

SOCIAL PARTICIPATION IN GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS IN THREE MIXTEC COMMUNITIES IN OAXACA, MEXICO

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ABSTRACT

Programs that provide incentives in the form of resources contribute in an essential way to improving quality of life; however, the amount assigned for the development of peoples and communities is not precisely known. Our intention was to evaluate social participation in government programs that operate in three rural Mixtec communities in Oaxaca. The methodologies applied include the evaluation of rural development programs and assessment of rural participation. Research techniques consisted of semi-structured interviews, field trips and direct dialogue. Information was compiled from a sample of 60 beneficiaries of different programs. Spearman correlation and independence tests were applied to the data obtained. In the three communities, there is evident 100% participation in the following programs: Pensión para Adultos Mayores (Pension for Older Adults), Becas Jóvenes Escribiendo el Futuro (Scholarships for Young people Writing the Future) and Pensión para Personas Discapacitadas (Pension for Disabled People), with an average participation time of 9.2 years in follow-up programs and 3.5 in newly created programs. There is a correlation ($r=0.55$; $p<0.0001$) between age and number of years participating in social programs. It was apparent that factors such as mistrust and lack of correct documentation limit people's participation. We conclude that social programs are essential for peasant families in rural areas, due to lack of opportunities.

Keywords: beneficiaries, social welfare, evaluation, income, resources.

INTRODUCTION

In Mexico, social policy has its origin and foundation in the Constitution of 1917, where it was recognized that social policies could have a positive impact on improving people's quality of life and to achieve this, economic policies designed to strive for development were implemented throughout the country (Velásquez-Luna, 2012). However, due to the international financial crisis and the restructuring of the state, along with the economic model adopted by the country, well-being levels declined, elevating the number of people in poverty. Thus, Social Programs (SPs) represented a way of counteracting poverty. Consequently, programs were implemented with the aim of combating and reducing the number of people suffering from social deprivation (García-Sandoval *et al.*, 2020). Due to the above, various government ministries took on the task of establishing strategies to generate economic and social development in the country's rural communities through agencies and SPs (Poot-Che *et al.*, 2019). During the period between 1917 and 1980,

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a social policy regime dependent on the economic system was instigated that assigned benefits for labor activities and gave a direction to corporatism, focused on the legitimacy of a political regime that presented itself in three stages.

The first begins with General Lázaro Cárdenas del Río (1934-1940), when the Government tried to initiate a paradigm that would lead to social development in Mexico, thus laying the foundations for social policy during the post-revolutionary regimes. An investment of 18.6% of the federal budget was directed towards social spending, which was centralized to promote the organization of the working class in order to provide social goods and services. This stage ended with the six-year term of Adolfo López Mateos (1959-1964), where an average of 16.3% of the federal budget was invested in social development (Martínez-Espinoza, 2020).

The second occurred with Miguel de la Madrid (1982-1988), where transformations in political management took place, aiming towards decentralization, reorientation of economic growth and privatization of public companies. This administration only assigned 11.6% of federal funding to social expenditure, during this period (López-Salazar, 2014).

The third period began in the 1980s and was known as development, comprising a progression from poverty, comprising a proposal for sustainable development that reinvigorated democracy because of its link to progress and because it was perceived as crucial for achieving growth and as a boost to human development; from 1990 to 2005, other concepts that aid development were incorporated, such as freedom, participatory development, human development and development potential (Valverde-Viesca, 2015). By 2006, when Felipe Calderón Hinojosa was president of the republic (2006-2012), strategies for social development known as “Vivir mejor” (Living better) were established, an approach whose strategies included the universalization of access to public health services, linking economic policy with social policies in order to expand job and income opportunities in homes and increasing access to education at high school level and beyond (Ordóñez-Barba, 2002). The social programs that were promoted were Oportunidades (Opportunities), Seguro Popular (Health insurance) and 70 y Más (Over 70's), which were even considered priorities, implying high levels of public social spending.

