

MEXICO

PROGRAM FOR THE RECOVERY OF PUBLIC SPACES

“Public Spaces: An Agenda Towards Urban Safety”



Social and health problems

- ✗ Delinquency
- ✗ Drug Abuse
- ✗ Gangs
- ✗ Lack of communication
- ✗ Family break up/Family disintegration
- ✗ Weak community relationships
- ✗ Sedentarism
- ✗ Obesity



Problems that affect many Public Spaces in Mexico



Alcohol and drug abuse



Violence and crime



Unadequate facilities



In state of neglect

Program for the Recovery of Public Spaces

In 2007, Mexico's Federal Government implemented the Program for the Recovery of Public Spaces as part of the social component of the National Security Strategy.



Objective:
To recover damaged/abandoned and insecure public spaces and to promote its community appropriation.



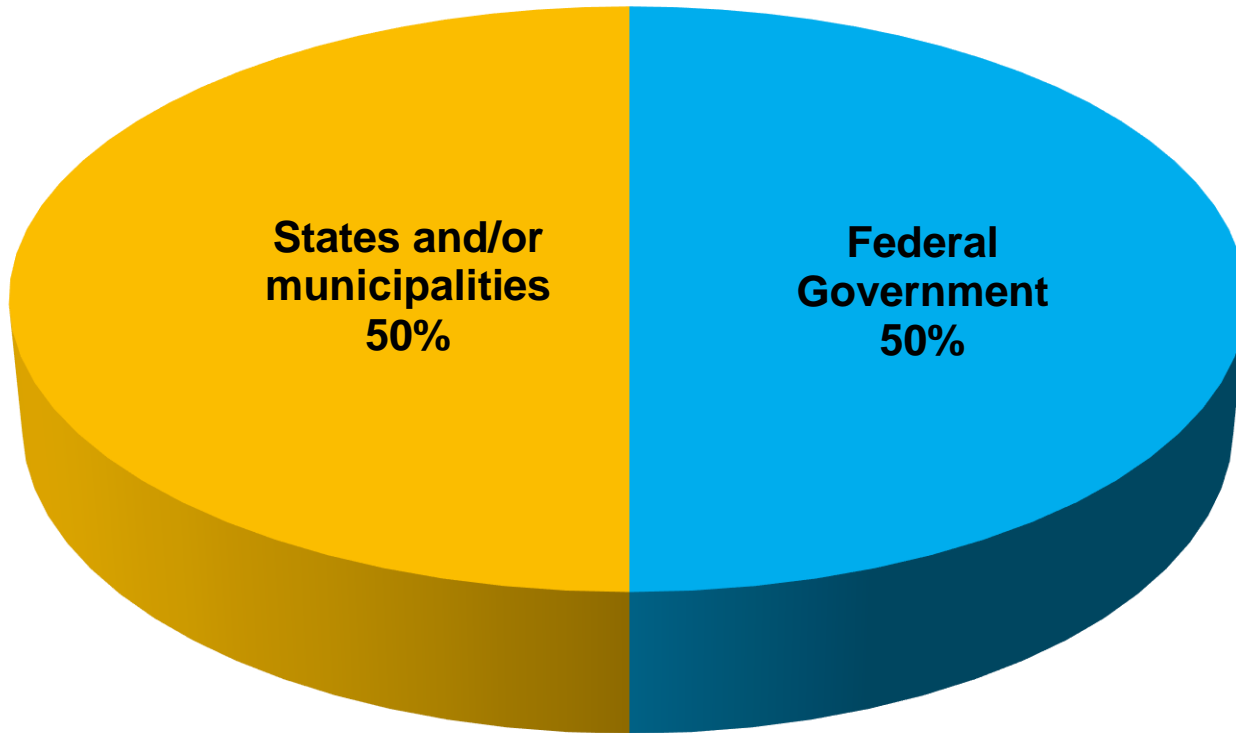
Recovery of Public Spaces

Target population: Cities and metropolitan areas with 50,000 or more inhabitants



350 urban municipalities have received funds from the program; they hold **66.5 million** inhabitants

Coordination and funding



Comprehensive projects

1) Infrastructure construction / improvement



2) Social participation and community safety



Social participation and community safety

- **Involvement of the community in the design**
- **Organization of community, sport and artistic activities**
- **Community appropriation**
- **Individual and community development**
- **Family and social interaction**
- **Strengthening of social cohesion**



The goal is to encourage community participation in every phase of the project.



