



## Pilot to Improve the Development and Nutrition of Young Children in Poor Rural Areas in Guatemala (P145410)

LATIN AMERICA AND CARIBBEAN | Guatemala | Social Protection & Jobs Global Practice | Recipient Executed Activities | Investment Project Financing | FY 2015 | Seq No: 5 | ARCHIVED on 25-Jun-2019 | ISR37247 |

Implementing Agencies: ChildFund Guatemala, ChildFund International - Guatemala

### Key Dates

#### Key Project Dates

Bank Approval Date:07-Nov-2014

Effectiveness Date:18-Mar-2015

Original Closing Date:07-Nov-2018

Revised Closing Date:30-Jun-2019

### Project Development Objectives

Project Development Objective (from Project Appraisal Document)

The Development Objective is to strengthen the capacity of parents and communities to improve and monitor child development outcomes (physical, cognitive, socio-emotional and linguistic skills) for children under two in project intervention areas.

Has the Project Development Objective been changed since Board Approval of the Project Objective?

No

### Components

Name

### Overall Ratings

Name	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Progress towards achievement of PDO	● Moderately Satisfactory	● Moderately Satisfactory
Overall Implementation Progress (IP)	● Satisfactory	● Satisfactory

### Implementation Status and Key Decisions

This Grant financed the piloting of the Reach Up Early Childhood Parenting Program, which is a program based on a Jamaican operation which had proven successful at improving cognitive outcomes, school achievement and labor market outcomes over the long run. The Reach Up program was used in a subset of the Project communities, while the group modality (Ventana de la Vida) developed by ChildFund, is being used in the rest. In order to measure impacts. After a period of testing the Reach Up modality and materials in local indigenous settings in Guatemala, the project has



successfully adapted both methodologies to the Guatemalan context, including the curriculum, guidelines for training, and learning materials, which are all developed considering the Quiche and Mam languages and cultures.

The indicators that will measure children's development outcomes at the community level, have also been tested and are currently being regularly updated by the two Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO) sub-grantees selected by Childfund, *Cooperación para el Desarrollo Rural de Occidente (CDRO)* and *Asociación de Cooperación al Desarrollo Integral de Huehuetenango (ACODIHUE)*. The Grant is also carrying out an impact evaluation, along with a thorough operational assessment that will measure the effects of both interventions. The IE will assess the impacts of providing psychosocial stimulation through home visits and group meetings to increase child development by promoting play, parent-child interactions, and generally improve parent practices, and will compare that with territories where none of the modalities were rolled out. In addition, it will include a cost-effectiveness analysis of the two modalities of service delivery on home environment, parental behavior and child development and nutritional outcomes. Preliminary results of the IE are expected to be ready by July 2019.

As confirmed during the last missions, both local sub-grantees, Acodihue and CDRO, have continued early stimulation and parenting sessions at the community level using both type of parenting modalities: "Ventana de la Vida" (group sessions) and "Reach-up" (home visiting). Children and mothers have been enrolled and registered for attending both. In addition, the project is currently preparing the actions needed to undertake an end-line survey for evaluating the effects of both modalities. The project has concluded a costing analysis of both modalities, which would be useful for potential scale up plans.

Local sub-grantees have begun the process of gradual phase-out in the communities. Closing activities include community fairs and graduation events for caregiver mothers. Fairs include two areas: a) community consultation and b) presentation of ECD outcomes (barrilete). ChildFund has two partner organizations: CDRO and Acodihue, and both partners organize plenary sessions in which recognition is given to the madres guías (mother guides), caregivers and children of the project. Community authorities participate in the closing activities, and in many cases have expressed their commitment to continue with the activities of the project. The project has also concluded an assessment of the implementation of the methodologies by the madres guías, identifying positive and negative aspects and suggestions for improvement. Between the two implementing partners, almost 700 madres guías have been trained in early stimulation modalities, and other local actors have been sensitized, such as community leaders, and Government local staff from the *Secretaría de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional (SESAN)*, *Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación (MAGA)*, *Ministerio de Desarrollo Social (MIDES)*, *Ministerio de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social (MSPAS)* and *Ministerio de Educación (MINEDUC)*.