For the period 2013-2019, when Enrique Peña Nieto was president, programs such as the Cruzada Nacional Contra el Hambre (National Crusade against Hunger), Prospera (Prosper) and Seguro de Vida (Life Insurance) for Heads of Families were prioritized; these programs implied a strategy, based on the coordination of programs or activities between different instances and levels of government to make conditions of extreme poverty and severe nutrition problems among the Mexican population a priority. Currently, the Política Social del Plan Nacional de Desarrollo (PND) (Social Policy for National Development), 2019-2024 provides the framework in which the Welfare Ministry instigates its activities; the programs provide a basis for the strategies that were adopted to contribute to the well-being of the population, in compliance with the objectives of the PND concerning social issues (Morales-Cisneros, 2022).

The programs instigated by the current administration are Producción para el Bienestar (Production for Well-being), formerly PROCAMPO; Pensión para el Bienestar de Adultos Mayores (Pension for the Welfare of Older Adults), formerly 65 y Más (Over 65s); Programa Prospera (Prosper Program) changed to the Coordinación Nacional de Becas para el Bienestar Benito Juárez (National Coordination of Scholarships for Benito Juárez Welfare) and the Compañía Nacional de Subsistencias Populares (National Popular Subsistence Company), CONASUPO program, currently Diconsa stores and the social assistance programs, newly created by the current government include: Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro (Young People Constructing the Future), Sembrando Vida (Sowing Life), Apoyo para el Bienestar de las Niñas y Niños (Support for the Well-being of Girls and Boys), Hijos de Madres Trabajadoras (Children of Working Mothers), Crédito Ganadero a la Palabra (Credit for Livestock by your Word of Honor) and the Programa Tandas para el Bienestar (Tandas for Well-being Program) all operated by the Welfare Ministry. This research aimed to evaluate the social participation of people in different government programs in the micro-region of Teposcolula, Oaxaca.

THEORETICAL DISCUSSION

Access to social services (education, health, etc.) is managed as part of social policy, as this represents the redistribution of monetary resources, designed to counteract poverty. Even though social policy should represent the strategy seeking to mitigate conflicts caused by social inequality by directing public spending, this no longer represents a real priority on the national agenda, because the effectiveness of social policy depends on the success of economic policy (Torres and Rojas-Martínez, 2015). Cogco-Calderón *et al.* (2010) indicate that consequently, attention to poverty has now been prioritized, implying a process of partial decentralization, where the central government designs, executes and finances the overall operation of programs; however it only transfers partial responsibility to some local actors, who have little or no relevance. This means that local development is currently lacking in rural areas of the country and in this state, so communities can be classified as highly marginalized (Delfín-Ruiz *et al.*, 2020). Abeyá-Gilardon (2016) opines that poverty should be considered one of the biggest problems worldwide and that countries and states should become aware of this and increasingly reflect on the responsibility they have for their population. Given this, SPs have offered an alternative to counteract poverty in these areas, which is why it is of utmost importance to evaluate the effect of SPs on local development, as a result of society's participation. These evaluations make it possible to assess whether participation strengthens the capacity for collective action, whether people participate for the same reasons and whether growth and changes are generated both at a personal and communal level (González-Pérez and García-Díaz, 2021).

Currently, the different SPs and strategic projects represent a viable alternative for contributing to the development of communities, by seeking direct impact on local development, while contributing to economic well-being, environment, cultural

development, educational level, eradication of social deficiencies, productivity, labor attributes, science and technology, health aspects, etc.; all aiming towards rural development (Valdenegro and Calderón-Flández, 2016; Del Cioppo-Morstadt and Bello-Vélez, 2018). Cardona-Arias (2020) report that in recent years the most outstanding social impacts of SPs have been generated in educational and physical health contexts, which are related to human capital, effective labor participation and the reduction of poverty. For their part, Rodríguez-Gómez and Patrón-Sánchez (2017) indicate that well-being indicators have shown notable progress in the most advanced social policies, such as affiliation to health systems, improvement in the population's educational levels, as well as better housing conditions and service infrastructure.

In this sense, it is important to assess whether the resources allocated to communities by SPs have an impact on development; it is thus necessary to assess the local development process by social analysis, and the technical and administrative factors, as indicators of success or failure of interventions by the various SPs; while also considering whether the activities carried out strengthen regional development (Pérez-Esparcia *et al.*, 2016; Astete-Cereceda and Vaccari-Jiménez, 2017; Osorio and Rodríguez, 2018). Lagunas-Vázquez *et al.* (2008) indicate that it is necessary to evaluate social participation in order to assess whether social actors perceive and identify problems in their communities, while also establishing solutions that lead to development in their region.

