

PROJECT



Strengthening The National Institute of Youth in El Salvador

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES

- Argentina
- El Salvador
- Spain

PARTICIPATING INSTITUTIONS

- **Argentinian institutions:** Youth Deputy Secretariat of the Ministry of Social Development of Argentina/ Ministry of Labor, Employment and Security/ General Directorate for International Cooperation. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Worship.
- **Salvadoran Institutions:** National Institute of Youth (INJUVE)/ Vice Ministry for Development Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- **Spanish Institutions:** Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID)/ Technical Office of Cooperation in El Salvador/ Technical Office of Cooperation in the Southern Cone.

MAIN TOPICS

- Productive participation in the labor market and the inclusion of young people.
- Employment and employability of young people.
- Juvenile Involvement.
- Technical assistance, exchange and training of human resources in policy frameworks.

The active participation of the youth as agents of social change in the different areas is a key factor for community building with more fair and development conditions and to achieve the SDG included in the 2030 Agenda. In this regard, the efforts to strengthen the involvement and the commitment of the young people on matters of public and social concern, through various labor undertakings, as well as encouraging economic benefits and other incentives, which deliver and match the different SDG and are an integral part of the new development Agenda.

BACKGROUND

The framework established in the IV Director Plan (2013-2016) of the Spanish Cooperation, emphasizes the commitment to continue encouraging initiatives of Triangular Cooperation to support to the South-South Cooperation, consequently, in June, 2015, the AECID organized a workshop with the participation of different stakeholders to reflect on the challenges and the opportunities of the Triangular Cooperation in Latin America. On this regard, the participant countries outlined their institutional capacities and requirements that may lead to Triangular Cooperation initiatives among the Latin America countries and Spain.

Under this framework, and since the definition of the national priorities, El Salvador proposed Argentina to work jointly with Spain, on issues related to strengthen the public policies and the institutionalization for the Youth. Since then, a permanent dialogue was established the parties to assess the feasibility of the proposal in both technical and financial aspects, and based on the current positive relationship between El Salvador and Argentina through the South-South Cooperation.

Argentina and El Salvador have an outstanding relationship on Cooperation for Development with Spain, to the point that they have taken part of associations of Triangular Cooperation on behalf of third actors such as the Pro-Huerta experience of Argentina in Haiti, or recently, sharing the Salvadoran experience of CDEMYPES (Development Centers Micro and Small Enterprises) with the Dominican Republic and the experience of the National Agenda for Cooperation Effectiveness to Costa Rica.

Currently, El Salvador and Argentina, have strong ties with the South-South Cooperation, and to this date, the records show that three meetings of Joint Commissions for Technical Cooperation (2011, 2013, and 2015), and three Bilateral Cooperation Programmes (2011-2013, 2013-2015 and 2015-2017) have been conducted, where one of the issues that has shown tangible structural changes in the level of social development results, is the one related to the strengthening of public policies involving the Youth. This is supported in turn for the fact that during 2013, a first exchange on youth matters took place in San Salvador between professionals from the Ministry of Social Development of Argentina and INJUVE of El Salvador.

Under it, this initiative seeks to provide a more strategic level, the relationship and triangular partnership between three countries with a concrete vision of the importance of youth in the actions of states and therefore of its policies, programs and projects of social inclusion.

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

Strengthen the technical capacity of the responsible institutions for the implementation of the “Strategic Programme for Employment and Youth Employability” in El Salvador, to support the social inclusion and the productive involvement of young people of working age and in vulnerable situation, in the labor market.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- Strengthened implementation of the youth program of employment and employability, coordinated by the INJUVE, and from the knowledge exchange and the management models with Argentinian institutions.
- Increased knowledge of the technical personnel responsible for the headquarters of the employment program and youth employability.
- Institutional mechanisms for youth participation in the formulation, implementation and monitoring of public policies.

IMPLEMENTATION

The implementation of the project will be through technical assistance between the institutions involved and with the coordination of the responsible units for cooperation of the three partner countries. It is planned to conduct the knowledge exchange and management models by sending Argentine technicians to El Salvador and sending Salvadoran experts to Argentina.

As part of this phase, it is crucial that the three Parties have agreed as starting point, to perform a diagnostic mission of Argentine professionals to El Salvador, in order to deepen the knowledge of the reality of youth and public policies, programs and institutions that have been established in El Salvador.

APPLICATION OF PRINCIPLES/CRITERIA OF THE “MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES TO IMPLEMENT TRIANGULAR COOPERATION IN IBERO-AMERICA”

1. IDENTIFICATION

As it was stated in the Background, this project has emerged within the framework of a working meeting organized by the AECID, guided by the Horizontality principle, where some countries recognized aspects / key institutional areas to be strengthened, and others defined their own capabilities that could assist to achieve this objective.

In this context, El Salvador as a recipient partner and according to its development plans, defined the need to strengthen the area of Youth and Employment (demand-driven approach) and established the coordination with Argentina and Spain to jointly assess the feasibility to develop a triangular cooperation project. It is worth mention that Argentina and El Salvador have been working bilaterally on the issue of youth since 2013.

2. NEGOTIATION AND FORMULATION

With the leadership of El Salvador, and the joint responsibility of Argentina and Spain, and the absence of conditionalities, a process of negotiation and formulation of the project began, with the purpose of clearly define the roles and participation of all the stakeholders in horizontal manner and within all the bodies of the project. In this regard, a work plan was established and it includes virtual meetings, where each partner can express their ideas and proposals and the implementation of technical missions for the preparation of the project draft, its operating plan, and the operational management manual.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

It is expected that this initiative will contribute to the strengthening the National Institute of Youth of El Salvador, by adapting Argentina’s experience to the Salvadoran reality, according to the needs and development plans. During this stage, it is expected an active relationship among the actors that facilitate the contribution of all the parties during the different stages of the project, as it is stated by agreement in the operational management manual and with the leadership of the receiving partner. In this respect, it is interesting to note that the economic contribution made by Spain will be executed according to the administrative procedures and parameters of El Salvador, ensuring the efficient use of the resources and the ownership of the receiving partner throughout the implementation process. It has also been stipulated that the project has tracking and monitoring bodies that include the participation of all parties involved in the project.

4. EVALUATION

Joint monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be established, involving all partners, as established by agreement during the negotiation phase in the operational management manual of the project. It is expected to get a mid-term and a final report containing the lessons learned and the recommendations shared by all partners, which may allow to visualize the cycle and the results of the project. Also, other bodies will contribute in areas such as monitoring and evaluation by the Bilateral Cooperation Programme 2015-2017 Argentina-El Salvador and active participation of diplomatic representations of the Parties.