El ámbito comunitario como alternativa al abordaje de las problemáticas sociales en Ciudad Juárez. Propuestas y limitaciones.

Community level approach as an alternative to the social issues in Ciudad Juarez. Proposals and limitations.

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Resumen

El presente artículo contribuye al debate sobre la viabilidad y necesidad de propuestas de transformaciones sociales que desde el ámbito comunitario permitan la construcción social de la realidad en el contexto urbano de Ciudad Juárez. Es abordada la perspectiva teórica-metodológica del Desarrollo Comunitario con que se asume el diagnóstico y proyectos propuestos para el fraccionamiento Moradas del Porvenir, situada en la ciudad indicada. La metodología pretende un abordaje integral, asumiendo la propuesta de María del Carmen Rangel Mendoza sobre la atención participativa y comunitaria a las problemáticas sociales. Se presenta un diagnóstico, proyectos implementados en el fraccionamiento y análisis prospectivo, a partir de la experiencia comunitaria analizada.

Palabras Clave: Intervención comunitaria, Proyectos, Ciudad Juárez.

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Abstract

This article contributes to the debate on the feasibility and need for proposals of social transformations enabling the social construction of reality in the urban context of Ciudad Juarez from the European Community. This article describes the theoretical and methodological perspective of Community Development, used in diagnosis and in the projects of the residential development Moradas del Porvenir, that is located in the aforementioned city. The methodology aims to a comprehensive approach, assuming the proposal of María de el Carmen Rangel Mendoza on participatory and community attention to social problems. It presents a diagnosis, projects implemented in the neighborhood and prospective analysis, from the analyzed community experience.

Key words: Community intervention, Projects, Ciudad Juárez.

Introduction

From a complex process of transformation of the modern State and the crisis of the "Welfare State" model, especially in the Decade of the seventies of the last century, it begins to emerge the importance of communities as an alternative to development processes. In this same scenario are ideas in favor of granting greater responsibility to these spaces, since these areas may be able to achieve a greater articulation between State and local society. These allow to better meet demands local, since they promote citizen participation and, therefore, the democratization of the society from approach local decisions.

For its part, since the context of Ciudad Juarez in Mexico, especially since the mid of the first decade of the present century, the community becomes a key stage to understand many experiences and policies that have emerged in the heat of a deep crisis that manifested itself in everyday life, for example, in public safety, the environment, recreation, coexistence, etc.

Just five years ago, Ciudad Juarez tried to recover from the deep crisis that consecrated it and stigmatized as the metropolis of greater social conflict at the national level. The community

level, on the other hand, has been a scenario to keep in mind for the regeneration of new structures and forms of collective action that allows structured alternative processes of development, raise social welfare in vulnerable groups, generate public trust, recover public spaces, rebuilding the social fabric, and transform reality from an inclusive participatory approach.

Since the recent years with significant changes in the economic, political and social fields in the city, it is promoted the need to reorder the structures and economic linkages which has so far acted as factors of the development of the country. It is necessary to delve into the role and meaning of the communities in the midst of the rupture with previous status.

About the Juárez communities there has been an intense bombardment of intervention programs that are aimed at the achievement of a development in those units, but lack of an articulation with the real needs and the specific interests of those who live it, what denotes that these have not been taken into account; not to mention that every institution establishes its own indicators of measurement and evaluation of the effectiveness of the program. In these conditions it is impossible to carry out comprehensive and comparative analysis of the results.

In this sense, the article contributes to the debate on the feasibility and necessity of proposed social transformations gesten from the community level and encourage new spaces for social construction of reality in the urban context of Ciudad Juarez. To achieve this end, this paper addresses and positions on some theoretical perspectives on Community Development, which allow you to build the experience of intervention in the Division Moradas del Porvenir Ciudad Juarez, Chihuahua. At the same time the most important features of the assumed methodology for the development of this process of transformation, based on the proposal of the author, Maria del Carmen Mendoza Rangel (s / f), contained in his book "A Methodological choice for presents social workers ". This methodology has allowed for a comprehensive approach, community and participation in the process of change undertaken in the area of Community intervention way. A diagnosis of the situation is also presented prior to the implementation of the projects proposed for such demarcation.[2] Finally, it ends with a prospective analysis of the determinants of such generated community processes, in order to be present for its extension in other areas of the urban environment.