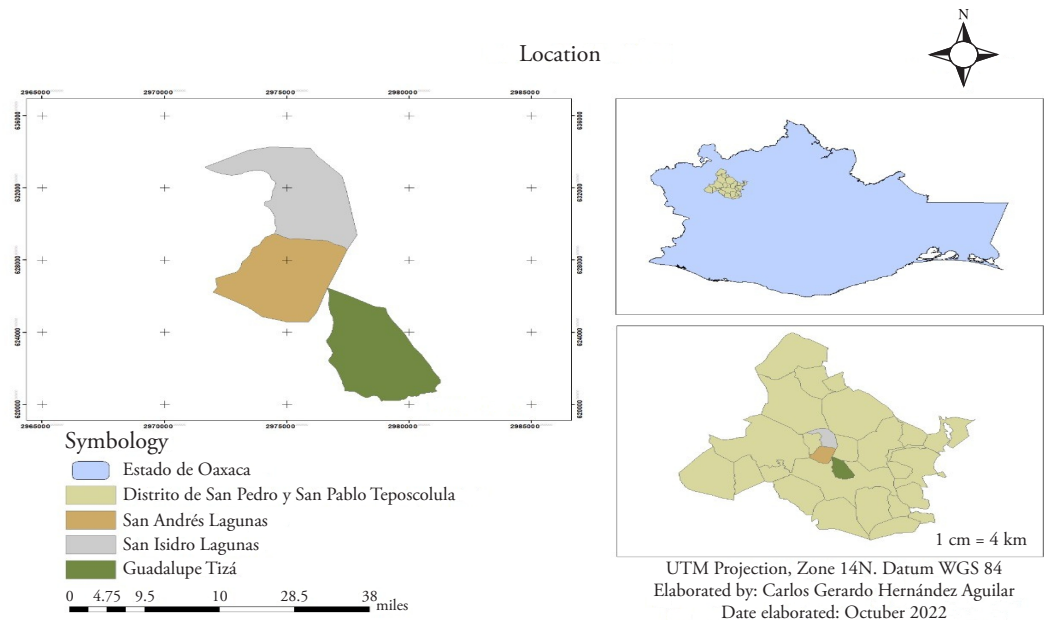
Iglesias-Pérez and Jiménez-Guethón (2017) opine that it is extremely important to know how participation affects local development to discern whether this is being generated jointly or individually; and whether people's background and experience influence the generation of actions and proposals that lead to development. This means it is necessary to know if it is important to generate local development or whether this depends on the participation of endogenous and exogenous agents such as: municipal authorities, local organizations, government institutions, churches, unions, educational institutions, health centers, producers, associations and the community in general (Quispe-Fernández *et al.*, 2018).

METHODOLOGY

Study and sample area

This research was carried out in San Andrés Lagunas, San Isidro Lagunas and Guadalupe Tizá; localities pertaining to the Teposcolula microregion, Mixtec Region, San Pedro and San Pablo Teposcolula Districts, Oaxaca. The three communities suffer from a high degree of marginalization and their populations participate in the various SPs within their territory. The area is located between the geographical coordinates 17° 31' 1" N and 97° 28' 59" W, at 2,180 meters above sea level (Figure 1).

Of the population 2.6% speak the indigenous languages; Mixtec, Zapotec or Mazateco. They maintain their cultural roots and continue to celebrate dances and patron saint festivals. San Andrés has 214 inhabitants, San Isidro 232 and Tizá 72. Instituto Nacional para el Federalismo y el Desarrollo Municipal (National Institute for Federal and Municipal Development) INAFED, 2022; ECONOMÍA, 2022).



Source. Own elaboration.

Figure 1. Study area location.

We followed a combined research approach, as this aids social research. For Chavez-Montero (2018), enriching the breadth and depth of research, in terms of points of view, sense of comprehension, diversity and interpretative richness, is important. Our approach is both exploratory and descriptive, illuminating little-studied phenomena and describing the behavior of social groups, through direct observation, directed fieldwork, non-experimental design and statistical sampling

Two methodologies were used; the first to help evaluate rural development programs by Santoyo-Cortés *et al.* (2000). The evaluation cycle consists of six steps: 1. Program description and context. 2. Identification of appropriate type of evaluation. 3. Analysis of feasibility for carrying out evaluation. 4. Establishment of relevant questions and indicators. 5. Data collection. 6. Analysis of results.

