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**Public Policy of Protection to Life  
and the Institutional Framework of  
Family**  
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## Introduction

The Public Policy for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family is presented as a systemic and guiding instrument to address the problems related to the protection of life from its conception, associated with its stages: prenatal and early childhood, childhood and adolescence, youth, adulthood, and older adulthood so that in a coordinated, harmonized, focused, and prioritized way the public institutions are strengthened to address these issues.

The purpose of this policy is to guarantee the well-being and protection of life and the institutional Framework of family, in all the stages indicated in the previous paragraph and the knowledge and fulfillment of their rights, from the regulations in force in the country.

The main interventions that this policy intends to address will be carried out through a system for the protection of life and the institutional framework of family, which comprises a set of inter-institutional coordinated actions that facilitate their integral development for the person and the family, guaranteeing the right to life, education and its link with health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, employment, and training, to achieve better living conditions.

The system includes four axes: a) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in the prenatal and early childhood stages; b) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in childhood and adolescence; c) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in youth and adulthood; and d) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in older adulthood.

The strategy proposed by this policy will be: by 2032, increase the care of the covered population through a protection system directed towards the implementation of the four aforementioned focal points, for the benefit of the prenatal stages and early childhood, childhood and adolescence, youth, adulthood and older adulthood.

To achieve the proposed strategy, actions are proposed, carried out using policies, programs, projects, or strategies that each of the institutions responsible or co-responsible for the realization and implementation of the policy will attend to. As well as the operation of the same, through the linking of current or potential products oriented to Strategic Development Results and Institutional Results, which, according to its competence, plans, schedules and executes public institutions to contribute to compliance of the indicated axes.

The Ministry of Education will be the governing body of this public policy that will direct with the responsible public institutions, the actions that are defined in the action plan, for which they must coordinate efforts and promote the corresponding communication. The minister will act as coordinating entity according to what is established in the Executive Branch Law 114-97, articles 23, 27 and 33, as well as articles 2 and 43 of the Education Law, Legislative Decree 12-91.

This document is divided into a normative and political framework, justification, the conceptual framework, situational diagnosis, general and specific objectives, the life protection system and the Institutional Framework of Family, focal points, guidelines, and strategies, follow up and evaluation, appendix, and bibliography.

## 1. Regulatory and Political Framework

This section describes all those national and international instruments recognized by the country and supported within the regulations to guarantee the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family as an essential foundation of society.

### 1.1 National Regulations

This begins its analysis with the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, mainly articles 1, 2, 3, 44, 47 to 56, 66, 74 and 77, which establish the following:

**Table 1**  
Articles of the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala

	Description
Article 1	Protection of the Person. The State of Guatemala is organized to protect the person and the family; its supreme goal is the realization of the common good.
Article 2	Duties of the State. It is the duty of the State to guarantee life, liberty, justice, security, peace and the integral development of the person to the inhabitants of the Republic.
Article 4	Freedom and equality. In Guatemala all human beings are free and equal in dignity and rights. Men and women, whatever their marital status, have equal opportunities and responsibilities. No person may be subjected to servitude or to any other condition that undermines his dignity. Human beings must keep fraternal behavior among themselves.
Article 3	Right to life. The State guarantees and protects human life from its conception, as well as the integrity and security of the person.
Article 44	Rights inherent to the human person. The rights and guarantees granted by the Constitution do not exclude others that, although not expressly included in it, are inherent to the human person.
Article 47	Protection of the family. The State guarantees the social, economic, and legal protection of the family. It will promote its organization on the legal basis of marriage, the equal rights of the spouses, responsible parenthood, and the right of people to freely say the number and spread of their children.
Article 48	De facto union. The State recognizes the de facto union, and the law will prescribe everything related to it.
Article 49	Marriage. Mayors, councilors, practicing notaries and ministers of worship empowered by the corresponding administrative authority, may authorize the marriage.
Article 50	Equality of children. All children are equal before the law and have the same rights. All discrimination is punishable.
Article 51	Protection of minors and the elderly. The State will protect the physical, mental, and moral health of minors and the elderly. It will guarantee their right to food, health, education and security and social welfare.
Article 52	Maternity. Maternity has the protection of the State, which will ensure in a special way the strict fulfillment of the rights and obligations that derive from it.
Article 53	Handicapped. The State guarantees the protection of the handicapped and people who suffer from physical, mental, or sensory limitations. Their medical-social care is declared of national interest, as well as the promotion of policies and services that allow their rehabilitation and their integral reincorporation into society. The law will regulate this matter and will create the technical and executing agencies that are necessary.

Description

Article 54	Adoption. The State recognizes and protects the adoption. The adoptee acquires the status of the adopter's child. The protection of orphaned and abandoned children is declared of national interest.
Article 55	Obligation to provide food. Refusal to provide food in the manner prescribed by law is punishable.
Article 56	Actions against causes of family disintegration. Actions against alcoholism, drug addiction and other causes of family disintegration are declared of social interest. The State must take the appropriate prevention, treatment, and rehabilitation measures to make these actions effective, for the well-being of the individual, the family and society.
Article 66	Protection of ethnic groups. Guatemala is made up of diverse ethnic groups, including indigenous groups of Mayan descent. The State recognizes, respects, and promotes their ways of life, customs, traditions, forms of social organization, the use of indigenous dress by men and women, languages and dialects.
<b>SECTION FOUR: EDUCATION</b>	
Article 71	Education rights. The freedom of teaching and teaching criteria is guaranteed. It is the obligation of the State to provide and facilitate education to its inhabitants without any discrimination. The foundation and maintenance of cultural educational centers and museums is declared to be of public utility and necessity.
Article 72	Purposes of education. Education has as its primary purpose the integral development of the human person, the knowledge of the national and universal reality and culture. Education, instruction, social training and systematic teaching of the Constitution of the Republic and human rights are declared of national interest.
Article 73	Freedom of education and state economic assistance. The family is the source of education and parents have the right to choose what is to be imparted to their minor children. The State may subsidize free private educational centers and the law will regulate what is related to this matter. Private educational centers will operate under the inspection of the State. They are obliged to fill, at least, the official study plans and programs. As centers of culture, they will enjoy exemption from all kinds of taxes and duties. Religious education is optional in official establishments and may be taught within ordinary hours, without any discrimination. The State will contribute to the maintenance of religious education without any discrimination.
Article 74	Obligatory education. The inhabitants have the right and the obligation to receive initial, pre-school, elementary and basic education, within the age limits established by law. Education provided by the State is free. The State will provide and promote scholarships and educational credits. Scientific, technological and humanistic educations are objectives that the State must guide and expand permanently. The State will promote special, diversified and extracurricular education.
Article 75	Literacy. Literacy is declared a national emergency and it is a social obligation to contribute to it. The State must organize and promote it with all the necessary resources.
Article 76	Educational system and bilingual teaching. The administration of the educational system must be decentralized and regionalized. In schools established in areas with a predominantly indigenous population, teaching should preferably be bilingual.
Article 77	Obligations of business owners. The owners of industrial, agricultural, livestock and commercial companies are obliged to establish and maintain, in accordance with the law, schools, nurseries and cultural centers for their workers and school population.

Description

Article 78	Teaching profession. The State shall promote the economic, social, and cultural improvement of the teaching profession, including the right to retirement that makes their effective dignity possible. The rights acquired by the national teaching profession are minimal and inalienable. The law will regulate these matters.
Article 79	Agricultural education. The study, learning, exploitation, commercialization, and agricultural industrialization are declared of national interest. The Central National School of Agriculture is created as a decentralized, autonomous entity, with legal personality and its own assets; must organize, direct, and develop the agricultural and forestry study plans of the Nation at the secondary school level; and it will be governed by its own Organic Law, corresponding to an allocation of no less than five percent of the ordinary budget of the Ministry of Agriculture.
Article 80	Promotion of science and technology. The State recognizes and promotes science and technology as fundamental bases of national development. The law will regulate what is pertinent.
Article 81	Titles and diplomas. The titles and diplomas, whose issuance corresponds to the State, have full legal validity. The rights acquired by the exercise of the professions accredited by said titles must be respected and provisions of any kind may not be issued that limit or restrict them.

Source: Congress of the Republic of Guatemala, 1985. Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala

The previous articles include the State's obligation for the common good, the protection of life from conception, social protection, as well as the well-being of the family, and the State's obligation to provide and facilitate education to its inhabitants without any discrimination.

Other provisions relevant to the approval of the Public Policy for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family.

- Government Agreement 239-2020 creates the "Accompany me to Grow" Program.
- Law to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Domestic Violence, Decree Number 7-96.
- Law for the Dignification and Integral Promotion of Women, Decree Number 7-99.
- Law against Femicide and other Forms of Violence against Women, Decree Number 22-2008.
- Law against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons, Decree number 09-2009.
- Law of Attention to Persons with Disabilities, Decree Number 135-96.
- Educational Promotion Law against Discrimination, Decree Number 81-2002.
- American Convention on Human Rights, known as the "Pact of San José" (ratified in 1978).
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (ratified in 1990).
- Convention against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (ratified in 1987).
- Convention Relative to Combating Discrimination in the Teaching Sphere (ratified in 1962).
- International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, (ratified in 1969).

Likewise, given the focal points established by this Policy, which are: a) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in the prenatal and early childhood stages; b) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in childhood and adolescence; c) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in youth and adulthood; and d) Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in older adulthood, the most relevant ordinary laws on which these axes are based are presented, these being:

**Table 2**  
Ordinary laws that support the main points of politics

Main Point	Law	Relevant Article	Analysis
a) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in the prenatal and early childhood stages	Law for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents, Decree No. 27-2003	The purpose of this law seeks to achieve the integral and sustainable development of Guatemalan children and adolescents, within a democratic and unrestricted framework with respect to human rights.	Establishes the national legal framework for the comprehensive protection of the human rights of children and adolescents.
b) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in childhood and adolescence	National Education Law, Decree 12-91	<p>Article 2: Purposes of Education in Guatemala ...</p> <p>Article 29: Levels of the School Education Subsystem. - Establishes the levels, cycles, grades and stages that the School Education Subsystem must have ...</p> <p>Article 43 Definition. - «... Initial education is considered, which begins from the child's conception, up to four years of age; (Op Cit) (SIC) seeking their integral development and supporting the family for their full formation.»</p> <p>Article 44. Purposes. - «... The purposes of initial education are: (a) To guarantee the full development of every human being from conception, their existence and the right to live in favorable family and environmental conditions before the responsibility of the State. (b) To promote the psych biosocial development of the child through programs of attention to the mother in the pre and postnatal periods, of support and protection of the family ... »</p>	Regarding the modality of initial education, according to the Law, it is important to consider the attention that is required of the unborn person and the care that must prevail in their integral development.
c) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in youth and adulthood	Social Development Law Decree 42-2001	The purpose of this Law is to create a legal framework that allows the implementation of legal and public policy procedures, to carry out the promotion, planning, coordination, execution, monitoring and evaluation of government and State actions, aimed at the development of the human person in social, family, and human aspects and their environment, with emphasis on special attention groups.	It defines sectors that deserve special attention in the preparation, execution, monitoring and evaluation of the Social Development and Population Policy.

