Inter-American Foundation

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Closing the Gender Gap in Latin America

International Women's Day came and went in March, but it left a powerful call to action to support gender parity and celebrate women globally. Achieving gender equity goes beyond helping women; it also helps our economies. A recent study by the McKinsey Global Institute suggests that balancing the gender scales could potentially boost growth by $12 trillion by 2025.

At the InterAmerican Foundation, we are committed to celebrating International Women's Day every day of the year. Through our work across Latin America and the Caribbean, the IAF understands the importance of helping women and girls overcome gender disparity and positioning them to realize their potential and have an impact on their communities.

We invite you to explore how our grantee partners in Latin America and the Caribbean are addressing the needs and constraints of hardworking women in their communities.

Entrepreneurship Training for Women in Uruguay

Grantee partner Centro de Promoción por la Dignidad Humana (CEPRODIH) trains and mentors women in entrepreneurship. With funding from the IAF, CEPRODIH has formed a network to mentor women as they launch and further develop their businesses.
+ Learn more

Empowering Women Farmers in Guatemala

In the highlands of Western Guatemala, the IAF is strengthening communities by helping boost the production and sale of fair-trade, organic coffee.

IAF grantee partner Federación Comercializadora de Café Especial de Guatemala (FECCEG), has provided coffee farmers with training in leadership, finance, marketing, and crop diversification. Women constitute 26 percent of the coffee farmers.

Women from Latin America Share Their Stories

When I was 14 years old I was being forced to marry, my brothers [and] my father [told me] "you are a woman, you have to obey what we say"...When my father realized that I didn't want to marry he told me "you have to be locked up because if not the young men will see you and they will keep coming"...And he locked me up for three years without being able to leave my home...- Paty Gomez

Paty is one example of the many women who are victims of gender injustice, and have the courage to advocate to end it. Paty is now actively involved in Coalición Indígena de Migrantes de Chiapas, A.C.(CIMICH), an organization that works with transnational local committees in seven municipalities of Chiapas to help resettle indigenous Tsotsil and Tseltal migrants returning to their communities of origin. **+ Read More**

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