The second methodology comprised a participatory rural diagnosis (PRD) by Expósito-Verdejo (2003); consisting of seven steps: 1. Defining the objective of the diagnosis. 2. Selection of the facilitating team. 3. Identification of potential participants. 4. Identification of participants' expectations. 5. Discussion of information needs. 6. Selection of research tools. 7. Design of diagnostic process.

Research techniques, such as interviews, field trips, direct observation and dialogue with key actors were used to generate information. The information was coded in a database using the Office Excel program, to be later structured into six sections, considering; general data of the interviewee, social impact of social programs, environmental impact, economic impact, social participation and social organization.

Sample size was obtained using the stratified random sampling method, with a distribution proportional to the size of each community; the sampling units were characterized by being beneficiaries of the different social programs of the Ministry of Welfare that currently operates in these communities. The formula used to determine the sample size was as follows:

$$n = \frac{N \sum_{i=1}^K N_i S_i^2}{N^2 V + \sum_{i=1}^k N_i S_i^2}$$

where N : Population size; N_i : Stratum population size; S_i^2 : Stratum variability.

With $V = \frac{d^2}{Z_{\alpha/2}^2}$

Results generated by the equation manifested a precision of 10% of the mean and a reliability of 95%. The sample size for San Andrés was $n_1=25$; San Isidro, $n_2=28$ and Tizá, $n_3=7$; reaching a total of 60. The information generated was analyzed using the free version of the IBM SPSS® program; non-parametric statistics were used, applying *Spearman's* correlation analysis, Chi-Square independence tests (χ^2), and descriptive statistics.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

To characterize the unidades de producción familiar (family production units) UPF, the variables for age, education, speakers of an indigenous language and the number of members in the UPF were determined (Table 1). Reyna-Ramirez *et al.* (2020) consider that these are important for understanding the family dynamics of people in rural areas. Ávila-Quiroz *et al.* (2019) report that Mixtec communities are mostly inhabited by adults. Lorenzen (2021) found that in the Mixteca, people have an average age ranging from 40-65 years, because the young population migrates in search of jobs and to improve their families' quality of life. Average education level is low, compared to the 9.7 years reported by the Instituto Nacional de Estadística, Geografía e Informática (National Institute of Statistics, Geography and Informatics), INEGI (2020a) for the state of Oaxaca; but it is higher than that reported by Nabarrete and Jijón-Cruz (2018), who report an average level of 4.4 years for the same locations. Evidently, the average level of studies is negatively associated with age ($r=-0.40$: $p<0.002$) similar to the correlation between age and

Table 1. UPF characteristics by location.

Location	Age \bar{x}	Education \bar{x}	Speakers %	Language	Members of UPF \bar{x}
San Andrés	57.9	4.5	4.1	Náhuatl	3
San Isidro	47.8	6	4.1	Náhuatl	4
Tizá	72.7	5.2	50	Mixtec	2

Source: own elaboration from field work, 2022.

educational level of ($r=-0.45$) found by Cadenas *et al.* (2014); therefore, the older you are, the lower the level of education.

Apparently, there are still native people who speak their mother tongue. The languages spoken are Nahuatl and Mixtec. In this regard, Katz (2017) mentions that the word 'Mixtec' comes from the Nahuatl word Mixtecapan, meaning "place of the people of the clouds"; and Galán-Cuevas *et al.* (2019) found that the younger the person, the less likely they are to speak a native language. Locality is closely related to the language they speak ($\chi^2=16.415$; $p<0.0001$); in this sense, speaking a native language depends greatly on place of origin. Canuto-Castillo (2017) found that speaking a language depends on the cultural background of a person and their biological condition (indigenous), in terms of parents and grandparents.

Regarding how many are members of the UPF, Abad-Salgado (2016) indicate that the number of members depends on the income that the heads of the family have to support basic needs; it appears that the average is similar to that of the state of Chiapas, at 4.1 (INEGI, 2020b); whereas in Tizá this only consists of two; lower than that found by Hernández-Ruíz *et al.* (2018); who found that in the Sierra Norte of Oaxaca, the average is six members. The number of members of the UPF is negatively associated with the age of the interviewees ($r=-0.37$; $p<0.004$). Martínez-Chairez *et al.* (2020) mention that age is a factor that can benefit or prejudice the progress of families; so the younger the family heads are, the lower the number of members in their UPF, similar to that found by Marín-Iral *et al.* (2019), who argue that family heads play too important a role in controlling UPF.