The evaluation team has worked on the design and implementation of the impact evaluation, as well as assured the cultural and linguistic adaptation of the MDAT instrument that has been used in the end-line data collection to test language and fine motor skills. The team prepared a draft of the household questionnaire, reviewed and approved the full questionnaire with feedback from the survey firm and ChildFund. It held meetings with the survey firm (INCAP) and ChildFund personnel; coordinated survey operations with ChildFund, the Bank, and the survey firm. The evaluation team coordinated the adaptation of the MDAT instrument and provided training to the enumerators from the survey firm. To assure that the data collected will be high quality and that attrition will be minimal, the evaluation team conducted two pilots in Guatemala (to culturally adapt the MDAT instrument) prior to hiring the survey firm. Then, it conducted a general training and pilot with the survey firm, as well as three additional site visits to oversee the work of the firm. The evaluation team has been providing constant feedback to INCAP regarding data programming, data collection, and data collection report. After the survey firm delivers the final dataset, the team will be ready to conduct the analysis of the data. On the other hand, a thorough systematization of the project is being implemented and will include lessons learned on the community approach implemented by ChildFund to ensure participation and full collaboration of indigenous leaders, adaptation of the curricula to Quiche and Mam areas, and the involvement of Madres Guías as key actors to promote childhood development in their communities.

Progress on each component includes:

Component 1: 3379 children continue to participate, 2140 in the 'Ventana de la vida' modality and 1239 in the Reach Up. During this period, 210 CEOs (*Casas de Evaluación y Orientación* – Centers for evaluation and orientation) providing training in the areas of physical, cognitive, social, emotional and language development. Likewise, positive deviation sessions (*desviación positiva*) were carried out by Acodihue in 2 communities, with the participation of 73 caregivers, who shared their experiences. In addition, 691 madres guías have participated in monthly meetings to update and strengthen their knowledge in both modalities (285 in level 1 and 406 of level 2). Of the CEOs, 210 are still functioning, and 58 communities remain implementing project activities; exit activities have been carried out in 34 communities, 16 in level 1 (*Ventana de la Vida*) and 18 in level 2 (*Reach Up*) in 7 municipalities of 3 departments.

Component 2. Following activities have been completed in component 2:

Community fairs focusing on child development: 81 closing community fairs were held with 2,879 people participating, including: madres guías, members of COCODE, mothers and fathers, caregivers and health and nutrition personnel, MIDES, SESAN and MAGA.

Midwives. 1473 midwives continue to participate in training events and the development of early stimulation, addressing the following topics: i) importance of the game with infants (0 to 2 years), ii) quality of maternal time, iii) appropriate referral to health services of pregnant women, iv) Signs



of danger during pregnancy, and v) Clean and safe delivery -the last three with guidance from health workers.

Community Development Councils. The Community Development Councils (COCODE) have been informed of the results of ECD activities carried out in their communities, so they can continue providing support to the madres guías to carry out of early stimulation.

With regards to the Municipal Development Councils (COMUDE), 1062 members have participated in 10 monthly meetings held in the same number of municipalities. As for the Municipal Councils for Food and Nutritional Security (COMUSAN), 176 members have participated in monthly meetings in 9 municipalities. In these meetings, information has been provided on the importance of the community fairs and the monitoring of outcomes to improve the wellbeing of families and children. Municipal Health Districts (DMS) have participated in training processes to reinforce early stimulation, including 126 health personnel (nurses, doctors, educators, administrative staff, assistants, etc.). The project's methodology was also transferred, and the importance of vaccination and GMP services was highlighted.

