Welcome

The USAID Puentes Project (2017-2023) is implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the following organizations: Asociación Grupo Ceiba, Fundación para el Desarrollo Integral (FUDI), FundaSistemas, Red Nacional de Grupos Gestores.

THE PROJECT AIMS TO SUPPORT

Young people between 15 and 24 years of age from the Western Highlands of Guatemala

To take control of their future by providing them with the information, knowledge, and skills to access opportunities and improve their income.

The project also helps them design and pursue a life plan, with a focus on:

- Education
- Employment
- Entrepreneurship

With the support of:
Nationally, the youth unemployment rate is five times higher for youth ages 15 to 24 than those 25 years of age and older (National Statistics Institute 2014). Youth ages 15-24 living in the Western Highlands experience poverty, violence, land shortages. They face lack of education opportunities and limited options for income improvement.

The access to social and health services is inadequate compared to their counterparts, resulting in a lower quality of life. This has led to increased levels of internal and external migration. The challenges are even greater for females and indigenous youth, who have lower school attendance rates and limited economic opportunities locally.

The Puentes Project is currently being implemented in 25 municipalities of Huehuetenango, Quiché, Totonicapán, San Marcos y Quetzaltenango.

Municipal Youth Centers in Quiché, San Marcos, Totonicapán Huehuetenango and Quetzaltenango departments, enabled to offer services such as: Puntos Crea, Centro de Desarrollo Humano y Tecnológico, and Espacio de Asesoría Empresarial. The project currently operates 24 Youth Centers.

Project goals:

- 25,000 youth with improved soft skills and a Life Plan.
- 3,600 youth continuing primary and secondary education.
- 5,000 youth accessing technical and occupational training.
- 1,000 youth engaged in new entrepreneurial activity.
- 3,000 youth with new or improved jobs.

The Puentes Project focuses on preparing youth to access economic opportunities by providing competencies and skills-building training.

The Puentes Project facilitates the access to education, employment and entrepreneurial opportunities.

The Puentes Project aims to ensure that youth have access to the social services that are critical to their overall well-being, so that they may take full advantage of the opportunities available to them and improve their quality of life.

1. **Youth will improve basic, workforce, and entrepreneurship skills.**

2. **Increase employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for youth.**

3. **Increase equitable access for youth to social services.**

**CONTACT**

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