The UPF of each locality reports on average two members of a household participating in some social program within the community. Age is highly related to the number of years that people have participated in SPs ($r=0.55$; $p<0.001$), because older people have been receiving monetary support for longer than younger people. Arrollo-Rueda (2015) mention that since 2003, when the Instituto de Protección a Personas Adultas Mayores (Institute for the Protection of Older Adults), INAPAM was created, a number of SPs have evolved to care for older adults.

The principal SPs in which people from communities in the region participate are six: Sembrando Vida (SV), Pensión para Adultos Mayores (PPAM), Becas Benito Juárez (PBJ), Jóvenes Escribiendo el Futuro (BJEF), Becas Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro (JCF) y Pensión para el Bienestar de Personas con Discapacidad (PPD) (Table 2).

The "Sembrando Vida" program seeks to ensure that rural communities unite in their potential for becoming sustainable. Its objective is to assist the social well-being of agrarian individuals in their localities to promote their effective participation in local rural development. It is aimed at individuals who farm and own a land area of at least 2.5 hectares. In San Andrés, 24% of the population participates, in San Isidro 21.9% and in Tizá 13.5%; this local participation is important to guarantee care and conservation of the environment (Lozano-Gómez and Barbarán-Mozo, 2021). This percentage is lower than that reported by Rasgado-Bonilla and Renard-Hubert (2022), who found that in communities in Chiapas, there is a community participation exceeding 50%.

Table 2. Percentage participation according to SPs.

Location	Participation in each program (%)					
	SV	PPAM	PBBJ	BJEF	JCF	PPD
San Andrés	24	100	100	0	0	100
San Isidro	21.9	100	88.9	100	14.2	100
Tizá	13.5	78.9	100	0	0	100

Source: own elaboration from field work, 2022.

The main activities carried out in the study communities include the preparation of different organic fertilizers, fungicides and insecticides for organic agriculture, production, planting of fruit and timber trees, etc.; generally focused on the management of agroforestry systems and agricultural activities, important for food production and the conservation of habitat for flora and fauna (Aguirre-Becerra *et al.*, 2017). 100% of participants consider that the establishment of agroforestry systems contributes to the conservation of the environment and that in the future, the sale of products will generate income. For Sandoval-García *et al.* (2021), this program contributes to increasing soil cover and controlling erosion.

The support that participants receive is \$5,000 per month, of which they must save \$500 for the purchase of tools and supplies for production; the rest is used to purchase food and medicine.

Participants became integrated in 2019, as this program was implemented by the current government. Cano-Castellanos (2022) report that farmers in Chiapas began participating in this program in 2018, as in this state the pilot scheme was initiated. Apparently, the main limitation in the study communities is not having the land area requested by the standard. A positive outcome related to this program has been that 34.5 ha have been sown with native species in San Andrés, in San Isidro 25.5 and in Tiza 13.5 ha, fulfilling the objectives established by the program and contributing to farmers being able to produce food for self-consumption, covering nutritional requirements and producing surpluses that generate income. Cortez-Egremy *et al.* (2022) comment that this is helping to generate jobs, encourage food self-sufficiency, improve the income of residents and regenerate forest cover; comprising 1,075,000 hectares throughout the country, as this is one of the programs that that contributes positively to rural communities.

The Pensión para Adultos Mayores aims to support elderly adults, over 65 years of age and of Mexican nationality, who live in urban and rural areas nationwide. Calderón-Chipana *et al.* (2022) indicate that worldwide, aging involves deterioration, which affects peoples' physical and mental capacity. The aim here is to guarantee that elderly people are ensured minimum income support for their social protection.

This helps improve socialization within the family and with people in their community (Giai, 2015). In San Andrés and San Isidro, 100% of the target population participates; in Tizá, 78% are enrolled in the program because some adults who lived outside the state,

mainly in the State of Mexico, have recently returned to live in the community, so their registration in the program is in process. Puello-Alcocer *et al.* (2017), mention that the participation of the elderly in a social program or project helps them maintain their health and social well-being. Moral-Jiménez (2017) and Huenchuan-Navarro (2004) report that in Spain more than 50% of the adult population receive monetary benefits through an SP. Rottenschweiler (2020) found that in Argentina, 52% of the population over 65 years of age participates in social assistance programs, aimed at adults. In each locality, there is a committee in charge of the administrative process.

