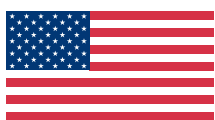


Results of information collection

# LA CARPIO, COSTA RICA



SOMOS  
COLMENA  
by IOMX



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## Results of information collection in La Carpio, Costa Rica.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Costa Rica, through the Regional Program on Migration Mesoamerica - The Caribbean, is currently implementing communication strategies in various communities in the region, under the paradigm of Communication for Development (C4D).

This approach is characterized by an important research component that allows to know the target population and its context, and with that basis conduct all planning, execution and evaluation of different activities and products of communication for social change.

Another key principle of C4D is the participation of the community and its main actors in each moment of the strategy. The first C4D strategy that IOM, in alliance with the Directorate of Migration and Aliens

(DGME), will implement in Costa Rica will be in the community of La Carpio. After a preliminary investigation of the context and the information needs of the community, it was defined that the main objective would be to make available to the migrant population accessible and knowledgeable information on alternatives for migratory regularization by the means of ties to Costa Ricans.

Through the support of key community leaders, the first step was the information collection about knowledge, attitudes and practices of the target audience, and the creation of a baseline, of which the main findings are portrayed below.

### METHODOLOGY



#### Target audience

Migrants in irregular condition, with underage children born in Costa Rica



#### Coverage

La Carpio, San José



#### Collection method

Door to door survey/semi structured interviews by phone



#### Collection period

March 6 to April 15, 2020



#### Sample size

133 people surveyed/ 5 semi structured interviews

## DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

### Country of origin

**99,5%** Nicaragua

**0,5%** El Salvador

### Time lived in Costa Rica

**67%** 11 or more years

**22%** 6-10 years

**10%** 1-5 years

**1%** 6-11 months

### Time lived at La Carpio

**59%** 11 or more years

**21%** 6-10 years

**18%** 1-5 years

**1%** 6-11 months

### Occupation

**64,7** Homemaker

**24,8%** works outside of the home

**7,5%** unemployed,  
looking for jobs

**2,3%** studies and works

**0,8%** studies<sup>1</sup>

### Field of work

**41,7%** Construction

**22,2%** Other

**19,4%** Paid domestic work

**13,9%** Street sales

**2,8%** Security services

### Marital status

**49,6%** Common-law relationship

**27,8%** Single

**22,6%** Married

<sup>1</sup> These data were collected before the contingency measures imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The crisis has had a severe impact on unemployment numbers, specially in the informal sector.

### Level of education

**38%** Incomplete primary

**25%** Complete primary

**18%** Incomplete secondary

**10%** Complete secondary

**8%** Never attended school

**1%** Incomplete university

**12%** Can read and write to some degree

**6%** Cannot read or write

## KNOWLEDGE, ATTITUDES AND PRACTICES

### ABOUT MIGRATION REGULARIZATION

#### KNOWLEDGE

- **90%** said they don't know the specific benefits of migration regularization
- Among those who do know some of the benefits, the most commonly mentioned were formal employment (**76%**) and social security (**62%**)
- **68%** said they don't know the requirements for regularization through the means of ties to Costa Rican
- **65%** have not received any kind of information about regularization through the means of ties to Costa Rican
- Only **13%** have received information about regularization proceedings from an institution

#### ATTITUDES

- **98%** believe it is worth the effort of gathering the paperwork needed for regularization
- **92%** believe the economic cost of regularization is worth it
- **83%** believe it is too risky to go to their country of origin to get required documents and not being allowed back in
- **94%** believe they could have access to a better quality of life if they regularized their migration statuses

#### PRACTICES

- **78%** have spoken to people in their midst about the difficulties they face when trying to regularize
- **77%** understand that regularization brings benefits
- **55%** don't understand all the requirements needed for the regularization proceedings

#### ADDITIONAL FINDINGS

- People with complete and incomplete primary education have more positive attitudes towards regularization.
- Positive attitudes towards regularization are reduced among those who have tried it more than two times.
- The skills in relation to regularization proceedings are lower in less-educated populations.

## Media



### MORE USED MEDIA

- 82% Television
- 62.4% Social media platform
- 39.8% Internet
- 24.8% Radio



### MOST USED SOCIAL MEDIA

- 57% WhatsApp
- 50% Facebook
- 14.3% YouTube



### FAVORITE CONTENT ON SOCIAL MEDIA

- 56% Photographs
- 50% Videos
- 26% Memes
- 20% Stories or status updates



### FAVORITE, IN-PERSON MEDIA

- 44.4% Church events
- 40% Flyers
- 30% Door-to-door visits
- 28% Mobile megaphone advertising
- 27% Festival



## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS ---

1. Build messages focused at informing the steps to regularization by means of ties to Costa Rican, due to at least 65,4% of interviewees mentioning they have never received information on the process, and 67,7% don't know the basic requirements.
2. Bolster visibility and rights defense of labor migrants in the frame of the pandemic, which is currently under progress by organizations with relevance in La Carpio.
3. Most interviewees show positive attitudes towards making the necessary paperwork to regularize their migration status. We recommend strengthening their skills and knowledge to get the necessary documents, based on the updated protocols for the document requests caused by the context of the pandemic and the resulting border closures.
4. Consider the low literacy of the target audience when building messages, especially those addressed at strengthening necessary skills to successfully regularize.
5. We recommend taking into account the national and community environment surrounding La Carpio inhabitants, because violence, poverty and xenophobia are elements that hinder their access to information, their approach to institutions and the development of a communication campaign.
6. Search and communicate specific regularization alternatives for those who at some point held regular status and right now hold expired documentation.