

SUMMARY

In its fifth year, the Guatemala Child Protection Project, also referred to as the Community Roots Project, has helped create safer communities to protect children and youth, ages 8 to 24, from unsafe migration and violence at the individual, family, and community levels in Guatemala’s most vulnerable regions.

Across the 80 project communities, 81% of all activities planned for the year have been implemented. Despite the challenges presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, World Vision pursued alternative options to continue working and surpassed many of our project goals (see chart below).

Coordination with the National Police

The National Civil Police are a key partner in helping communities implement their Violence and Migration Prevention Plans. The Community Roots project

offers training to municipal police departments in community organization and participation, increasing the likelihood that people will see them as a trusted partner in reducing crime and helping create safer communities. During this reporting period, 60 police officers were selected as candidates for the Violence and Migration Prevention diploma course. In addition, the project donated 300 violence prevention tool kits to the National Police Crime Prevention Unit.

Referral and Support Networks

Community members are trained to identify, refer, and enroll children and youth in the secondary prevention services offered through the project. As a result, 4,661 youth were referred for alternative education, technical-vocational training, and psychosocial care over the past six months.



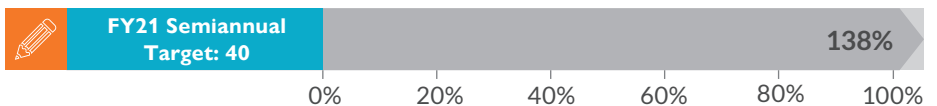
“I always believed that God would help me find a way to help out my family. I want to succeed here in Aguacatan, because I know that my future is here in my country.”

—Yenni, a high school student in Agua Blanca, Aguacatan. Through FUNCAFE, Yenni learned computer skills, which led to an internship at a local radio station.

GLOBAL UPDATE AND PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

311,880 PEOPLE have participated in project activities since they began in December 2016, including 42,381 people in the first half of FY21.

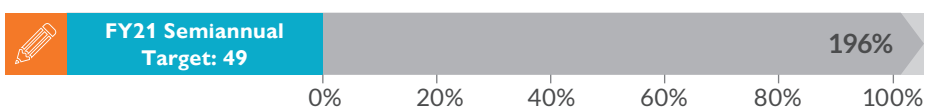
55 schools implemented Violence Prevention plans in coordination with police.



1,128 children and youth received support to attend school or vocational training.



96 program participants obtained jobs or internships.



SPOTLIGHT: PUBLIC/PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

Part of the holistic approach to preventing violence and migration in Guatemala is to collaborate with local businesses and government agencies. In March 2021, the project facilitated three agreements for public/private partnerships in Huehuetenango, which will provide skills certifications for youth. Partners include the Cuilco Beekeeper's Cooperative, the Coffee Growers Association of La Emocracia, the Agricultural Cooperative for San Jose El Obrero de la Libertad, and the Ministries of Education and Agriculture. These efforts will contribute to long-term economic and social stability and lead to more sustainable project interventions.

World Vision also trains Community Violence and Migration Prevention Councils (COCOPREs) to establish alliances with the private sector as a strategy for bringing more resources to their community. The training emphasizes the importance of accountability and transparency in the use of resources, in order to establish trust with partners and other community members. Donations from local businesses have included cleaning and personal hygiene supplies, snacks for activities such as Rana Labs youth workshops, transportation, and logistical support.



In collaboration with Rana Labs, the project teaches youth to use mobile technology and recording equipment to create videos with messages about preventing violence and migration.

PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

During the second half of FY21, the project plans to:

- Continue to support communities in implementing their plans for violence and irregular migration prevention
- Work with the Ministry of Education to provide skills certification opportunities to young people
- Support the implementation of violence prevention plans in schools
- Begin offering vocational training courses on artisan craft-making and motorcycle repair
- Hold a regional event for communities to exchange experiences and learn from one another

THANK YOU

Thank you for your generosity and investment in the safety and well-being of children and families in Guatemala. Your support is helping create a safe, stable place for people to call home in 80 communities.



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