

2015 - 2016 Annual Report



Su futuro es
tu futuro



**PROYECTO
ALERTA JOVEN**



ALIADOS POR UNA JUVENTUD LIBRE DE CRIMEN Y VIOLENCIA

Alerta Joven is an ambitious initiative aiming to reduce levels of crime and violence through integrated and multi-disciplinary activities that provide increased opportunities in education, employment insertion, and health for youth with risk factors caused by marginalization and disenfranchisement. The initiative includes policy issues, information systems, and partnerships to positively impact the capability of our youth to become productive citizens.

23 community based partner organizations carried out activities in the targeted Duarte Corridor geographic zone covering 9 provinces and over 500 “barrios” or high crime urban neighborhoods. To date, Alerta Joven has worked with 6 Dominican government (GoDR) ministries and over 10 municipal governments. A total of 20 private-public partnerships have been developed.

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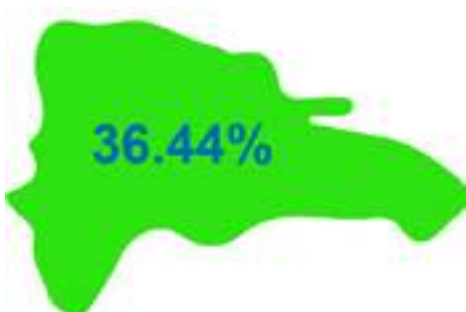
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In the Dominican Republic, the number of adolescents and youth between ages 10 to 29 exceeds 3.5 million (3,671,000). This is 36.44 % of the total population, representing both the greatest potential and challenge for transformation and development ever seen before in the country.

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO OF ENTRENA

Dear Friends,

After four years, Alerta Joven is harvesting the seeds that have been sown.... and in no small way! We can now make the argument that we are an evidence based, proven solution in the prevention of crime and violence committed by adolescents and youth in the Dominican Republic.

Providing a range of integrated services to over 100,000 youth in more than 500 of the most dangerous “barrios” of the DR is no small feat. People are impressed and have lots of questions.

How do you determine who is at risk? We have five major categories covering education, employment, health, documentation, and prior activity in delinquency. Each category has different details of risk. For example, a 16-year-old male having dropped out of school in 5th grade, without the DR “cedula” identity document, and living close to a drug distribution point is considered at high risk.

How do you find them? Adolescents and youth between the ages of 11-24 living in situations exposing them to extreme risk are frequently “in the shadows and living on the fringe”. You need local community based organizations with credibility and historical underpinnings in the neighborhoods. They know where this population is and how to engage them in activities.

How do you deliver services to them? We have developed a network of 23 local community based implementing partner organizations. Each receives comprehensive institutional strengthening to manage all aspects and meet all requirements of USAID supported initiatives.

How do you keep track of them? All participants are registered into a web based tracking system. We can follow each one throughout the life of the project, the activities they participated in, and the impact of Alerta Joven in their lives. For example: Was he able to return to school? Was she able to avoid pregnancy? Was he able to land employment in the formal sector after receiving training? Was she able to start a small business through entrepreneur skills? Was he able to start the process of legal documentation and not be ostracized by the system?

Is prevention a sound investment? Prevention attacks the problem at its roots. Filling up youth detention centers with offenders and no plan for prevention does not work. Consider the fact that the DR is on the verge of a “youth population bonus”. This occurs every 800 years and means that the population segment from 15 to 35 years old (range for youth as defined by the DR government) will be the largest in the country. So investment is not only sound but absolutely critical ... and now is the time to do it. Economically it makes sense – the minimum one year per person cost in a DR youth detention center is US\$7,452.00 and the average per person investment cost in Alerta Joven prevention programs is only US\$271.37.

With four years under our belt in this five year project, Alerta Joven is seamlessly shifting gears from the phase of implementing field activities to the phase of generating sustainability. Our recent August 2016 Alerta Joven convention was a clear example of this shift. One day our implementing partners were reviewing guidelines for closing down sub-grants and the next day they were presenting their sustainability strategies.



“...the minimum one year per person cost in a DR youth detention center is US\$7,452.00 and the average per person investment cost in Alerta Joven prevention programs is only US\$271.37.”

Alerta Joven has multiple factors in its favor as we move forward with sustainability:

- ◆ We are betting on the support of young Dominican professionals and business people who have their future and the future of their families invested in the country. The issue of increasing crime and delinquency with youth and adolescent involvement continues to be a major concern for Dominican society.
- ◆ We can show results and evidence based solutions. This is a refreshing change of pace in a society so accustomed to seeing projects inaugurated and no follow up with results.
- ◆ We are sure that the time continues to be right for creative public-private partnerships based upon cost share and performance driven results. This is the direct opposite of the historical models of paternalism, subsidies, and “client” based relationships.
- ◆ We believe there are opportunities within key Ministries to forge these productive partnerships. A new government, albeit the same party, is starting its four-year mandate.
- ◆ We are confident that the structure and network of Alerta Joven, which brings together local implementers, local governments, and the private sector, constitutes an attractive alternative for international funding.

By far, the most passionate, uplifting, and motivating part of Alerta Joven is the personal story of each participant. Behind every number, there is a face, a struggle, a hope, and an achievement. Beating all the odds, our youth and adolescents are survivors who now project self-esteem and self-confidence, which will catapult them to realize their dreams.

Enjoy this report for Year Four of Alerta Joven, an initiative whose success is the result of the sacrifice and commitment of dozens of organizations, their staff, and of course, the energy and enthusiasm of our 100,000+ youth participants.

John Seibel

ALERTA JOVEN IN NUMBERS

55,203

Total Number of Youth Served

From October 2015 to September 2016

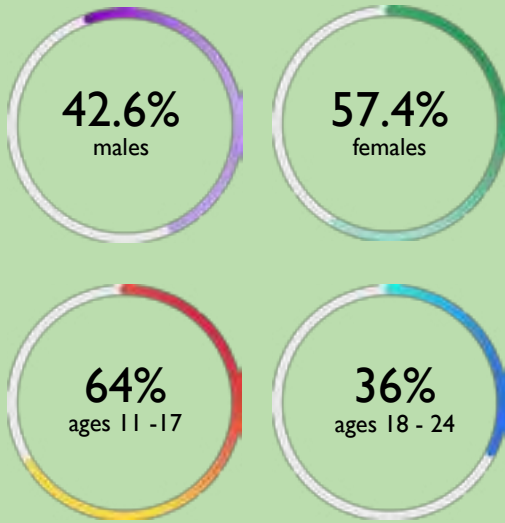


EVERY NUMBER IS A NAME

Behind every number, there is a name... a story. Alerta Joven identifies and works with those youth in high-risk situations who have not yet taken the wrong path but could easily do so. Alerta Joven develops their self-esteem, encourages them to discover their talents and potential, and gives them access to educational, employment, and health opportunities.

Find out more about our youth in our Year 4 Success Stories booklet.

A quick glimpse our 55,203 youth in YR 4



19,621
actively participated in school retention and reinsertion programs

1,980
reinserted in school



11,928
completed technical and vocational trainings for new and better employment

3,599
obtained new or better employment



858
received legal assistance to obtain documentation



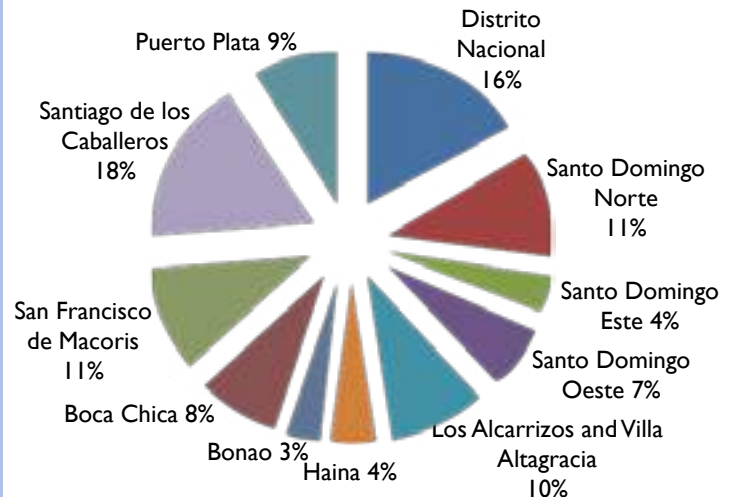
381
received their birth certificate



15,821
received information and follow up on how to prevent pregnancy, HIV, and STDs

431
received youth friendly medical health services

335
received Testing and Counseling (T&C) services for HIV



Improving Youth Protection Policy



Alerta Joven Youth from Haina - SUR FUTURO

The gap between laws and their implementation is significant in the DR, and those concerning the youth sector are no exception.

Alerta Joven provides support for youth stakeholders to become more engaged in the formulation of the policies which impact them, works with organizations for improved understanding and compliance with the legal framework affecting youth, and provides guidance and support for documentation of at-risk youth.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



4,087

youth participated in workshops about youth civil rights and duties



2,909

youth participated in workshops promoting violence prevention and a culture of peace

IR 1: Youth Protection Policy Improved in Practice

Youth stakeholders empowered to influence policy decisions

Implementing agencies understand and comply with youth legal framework

Documented children and youth increased

Youth policy representation in Latin America and the Caribbean is minimal. According to the *Iberoamerican Survey on Youth (2013)*, without the active participation of youth, it is not possible to eradicate poverty, transform the patterns of production and consumption, and achieve all of the sustainable development goals.

Empowering Youth

Highlights from Year 4



At-Risk Youth Conference for Public Policy

Children International carried out their first eastern Santo Domingo at-risk youth conference to foster dialogue on community projects and advocate public policy.