"Skate Park" Zacatecas

BEFORE



AFTER



" Parque Clouthier "

Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua

BEFORE



AFTER



“Parque Eloisa Cabada” Durango, Durango

BEFORE



AFTER



"Playa El Coromuel" La Paz, Baja California Sur

BEFORE



AFTER



AFTER

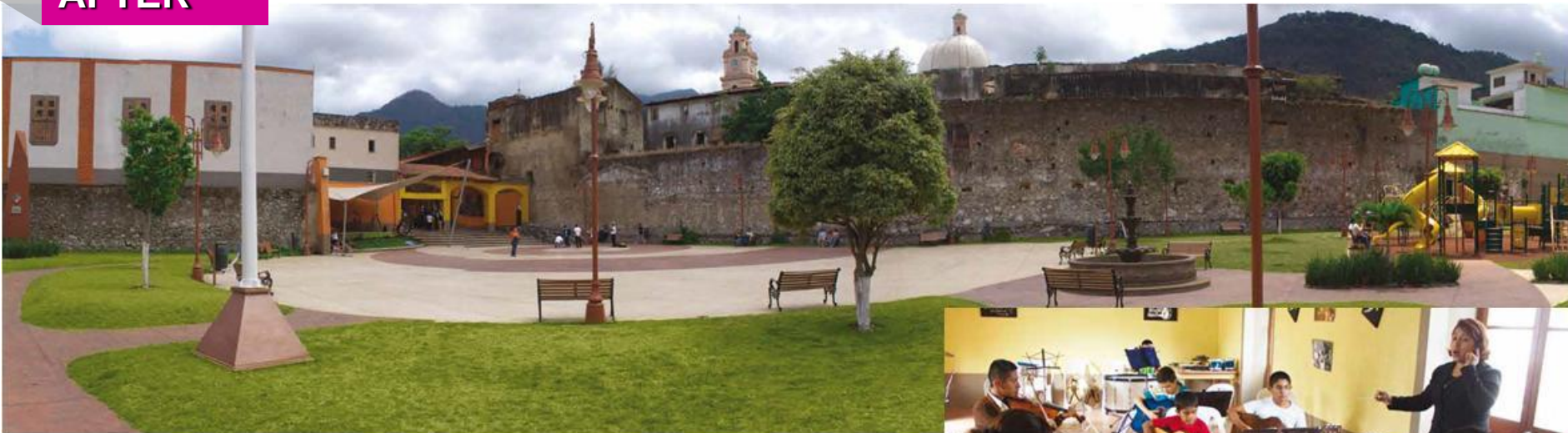


“Centro Cultural Bicentenario” Orizaba, Veracruz

BEFORE



AFTER



2007-2012 Achievements

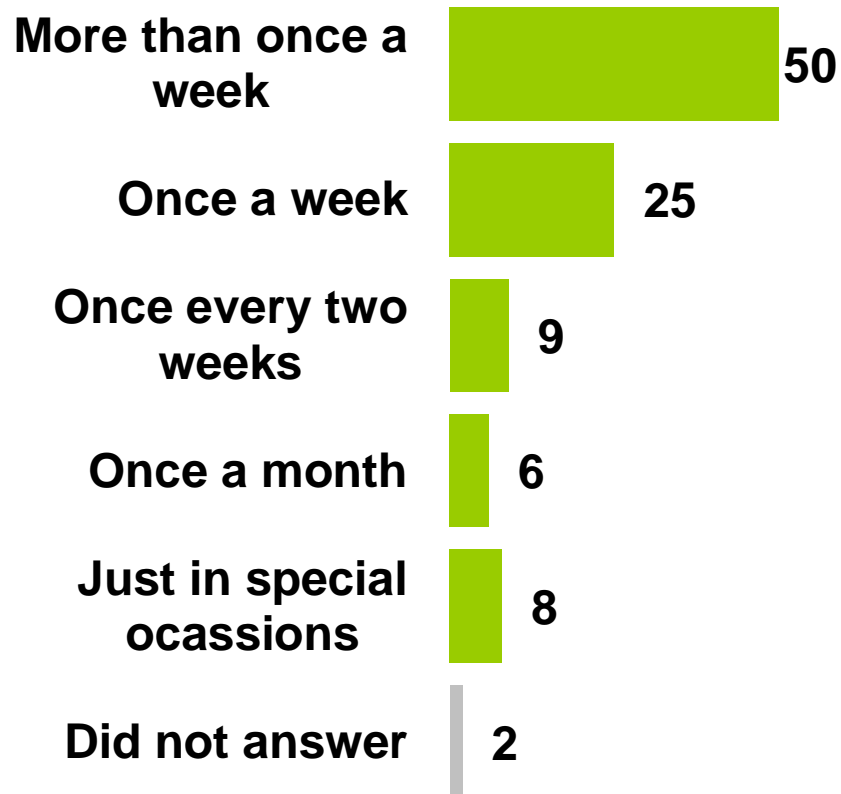
- ✓ 4,500 public spaces recovered
- ✓ More than 1 billion dollar investment
- ✓ Over 22 million inhabitants benefited
- ✓ 350 municipalities received funds