Main Point	Law	Relevant Article	Analysis
	Law against femicide and other forms of violence against women, Decree 22-2008.	Its objective is to guarantee the life, liberty, integrity, dignity, protection, and equality of all women before the law, and of the law.	The purpose is to promote and implement provisions aimed at the eradication of physical, psychological, sexual, economic violence or any type of coercion against women, guaranteeing them a life free of violence, as stipulated in the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala. and the international instruments on women's human rights, ratified by Guatemala.
	Law against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Trafficking in Persons, Decree 9-2009.	The purpose of the Law is to prevent, repress, punish, and eradicate sexual violence, exploitation and trafficking in persons, the care and protection of its victims and compensate the damages caused.	This Law creates the Secretariat against Sexual Violence, exploitation, and human trafficking.
	Law for the Dignification and Integral Promotion of Women, Decree Law Number 7-99 of the Congress of the Republic.	This law, in its article 2, literal a), prescribes that the Government aims to: "Promote the integral development of women and their participation at all levels of economic, political and social life in Guatemala."	This is the fundamental national legal instrument to support the National Policy for the Promotion and Integral Development of Women and the Equal Opportunities Plan.
d) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in older adulthood	Protection Law for Senior Citizens, Decree No. 80-96 of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.	This Law aims to protect the interests of the elderly, so that they lead an adequate standard of living in terms of health, food, housing, clothing, geriatric medical assistance, comprehensive gerontology, recreation, relaxation, and social services.	This Law obliges the State to draw up policies that guarantee this group the basic services that allow the development of comprehensive and differentiated care at the different levels of care of the system, which will also allow them to extend their years of life, to maintain as active and healthy as possible, which is to say achieving «satisfactory longevity»
	Law of the Economic Contribution Program for the Elderly, Decree Number 85-2005	This Law creates the Economic Contribution Program for people of sixty-five years of age (Op.cit.) (Sic) and over, in order for the State to guarantee to this sector of the population, the attention of their basic needs as minimum.	The beneficiaries of this program are all those people who are Guatemalan of origin, 65 years of age or older, who demonstrate through the socioeconomic study carried out by a social worker, that they lack economic resources and that they are in extreme poverty.

Source: self made.



The aforementioned laws present normative guidelines that order to attend to the specific group or sector, and to manage their respective inter and intra-institutional coordination, to achieve integral and sustainable development, based on the human rights of the population.

In Guatemala, the Political Constitution of the Republic establishes in article 47, that the State guarantees the social, economic and legal protection of the family. Promote your organization on the legal basis of marriage, the equal rights of spouses, responsible parenthood, and the right of people to freely decide the number and spacing of their children.

On the other hand, the Law of Social Development and Population (Decree No. 42-2001) in its article six (6) indicates that the organization of the family is the basic unit of society, which it considers on the legal basis of marriage (Cf. Article 78 of Decree Law 106, Civil Code). It also constitutes a family nucleus with the same rights, the de facto union, single mothers, and fathers (articles 48 of the Political Constitution of the Republic and 173 of the Civil Code). Likewise, the biological family and extended family (Cf. Article 2, literals f, g, Decree 77-2007, Adoption Law).

Other relevant regulations that transversely address the focal points of this policy are:

- The Civil Code, Decree Law Number 106.
- The Health Code, Decree Number 90-97 of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.
- Law for Healthy Maternity, Decree Number 32-2010 of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.
- Law on the Marketing of Breast Milk Substitutes, Decree Law number 66-83.
- The Social Development Law, Decree Number 42-2001 of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.
- Law of Urban and Rural Development Councils, Decree Number 11-2002 of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.
- The Municipal Code, Decree Number 12-2002, of the Congress of the Republic of Guatemala.
- The Law to prevent, punish and eradicate domestic violence, Decree No. 97-96.
- Food and Nutrition Security Law Decree Number 32-2005.
- School Feeding Law and its regulations, Decree 16-2017.
- Universal Declaration of Human Rights.
- American Convention on Human Rights.
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.
- Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women.
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
- The Hague Convention on the Protection of the Child and on Cooperation in Matters of Intercountry Adoption, ratified in 2002.
- ILO Convention 182, on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, ratified 2001.
- Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women, ratified in 1996.
- Convention 169 on Indigenous and Tribal Peoples in Independent Countries, of the International Labor Organization ILO, ratified in 1994.
- The Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified in 1990.

## 1.2. International Regulations

The State of Guatemala has ratified international conventions that support the content of this Policy, these being:

## 1.3. Political framework

This policy must be coordinated with the public policies detailed below:

**Table 3**  
Public Policy Framework

Main Point	Policy	Coordination objective or guideline	Analysis
a) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in the prenatal and early childhood stages	Public Policy for Comprehensive Childhood Development	General objective: to ensure that children in Guatemala, from the moment of conception and gestation until the age of six, enjoy their basic rights through the construction of a system that promotes both care and comprehensive development.	The first six years of life are essential for the psychobiosocial development of people according to the accumulated scientific evidence. In this stage, the cognitive and affective bases of human beings are structured that will guarantee their future performance in their society.
b) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in childhood and adolescence	Public Policy for Comprehensive Protection and National Action Plan for Children and Adolescents	General objective establishes: guarantee the effective fulfillment of the human rights of children and adolescents in Guatemala, through coordinated action between State institutions, with the cooperation of civil society organizations, the participation of children and adolescence, and the collaboration of the international community.	The Law of Comprehensive Protection for Children and Adolescents establishes the responsibilities of the State for the protection of children's rights.
c) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in youth and adulthood	National Youth Policy	General objective establishes: to promote the full enforcement of the rights of youth to improve their conditions and quality of life, favoring their integral development and the full exercise of citizenship as subjects of rights and strategic development actors.	The Policy highlights youth as the social subjects of the present and recognizes the responsibility of the State in giving priority to youth.
	National Policy for the Promotion and Integral Development of Women - PNPDIM- and the Equity Opportunity Plan - PEO- 2008-2023	General objective: to promote the integral development of Mayan, Garífuna, Xinka and Mestizo women in all spheres of economic, social, political and cultural life	The objective of the Plan - PEO- is to integrate the different axes, programs and goals of the PNPDIM and the PEO in the different general and specific policies of the ministries, secretariats and institutions of the Executive Branch.
d) Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in older adulthood	National Policy of Comprehensive Attention to Older Adults in Guatemala for the period 2018-2032	The general objective establishes: to guarantee access to basic services for the elderly through intersectoral actions implemented by public institutions in a way that allows the active and healthy aging of this population sector.	The State of Guatemala must prepare itself for the provision of services directed in a specialized and pertinent way to this population sector.

Source: self-made

Another policy that addresses the issue in a transversal way is:

### Food and Nutrition Security Policy

The legal foundation of the Food and Nutrition Security Policy (PSAN) is based on the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala. In its Article 2, it establishes as Duties of the State, to guarantee life, security and integral development to the inhabitants of the Republic; food and nutrition are inherent parts of these rights.

Other important analyzes to consider within the framework of the National Development Plan:

### National Development Plan

The National Development Plan K'atun 2032, has a development horizon of 20 years, proposes a common vision of the country. The set of guidelines of this Plan is directed to the gradual transformation towards the development of the whole society.

The essence of sustainable development in Guatemala is found in the commitment to equity, the articulating axis of the K'atun that safeguards the principle of leaving no one behind. Starting from the inclusive construction of the K'atun Plan, the country is struggling to achieve the established priorities. In view of the persistent social and economic gaps in the country, efforts are being made to improve the statistical capacity to produce data disaggregated by different population groups and territorial areas, in order to better target public policies and government programs.

Therefore, the policies are oriented towards an institutional link contained in the 10 National Development Priorities and 16 Strategic Development Goals approved by CONADUR, through Resolution Points number 8-2017 and 3-2018, taking into consideration the lines of action of the National Development Plan (PND).

The National Development Plan understands social protection as the set of measures that promote the quality of life, alleviate poverty, exclusion, and the loss of livelihoods. From that account, social protection must include: a) Social policies, b) Social assistance programs and, c) Social security mechanisms.

Likewise, the link of this Policy with the 2030 Development Agenda is presented.

### 2030 Development Agenda

At the Summit for Sustainable Development that took place in September 2015, the member states of the United Nations (UN) approved the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development for a period of 15 years, which includes a set of 17 sustainable development goals and 169 targets to end poverty, fight inequality and injustice, tackle climate change and leave no one behind.

By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys complete primary and secondary education, which must be free, equitable and of quality and produce relevant and effective learning outcomes.

By 2030, ensure that all girls and boys have access to quality early childhood development and care services and early childhood education so that they are ready for primary education.

Similarly, it is important to emphasize that when addressing the issue of protection of life and family, it is necessary to take into account the following:

#### **Universal Declaration of Human Rights**

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UN, 1948, article 16.3) indicates that the family is the natural and fundamental element of society and has the right to the protection of society and the State.

#### **Convention on the Rights of the Child**

Likewise, the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN, 1989, preamble) recognizes the family as a fundamental group of society and a natural environment for the growth and well-being of all its members; and, in particular, of children, who must receive the protection and assistance necessary to be able to fully assume their responsibilities within the community. The document highlights that such protection is the responsibility of the entire society.

Another important analysis to consider as support for this policy is the following:

#### **Model of Management by Results on the Level of Initial Education**

The Ministry of Education formulates the Model of Management by Results on the Level of Initial Education, November 2018, which supports the bases and academic and scientific evidence of the importance of education as a fundamental right of the human being, it is established as an obligation of the State provide education to the country's inhabitants.

Regarding early childhood care, the country's statistics report serious deficiencies in the fulfillment of the basic rights of children, including the right to education.

## **2. Justification**

The purpose of this public policy is to strengthen the institutions and establish guidelines that help to guarantee the attention to the immediate needs of protection of life from its conception and human rights of the person who is to be born, prenatal stage, early childhood, childhood, adolescence, youth, adulthood, and older adulthood, thus protecting the family as the basic unit of society.

Therefore, it is intended to implement a system for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in all its stages and the insertion in the National Educational System as appropriate, in accordance with current regulations, recognizing the role of the family in the protection of its members, promoting the harmonization and optimization of institutional interventions through the fullness and observance of their rights.

The human being must enjoy dignity in all stages of life, from conception to natural death. In the family it is precisely where this dignity can be safeguarded, protected, and defended. For this reason, the elderly are not only part of the family but also one of their priorities.

It is the responsibility of the State to define policies, programs, projects, strategies, among others, that ensure and facilitate equitable access to them.

The country's legal system establishes that the State of Guatemala must organize itself to protect the person and the family, and must guarantee the inhabitants life, liberty, justice, security, peace and the integral development of the person.

Taking into account that the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala indicates that education has as its primary purpose the integral development of the human person, this Policy will articulate strategies, programs and projects that have as objectives the access to education of the population, as a mechanism to generate the conditions for their well-being and protection, as well as access to services and goods that guarantee the satisfaction of vital and basic needs in a dignified and timely manner, which will be granted by each of the institutions responsible or co-responsible for the axes of this policy, according to its mandate.

### 3. Conceptual framework

The issues of protection of life in its different stages are addressed, with the person being the center of this, from conception to natural death, as a means of protecting the family.

