



**GRRIPP**  
Gender Responsive  
Resilience & Intersectionality in  
Policy & Practice

# CARE AND **TERRITORIES**

**IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**

A GENDER AND INTERSECTIONALITY APPROACH TO  
EXPERIENCES FACING CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES



**PUCP**



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CARE AND TERRITORIES IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN: A GENDER AND  
INTERSECTIONALITY APPROACH TO EXPERIENCES FACING CLIMATE CHANGE CHALLENGES  
Pablo Vega Centeno and Belén Desmaison

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This publication belongs to all of you.

**Pablo and Belén**



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# GRRIPP: A NETWORK OF NETWORKS

**Maureen Fordham,**

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW, GRRIPP  
DIRECTOR, IRDR CENTRE FOR GENDER AND  
DISASTER, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON



Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice (GRRIPP) – Networking Plus Partnering for Resilience is a UKRI Collective Fund award under the Global Challenges Research Fund. GRRIPP aims to build a network of scholars, policy makers and practitioners to promote gender and intersectionality in resilience thinking and planning. GRRIPP works directly across three world regions: Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean, and Southeast Asia. It seeks to connect existing networks of disciplines and sectors to promote new ways of thinking about resilience. It asks what difference it would make to rethink global development


Scan the QR  
code to view the  
GRRIPP website.



challenges through a gender lens in research, policy making and development practice.

GRRIPP is a networking project, but it also provides grants directly to the three regions of the Global South, which select projects and activities relevant to their different contexts. Decision-making regarding these selections is guided by Regional Advisory Boards to support transparency and accountability. GRRIPP has tried to develop other innovative methods and ways of working. For example, GRRIPP is guided by a decolonial approach (that is, a critical reassessment of power relationships between and within countries,

“ *GRRIPP is a networking project, but it also provides grants directly to the three regions of the Global South, which select projects and activities relevant to their different contexts.* ”



communities and social relations more generally). Overturning centuries of colonial exploitation in one project is a utopian ideal but, since GRRIPP is committed to a feminist ethic, we expect to be the change we seek to make. Our structure of management is feminist – flat and horizontal – and partners are expected to follow a code of conduct to enable a diverse, fair and safe working environment. Similarly, our feminist approach places an emphasis on a duty of care for each other, those we work with and for our environment.

Our Theory of Change seeks changes in skills, narratives and structures. However, we have found that change levels have an inverse relationship to impact: greater impact is achievable at the individual level

and then it becomes progressively harder at higher societal levels. We do not have a specific GRRIPP narrative which we seek to impose, but we have seen people in different regions begin to think differently. We have heard from individuals with whom we work that they have gained and shared new knowledge and ways of working through GRRIPP. We have also managed to provide resources to social group representatives (women entrepreneurs in Zimbabwe gendered curricula change at university level in South Asia, and training women from the Institute of Women of the Amazon, Brazil, in project management). GRRIPP has been well received by various institutions for the ideas and work it has generated, but real structural change is the greatest challenge. ●





# A NETWORK. THAT TRANSFORMS SOCIETIES

Exchange and collaboration spring from a fairer and more egalitarian global development perspective.

# THE GRRIPP PROJECT EXPERIENCE

Gender and intersectionality approaches to the management and inhabiting of diverse territories in Latin America and the Caribbean

Pablo Vega Centeno<sup>1</sup> and Belén Desmaison<sup>2</sup>

GRRIPP was born as an academic research project with an unusual and innovative proposal, since it was kindled by a commitment to a decolonial approach by seeking to vindicate local, ancestral knowledge and not adhering to conventional academic canons. Following a decolonial approach, since the beginning of the project University College London proposed a greater autonomy for each of the three participating regions (Latin America and the Caribbean, Africa and Southeast Asia) in the development of proposals that sought to shine a light on the importance of working with a gender and intersectionality approach to disaster risk management and adaptation to climate change.

This quest has two main purposes. The first is deconstructing and re-signifying the project's core issues from diverse local experiences and

perspectives: How is 'gender' understood in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC)? Why is it expected that genders will experience different impacts due to climate change? The second is furthering a paradigm shift and an urgent transformation of the prevailing ways of living, co-existing and exploiting resources that are environmentally and socially unsustainable. Currently, historically marginalised social groups are made vulnerable and stripped of their agency, due to their perception by the State and multilateral organizations as being in need of help.

GRRIPP's first task is to recognise, and shine a light on, ways of inhabiting and understanding the world and its ecosystems that not only do not have extractive practices but, on the contrary, promote harmonious relationships between human collectives and their territories, where

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2 GRRIPP monitoring and evaluation coordinator for Latin America and the Caribbean region. Assistant professor at Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú.







*Thematic leaders of GRRIPP, regional advisers and representatives of the LAC projects, of the UCL team, Africa and South Asia presents in the final GRRIPP encounter, in Colombia.*

the former assume their responsibilities from a care perspective. A second task is going beyond valuing other ways of understanding and inhabiting the world, since they carry out practices and activities that create wellbeing and have positive social and environmental impacts. It is therefore not only a matter of acknowledging them, but also of learning from them, since they can share with humanity concrete ways in which we may change the lifestyles that currently exacerbate the threat of climate change.

Finally, a third task is protecting these human collectives and their care practices towards the territory and its inhabitants, since they are confronted daily by inequality and social injustice, due to social, cultural, racial and gender conditions. The challenges presented

by climate change are inseparable from the social injustices and inequalities that are pressing on our region.

Fulfilling these complex and urgent goals requires teamwork, enriched by a diversity of knowledge and experiences. For this reason, one of the first actions of the GRRIPP coordination team in LAC was creating a regional advisors committee, from academia and activism, representing territorial and thematic diversity in order to ensure that the work proposals promoted by the research team are validated and representative of the region's priorities and problems. Seven regional advisors specialised in disaster risk management, climate change adaptation, gender and intersectionality from Argentina, Chile, Brazil, Dominican Republic, Colombia, and Guatemala participated.



Scan the QR code to view the documents related to the project.







*Teamwork dynamic to encourage the synergy of the GRRIPP LAC projects, at the region's final event, in Colombia.*

For the design of the first call for development projects and initiatives, we chose to provide an opportunity for a diversity of emerging knowledge from practice, politics and theory, with a focus on gender and intersectionality, framed as ways of understanding and inhabiting the territory. By territory, we mean the space inhabited by human collectives and the ecosystems with which they coexist and of which they are a part. The notion of territory is present in large cities as well as in small population centres, itinerant communities and insular physical environments.


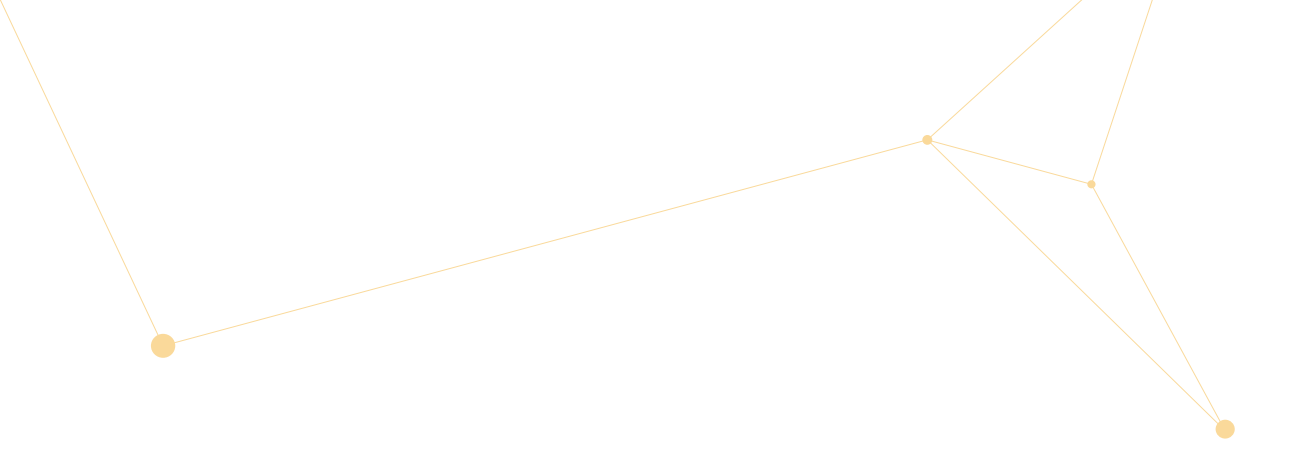
In LAC, territorial management is one of the great challenges for public policy in its wish for populations to live in justice, equality, and equity, in harmony and respect for their environment. The different forms of territorial occupation tend to

express large inequality gaps, starting with agglomeration levels.