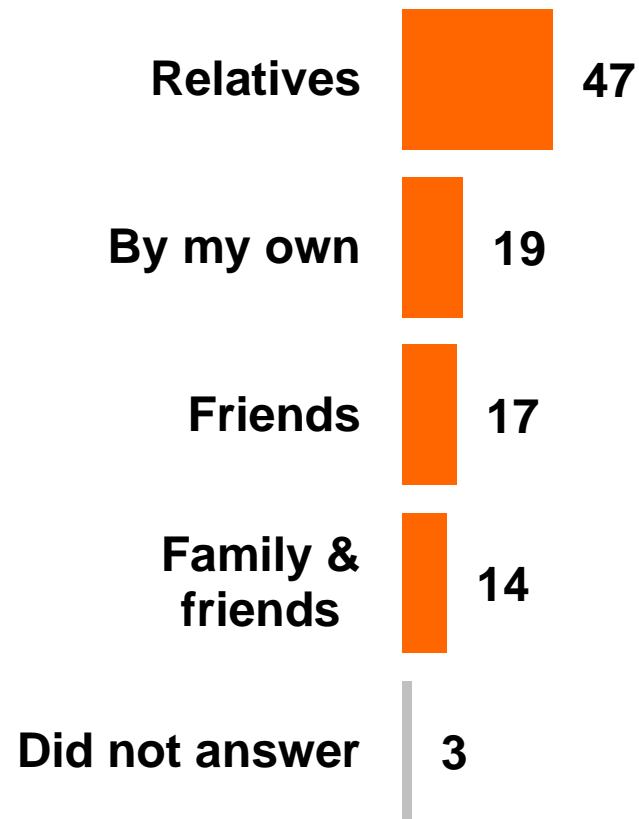
Impact measuring

Attendance to recovered public spaces (%)

How often do you visit a public space?

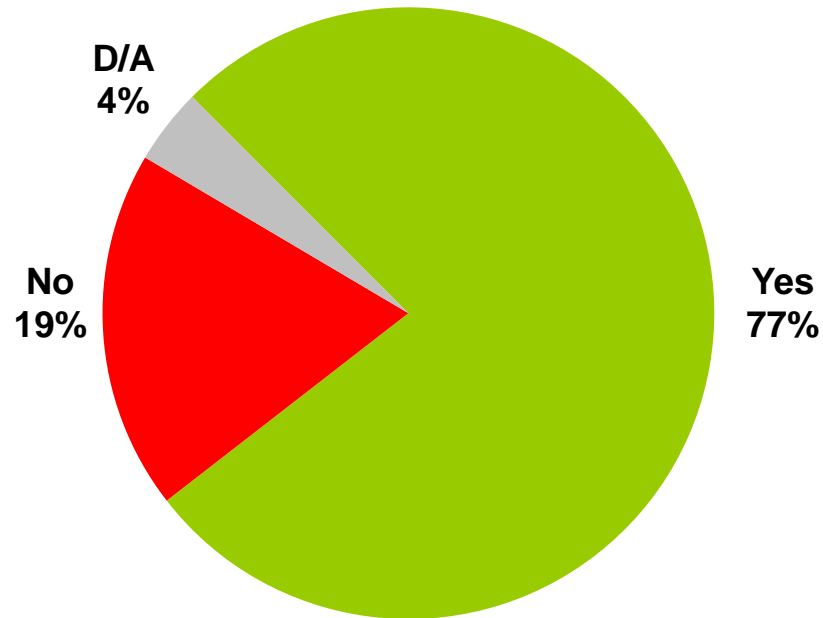


Whom do you visit public spaces with?