The support granted by the program is \$2,550 every two months, destined mainly for the purchase of medicines, food and payment of services. 15% of the population report a lack of trust concerning the delivery of documentation because in previous governments these were requested; however many people were unable to enter the SP, even if they provided this documentation. Subsequently, they did not receive any response, creating doubt about affectivity and suspicions about the political influence of parties. For their part, Abranches-Monteiro *et al.* (2016) indicate that there are limitations related to planning and execution of social programs by the government, at all levels. In this SP, on average elderly people registered, have been participating for 13.9 years. Ronzón-Hernández and Jasso-Salas (2016) report that programs for adults have proved indispensable, due to the number of people in the Mexican population over 60 years of age. This program has generated improvements in peoples' quality of life as this is a region that suffers from high migration, elderly people generally live in the study communities, and the only income is the money granted by this program. Therefore, with the support granted they buy food, medicine and pay for household services, as outlined in the program's objectives. This program represents a continuation of a previous government initiative that has currently contributed to improving the quality of life of adults. Barrera-Roja *et al.* (2021) specify that it is important to note that this program has had positive impact; as the amount of support initiated, at double the amount assigned by the previous six-year period, meaning that older adults have greater resources to meet their families' needs.

The Benito Juárez Scholarship program focuses on promoting education among families, who have children studying in and institution in Mexican territory at basic educational level. The objective is to fortify the right to education and reduce the number of boys and girls who drop out of school and are in a vulnerable situation. This SP is aimed at young people who study at the initial, preschool and basic level. Álvarez-Cedillo *et al.* (2021) state that these activities are essential to strengthen and promote participatory culture and family participation; similar to that reported by Cano-González and Casado-González (2015), who found that these socialization practices help improve the orientation of children and parents. In San Andrés and Tizá, 100% of the target population participates, in San Isidro only 88.8% because first grade students are still undergoing the admission process. According to Rodríguez-Gómez and Patrón-Sánchez (2017) and Rodríguez-Ferretiz *et al.* (2017), the scholarships provided to the student population of all levels of study are fundamental for academic and professional achievement and that these

institutions form a fundamental part of this activity, in conjunction with endogenous and exogenous factors. According to the data provided by the educational establishments of the three communities, in the last 5 years, a total of 136 basic level children have been enrolled with a dropout rate of only 2.2%, due to families migrating to the state of Puebla. Hernández-Prados *et al.* (2017) indicate that school dropout is a phenomenon that relates to economic, social and personal factors. However, of the 100% of the students who received a scholarship in the last 5 years at the three locations, 94.8% of the students completed the basic level. These values are higher than those reported by Myers (1995) in two communities in the Mixteca Alta, where for the 6 primary years there was a graduation rate of 90 and 75%. The children who participate in the program are on average 4.5 years old and must enroll annually; however, this program represents one of those whose operation was modified, as only one scholarship was assigned per family, in contrast to the last government; as previously scholarships were assigned to all students, regardless of number per family.

The Becas Jóvenes Escribiendo el Futuro program supports university or technological education students. The aim is to fortify the right to education and human development so that they remain and successfully complete their bachelor's or higher technical studies through monthly financial support. It is aimed at all higher education students enrolled in Public Higher Education Institutions (IPES) throughout the country. Regarding participation, in San Andrés and Tizá, no one participates because these are communities with an adult and youth population, whereas the majority work outside the municipality or have migrated to another state of the Republic or to the United States, in search of better opportunities.

In most families the people are adults, so the children must take care of house maintenance, coupled with the lack of employment to generate income. Others live in the municipality, but are involved in agricultural work, domestic activities or are day laborers, due to the early age at which they started a family, meaning they had to leave school to cover family expenses. This is similar to that reported by Vries and Grijalva-Martínez (2021), where students in the Benito Juárez Autonomous University of Oaxaca dropped out due to pregnancy and now work in order to cover basic expenses.

