



MARKETLINKS

Beyond the Basics:
Integrating Psychosocial
Support into Enterprise and
Employment Programming

December 8, 2020



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Facilitator

Laura Meissner, USAID

Speakers

Brian Ssebunya & Benson Adoko, IRC South Sudan

Lara Colace & Alexandre Letzelter, Action Against Hunger

Kay Andrade-Eekhoff & Juan Carlos Duran, CRS El Salvador

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Juan Carlos Duran, CRS
El Salvador



Integrated Livelihoods & GBV Response in Unity State, South Sudan

Brian Ssebunya Ph.D,

Sr Technical Advisor Enterprise Development & Employment, IRC

Benson Adoko,

Economic Recovery & Development Coordinator, IRC – South Sudan

Presentation Outline

- South Sudan context (livelihood challenges & GBV prevalence)
- Integrated Livelihoods GBV programme – IRC’s EA\$E approach
- Key Programme Results
- Lessons learnt

Country context

Economic and livelihood challenges:

- Macro economic decline – hyperinflation
- Recurrent conflicts and natural shocks leading to displacements – disruption of market systems and loss of livelihoods and assets
- 7.5 million people in South Sudan are in need of aid (> 6.48 million on the brink of famine)
- Few livelihood opportunities;
 - Limited skills and training opportunities
 - Limited access to financial services to aid investments

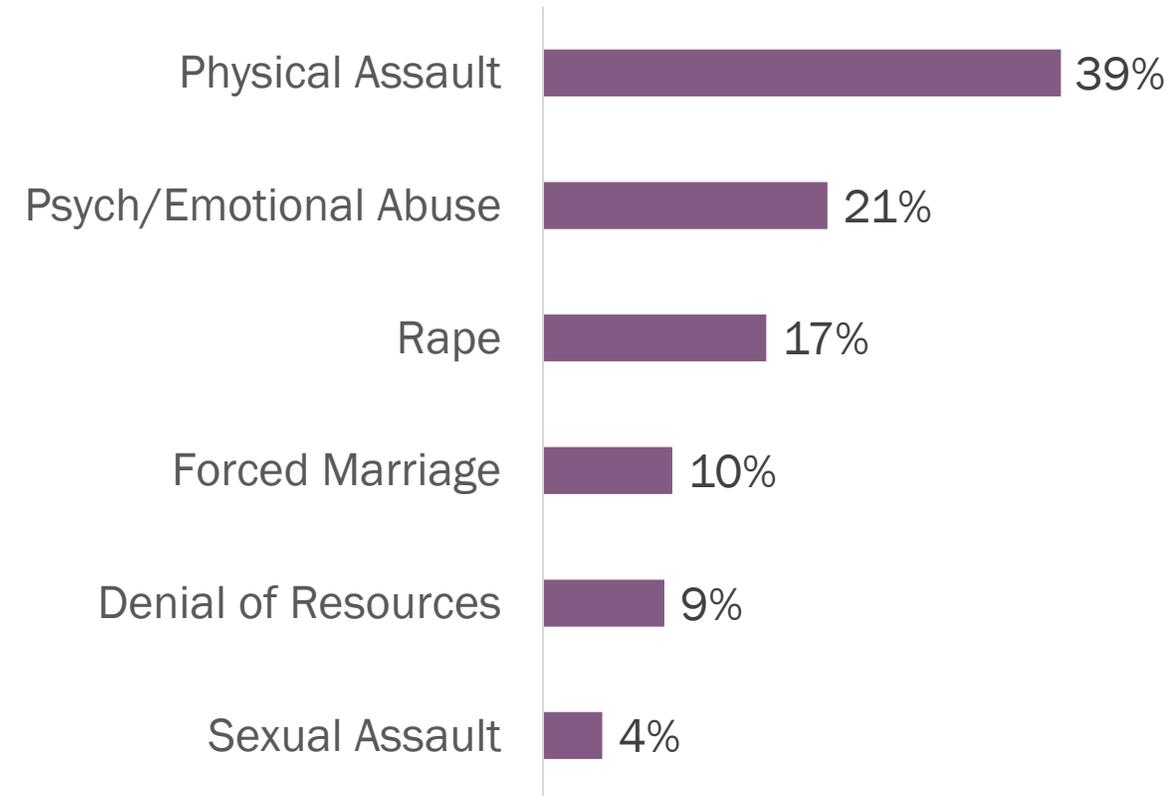


Country context

GBV challenge:

- 49% of HHs identified GBV as a HIGH risk
- 49 % of affected women and girls have no access to GBV services and only 12% of the community have awareness on availability of GBV services.
- 29% of GBV survivors in need of safe house did not obtain the service because of lack of safe houses
- Conflicts/shocks/economic crisis – exacerbate violence and abuse to women and girls

National Level GBV MIS 2020 (Jan-Sep 2020) : Total 6,295 cases



IRC's Economic and Social Empowerment (EA\$E) of Women

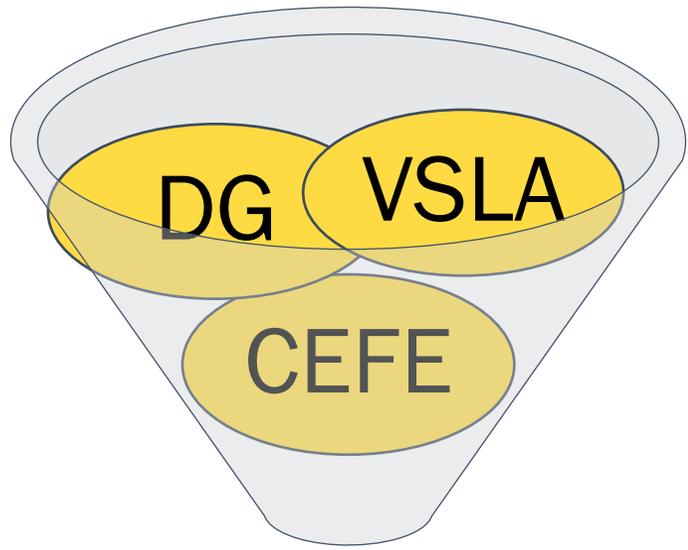
Evidence-based 3-component model

Women have increased economic and decision-making power in the household that they can safely use free from violence

Women access financial services
 Women have a safe place to save their money and access loans, and have access to an insurance fund for emergencies

Women have a reliable source of income
 Women acquire business skills and knowledge to start and/or expand their business activities

Shift in spousal power relations
 Women are seen as valuable members of the household