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[2] Estas acciones de investigación e intervención se realizaron desde la carrera de Trabajo Social en la Universidad Autónoma de Ciudad Juárez, por un equipo de practicantes durante el semestre escolar agosto-diciembre 2014. En la asesoría y coordinación de estas actividades desplegadas se encuentra el autor de este artículo científico.

Theoretical assumptions of Community Development

The term community development was first used in America in 1947, although the term had been used by the British government in 1942 to designate the movement due to start promoting its colonies and prepare the emancipation of the same whose actions were aimed at preparing the workforce requiring the industries established there. As a backdrop, these projects intended introjecting in colonized imperial values for people operate according to these standards and values. In 1947 the community development conceived as: "A movement in order to promote the improvement of the life of the whole community with its active participation and where possible on the initiative of the community ..." (Ander Egg, 2003 , p. 10).

The development of the community as a form of social intervention is the result of two separate methodological developments that sought, in due course, be answers to different problems, but with methods that are essentially similar. So there was a development called the community organization, which emerged within social work and had its main developments in the United States. Later came the development of the community, which was born and developed in the first instance in the countries of Africa and Asia, and later in Latin America and Europe (Anderson Egg, 2003).

Those first years of initiation and growth of development programs in the community, they were implemented through community centers (educational and recreational and cultural centers that contribute to the welfare of the community) and by carrying out specific projects: material improvements (construction of housing, roads, irrigation); organization (educational, recreational, health) services and community action (organizing groups, collective analysis of local needs, creation of commissions, obtaining technical assistance, training of personnel.

"Community development is the process by which the people themselves involved in the planning and implementation of programs intended to raise their standard of living. That implies the necessary collaboration between governments and the people, for effective development schemes, sustainable and balanced" (Ander Egg, 2003).

In the view of Ander Egg (2003), it is induced actions that give a technological scientific garb to ancient forms of collaboration. In addition, they have another rationale: community development programs appear and are necessary -promoted by the state and other organizations when the natural solidarity are disappearing, in a society that becomes more extensive and more complex and consequently more impersonal. This is how you get to the modern concept of community

development whose objectives are to improve the economic, social, cultural and human conditions of the community doing work from the base and trying to change attitudes and practices that act as a brake the social and economic development, promoting special attitudes favoring such improvement. This means the emphasis on community awareness about major issues, participation in solution and self-determination actions are undertaken, providing an endogenous perspective of development processes.

Other literature related to community development is the focus on "skills" (Carpenter, 2009, 2012) as potential for the organization, planning, implementation and evaluation of measures envisaged from local scenarios for transformation.

The analysis of the community capacities sometimes aim at changing traditional patterns with social policies that addressed the social reality during an important period (Carpenter, 2009). Nussbaum (2011) also enhances human capabilities which are key as mentioned Ornelas, Aguiar and Monteiro (2012) for the social integration and recovery by community organizations.

The build community means to discover and mobilize resources in any community. The key to lasting solutions come from within. The skills and abilities of residents become the core assets to trigger development (Rans, 2005).

One element that also identifies and Community Development is associated with participation involving collective action of the group as the subject of activity. Participation is the active, personal or collective involvement, as the subject of activity. This form of participation is called real participation in the literature, as opposed to that one in which he is the object of the activity of other subjects (Alonso, 2009).

The emergence of a community is a scientific process and community integration, whose cornerstones are the participation and cooperation. Such integration is founded on an open, honest, authentic communication without limits, and its realization is reflected as a mediator entity, the draft prepared by the community itself, the core of which has as key elements to making, implementation and control decisions. In the three times the participation and cooperation accompanied by reflection-valuation of the subject are present.

Achieve valuation and significance of sense unit is making the community project a value in itself and allows their advance on the ideal of their own community development.

