

INTEGRAL CONSTRUCTION FUND

Professional monitoring, transparency and ethics in the allocation of aid funds.

Fundación Merced's response to the emergency: restoration of the social organization and habitat of small communities outside of Mexico City.

Faced with the effects caused by the earthquakes of September 2017, **Merced Foundation initiates a Social Investment Program aimed at contributing to the recovery of the social organization and habitat of small communities** in the States of México, Morelos, Oaxaca and Puebla.

Considerations:

- a) The amount of attention and support after the first few weeks diminishes and hits, usually, to major population centers rather than to small and remote villages.
- b) The immediate effects of earthquakes are, among others, damage or loss of buildings, health and educational centers, official documents, work tools and alterations of social cohesion.
- c) However, the negative effects are in the medium and long term: disruption of production-marketing chains, emotional and psychological affectation, and alteration of school cycles, among others.
- d) The positive or negative impact that aid can have in inserting itself into the economic and social processes of communities depends on their planning and strategy (how, when, and through whom it arrives).

From our point of view, the recovery of small settlements requires a comprehensive approach that strengthens, above all, community participation, organization and economy and that of the organizations that work with them

Our response: **CLEAR ACCOUNTS, CLEAR STRATEGY** has as a transversal axis, the professional monitoring and strategic impulse to the projects.

To do this, we propose two phases:

Phase 1 - SUSTAINABLE HABITAT RECOVERY

Aimed at contributing to the improvement of housing conditions and / or their location, if necessary and possible; as well as motivate a greater environmental awareness of its inhabitants.

Phase 2 - MEANS FOR RESTORING THE SOCIAL ORGANIZATION AND THE COMMUNITY ECONOMY

Aimed at facilitating inputs to reactivate the chain of sustenance and strengthening of participatory, organizational and economic processes truncated by the earthquake, so that affected families can restore their daily lives and capacity to respond to their needs.

At all times, Merced Foundation will supervise the correct use, scope and results of the fund:

- Formalization through collaboration agreements.
- Transmission of knowledge and experiences in natural disaster recovery management to CSOs in incidence areas.
- Reports, means of verification and monitoring visits.
- Contribution in kind and cash from Merced Foundation for the supervision and operation of the Integral Construction Fund.