From this logic, the focus of the policy of protection of life and the institutional framework of family is considered fundamental, since it constitutes a fundamental pillar for the development and well-being of the person and the family, who are the ones who face adverse situations or crisis and mobilize their own resources to care for those who are part of their nucleus and community. Therefore, the family must have sufficient resources to guarantee that its members can develop fully during the different stages of life, being the role of the State to promote and complement actions to achieve the objective of the common good.

The needs at each stage of the person vary from one to another, so it is a priority for this policy, to address the following stages: prenatal, early childhood, childhood, adolescence, youth, adulthood and older adulthood.

In the prenatal stage, it is important to protect life from its conception, as well as to protect children from the first moment of life, as stated in the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UN, 1989, preamble) «the child, for their lack of physical and mental maturity, needs special protection and care, including due legal protection, both before and after birth», it is crucial to prioritize the care of the

There is a general consensus that education transforms lives, brings evident benefits for a fuller and better life, and contributes to the improvement of society as a whole; a society in which people are aware of their rights and duties<sup>1</sup>.

Special attention will be given to the mother in the gestation period, the breastfeeding mother, the unborn person, neonates, boys and girls, adolescents, youth, adults and older adults, in a condition of risk for their full development and generation a coordinated process to overcome inequalities in access to opportunities and resources.

and childhood in health, nutrition and education issues.

Papalia, F. (2012), indicates that good prenatal care before conception can give all boys and girls a better opportunity to enter the world in good condition and thus face the difficulties of living outside the womb.

The prenatal stage is the first of the stages in human development. It is also called the stage of intrauterine development or the phase of intrauterine life<sup>2</sup>. It refers to the development of the human being in the womb during the period called pregnancy. This stage ranges from conception to birth<sup>3</sup>.

Accumulated scientific evidence shows that the first 1000 days, which range from conception or fertilization to two years, are crucial for human development and health. Therefore, from the prenatal stage, both the mother and the unborn person have specific needs for nutrition, health, care and protection that are vital for the development and safety of both. In this way, the family is the guarantor and the support network for said protection. The State will seek to increase access to education for women, at least, up to the Middle Level, Basic Cycle, thereby promoting a better life condition for women and their offspring.

1. <https://www.entreculturas.org/es/noticias/el-principal-objetivo-de-la-educacion-el-desarrollo-integral-de-la-persona>.

2. <https://www.etapasdesarrollohumano.com/etapas/prenatal/>

3. Morris, Ch.; Maistro, A. (2005) « Introduction to Psychology », Twelfth Edition. Editorial Pearson. Mexico. Recovered from: <https://cucjonline.com/biblioteca/files/original/86ac7ac5dc9cd7757787b9aaad6cad57.pdf>

Early childhood is the stage between 0 and 6 years old, it is crucial because in it the psychobiosocial bases for the development of people are formed. UNICEF (2017) in the report; early childhood matters for every child, demonstrates that the period from conception to the beginning of school education provides a decisive and unique opportunity to influence children's brain development, and thereby ensure full development of their capacities, so this policy is based on the integral conception of child development that allows meeting the needs of education, health, food and nutritional security, respecting their individual characteristics and socio-cultural characteristics of belonging<sup>4</sup>.

According to Morris, Ch. And Maistro A., (2005) it is in the childhood stage that interacting with others is an important aspect for their development, being the most important interpersonal relationships of children with their parents and other caregivers, what expands when they start school.

Childhood and adolescence extend to eighteen years of age, is characterized by social, cognitive, moral and physical development, so they need the adults in their care to ensure a protective environment that provides them with the conditions for their learning, nutrition, recreation and comprehensive health. However, the frequency with which children and adolescents are seen in situations of violence, mistreatment, and abuse, has been increasing.

Papalia (2010) describes adolescence as «A developmental transition that involves physical, cognitive, emotional and social changes and that takes different forms in different social, cultural and economic settings, spanning approximately 11 to 19 or 20 years».

At this stage, as part of the comprehensive training, the sexual education of children and adolescents is addressed, which must be appropriate to the age, respectful of the morals of the family and with the prior authorization of the parents and in constant communication with them, who are the first and main educators. From here on, sexual education and its variants will only be understood as the one previously presented.

Adolescence is a time of opportunities, but also of risks for healthy development, like addictions, gang

and groups in conflict with the law, teenage pregnancies, for which they need a family and social environment that protects them and provides them with opportunities for comprehensive education, recreation, art and sports for the healthy development of their potential.

Education and its contribution to job placement and / or earning income from entrepreneurship, small or micro-business, among others, should also be considered.

Interpersonal relationships become more relevant in adolescence, so that both children and adolescents have the right to live without violence, in which the adults in their care ensure their dignity. However, the frequency with which children and adolescents are seen in situations of violence, mistreatment and abuse, has been increasing. It is necessary to emphasize that children and adolescents who are in a condition of poverty, discrimination or disability, are hampered in their access to education and development.

This makes it necessary to strengthen the special protection of children and adolescents through policies and programs that address aspects of prevention, detection, care and recovery of victims. To achieve it, it is necessary to approach it from the integrality and coordination.

The implications of the lack of basic opportunities can stimulate forms of behavior that alter the social relationships with which the community develops in an orderly fashion. Young people are especially exposed to specific risks of premature motherhood / fatherhood, sexually transmitted diseases, violence, among others. This limits the development of human capacities.

Likewise, according to the first National Youth Survey in Guatemala (ENJU, 2011), the great challenges faced by youth are the following: limited level of schooling, dropout rates, poor acquisition of skills or job skills, search for and access to employment, reasons for migration and risks, health and physical activity, family relationships and sexual education, knowledge and prevention of risk behaviors, participation in youth organizations, prevention of violence, appropriate use of technologies and networks social, among others.

4. Unicef (2017) Report Early Childhood Matters for Every Child, recovered in [https://www.unicef.org/spanish/publications/files/UNICEF\\_Early\\_Moments\\_Matter\\_for\\_Every\\_Child\\_Sp.pdf](https://www.unicef.org/spanish/publications/files/UNICEF_Early_Moments_Matter_for_Every_Child_Sp.pdf)

In all these areas, the family plays a fundamental role in protection, training, prevention and support. In the family, young people are trained in their study and work habits, in their scale of values and morals, their social skills and way of relating to the world, including in the prevention of violence, which lead to an adulthood with better life conditions.

The adult stage, according to Papalia (2010) is defined by three criteria: they accept their own responsibilities, make independent decisions and obtain financial independence. It implies physical, psychological, cognitive and social maturity to start and maintain a career, start a family and exercise citizenship.

The adult needs employment and development opportunities, so institutional efforts are necessary to strengthen capacities in obtaining economic income for its sustainability, training programs, care for parents and others that ensure the well-being of both adults as well as the unborn person who will be under their care, for the strengthening of the family, citizenship and with it the development of Guatemalan society.

In addition, regarding the adult stage, it will focus on strengthening capacities to obtain economic income for its sustainability, training programs, care for parents and others that ensure the well-being of both the adult and the person by born who will be in your care.

In older adulthood, priorities focus on issues related to the legacy of values left by their descendants, the meaning of life, health, palliative care and social assistance programs. It is a propitious stage for the development of wisdom and its contribution to the community.

The protection of life and the family should include interventions aimed at social assistance, social security, access to social services, prevention, reduction and elimination of social and economic risks, which exacerbate problems such as: discrimination, inequality, exclusion social and poverty. Among the interventions mentioned, training to access a decent job or entrepreneurship can be exemplified, as well as using temporary conditional public transfers, whether in cash, species or public works, which can strengthen people's capacities and allow them to get out of the risk condition in which they find themselves.

Likewise, the support of key actors in promoting the protection of life and family is important.

It is important to consider some principles that contribute to the conceptual framework of this policy:

**Right to life:** it is conferred on any member of the human family from the moment of conception and obliges the State and its citizens to protect life in all its stages. This human right is considered the most important as it is the origin of all other rights. For the State of Guatemala, everything related to the right to life is regulated exclusively in accordance with the Political Constitution of the Republic, ratified Treaties and Conventions, as well as ordinary laws and their regulations<sup>5</sup>.

In relation to the aforementioned,  
«The family is the natural and fundamental element of society and has the right to the protection of society and the State»<sup>6</sup>

**Equality principle:** It is a legal principle that comes from the recognition of human nature, the intrinsic dignity that they possess and the equal and inalienable rights that characterize them, in legal terms it is the equality that exists between all members of the human family by the mere constitution of their nature without any distinction, based on race, color, sex, language, religion, political opinion, national or social origin, economic position and birth<sup>7</sup>.

**Higher interest of the unborn person, childhood, adolescence, and youth:** It must be the main consideration in the creation and implementation of the strategic axes and action plans, guaranteeing their correct integration into society, through the exercise, enjoyment, and restitution of rights. Therefore, the unborn person, girls, boys, adolescents, and young people are recognized as rights holders and the family as the main responsible for their care, education, and protection, understanding the State as the guarantor of the realization of the common good<sup>8</sup>.

5. <http://www.fao.org/social-protection/overview/whatispp/es/>

6. <https://dudh.es/tag/familia/>

7. <https://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/28141.pdf>

8. <http://www.oas.org/es/cidh/informes/pdfs/nna-garantiaderechos.pdf>

**Promotion of equal and equitable relationships between men and women:** to achieve true development, equal rights and obligations between men and women must be recognized; as well as the differences that make them different and complementary. Promoting equal and equitable relationships will build strong families, communities and societies.<sup>9</sup>

Likewise, the principles that base education in Guatemala are listed, in accordance with the National Education Law, Legislative Decree No. 12-91:

- It is an inherent right of the human person and an obligation of the State.
- In respect of the dignity of the human person and the effective fulfillment of the

Human Rights.

- It has the student as the center and subject of the educational process.
- It is oriented to the development and integral improvement of the human being through a permanent, gradual and progressive process.
- In being an instrument that contributes to the formation of a just and democratic society.
- It is defined and carried out in a multilingual, multiethnic and multicultural environment depending on the communities that make it up.
- It is a scientific, humanistic, critical, dynamic, participatory, and transformative process.

## 4. Situational diagnostic

The public problem that this policy will address is related to the protection of life and the institutional framework of the family to attend to the immediate needs of protection of life from its conception, early childhood, childhood, adolescence, youth, adulthood and older adulthood for protect the family as the basic unit of society.

To respond to the care needs, it is essential that the institutional strategic and operational actions are implemented in a coordinated manner to achieve a positive impact on the population referred to in this policy. The populations have faced difficulties in accessing educational services in an equal and equitable way that allows them to improve their living conditions.

Therefore, the articulation and harmony of the actions promoted through a system of integral protection of the life and institutional framework of the family must be strengthened, to guarantee the fullness and observance of the fundamental rights that correspond to it.

When considering the situation of the education that the State provides to children, the demographic characterization of the country according to the existing age groups, among others, must be taken into account. In this context, according to the National Population Census for 2018, the Guatemalan population was estimated at 14,901,286 inhabitants.

