



RESULTS OF THE ASSESSMENT OF THE COMMUNITY'S NEEDS

COMMUNITY OVERVIEW

Describe the characteristics (such as geographic information, main sources of income, population size, and access to education/health services) of the specific community where this project will take place.

The community is located in Altos de Cazucá, in the Oasis neighborhood of Soacha – Cundinamarca Department, Carrera 41B Este #40D-49.

Income sources: informal trade, construction, cleaning staff, recyclers, selling bags on the street, selling empanadas, domestic workers, security guards.

Population size: 220 families, 150 children.

Access to services: One Level 1 health center, 2 district schools with poor physical infrastructure, unpaved and poorly maintained roads.

COMMUNITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT DATA COLLECTION

When you conducted the assessment, who did you speak with in the community? At least two community representatives and different beneficiaries not involved with Rotary (such as teachers, doctors, or community leaders) must be included in the discussions.

Father Daniele Zarantonello, Sister María Victoria Acevedo, Carlos Cortés, Sandra Natalia Cuenca, Mateo Reyes.

When did these conversations take place last year?

December, 2023, September 2024.

What methods did you use to gather information from community members (such as community meetings, interviews, or focus groups)?

Community meetings, interviews.

TARGET POPULATION

Who will directly benefit from the project? Indicate the groups that will benefit (such as schools, hospitals, vocational training centers, cooperatives, or populations).

Community center: Children, youth, the elderly, and families.

Describe the process used to identify the beneficiaries.

Home visits – Fieldwork.

COMMUNITY STRENGTHS, NEEDS, PRIORITIES, AND PROJECT DESIGN

Describe what community members said was important to them during the assessment.

To be heard and accompanied, to create spaces where they can freely express themselves about the violence they endure, and to acquire the tools that allow them to undergo their processes of personal and community reconstruction, as well as academic training to have a real and updated understanding of the social context.

Strengthen the soy processing plant and "Weaving Community" programs with equipment and supplies to achieve self-sustainability, enabling broader beneficiary coverage and ensuring the continuation of the food handler contract.

Continuation of computer classes to optimize the use of computers and further develop the skills of young people attending the community center.

Continuation of sewing workshops and peace workshops.

Ensure the continuation of the social worker's contract and hire an additional social worker.

Strengthen the community garden network "Sowing Environmental Awareness."

Strengthen sports activities.

Implement literacy classes for adults and young people who cannot read or write.

Continue providing daily academic support to children and young people.

Describe the strengths and resources of the community.

They have a three-story building constructed by the Rotary Club of Bogotá Laureles, where programs are run with the support of the Rotary Club of Bogotá Laureles and a group of volunteers.

Programs include: Batucada (Music), Afro Seedling Program, Community Garden Network, "Weaving Community" (Food Bank), handicrafts workshops, two soccer schools, the Peace Observatory, and a Soy Processing Plant (Nutrition Program Based on Soy), with computers and a library.

All these activities are already ongoing. They require reinforcement to continue; for them, this is part of PEACEBUILDING.

Describe the challenges and shortcomings in the community's behaviors, skills, and knowledge.

Challenges: "Save lives.", "Taking back the streets" through recreational, artistic, ecological, spiritual, and sports activities, to breathe new life into the community and change their perception of the area.

Skills: Throughout the process, they have learned how to work with and engage the population, especially Afro and migrant groups, and how to earn the respect and trust of the various social actors surrounding the community center with whom they have made efforts to collaborate.

Behavioral deficiencies: The area has significant security issues due to the presence of criminal gangs and child abductions, generating fear in the community.

Community knowledge: In informal jobs, cleaning tasks, cooking, street vending, recycling, and construction work.

What problems will the project address, and how is the community currently addressing these problems?

Many projects have been developed over the years in Altos de Cazucá, Soacha, where the Oasis neighborhood and the community center are located, but they have not had a real impact or brought about social transformation. The community has remained somewhat stagnant and disconnected from community and social processes.

It is a very resilient community that responds to challenges and engages with activities developed at the community center despite the challenging context and the violence they face daily.

Provide specific details about the project design and how it will address these issues.

- **Academic training and peace workshops: Accompaniment and listening process for families and communities – Contract with the Emaús Foundation.**
- **Soy program and "Weaving Community" – Self-sustainability: Implementing the commercialization of soy-based products.**
- **Develop youth skills in computer systems – System classes through a contract with a qualified teacher.**
- **Social work: Hire two social workers for field research and home visits.**
- **"Sowing Environmental Awareness" – Community Garden network, purchase seedlings, planters, and supplies.**
- **Soccer schools: Purchase sports equipment and provide awards.**
- **Adult and Youth Literacy: Hire a qualified teacher, literacy materials.**
- **Academic support: School supplies (notebooks, crayons, pencils, etc.), teaching aids.**

Describe the long-term plan for the project (such as supervision, financial responsibilities, and expected behavioral change) after Rotary's involvement ends.

The project will last 3 years.

The Rotary Club of Bogotá Laureles will continuously supervise the project through monitoring visits and reports.

After Rotary's participation ends, the financial responsibilities will be assumed through the resources generated from food security programs, clothing sales, and participation in musical presentations, with the support of the Rotary Club of Bogotá Laureles, thus ensuring the project's long-term sustainability.

The expected behavior change is community ownership, participation, and a sense of belonging in each of the project's programs, with beneficiaries becoming replicators of the processes, generating their own resources, and acquiring tools to resolve conflicts nonviolently.

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (FOR ALL PROJECTS IN THE WATER, SANITATION, AND HYGIENE FIELD)

What are currently the biggest environmental threats to local soil, air, water resources, and the ecosystem?

The local wetland is polluted and encroached upon. Garbage collection is inadequate, deteriorated roads and inadequate drainage.

Indicate the cultural practices relevant to the project (such as agricultural techniques or traditions).

Family and community gardens, Afro dance, religious celebrations.

What positive and negative environmental changes do you expect to result from the project?

Positive: Raising awareness about proper recycling practices.

Negative: Failure to achieve the environmental objectives proposed in the project.