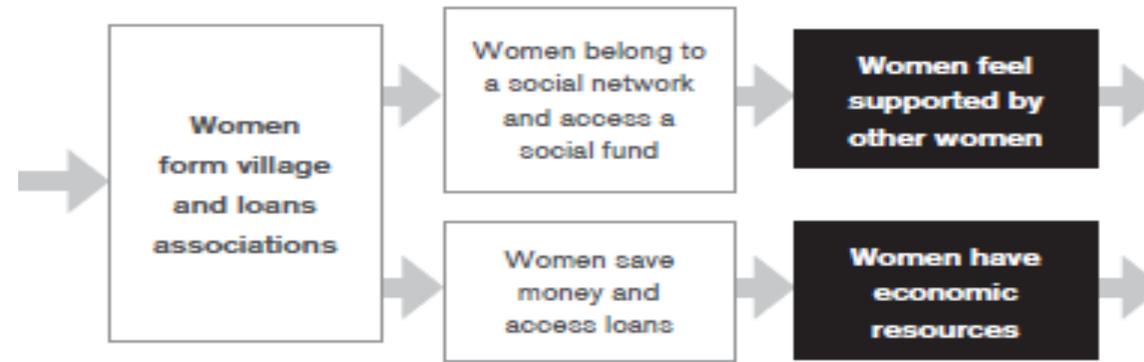


EA\$E

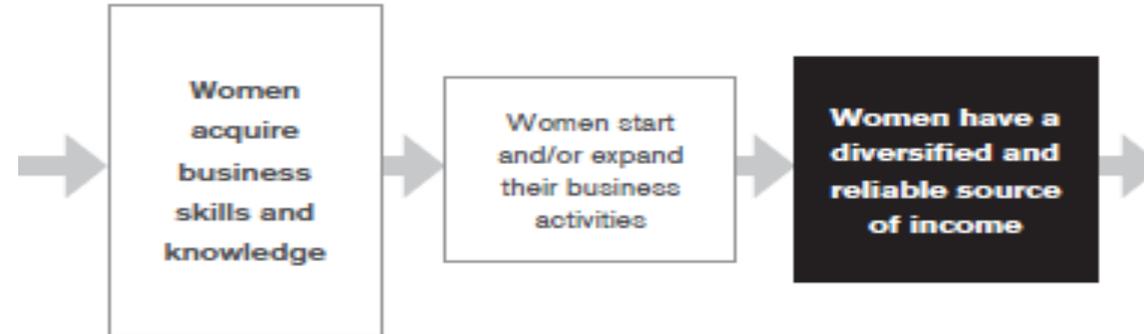


EAS\$E Theory of Change

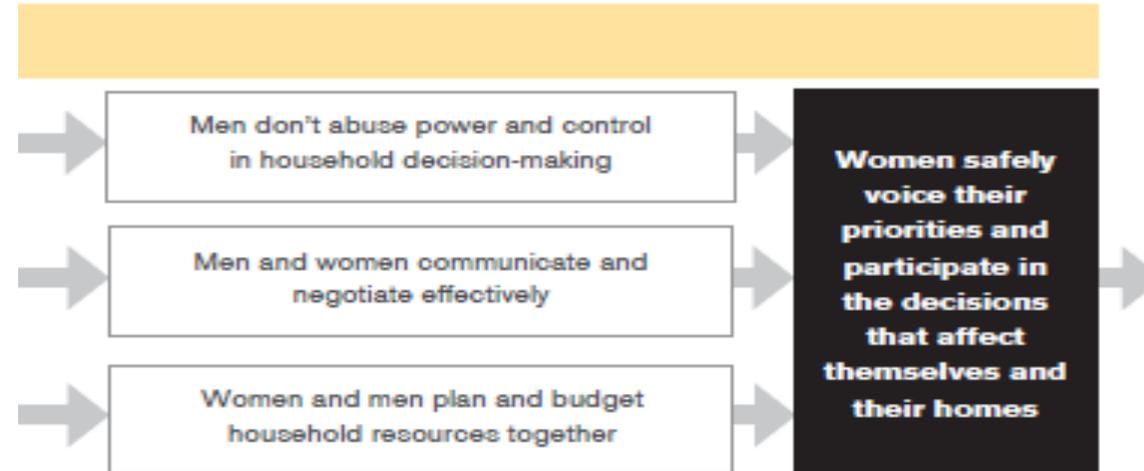
VSLA



Business Skills Training



Discussion Group Series



Livelihoods GBV Integrated Response in Unity State, South Sudan

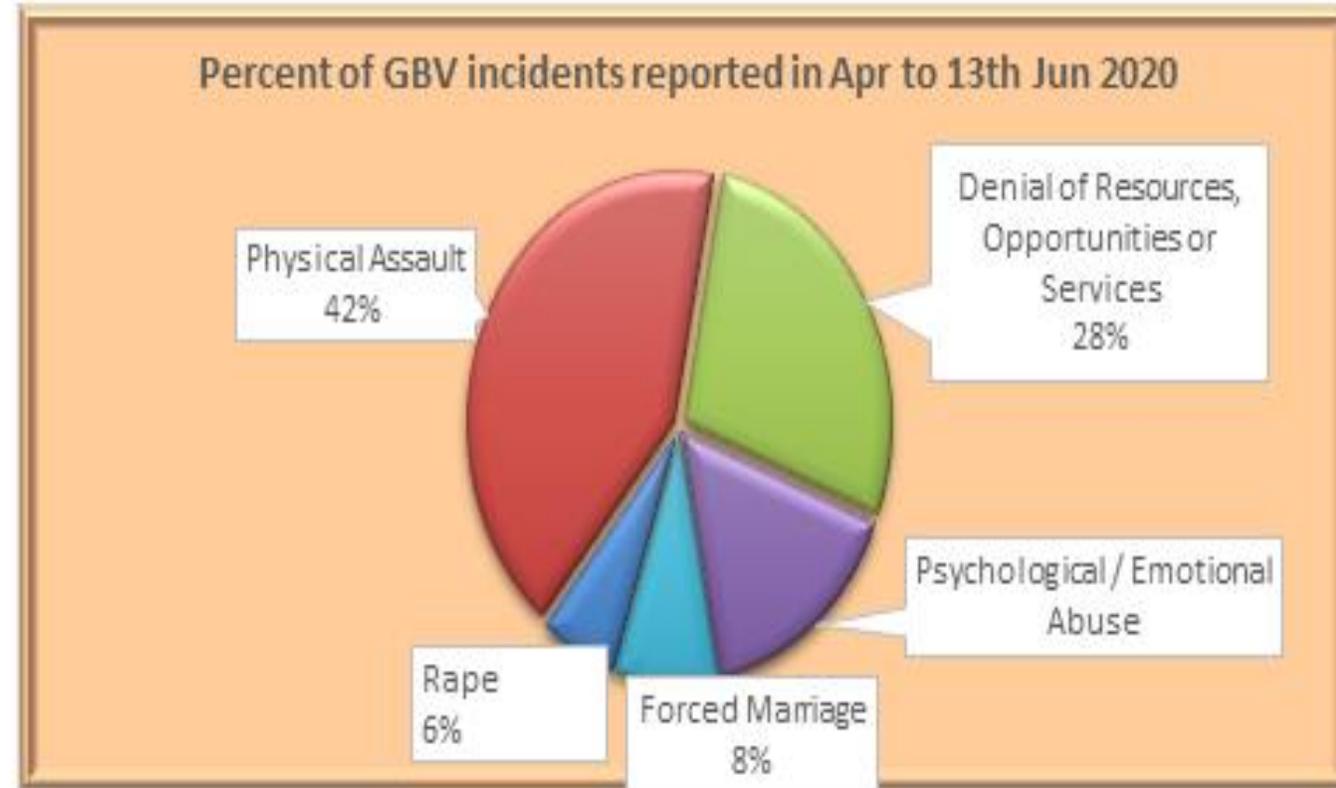
One-year, OFDA/BHA-funded response:

- **Foundational infrastructural support** - cash for work for construction and rehabilitation of roads, drainage channels, dykes and market shades/stalls,
- **EA\$E:**
 - Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs)
 - Business and life skills training,
 - Group discussion series
- **Complementary skills training & grants** for youth GBV survivors (embroidery, crocheting, hair dressing and beading)



Complementary GBV prevention and response

- GBV case management training for 157 case workers across the state
- Comprehensive case management services to 50 (43 adults and 7 children) GBV survivors
- Psychosocial support to 210 survivors (32 children) to facilitate healing, empowerment, and recovery from traumatic experiences
- Add-on services. 32% received clinical care, while 70% received non-food items (dresses, shoes & dignity kits)
- Community dialogues on GBV, early and forced marriage & strengthening of customary court system



Results

- 21.6% active members of VSLA. 60% reported increased savings, while 48% accessed VSLA credit
- 46.3% received cash assistance through CFW interventions.
- 31.9% attended business skills trainings and 29% started new business activities.
- 64.1% of women and girls reported improved psychological wellbeing.
- 79% feel safe; 91% attribute it to livelihoods interventions



Top take-aways

1 Women's safe/friendly spaces are good places to nurture livelihood activities
Women's freedom of expression and confidence-building are key

3 Economic empowerment of women is hard to achieve without targeting their spouses

Spousal support and encouragement improves women's confidence

2 GBV response is not a one-off activity

Assured access to GBV services improves women's resilience

4 "Holistic" livelihoods approach

Addressing both physical and mental/emotional needs

KEY TAKE-AWAY

**Beyond skills and assets
(‘basics’ for livelihoods),
the psychosocial needs (of
especially women) are key
for success**

Creating job opportunities while building well-being and resilience of crisis affected population in Iraq

Integrated Livelihoods and Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS)