As can be seen in Table 1, it is estimated that 4,972,725 of said total ranged from approximately 0 to 14 years old, representing 33.37% of the population, 4,413,566 people were between 15 to 29 years old representing 29.62% of the total, from 30 to 64 years, 4,677,715 people were registered, 31.39%, 752,404 people from 65 to 84 years old, representing 5.05%, and 84,876 people from 85 years old or more, 0.57%. According to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, 16.23% of Guatemalans were boys and girls who were in the period where «... The development of the child has been much faster than in any other period of her life, both psychologically and physically» and therefore this temporary space should be used to «Set the foundations that will allow you to try new experiences...»

9. <https://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/a22083.pdf>



**Chart 1**

Guatemala population  
Quantity by age range  
Estimate as of 2018

Type of population by age range	Quantity	Percentage (%) of the total
0 to 14 years	4,972,725	33.37%
15 to 29 years	4,413,566	29.62%
30 to 64 years	4,677,715	31.39%
65 to 84 years	752,404	5.05%
85 or more years	84,876	0.57%
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,901,286</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

Source: National Population Census 2018

One of the scourges that limit the possibilities of childhood development is chronic malnutrition. According to the National Maternal and Child Health Survey (ENSMI) carried out in 2014/15, 46.5% of children under 5 years of age suffer from chronic malnutrition. When analyzing the various social groups and territorial conditions, notable differences are nuanced, since it is almost double in rural areas (53%) compared to urban areas (35%), which is more acute in the indigenous population (61%). ) with respect to the non-indigenous (34%) (MSPAS, 2016).

The highest percentage of children with chronic malnutrition is observed in the ages of 18 to 23 months (55%) and 24 to 47 months (between 51 and 52%), 29.8% of Guatemalan children under 6 months have chronic malnutrition, causing growth failure from the moment of birth and the first days of life. The departments that represent the highest levels of malnutrition at the national level are those with the highest percentage of indigenous population, including Totonicapán, Quiché, Huehuetenango, San Marcos and Alta Verapaz. (PPINA, 2019; p. 24)

An important point to deal with the age group indicated in the previous paragraphs is the mortality that they present in the country. The newsletter no. 18 in the We Count! entitled Early Childhood. Wings for development takeoff 25, indicates that «... In Guatemala, mortality in girls and boys under 5 years of age generally occurs due to preventable causes, associated with acute respiratory infections, various strong infections (septicemias), gastrointestinal infections, due to malnutrition, diarrhea, low birth weight, among others.

The causes vary according to the life span of the infants, whether they are 28 days old (neonatal mortality), up to one year (infant mortality), or if they are under 5 years old ... «According to the aforementioned document, for the year 2013 accumulated deaths »... were concentrated in the department of Guatemala (1,664 deaths of children under 5 years of age), followed by Alta Verapaz (697 deaths), Quiché (378 deaths), Huehuetenango (345 deaths) and Escuintla (308 deaths). When comparing the risks of death of girls and boys, measured by the number of girls and boys that die per 1,000 live births, according to the mortality rate of children under 5 years of age.

According to evidence from the ENSMI (2015), in the range of 15 to 19 years, it has a fertility rate of 92 per 1,000, exceeding the world average of 43.9 per 1,000, while in Latin America it is 48.6 per 1,000. Since this rate has decreased since 2009, it is worrying that the decline is very slow, especially in the 10 to 14 age group.

As a result of the above, births to registered adolescent mothers have increased in the last decade, especially in those under 15 years of age. Maternity in adolescence affects the economic situation of women, their children and the country, this being a barrier for the development of women, who, without the support they deserve, run the risk of living in adverse conditions for them and their children.

Having a pregnant girl / adolescent at risk and with a low or no educational level is a factor that can perpetuate the cycle of poverty. In addition, an uneducated woman has seven times the risk of having a teenage pregnancy (Planea, 2017).

According to the MILENA study (UNFPA, 2020) developed for Guatemala regarding teenage pregnancies, it shows that the country has an annual economic loss of around 426.1 million quetzals at current prices. Therefore, investing in the prevention of pregnancies through policies to prevent abuse and delay the start of sexual activity in adolescents would have a significant impact on economic aspects in the country. Pregnancy in girls and adolescents requires special care and support that is not always found in the public or family health system.

In addition, it must be considered that adolescent pregnancies are risky, which can lead to bleeding, hypertensive disorders, infections and spontaneous abortions. It also tends to increase maternal death by up to double in adolescents aged 10 to 14 compared to women aged 20 to 24. On the other hand, the most frequent causes of perinatal, neonatal and infant death increase, among which are the problems of premature children, low weight, infections, congenital anomalies and in childhood, there is more malnutrition and chronic diseases. In Guatemala, all cases in which pregnancy occurs in children under 14 years of age are classified as the crime of rape. These evidence have led the Guatemalan government to place the prevention of sexual abuse, the improvement of living conditions and the delay in the initiation of sexual activity in adolescents to prevent vulnerable pregnancies as one of the main development problems that the country faces<sup>10</sup>.

The lack of access to education for women is due, among other causes, to the low coverage and school infrastructure for all citizens, as well as bad practices in which only the boy is sent, leaving the girl's education unattended.

This causes an educational gap compared to those who were mothers in adulthood, most of whom did have access to education. There is also a difference between urban and rural areas, being that the VI National Maternal and Child Health Survey 2014-2015 (ENSMI) the fertility rate in women aged 15 to 19 years was 92 at the national level, whose rate for the rural area corresponds to 112 and for urban areas it is 65 (MSPAS / INE / ICFINE, et al., 2014).

In Latin America and the Caribbean, it is estimated that approximately 50% of adolescents under the age of 17 are sexually active and between 53 and 71% of women already had one or more sexual relations before the age of 20 (Sexual Health and adolescent and youth development in the Americas: Implications for programs and policies, Pan American Health Organization, 2003)<sup>11</sup>.

To reduce the rates of mothers and fathers under 18 years of age, it is necessary to bet on a sexual education that takes parents as the first educators, that allows better living conditions for the family and, more than anything, the delay of the initiation of sexual activity in adolescents through the promotion and education of sexual abstinence, a policy that has proven to be effective in reducing vulnerable pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases by 38%.<sup>12</sup> Among adolescents aged 15-17 years, 23% of the reduction in the risk of early pregnancy is attributed to sexual abstinence.<sup>13</sup>

10. <https://www.corteidh.or.cr/tablas/a22083.pdf>

11. Schutt-Aine J, Maddaleno M. (2003). Sexual health and development of adolescents and youth in the Americas: Implications in programs and policies. (website). OPS, Washington, DC. [https://www.paho.org/mex/index.php?option=com\\_docman&view=document&category\\_slug=documentos-ops-y-oms&alias=505-salud-sexual-y-desarrollo-de-adolescentes-y-jovenes-en-las-americas-implicaciones-en-programas-y-politicas&Itemid=493](https://www.paho.org/mex/index.php?option=com_docman&view=document&category_slug=documentos-ops-y-oms&alias=505-salud-sexual-y-desarrollo-de-adolescentes-y-jovenes-en-las-americas-implicaciones-en-programas-y-politicas&Itemid=493)

12. John S. Santelli, Laura Duberstein Lindberg, Lawrence B. Finer, Susheela Singh, "Explaining Recent Declines in Adolescent Pregnancy in the United States: The Contribution of Abstinence and Improved Contraceptive Use", American Journal of Public Health 97, no. 1 (January 1, 2007): pp. 150-156. <https://doi.org/10.2105/AJPH.2006.089169>

13. Op.Cit.

**Chart 2**  
Fertility Rate in Adolescent Women by  
Department and Level of Education

Departments	Fertility Rate 15 – 19 (INE 2018)	Net Rate of Middle Education in Women (MINEDUC 2018)	Net Rate of High School Education in Women (MINEDUC 2018)	Percentage of Population in Poverty (ENCOVI 2014)	Percentage of Indigenous Population (ENCOVI 2014)
Alta Verapaz	92.23	29.88	10.13	83.1	93.5
Baja Verapaz	84.95	37.7	17.08	66.3	46.7
Chimaltenango	54.87	44.28	20.68	66.1	71.6
Chiquimula	81.67	34	19.74	70.6	9.8
El Progreso	78.02	57.35	29.34	53.2	0.1
Escuintla	82.81	53.06	25.69	52.9	5
Guatemala	56.25	81.93	45.87	33.3	10.8
Huehuetenango	107.48	25.49	11.97	73.8	56
Izabal	81.87	42.92	21.11	59.9	36
Jalapa	85.68	36.21	17.81	67.2	7.7
Jutiapa	67.73	49.73	25.53	62.7	1.8
Petén	85.86	38.55	20.8	60.8	19
Quetzaltenango	80.15	53.77	35.69	56	47.1
Quiché	83.96	29.16	12.52	74.7	83.9
Retalhuleu	86.09	51.19	29.82	56.1	6.8
Sacatepéquez	58.21	61.36	29.3	41.1	32.6
San Marcos	89.04	42.62	22.67	60.2	33
Santa Rosa	75.48	52.95	26.66	54.3	8.3
Sololá	55.56	45.93	19.16	80.9	96.4
Suchitepéquez	79.72	43.38	26.85	63.8	27.7
Totonicapán	65.29	34.14	9.14	77.5	93.6
Zacapa	80.07	44.23	24	55.9	0.3

Source: SEGEPLAN, 2021, with data from tables of fertility in adolescents 2017, 2018 by INE (2018), MINEDUC (with data from the XII National Population Census and VII of housing 2018) and ENCOVI (2014).

The foregoing shows that the lack of education influences the probability of young women to become pregnant during childhood or adolescence. Pregnancy in these stages represents a challenge for the family and has an impact on the lives of girls and adolescents, which affects their integral development.

Violence against women in all its forms is a major problem that affects the health, safety and development of women. According to the ENSMI 2014-2015, emotional violence and physical violence by the husband or partner are the ones that are most registered in women between 15 and 49 years of age. At the age level, the age groups 30 to 39 and 40 to 49 years old are the ones that have experienced physical violence the most (25.7% and 27.9% respectively). Variations between the indigenous and non-indigenous populations are modest in the different types of violence (MSPAS, 2016).

In recent years, the country has prioritized the adoption of legislative measures, but also the review and updating of national plans aimed at eradicating violence against women. Among the main legislative measures is the approval of the Law against Femicide and other Forms of Violence against Women (Decree No. 22-2008). Likewise, the State of Guatemala in the last 5 years, has implemented different actions of a comprehensive nature that include: prevention, care, punishment and reparation; through administrative, judicial and legislative measures, promoted by the three State Bodies (SEPREM, 2019: 29).

Education is essential for the quality of life of the population; however, the National Educational System presents many challenges to achieve access for children and adolescents. For the year 2019, the gross and net coverage rate at the national level presented the following data:

**Chart 3**  
Ministry of Education  
Indicators of gross and net coverage by educational level, year 2019 all sectors

Education Level	Gross Coverage Rate (%)	Net Coverage Rate (%)
Pre school	67.97	51.14
Elementary for kids	89.91	77.52
Middle School	63.72	42.44
High School	35.88	24.02

Source: Ministry of Education. Educational Registration System.