On the one hand, large metropolises concentrate the greatest possibilities for employment and services, but, at the same time, they are structured based on huge pockets of poverty made up of popular slums known as favelas, shantytowns, ranches or shantytowns, depending on the country.

However, the poverty and marginalisation that can be found in dispersed population centres can be even greater, due to the extremely unequal distribution of resources and opportunities between large and small agglomerations characteristic to the region's countries.

On the other hand, the region's geographic and cultural heterogeneity is confronted



with the imposition of monolithic discourses on what “territorial development” implies. As a result, some public policies tend to impose a single way of understanding quality of life, stigmatising certain individuals and social groups with the “vulnerable” label. This perspective does not allow certain communities and human collectives to participate in the construction of their own lifestyles and visions for the future. It also denotes the lack of an ecosystemic approach, indispensable to the discussion of mitigation and adaptation measures for our territories to the effects of natural phenomena and climate change.

One of the least considered aspects of territorial development approaches and policies is gender inequality. The way in which infrastructure and habitat spaces are enabled and designed, as well as their uses and occupations –regarding both built space and daily movements– express relationships with considerable gender inequality, in which, paradoxically, those least taken into account can be essential for future policies. In fact, women’s groups and LGBTIQ+ populations are the ones who usually take over care responsibilities within their

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***In GRRIPP’s first stage, ten initiatives from the LAC region participated, showing the diversity of territories, knowledge, struggles and demands.***


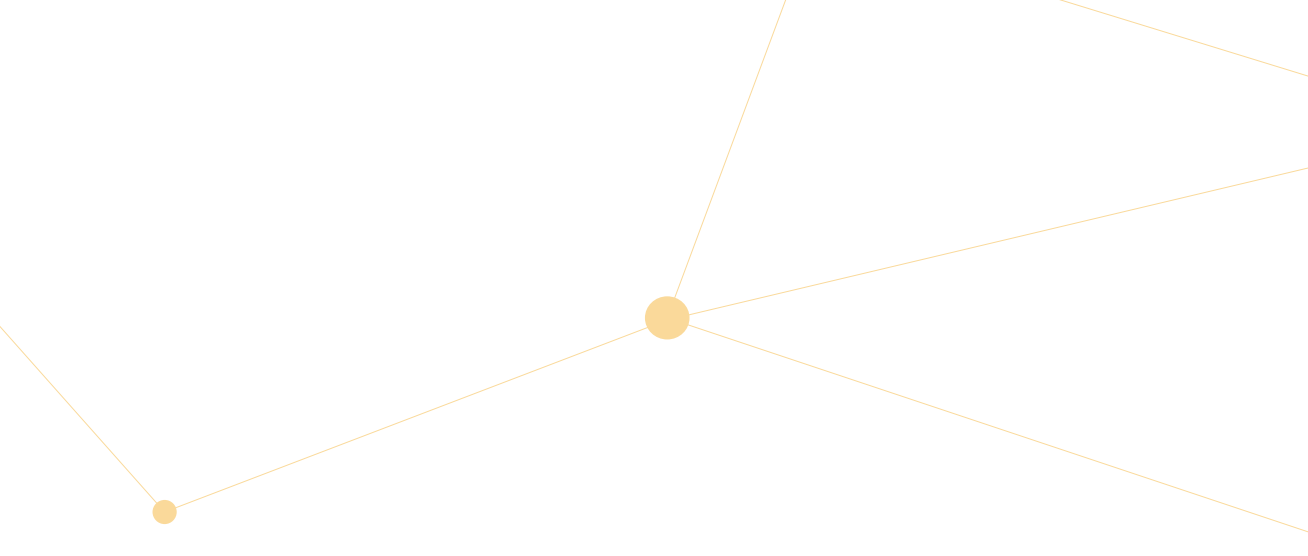
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communities, as well caring for the territory they inhabit.

The global health emergency caused by the HIV/AIDS pandemic led us to pay greater attention to this dimension of ‘care’ in the way we treat our communities or collectives, as well the territories we inhabit. Care, understood as the set of activities related to the maintenance of a human group and its environment in order to secure its social reproduction, plays a fundamental role in ensuring the subsistence of human life.

How to promote public policies that contribute to the planning and management of territories with greater inclusion and respect for the human and non-human diversities that inhabit them? How to reduce disaster risk through an approach that shines a light on the social role of care? How to consolidate the work of collectives or communities in contexts of climate and social crises? These were some of the major concerns that triggered the implementation of the GRRIPP project.

In GRRIPP’s first stage, ten initiatives from the LAC region participated, showing the diversity of territories, knowledge, struggles and demands.



Since these projects had a brief duration (6 to 8 months), supporting actions with experience and previous work became a priority, in order to achieve specific and viable objectives. This was possible thanks to the valuable support of the team of advisors, which allowed us to gather a set of diverse proposals that already had a previous experience in collective work.

GRRIPP understood the diversity of approaches and contexts of the projects supported as a great opportunity to promote an exchange of experiences and knowledge for collaborative work, since the final objectives are common: mainly, backing care, due to its transformative qualities. Care was approached from a multiscale perspective, addressing not only social care but also territorial, cultural, and symbolic care, advocating the indissolubility between the well-being of human beings—physical, mental and spiritual—and of the territories they inhabit.

In a second stage, exchanges were promoted between groups working on related topics. This led to products that were the result of

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***In a second stage, exchanges were promoted between groups working on related topics.***

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knowledge-sharing and collaborative learning. The main purpose of these activities was strengthening cooperation networks, laying the groundwork for actions beyond the GRRIPP project, understood as a platform that promotes the strengthening of a network of networks. Four additional initiatives were added at this stage. This made it possible to expand the territorial coverage of the LAC region, as well as shining a light on other knowledge and work methodologies and incorporating them into the network of networks.

The GRRIPP project supported the initiatives detailed in this publication between 2021 and 2023, as well as the collaborative work they carried out.

We hope this publication will be useful for learning about the important work they are carrying out in their localities, as well as the enormous potential for collaboration networks between academia, public institutions and organised civil society, working in and promoting transformative and necessary actions to face the climate and social challenges of the 21st century. ●





*Dr. Marta Rosa Muñoz, representative of FLACSO - Cuba, at the seminar "Territorial management for the adaptation, climate change mitigation and disaster risk management with a focus on gender and intersectionality in the island territories".*



*Field visit to the project Community resilience with a gender perspective: Grassroots women managing disaster risk and the impact of climate change in Peru.*

● **The pandemic made visible that which had previously been hidden** or ignored by state practices and the public opinion.

●





THE  
PROJECTS

# GENERATE A

# NEW

# MOMENTUM

Theory, policy and practice come together to create innovative initiatives, capable of impacting people and their communities.

# THE IMPORTANCE OF A GENDER AND INTERSECTIONALITY APPROACH TO DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN

**Lourdes Meyreles**

ADVISOR TO GRRIPP LAC

The new scenarios arising from the variability of disaster risks and the threat of climate change are currently gaining increasing attention globally. In addition, there is a renewed need to review approaches, theories, and strategies in search of effective, sustainable and safe solutions for the entire human community and the ecosystems that sustain life. We see a resurgence of interest in addressing climate problems and the risks that our territories face, starting from a social perspective and considering the existing diversities in societies concerning populations, their identities and living conditions.