Olozagaste *et al.* (2017) indicate that the young Mixtec population manifests great lack of interest in terms of entrepreneurship and education, which is why they migrate or dedicate themselves to other productive activities. Miranda-López (2018) found that dropout rate is closely related to geographical location, infrastructure, and the teachers in educational institutions. For its part, in San Isidro there is 100% participation due to the possibility of studying at the Escuela Normal Experimental of Teposcolula, which has a hostel and student kitchen, meaning there is no need to contribute towards housing and maintenance expenses. Carrasco-Cervantes *et al.* (2020) found that a large number of students decide to enter schools with hostels to reduce school, food, and transportation expenses. They are organized by their institutions and by the Servidores de Nación de la Secretaría de Bienestar (National personnel from the Welfare Ministry), who have

administrative control. In this SP, students receive an amount of \$2,000 per month. The three San Isidro students who participate in this SP have been participating for an average of 4 years. According to the data obtained from the students interviewed, this program has managed to reduce the level of desertion in San Isidro, as the amounts provided by the last government were modified, meaning that students have greater income for food, school supplies, rent and to pay for shoes; all included in the program's objectives.

The Becas Jóvenes Construyendo El Futuro (Young People Building the Future Scholarship program) was designed to support young people who neither study nor work, linking them with companies, workshops, institutions and businesses, where they can develop skills and work habits: with the aim of training young people for a job for a maximum period of one year, to later become self-employed or establish a personal trade. Miquel-Hernández (2022) indicate that this program was designed for the labor market and to reduce unemployment. Only the community of San Isidro participates in this program, reaching 14.2% of the target population.

In San Andrés and Tizá, there are no records of participation because in the two communities there was no record of work centers where young people could be trained. Leyton and Aguirre (2019), state that the participation of youth in these programs is of utmost importance, as they represent the main productive agents in rural areas. Miranda and Arancibia (2017) found that the participation of young people in these programs serves to create job opportunities and contribute to the social structure in their localities. The activities carried out in San Isidro are mainly agricultural, including the production of organic fertilizers, especially compost and bocashi, the propagation of fruit and timber tree seedlings and support for irrigating trees growing on plots of PSV beneficiaries. Sili *et al.* (2016) found that belonging to a producing family is a common factor among young people carrying out these agricultural activities. They receive \$5,000 grant per month. They are organized and distributed by the social and agricultural technicians of the PSV. 100% stated that there are very few vacancies in this program. This is similar to that found by Gamboa-Macías *et al.* (2017) in the state of Puebla, who concluded that these limitations reflect those experienced by the PS target population. Like the PSV, this program is newly created, so the young people who participate in San Isidro have been participating for 3 years; however in these communities, the established objectives are not being achieved because of unemployment and according to their participation during this year, they have not found employment and nor do they have the means to generate a family business. Muñoz-Chávez (2022) indicates that this program must better target the beneficiaries and there should be new tax incentives for work centers that participate, as well as adequate definition of training plans to enhance the link with the productive sector.

The Programa para Personas Discapacitadas (Program for Disabled People) supports people who suffer from physical and mental disabilities. The objective is to contribute to their well-being and improve the economy of families that include a person who suffers from a disability. It is directed towards people from one to 64 years of age. In San Andrés and San Isidro, there is no record of participation, as people who suffer from disabilities

are older adults who receive support from the PPAM. The records for Tizá, show 100% participation of disabled people; at ages of 51, 64 and 49. Pupiales and Andrade (2016) mention when people cannot work, the income generated by these programs helps provide them with a personal incentive. Palma-Arroyo *et al.* (2016) found that participation in the SP is essential for disabled people for them to develop capabilities and functions for their body and in the domestic context. Duque-Quintero *et al.* (2016) indicate that the government must prioritize attention to this population as due to their limited capacity, it is very difficult for them to find a job or become self-employed. In this SP you receive \$1,800 every two months. As in other programs such as PPAM, they are not required to carry out activities due to the physical and mental difficulties they suffer. In these three communities, time of participation is 3.5 years; the program has contributed positively and achieved the established objectives, because as a result of the grants, heads of families indicate that they have been able to purchase medicine, footwear, clothing, and cleaning supplies; accomplishments that signify greater access to basic necessities, in terms of support for disabled and low-income people. Zimbrón-Pérez and Ojeda-López (2022) indicate that this program indicated a decrease in budget and participation during the period 2013-2018 in the Mexican southeast. However, it is currently one of the programs receiving greater support and new participants have enrolled in the study communities.

