. Thus, both the technical team, representatives of local institutions and organizations and the representatives from local authorities show that with the project different changes have been made, especially in regards to disaster preparedness of the local structures of SINAGER, who now show a greater knowledge on how to face risks. All of this is product of the training process received in line with the project.

Personal changes can be identified mainly in two ways. The first one allows us to affirm that there is clear positioning in terms of the need to be actively organized to face hydro meteorological threats and also the importance of reducing risk through actions of prevention and mitigation. The second identifies regional level changes, but there is a greater reference to women who have participated in the entire training process and in the different levels of power, surpassing participation of men with

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59%. This is identified with the reality they have lived up to date due to their condition of being women and the need they have identified of modifying their positions within coordination and decision making structures. It is about significantly improving their participation which leads to identifying women to be more empowered on the importance of DRR and CC, this allows transforming their environment and the role of women within the power structures.

In regards to the community environment, risk mitigation projects are developed and we can highlight, the training process since they were trained not only of profiling mitigation projects, but also on how to manage other resources for development projects even when the project executed by World Vision has finished. However, it is still necessary to join efforts with the different governmental entities and the private sector to guarantee funding of actions defined by the CODELES in their prevention plans and local response. In this regard, it should be noted that in line with capacity building, significant changes have been made at regional level and this has allowed increasing preparedness and response capacities, taking into consideration that they have emergency plans, risk maps, monitoring mechanisms and basic equipment of the work commissions.

Related to risk reduction, all barrios have put into practices drill and the level of awareness achieved is positively valued in the education community since they have actively participated along with the CODELES.

Regarding the municipal, regional and national environment we can highlight the process of strategic alliances with the RM and CC platform, especially MNIGR- Southern Region. This is an entity that groups more than 20 civil society organizations, with which the project established coordination and reach other stakeholders that were not included in the initial design of the project.

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In this environment, first of all, we identify the creation of a virtual space which works inside the MNIGR and it is the responsibility of the regional level response technician, which as part of the functions to develop are sharing information related to DRR with all stakeholders from the MR and CC platform and members of SINAGER, which allows a more effective information exchange.

As an integral effort within knowledge management an element that had impact was the mini knowledge fair on risk management oriented to proper use of water called “**EVERY DROP EVERY LIFE**”, with the participation of about 500 people. Fifteen experiences were shared related to DRR in the region, with the involvement of CODELES, the Private Enterprise, CURLP UNAH and MNIGR.

X. Conclusions

This evaluation considers overall, that the Project has achieved **94% efficiency in its implementation**, highlighting the fact that nature and time for this kind of projects has limited the impact from being greater. A factor to consider was the resignation of the first project coordinator and the time it took to hire another project coordinator to lead processes in field.

World Vision has shown management capacities in the implementation of planned activities, the outcomes obtained and disaster preparedness and response from the created structures show it, however since there is no follow-up and sustainability defined on behalf of the municipality of Choluteca there is the risk that capacities installed may not have the expected impact going forward.

Strategic alliances with the MNIGR, the Academy and Chamber of Commerce of Choluteca, have allowed for the local structures to be more interested and committed. This is an opportunity that must be taken by the municipal authorities to potentiate actions of preparedness and response beginning with the project.

Participation and support is noticeable from the Academia sector in the project. It must continue to be strengthened through WV’s Integrated Programs and ADP in the area in order to ensure that the future actions related to DRR have technical support that the academic sector offers in the region, especially those related to research.

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The process related to mitigation projects was considered by the CODELES as very valuable for the acquired learning during training, however it is considered that for future interventions WV has to allocate greater budget since it is not enough only with training but it should be supported with mitigation work. The fact that work center emergency committees have started to be organized in line with the project both in the CULP-UNAH as well as in Concepcion Market is considered innovative. However, we can mention that for them to be sustainable there has to be political will to plan a preparedness and response plan and they have to have budget approved by the authorities for its implementation.

The sustainability of started processes with the education sector required a greater compromise from the education authorities, since it must be included in the annual planning of each one of the school centers as well as the school security plan included in the AOP and PEC in order to monitor its implementation at least once a year.

XI. Recommendations

- Immediately, it is recommend that WV and CODEM prepare a transition and follow-up plan to the activities involving the MNIGR and COLED in order to ensure proper follow up, taking into account the achievements of the project and the challenges that could be left after the project’s intervention.
- Carry out the necessary paperwork for the implementation of the second phase of the project destined to consolidate the initial outcomes with ACADEMIA, MNIGR and the Chamber of Commerce.
- Creation and strengthening of the UGR in the municipality of Choluteca, considering the experience from the municipality of Marcovia.
- To get the private sector more involved and not only raising awareness but also the commitment through an action plan linked to the risk management municipal plan.
- Expand project coverage and continue strengthening the established structures in order to consolidate acquired knowledge through continuous practice in terms of DRR.
- Creation of protocols among municipal structures, Regional N°6, MNIGR and the private sector in order to ensure proper and efficient response when an emergency or disaster happens.
- Support the restructuring process of the CODEM Choluteca in order to bring together all the structures of the civil society, the academia and private sector since the current structure is mostly represented by dependencies of the municipality.
- Ensure that the assessments produced by the project in coordination with the academia are monitored and implemented by the municipal government and the regional platform of Risk Management and Climatic Change from the Gulf of Fonseca.
- For future interventions we must put in writing a permanent linkage strategy between the technical staff of the private non-sponsorship project and the ADP’s facilitating team so actions implemented may continue to positioning the work carried out by the organization in its permanent HEA program.
- Ensure that the local, municipal, school and work center plans for prevention and response may be articulated and made known by all stakeholders in order to ensure their implementation effectively.