That is why the community development process is assumed as the gestation of community expressed in an increase in health, where the participation and cooperation are increasingly aware.

Thus, the process of community development from conception to handle embodied in the assumption of Alonso (2009): a) The critical awareness as a prerequisite for change; b) Modification of the community reality as a creative act taking into account the circumstances and the internal potential of the individual and collective subjects; c) Self-management and overall sustainability; d) The immediate breakthrough as the realization of the latent potential of the future premise; e) The multicondicionalidad of community social processes; f) It is an educational process to achieve qualitative changes in attitudes and behaviors of the population g) The main objective of Community development is the achievement of social welfare.

Methodological process assumed in experience

The methodology used in the intervention process in the fractionation Dwellings Porvenir was the proposal by: Maria del Carmen Mendoza Rangel (s / f). This intervention process developed in the Dwellings fractionation Porvenir, Ciudad Juarez for four months from August to December 2014 specifically From this methodological concept the intervention was divided into different stages.

In the first month, the planning was integrated approach where all programs and projects of general action coalesced, and that the general lines of the intervention and the different phases of the development process is defined.

At this stage it carried out the development of community diagnosis, process for which it was necessary to perform a hierarchy of priorities and set goals for the intervention. At the same time in this phase a survey that allowed a social, economic, institutional, cultural and political fractionation characterization study was applied. They also were developing a set of neighborhood councils in order to confirm, justify and substantiate the qualitative aspect from the information obtained through the implementation of the community survey.

The usefulness of the survey is given by its mathematical basis, and to establish regularities in reality and objective criteria on the population addressed. It lets get statistical results from the percentage estimate correlations (García Ferrando, 1992).

Community research in conducting surveys of the same assumptions as in the study of other social objects. Its use also means that information can not be obtained by other methods used to control or those obtained by them. This is because the survey was carried out through direct or indirect interaction with the respondent (Alonso, J. et al, 2004).

The survey asks about the inner man or the perception of phenomena of the past this world, hence the east to find information that can not be obtained through observation (Alonso, J. et al, 2004) .

Some requirements for the development of this instrument are: Relevance, capacity, neutrality and Affordability (G. Osipov and collective, 1970).

Rodriguez, Gil and Garcia (1996), meanwhile, say it is necessary that the title alludes to the theme in abbreviated form on which information is sought. At the same time, they recommended: a) Formulate only questions related to the problem studied; b) Do not ask what can be obtained by other means; c) Plan the questionnaire considering how you are going to code and tabulate the responses; d) To formulate the questions so as to allow comparisons; e) Never ask questions that pose a particular difficulty for the respondent f) Avoid sensitive questions.

The survey had an important application from 350 people total weight. Some informal interviews were also conducted, which complemented the development of the diagnostic division. The review of documents in institutions enabled the development of the history of the development.

In the following month, and as a second stage of this design methodology assumed, it was the programming, resulting in a key moment for targeted action. In this phase the specific needs were defined and time fixed for the attention, from a participatory approach and the problems identified in the process of community diagnosis. At the same time this was a favorable for nesting and prioritization of intervention time.

For the development of such activities it was necessary to establish an overall strategy covering more interests represented on the community diagnosis. This conception of work generated the development of a work plan, structuring the areas of care at the community level, the definition of objectives and goals in the period proposed for intervention, which was for four months.

The determination of the specific objectives of work areas in order to generate a more visible impact on the creation of 5 sued community projects. In this time of intervention title, objectives, activities, goals, time scheduling and resources needed for the development of these they were established.

There was also necessary to identify existing and potential resources both at EU level and in the environment of the fractionation procedure. For the purpose of this stage a Gantt chart structure that allowed all intervention plan proposed in this lab is generated. At this stage working groups were formed in order to create projects aimed intervention to treat the problems that were identified in the survey conducted at the beginning of the research process and were endorsing through the neighborhood groups, home visits and the consensus of the general public.

In the remaining two months working on the execution, which was the stage of completion of projects that were organized based on the organization of the population, delimiting spaces and functions are concentrated. The definition of responsibilities and the definition of coordination and communication channels of the different elements involved in the process was essential at this stage of the procedure.