Degree of satisfaction of the UPF for participating in the PS

Based on the analysis of Chi-square independence tests, a relationship and dependence was found between different variables associated with the degree of satisfaction of the inhabitants participating in the SP by locality and the degree of peoples' satisfaction regarding personnel who operate the SP.

The first difference between localities refers to the degree of satisfaction of the beneficiary concerning the program in which they participate and the degree of importance they attribute to the SPS in the community ($\chi^2=5.985$, $p\leq 0.05$). Espinosa-Trujillo *et al.* (2015) and Zibecchi (2019) found that people are very satisfied with the SP, as monetary support helps people cover basic expenses for food, energy, gas, purchase of school uniforms and agriculture; main generators of resources (money, scholarships, food and training).

Degree of satisfaction according to location towards staff who operate the SP is high ($\chi^2=23.398$, $p\leq 0.0001$), and relates to the attention, education and consideration on the part of individuals from outside the community, as ministries must manifest an ethical, technical and practical professional profile, concerning all responsibilities and procedures with which they are entrusted (Vélez-Mieles *et al.*, 2019).

Organization at the local level with personnel who operate SP is high ($\chi^2=5.667$, $p\leq 0.05$); this is fundamental to promote an organizational culture that fosters a sense of belonging, motivation and human warmth on the part of the employees in the entity; evidently, these modalities of collective organization outline the limits of what the state defines as productive work and participation, inviting us to challenge dual attitudes to the economy and to obscure the division between the individual/collective (Pacífico, 2020).

The second difference between localities is the degree of satisfaction on the part of beneficiaries concerning personnel who operate SP and the degree of importance they assign to SP in the community; this is elevated ($\chi^2= 11.706$, $p\leq 0.05$). Figueroa-González (2021) mentions that due to poverty in rural areas, the government has established programs aimed at promoting development, mainly in rural areas where economic growth is limited; people therefore consider SP to be important as they represent the most viable alternative for generating economic income in rural areas.

Likewise, there are differences between the degree of satisfaction with the operating personnel by location and the level of commitment that the beneficiaries have with the program in which they participate ($\chi^2=9.326$, $p\leq 0.05$). Picasso-Risso (2016) and Navarro-Saldaña *et al.* (2017) mention that there must be agreements, commitments and social responsibility to make SPs effective. Another difference between groups of program beneficiaries was the degree of satisfaction that beneficiaries had with the operating personnel of the SP and the level of income that they consider they receive from the SP in which they participate at each location ($\chi^2= 25.623$, $p\leq 0.05$).

Differences were found between the needs of families by location and the support received from the SP in which they participate ($\chi^2=7.849$, $p\leq 0.05$). Finally, there were differences in the three locations; regarding whether they consider it profitable to participate in an SP ($\chi^2=7.713$, ≤ 0.05); this is due to lack of employment, high food costs and lack of opportunities in rural areas. SPs have become attractive as they represent one of the alternatives for receiving income and fulfilling their family's requirements.

CONCLUSIONS

In the three locations, there is ample participation of people in the different social programs that contribute to housing, education, agriculture and pension for older adults and people with disabilities. Apparently, there is participation in 6 of the 16 SPs that operate at a national level. There is 100% participation in programs including Pension para Adultos Mayores, Becas Benito Juárez, Becas Jóvenes Construyendo el Futuro and Pensión para Personas Discapacitadas; while for the rest of the SPs there is a lower percentage of participation. People have spent an average of 9.2 years in monitoring programs and 3.5 in newly created programs by the current administration. This is because many programs are new, for example the Sembrando Vida Program. Evidently, the age of the interviewees has a strong correlation with the years they have been participating in SPs, because at older age, social needs are greater, requiring more financial support.

Different factors are attributed to people not participating in the programs; such as distrust concerning handing over documentation; not having any document to fill the requirement and not having the required surface area of land. Participating in an SP increases the degree of organization and participation of people at the local level; becoming committed to the SP in which they participate increases satisfaction concerning the SP operating staff. Participating in the SP has been of utmost importance

for people over the last two years, because of scarce employment opportunities due to the Covid-19 pandemic, so that this resource was the only support for their families.

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