Over 50 participants from the youth councils of the communities of Mendoza and Los Tres Brazos discussed themes linked to the central message of “Realities for Youth and their Social Economic Development” within an environment free of crime and violence.

October 2015 - Youth participating in the first conference in eastern Santo Domingo.

Citizen Assembly Project

Sur Futuro carried out its first Citizen Assembly Project which brought together 300 at-risk youth from 10 schools in the communities of Café de Herrera, Haina and Quita Sueño.

Its focus is to mobilize knowledge, skills and values that can be applied to public policy, based upon real priorities, and to seek paths to change taking into account the common good and active citizen participation.



November 2015 - Youth from Café de Herrera and Quita Sueño taking part in the Citizen Assembly Project.

Creation, Training and Sustainability of Youth Based Networks

The Promoters Network for Care, Rights and Obligations (La Red de Promotores de Cuidados, Derechos y Deberes) implemented by partner organization ACOPRO conducted their third youth retreat to share experiences and ideas.

Promoting Values and a Culture of Peace

ACOPRO presented the official results of the study “Privileges that Deny Rights.” The study was presented to 160 youth and community leaders by the Director of the Department of Women’s Rights, Citizenship and Governability of the International Confederation of National Non-Governmental Organizations sponsored by OXFAM.



2015 - ACOPRO presenting the result of the study “Privileges that Deny Rights.”



January 2016 - Municipal Youth Congress. Dariana Reyes, Víctor Hernández and Miguel Reyes selected as city councils representatives. councils representatives.

Alerta Joven continues to create opportunities for dialogue which emphasize the participation of youth, their networks and organizations, along with private and public institutions to collaboratively create proposals. Important partners in achieving the National Youth Plan include: Agency of Spanish Cooperation (Agencia de Cooperación Española), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), French Agency for Development (AFD), United Nations-Dominican Republic (UNDR), Organization of American States (OAS), World Bank (WB) and the European Union (EU).

Looking Towards a National Youth Plan

In May 2016, Alerta Joven with the United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) and the Dominican Ministry of Youth held the National Youth Forum following an extensive planning and coordination period under the title “JUVENTUD AHORA RD” (Youth Now DR). This forum constituted the first step of a formalized road map for the preparation and execution of a Dominican National Youth Plan. Youth leaders from principal youth related organizations met with representatives from governmental sectors which make and influence public youth policy decisions.

First Municipal Youth Congress

Three participants of Alerta Joven programs were elected as Santo Domingo Este city council people during the first Municipal Youth Congress held in January 2016. Project proposals were approved during this congress which will be implemented during the next two years.

The integration of youth within the decision making process of this municipality has fostered change, as demonstrated by the fact that for the first time, the Santo Domingo Este Municipal Youth Council will have an operational budget.

In addition, a total of 28 Alerta Joven youth who are members of the Municipal Youth Council in the community of La Caleta in Boca Chica, participated in a leadership and social empowerment workshop by Children International. As a result, youth from the areas of La Caleta and Tanquecitos successfully carried out preliminary elections for the positions in the council, with over 100 youth taking part.



March 2016 - Youth participants from Children International and their campaign posters for Municipal Youth Council elections. Boca Chica.



The first priority requiring strategic investment is the development and implementation of a National Youth Plan that would ensure the full exercise of human rights for young people and take advantage of long-term demographic bonus. Source: UNFPA publication in newspaper HOY-RD. August 2016

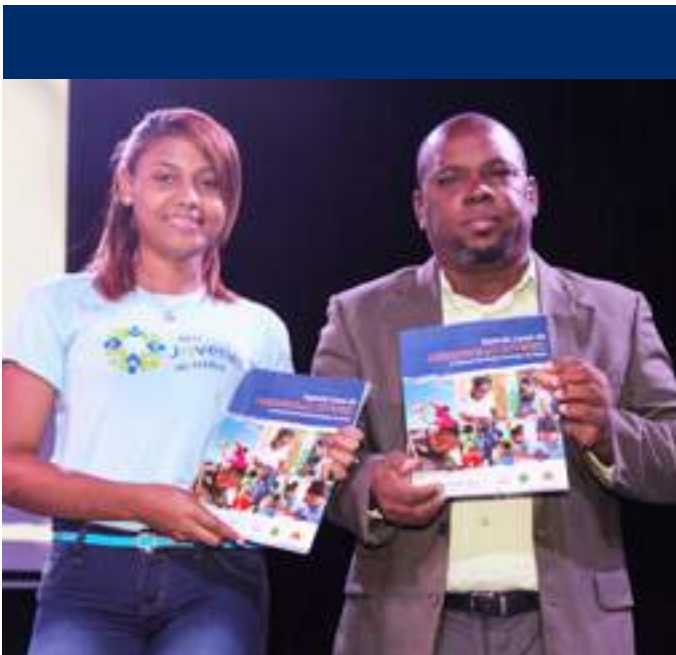
Three hundred youth representatives from different geographic zones were divided into working groups to share and discuss their needs and expectations on issues that included education, employment, entrepreneurship, health, security, gender equality and recreation. These themes had been generated as a result of the first youth forum held in August 2013. During the forum, participants debated the priorities, plans, and programs on a cross sectoral basis. These efforts will contribute to the design of the National Youth Plan, which will include budget estimates prioritizing youth investment.



Local Agenda for Youth in Haina

Development and launch of the “Agenda Local de Desarrollo Juvenil y Veeduría Social del Municipio de Haina” (Local Agenda for Youth Development and Social Oversight in the Municipality of Haina) by partner organization Sur Futuro took place in June.

This agenda will guide, influence and oversee the implementation of youth programs and policies in the municipality of Haina. It has been created as a result of a participative process with dozens of youth from each sector of Haina, including high school and university students, community activists and grass roots community organizations. The action steps presented in the agenda fall into multiple components: education, environment, health, employment and vocational training, culture, sports and recreation, as well as organizational strengthening.



Understanding Legal Framework for Youth

One of the cross cutting goals of **Alerta Joven** is to increase the understanding of the legal frameworks regarding youth and ensure that they are put into practice.



In April 2016, Entrena - Alerta Joven held three workshops on legal framework for youth with 23 implementing partner organizations, totaling 115 participants. The workshops measured levels of knowledge of specific components and identified gaps to be addressed for improved awareness of the public policy documents concerning youth.

Highlighted interventions by our partners through workshops:

Child Protection Laws for Boys Girls and Adolescents (Law 136-03)-52
ACOPRO
October 2015



General Youth Law (Law 49-00)
MOSTCHA
October 2015



District and Municipal Youth Laws:
ACOPRO
December 2015



Forming Oversight Promoters for Rights and Responsibilities
ACOPRO
May 2016



Youth Political Action
MOSCHTA
March 2016



Prevention of Child Abuse Consortium of Santiago for Alerta Joven
April 2016

Sur Futuro sponsored three presentations on the Legal Framework for Youth in local schools, reaching 589 participants. This functioned as a complement to Alerta Joven education programs “Space for Growth” and “The Advantages of Staying in School”, helping participants to become more aware and empowered about their rights and obligations.

In San Francisco de Macoris, implementing partner Universidad Católica Nordestana (UCNE) hosted multiple meetings in the communities of Rivera Del Jaya, Cruce de Camito, San Jose del Conuco and Vista del Valle to orient and educate local institutions on the National Youth Law.

Documentation



July 2016 - An Alerta Joven participant from ACOPRO receiving her birth certificate from Rasheena Harris, USAID representative.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



858

youth participants received legal assistance and information to obtain documentation



381

youth received legal documentation

Major Achievements in Year 4

- Partner organizations created alliances and working agreements with Civil Registry offices and other institutions involved in the documentation process.
- Alerta Joven project personnel included family orientation and consciousness raising activities through home visits, community lectures and other actions.
- Partner organizations fomented alliances with community organizations, leaders and promoters to help orient family members, visit homes and obtain support documents.
- Caseloads are tracked and monitored using a detailed matrix containing the specific steps and required support documents.

Vulnerable youth who lack legal documentation are unable to attend or finish school and cannot access employment opportunities.



March 2016 - A full day, hands-on documentation exercise with the JCE in Santo Domingo Este. Children International.

Children International implemented a campaign with the support of the Central Election Board (Junta Central Electoral). The Junta established temporary offices in the Mendoza community center to give orientation and process preliminary documents for 30 families, some of which included up to 5 family members lacking birth certificates.

Increasing Opportunities for Youth

Integration of educational, health, and employability services gives at-risk youth between the ages of 11 to 17 the best shot at success. Key elements include quality control of the services, at-risk youth being able to access these services, and service providers being able to reach targeted groups.

IR 2: Youth Opportunities to be Productive Citizens Improved

Formal and alternative education opportunities increased

Access to quality health prevention and care services improved

Employment for youth increased



Gabriel Antonio Núñez Reyes. First Employment @ Laurelton Dominicana in Zona Franca Haina.



School Retention and Reinsertion

The educational component of Alerta Joven focuses on school retention (students at-risk of dropping out) and reinsertion (students who have already dropped out and need to be mainstreamed back into school). These two factors take into account the direct link between dropping out of school and delinquency.

Our educational activities integrate the use of accelerated learning methodology. Children, adolescents and youth who have left school or who are over aged in their respective classrooms need learning tools which allow them to discover their potential to learn. These tools allow them to acquire new information and learning in the fastest way possible.

This is the only way in which adolescents and youth with high risk factors can “catch up” and not fall behind for the rest of their lives. We are well aware of the relationship between less years of school, future income production and social stability.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



2,560

youth participants have been motivated to return to formal schooling



1,980

youth who have dropped out of school were reinserted



12,708

children and adolescents received motivation and services to stay in school

One of the Dominican Republic's greatest struggles is against school desertion. The highest level of desertion is in primary school, at 37.5%, and of those that complete this level, 8.4% do not continue their studies. 16% of students abandon in middle school, and of those that remain, 17.7% do not continue. In this context, young people continuously find it difficult to avoid violence and fully exercise their rights.