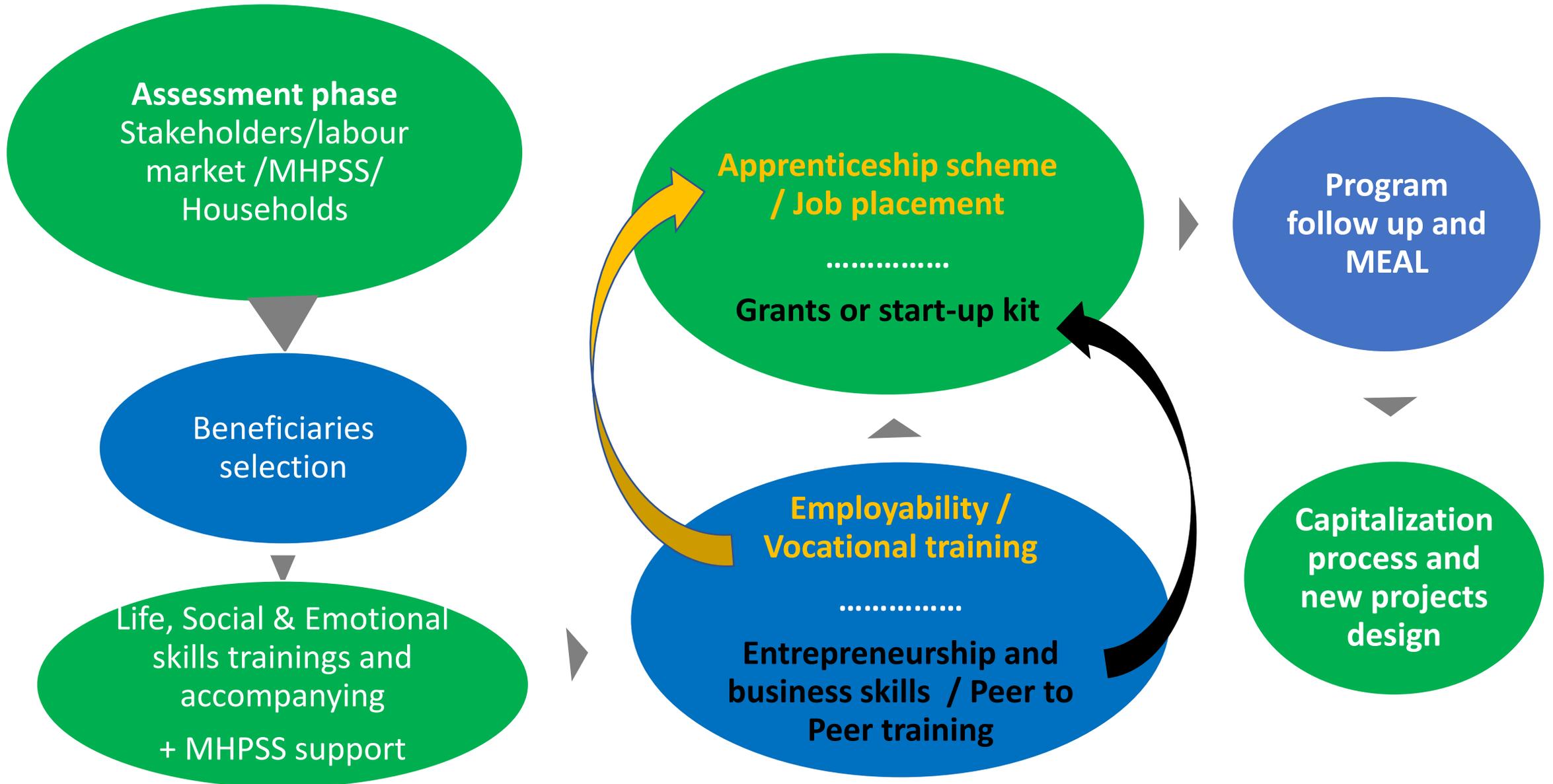
Lara COLACE
Alexandre LETZELTER

A close relation between poverty and mental health

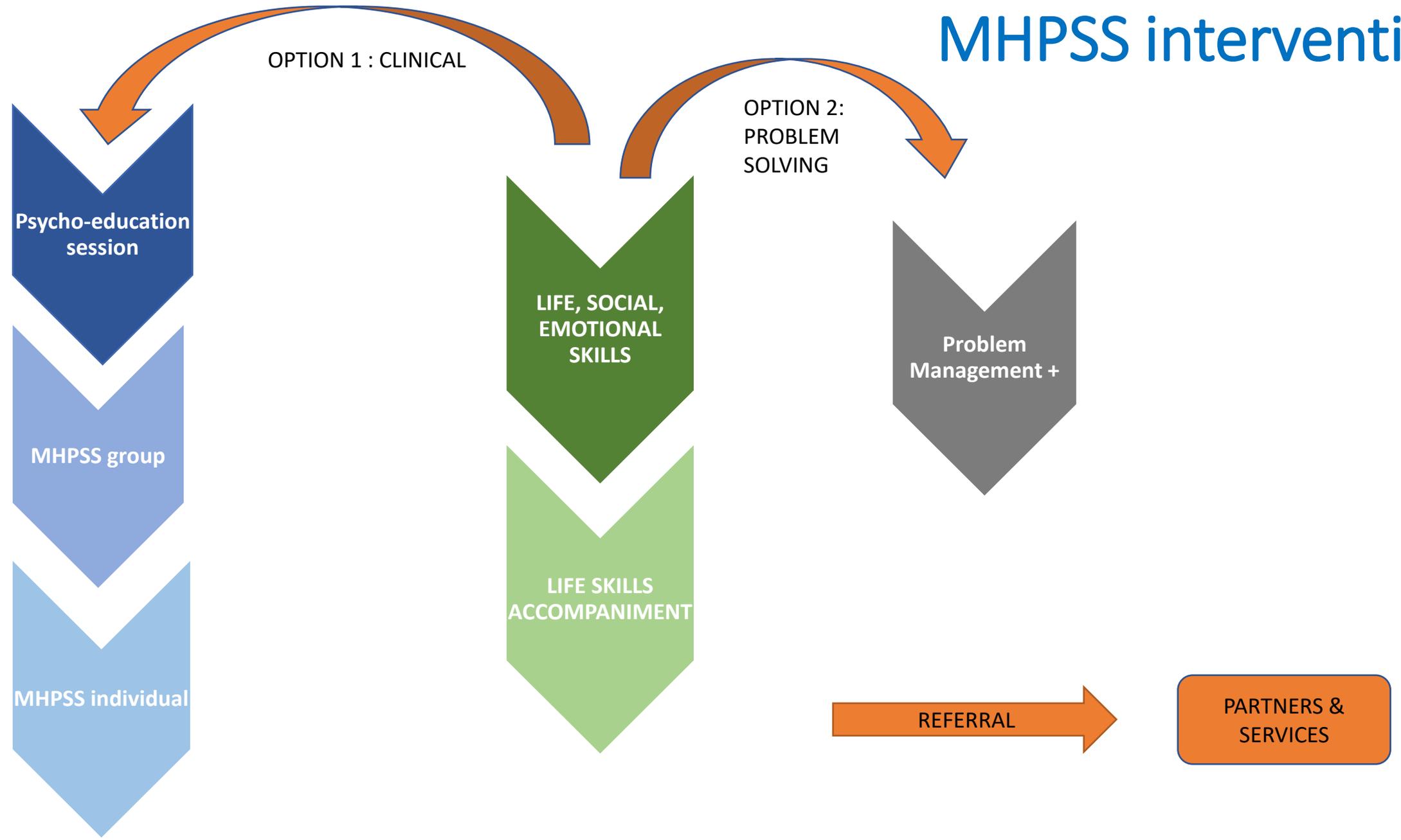
- ✿ Growing evidence that mental health and poverty interact in a negative cycle in low and middle income countries
- ✿ Two causal pathways: social causes and social drift
- ✿ Integrating Livelihoods and Mental Health & Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) allows breaking this cycle and creating an empowering environment