The dropout rates, which measure the proportion of enrolled students who during the school year for different reasons abandon their studies without having completed the degree, from the years 2014 to 2019 shows the following trend:

**Chart 4**  
Ministry of Education  
Dropout rate by educational level, years 2014 to 2019 all sectors

Education Level	Dropout Rate (%)					
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Pre-School	3.4	3.1	2.5	2.6	4.8	3.7
Elementary for Kids	3.6	3.4	3.3	3.0	4.7	4.2
Middle School	4.1	6.6	6.2	5.9	7.0	7.1
High School	1.5	5.6	5.6	5.1	6.0	6.5

Source: Ministry of Education. Educational Registration System.

The previous data indicate that the National Educational System is unable to retain children and adolescents.

Central government spending on education as a percentage of gross domestic product from 2015 to 2018 is as follows:

**Chart 5**  
Guatemala  
Central government spending on education, as a percentage of GDP  
Years 2015 - 2018

	Year			
	2015	2016	2017	2018
Spending as a percentage of GDP	3.0	2.9	2.8	3.0

Source: ECLAC Social Observatory. In <https://observatorioocial.cepal.org/inversion/es/paises/guatemala>

The State of Guatemala has the obligation to provide and facilitate education to its inhabitants without any discrimination and its primary purpose is the development of the human person. (CPRG, Article 71, 1986 71, 1986).

Chart 5 shows a dropout rate with an upward trend for the Basic and Diversified Education Cycles, so that the adolescent and young population does not complete the school cycle in the formal National Educational System.

Derived from the above, it can be inferred that adolescence and youth present strong challenges to join the productive structure of the country, so it is necessary to have a strategy in order to strengthen their educational capacities.

According to a PDH report (2019), in terms of young people, only 2.1% of young people between 13 and 29 years old have access to a formal job, have social protection and obtain an income or salary greater than or equal to the minimum wage. The conditions in which this age group currently works is in informality and underemployment, which makes the worker unprotected from his labor rights.

A report by FAO (2017) indicates that 29.6% of young people work in agriculture, livestock, hunting and forestry (primary sector); 26.5% in commerce (tertiary sector) and 13.7% in manufacturing industry (secondary sector). According to these data, the majority are working in the primary sector, a sector in which they do not have labor rights in most cases. They also work in the informal economy, where they lack social security, legal be-

nefits, and those who work in a dependency relationship receive less than the minimum wage.

According to ENEI (2019), the working-age population was 12 million, and the economically active population is 7.1 million, however, underemployment or hourly work stands out, which represents 9.7%.

Improving the living conditions of young people will allow them to have quality of life in adulthood, focusing on strengthening capacities, abilities and skills to obtain economic income for their sustainability, with the support of training programs, care and training for parents family and other programs and projects that ensure the well-being of both the adult and the unborn person who will be under their care.

The Ministry of Education, through the Extracurricular Education Directorate (Digeex), is responsible for providing the educational process to children and young people in over-age, with different modalities from those of the formal School Subsystem (Article 12, Government Agreement 225- 2008). In addition, it provides education and technical labor training, through flexible delivery modalities that adapt to the needs and interests of the population, through the following programs:

- Adult Correspondence Education Program, PEAC
- Municipal Training and Education Center, Cemucaf
- National Alternative Education Program, Pronea

**Chart 6**

Population served by the Extracurricular Education Directorate through the different programs in 2020

Program	Male	Female	Total	Number of municipalities
PEAC	2,555	3,320	5,875	123
Middle School Modalities	4,103	4,405	8,508	86
High School Modalities	934	851	1,785	37
CEMUCAF	2,701	14,221	16,922	143
PRONEA Elementary	403	869	1,272	122
PRONEA Middle School	512	798	1,310	163
PRONEA High School	265	347	612	108
PRONEA SCC	89	368	457	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>11,562</b>	<b>25,179</b>	<b>36,741</b>	

Source: Extracurricular Education Information and Registry System, SIREEX, December 2020 and the Registry System Educational SIRE preliminary information December 2020. The information from the SCC comes from the central coordination of the Competency Certification System.

The research carried out by a group of students from the School of Pedagogy of the University of San Carlos de Guatemala on school dropout in Guatemala, set out in their blog<sup>14</sup>, indicates as external causes associated with the problem of school dropout the family, economic factors and sociocultural.

In relation to the family factor, the authors indicate that «The family environment is the one with the greatest influence on students, since the home is the place where they live most of the time during the school years, and this environment is undoubtedly where they live. It forms a whole system of attitudes, habits, behaviors and expectations ... it cannot be denied that the social environment in which the human being develops also influences, but it is the family that has the greatest influence, due to constant and repeated interaction. In this sense, it can be asserted that, when there are problems within the family such as disintegration, lack of communication, friction, among others, the members are going to be involved physically and emotionally, which can cause distraction, depression, impotence, affecting somehow the academic activities of adolescents.»

Regarding the economic factor, the related article indicates that «Unquestionably, when people have financial support, they can purchase various services to cover physiological needs (hunger, thirst); security needs (home, health care); recreation (sports, television, internet use, car) and self-realization (education). Based on the above, it is understandable that, if a student has sufficient capital or financial resources to cover expenses for academic services, it is more attractive and productive to attend classes since they have all the facilities to access to education, and the opposite happens with students whose lack of financial liquidity for the acquisition of didactic material, usually has a negative impact ... and gradually they are absent from the school, until giving way to the problem of school dropout.»

Regarding the sociocultural factor, the authors indicate that «the sociocultural factor is one that is directly linked to the environment that surrounds the individual. When a person interacts with a society that conceives education as the ideal way to access

to culture and a higher social status, without a doubt, that person will look for a way to enroll in an educational institution to follow the norms framed in said society. And on the contrary, when the social environment of an adolescent is not governed by academic customs, it usually prevents it from developing in a socio-professional environment that guarantees a better quality of life.

Finally, it is considered important to note what was referred to by Aroldo David Noriega in his article The quality of adult education who indicates that "... adults are motivated to learn when they experience needs that the study has to satisfy; that the orientation of students towards learning is life-centered; experience is the richest resource for adult learning; Adults have a deep need for self-direction and that individual differences between people increase with age ... upon reaching adulthood ... the greatest difficulties appear to be able to study, either because of the role that we have to play in society or family or other causes.»<sup>15</sup>

Sharan B. Merriam and Rosemary Caffarella in their book Learning in Adulthood, cited by Aroldo Noriega, propose a list of barriers to adult learning:

- Problems related to schedules.
- Transportation, school or home location problems.
- Lack of interesting programs or related to the work of the adult student.
- Time requirements or cumbersome enrollment procedures.
- Lack of information about available programs.

Referring to adult education, the author indicates that «Many times work, or family obligations interfere with education, in these cases you will always miss school. For this reason, a quality education must necessarily contemplate the adaptation of the school to the adult student and not as is usually the case with all higher or middle-level educational establishments, where adults are treated like big children. When family or work problems appear, school or university should be prepared to be adapted to the new situation ...»

14. Darlee Eloina García Mendoza; Nora Feliza Tujal; Leslie Andreina Blanco; Josselyn Cifuentes Estrada; Byron Mota González. 17 abril 2016. School Dropout in Guatemala. Blog (The FashionSmart Group). Recovered from <http://fashionsmartgroup.blogspot.com/2016/04/>

15. Noriega, Aroldo David. 5 abril 2013. Quality in adult education. Instruction Design Blog. Recovered from <https://2-learn.net/director/la-calidad-en-la-educacion-de-adultos-en-guatemala/>

Within the research carried out by the students of the indicated Faculty of Pedagogy, some repercussions of school dropout are pointed out:

- A less qualified and less qualifying workforce is available when people have not reached certain minimum levels of education necessary to take advantage of training programs offered by the State or by companies. The extreme case is the social cost produced by very early school dropout, which translates into illiteracy.
- Low labor productivity and its effect on the (lower) growth of economies.
- Higher expenses that need to be incurred to finance social programs and transfers to sectors that cannot generate their own resources.

Regarding the elderly, it is necessary to point out that the impact of aging consists of the changes in the state of health that this age group entails, whose interdependence with health services is due to chronic degenerative morbidity and its consequences, which makes them in a social and economic challenge for the State. Therefore, it is necessary for them to have the opportunity to access health services or a social security system (risks of illness, accident, poverty, disability and old age), which provides care in decent conditions for their development, in compliance with your rights.

According to estimates from the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean ECLAC, only 12% of Guatemalans aged 65 and over receive social security or a pension, this is a low number compared to the average of 42% in Latin America.

The rest of the older adults must work to achieve an income or live on charity, in case they do not ha-

## 5. Objectives

### 5.1 General Objective

Guarantee the protection of life and the institutional framework of the family by promoting the harmonization and optimization of institutional interventions through the fullness and observance of rights in all stages of life of the human being addressed by this policy.

ve family members to meet their needs. Consequently, in Guatemala, the age of the older person is not the retirement age as it is in many other countries. (UNDP, 2014). ECLAC affirms that in Guatemala more than 40% of the elderly population is below the poverty line.

One of the challenges of the problem of the elderly was to move from welfare actions to incorporate them into a comprehensive system that would allow them to have a productive life and develop their potential, for which the Elderly Policy was developed, in 2018, whose general objective is to guarantee access to basic services for the elderly through intersectoral actions implemented by public institutions in a way that allows the active and healthy aging of this population sector.

According to the National Policy for Comprehensive Attention to Older Adults in Guatemala, Period 2018-2032, according to the National Literacy Committee (CONALFA), illiteracy in older adults has decreased by 32.42% between 2002 and 2015, estimates presented by those who carry out the Bilingual Literacy Program, in order to preserve and rescue the native language of the participants, and for the recognition and respect of their culture. In this way, it promotes inclusive literacy, within the framework of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. Additionally, the Program is giving priority to the literacy of women.

Some institutions that promote programs of attention to this sector of the population, can be mentioned to the Ministry of Education through the Directorate of Extracurricular Education (DIGEEX), Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (MINTRAB), the National Literacy Committee (CONALFA), the Ministry of Economy, the Technical Institute for Training and Productivity (INTECAP), among others.

### 5.2 Specific objectives

- Implement a comprehensive system for the protection of life and the institutional framework of the family through the mechanisms granted by the State from the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, ordinary laws and regulations, in all its stages and its insertion from the Educational System National, according to current regulations.

- Establish a program for the protection of life and the institutional framework of the family with the integration and / or formulation of different components or programs of State institutions, which promote better living conditions of the population in its different stages, in accordance with the established in this policy.
- Develop strategies for institutions to formulate plans, actions, programs, and services aligned with this policy, in accordance with their competence, as well as promote the outreach of key participants that contribute to achieving the objective.

## **6. System for the Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family**

The protection of life and the institutional framework of the family must include the development of strategies, programs and projects aimed at fulfilling the objectives of this policy, which comprises a set of actions that facilitate the family the integral development of the human person, including education and its link with social assistance, health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, training to access income and employment opportunities and / or entrepreneurship, so that they contribute to the achievement of better living conditions.

This system is guiding, recognizes and implements institutional leadership, in such a way that it can act in situations of crisis or risk through institutions and public services, preventing the rights of the people who make up the family from being violated.