To support this implementation phase, various tools and techniques that were used to support the achievement of the objectives of each project developed and designed together with citizens so used. In this case, among the most useful tools is the development of codes of procedure, guidelines for meetings, participatory techniques, techniques of reflection and workshops in general. At the same time a multiplicity of steps were generated to meet the needs that could not be solved with the resources of the community.

Likewise, the projects allowed generating mechanisms of coordination and communication between some of the governmental institutions of the city with the community. Other important activities were focused on the promotion, motivation, awareness, training and revitalization.

Dwellings fractionation context of Porvenir in Ciudad Juarez. Intervention projects

Ciudad Juárez is one of 67 that make up the Mexican state of Chihuahua, it has a total population of 1,332,131 inhabitants, of whom 665,691 are men and 666,440 women. Ciudad Juarez besides being the head of the municipality, is also the most populous state of Chihuahua with 1,313,338 inhabitants and has an area of 4 853 8 km². Its main activity is the maquiladora industry, which in past years caused thousands of people migrate to the city in search of jobs and better quality of life because of the great job (INEGI, 2010).

The Mansions fractionation Porvenir is located between the streets and Manuel Gomez Morin National Army in Ciudad Juarez is located north of the country in the state of Chihuahua. Fractionation is immersed in the urban area of the city, so residents have access to most of the services it provides, such as hospitals, supermarkets and others.
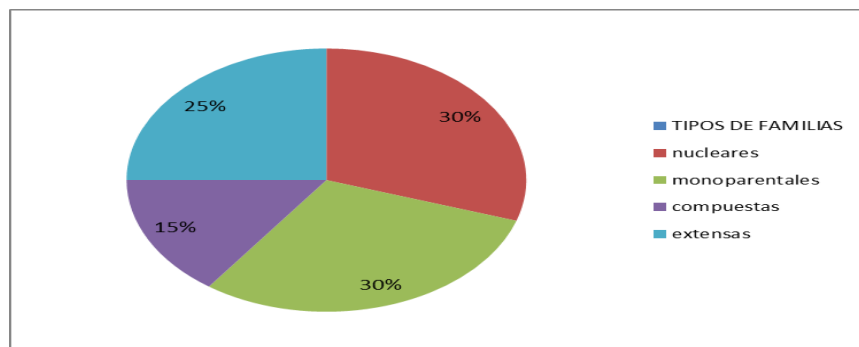
The division is divided into 27 apartment buildings, turning it into condominiums where residents are mostly poor, being their source of income by far the maquiladora industry. The division has more than 20 years old, and this is reflected in the deterioration of its structure and the abandonment of many of the apartments. These physical aspects have also had a significant impact on the deterioration of the collective consciousness, the sense of belonging and identity in the neighborhood.

Based on the interviews they conducted it was possible to corroborate that initially the division did not have the infrastructure it currently has. Community intervention was focused on the 27 buildings that make up the area of the colony, 12 apartments per building there. Despite advances in infrastructure excessive neglect of the collective structures and social spaces is denoted. This has been conditioned in part, according to the interviewees, the social crisis and insecurity experienced by the city in recent years. At the same time, the division is fragmented socially, making the collective image of itself as a community is gone.

As a result of the investigative process the absence of neighborhood organizations identified; neighbors said that before the crisis period was a committee of neighbors, but that insecurity deteriorated living conditions in the area. This implies the need to implement projects with leaders who can mobilize and lead the public towards community transformation processes.