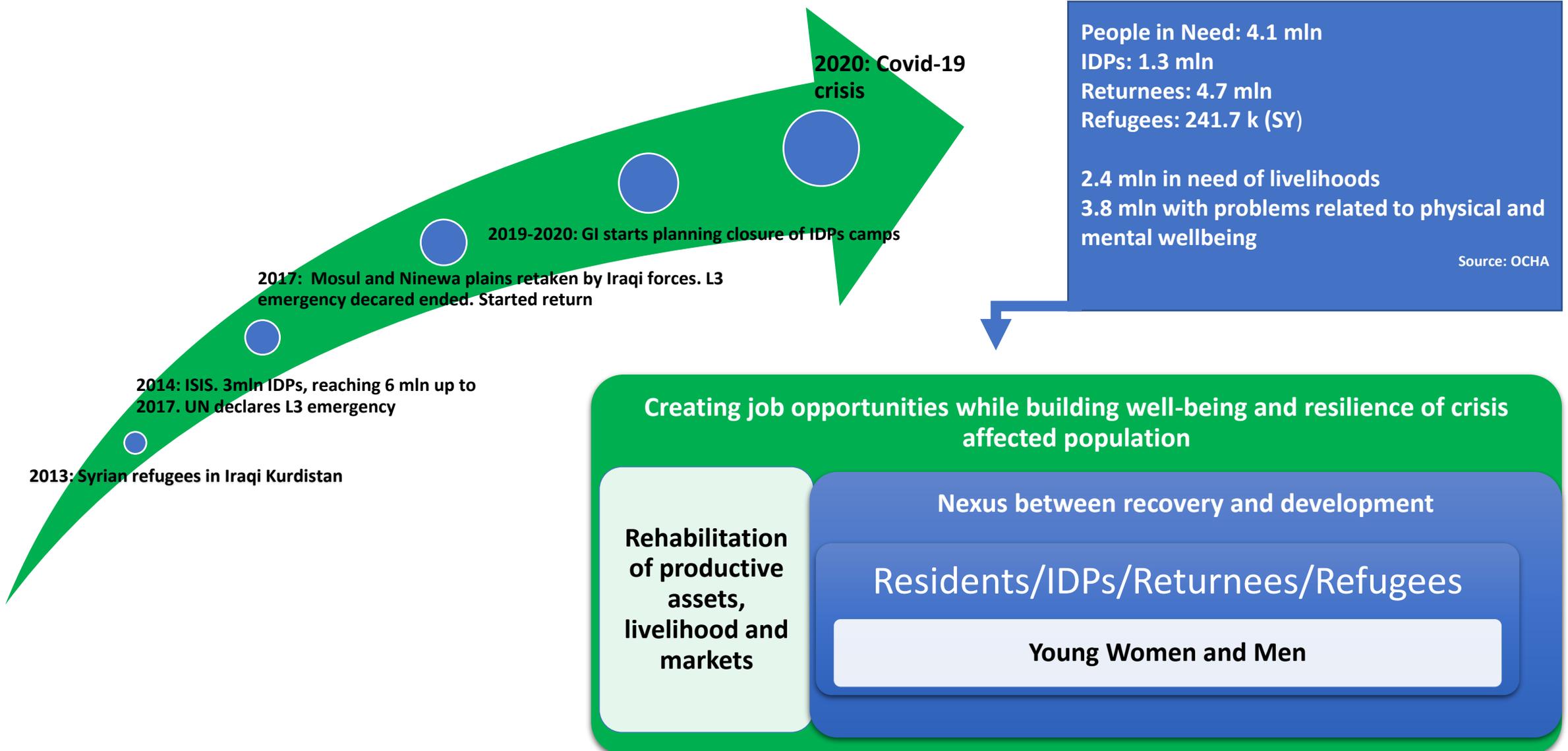
Livelihoods and MHPSS integration



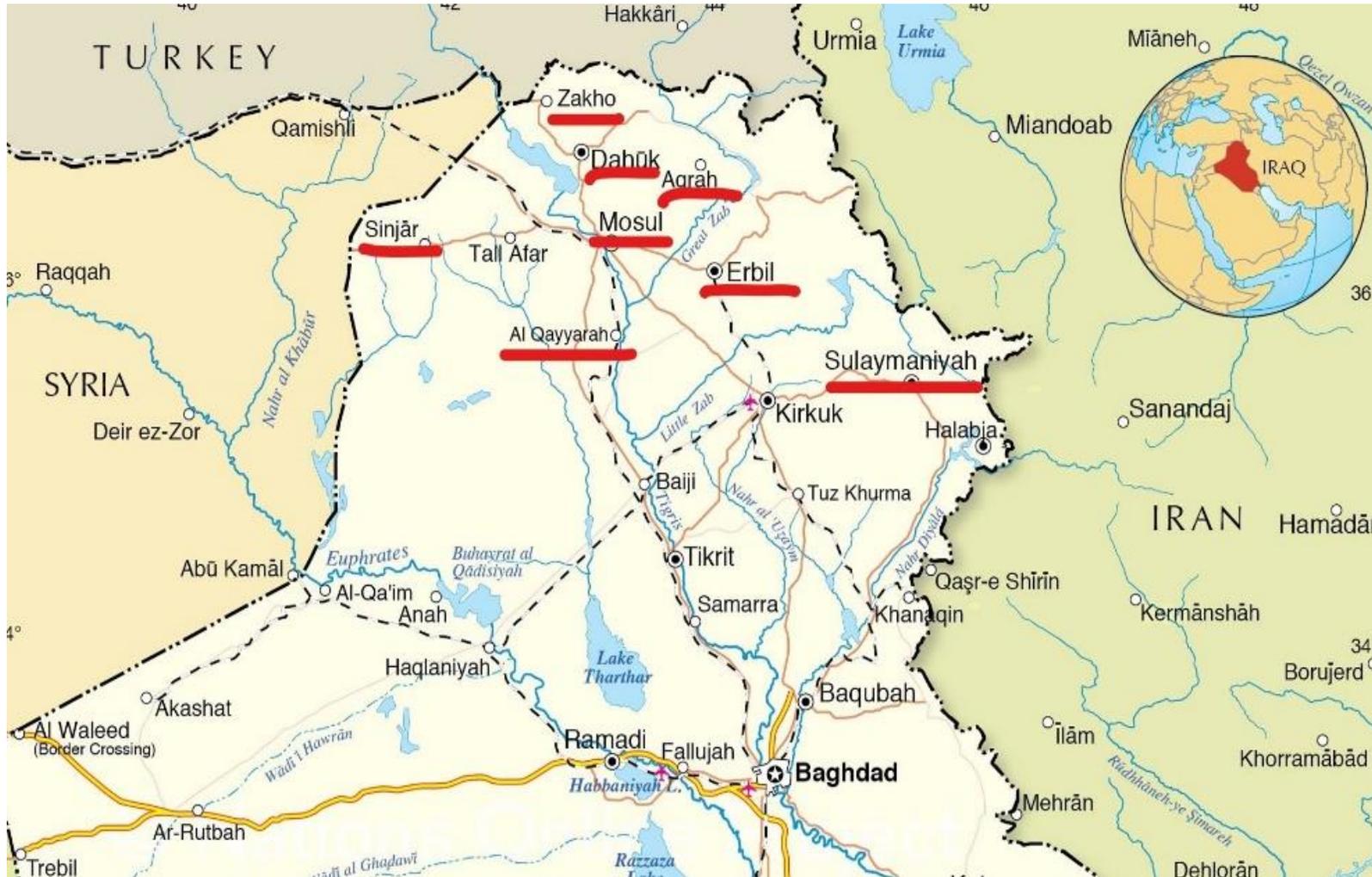
MHPSS intervention



Iraq: post-conflict context and intervention strategy



Iraq: projects completed /ongoing



2017-2018 : Zakho, KRI (RDPP)

2018-2019 : KRI (AAH)

2018-2019 : Mosul (OFDA)

2019-2020 : Mosul (GIZ)

2019-2020 : Akre, KRI (GIZ)

2019-2020 : Qayyara & Sinjar (OFDA)

Example of 2019-2020 Mosul project



	APPRENTICESHIP PATHWAY	%	BUSINESS PATHWAY (BAG and BRAG)	%
TOTAL BNFs	363		420	
Life, Social and Emotional skills <i>Women</i>	425	51%	415	14%
Employability skills MoU with companies signed (with 122 companies supported with grants) <i>Women</i>	421			
	388	56%		
Business skills (+ bonus 109 BNFs) distributed <i>Women</i>			437	
			420	16%
MHPSS support (group and individual) <i>Women</i>	140	39%	148	35%
		49%		29%

Combined results and general performance of AAH « employability »/MHPSS projects



	General performance (after 5 months from project's end)		Life skills and MHPSS performance (At the end of projects)
	<i>Business pathway still running the business</i>	<i>Apprenticeship pathway still working in private company</i>	
2017-2018 : Zakho, KRI, RDPP	87%	16%	Life skills >70% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training satisfaction - Self-esteem scale - Life skills scale - Resilience scale
2018-2019 : KRI, ACF 2018-2019 : Mosul, OFDA	70%	66%	MHPSS >70% <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Improved well-being and reduced trauma, depression and anxiety symptomatology - Increased coping strategies
2019-2020 : Mosul, GIZ	73%	19% (32% in the same company)	

Best practices





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LEARNING THROUGH PRACTICE AND RESEARCH:

Integral youth employability programs in the
Northern Triangle of Central America

Lessons from Catholic Relief Services on what works and what is cost effective.
Juan Carlos Duran, MEAL specialist.
Kay Andrade-Eekhoff, Regional Advisor on Youth Employability.