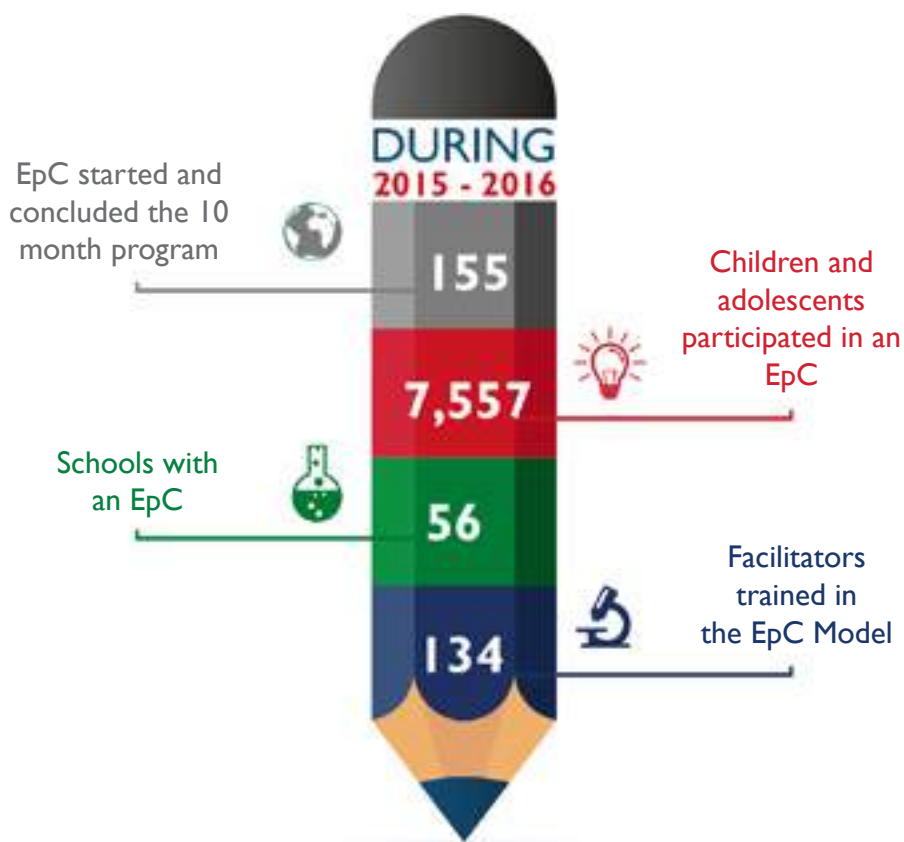
Space for Growth Model (Espacios para Crecer - EpC)

Alerta Joven uses the EpC model as the major tool for achieving educational goals in school retention and reinsertion. EpC provides our at-risk adolescents from ages 11 to 14 the opportunity to improve academic skills, acquire social skills, and achieve levels of personal growth and self-esteem.

The EpC has three important components: personal growth, social skills, and academic support, and can be a 3 hour before or after school program.



Through EpC, children and adolescents acquire the confidence and social skills to successfully continue on with school.



"I am 13 years old and live in San Martín de Porres with my mom. I work as a mechanic, where they treat me badly. They say that they are paying me DR\$500 but only give me DR\$150. I fought with everyone on the street. If they didn't let me play on the basketball court, I would throw bottles at them. All too often, my mom had to pay for medicine because I would come home with wounds from fighting.

I always looked for any excuse not to go to school, where I would just get into fights and had already been held back twice. However, since I enrolled in the EpC my life changed. This is why I want Alerta Joven to continue. It has taught me to read, write and so much more."

Richard Acevedo | Partner Organization: IDDI Zone: Guachupita, Santo Domingo.



The EpC uses Quantum Learning © (QL) methodology

QL is a recognized methodology for its brain-based, holistic approach to learning. Training school administrators, teachers, facilitators and students in Quantum methodology is a part of the Alerta Joven strategy to turn potentially boring or ineffective teaching/learning experiences into exactly the opposite; an environment where teachers and students are actively engaged.



Four key indicators underscore the EpC model:

- Attendance
- Academic success
- Parent, family and community involvement
- Personal growth



From October 2015 to September 2016...



330

Quantum Learning workshops for students



6,579

students participated in Quantum Learning workshops



11

Quantum Learning workshops for teachers, facilitators and principals



387

teachers, facilitators and principals participated in Quantum Learning workshops



The Advantages of Staying in School (Las Ventajas de Permanecer en la Escuela | JADOM) - LVPE

This program teaches young people from the ages of 15 to 17 the importance of further studies to reach intellectual, social, and economic success in an entrepreneurial culture. LVPE program focuses on the importance of education as a means to achieve goals and aims to reduce the dropout rate. Students reflect on the importance and economic benefits of continuing their studies, highlighting the value of having a well-defined life plan and overcoming obstacles.

The main objective of LVPE is to raise awareness among young people about the negative consequences involved in the decision to abandon their studies, affirming the relationship between education and continuous training and the possibilities for future development.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



Topics covered are...

The path to personal accomplishment

The advantages of staying in school

The cost of dropping out of school

Confronting our problems

Projecting ourselves into the future



4,377

students attended LVPE program in schools

Upon completion of the program, students are able to...

Raise their self-esteem

Define a life plan properly

Know the future economic benefits of studying

Debate effectively the problems of young people today

Determine their professional vocation



Employment and Entrepreneurship

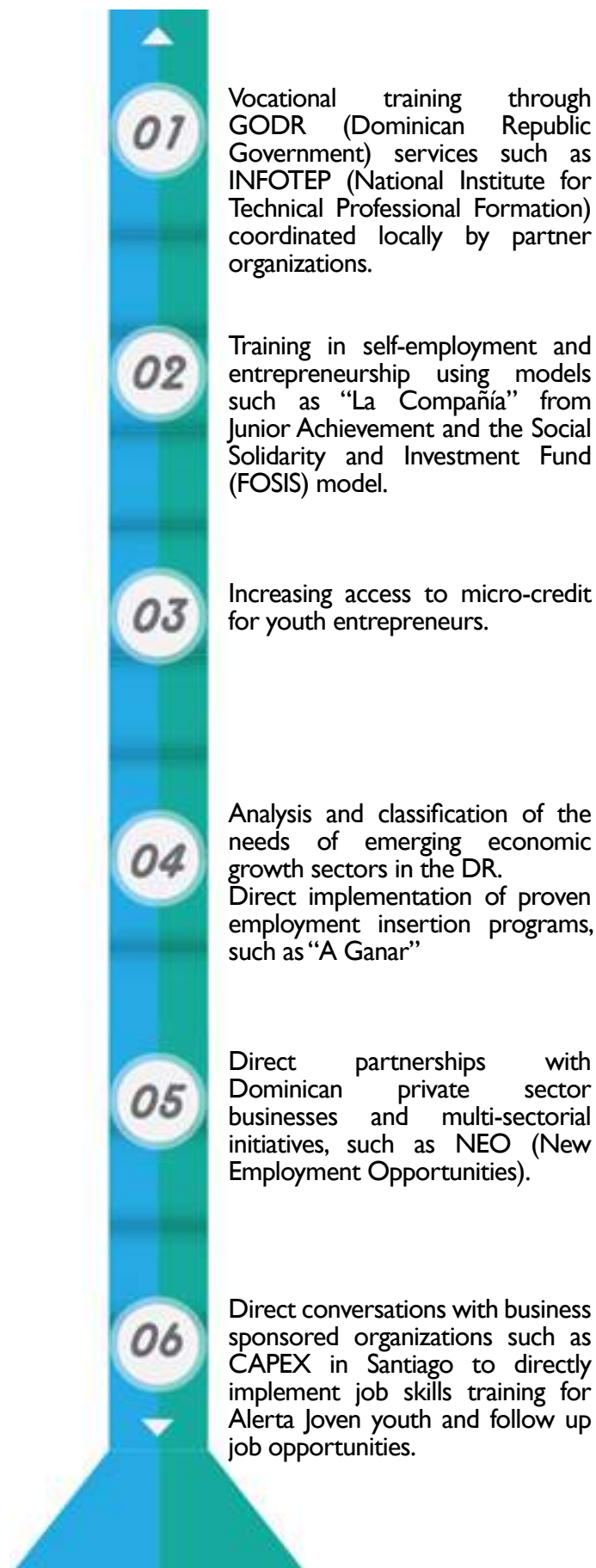
The Alerta Joven strategy for employment insertion integrates assessment and identification of emerging and future job opportunities in the Dominican economy, job skill training in consonance with these opportunities, life skill employability training applicable to all employment demands, and the facilitation of entrepreneurship and self-employment possibilities coupled with micro-credit.



Job insertion is fundamental to social integration, especially if through formal employment, where crime and poverty can best be fought. The National Office of Statistics (ONE - Oficina Nacional de Estadísticas) data reveal that, the younger the person, the less hope of getting a job. This influences the level of vulnerability of adolescents to repeat the cycle of poverty or engage in criminal acts. SOURCE: <http://www.eldinero.com.do/10800/el-rostro-del-desempleo-juvenil-en-rd/> Marzo 2015

Youth represent more than 50% of the EAP (Economically Active Population) employed in the formal sector. However, unemployment of youth ages 15 to 29 is estimated at 27%.

