



CH[♥]IELTIK

Empowering Maya Youth



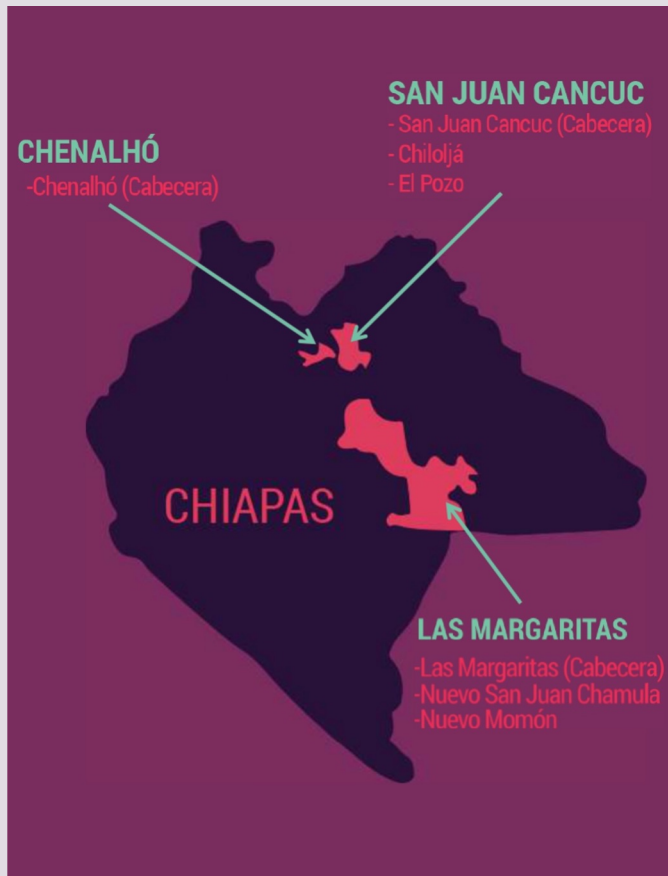
CHI'ELTIK



ABOUT US

Ch'ieltik –in Tseltal: “We are whom we grow”– is a **non-governmental organization** that for the last **12 years** has worked to strengthen **Mayan children, adolescents and youth in Chiapas** with a perspective on **rights, interculturality and gender equality**.





Ch'ieltik strengthens the rights of indigenous girls, boys, adolescents and youth by empowering their skills through training, cultural and artistic activities. This work is carried out with our operational team of which 90% of its members belong to the **Tsotsil, Tseltal, Tojolabal and Kanjobal** Mayan cultures.

Our team is in charge of the formative processes of Mayan youth who learn how to build a voice of their own and take it back to their communities.

We have presence **in three municipalities in Chiapas** and, through the years, we have established solid **alliances with the principal local actors** in each of **the 7 micro-regions** in which our organization works.

CHIAPAS' CONTEXT

- It has the lowest **Human Development Index in Mexico (0.664)** and the highest child poverty rate: **83.6%**
- The **highest dropout rate**: only **39.8%** of students complete their upper secondary education.
- **The highest adolescent fertility rates**. In the municipalities of Chenalhó, Las Margaritas and San Juan Cancuc the fertility rates are **157, 132 and 103 children**, respectively, for every thousand women between **15 and 19 years of age**.
- The Covid-19 pandemic has **highlighted economic, health, education and access to ICT inequality**. Internet availability in Chiapas homes is one of the lowest in the country (**27.3%**), and in indigenous communities coverage is practically non-existent.