Regarding public management actions, it will be carried out from intra and intersectoral coordination; to generate the technical / political consensus necessary for the implementation of strategic and operational actions; and the harmonization and alignment of these actions with the National Priorities and the Strategic Development Goals, in accordance with the orientation of this policy.

Regarding the Program for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family, the systemic way that the different projects, strategies and actions will be addressed is defined, which is already contemplated by the institutional framework or those that are established in the future.

In addition, it will look for the articulation between programs; for the prioritization of interventions, contemplated in the planning instruments for the strengthening of family capacities, from the National Educational System, so that they can become protagonists of their well-being and development.

In order to achieve the objective of the policy, actions carried out through programs, projects or strategies are proposed to be attended by each of the institutions responsible or co-responsible for the realization and implementation of the policy. As well as the linking of the same, through the instruments of strategic and operational planning, the current or potential products oriented to the Strategic Development Results and Institutional Results, which according to its competence plans, schedules and executes the public institutional framework to contribute to the fulfillment of the indicated main points.

## **7. Strategic main points and guidelines**

Next, the main strategic points proposed for the policy are described, likewise, in this section are the guidelines that will guide each of the axes of the Public Policy, strategies are also included. The guideline will constitute the focus and direction that each of the axes will have to achieve coherence between them, so that the objective of the policy is achieved. The strategy presents a series of steps that will allow reaching the guideline.

### **7.1 Main point of Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in the prenatal stage and early childhood**

The prenatal and early childhood stages thus become a central axis in inclusion policies aimed at children, based on the recognition of the importance of these stages of life in psychomotor, nutritional, emotional, social and political development.

The dependence that characterizes the unborn person, newborns and children in their development, requires an adult in the family, institutional or community environment in their care function, for example, supporting the nutrition of the mother and her child during the 1000-day window, support and promotion of breastfeeding, among others, as well as offering the child the protection



and physical and emotional support that he needs to overcome the permanent challenges of this stage. The possibility of survival and projection in childhood implies adults available to listen to the needs of children and act as facilitators of resources to satisfy these needs.

The newborn needs a person who receives, cares for, and responds to his biological needs to develop, who will interpret his needs, contain, and support his requirements until he can do it himself. The quality and quantity of attention that the child receives in terms of her needs will largely determine his development and future learning possibilities.

Early childhood is the stage in which children gradually reach the most important levels for the development of their motor, intellectual, emotional, affective, and social dimensions. In this way, it is necessary to have a comprehensive conception of child development that allows meeting the needs in their early years, with regard to their health and nutrition, as well as the development of their emotional capacities while respecting their individual peculiarities and socio-cultural characteristics of membership.

There begins the process of particularity and bodily development of the child in which the family and the environment are important as insurer agents, said process. Consequently, allocating resources for the healthy development of early childhood children is, above all, a decision in favor of guaranteeing their rights and working towards equal opportunities.

The comprehensive protection of children's rights is a priority on the political agenda to the maximum of possible resources. The defense of the protection of rights, mainly the right to life, from its conception, will always be superior when it conflicts with other interests or rights. Likewise, it seeks to promote the strengthening of the socio-family bond. This involves direct family members, but the possibilities are also open to family members from the extensive network or other appropriate adult references who take responsibility for their care and protection.

The care function is linked to the provision not only of the necessary conditions for survival, but also of intangible values such as principles, virtues, habits

and qualities that are the responsibility of the family. Therefore, the family constitutes the natural source of care and support in the prenatal and early childhood stages, thus being the main guarantor of the well-being of the mother, the unborn person, the neonate, and the child.

Every child has the right to be protected from the moment of conception. Although the family is primarily responsible for their care, the State must guarantee the exercise of their rights, creating the necessary conditions for a healthy, integral and balanced childhood. For this reason, the System for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family proposes to develop a comprehensive territorial strategy.

Likewise, it will coordinate with the responsible entities at its different levels (community, municipal and departmental), based on the early recruitment of pregnant women or newborn children to provide them with a warm and close accompaniment with the ultimate objective of protecting life and reducing maternal and infant mortality.

**Guideline:** Recognition of the family as an articulating unit of development and of the right to life, as the main right, from which others emanate.

The family will be a participant, recipient and coordinator of the various programs, emphasizing the education of boys and girls, prevention of maternal mortality, infant mortality, guaranteeing goods and services in an integral way, so that the various programs can prioritize the same family unit in a coordinated manner.

### 7.1.1 Strategy:

The programs run by the institutions will be strengthened from family support, seeking to promote integration, autonomy, and family coexistence, stimulating the different stages of life that this policy addresses. For this, parenting strategies, prenatal controls and the strengthening of the socio-family bond will be promoted.

Next, the proposal of the following strategies is presented, which are guides for the fulfillment of the objective of the policy:

Design and include institutional programs aimed at protecting the prenatal and early childhood stage.

- Articulation of programs for family support for the 1,000 days.
- Implement the necessary actions for the protection of life and the family, articulating the programs of education, health, water and sanitation, food and nutritional security and social assistance, to guarantee an impact on the population in the prenatal stage and early childhood, that guarantee the integral development.
- Promote, in accordance with current regulations, the recognition of the protection of the right to life from its conception in all areas.

## **7.2 Main point of Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in childhood and adolescence**

The commitment to the protection of children is an issue of utmost importance for the country. The Law for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents (LPINA) Decree 27-2003, in Article 9, Life, establishes that "Children and adolescents have a fundamental right to life. It is the obligation of the State to guarantee their survival, security, and integral development. Children and adolescents have the right to the protection, care, and assistance necessary to achieve adequate physical, mental, social, and spiritual development. These rights are recognized from their conception»

Within the institutional framework of childhood and adolescence, it is necessary to strengthen the articulation of the plans and programs that are implemented through the different public policies.

The Law for the Comprehensive Protection of Children and Adolescents (LPINA), Article 81 indicates that «comprehensive protection policies shall be understood as the set of actions formulated by the National Commission and the Municipal Commissions for Children and Adolescents, respectively, to guarantee children and adolescents the full enjoyment of their rights and freedoms. The rights set forth in this Law may be extended, but in no case vary or contravene the principles that inspire it, and under the strict premise of strengthening the unity of the institution of the family.

Execution will correspond to different institutions according to their competence, with the National Commission for Children and Adolescents (CNNA) responsible for formulating comprehensive protection policies and later transfer them to the State agencies and

Urban and Rural Development Councils (Codedur) for their incorporation and adopt the actions that allow their execution. What is intended with the System for the Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of the family is to generate an institutional and effective support through the instance of the family that allows children and adolescents to fully enjoy their rights.

It is necessary to install a system of protection for children and adolescents that within the framework of the family allows them to make their rights effective, promoting coordinated actions that promote their integral development. So that the institutions promote knowledge of their rights, as well as implement training processes for quality care that must be provided by people who have contact with children and adolescents, which allow their physical and emotional well-being.

The Family Life and Institutional Protection System refers to an organizational and operational design conceived for the implementation of plans, programs, and projects, within the responsible and co-responsible entities at the institutional and territorial level to guarantee the compliance with the rights of children and adolescents.

**Guideline:** Guarantee the fulfillment of the rights of children and adolescents to promote integral human development.

In the design of programs for children and adolescents, the participation of the family will be promoted as a joint strategy, in such a way that the institutional intervention mechanisms generate an articulation and coordination with cultural relevance, at the different sectoral and territorial levels, supporting the National System for the Protection of children and adolescents, as well as the framework of public policies, promoting their harmonization and comprehensiveness.

### **7.2.1 Strategy:**

- Define the responsibility and co-responsibility of a coordinated institutional structure that links the planning and budget processes with the articulation mechanisms that will make up the life protection system and the institutional framework of the family, for the fulfillment of the objectives of this policy.

- Promote that children and adolescents have access to comprehensive services in education, health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, and violence prevention.
- Access to different education, training, and social assistance programs; as well as institutional programs aimed at the protection of children and adolescents.
- Articulate and coordinate from the public institutions the prioritization and targeting of programs that will attend to the stage of childhood and adolescence to guarantee a pertinent implementation.
- Coordinate at the inter and intra-sectoral level the targeting and prioritization of interventions and their implementation to guarantee successful programs for children and adolescents.
- Link monitoring and evaluation actions of the interventions in this stage of life, to guarantee that in a systemic way it is possible to continue successfully with the youth programs.
- Disseminate, in accordance with current regulations, the recognition of the protection of the life of children and adolescents in all areas.

### 7.3 Main point of Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in youth and adulthood

The LPINA establishes within the life cycle, that youth is in the age range of 18-29 years. In this age range, there are several challenges, among them economic security, health, education, recreation of the person and family.

The implications of the lack of basic opportunities can stimulate forms of behavior that alter the social relationships with which the community develops in an orderly fashion. Young people are especially exposed to specific risks of premature motherhood / fatherhood, sexually transmitted diseases, violence, among others.

The family plays a fundamental role of protection, training, and support, it is in it that the scale of values, study and work habits, social skills, even in the prevention of violence, are formed in young people, which lead to an adult with better living conditions.

This main point will focus on access, opportunity, and quality of short, medium and long-term actions to address the issue of access to education and its link with health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, training, employment, prevention of violence, which will include the conditions that favor the best development for the family at this stage of life.

Likewise, the efforts made in the framework of education for young people will make it possible to seek strategic alliances to have access to decent employment and entrepreneurship, whose access is currently limited for young people and adults, which does not allow a development of the conditions of well-being at the individual and family level, generating exclusion and inequality.

In addition, regarding the adult stage, it will focus on the strengthening of capacities to obtain economic income for its sustainability, training programs, training and attention to parents and others that ensure the well-being of the adult.

**Guideline:** Guarantee the fulfillment of the rights of young people and adults to improve their living conditions for well-being and integral development.

In the preparation of programs for youth and adulthood, it is necessary to include and articulate the guidelines of the different public policies that exist and / or to be formulated, and coordinate them at the intra- and intersectoral, and territorial levels to fulfill the objective of the policy.

#### 7.3.1 Strategy:

- Access to the different programs that allow the integral development of young people and adults and the insertion to formal employment, and / or access to an enterprise, for income assurance.
- Articulate and establish coordination mechanisms with public institutions that address the relevant issues of this policy in the youth and adulthood main point between these, education, and its link with

health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, training, employment, violence prevention and entrepreneurship, to achieve a better impact on the beneficiary population.

- Review and coordinate with the responsible public institutions, the integration of youth and adult care programs.
- Promote that young people and adults, especially women, pass at least the level of middle school education to improve their living conditions.

#### **7.4 Main point of Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in older adulthood**

The Protection Law for the elderly (Decree Law 80-96) defines as a person of the third age or elderly, any person of any sex, religion, race, or color who is 60 years of age or older. In the same law, elderly people in risky conditions are considered to be those who, lacking adequate protection, suffer or are exposed to deviations or disorders in their physical or mental state.

This aims to ensure the interests of the elderly, that the State guarantees and promotes the right to a decent standard of living for the elderly in conditions that assist them with food, housing, clothing, geriatric medical assistance and comprehensive gerontology, recreation and leisure, and the social services necessary for a dignified existence.