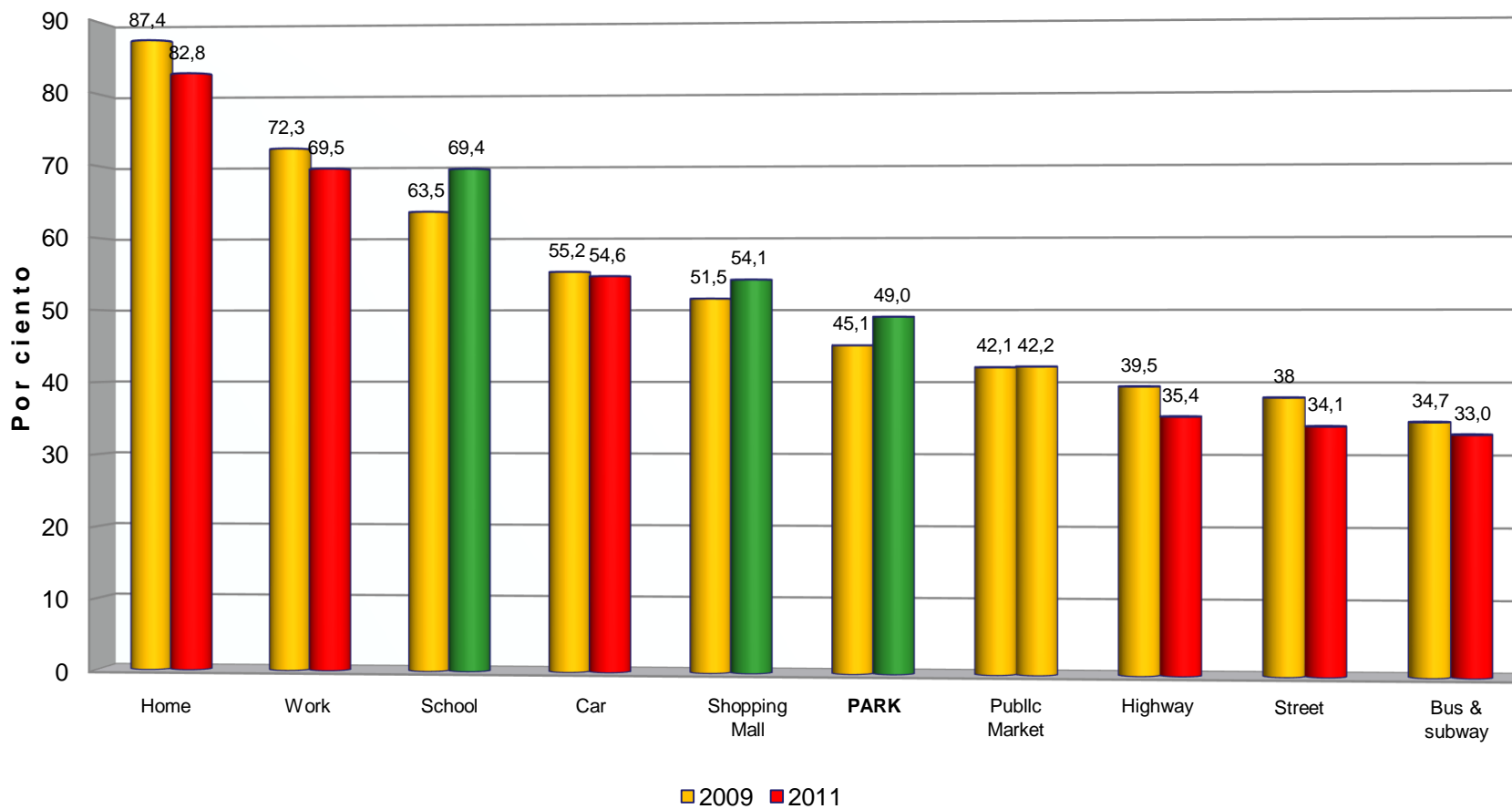
Recovered public spaces' contribution to Safety perception

Did the recovery of this public space improved safety within your neighborhood?



Impact measuring

Changes in perception of safety
2009-2011



Fuente: INEGI (National Institute for Geography and Statistics)
ENSI. Encuesta nacional sobre seguridad pública 2009.
ENVIPE. Encuesta nacional de victimización y percepción sobre seguridad pública 2011.

Some lessons learned...

- 1) Work in partnership with local governments.
- 2) Universal solutions do not exist.
- 3) Involve the community in the planning and design process; never assume that you know what they need or wish.
- 4) Design inclusive public spaces (age, gender, disabled).
- 5) Design crime-prevention oriented public spaces.
- 6) Promote joint responsibility between governments and community.
- 7) Think of public spaces as a “place” but also as an “activity”.
- 8) Promote intersectoral cooperation/collaboration.