







RESULTS OF INFORMATION COLLECTION SAN SALVADOR, EL SALVADOR

The opinions expressed in the report are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The designations employed and the presentation of material throughout the report do not imply expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM concerning legal status of any country, territory, city or area, or of its authorities, or concerning its frontiers or boundaries.

IOM is committed to the principle that humane and orderly migration benefits migrants and society. As an inter-governmental organization, IOM acts with its partners in the international community to assist in the meeting of operational challenges of migration; advance understanding of migration issues; encourage social and economic development through migration; and uphold the human dignity and well-being of migrants.

This publication has not been officially edited by IOM.

Published by:

International Organization for Migration (IOM) Regional Office for Central America, North America and the Caribbean San José, Costa Rica Tel.: + (506) 2212-5300 Email: rosanjose@iom.int Website: www.rosanjose.iom.int

© 2020 International Organization for Migration (IOM)

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording, or otherwise without the prior written permission of the publisher.

This publication was made possible through the support provided by the United States Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration under the framework of the Regional Program on Migration, Mesoamerica-The Caribbean. The views expressed do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Government of the United States.



Results of the information collection in San Salvador, El Salvador

IOM implements the Regional Program on Migration (known to many as Mesoamerica Program) with financing of the US Department of State Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, with the goal of promoting good management of regular migration and reduce vulnerabilities of migrants, associated, among others, to trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling.

From this Program, IOM proposes to strengthen efforts to inform and promote regular migration, through the methodology of Communication for Development (C4D). This methodology is proposed as an innovative way of planning, executing and evacuating communication activities, with the goal of changing behaviors and contributing to the social development of communities.

The C4D methodology is currently being implemented in the municipality of San Salvador. To this end, we have conducted baseline research, to understand the knowledge, attitudes and practices concerning migration and local opportunities. The information collected will guide us in the implementation of the process.

METHODOLOGY

288	Target audience	People aged 15 to 25 years old, who have planned to migrate within the next twelve months. 46,6% men and 53.4% women.	
Ø	Coverage ¹	• Treatment area San Salvador, 451 people	• Control Area Santa Ana, 408 people
	Survey method	Information was collected by local volunteers who were trained in the way to administer the questionnaire and do the sampling. Interviewees were selected through a combination of randomized sampling in schools and public places.	
	Periodo de recolección de datos	8th 15th February, 2020	
	Sample size	859 people	
	Collection method	face to face interview assisted by a tablet	

¹ The treatment area comprises the main community where we intend to work, while the control area is a baseline for comparison at the time of evaluating results. In this community we are not to work directly, as it would alter the measuring of results.

DEMOGRAPHIC INFORMATION

Ages	
67,2%	15 to 19
32,8%	20 to 25

Marital status

95,5% Single

Occupation

81%	Studies
14,2	<mark>%</mark> Studies and works
3,6%	Works
0,7%	Doesn't study, nor work

0,5% Unemployed or looking for jobs

Education level

47,3%	6 Finished third cycle
29% F	inished high school
18,6%	Finished second cycle
1,6%	Finished technical or vocational education
1,5%	Have completed some university level studies

1,2% Completed university

Work area *based on the 153 who say they are working	
34,0% Shops	
13,7% store clerk (customer service)	

11,8% Manufacture and industry

8,5% Professional jobs

Working hours	
39,9 %	Part time
35 30/	

35,3% Full time

13,7% Self-employed

9,2% Hired on a temporary/hourly basis

Income

16,8% Can save

42,4% Their earnings are just enough

31,3% Face difficulties

9,4% Face severe difficulties

Do you get remittances?

50,5% Yes

49,5% No

MIGRATION PROFILE

Have you planned on migrating?

68.8% Has planned to migrate

31.2% Has thought about it, but has not planned for it yet

How do you expect to migrate?

19.2% Getting a work permit

11.9% With help from a

3% Claiming for asylum in

2.7% Through a recruiter who

60.7% Getting a visa

smuggler

Mexico/US

offered me a job

1.3% With a caravan **1.2%** Still don't know

Where have you thought of migrating to?

55% The United States	1% Honduras
18.6% The Dominican Republic	0.2% Belize
8.5% Canada	0.2% Nicaragua
7.6% Mexico	0.7% Does not know
2.7% Costa Rica	19.5% Others

1.9% Panama

Why do you wish to migrate?	
32,7%	To find a job and earn money
22,7%	To improve my quality of life
18,7%	To look for education opportunities
13,9 %	To look for job opportunities
5,2%	Because of violence and delinquency

In what field would you like to be employed abroad?