Alerta Joven employment strategy:



Vocational and Educational Training (Vo-Ed)

Vo-Ed training for Alerta Joven means job skills acquisition linked to life skills that lead to a job within the formal sector of the Dominican economy. We recognize that life skills are just as important (and in some cases more important) than simple job or vocational training. Repeatedly, we hear from employers of their need for employees who demonstrate teamwork and customer service, can receive feedback, show up on time, and be proactive and solution oriented.

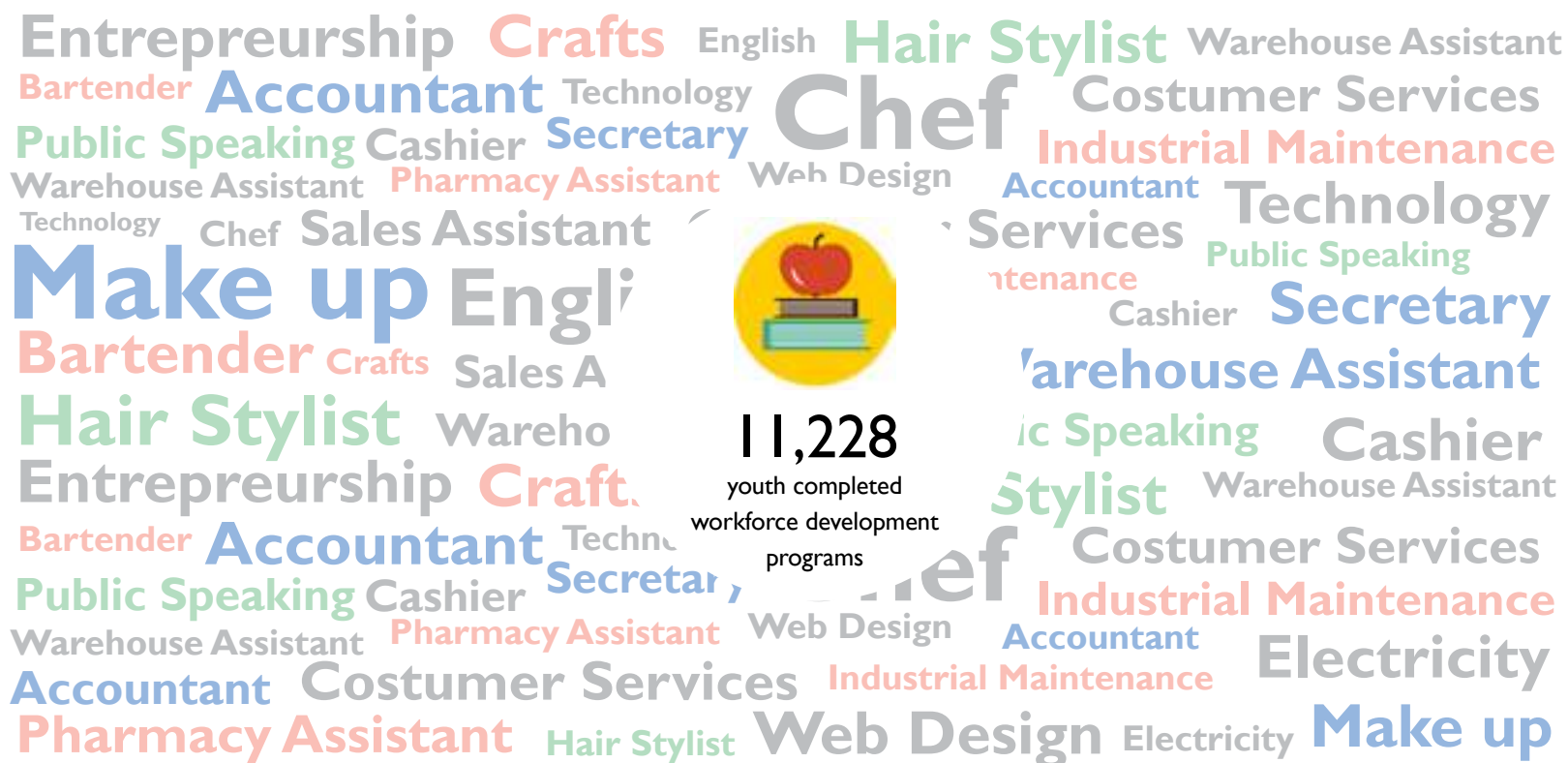
Based on a comprehensive study and research focused on emerging job tendencies and training requirements in the DR titled “Estudio Prospectivo sobre Demandas de Cualificaciones Técnico-Profesionales en República Dominicana”¹ (Study of Technical-Professional Qualifications demanded by the Dominican Labor Market), Alerta Joven has prioritized the pool of options for job training. This research covered the largest sample of any business survey carried out previously and projected the most demanded job skills by the Dominican economy until 2020.



The low level of school retention and lack of technical education makes it difficult for young people to access the labor market, bringing about the phenomenon of the “ni ni” – young people who neither work nor study. Some of these young people have chosen to name themselves in Spanish as “sin sin” (“without, without”), alluding to the situation in which they find themselves “WITHOUT opportunities to work” and “WITHOUT opportunities to study.” This reality affects 19.7% of young people between the ages of 15 to 24 years old, of which 66.7% are women. In this context, frustration and social disillusionment abound.

¹. August 2015, Study financed by USAID / Entrena, BID / NEO Alliance, and Fundación Inicia. To access complete document - <http://www.alertajoven.com/images/pdf/estudio-dimensionamiento-puestos-de-trabajo-rd-informe-final.pdf>

From October 2015 to September 2016...



FOSIS Model for Entrepreneurship and Employability

The Chilean Agency for International Cooperation (AGCI), the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Dominican Ministry of Economics, Planning and Development (MEPyD) signed a three party agreement with the objective of supporting the integration of vulnerable youth into the labor market through salaried employment or self-employment.

This program is implemented by Alerta Joven, the National Institute for Technical Professional Formation and the Dominican Ministry of Labor. The Chilean Solidarity and Investment Fund (Fondo de Solidaridad e Inversión - FOSIS) provides technical support.



Alerta Joven youth graduation ceremony after completing educational and vocational training

119 facilitators were trained to provide the 80 hour program of “Entrepreneurship and Employability” that includes life skills, employability, entrepreneurship, and practical applications to over 3,000 at-risk youth.

Two agreements for labor insertion emerged through this program with the “Cámara de Comercio de la Provincia Duarte” and the “Dirección Regional del Ministerio de Educación de San Francisco de Macorís”

The results of this FOSIS model for employability program were shared during a public event hosted by the Dominican Ministry of Economy, Planning and Development, the Chilean Embassy and FOSIS. In conjunction with this event, Alerta Joven and its partners signed two inter-institutional cooperation agreements to support youth employment insertion with the Duarte Province Chamber of Commerce and the Regional office of the Dominican Ministry of Education in San Francisco de Macoris.



From October 2015 to September 2016...



15,796

youth participated in Vo-Ed training opportunities



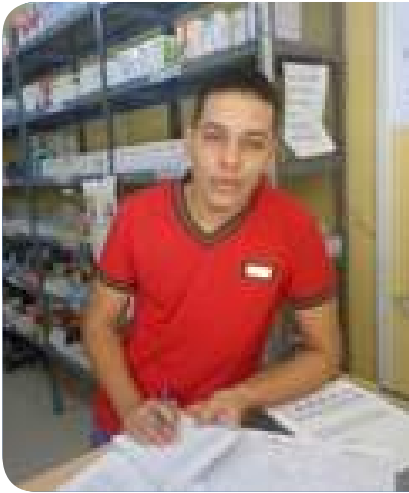
9,170

youth received orientation on entrepreneurship



469

youth received orientation and follow up on how to obtain a microcredit loan



Denver Paulino, 19 years old, participant in technical / vocational courses from Barrio El Ingenio – Santiago.

“I live with my aunt because my parents lived in the outskirts of Santiago. When I heard about the USAID -Alerta Joven Project, I had my doubts. I did not think it was possible to bring training courses right to my neighborhood. Not even when I started the course of Pharmacy Assistant in my community did I believe that I could be trained to be a pharmacist. But they motivated me and I participated. Afterwards, I took a second course in accounting in CAPEX.

After I finished my training, the employment insertion program got me an apprenticeship with the Pharmacy Miralva in Cienfuegos. I still work there today. I remember that before being in the project it was very difficult for me to pass tests. I was very unruly. But now I am not like that. Today I feel better prepared, with goals and I am not so timid. I am now taking another course in pharmaceutical sales. I have a solid base and I am learning many things that have changed my life for the better.”

The Company - JADOM

This program consists of the creation and implementation of a business plan based on practical research of the area where the program takes place. The participants develop a product or service and demonstrate its feasibility.

Through this program, at-risk youth are trained in subjects of business, economy and entrepreneurship as well as business skills.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



2,931

youth completed The Company program



The first multi-sector business plan fair was carried out by Project Hope with support from Junior Achievement as a direct result of The Company program. A total of 163 youth presented business plans created by them during the program. As a result of the fair, Project Hope also developed collaborative agreements with four organizations from the private sector for future employment insertion opportunities for participating youth.



Mechanisms Alerta Joven uses for job insertion

From October 2015 to September 2016...



3,599

youth received new or better employment

Private Sector Partnerships

Throughout Year 4 of Alerta Joven, we sponsored 9 meetings with representatives from the private sector in Boca Chica, Santiago, Haina, San Francisco de Macorís, Santo Domingo Este, Distrito Nacional, Santo Domingo Norte, Santo Domingo Oeste and Puerto Plata as a vehicle for developing private sector partnerships for employment insertion. These meetings were attended by 255 business leaders representing a cross section of the Dominican economy. Participants received information about the Alerta Joven programs in technical / vocational training along with the results obtained to date with the goal of encouraging private sector collaboration in placing graduates in internships and first job opportunities.