In the social context, the issue of gender relations is a central theme that defines cultural, economic and political guidelines. This determines status, rights and access to resources. It is important to point out the

recognition that social relations and gender relations determine the vulnerabilities, capacities and resilience of communities and have a history in the study of emergencies and disasters. Within this framework, the Latin American and Caribbean region has played a key role in the incorporation of this social and gender approach, both in the study of risk and in its management.

The concept of disaster risk as a social construct and the assertion that disasters are therefore not natural have been the cornerstone of what was once a transformative shift from the traditional view of the study of disasters, catastrophes, and emergencies. From a *physicalist* approach, which analyses the phenomenon itself and is epistemologically situated in a radical separation between nature and society, it



is argued that natural phenomena are outside the social framework, since they are ahistorical and apolitical (Enarson and Morrow, 2003). Moving on to the analysis of how disasters impact populations, Enrico Quanrattelli and Russell Dines, et al. (Maskrey, 1998) have created a sociology of disasters interested in differentiated impacts on populations and communities. In Latin America, the social approach has been deepened by an analysis of how societies and social relations influence disaster risk, disasters themselves, emergencies and their management.

We cannot dissociate the fact that risk scholars in Latin America and the Caribbean – a socially unequal region – are enthusiastic about developing the new paradigm. They relate inequality to exposure to disaster risk, differentiated vulnerability and differentiated impacts in the event of a disaster. Thus, they link the development processes to the risk construction processes. This focus on the social aspects of disasters pinpoints power relations and their influence on risk construction, distribution and increasing vulnerability (Blaikie et al.,

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***In the social context, the issue of gender relations is a central theme that defines cultural, economic and political guidelines.***

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1996). The study of these phenomena is structured around an axis of development and inequality that points out the increase in urban risk in the region and the importance of planning processes for risk reduction. The conceptual theoretical framework will be expanded and become more complex, based on empirical evidence, incorporating the perspective in academia, and generating explanatory models that analyse the connection between risk and social structure. This shift values the study of vulnerability conditions in societies and their role in disasters, as well as the link between research and regional, national and local public policies (Maskrey, 1998).

A paradigm shift is taking place, in which disasters will no longer be natural and disaster risk will henceforth be defined as the conjunction of natural hazards with social conditions of vulnerability and the capacity of populations, determined by social organisation and development processes (Maskrey, 1998) and with a local approach (i.e., based on the daily experiences of those who inhabit the territory).



## FEMINIST AND GENDER STUDIES IN THE SOCIAL STUDY OF DISASTERS

The question of the sex/gender variable in these disaster contexts arises when space is allowed for a discussion about inequality: do they impact men and women equally?

The social demands of the second half of the 20th century, driven by civil rights, environmental, feminist and other movements, definitely enriched the social study of disasters. They are based on an epistemology that places the experience of women, as well as other populations, as the central axis of disaster risk analysis. Likewise, academia is aware of the particular inequality of women in patriarchal societies (Fordham and Meyreles, 2014) and how this inequality creates differentiated gender relations between men and women, with nature and other resources. This bolsters the understanding that disasters impact men and women differently, as well as the interest in how the sex/gender system in patriarchal societies influences these differentiated impacts. From feminist epistemologies emerges a new field of social study of disasters (Enarson and Morrow, 2003), broadening perspectives and impacting global, regional, national and local public policies with gender and inclusion

●

***The incorporation of a gender approach in disaster risk studies and management has brought about new theoretical frameworks.***

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approaches that take into account the particular vulnerabilities and capacities of less privileged and/or marginalised groups, such as women and girls, people with disabilities, racialised people, ethnic groups, LGBTQI+ communities, etc.

The incorporation of a gender approach in disaster risk studies and management has brought about new theoretical frameworks, as well as methodologies and research tools that allow us to know and analyse the differentiated impacts of disasters on men and women. This issue is being integrated into the literature, showing diverse regional visions and interests. Latin America and the Caribbean, like other developing regions, show a marked interest in the relationship among gender, vulnerability and development processes, as well as in the construction of risk and management of natural resources (Enarson and Meyreles, 2004). Studies show how women's vulnerability has different characteristics and how they, in turn, have particular capacities that allow them to deal with risk, leading community disaster risk management processes (Gomáriz, 1999; Enarson, Meyreles et al., 2003). Studies by risk and disaster researchers and other researchers reveal a new reality: otherness, where elements hitherto unnoticed in studies and analyses, as





well as in risk management frameworks, are now considered. Highlighted is the role of women in the prevention of, response to, and uneven recovery from emergencies, which has not been clearly analysed before. Gender-based violence in disaster contexts, unstudied until recently, has been revealed. The reality of the “double disaster” experienced by women has been brought to light (Fordham and Bradshaw, 2013), as well as women’s role in the management of community resources as one of the risk management capacities that are important for reducing risk.

## **INTERSECTIONALITY IN DISASTERS**

The concept of intersectionality (Crenshaw, 1989) is framed to show the complex reality and multidimensionality of gender. Factors such as race, class and sexuality cut across gender and create very complex vulnerabilities and capacities. Intersectional gender analysis regarding disaster situations shows the importance of recognising this complexity and diversity of identities in order to develop more effective risk reduction strategies (Meyreles and Luciano, 2021). The focus broadens and enables giving voice to gender aspects of Latin American and Caribbean realities that have not been analysed before, such as coloniality and its impacts. This approach provides a more political-historical vision, focusing on colonised and historically marginalised populations of the global south (Atallah, 2016)


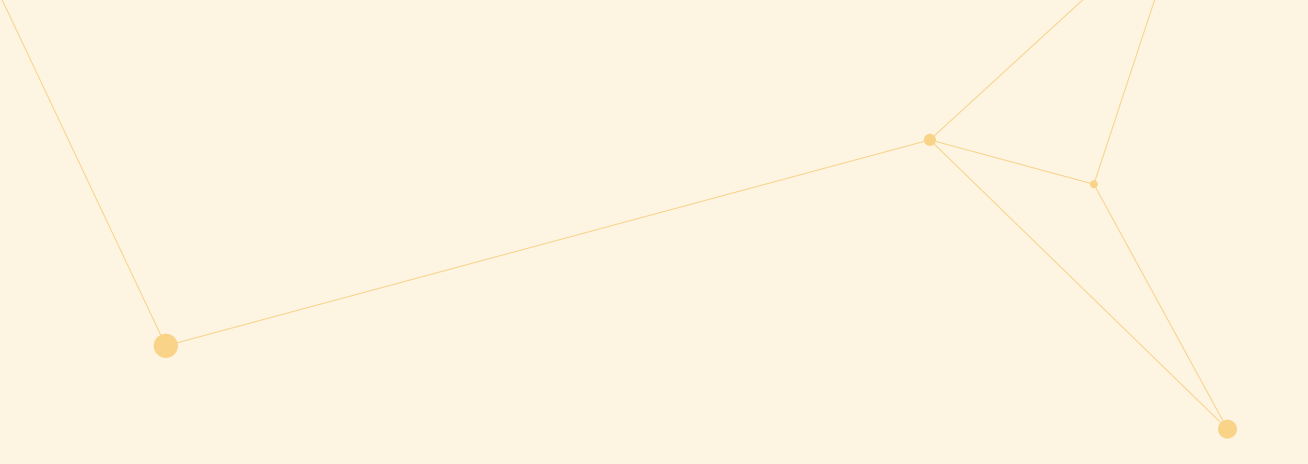
to analyse their risk situation. It also gives importance to capacities related to these groups’ specific visions and their particular relationship with nature and natural resources, which can serve as a basis for new models of resilience.