 **CRS** faith.
CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES action.
results.

THE INTERVENTION AND PARTICIPANTS

PARTICIPANTS and CONTEXT:

- Urban neighborhoods with gang presence and crime prevalence. Exposed to violence.
- Dropped out of school without completing high school.
- Limited access to employment.
- Some reported facing issues with law enforcement or have a family member incarcerated.



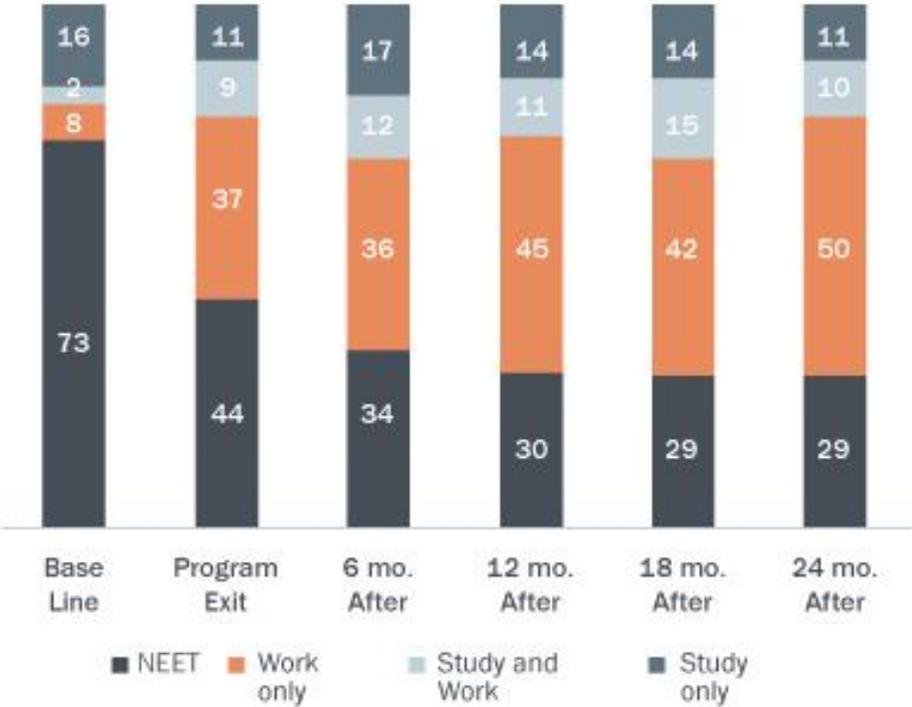
THE PROGRAM

- Key program components
 - Vocational training
 - Life and job skills
 - Leadership and service
 - Employment and Self-employment supporting services
- 6 mo. training plus 6 mo. placement services.
- Build a culture of resilience and sense of belonging.

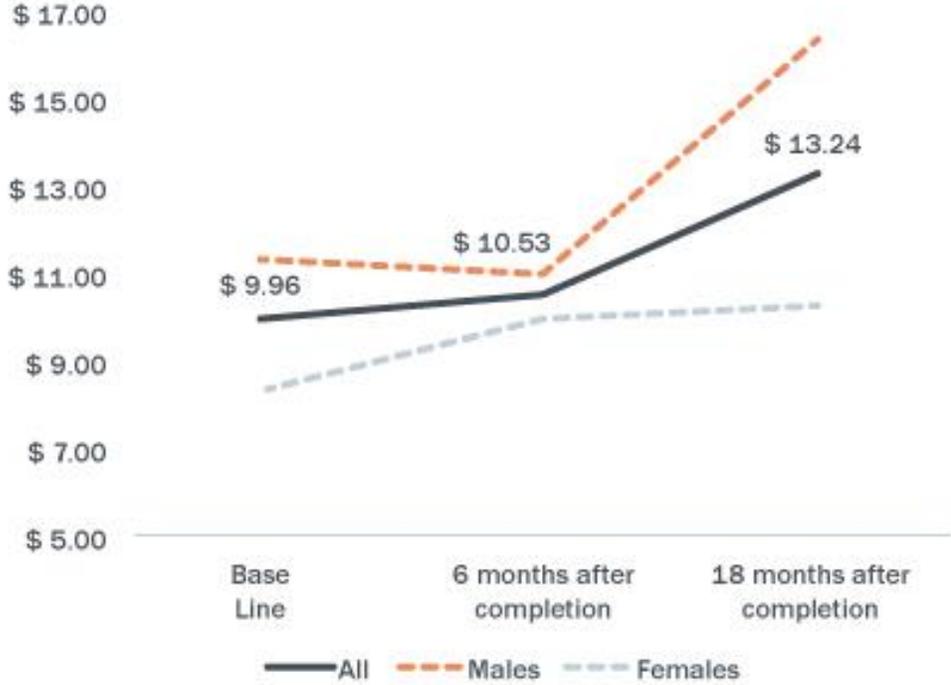


EMPLOYMENT AND EDUCATION OUTCOMES

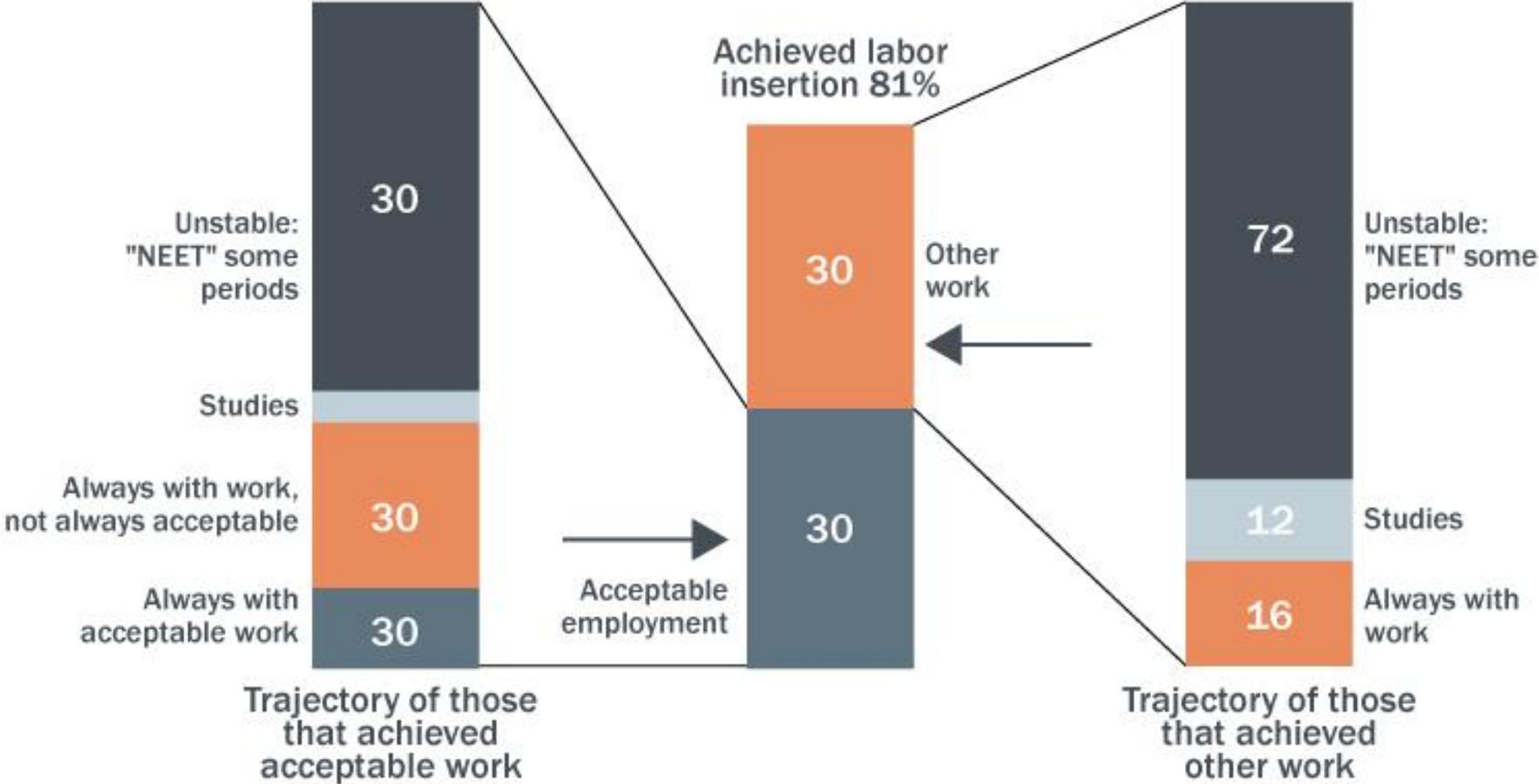
Percentage of placement in job, self-employment or school