The labor insertion process includes a team of specialists who develop direct links with local businesses, carry out direct conversations with employers, and forge agreements for first time employment opportunities and internships for youth who have completed a Vo-Ed training.



Employment Fairs



Fundación Pediátrica por un Mañana organized an event to register youth in web based employment sites. With the support from Eulen, a private sector company, they were able to register 85 youth from the community of Herrera. The foundation also reached agreements with the country's largest retail pharmacy chain, "Farmacia Carol" resulting in various participants obtaining employment with this company.

An employment fair was organized by JADOM in Santo Domingo Oeste. The fair was supported by GRUPO READ, a company specializing in health services as part of their corporate responsibility program which seeks to train and support youth at the community level. One hundred and twenty Alerta Joven youth from six schools and polytechnic high schools in Los Alcarrizos took part. All of the youth were graduates from the The Company program.

The objective of the fair was to observe and evaluate the youth as part of the qualifying process to start small businesses and franchises in the health care sector. Twenty-five of the 120 participants will be receiving training in the promotion of community based health services. Following the training, the youth will start their own businesses to promote and sell health products and services.

Partner organization Project HOPE held its first employment fair to place trained youth in the labor market. The fair included opportunities for youth graduates of technical / vocational courses to obtain apprenticeships as well as credit opportunities for those who wish to start their own business. Of the 100 participants, 31 were recommended for micro loans and opened bank accounts. Participants from the private sector included Ademi Bank, BHD León Bank, the Materno Infantil Clinic, Junior Achievement Dominicana, Visión Trust Dominicana, Almonte Engineering and Technology and the Orden de Malta.



Francisco Elías Rodríguez – Manager of Cristo Viene Warehouse & Dispenser

"It has been a complete satisfaction working with Alerta Joven youth from Children International and Caminante. I see how humble the staff and the young people are who come here. We have taken these youth and taught them the meaning of hard work, productivity, and responsibility. I've had many experiences with them, and they come with knowledge and previous training. I have received around 20 or 30 teenagers, mostly as interns. Right now I have hired four or five as employees, and others want to be hired into their positions. We also give them the opportunity to study for their educational development. A former employee did her professional studies while she worked here, and now she's working at a bigger company".

Self Employment and Entrepreneurship Fairs

Five regional Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship Fairs were held throughout the months of May and June 2016 in the different Alerta Joven intervention areas of Boca Chica, Santo Domingo, Los Alcarrizos, San Francisco de Macoris and Santiago with the objective to select the best business plans from Alerta Joven youth that would participate in the Alerta Joven 2016 National Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship Fair.



3,599

youth had the opportunity to present their business plans in the regional fairs



50

qualified for participation at the National level in August 2016



With the support of Banco Popular Dominicano, the fair recognized the commitment, effort, creativity and vision for the development of the 10 best business strategies. Each received a monetary prize to help launch their businesses, which in turn will generate income to achieve personal, professional, family and community goals for social inclusion.

The participants were evaluated by a panel of judges made up of collaborators from the public and private sectors, including representatives from some of the most successful businesses in the Dominican Republic.



Alerta Joven 2016 National Self Employment and Entrepreneurship Fair



Health Care and Prevention



This Is Not For You Campaign (Tu' No Ta' Pa' Eso)

Alerta Joven and its partner organizations joined forces with other national and international organizations in the implementation of the campaign This Is Not For You (Tu' No Ta' Pa' Eso).

This nationwide campaign targets adolescents to prevent unplanned pregnancy. The campaign is coordinated by the Inter-institutional Committee for the Prevention of Adolescent Pregnancy with participation from international organizations and GoDR institutions. The objective of the campaign is to disseminate opportune, clear and evidenced based information to the target population in order to reduce adolescent pregnancy rates in the Dominican Republic. The campaign seeks to increase responsible decision making by youth with a focus on life plans.

The campaign uses multiple venues to share information on the consequences of pregnancy at an early age, methods of family planning, prevention of sexually transmitted infections and HIV, sexual and reproductive rights, self-esteem and values. Alerta Joven acts as a multiplier of these messages with our target populations.

Our at-risk youth population in the DR is frequently exposed to unhealthy lifestyles. A combination of early initiation in sexual activity, unprotected sex, and difficult access to direct youth friendly health services are major obstacles.

Did you know?

- Approximately 27% of all natural births, caesarian births and abortions are among girls and adolescents between the ages of 10 and 19 years old.
- The birthrate among adolescents in the Dominican Republic continues to be above 90, double that of the global rate at 49. Source: UNFPA (2015). World Population Status
- The adolescent pregnancy rate in the DR is 20.5%, one of the highest in Latin America (among top five countries). Source: ENDESA 2013
- Pregnancy at a young age is the main cause of school desertion among adolescents (44%). Source: Cáceres y Morillo (2008)

From October 2015 to September 2016...



15,821

received information and follow up on how to prevent HIV, pregnancy and STDs



335

youth received Testing and Counseling (T&C) services for HIV



Profamilia organized a Celebrating Life Fair (Celebra la Vida) in San Francisco de Macorís

The objective of the fair was to create opportunities for youth to become productive citizens and have better access to quality health care. The event brought together multiple institutions including Universidad Católica Nordestana, Casa Abierta, CONANI, Ministry of Education, Fire Department, and Dominican Red Cross.

The fair integrated educational and recreational activities as well as several conferences and presentations on entrepreneurship, prevention of sexually transmitted infections, emotional support and the prevention of suicide.

From October 2015 to September 2016...



431

received youth friendly medical health services

IDDI celebrated Alerta Joven Youth Fair (Feria de Juventud) with over 300 young people

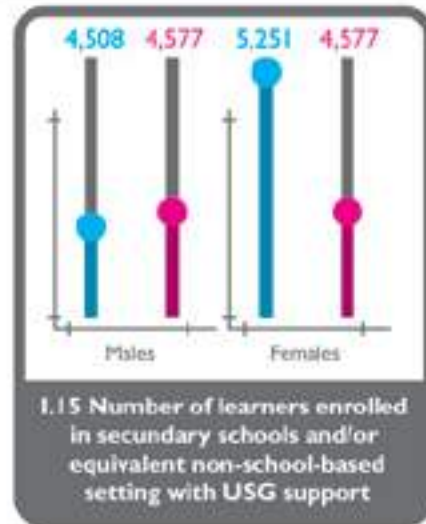
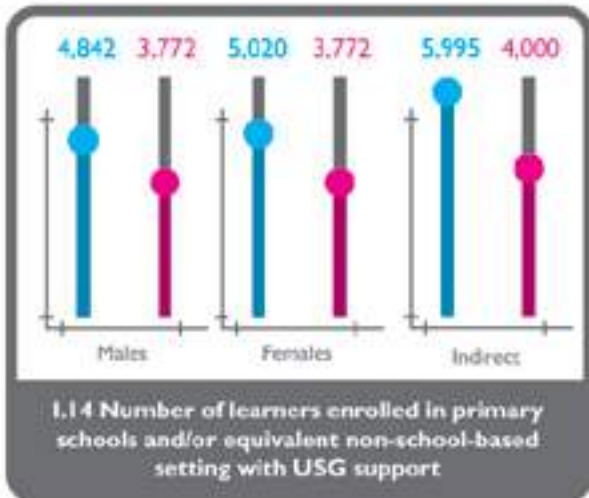
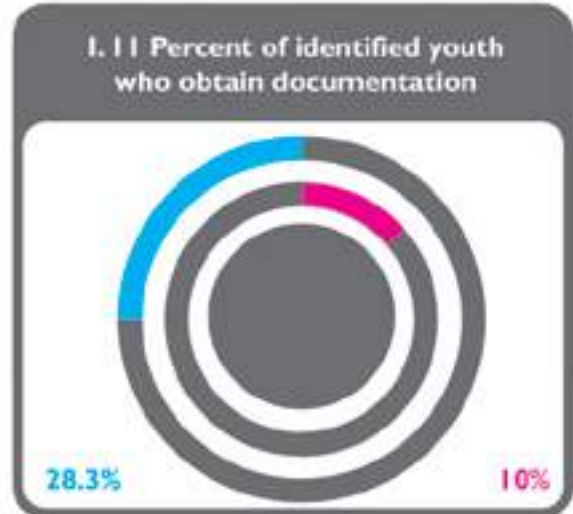
This event connected youth beneficiaries, key players, business association representatives and institutions with the project. It included talks about the culture of peace, sexual and reproductive health, labor insertion and technical-vocational training. Opportunities for training and employment were presented and the micro-enterprises from the project beneficiaries shared their business, product and service plans.

Additionally, there were presentations of Spaces to Grow (EpC), inter-city and urban mural competitions, artistic activities, and a conference about the National Youth Law.

Concurrently, educational materials were distributed concerning sexual and reproductive health, life skills, culture of peace, and promotion of community savings groups (Grupos de Ahorro Comunitario – GAC).