## **GRRIPP LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN. CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE GENDER AND INTERSECTIONALITY APPROACH IN THE REGION**

The study and practice of disaster risk management in Latin America and the Caribbean currently show a growing interest in incorporating an intersectional gender approach to disaster risk reduction, especially in legal and institutional frameworks and projects. International organisations integrate the inclusive conceptual framework into their studies, guides, training activities and lines of action. Regional regulatory frameworks and strategies are also incorporating this approach. Academia offers new training programs, and new tools have been created for mainstreaming the approach. However, the evaluations and diagnoses of the implementation of the frameworks and strategies carried out in recent years do not reflect effective mainstreaming (Meyreles and Luciano, 2021).

The Latin American and Caribbean region, due to its geographical, geomorphological, social, political, economic and cultural characteristics, has had a historical experience of





exposure and vulnerability to disaster risk. This experience has pointed the way to inclusion, from the communities to the organisations, governments, academia and projects. The impact on policy is still in its infancy, since the practices managed from the bottom up by the historically marginalised communities themselves are not recognized or incorporated.

The GRRIPP project has had the insight to collect these community experiences and create the conditions for their development. “The potential of the present has been considered for the achievement of future transformations” (Haarstad et al., 2023, p. 06). In an innovative, creative, and efficient way, GRRIPP has been able to link academia and the community in a dialogue that unites academic research with community action in an intersectional framework of respect and trust. The project is carried out with local initiatives and is guided by the reality of the communities, addressing their needs and therefore achieving effectiveness.

It has been possible to address the problems for territories and populations that usually do not have access to financing and with which the region has an old debt, thereby closing affective and other gaps. Through impassioned personal involvement,

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***The GRRIPP project has had the insight to collect these community experiences and create the conditions for their development.***

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rescuing the beauty of know-how, valuing unique cultural know-how and indicating authentic needs, the projects presented in this publication have had a creative impact, showing beauty, emotion and autonomy in different areas. These include infrastructure initiatives for risk management, planning for adaptation to local climate change, capacity building for psychosocial disaster recovery, integrating care into disaster risk management, creating regional spaces for an experience exchange and for work in a regional network, territory restoration and the management of natural resources. The production of innovative methodologies that incorporate the intersectional gender approach should be highlighted.

Experience has shown us that effective results are achieved in risk management and climate change adaptation processes by adopting a gender and intersectionality approach. It has achieved an impact on the community and public policy in a way that respects culture, the rhythms of life, art, affection, traditional knowledge and community organisation; respecting nature, including the psycho-emotional aspects of the processes, reappraising and raising awareness of the tasks of care in the precise measure of the needs that are felt. ●

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# FROM EFFICIENCY TO CARE. THE IMPLICATIONS OF LOOKING RELATIONALLY AT TERRITORIES IN LATIN AMERICA

Paola Jirón

ADVISOR TO GRRIPP  
UNIVERSITY OF CHILE

Traditionally, territories are generally understood as fixed spaces, divided by boundaries. However, a relational reading of territories (Massey, 2005; Amin, 2007) accounts for spaces that are formed based on networks and relationships (i.e., open, mobile spaces), that are becoming, that are a part of processes of spatial stretching, as well as interdependencies, flows, changes, diversity and dynamism, among many other factors (Jones, 2009). Unlike traditional fixed and encapsulated approaches, relational territories make it possible to account for the diversities that inhabit these territories, in which multiple scales of living come together through mobility, from the intimate (e.g., the body, the home, the neighbourhood) to the national

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***Unlike traditional fixed and encapsulated approaches, relational territories make it possible to account for the diversities that inhabit these territories***  
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and the transnational. These ways of understanding current inhabitation account for complex, crowded and entangled territories (Rivera, 2010), where bodies create territories or are territories themselves (Zaragocín and Caretta, 2021).

This way of understanding territories is complex for urban planning, which seeks ideals of order, totality, structures, limits and control. In this effort, urban planning engages territories in a fragmented way with their rules and instruments, hierarchy of scales, insufficient data and methodologies, overlapping policies and plans with confusing competitions, while being incapable of seeing or understanding these interlinked spaces that are united by the bodies that inhabit



them. These forms of planning with processes of non-binding participation fail to effectively approach the way in which people inhabit territories on a day-to-day basis. They fail to see how the various bodies mend the fragments left by urban interventions, how these bodies are the ones that move cities, or how it is that these bodies epitomise the inequality of cities that seek to go faster, to be more efficient and productive.

When we look at the daily practices of the millions of people living in our cities, we see that lives go on in complex ways. An important part of what they do is focused on finding forms of care that enable the maintenance of life and the well-being of themselves and others, as well as the maintenance of the environment and the complex care network that makes it possible (Fisher and Tronto, 1990). This involves moving around to get food; having access to hygiene, health, and education systems; engaging in self-care activities including rest, play and recreation; forging close relationships with family, neighbours, friends, acquaintances and pets; protecting the environment by taking care of nature, growing vegetable gardens and recycling, among many other aspects.

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***There is an important challenge for urban planning: to think about ways of making cities based on relational territories that promote interdependence and care.***

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These care practices involve people, places, outward appearances and infrastructure, as well as a temporary nature and affects (Jirón et al., 2022). All these elements are carried out within and with the territories, and many of them are accessed through our bodies' mobility of. In other words, it is not enough to have health, recreation, education and food systems, among many others, if we cannot have fair and equitable access to them. This way of understanding city life leads us to think that, perhaps, in order to face our cities' inequality we should not think about faster, more efficient and productive cities, but about more careful cities, in which we understand that we are interdependent beings, always living in relationships with others, and that these relationships are what allow us to sustain life. In this context, there is an important challenge for urban planning: to think about ways of making cities based on relational territories that promote interdependence and care.

An example of this can be seen in the care communities proposed by the Colectivo Ciudadanas Cuidando (2022), which seeks to promote a caring community and city, bringing together territories and the



people cared for and who care. The importance of this can be seen by observing how care infrastructures are activated by care communities, which support each other in a network format to collaborate in the multiple practices that care entails. These include places for care such as health centres, nurseries and laundries, physical-spatial elements such as bridges, sidewalks and bus stops, or objects linking these care infrastructures. This type of infrastructure, such as the care blocks of Bogotá highlighted by the Women and Habitat Network<sup>3</sup> along with the AVP Foundation in Bogotá, is useful for concentrating the social, legal, labour, educational and economic services of a municipality in one place, as well as infrastructures that help caregivers in their care activities. This becomes particularly relevant in the absence of a state that cares, or as a complement or as a way of activating communal care management.

What is interesting about these approaches is the possibility of thinking relationally about how both care communities and care infrastructures are part of a changing

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3 Cities and territories that care: Local care systems with a gender approach. Project implemented by CICSA (Argentina), Fundación AVP (Colombia) and Sur Corporación (Chile).

assemblage that generates complex care spatialities. When looking at both experiences relationally, it is important to recognise that communities help move these infrastructures, like living cogs. The community ties that are established to ensure territorial management are part of the care infrastructures. It is not only about the physical-spatial elements but also about people, institutions, material infrastructures and environments, as a great infrastructure that allows the care of people (children, the elderly, people with disabilities, among many others) as well as our environments and the other living beings that accompany us daily. To better understand this interplay between infrastructures and care communities, observing the relationships based on the mobilities that tie care territories together can be a significant contribution to these communities. These new perspectives may generate slower and less efficient cities, or perhaps territories that relate to each other on smaller scales; however, they will probably help us to move towards greater care and more caring cities, which also allows access to economies with better care. ●



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# How are projects classified?

## APPROACHES<sup>4</sup>



### RESEARCH

Creating knowledge or shining a light on knowledge, based on the inhabitants' daily experience. Promoting the creation and appreciation of critical and situated, ancestral, indigenous and decolonial knowledge. Making efforts to further discussions and/or exchange between popular, academic and normative/political knowledge.



### PRACTICE

Furthering a greater understanding and application of a gender approach and intersectionality in humanitarian and development practices, as well as the visibility of local actions promoted by social groups. Priority is given to the participation of local groups and grassroots associations with years of experience working in diverse territories.



### POLICY

Creating knowledge, information and methodologies aimed at promoting and transforming gender and risk sensitive policies that support resilient planning, design, construction and governance of cities and communities. These recommendations are based on the experiences of practice and reflection developed in the project. This is critical to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sendai Framework and the Paris Agreement by 2030.