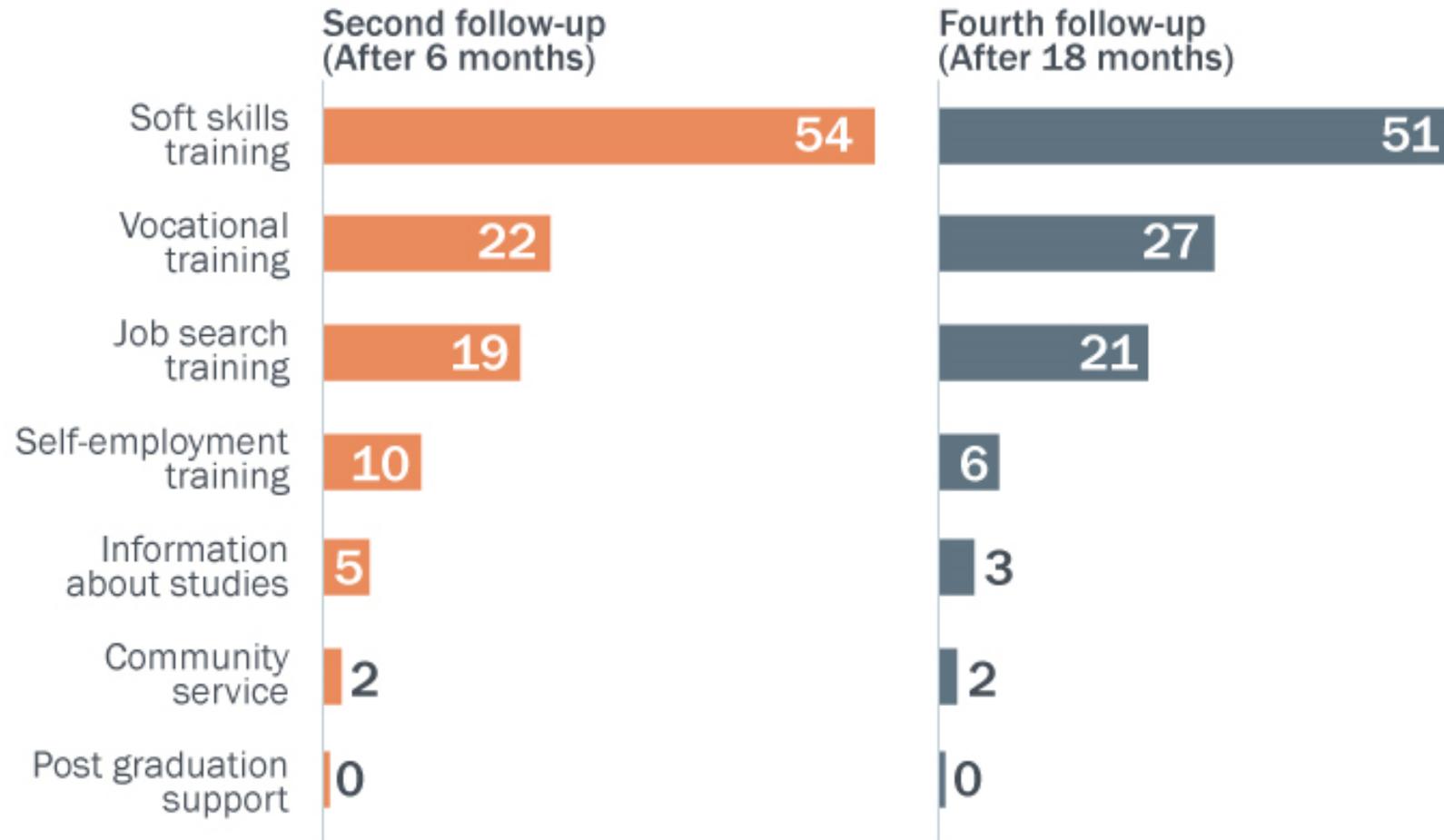
Income reported after program completion



