

Lessons Learned and Recommendations from the Migration Portfolio¹, USAID/Peru

Strategy and Design

1. Base program design on regularly updated research and contextual analysis.

Migration dynamics shift rapidly across the region, particularly in Peru, Ecuador, and Brazil. Ongoing research is essential to inform responsive and effective strategies.

2. Incorporate stakeholder feedback into planning and design.

Robust strategies are grounded in consultation with key stakeholders, including government agencies, migrant-led organizations, private sector actors, and academic institutions. Their input ensures programs are relevant, aligned with local needs, and politically feasible.

Stakeholder Engagement and Management

1. Maintain strong, strategic relationships with key actors in the policy environment.

Staying connected to legislators, local officials, ministries, and institutions involved in migration policy ensures programs are informed by and contribute to current priorities and reforms.

2. Build inclusive partnerships across sectors.

Effective engagement includes civil society (especially migrant-led NGOs), private sector stakeholders, academia, and host community leaders. These relationships create ownership and support more sustainable outcomes.

3. Align programming with local and national policy priorities.

Programs gain relevance and traction when they support or complement existing government strategies. Strategic alignment improves coordination and leverages government resources.

¹ This document was prepared by former members of the USAID/Peru technical teams as a reflection of their professional experience. The views expressed in this text belong solely to the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of USAID or the United States Government.

4. Identify shared interests and incentives to strengthen collaboration.

Understanding stakeholder priorities helps identify win-win opportunities, whether through direct programming or policy engagement.

Implementation and Delivery

1. Apply a results-based and evidence-informed approach.

Programs should focus on measurable results, using real-time data and innovation to adjust to evolving migration trends and needs.

2. Remain adaptive and context-aware.

The migration landscape changes quickly. Implementation must remain flexible, with the ability to pivot based on emerging data or shifts in the political or social environment.

3. Promote transparency and coherence in all phases of implementation.

Clear communication of objectives, processes, and results builds credibility and ensures alignment among partners.

4. Build and maintain trust with stakeholders and the public.

Trust is critical to achieving impact—whether with implementing partners, migrant communities, or host governments. It is fostered through consistency, transparency, and a shared sense of purpose.

5. Ensure localization and cultural appropriateness.

Implementation should be locally driven and sensitive to the diverse cultural contexts of migrants, host communities, and institutions.

Sustainability and Exit Strategy

1. Prioritize localization, knowledge exchange, and capacity building.

Programs must be designed to strengthen local systems and capacities so that national and local actors can sustain key processes and outcomes after external support ends.

2. Promote ownership and accountability among local actors.

Encouraging commitment to results and resource contributions helps ensure continuity and institutional buy-in.

3. Use strategic communications to reinforce program goals.

Communications should be intentional, audience-specific, and aligned with long-term objectives. Messaging should support policy engagement, stakeholder mobilization, and public awareness.