Component 3: ChildFund has provided technical and financial support to the local partners to ensure the achievement of the project objective. The technical teams of CDRO, ACODIHUE and ChildFund continue to dialogue with Government on the new Early Childhood strategy, along with UNICEF, PAHO, Plan International, and Save the Children. ChildFund continues to share its project experience with international organizations including PAHO. An agreement has been signed with the Ministry of Education (MINEDUC) to contribute with the implementation of the "Acompañame a crecer" program.

## Risks

### Overall Risk Rating

Risk Category	Rating at Approval	Previous Rating	Current Rating
Overall	--	● Moderate	● Moderate

## Results

### Project Development Objective Indicators

#### ►Percentage of children achieving the expected development level for their age (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	40.00	64.00	60.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	01-Jul-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

#### ►Percentage of participating households with enhanced early stimulation practices (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	0.00	32.00	40.00



Date	18-Mar-2015	19-Dec-2016	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019
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►Number of children that are direct beneficiaries of the Project (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	4,020.00	4,506.00	5,500.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	31-Dec-2017	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Overall Comments

Intermediate Results Indicators

►Diagnostic of early childhood development beliefs and practices in beneficiary communities is completed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	15-Jun-2018	30-Nov-2015

►Monitoring tool to track child development is developed (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	15-Jun-2018	01-Apr-2016



►Number of project communities implementing Level 1 (Ventana de la Vida) and Level 2 (Reach Up) activities (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	94.00	94.00	100.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

94 is the historical maximum of communities reached by the project. Gradually as the intervention phases out, this number will drop. Six (6) out of 100 communities decided not to participate in the project.

►Percentage of COCODES (Consejos comunitarios de Desarrollo) implementing activities in favor of childhood in their communities (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	48.00	76.00	70.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

►Number of community fairs implemented with an ECD approach (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	169.00	230.00	188.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

►Baseline survey conducted (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
Date	20-Oct-2015	01-Mar-2017	01-Mar-2017	01-Jun-2016



► Quarterly progress reports completed (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	13.00	14.00	16.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

The remaining two progress reports are being reviewed/produced and will be approved before the closing date.

► Mass events hosted for departmental health systems (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1.00	2.00	2.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

► Final Impact Evaluation survey conducted (Text, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	No	No	No	Yes
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

► Number of Madres Guias trained to apply level 1 methodology (Ventana de la Vida) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	320.00	371.00	595.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

Target was not met since the project prioritized some Reach-Up communities (home visits) adding Madres Guias there, as they were operating in areas with difficult access to the homes.



►Number of Madres Guias trained to apply level 2 methodology (Reach Up) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	396.00	523.00	450.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

►Number of children participating in level 1 activities (Ventana de la Vida) within CEO's strategy (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	2,040.00	2,833.00	4,480.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

Since prioritization was given at some point to methodology 2, this target was not met.

►Number of children participating in level 2 activities (Reach Up) (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1,406.00	1,673.00	1,920.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

Even with the prioritization of these areas (adding more Madres Guias), it was difficult to keep some of the children regularly participating, for this reason the target was not met.



►Percentage of Madres Guias with quality implementation of level 1 and level 2 activities (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	49.00	47.00	70.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

►Percentage of CEOs implemented (Percentage, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	64.00	79.00	80.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019

Comments

The indicator is measuring the percentage of CEOs that effectively implement activities out of the maximum number (target) of CEOs in communities where the project is being implemented. Denominator is 373 (CEOs in communities of intervention). Number of CEOs operating by March 2019: 295.

►Number of midwives in the catchment areas of the project, trained in exclusive breastfeeding and oportune stimulation by the social workers (Number, Custom)

	Baseline	Actual (Previous)	Actual (Current)	End Target
Value	0.00	1,473.00	1,473.00	900.00
Date	18-Mar-2015	15-Jun-2018	30-Mar-2019	30-Jun-2019