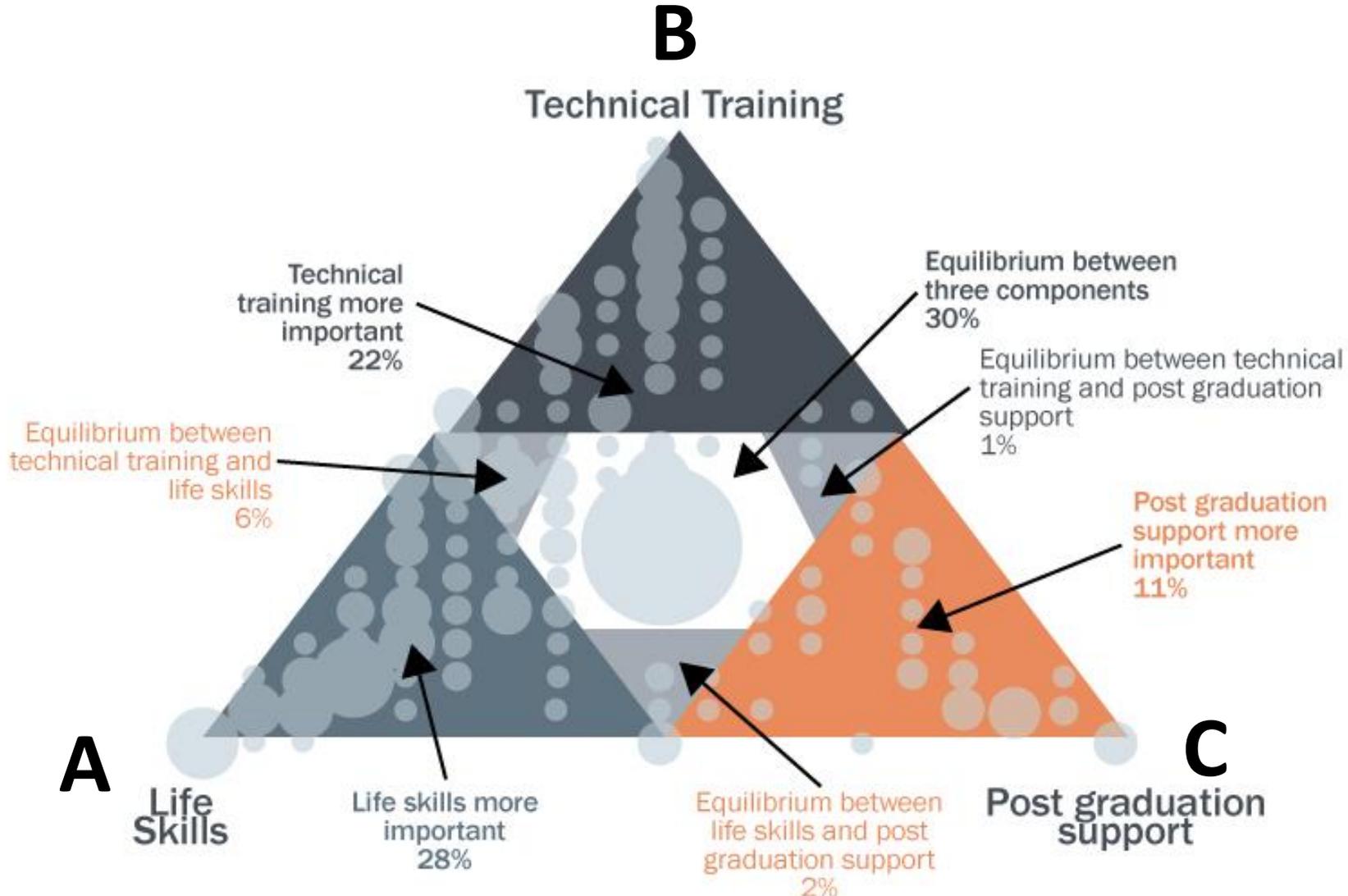
LABOR TRAJECTORIES OVER TIME



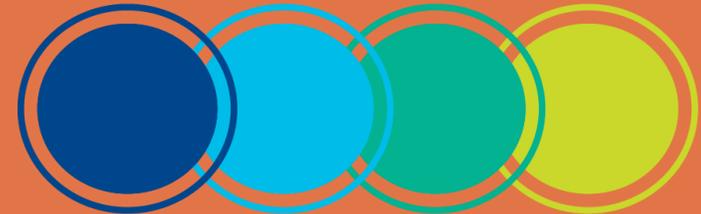
FACTORS PARTICIPANTS CONSIDER WERE THE MOST USEFUL IN THEIR LIVES



RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF VARIOUS COMPONENTS



I am READY!



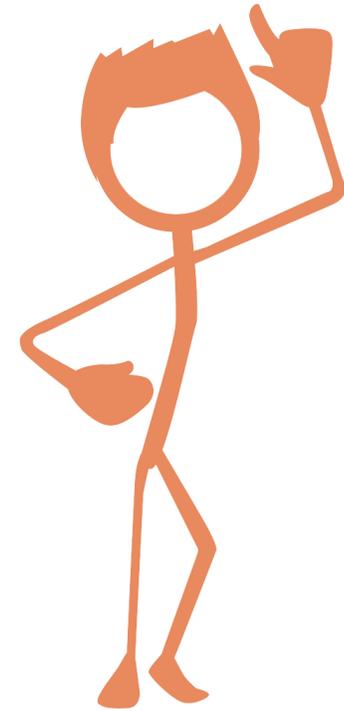
Life Skills Training: A Cognitive Behavioral Curriculum

What we teach:



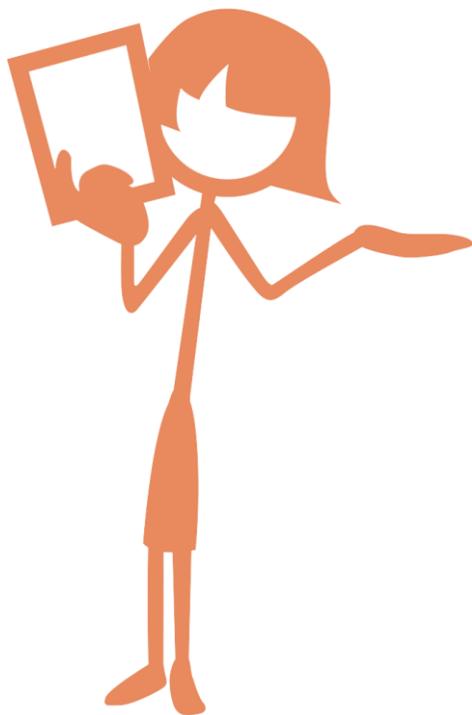
CURRICULUM

How we teach:



INSTRUCTION

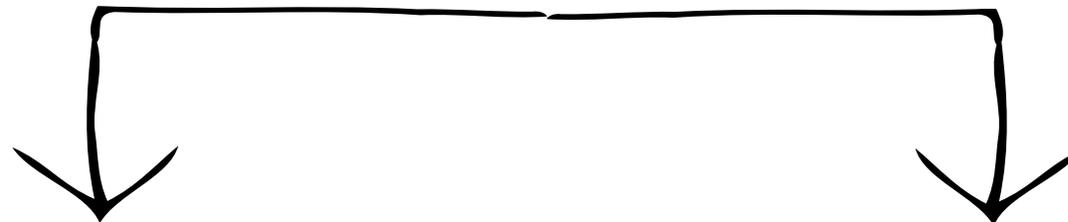
DISPUESTO!
iEstoy ●●●●



CURRICULA

16

UNITS

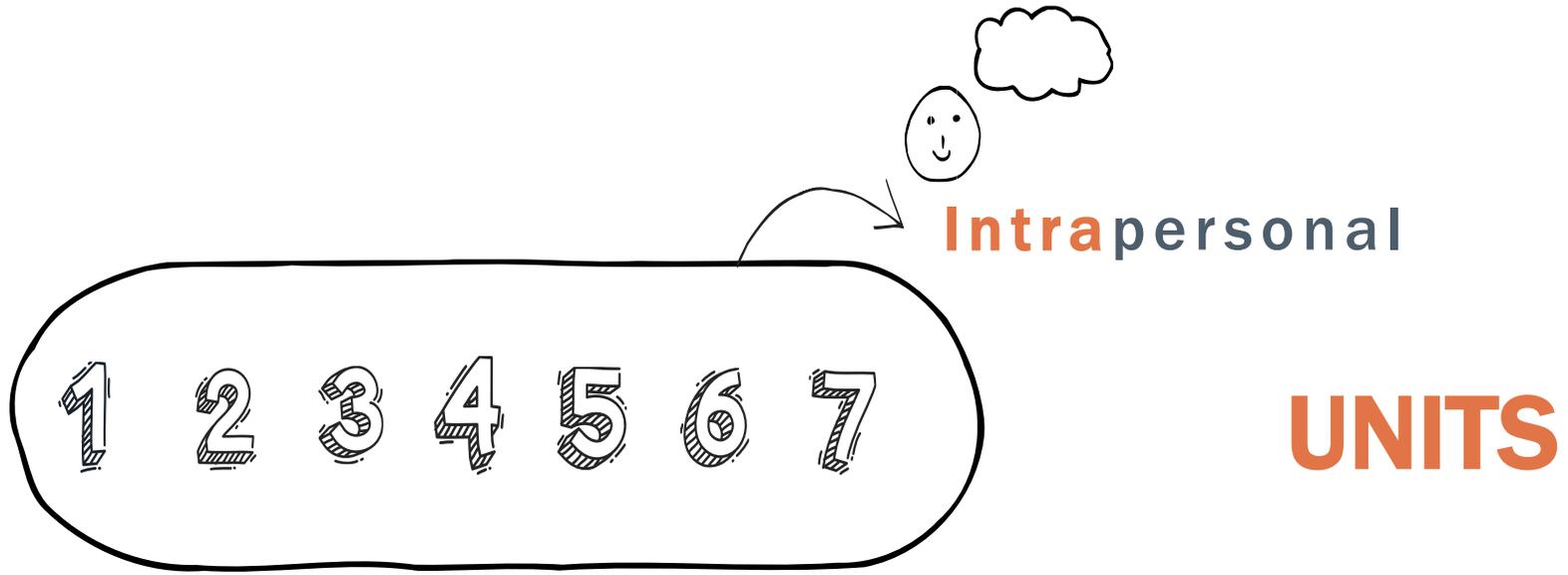


Awareness lesson.

