MUCHACHOS
MUCHACHAS
CON DON BOSCO
“Success in Life for Urban At-Risk Youth”
Topics

1. Dominican Republic Overview

2. Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco (MDB)
   - Target Profile
   - Programs
   - Approaches

3. Addressing inequity through skills development
1. Country Overview

- The Dominican Republic located in the Caribbean, in the eastern part of the Hispaniola island (shared with Haiti)
- Surface area: 48,000 km²
- Population: 10 M (F: 4.6 - M: 4.7)
- Largest city: Santo Domingo (31.9% population)
- Language: Spanish
- Literacy rate: 88% (M: 86.8% - F: 87.2%)
- Local currency: Dominican Peso (RD$)
- Exchange rate: EU$1.00 = RD$51 (US$1.00 = RD$41)
- Inflation: 8.6% (2011)
- Unemployment rate: 13.1% (2011)
- Major exports: Services, ferronickel, coffee, and cocoa
- Major imports: Agricultural products, petroleum, cotton and fabrics, chemicals and pharmaceuticals
2. Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco

• **A network of 12 centers**: 8 in Santo Domingo (capital city) and in 4 regions of the country
• **Target**: serves 4,000 at-high risk children/teenagers and their families
• **Integrated Approaches**: preventive, human rights, gender and systemic

**Main Elements of the network:**

• Identified target

• Common criteria (preventive/educational)

• Common organizational structures

• Common Processes

• Solidary economy

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2. Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco

**Target Profile:**

- High risk children/teenagers (6-17 years old) and their families (poor, living on the most marginalized cities or living/working on the streets and orphan)
- Without social protection
- Perform “multiple productive activities“
- Violation of fundamental rights
Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco

PROGRAMS

Family Care

Health and Social Care

Human Formation Christian

Inserting and Tracking School

Vocational Training Job Placement

Summer Activities

Recreation and Sports

Human Rights Education

Arts Education

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Muchachos y Muchachas con Don Bosco

Development Pedagogy

- Preventive
- Systemic
- Human Rights
- Gender

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3. Addressing Inequity – Skills Development

Basic needs covered:
- Legal (documents)
- Psychological
- Nutrition
- Housing

Formative Process:
- Spaces for learning
- Identify and develop new skills (artistic, cultural, sporting, etc.)
- School leveling
- Personal Life Project

Occupational process:
- Vocational/professional counseling
- Technical training - School leveling: Multimedia School Leveling Courses (distance learning)
- Employment intermediation/Hiring

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A story with a “HAPPY ENDING”...

- Worked selling pop corn on the street
- Initiated MDB at 9 years old (1990)
- Skills developed: sales, sports, crafts, good speaker
A story with a “HAPPY ENDING”...
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Artistic Skills

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A story with a “HAPPY ENDING”...

Sport Leader

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Sport Leader

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Graduated – Marketing

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Got marry: 3 kids

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A story with a “HAPPY ENDING”...

Working: MDB’s Promotion Assistant (since 2003)

Aniberkys Mateo

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