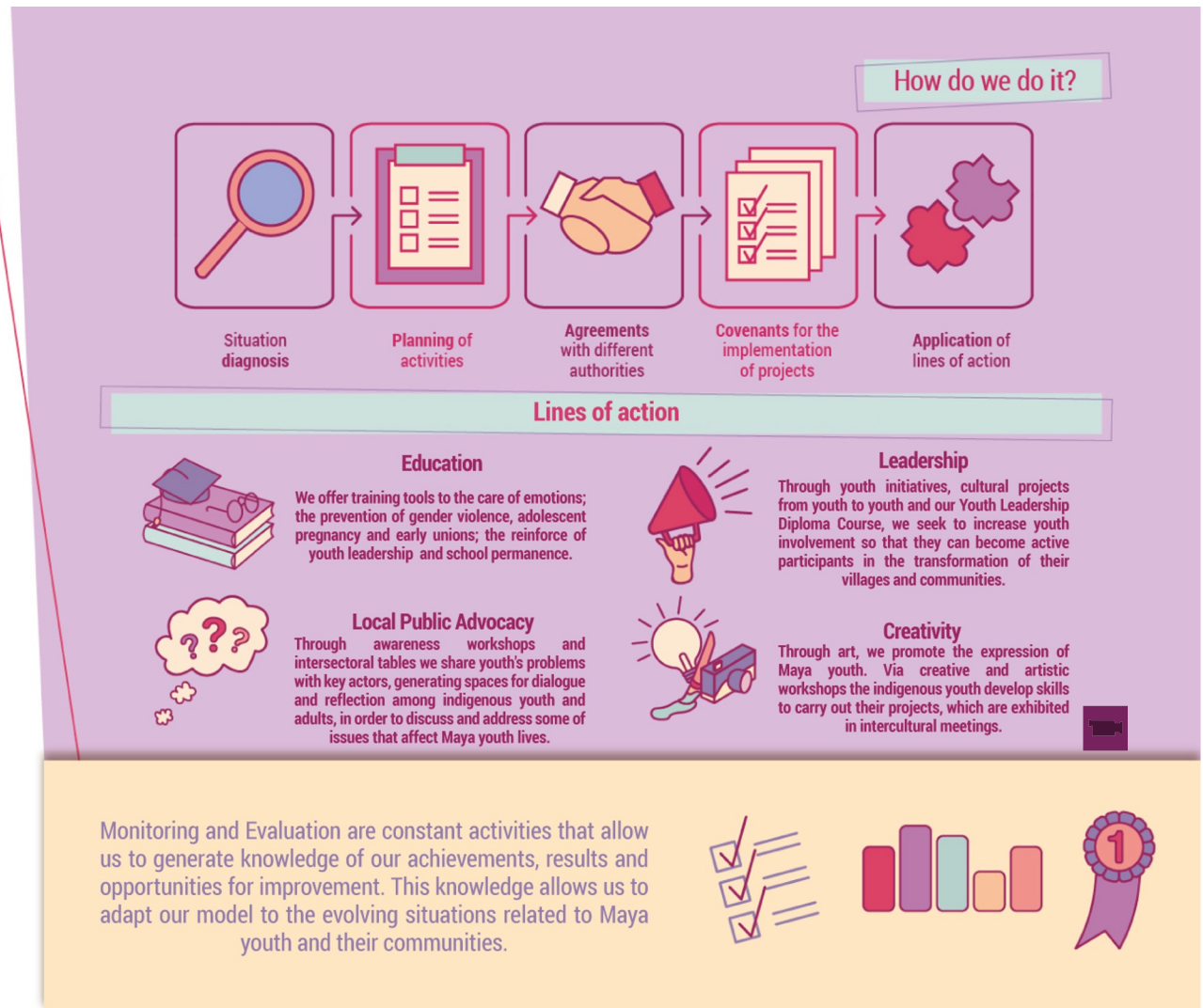


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EMPOWERING MAYA YOUTH

Intervention Model

It aims to empower Maya Youth of Chiapas with a focus on rights, interculturality and gender equality, through actions and projects that allow them to actively exercise their rights to be able to transform their lives and those of their communities.



ACHIEVEMENTS

- In the last 13 years, Ch'ieltik has strengthened the capabilities of **45,000 indigenous youth** to claim and exercise their rights.
- Ch'ieltik is a founding member of **Alianza Mx**, which is part of the Latin American and Caribbean Network for the defense of the rights of children, adolescents and youth. She has participated in conversations on the rights of indigenous adolescents with UN agencies in Mexico, including **UN Women, UNFPA** and **OHCHR**.
- In **2021**, Ch'ieltik and UNFPA organized a joint webinar on “The impact of Covid-19 on the indigenous populations of Mexico: multidimensionality of challenges, resilience mechanisms and opportunities for the future”. Ch'ieltik is also a member of the **Girls Not Brides** global membership.
- In **2022**, Ch'ieltik was elected to be part of the **SIPINNA Chiapas** – the Comprehensive Protection System for the Rights of Girls, Boys and Adolescents in the Mexican state of Chiapas.



AWARDS

- In **2022** Ch'ieltik's Good Educational Practices have been recognized by **Ashoka Mexico, Central America and the Caribbean** among eight inspiring educational models that promote transformative skills from different social and educational contexts, via innovative methodologies and tools for students, teachers, fathers, mothers and/or family guardians. It is highlighted that in **Ch'ieltik's Good Educational Practices, based on Empathy and Change Agency**, there are: interculturality, empathy, inclusion, people at the center of learning, sustainability and help to learn and think on their own and in the community.
- **Ibero-American Youth Award 2018**. Winners of the Activism Category for promoting indigenous youth participation for the exercise of their rights.
- **Human Rights Award of the French Republic, 2017**. Special Mention on the topic "Promotion and protection of sexual and reproductive rights".
- 2nd Place **2017**, of the **OAS-SGIB-Vidanta Foundation Award**, for contributing to the reduction of poverty and inequality in Latin America and the Caribbean.





STRATEGIC ALLIES



RÍO ARRONTE
FUNDACIÓN



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