## CORE ISSUES



### INTERSECTIONALITY<sup>5</sup>

A multi-systemic approach to identifying power relations and how they perpetuate the marginalisation and oppression of certain groups at both structural and micro-interpersonal levels<sup>6</sup>.

Promoting research that examines the root causes of discrimination and inequalities at the intersection of social identities. This means we examine and question 'hierarchies' and 'categories' to better support a focus on power relations and imbalances that have historically undermined equal opportunities for all. Thinking intersectionally ties in with questioning how we know the world and how we produce knowledge. It also ties in with epistemic communities and cultures of knowledge, with notions of interdisciplinarity and transdisciplinarity.



### GENDER<sup>7</sup>

Gender is a cultural and social construct. Since the concept of gender is a social construct, it is crucial to intentionally take into account the way interpretations change across cultures and societies, time and place. Other concepts and methodologies we use to define gender also influence the construction of this concept. In addition, gender is reproduced due to influences from different scales, including national legislation.

Gender is never just gender. It intersects with many social characteristics. It is necessary to decolonise theory, practice solidarity and learn from the everyday life and collective action that takes place in most of the world. By looking at how they are managed, one can gain insight into the multiple practices that shape gendered experiences.



### RESILIENCE<sup>8</sup>

We focus on resilience to environmental hazards and climate change, and unpack these concepts through a gender and intersectionality lens. We support the development of knowledge that is critical and situated, indigenous and decolonial, establishing in-country research needs across different time frames.

What could change if we were to re-envision global development challenges through an intersectional and gender lens in research, policy making and development practice?

4 Based on the concepts of Theory, Practice and Policy as defined in the GRRIPP framework (<https://www.gripp.net/>).

5 Retrieved from: <https://www.gripp.net/theory-copy>

6 Samuels and Ross-Sherif, 2008.

7 Excerpted from Hanna Ruszczyk's contribution to the publication GRRIPP Lexicon: A Collective Vocabulary for Liberation in Darker Times (pp. 57-58). Available at: <https://www.gripp.net/resources>

8 Retrieved from: <https://www.gripp.net/theory-copy>





**ARGENTINA**

# For climate planning free from exclusion

**PROJECT / APPLYING A GENDER APPROACH TO  
LOCAL CLIMATE CHANGE ADAPTATION PLANS /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

ARGENTINE NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE (RAMCC) /  
<http://www.ramcc.net/>



**In Argentina, several municipalities have understood that gender equality is an essential component to planning for climate challenges and an effective response to them. The joint effort of a group of experts and professionals from different sectors has been key in this process.**

Local climate planning has often focused on technical and scientific aspects, without taking into account gender inequalities and the specific needs of each sector of the population. “Before, we used to study everyone equally, but there is a reality: climate change has differentiated impacts,” says Valentina De Marco, coordinator of International Alliances and Projects at the Argentine Network of Municipalities against Climate Change (RAMCC).

This association, which brings together 286 Argentine municipalities and coordinates and promotes strategic plans to confront climate change, set out on the mission of seeking the inclusion of a gender approach in the Local Plans for Adaptation to Climate Change (PLAC) in the regions of Neuquén and Río Negro.

The problems arising from the omission of a gender approach to local planning can deepen already existing inequalities among women and sexual diversities, who also have less possibilities to confront climate risks. “It is necessary to know how the population is composed, what sex-gender diversities make it up and what are the needs and challenges for each of them,” says Valentina, who found an opportunity to work with a multidisciplinary team, including gender specialists, and the municipalities, on an issue that has not been sufficiently studied. With the technical advice of GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice), this is how the project *Applying a gender approach to local plans for adaptation to climate change* was created.



In-person day as part of Volunteering for Climate Action in Neuquén (above) and in Villa El Chocón (below).

● **Citizens actively participated in the training day and tree planting** as part of Volunteering for Climate Action in Argentina.

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***“ In our project we discovered the need and importance of working in multidisciplinary networks. It is fundamental to know different points of view to build a common knowledge that works for everyone. ”***

VALENTINA DE MARCO

COORDINATOR OF ALLIANCES AND INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS AT THE ARGENTINE NETWORK OF MUNICIPALITIES AGAINST CLIMATE CHANGE (RAMCC)

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## ROADMAP

One of the first actions was implementing training for municipal public servants. Through talks, an important step was taken to raise awareness and educate these workers, who had not assimilated the concept of gender approach and its relationship with climate change. “This was the most difficult step. We didn’t have enough data on these diverse populations. Therefore, the policies and actions that we are defining are the basis for generating that new information,” highlights De Marco.

After these actions, we worked on preparing a guide, together with the specialists in the municipalities, on how to

mainstream gender for climate planning. These documents propose to the municipalities different instruments for advancing toward integrating the gender perspective to the PLAC. Moreover, five PLACs with a gender focus were also developed, supported by normative frameworks at international, national and local levels. This documentation is a strategic guide for the implementation of measures and actions for the mitigation and adaptation to current climate change. “We always evaluate whether all these measures are going to generate a transformation, an opportunity or a possibility to improve the response to climate threats in the different groups that compose it,” explains Valentina De Marco.





Community participating in Volunteering for Climate Action, Villa El Chocón.

## GETTING CITIZENS INVOLVED

It is not rare to observe that a large part of the population is not sufficiently informed about the efforts made by public management to craft climate action plans. Therefore, the need arises for the citizenry not only to be aware of the measures and strategies that are implemented, but also to actively participate in these initiatives. “We explained to the neighbours that, based on our diagnosis, we detected there are many droughts, a climate threat. So the few times it rains heavily, the soil is

so compact that it does not allow all the water to drain, leading to flooding,” says Valentina. Thus, within the framework of the project, a tree-planting day was successfully organised; this will contribute—in addition to the universally known benefits known—to improving soil porosity and retaining rainwater.

The project has shown it is possible to move towards more equitable and sustainable climate planning. These first steps are an example for other municipalities to implement fairer and more effective adaptation policies and measures. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Incorporating a gender approach to local climate planning to define actions and public policies related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.

— **Strengthening** capabilities and developing competencies regarding the relationship between gender and climate change mitigation and adaptation among municipal public servants.

— **Crafting** a guide on gender mainstreaming for local climate planning.

— **Crafting** five Local Climate Change Adaptation Plans with gender mainstreaming.

— **Getting** citizens involved through the development of Volunteer Work for Climate Action in each of the four municipalities.

## IMPACTS

**COLOMBIA**

**CHILE**

**ARGENTINA**

# Towards shared gender responsibility in care

**PROJECT / CITIES AND TERRITORIES THAT CARE:  
LOCAL CARE SYSTEMS WITH A GENDER APPROACH /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

WOMEN AND HABITAT NETWORK OF LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN / [www.redmujer.org.ar](http://www.redmujer.org.ar)

CISCSA (ARGENTINA) / [ciscsa.org.ar](http://ciscsa.org.ar)

AVP FOUNDATION (COLOMBIA) / [www.fundacionavp.org](http://www.fundacionavp.org)

SUR CORPORACIÓN (CHILE) / [www.sitiosur.cl](http://www.sitiosur.cl)





## In four cities in Latin America, a study was carried out to understand how care is approached from the territories and what are the opportunities for improvement that arise to guarantee a right that is little known by society.

Care amounts to almost half of the total work in the world. This activity plays an essential role in people's physical and emotional well-being. Women have, historically, shouldered an additional burden in care work; this has deepened gender inequalities and hindered their autonomy. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the importance of care work became evident, as did the unsustainability of the current social organisation behind it.

The project *Cities and territories that care: Local care systems with a gender approach* addressed this problem in four cities in the region (Bogotá, Buenos Aires, Córdoba and Santiago), with the aim of contributing to the design of care policies and strategies. It was implemented by organisations from the Women and Habitat Network of Latin America and the Caribbean: CISCASA (Argentina), Fundación AVP (Colombia) and SUR Corporación (Chile).