Other features found are related to family types. You see Table 1. That a pretty diverse family structure is reflected, which has given an enormous complexity when calling, structure and raise community transformation projects. Above all, there are differing opinions in family entities, interests and schedules to attend the meetings planned throughout the entire process of transformation.
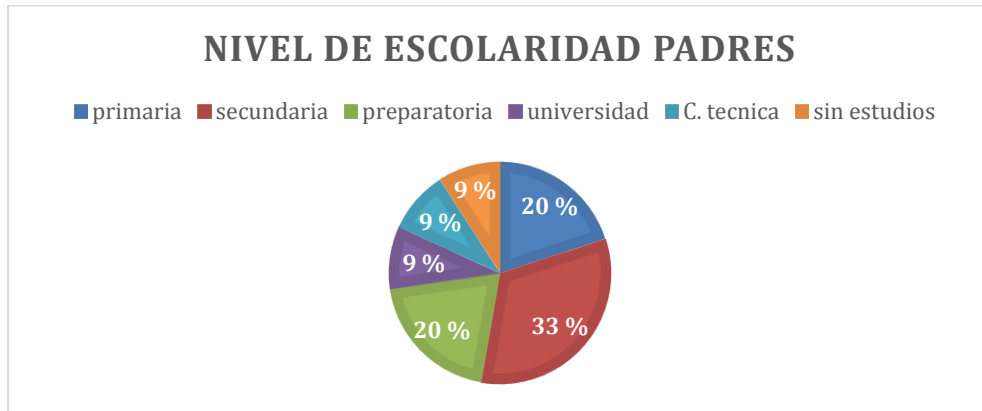

Family types, No. 1 box

Source: Prepared by intervention team

The people of the division have a level of schooling between primary and secondary, why have mostly with jobs in the maquiladora sector, which in turn is the primary source of employment in Ciudad Juarez. This meant the lack of qualified university level could be integrated into the projects proposed resources.

For its part, the educational level of parents fractionation is mostly entry level. Something similar happens with the children, most of whom are enrolled in basic education.
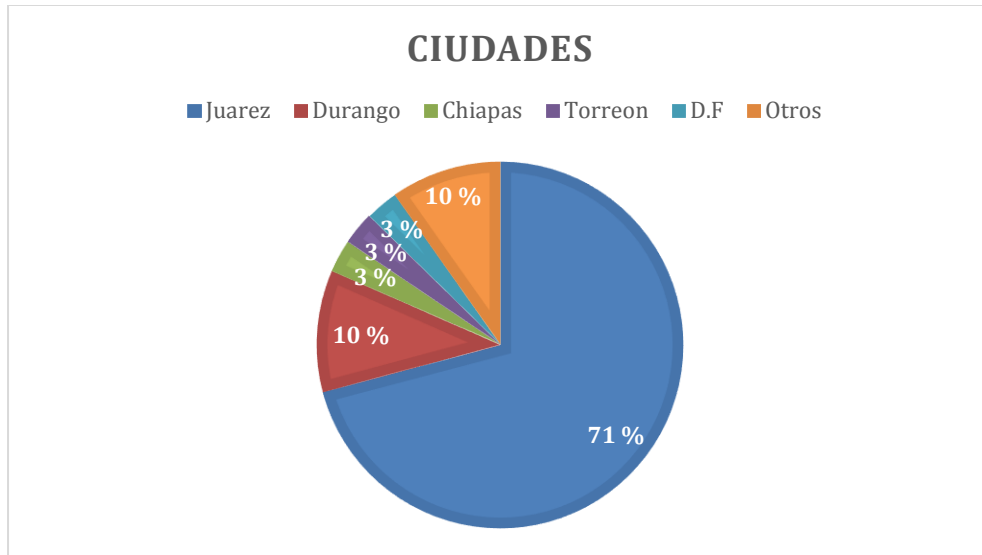

Educational level of parents, Table No. 2

Source: prepared by intervention team

Similarly, long working hours in this sector prevent attendance at regular times to the activities planned in each of the proposed projects. In this situation it was decided to perform activities on weekends, allowing increase community participation, although not met with the desired.

A key factor to understand the high level of fragmentation and social disintegration in the division is, in this case, the prevalence of people of dissimilar places of the Mexican Republic. Ciudad Juarez is an area that has been impacted by the migration of various population groups, a situation which is underlined by Moradas del Porvenir. Therefore, there is division within the diversity of cultures that sometimes causes conflicts or quarrels between neighbors arise. Also, immigrants generally do not have the same sense of belonging to the town that people own their own homes.

Their places of origin can be seen in the following table.