Our Year 4 Indicator Results



Our Year 4 Indicator Results

Year 4 data - October 2015 to September 2016				
INDICATOR		Target Y4 - October 2015 to September 2016	Results Accumulated Y4 October 2015 - September 16	% Results for Y4
Indicator 1: Percent of youth involved in crime and violence		N/A	No data available	No data available
Indicator 2: Citizen perception of the police		Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency
Indicator 3: Citizen perception of security		Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency
Indicator 4: Percent of victims of crime		Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency
Indicator 5: Recidivism rates among juvenile (18 and under) offenders	Transport by Police	N/A	No data available	No data available
	New Charge by Fiscalía			
	Sentenced Detention			
Indicator 6 *: Percentage of juveniles (18 and under) housed separately in juvenile incarceration facilities		95%	75.70%	76%
Indicator 7 **: Number of juvenile (18 and under) offenders processed via diversion/alternative rehabilitation programs	Total	116	147	127%
	Males	107	No data available	No data available
	Females	9	No data available	No data available
Indicator 8: Number of USG-funded organizations representing marginalized constituencies trying to affect youth government policy or conducting government oversight		0	0	0.00%
Indicator 9: Number of civil society organizations receiving USG assistance engaged in advocacy interventions		44	171	388.64%
Indicator 10: Number undocumented youth who are identified	Males	733	623	84.99%
	Females	733	723	98.64%
Indicator 11: Percent of identified youth who obtain documentation		10.00%	28%	283.06%
Indicator 12: Percent of audience who recall hearing or seeing a specific USG-supported FP/RH message		Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency	Bimual Frequency
Indicator 13: Percentage of youth unemployed and not in school-based setting		18.00%	7.30%	N/A
Indicator 14: Number of learners enrolled in primary schools and/or equivalent non-school-based setting with USG support	Males	3772	4842	128.37%
	Females	3772	5020	133.09%
	Indirect	4000	5995	149.88%
Indicator 15: Number of learners enrolled in secondary schools and/or equivalent non-based setting with USG support	Males	4577	4508	98.49%
	Females	4577	5251	114.73%
Indicator 16: Number of VYC reinserted into formal schooling	Males	367	997	271.66%
	Females	353	983	278.47%
Indicator 17: Modern method contraceptive prevalence rate (MCPR)	Males	41.5%	69.55%	167.59%
	Females	49.5%	64.89%	131.10%

Our Year 4 Indicator Results

INDICATOR		Target Y4 - October 2015 to September 2016	Results Accumulated Y4 October 2015 - September 16	% Results for Y4
Indicator 18: Number of the targeted population who completed an HIV preventive interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required (PEPFAR)	M 10-14	0	255	0.00%
	F 10-14	0	376	0.00%
	M 15+	0	1211	0.00%
	F 15+	0	1722	0.00%
Indicator 20: Number of Most At Risk Populations (MARPs) reached with individual and/or small group level HIV preventative interventions that are based on evidence and/or meet the minimum standards required.	M IDU	0	19	0.00%
	F IDU	0	17	0.00%
	M MSM	0	66	0.00%
	M CSW	0	102	0.00%
	M CSW/MSM	0	0	0.00%
	F CSW	0	144	0.00%
Indicator 21: Number of individuals who received Testing and Counseling (T&C) services for HIV and received their test results.	M Other <15	0	0	0.00%
	F Other <15	0	3	0.00%
	M Other 15+	417	77	18.47%
	F Other 15+	417	255	61.15%
	Positive	0	0	0.00%
	Negative	834	335	40.17%
Indicator 22: Number of persons receiving new employment or better employment (including better self-employment) as a result of participation in USG-funded workforce development programs	Males	1016	1643	161.71%
	Females	1016	1956	192.52%
Indicator 23: Number of persons completing USG-funded workforce development programs	Males	2040	3882	190.29%
	Females	2040	7346	360.10%
Indicator 24: Proportion of female participants in USG-assisted programs designed to increase access to productive economic opportunities	Males	50.00%	37.54%	N/A
	Females	50.00%	62.46%	N/A
Indicator 25: Number of visitors to website		20000	57394	286.97%
Indicator 26: Number of participants in solutions for crime and gang reduction		800	2590	323.75%
Indicator 27: Effectiveness of working groups that include first offenders, gang members, and adolescents		Effective	Effective	Effective
Indicator 28: Number of workforce development initiatives created through USG assisted public-private partnerships		9	20	222.22%
Indicator 29: Number of vulnerable people benefiting from USG-supported social services	Males	9975	23510	235.69%
	Females	9975	31667	317.46%
	Vulnerable children (under 18)	16000	35362	221.01%
Indicator 30: Number of people benefiting from USG-supported social assistance programming	Males	12000	27605	230.04%
	Females	12000	41010	341.75%
	HIV Affected	0	0	0.00%
Indicator 31: Percentage of USG-funded NGO or other international organization projects that include activities or services designed to reduce specific risks or harm to vulnerable populations		100.00%	120.00%	120.00%

Developing an Integrated Youth System

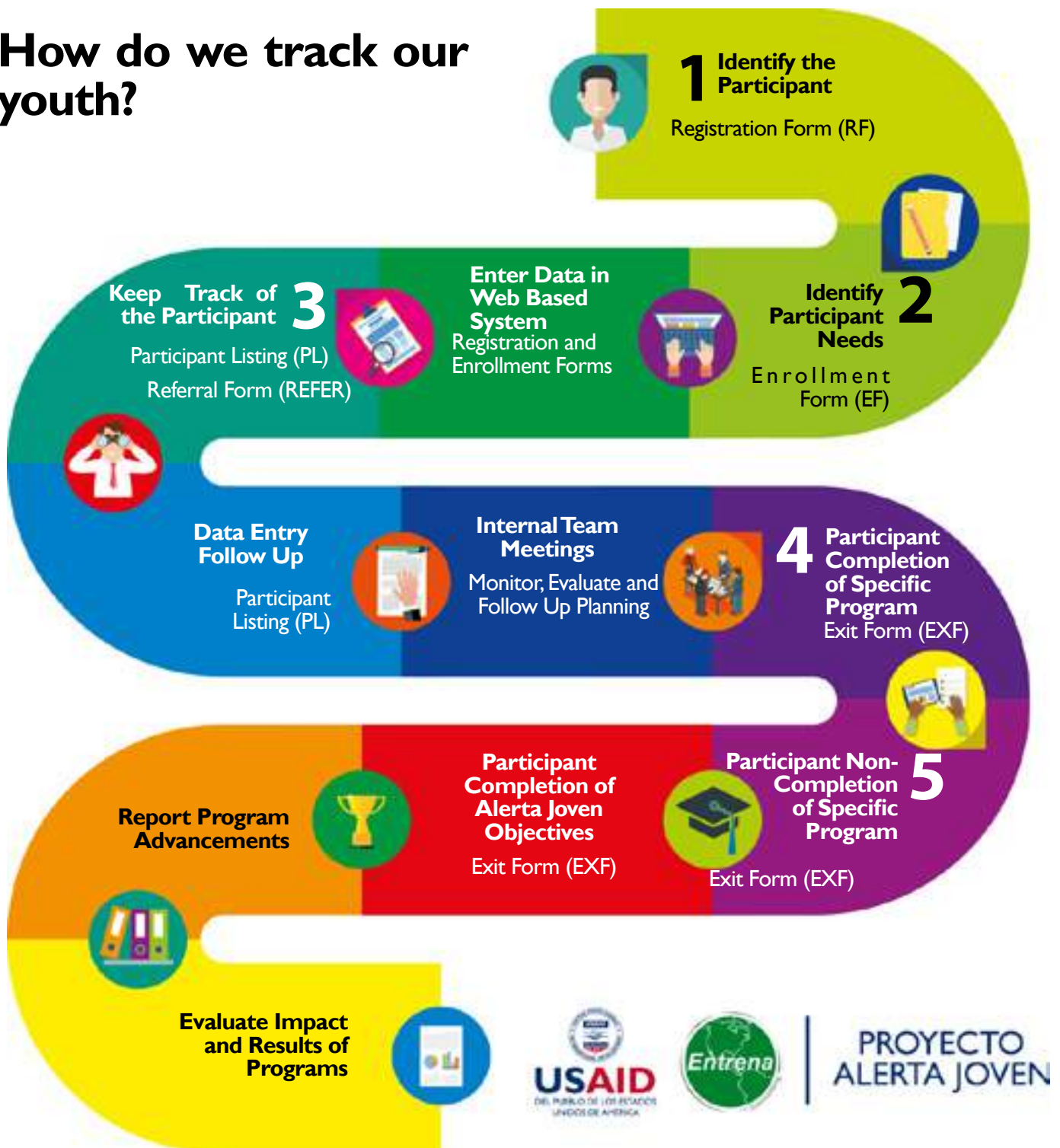
131,148 participants registered in a web based tracking system platform

...every number is a name

...every name has a code in the system

...every participant is tracked individually

How do we track our youth?



Our Multidisciplinary Network

23 implementing partner organizations

A multidisciplinary and sustainable security network for our vulnerable youth.



Visit <http://www.alertajoven.com/es/quienes-somos/quienes-lo-hacen-posible/socios> for more detailed information.

TOTAL YOUTH SERVED BY PARTNER ORGANIZATION

Accumulated Results from October 2012 to September 2016

ZONE/PARTNER ORGANIZATION	GOAL OF SUB-AGREEMENT (Total youth to reach)	TOTAL YOUTH SERVED	% REACHED
SANTIAGO			
Acción Callejera - Fund. Educativa, Inc.	3,993	4,601	115%
Caritas Arquidiocesana	3,690	4,781	130%
Casa Abierta Inc.	2,423	3,191	132%
Centro de Formación y Acción Social y Agraria	3,794	6,152	162%
CAPEX	840	548	65%
	14,740	19,273	131%
PUERTO PLATA			
Centro de Orientación e Investigación Integral	1,262	371	29%
Grupo Clara Inc.	1,481	642	43%
Centro de Promoción y Solidaridad Humana	6,876	6,432	94%
	9,619	7,445	77%
BOCA CHICA			
Caminante Proyecto Educativo	3,600	3,507	97%
Children International - PAN	4,539	4,477	99%
	8,139	7,984	98%
SAN FRANCISCO DE MACORIS			
Universidad Católica Nordestana	7,700	15,068	196%
SANTO DOMINGO ESTE			
Children International	4,214	3,591	85%
SANTO DOMINGO NORTE			
Acción Comunitaria por el Progreso	3,400	3,305	97%
MOSTCHA	1,790	2,183	122%
	5,190	5,488	106%
SANTO DOMINGO OESTE			
Alianza para el Servicio Comunitario	1,471	1,788	122%
Junior Achievement Dominicana	9,639	8,439	88%
Project Hope	4,237	4,398	104%
Fundación Pediátrica por un Manana	900	1,014	113%
Sur Futuro	4,247	7,352	173%
	20,494	22,991	112%
DISTRITO NACIONAL - Guachupita			
Red de Jóvenes Unidos de Guachupita	1,200	277	23%
DN/BONAO/PUERTO PLATA			
Instituto Dominicano de Desarrollo Integral	19,530	28,342	145%
SD NORTE/SFM/SANTIAGO			
Profamilia	12,014	19,717	164%
CABARETE			
DREAM Project	1,100	972	88%
TOTAL	103,940	131,148	126%



Reference of end date of sub-agreements:

August, 2015
 July, 2016
 September, 2016
 March, 2017

Public-Private Partnership for Support, Advocacy and Sustainability

The development of public-private alliances achieved by Alerta Joven to date has allowed Entrena to define a plan for long term sustainability. The central base of this plan is the INVOLVEMENT of both the public and the private sectors with the primary objective to continue Alerta Joven through support of Dominican society after USAID financing ends.