Older adults belong to a risk group in relation to the socioeconomic and psychosocial, coupled with the discrimination they face, due to the loss of health, and the physiological deterioration in organic and psychological functions, as well as the loss of their sensory capacities and cognitive, where society devalues the capacities of the elderly.

Faced with this problem, the State of Guatemala has three laws:

Decree number 80-96, Law of Protection for People of the Third Age; Decree number 85-2005, Law of the Economic Contribution Program of the elderly,

Decree number 63-88 Law of Civil Passive Classes of the State.

One of the challenges is to carry out a process of coordination and articulation between the central and territorial level, in the care of the elderly for timely access to education, basic services, medical, protection against violence, recreation, employment and others. This requires a change in the perspective of the institutions that attend to these needs, for which the intervention of the strategic and operational actions of the State, the support of the community and the family is required.

**Guideline:** Integrate the elderly into a comprehensive system that allows them to have a healthy life; the development of their potential and a decent standard of living.

Go beyond the vision of care and ensure that the needs of the elderly are met in a systemic way, the implementation of which must be coordinated with the family as a basic unit.

##### **7.4.1 Strategy:**

- Access to a comprehensive system made up of coordinated and articulated programs to guarantee a decent standard of living for the elderly and the fulfillment of their rights.
- Articulate and coordinate with the responsible public institutions, the targeting and prioritization of interventions, among others, in adequate occupational training, health, water and sanitation, food and nutritional security, recreation, care and social assistance for the elderly.

Next, the matrix of the main strategic elements of the policy is presented:

**Matrix**

Strategic elements of the Policy

In the following matrix are the strategic elements of the policy, which allow visualizing the coherence of this, towards the fulfillment of the objectives.

**General Objective**

Guarantee the protection of life and the family by promoting the harmonization and optimization of institutional interventions through the fullness and observance of rights in all stages of life of the human being addressed by this policy.

**Specific Objectives**

- Implement a comprehensive system for the Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family through the mechanisms granted by the State from the Political Constitution of the Republic of Guatemala, ordinary laws and regulations, in all its stages and its insertion from the Educational System National, according to current regulations.
- Establish a program for the protection of life and the institutional framework of the family with the integration and / or formulation of different components or programs of State institutions, which promote better living conditions of the population in its different stages, in accordance with the established in this policy.
- Develop strategies for institutions to formulate plans, actions, programs and services aligned with this policy, in accordance with their competence, as well as promote the participation of key actors that contribute to achieving the objective.

Main Point	Guideline	Strategy
Main point of Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in the prenatal stage and early childhood.	Recognition of the family as an articulating unit of development and of the right to life as the main right, from which others emanate.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Design and include institutional programs aimed at protecting the prenatal and early childhood stage.</li> <li>• Articulation of programs for family support for the 1,000 days.</li> <li>• Implement the necessary actions for the protection of life and the family by articulating the programs of: education, health, water and sanitation, food and nutritional security and social assistance, to guarantee an impact on the population in the prenatal stage and early childhood, that guarantee the integral development.</li> <li>• Promote, in accordance with current regulations, the recognition of the protection of the right to life from its conception in all areas.</li> </ul>

Main Pont	Guideline	Strategy
<p>Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of family in childhood and adolescence.</p>	<p>Guarantee the fulfillment of the rights of children and adolescents to promote integral human development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Define the responsibility and co-responsibility of a coordinated institutional structure that links the planning and budget processes with the articulation mechanisms that will make up the life protection system and the institutional framework of the family, for the fulfillment of the objectives of this policy.</li> <li>• Promote that children and adolescents have access to education, health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, and violence prevention services.</li> <li>• Access to different education, training, and social assistance programs; as well as institutional programs aimed at the protection of children and adolescents.</li> <li>• Articulate and coordinate from the public institutions the prioritization and targeting of programs that will attend to the stage of childhood and adolescence to guarantee a pertinent implementation.</li> <li>• Coordinate at the inter and intra-sectoral level the targeting and prioritization of interventions and their implementation to guarantee successful programs for children and adolescents.</li> <li>• Link monitoring and evaluation actions of the interventions in this stage of life, to guarantee that in a systemic way it is possible to continue successfully with the youth programs.</li> <li>• Disseminate, in accordance with current regulations, the recognition of the protection of the life of children and adolescents in all areas.</li> </ul>
<p>Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in youth and adulthood.</p>	<p>Guarantee the fulfillment of the rights of young people and adults to improve their living conditions for well-being and integral development.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to the different programs that allow their integral development and insertion into formal employment, and / or access to an enterprise, for income assurance.</li> <li>• Articulate and establish coordination mechanisms with public institutions that address the relevant issues of this policy in the youth and adulthood axis, including education and its link with health, food and nutritional security, water and sanitation, training, employment, prevention of violence and entrepreneurship, to achieve a better impact on the benefited population.</li> <li>• Review and coordinate with the responsible public institutions, the integration of youth and adult care programs.</li> </ul>

Main Point	Guideline	Strategy
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Promote that young people and adults, especially women, pass at least the level of secondary education to improve their living conditions.</li> </ul>
Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in older age.	Integrate the elderly into a comprehensive system that allows them to have a healthy life; the development of their potential and a decent standard of living.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to a comprehensive system made up of coordinated and articulated programs to guarantee a dignified standard of living for the elderly and the fulfillment of their rights.</li> <li>Articulate and coordinate with the responsible public institutions, the targeting and prioritization of interventions, among others, in adequate occupational training, health, water and sanitation, food and nutritional security, recreation, care and social assistance for the elderly.</li> </ul>

## 8. Follow up and Evaluation

It is necessary to harmonize and coordinate the policies, programs and mechanisms already existing in the different State institutions, and / or identify the gaps and specify them in strategic and operational actions, which allow results and changes in the population groups that benefit from this public policy, that guarantee the satisfaction of vital and basic needs in a dignified and timely manner. This will allow a joint vision that transcends the execution of specific interventions, to protect life, in all its stages, from conception to natural death.

Under the coordination of the governing body, the institutions will jointly define a monitoring and evaluation mechanism articulated between programs, projects and institutional strategies that allows identifying the actions in each of the axes to achieve the achievement of the policy objectives.

In addition, together, indicators and goals will be established that allow verifying the level of progress in the short, medium and long term that allows compiling through an information system, as deemed appropriate, the interventions of each of the responsible institutions. and co-managers that allow compliance with the policy.

**Diagram 1**

Main points of the Policy of Protection of life and the institutional framework of the family

Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in the prenatal stage and early childhood	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in childhood and Adolescence	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in youth and adulthood	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of the family in older adulthood
Actions			
Public Management			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intersectoral and <i>intrasectoral</i> coordination</li> <li>Technical / political consensus</li> <li>Harmonization and alignment to national priorities</li> </ul>			

Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of family in the prenatal stage and early childhood	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of family in childhood and Adolescence	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of family in youth and adulthood	Main point of protection of life and the institutional framework of family in older adulthood
Program for the Protection of life and the Institutional Framework of family			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information systems with targeting criteria</li> <li>• Linking planning and budgeting instruments</li> <li>• Articulation between programs</li> <li>• Define beneficiary population</li> </ul>			
Follow up and Evaluation			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a monitoring and evaluation system articulated between programs.</li> <li>• Establish indicators and monitoring goals in the short, medium, and long term.</li> <li>• Generate an information system that allows compiling the interventions carried out by each responsible or co-responsible institution that allows compliance with the policy.</li> </ul>			

Source: self-made



## Appendix

### Action Plan Matrix

This appendix presents the preliminary action plan matrix, which arises as a response to the objectives, axes, results, guidelines, strategies, and interventions proposed in this policy, in accordance with the institutional strategic plans and the multi-year and annual operating plans. that identify and record current budgetary programs and products or those that are adhered to or modified in the future, considered in the System of Institutional Plans. - SIPLAN- and the Integrated Accounting System - SICOIN-.

The purpose of this tool is to guide and contribute to the monitoring of the management of public services through its components, tools, and procedures, to achieve compliance with the Strategic Development Results, as well as the Institutional Results defined in the long-, medium- and short-term plans, according to the competences of each institution.

In this sense, it was possible to identify the main programs those public institutions oversee to attend to the main points

of this policy: Prenatal Stage and Early Childhood, Childhood and Adolescence, Youth and Adulthood, and the Elderly, which must be coordinated systemically, harmonize, focus, and prioritize, as established by the coordinating body.

The public entities that make up the Executive Branch identified in the analysis through SIPLAN and SICOIN will have direct interventions in the axes of this policy, they are 8 Ministries, 2 Secretariats and the Attorney General's Office. See below:

Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance  
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food  
Ministry of Culture and Sports  
Ministry of Social Development  
Ministry of Economy  
Ministry of Labor and Social Security  
Ministry of Education  
Ministry of the Interior  
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic  
Secretariat of Social Works of the President's Wife  
Office of the Attorney General of the Nation

This action plan matrix must meet the guidelines and strategies proposed by main point. It is necessary that it be updated and strengthened with the participation of the governing body and the public institutions and / or other actors, so that the strategies that allow the implementation of the policy, strategic and operational plans, programs, products, and existing by-products, as well as the potential ones that make it possible to achieve the established objectives.

Next, the matrix of current budget programs associated with the action plan is presented, each table represents an axis and indicates the institutional responsible and the goal that it will meet.

**Main Point: Protection of life and the institutional framework of family in the prenatal stage and early childhood**

The purpose of this main point is that the State Institutions guarantee the rights of the boy and girl, to be protected from the moment of their conception, generating the necessary conditions for a healthy, integral, and balanced childhood.