Cities and states, box No. 6

Source: prepared by Team practice.

In the colony there are social issues that demand attention, security being one of the most important for the people. The community is in a position of vulnerability due to the lack of patrols in the area. The presence of criminal acts such as burglary and bystanders is dormant, so the residents of the colony become victims to lose their heritage, increasing poverty and decreasing their quality of life.

Many of the streets have no public lighting, patrolling is void and empty houses and vacant lots are used by gangs to drink himself group.

It is noteworthy that certain services are deficient, such as street lights. For comments of the inhabitants are known to not always have lights because vandalism in the community has destroyed.

It was concluded by surveys in the sector, 20% of housing is not current in its payments for water and electricity, so it follows that are currently "hung" to obtain points. This creates discomfort for the rest of the settlers, as mentioned it's not fair that they are benefiting from the services of the empty houses and do not pay their fair share.

In the division it is largely in different types of pollution: you can see large amounts of trash and feces scattered throughout the subdivision dogs. This situation represents a serious health problem.

Similarly, the bands have deteriorated much of the infrastructure with graffiti, a situation that makes the division in an atmosphere of crime is perceived.

Also they exist within the fractionation conflicts between neighbors because some of them tend to listen to music at high volume. This problem is magnified by the fact that the division is divided into separated only by a wall apartment buildings.

The inhabitants of the area belong to an economic level of medium to low, with most working in the maquiladora industry, it represents the main source of employment in the city, located in a border context as mentioned above.

This is reflected in the socioeconomic status of the residents of the development. The situation does not allow them to achieve a better standard of life from education, because in the city is very common for both parents to work. In addition, families in the division are usually very numerous.

This reference to all these issues, identified in the first phase of research and diagnosis, decided to take the planning phase. For this five aid projects that were agreed and processed in the extent possible with a participatory approach they were developed. These projects were designed from the needs that citizenship was expressed throughout the different techniques and stages of research. The commitment and orientation of these projects was mainly in line with the public, as expressed in the framework of this article. The project objectives were multiple, but all were focused on overall community development. At the same time, for the development of these projects they were structured five task.

The five projects implemented sought to generate favorable proposals for the community had the following objectives:

Project 1: "For you change begins"

General purpose:

Implement a project-specific cleanup activities to improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of Dwellings fractionation of Porvenir.

Specific objectives:

Organize people to contribute fractionation planned activities.

Implement workshops to promote the culture of recycling.

Raise awareness about the obligations settlers and care contract to have a pet.

Project 2: "Participation + Action + Family = Recreation"

General purpose:

Enable recreational space for the community Dwellings Porvenir, in order to provide better social welfare and strengthen family life through technical and socio-educational activities directed toward the environment.

Specific objectives:

Involve as many people in the colony, which want to be part of the change in community recreation.

Give workshops and techniques with socio end to children, youth and adults, sensitizing, with topics for the care of the recreation area in your area, to promote family life.

Optimize recreational space conditions through activities where it involves the inhabitants of the colony.

Project 3: "My colony lives"

General purpose:

Empower the inhabitants of the colony Dwellings Porvenir skills and knowledge according to the image accountable and hygiene of empty houses.

Specific objectives:

Encourage settlers culture of respect, to thereby better care of the vacant houses is achieved.

Generate possible solutions to the problem of empty houses in the institutions.

Promote the active participation of the people for the restoration of the empty houses

Project 4: "Safe Neighbor"

General purpose:

Promote the participation of the inhabitants of the colony Moradas del Porvenir, through the implementation of a series of activities and talks aimed at the safety of their colony, to thereby achieve the colonists work together for the benefit of their community .

Specific objectives:

Promote awareness of the settlers regarding the problems that are generated due to the insecurity of their colony, through talks and activities aimed at splitting the people of the benefit of their community.

Strengthen the interest of the settlers to achieve the improvement of security in its division, to thereby achieve the social welfare of the community.

Assist in the formation of a strong neighborhood organization that is able to meet the needs arising from insecurity in their division, to thereby achieve the social welfare of their community.