“The high levels of crime limit the Dominican Republic’s potential in relation to its competitive projection worldwide.” Country Risk Report: II Trimester 2015, from the Executive Secretary of Central American Monetary Council..

We all need to be involved because...

“Their future is your future”



Looking Towards Future Sustainability

VISIBILITY

- 1 “Alerta Joven” as a top of mind branding
- 2 Alerta Joven Campaign “Su futuro es tu futuro”
- 3 Audiovisual Materials
- 4 Conferences for dissemination of programs and results

INVOLVEMENT

- 1 Produce a General Stakeholders Map to identify the potential synergies that will be achieved through stakeholders.
- 2 Design Individual Action Plans with 200 stakeholders.
- 3 Create a business certification program providing public recognition of companies committed to giving support and employment to at-risk youth in the Dominican Republic as part of their corporate social responsibility programs.
- 4 Generate strategic multi-sectoral alliances with the following GoDR Ministries and institutions: Economy, Planning and Development (MEPyD), Presidency, Labor, Education, District Attorney, and Central Electoral Board (Junta Central Electoral). The target of these alliances will be co-financing mechanism for specific programs working with at-risk youth.

ALONGSIDENESS

- 1 Ramp up think tank groups with young Dominican professionals to synergize, replicate, and scale up evidenced based preventive solutions developed by Alerta Joven to reduce crime and violence in youth.

ENVISIONING THE FUTURE

- 1 Alerta Joven as the most impacting and high profile public-private initiative working to prevent crime and violence among youth in the Dominican Republic.

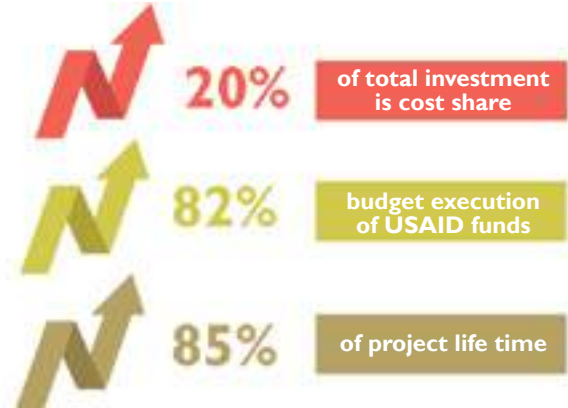


SU FUTURO ES TU FUTURO

Financial Overview

We take financial accountability seriously

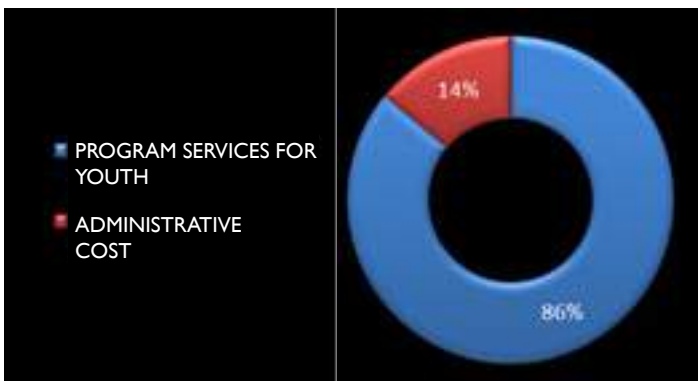
Alerta Joven is committed to upholding the highest standards of financial integrity. We are fully accountable to our donor and each young participant for the appropriate allocation of all funds. This is why we strive to keep administrative costs as low as possible to ensure that USAID funds have the maximum impact on more than 100,000 at-risk youth in the Dominican Republic.



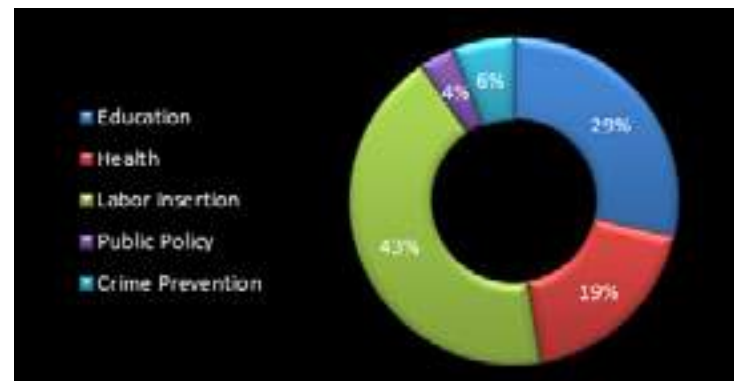
Entrena, S.R.L. Cooperative Agreement Aid-517-A-12-00002 Budget Execution

BUDGET CATEGORY	APPROVED BUDGET	ACUMMULATIVE EXPENDITURES	%
LABOR	1,678,991	1,298,388	77%
FRINGE BENEFITS	745,726	455,793	61%
CONSULTANTS	1,249,741	814,830	65%
TRAVEL AND PER DIEM	104,517	63,976	61%
OTHER DIRECT COSTS	2,463,040	1,605,086	65%
EQUIPMENT	131,668	117,249	89%
SUB-AWARDS	13,598,447	12,003,242	88%
TOTAL IN US\$	19,972,130	16,358,564	82%
COST SHARE	3,654,500	4,117,055	113%
TOTAL INVESTMENT	23,626,630	20,475,619	87%

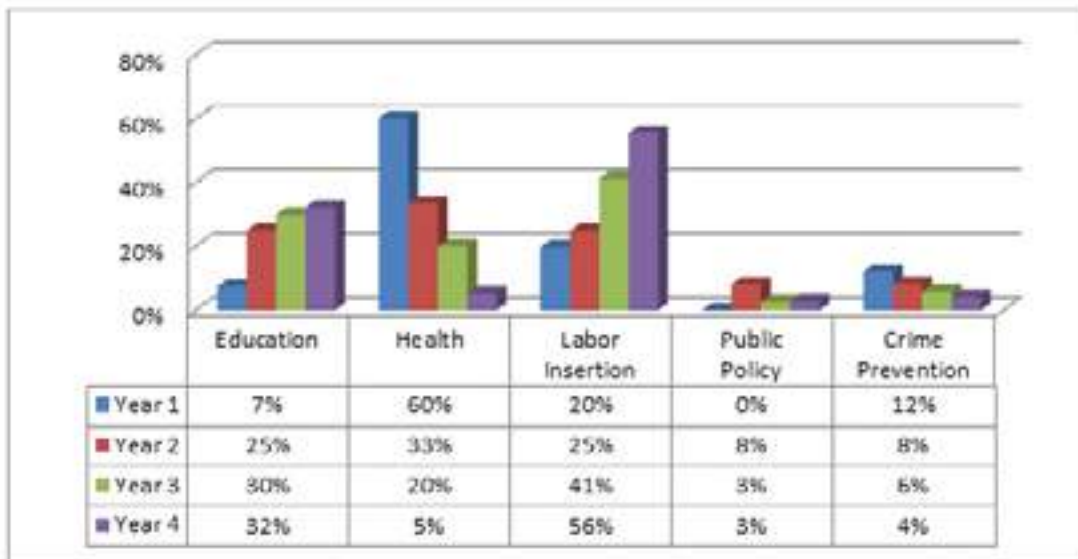
OVERALL EXPENSES



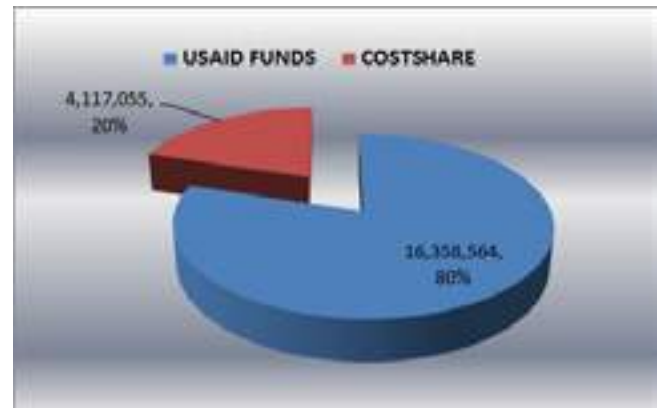
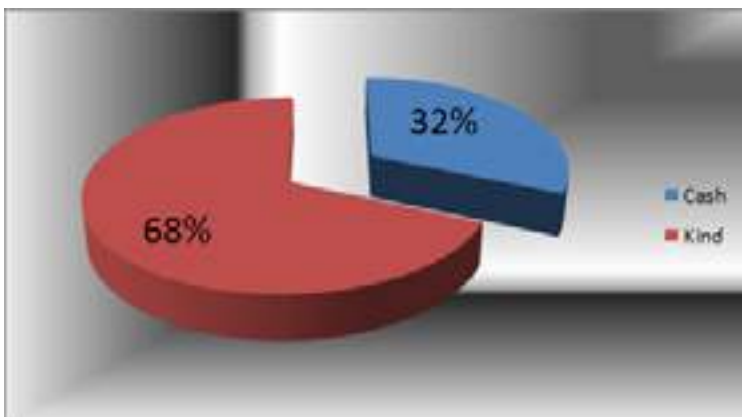
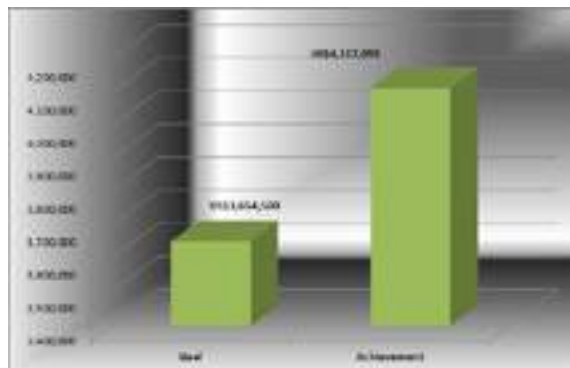
PROGRAM EXPENSES