The first step in that direction was crafting a diagnostic study to understand the care needs in these four localities and, based on this knowledge, proposing local strategies ensuring people's right to care and be cared for. This required a variety of qualitative information sources, such as interviews, focus groups and interviews with key stakeholders. We also conducted a survey or consultation, as well as producing care maps and analysing supply and demand in each of the territories.

### **A SYSTEM WITH GREATER REACH**

In Bogotá, for example, there is a District Care System integrating services to meet care demands, involving the local government, the private sector, communities and households. This, in turn, is composed of the "street blocks of care", a pioneering model in Latin American

**“ The added value of working with the GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice) platform was the exchange of experiences between Argentina, Colombia and Chile. This allowed us to replicate successes and avoid mistakes. ”**

MARISOL CABRERA  
FUNDACIÓN AVP (COLOMBIA)

cities. However, there is still a need to implement services for adolescents and children over five, as well as to reinforce those aimed at the elderly and people with disabilities. Therefore, one of the challenges this system faces is extending its scope to the entire territory, especially where there is a care equipment deficit.

In order to address the challenge of territorial dissemination, organising Care Fairs is proposed, aimed at community outreach regarding the services available and acquiring first-hand knowledge about the population's needs. On the other hand, community organisations emphasise acknowledging women who have contributed their constant work to the District Care System.

## **COMPREHENSIVE PUBLIC POLICIES**

In Argentina, it could be observed that women take over a complexity of tasks that go beyond food preparation or childcare: they must manage resources that require a greater amount of time. In Córdoba, there are limited public policies available policies and most community initiatives are led by women. In José C. Paz, in Buenos Aires, State resources can be found more reliably in the Child Development Centres, but not in the rest of the establishments, which depend largely on donations.

Therefore, it is fundamental to design comprehensive public policies that recognise



Collective mapping of community spaces and several useful environments for the residents of Primavera neighbourhood.



Alberdi neighbourhood centre, Córdoba. Photo: Julieta Pollo.

● **The project emphasised the idea of redistributing** care supply between the State, the market, the community and families.

●





*Users participating in the satisfaction survey on Bogota's Care Blocks*

and improve the quality of work of community caregivers, and that diverse voices participate in the planning of these policies and in intersectional discussions. This also sparked the need to build a consensual care agenda contemplating a fair and equitable distribution of responsibilities.

### **A JOINT TASK**

In the areas studied in Santiago, neighbourhoods with more care infrastructure for children under four, senior citizens or people with disabilities were identified. However, some groups still lack these services. Given this, the site of the former Asilo de Ancianos de las Hermanitas de los Pobres (Sisters of the Poor Nursing Home) stands out as a strategic place to provide this type of services in a future local care policy. In addition to improving the equipment, it is also important to focus on creating more green areas, recreation areas and safe roads for people to move around.

The study also showed low social shared responsibility in care, as a result of its invisibility within the community. Regarding the participation of public institutions, the Municipality of Santiago stands out for having implemented care and support programmes, especially during the pandemic. In the case of women caregivers, in November 2021 a first meeting was held that provided an opportunity to share experiences and bring awareness to their main demands, such as venues for personal development, mental and physical health care, recreation and company.

In conclusion, it will be key to promote policies that acknowledge, highlight and improve caregivers' working conditions in these four cities of the region. In order to achieve this, it is important to have comprehensive systems that bring together economic, labour, health, education and social protection policies. In this way, we seek to promote gender responsibility as a shared commitment between the public and private sectors and society. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Contributing to the design of care policies and strategies with a gender and territorial approach, ensuring people's right to care and be cared for, based on local experiences and proposals located in four cities in Latin America, confronting the pandemic challenges.

## IMPACTS

### — Generating

knowledge regarding care needs and demands at a territorial level.

### — Strengthening

territorial care initiatives through coordination with women's collectives, governments and local actors.

### — Formulating

participatory care guidelines, with a territorial and gender approach, responding to the needs of the most vulnerable territories.

### — Disseminating

the project's results, to contribute to positioning care as a relevant topic in public policies.



**BRASIL**

# Reassessing territory know-how and practices

**PROJECT / REGENERATIVE COSMONUCLEATION AND  
ENCHANTMENT IN THE MANAGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL  
TERRITORIES IN PERNAMBUCO /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY**

CHÃ - COLETIVA DA TERRA / <https://www.instagram.com/chadeterra/>

INSTITUTO ABDALAZIZ DE MOURA (IMA) / <https://www.institutoabdazizdemoura.org.br/>

**IN ALLIANCE WITH:**

COLETIVO CAXO XUKURU / <https://www.instagram.com/caxoxukuru>

ASSOCIATION OF FAMILY FARMERS OF SERRA DOS PAUS DÓIAS

SÍTIO MALOKAMBO / <https://www.instagram.com/sitio.malokambo/?hl=es>



## The importance of recovering and highlighting the ancestral knowledge of three peoples in northeastern Brazil, through community exchange and a strengthened role of women.

In a state rich in culture and traditions such as Pernambuco emerges a diversity of know-how and practices from a variety of peoples and communities, not only focused on health and well-being, but also encompassing an intimate connection with nature and the sovereignty of communities over their own lives. Food, agriculture and traditional medicine occupy a central place in the way of life in these areas of the state, where women play a fundamental role as the great guardians of knowledge regarding care of the body, mind and spirit. However, we can observe that, despite the importance of these practices, capitalist influence often relegates them to the background.

This scenario sparked the need to strengthen and make visible three Pernambuco communities: the Xukuru indigenous people, the Negro-Cabôco people of Tracunhaém and the Afro-Indigenous people of the Serra dos Paus Dóias. Through the *Regenerative Cosmonucleation and Enchantment* project, we sought an enriching exchange of traditional knowledge in order to address the territorial gender inequalities impacting these populations. With technical advice from GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice), this proposal was implemented by CHÃ - Coletiva da Terra, Coletivo Caxo Xukuru, the Association of Family Farmers of Serra dos Paus Dóias





Women who guard ancestral knowledge, among plants, prayers and natural remedies of the Sierra de Paus Dóias, in the Brazilian semi-desert.

● **Brazil's  
Northeast  
Region  
communities  
preserve**  
their ancestral  
knowledge.



Midwife Helena Tenderini taking a remedy made from medicinal herbs to cure female reproductive system diseases.



**“ The greatest advance for each region was gaining shelter for the trades of the protagonists of our actions: healers and midwives. Today, we realize how much pride and recognition they have earned within their communities. ”**

MARÍLIA NEPOMUCENO

PROJECT GENERAL AND TECHNICAL COORDINATOR

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and Sítio Malokambo, with the support of Kapiwara Agroecologia Urbana and Agência Motyrõ, in partnership with the Abdalaziz de Moura Institute.

### **CONNECTING WITH THE PAST**

“We have established that experiences and histories are fundamental components of the deep roots of the Northeast of Brazil, especially Pernambuco. That is why we focus on coordinating efforts to strengthen them and provide a venue for communities to preserve their histories and know-how,” says Marília Nepomuceno, the project’s general and technical coordinator.

The Regenerative Cosmonucleation approach proposes a discussion between different perspectives, such as good living, the epistemology of enchanted territories and the science of the invisible. “Human beings are nature and their actions seek to return nature to nature itself,” explains Iran Neves Ordônio Xukuru, the project’s territorial coordinator.

The initiative also addressed a demand for spatial infrastructure, called *Constructions and architecture for care*. This led to building the Xukuru Traditional Ritual Kitchen in the Xukuru do Ororubá indigenous territory, Pesqueira. Here, we encourage an exchange of experiences and the use of the culinary traditions of the community, as well as strengthening its leaders.



Maria Silvanete Lermen, rural farmer, reforesting the semi-desert region of the Caatinga, in the Brazilian Northeast Region.