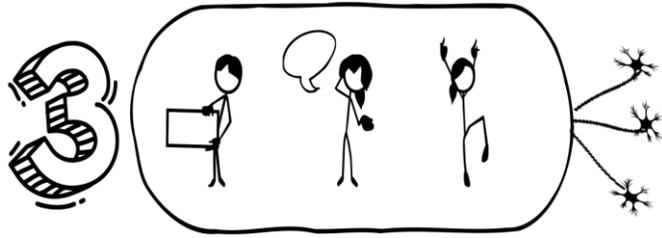
+/- 2 hours.

Transformation lab.

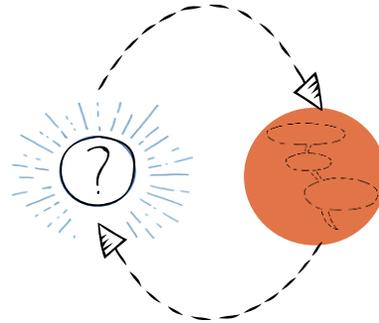
+/- 2 hours.



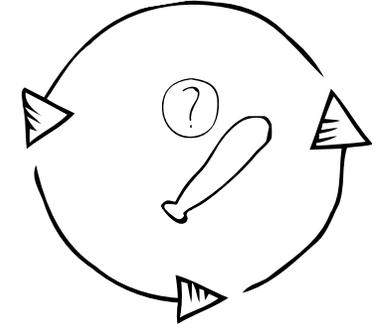
PRINCIPAL STRATEGIES FOR INSTRUCTION AND FACILITATION



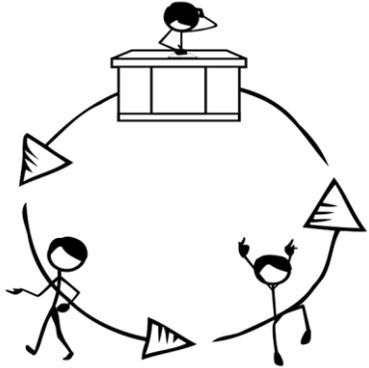
3 **point** processing



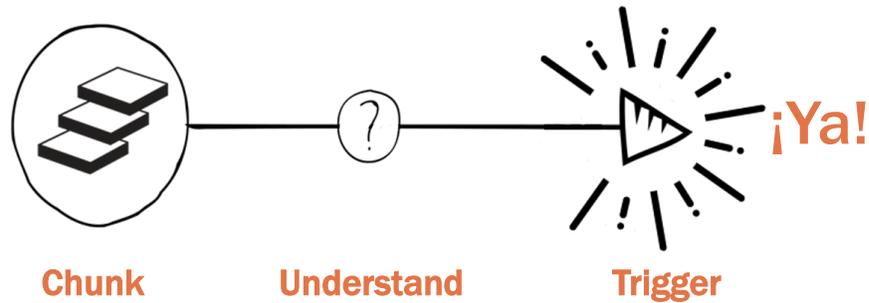
Social **Interaction** Loops



Guided **Discovery**



State changes



Directions: **CUT**



Music

IS THIS APPROACH
COST-EFFECTIVE?
IS IT WORTH IT?



WHY DO A COSTING STUDY?

More programs and actors competing
for resources, jobs and young people.

Governments need to know:

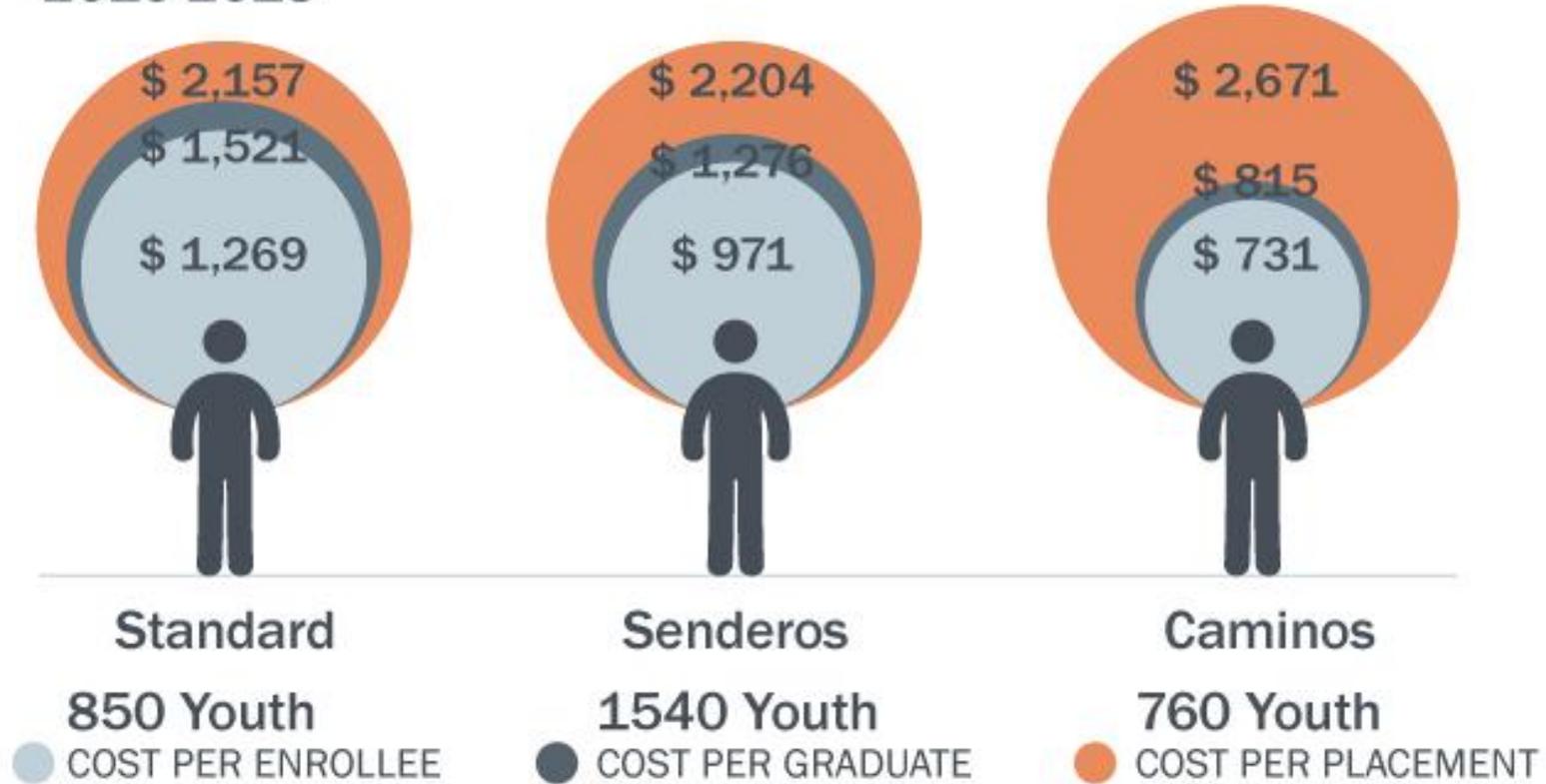
- Effectiveness
- Cost
- Cost-effectiveness
- Benefits
- How long for a positive return on investment



COST TO ACHIEVE RESULTS

Per youth enrolled, graduated, and placed

2016-2018



COST-BENEFIT AND RETURN ON INVESTMENT

- Direct (salary increase) and Indirect benefits (savings avoiding incarceration).

COST BENEFIT RATIO AFTER 5 YEARS

- For every \$1 invested, \$2.43 generated in benefit.

YOUTHBUILD IS COST-EFFECTIVE

Return on investment
in 3 years.

4 KEY ELEMENTS TO SUCCEED



1

Efficiency guaranteeing graduation. If young people drop out along the way, investment is lost.



2

Focus on Placement:

Employment, self-employment or school. Without this, a return on investment cannot be guaranteed. Training is not the only obstacle young people face.



3

Working with more excluded and vulnerable young people, particularly with young people in conflict with the law, **IMPROVES** return on investment.



4

Relationships:

- Regular accompaniment of each young person.
- Relationship with the private-sector, producers and companies.
- Low staff turnover, high team cohesion.





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Final take away:

Investing in wholistic (psychosocial and employability) training and support for vulnerable youth is **worth it.**

THANK YOU!



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