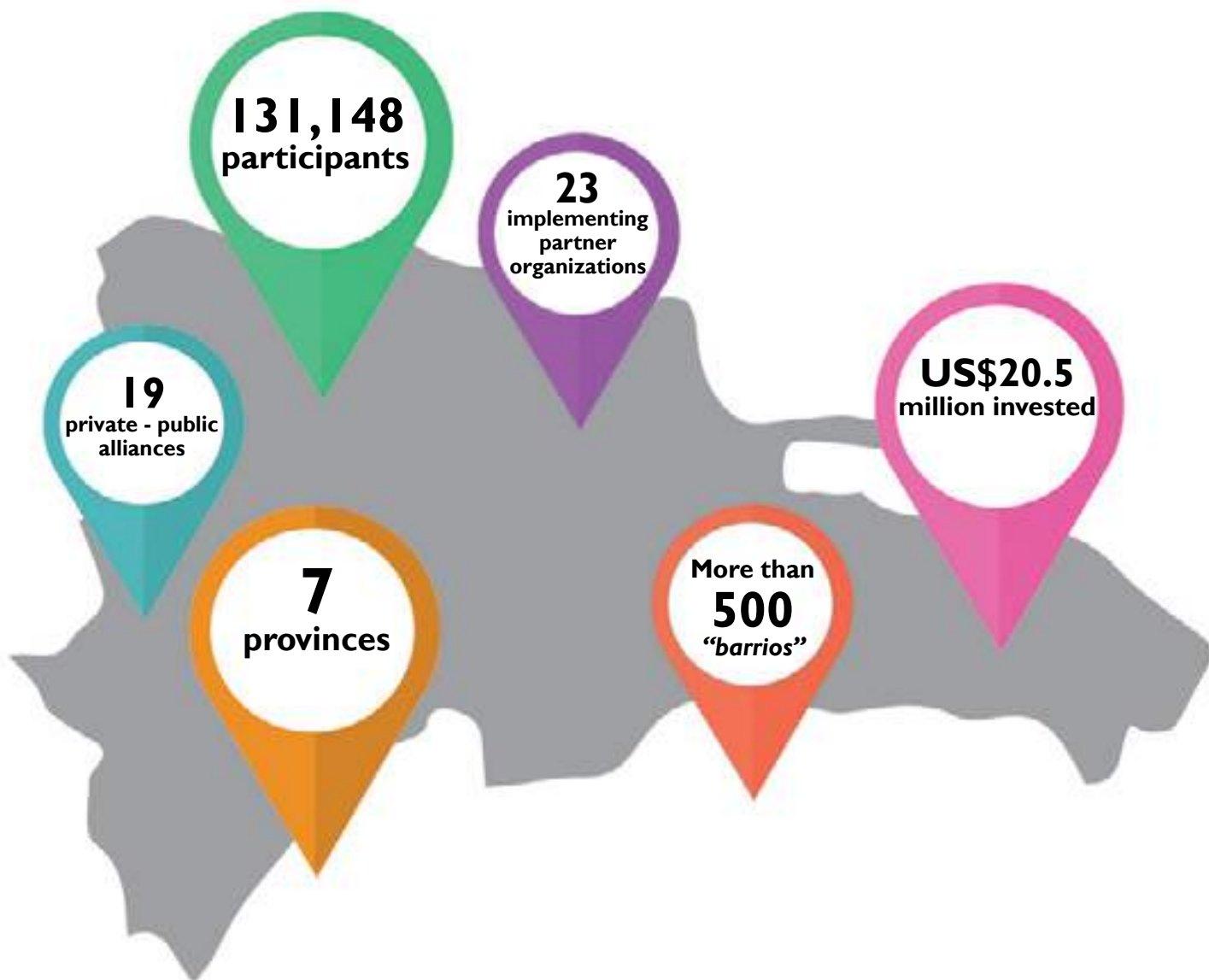
Investment in programs Changes through Year 1 to Year 4

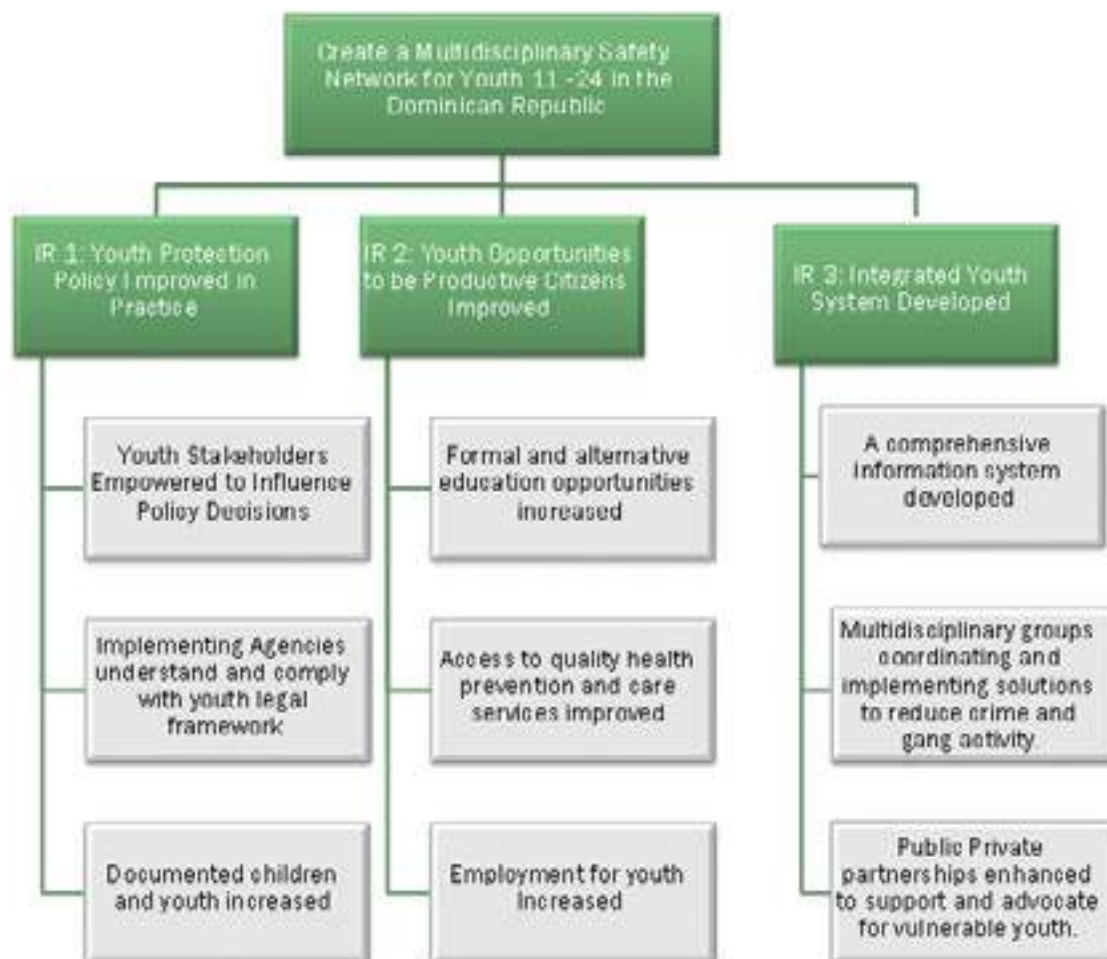


Cost Share from Year 1 to Year 4



ALERTA JOVEN FROM JULY 2012 TO SEPTEMBER 2016





THANK YOU.

We recognize the effort of every single staff member from Entrena and from every implementing partner organization that join us in this exciting and ambitious project. Your thoughtful support is transforming the lives of more than 100,000 at-risk children, adolescents and youth, their families and their communities in the Dominican Republic.





Cooperative Agreement
AID 517-A-12-00002

Entrena Annual Report
October 2015 – September 2016

Prepared for
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Development (USAID) / Dominican Republic

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ENTRENA SRL is a company incorporated in the Dominican Republic in 1982 specializing in technical assistance, social development training and education. For over 30 years, ENTRENA has provided innovative, culturally appropriate and sustainable solutions for a diversity of clients from the private sector, NGO`s, governments and educational institutions. The autor´s views expressed in this publication do not necessarily reflect the views of the United States Agency for International Development or the United States Government.