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or Institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food	M26- By 2023, the chronic malnutrition rate would be reduced by 7 percentage points	1 - Support for adequate consumption of food	Prenatal stage and early childhood	Articulate the health, education, nutrition and social assistance programs to guarantee an impact on the target and eligible population of the policy  Coordinate at the inter and intra-sectoral level the targeting and prioritization of interventions for the target population, and their implementation to guarantee continued success in childhood and adolescent programs.
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food	M26- By 2023, the chronic malnutrition rate would be reduced by 7 percentage points	2 - Assistance for improving family income	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food	M26- By 2023, the chronic malnutrition rate would be reduced by 7 percentage points	3 - Support to family farmers in the prevention of chronic malnutrition	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food	No direct goal associated	94 - Attention for natural disasters and public calamities	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Social Development	M31- By 2023, the number of families served by the cash transfer program would be increased to 150,000	14 - Support for Adequate Food Consumption	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Social Development	M26- By 2023, the chronic malnutrition rate would be reduced by 7 percentage points	21-01 Prevention of Chronic Malnutrition	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Social Development	M11- By 2023, the net coverage rate at the primary level would be increased by 17 percentage points	21-02 Elementary School Education Coverage	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Social Development	No direct goal associated	21 - Conditional Cash Transfers in Health and Education	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Social Development	M15- By 2023, school health insurance coverage would be increased to 3 million children	11 – Preschool education	Prenatal stage and early childhood	

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily</b>	<b>Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity</b>	<b>Main Point</b>	<b>Intervention</b>
Ministry of Education	M10- By 2023, the net coverage rate at the pre-school level would increase by 12 points	11-01 Monolingual Preschool	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	M10- By 2023, the net coverage rate at the pre-school level would increase by 12 points	11-02 Bilingual Preschool	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	M18- By 2023, the number of graduate teachers would increase by 8,610	11-02 Bilingual Preschool	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	M16- For the year 2023, the investment in school food services would increase by Q830.4 million	20 - Support for food consumption	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the accumulated variation rate of the official pre-school enrollment would increase to 6.5%.	11 – Preschool Education	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the accumulated variation rate of the official pre-school enrollment would increase to 6.5%	11-01 Monolingual Preschool	early childhood	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the accumulated variation rate of the official pre-school enrollment would increase to 6.5%	11-02 Bilingual Preschool	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Education	By 2023, care for children with early comprehensive development would increase by 8.6 points	18 - Initial education	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance	M23- By 2023, the percentage of girls and boys with a complete vaccination scheme would increase by 9.6	14 - Prevention of child mortality and chronic malnutrition	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance	M21- By 2023, the infant mortality rate would be reduced by 10 percentage points	14 - Prevention of child mortality and chronic malnutrition	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance	M22- By 2023, the number of childhood morbidity cases would be reduced by 5% per year	14 - Prevention of child mortality and chronic malnutrition	Prenatal stage and early childhood	

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Public Health and Social Assistance	M20-By 2023 the maternal mortality ratio would be reduced by 14.4 percentage points	15 - Prevention of maternal and neonatal mortality	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18.0% (From 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-007 Regulation of day care centers	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18.0% (From 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-009 Educating as a family for family preservation	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	Boys and girls from 0 to 6 years in a situation of poverty and extreme poverty, benefited from comprehensive care	38-0-2 - Community Promotion and Food Assistance	Prenatal stage and early childhood	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	Women benefited from training and technical assistance in productive projects	38-0-014 - Growing Safe	Prenatal stage and early childhood	

**Main Point: protection of life and the institutional framework of  
family in childhood and Adolescence**

This main point aims to generate institutional and affective support through the instance of the family that allows children and adolescents to fully enjoy their rights.

<b>Institution</b>	<b>Goal PGG, strategic result or Institutional associated preliminarily</b>	<b>Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity</b>	<b>Main Point</b>	<b>Intervention</b>
Ministry of Culture and Sports	M42- By 2023, the decentralization strategy would implement in the Public Management	11 - Training, promotion and dissemination of the arts	Childhood and Adolescence	Articular and coordinate from the public institutions the programs that attend to the childhood and adolescence cycle to guarantee an adequate implementation of the interventions that guarantee the fulfillment of their rights and generate adequate well-being and human development.  Link monitoring and evaluation actions of the interventions in this life cycle to guarantee that in a systemic way it is possible to continue successfully in the youth programs.
Ministry of Culture and Sports	M30- By 2023 extreme poverty would be reduced by 5 percentage points	13 - Promotion of non-federated sports and recreation.	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Culture and Sports	M35- By 2023 the crime rate has been reduced by 20 percentage points	13 - Promotion of non-federated sports and recreation	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Culture and Sports	By 2024, the participation of people in the different art disciplines would be increased by 18.9 percent	11 - Training, promotion and dissemination of the arts	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Social Development	M4- By 2023, the informal employment rate would be reduced by 6 percentage points	15-02 Education and Employment Scholarships	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Social Development	M11- By 2023, the net coverage rate at the primary level would increase by 17 percentage points	21-02 Elementary School Education Coverage	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Social Development	M25- By 2023, the number of type A and B health centers would be increased to 50.	19-01 Provisions Services and Infrastructure for Health	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M15- By 2023, school health insurance coverage would be increased to 3 million children	12 - Elementary school education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the population reaching the reading level would increase by 4.6 percentage points and by 3.53 points	12 - Elementary school education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the population reaching the reading level would increase by 4.6 percentage points and by 3.53 points	12-01 Monolingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Education	M12- By 2023, the net coverage rate at the basic level would be increased by 17 percentage points	13 - Middle School Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the population reaching the reading level would increase by 05 percentage points and by 03 points.	13 - Middle School Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M17- By 2023, the number of scholarships for middle and high school students would increase.	13 - Middle School Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M17- By 2023, the number of scholarships for middle and high school students would increase	14 - High School Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2020, the promotion rate of students in the intermediate level, diversified cycle, has increased.	14 - High School Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M13- For the year 2023, the net coverage rate at the diversified level has increased by 11 points	14-01 Teacher Oriented Training	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M13- For the year 2023, the net coverage rate at the diversified level has increased by 11 points.	14-02 High School Training	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M13- For the year 2023, the net coverage rate at the diversified level has increased by 11 points.	14-03 Training of Accountants	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M13- For the year 2023, the net coverage rate at the diversified level has increased by 11 points.	14-04 Secretarial training	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M13- For the year 2023, the net coverage rate at the diversified level has increased by 11 points.	14-05 Industrial Technical Training	Childhood and Adolescence	

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Education	M13-By the year 2023 has increased the rate net coverage in the diversified level in 11 points.	14-06 Technologic Formation	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M11-By the year 2023 has increased the rate net coverage in the primary level at 17 points percentage.	12-01 Monolingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M11-By the year 2023 has increased the rate net coverage in the primary level at 17 points percentage	12-02 Bilingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M18-By the year 2023 the number of graduate teachers would increase To 8,610	12-01 Monolingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	M18-By the year 2023 the number of graduate teachers would increase To 8,610	12-02 Bilingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the population reaching the reading level would increase by 4.6 percentage points and by 3.53 points	12-02 Bilingual Elementary	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2024, the population reaching the reading level would increase by 4.6 percentage points and by 3.53 points	12 Elementary school Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	By 2020, it increased by 1 percentage point the students benefiting from the food program	20 - Support for food consumption	Childhood and Adolescence	
Ministry of Education	No direct goal associated	15 - Extra-school Education	Childhood and Adolescence	
Office of the Attorney General of the Nation	By 2022, the number of resolved cases of children, adolescents, women, older adults would increase.	13 - Protection of Family rights	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18% (from 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-003 Comprehensive care for children	Childhood and Adolescence	

# Public Policy of Protection to Life and the Institutional Framework of Family

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18.0% (From 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-04 Special Education and Habilitation for Children with Disabilities	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18.0% (From 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-04 Job and occupational training for adolescents with disabilities	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of family preservation programs would increase to 18.0% (From 0.0% in 2017 to 18.0% in 2026)	64-1-06 Economic subsidy for children and adolescents with special needs and disabilities	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of alternative measures to deprivation of liberty would increase to 15.0%	64-2-02 Attention to adolescents prisoners, in conflict with the Penal Law	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, the coverage of alternative measures to deprivation of liberty would increase to 15.0%	64-2-03 Attention in socio-educational measures to adolescents in conflict with Criminal Law	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-04 Protection and residential care for Children and Adolescents with disabilities	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-05 Children and Adolescents in foster care of substitute relatives	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-06 Temporary Care for Unaccompanied Migrant Children and Adolescents	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-10 Crime Prevention in Children, Adolescents and Youth	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-11 Protection and residential care for Children and Adolescents	Childhood and Adolescence	
Secretariat of Social Welfare of the Presidency of the Republic	By 2026, non-residential and residential outpatient psychosocial and family care would increase	64-3-12 Specialized care for non-institutionalized children and adolescents and their families	Childhood and Adolescence	



**Main Point: Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in Youth and Adulthood**

This main point addresses the rights of young people and adults to have a quality of life, well-being and human development, from inclusion and access and opportunities to enjoy their rights. Among these, comprehensive health, their right to security, education, training and employment.

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food	By 2021, commercialized agricultural production volumes have increased by 5%	13 -Support for agricultural and hydrobiological productivity and competitiveness	Youth and Adulthood	Articulate and establish coordination mechanisms with public institutions that address the relevant issues of this policy in the youth main point, including education, health, employment and entrepreneurship; attention and prevention of violence, to achieve a better impact on the beneficiary population.
Ministry of Social Development	M35-By 2023 the crime rate has been reduced by 20 percentage points	15-01 Prevention of Criminal Acts against Heritage	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Social Development	No direct goal associated	19-05 Endowments Services and Infrastructure for Development Community and Productive	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Economy	M2- By 2023, the country occupies position 85 in the ranking of the global competitiveness index	12 - Investment and competition promotion	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Economy	M4- By 2023, the informal employment rate was reduced by 6 percentage points	14 - Development of micro, small and medium enterprises	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Economy	M9- By the year 2023, the amount of loans for poor families' ventures has increased.	14 - Development of micro, small and medium enterprises	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Economy	By 2022, the competitiveness conditions for the country have increased.	12 - Investment and competition promotion	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Economy	By 2024, poverty and extreme poverty have been reduced with an emphasis on prioritized departments	14 - Development of micro, small and medium enterprises	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	M38- By 2023, 340 community prevention organizations have been formed.	11-03 Violence and crime prevention	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	M36- By 2023 the homicide rate has been reduced by 8.8 percentage points	11-02 Homicide rate reduction	Youth and Adulthood	

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or Institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of the Interior	M35-By the year 2023 has reduced the rate of crime at 20 points percentage	11 –Security services to people and their heritage	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	By 2024, it has decreased by 19.98 points percentage the transit facts (100% in the 2019 to 80.02% in 2024)	11 –Security Services to people and their heritage	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	M37-By the year 2023 it has increased by 4 the number of prisons	12 -Custody services and rehabilitation of prisoners	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	By 2024, it has increased by 288 requisitions, to achieve the control of centers detention. (From 257 in 2019 to 288 in 2024)	12 -Custody services and rehabilitation of prisoners	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	By 2024, it has increased by 100,574 the rehabilitation services of people deprived of Liberty.	12-01 Rehabilitation of prisoners	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of the Interior	By 2024, increased by 150 municipalities nationwide with strategies, policies, plans, programs and Projects	11-03 Violence and crime prevention	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Work and Social Security	M4-By the year 2023 reduced the informality rate of employment by 6 points percentage	17 -Promotion of formality of employment	Youth and Adulthood	
Ministry of Work and Social Security	By 2024, it has increased formality of employment by 2.5 points percentage (From 32.6% in 2019 to 35.1% in 2024)	17 - Promotion formality of employment	Youth and Adulthood	

**Main point: Protection of Life and the Institutional Framework of Family in Older adulthood**

This main point aims to comprehensively meet the needs of older adults with strategic and operational actions from State institutions, the community, and the family.

Institution	Goal PGG, strategic result or institutional associated preliminarily	Program, subprogram, or preliminarily associated budget activity	Main Point	Intervention
Ministry of Social Development	M32-By 2023, the number of servings (breakfasts and lunches) has been increased to 4.0 million	14 - Support for Adequate Food Consumption	Elderly	
Ministry of Labor and Social Security	M33-By 2023, the number of elderlies served by the elderly program has increased by 6,000.	16 - Care for the elderly	Elderly	
Secretariat of Social Works of the President's Wife	Older adults living in poverty and extreme poverty benefited from comprehensive care	38-0-015 My Golden Years National Program	Elderly	
Secretariat of Social Works of the President's Wife	People with health problems living in poverty and extreme poverty benefited.	38-0-013 – Social Service	Elderly	

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