- 29.3% Of people mentioned some professional field
- 28.8% Restaurants, bars or tourism
 - **19%** Any job available
 - 8.9% Construction

Most people know someone in their intended place of destination



Say they know a friend 15.3%

How long do you expect to remain abroad?

On average, 4 years **10 years** at most

> What would migrating cost you?

USD 3,669.00

How would you pay for your migration?

54.8% Savings **29.9%** Borrowing from family or friends

- **10.1%** Loan from a bank
- 8.7% Selling belongings
- 8.0% Remittances
- 4.3% Loan from a lender
- **0.9%** Loan from a recruiter
- **1.7%** Other

Which risks are you most concerned about?

- **81.8%** Suffering abuse or sexual violence
- **81.1%** That something might happen to a family member
- 80.1% Being kidnapped
 - **78%** Being a victim of trafficking in persons

Which risks are you less concerned about?

- 56.8% Not finding a job abroad
- 56.6% Being arrested and deported
- 56.9% Having health complications

KNOWLEDGE

- 69,3% Know that migrating to the US has become more difficult in the last year.
- 18.3% Of people don't know that to enter the US they need a passport and a visa or work permit provided by that country.
- 82,3% Mention that migrating with a smuggler entails high danger for their lives.
- 21,6% identify local training and study support programs as alternatives to migrating .
- 72.9% know of some country where migrants can find work and education opportunities.

ATTITUDES

- 73,7% Are willing to do the paperwork necessary to migrate regularly.
- 46.1% Consider that it is best to gather the documentation to migrate regularly than to leave with a smuggler.
- 38.7% Consider that it is easy to enter the US with a good smuggler.
- 75.3% Would like to find job opportunities in their country.
- 44% Consider that if they stay in their country, they won't study beyond high school.

PRACTICES

- 33.8% Understand fully the legal requirements to move to another country.
- 83,1% Understand how to look information about migrating regularly.
- 48.1% Don't understand how the process works for applying to a scholarship.
- 28.1% Don't understand how to build a resumé and apply for a job.
- 80,7 % Of interviewees considered that, if a person their age gets a job offer for the US, but they don't feel comfortable, they shouldn't accept it.



KEY TAKEOUTS

73,2% of interviewees are willing to make the paperwork needed to migrate regularly. Plus, **70,4%** completely agree that one of the main reasons to migrate regularly is safety. Furthermore, **46,1%** believe it is better to gather documentation to migrate regularly, rather than leave with the aid of a smuggler.

79,7% of the people interviewed say they would not accept if a stranger offered them a job in the US, for which they didn't need papers but paid well. That means that when presented with a simple scenario, most of them can identify risk factors. However, when contrasted with the people who say they are willing to take any job (**19%**), it is likely that, considering other vulnerability factors, the risk of accepting the job could be considered lower in comparison with possible benefits.

79,5% of the people mentioned that they have, at some point, discussed with family or community members the difficulties going to live abroad could present. **37,1%** mentioned that their partner, family or friends would approve of them moving to another country.

44% of those interviewed say that if they remain in the country, they won't be able to study beyond high school. However, **75,3%** of them manifest they wish to find education opportunities in their country.

51,6% are willing to participate in the organization of activities for young people in their municipality.

Media



MORE COMMONLY USED MEDIA

- 70.3% Social media
- 31.4% Television
- 7.1% Newspapers



MOST USED SOCIAL MEDIA

- 88,6% WhatsApp
- 82% Facebook
- 54.7% YouTube
- 52.7% Instagram
- 15.7% Snapchat
- 10.5% Twitter
- 5.9% TikTok

93% Use WhatsApp as texting medium



PREFERRED CONTENT IN SOCIAL MEDIA

- 58% Videos
- 54.2% Memes
- 46.9% Photography
- 31.4% Stories
- 25.3% Drawings and comics



PREFERRED IN-PERSON ACTIVITIES

- 57.5% Music events
- 45.2% Sporting events
- 23.7% Sporting events
- 23.2% Dramatic arts
- 23.1% Murals and graffiti
- 17% Information stands
- 15.7% Flyers
- 5.7% Bus stops and billboards
- 4.3% Mobile megaphones