Project 5: "Improving the Image of Your Cologne" (recycling)

General purpose:

Promote the participation of the inhabitants of the division concerning the improvement of the image of the houses, so that in this way the settlers have a better picture of where they live.

Specific objectives

Implement a set of workshops for community awareness for the recycling of plastic products.

Encourage the participation of the settlers for the recycling of plastic products in the Dwellings colony Porvenir.

Implement the plan of action for improving the image in homes from recycled plastic products.

Prospective analysis

From all the research and intervention process has identified a number of aspects that can contribute to improving the experience presented above and promote elements that contribute to future interventions, from school practices at the Autonomous University of Ciudad Juarez in the case specific communities of the city.

You need to consider and anticipate certain aspects to maintain the level of care and citizen participation in the projects implemented. These dissociating factors is the presence of parallel programs, projects and policies and government actions that disrupt the workflow. These external actions generated certain levels of expectations that the original intentions ralentecieron considered in the overall strategy in the community.

It is imperative to rebuild the communal organizational fabric by creating neighborhood, neighborhood and partnership structures after their marked absence in colonies as Moradas del Porvenir. This means that before you begin to consider actions aimed at community development, is key start with the neighborhood organization by building their own structures at the grassroots level that can empower themselves with the help of auditors purposes the practice team brings to share. Also, experience has shown that this stage of community organization is necessary for the sustainability of projects. This was determining at the limited role of the town taken in the

implementation of actions related to the treatment of local problems and the excessive dependence of the population to channel certain issues that should be addressed.

Lack a sense of belonging, lack of trust among citizens, community fragmentation, the absence of a collective conscience to address community issues, poor critique of reality and involvement for processing conscience, all are elements that are related, the specific case of the colony, with social decline and the crisis of insecurity suffered by the city about five years ago. These are vital aspects to be considered in the specific case of Juarez communities and should be treated as a priority to create projects that can be really welcomed by the public and in the future to maintain the results achieved derivatives social interventions. Also these aspects are directly linked to the origin of predominant social group within the colony, and have come to this country from different contexts, reflecting the absence of a collective identity in community affairs.

A factor to be taken into account in future social interventions is to break modes handout Community intervention. The theoretical and strategic conception team-oriented practices was seen as essential elements: community participation and cooperation, display and use of endogenous potential and incorporating all the factors in the process; however, this was not achieved the expected level. The scarce and low responses at various times of the intervention was mediated by the mentality existing waiting on citizenship, by the presence of a political patronage structured in individual and collective thinking of the settlers, by the appellant social immobility in large group of local society. Faced with these adversities they had to overcome the intervention projects had an orientation very focused on the practice squad at different times. Thus, the strategy was changed occasionally to management activities outside the Community intervention environment. Future interventions in the sector and city level should not lose sight of the actual incorporation of local resources, local human capital and the population segments between the ages ranging from 25 to 50 years developing the projects implemented . This may mean reducing unsustainable in the actions that took place and the permanence of the results.

Finally, it is necessary to use the human capital settled in communities, especially for its failure to enter initiatives. These must be complemented by the financial and material resources of communities and today such projects fail to incorporate and take advantage enough.

Conclusions

Cultural diversity and the high component of immigrants in the basics fractionation difficult to operate from a community approach, such as: a sense of belonging, community integration, participation and ability to build consensus at the grassroots level.

Although the theoretical and methodological conception assumed for research-transformation tries to overcome welfarism changing traditional forms of intervention and placing citizen participation and endogenous factors as drivers of the process, it was contradictory that a large number of resources and efforts They will focus on external sector of intervention to government and private institutions.

In the projects presented, the economic aspect was in deficit and were not able to strengthen the local economy, which threatens the sustainability of these. They also were lacking in a gender and environmental dimension; generally they lacked comprehensive vision.

Despite the achievements, training aimed at achieving skills in participation, reflection and organizational issues of the community, proponents of community development actors absence of adequate knowledge registers to play the role. The forms of participation remains limited by the influence of centralized, top-down culture model, which is played to the base burdening creativity in social actors.

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