In the Afro-indigenous territory of Serra dos Paus Dóias, in Chapada do Araripe, the construction of the Maiêutica Living Space furthered an environment dedicated to the science of remedies. Meanwhile, in the Caboco territory of Zona da Mata Norte, in Tracunhaém, the construction of the phyto-elaborated medicines laboratory Casa Flor das Águas: Saberes das Mãos was promoted; it provides care, remedies and shelter to the community.

In addition to these three constructions, three publications were crafted on the know-how and practices of each of the communities the project brought together. The first document, entitled *The Science of Mata Xukuru*, documents and reveals the science and practices of enchantment of the Xukuru indigenous people. The second

one, called *The daughters of the land of the Serra dos Paus Dóias*, tells the story of four generations of families leading the promotion of health based on the science of remedies, combined with the knowledge of the Chapada do Araripe. The third one, entitled *Knowledge of the Hands: Midwives, Plants, Capoeiras*, records the knowledge of the women who care for, heal and shelter the population in Tracunhaém.

Through the exchange of knowledge and experiences, the project succeeded in strengthening the three territories where the actions were implemented. Today this local knowledge, passed on generation to generation, has shown that it is still relevant, and that it will continue to leave its mark on the future of these communities. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Furthering the exchange of traditional knowledge regarding food and traditional medicine in territories in the state of Pernambuco, in order to address gender and territorial inequalities impacting Afro-indigenous populations.

— **Promoting** spaces for community exchange and recording women's knowledge, as well as that belonging to three different communities.

— **Addressing** these populations' community infrastructure needs, by building common facilities, using traditional architectural techniques.

— **Furthering** the written preservation of traditions through the classification of the three experiences in documents published with collective authorship.

## IMPACTS



**B R A Z I L**

Pernambuco  
Camaragibe

# Art as expression and resistance

**PROJECT / 5TH ART AND CULTURE FESTIVAL –  
QUILOMBO DE CATUCÁ /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

CENTRO CULTURAL QUILOMBO DO CATUCÁ ILÊ AXÊ OYÁ TOGU / <https://linktr.ee/quilombodocatuca>



## How do art, spirituality and the fight against racism come together? The 5th Art and Culture Festival – Quilombo de Catucá, which took place in Camaragibe, Pernambuco, Brazil, is an example of how the recovery of African and indigenous traditions can empower and give voice to Afro-descendant Brazilians.

Beating drums, high voices, colourful costumes everywhere; ideas and ancestral knowledge are exchanged, people gather and, throughout days, different cultural manifestations are celebrated, a legacy of the African and indigenous origins of the population of Camaragibe.

The 5th Quilombo de Catucá Art and Culture Festival, which was held at the Cultural Centre of the same name, tells us about the history of a community, the religious tradition of Candomblé, its cultural and artistic expressions and how these can be used to confront structural racism in Brazil. On one occasion, Mãe Flávia, the woman responsible for the creation of the centre, who passed away in 2020, passionately shared how

she discovered her combative spirit through culture. “I learned to fight, with resistance, mainly by knowing that I was doing it for my ancestors, who were not able to fight as I did,” she affirmed.

This project was carried out with the support of GRRIPP, as well as social movements of Afro-descendant, indigenous and Quilombola women; traditional peoples and communities; the LGBTQIAP+ community; teachers and popular artists.

Under the theme of “Gender, peripheral territories and ancestry,” the festival was developed in a hybrid manner, with both on-site and virtual events. The space where the recordings and





**“ This festival is a mechanism of knowledge production and political and sociocultural emancipation. The african, indigenous and gypsy collective matrices mobilize, throughout the popular culture, the heritage and the spirituality, the practical and theoretical decolonization for the work in intersectional issues and race-ethnicity and gender mechanisms ”.**

CATUCÁ COLLECTIVE

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retransmissions took place was refurbished for the occasion. No wonder; this edition reached more than 12 000 people.

The festival offered a variety of artistic expressions such as music, poetry, circus arts, rap and breakdance, creating a bridge between contemporary and popular culture. In addition, the arts were merged with education through the organization of workshops and spaces for dialogue called *giras de falação*, which addressed issues such as “Gender, ancestry and poetic experiences”, “Structural racism: Fight, resistance and resilience” and “Self-care, living pharmacy and traditional ancestral knowledge”.

### **GENDER, PERIPHERY AND ROOTS**

The project proposes an opportunity for empowerment and political emancipation for all people in the periphery of Catucá, providing them with a space for community and expression. Just a few years ago —during the COVID-19 pandemic— structural racism and inequalities became even more evident. This situation added a burden to the lives of the community, especially most Afro-descendant women. In the peripheries, many families are headed by these women, who take over the role of single mothers, responsible for the household. However, it is also in these areas that the



Children's party held as part of the 5th Art and Culture Festival - Quilombo of Catucá, in October, 2021.



● **The activities were framed within the Candomblé worldview,** which seeks to retrieve the memory of the African populations. ●





*Presentation of Afoxé Omim Sabá as part of the festival, held in November, 2021.*

indigenous and African heritage of Brazilian society is most alive, and values such as solidarity and community are lived with intensity. The festival reflects this duality of the artistic and cultural heritage, of the bonds created between the people of these communities and an example of how art and culture can be used as a tool to face the challenges of everyday life.

All this festival experience was later processed and transformed into an e-book,

in which the history of the event, the Quilombo do Catucá Cultural Centre and Mãe Flávia, the woman who gave birth to it and whose legacy continues to inspire more people, are discussed.

This is how art and roots become a powerful tool to face reality, for self-reflection and, above all, to reconnect, value and celebrate one's origin. In Camaragibe, the journey to further strengthen the sense of belonging and empower an entire community continues. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Promoting the connection of the Afro-descendant population of the locality of Camaragibe, through various activities, organized in three lines of action: educational, cultural, and artistic dynamics from the religious worldview of Candomblé. The strengthening of the infrastructure to provide a space for exchange and processing of the reflections made on gender, intersectionality, and territory.

### LINES OF ACTION

— **Restructuring** the Quilombo Cultural Centre terreiro in Catucá.

— **Empowering** people to confront daily violence, based on the Afro-Brazilian religious tradition, gender and intersectionality.

— **Bringing** together the Camaragibe population through art and culture festivals, both for children and the general public.

— **Producing** an electronic book recording the history, experiences and reflections of the inhabitants of Quilombo do Catucá.



**B R A Z I L**

# A sovereign Amazon, free from violence

**PROJECT / GENDER PROMOTION FOR POLICY MANAGEMENT  
IN THE BRAZILIAN LEGAL AMAZON: ACRE, AMAPÁ, AMAZONAS,  
PARÁ, RONDÔNIA, MARANHÃO, MATO GROSSO, RORAIMA AND  
TOCANTINS, BRAZIL /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

IMA - INSTITUTO MULHERES DA AMAZÔNIA / @ima.brasil





## In one of Brazil's most vulnerable areas, with constant violence, a group of courageous women is leading the struggle in defence of the sovereignty of the Amazon, of the people who live there, for gender equality and for their rights. Can this reality be addressed through popular education?

In the struggle for the sovereignty of the Amazon region and for the rights of the peoples that inhabit it, one of the great challenges has been gender violence, compounded by ethnic and racial discrimination. This situation is especially experienced by women and girls who suffer exploitation and dispossession of their lands, amid the confrontation against the dynamics of capital and the constant processes of colonisation in the Amazon.

To address this problem, there is a need to create spaces and strengthen the capacities of local organisations so they have the tools to confront this wave of violence against women in the territory. To achieve this, the project *Gender promotion for policy management in the Legal Amazon of Brazil, including its nine states: Acre, Amapá, Amazonas, Pará, Rondônia, Maranhão, Mato Grosso,*

*Rondônia, Roraima and Tocantins, Brazil* was launched. A proposal implemented by the Instituto Mulheres da Amazônia (IMA) and the Movimento Articulado de Mulheres da Amazônia (MAMA), under the counsel of GRRIPP.