Overall Comments

**Data on Financial Performance**

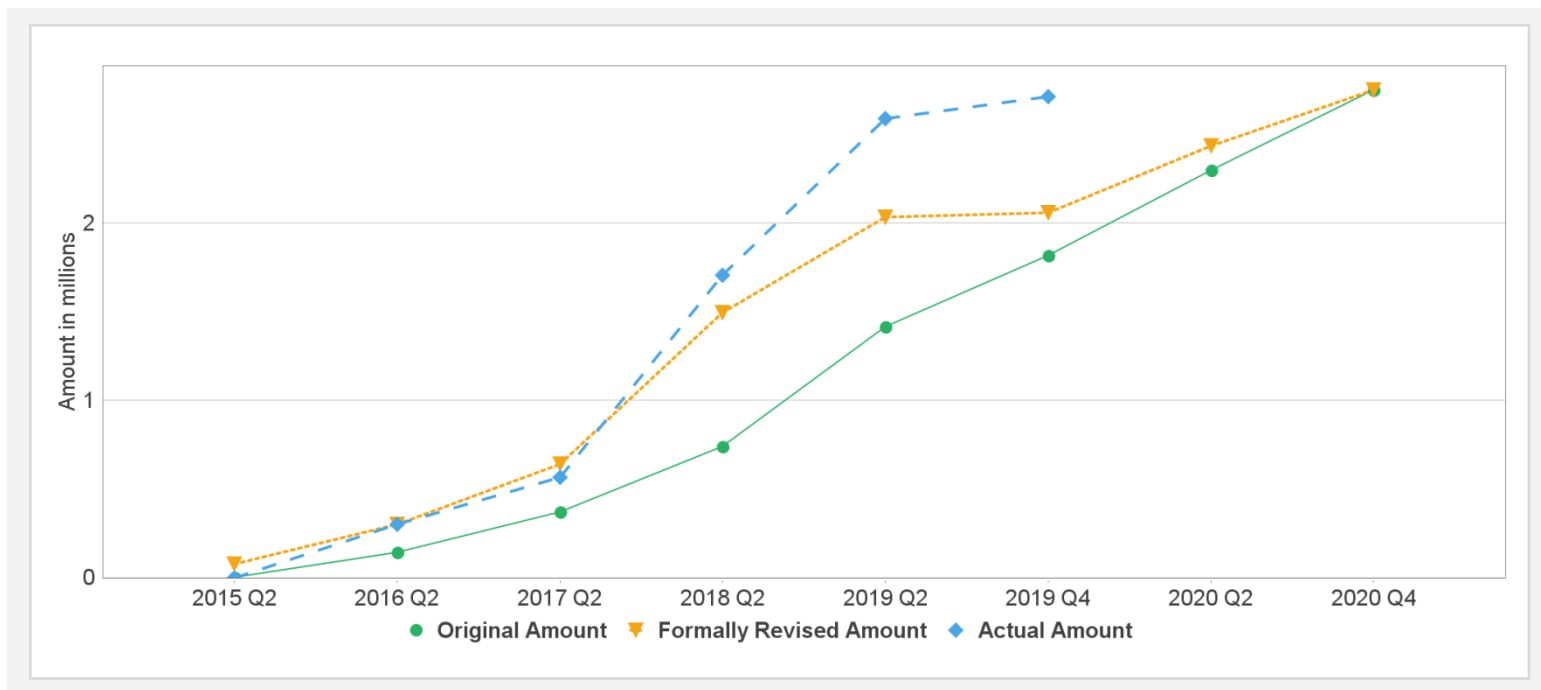
**Disbursements (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Currency	Original	Revised	Cancelled	Disbursed	Undisbursed	Disbursed
P145410	TF-17709	Effective	USD	2.75	2.75	0.00	2.71	0.04	99%

**Key Dates (by loan)**

Project	Loan/Credit/TF	Status	Approval Date	Signing Date	Effectiveness Date	Orig. Closing Date	Rev. Closing Date
P145410	TF-17709	Effective	07-Nov-2014	07-Nov-2014	18-Mar-2015	07-Nov-2018	30-Jun-2019

**Cumulative Disbursements**



**Restructuring History**



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Level 2 Approved on 21-May-2018

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### **Related Project(s)**

There are no related projects.

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