### **TOOLS FOR LIFE**

There were two clear guidelines to carry out the initiative. The first focused on strengthening the competencies of women belonging to various social organisations in the region's nine states, providing them with a series of tools necessary to confront gender violence through a training process. The second guideline focused on strengthening the political advocacy of Amazonian women on different issues related to their bodies and territories. Thus, the urgent need to confront the different types of violence against women became



Women participating in training in the Amazon, Brazil.

●  
**The project sought to bound territory, culture and identity.**  
●



Training activities in the Amazon.

**“ Women are not vulnerable, they are made vulnerable. The black and indigenous population, the LGBTQI+ segment, women with disabilities, women from the forest, from the countryside, from the water, from the city outskirts, become “invisible” against the public policies that the State should prioritize ”.**

CONCITA MAIA  
IMA PRESIDENT

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evident, as well as the need to halt the increase in the femicide, transfemicide and lesbicide rates in the Amazon. Through coordinated work with local organisations, community leaders and specialists in gender issues, the Agenda for the Demands of Women of the Amazon to 2030, which has eight core issues, was created. “We recognise the GRRIPP project team as an innovative partner in all stages of the project,” said the IMA team.

The women’s training process used a methodology based on popular education from Paulo Freire’s perspective. That is, we sought to build learning spaces for women’s groups to strengthen their leadership and promote their empowerment and

autonomy. In this case, the methodology addressed women’s different realities and the social struggles they face every day in the Amazon. It was recognised that they are the protagonists of their own lives and contexts, and their ancestral cultures, experiences, knowledge, and traditional knowledge were valued.

The initiative sought to establish links between territory, culture and identity in the Amazon region. It was important in this exercise to understand these dimensions and their historical, socio-environmental, and cultural relationship with the dynamics of the territories, which are diverse and plural. We worked in a network, using virtual platforms, which allowed us to bring together





Women from several states of the Brazilian Amazon in an educational meeting on gender, race and ethnicity.

the different actors that participated in the project. Likewise, as part of the strategies of the popular feminist methodology, collaboration and knowledge exchange were facilitated. Different tools were used in the course sessions, such as videos, videoconferences, podcasts, seminars and pamphlets, which were used creatively and adapted to the participants' needs and characteristics.

Meanwhile, the Agenda for the Demands of Women of the Amazon to 2030 proposes building strategies to strengthen public policies that promote the expansion of women's rights through eight core issues. It also

stresses the importance of taking into account the diverse realities and experiences of young women, elderly women, women of African descent, *quilombolas*, trans women, women with disabilities, rural women, women from the jungle, rural women, women from the cities and women from the waters. These actions seek to create a change in the public agenda through inclusion and improved quality of life, thus guaranteeing women's wellbeing. After this experience, IMA will continue working in search for allies, to ensure the continuity of the work for Amazon sovereignty and the rights of the people who inhabit it. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Promoting competencies for the incidence of women in public policy management in the Amazon, specifically competencies linked to an intersectional approach to gender violence, taking into account race and ethnicity.

— **Competencies** for the management of public policies in 55 women from five states of the Brazilian Amazon: Acre, Rondônia, Pará, Amazonas, Amapá, in gender violence, public policies and human rights.

— **Organising** eight educational meetings, methodology design and logistical deployment to provide technological equipment to the entire network of participating organisations.

— **Creating** a space for coordination and mobilisation that unites women's challenges and demands from different organisations that fight gender violence, through the Agenda for the Demands of Women of the Amazon to 2030.

## IMPACTS





**CHILE** —

# The voices of water

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**PROJECT / WATER AGAPES: WATERWAYS AND  
LIVES ALONG THE WAY IN CHILE /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

CULTURAL LINK FOUNDATION / <https://www.facebook.com/fundacionenlacecultural/>



## The protection and preservation of the water resource often begins in communities, where women have led a tireless struggle for many years against different threats.

"I am the guardian of this place, and nobody touches it," Luisa Valenzuela says forcefully when talking about the Vasco da Gama wetland in the commune of Hualpén. For more than a decade, the social leader, together with a group of youngsters, has protected this ecosystem from companies that claim ownership of some of their hectares. A little further northeast, in the Ñuble region, Nuria Ormeño, treasurer of a Drinking Water Committee, laments that the Itata River has lost some of its flow rate over the years: "we must take care of this resource, which is scarce," she says.

These stories intertwine with other testimonies gathered as part of the project *Water agapes: Waterways and lives along the way*, which showed how lives and sociocultural dynamics are impacted by one of the main challenges in Chile's rural areas: water scarcity. This

GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice) initiative was implemented by the Cultural Link Foundation and the Communal Union of Rural Drinking Water Committees of Ránquil, giving rise to the Territorial Observatory for Hydrosocial Action. As a first step, the technical team and the affected communities set out on an exploration journey to learn about the basin's hydrosocial cycle; that is to say, the relationship between the hydrological process and its sociocultural, ecological and technical environments (organisations, economy, legislation, infrastructure, hydrological basin, among others). This exercise made it possible to observe how populations are impacted by water scarcity, identifying and understanding their main challenges and opportunities regarding equitable water management and access.

**“ Hand in hand with GRRIPP, we understood that, for an initiative to be sustainable, it is fundamental that it be part of a network, at community, political and strategic levels, nationally and internationally. ”**

CARLOS LÓPEZ

TERRITORIAL OBSERVATORY FOR HYDROSOCIAL WATERWAY ACTION

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### AN ALLIED PLATFORM

On this trip, women leaders of organizations linked to protecting water in its different forms in Petorca (Valparaíso), Ránquil (Ñuble) and Curacautín (Araucanía) were interviewed, as well as defenders of two wetlands in the Biobío region. These encounters allowed us to delve into the social dimension of the water crisis, in which the intersections of a variety of issues, such as food, health, sexual and reproductive rights, among others, were examined. This information has been shared in short videos on the website<sup>9</sup>. “The platform, implemented as part of the project, has three central pillars: discussing know-how, a shared production of knowledge

and local and community governance,” explains Carlos López, member of the Territorial Observatory for Hydrosocial Waterway Action team.

This virtual space makes it possible to shine a light on the problem of water scarcity and presents a rigorous data analysis, such as water property rights. The platform could also help other communities that wish to share their cases. “We are building an observatory concept. We seek that the people of the territories themselves have the opportunity for dialogue, collaboration and creating a shared agenda to improve their living conditions,” explains Carlos, who also states that the initiative seeks to influence public infrastructure policy as well.

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9 <https://observatoriocauce.cl>



*Lawentuchefe Relonche, from the Bocco community in Quillota, shares her experience regarding her months-long resistance to fight river piping and protect her valuable wetland.*

● **Letting women's voices be heard** was key for understanding the water issue.

●





*(From left to right) Pablo Quezada, Alberto Varas, Carlos López, Angela Baeza, Camilo Mansilla and Rocío Varas visiting an underground water tank with the leader of the local organization in Batuco - Ránquil, Nuble region.*

**The Cauce Chile platform raises awareness of water scarcity and presents a rigorous data analysis, such as on water property rights.**

Looking forward, we plan to continue identifying women leaders from water organizations and territorial defenders, in order to create a network of dialogue and collaboration and thus build a shared agenda. Strengthening this network —through legal and technical advice— will make it possible to influence regional and national public policy. ●



## OBJECTIVE

Shine a light on Chile's water crisis and its structural and multidimensional inequality, and acknowledge grassroots actions carried out to protect water as a fundamental right.

## COURSES OF ACTION

Highlighting the role of women and female community leaders in the care and defence of water.

— **Bolstering** rural drinking water committees by delivering equipment, such as well measurement instruments and tool sets in the Ñuble region.

— **Outreach** with women leaders and acknowledging their role in the care and defence of water, which consolidated their leadership in the territory.

## IMPACTS

— **The project** enables an identification of cross-cutting issues in the territories which have been addressed by women-led organisations from diverse theoretical and practical perspectives. With this work, they seek to attend to the needs of their communities, defend their territories and create proposals for the consecration of a just and dignified life.



**GUATEMALA**  
**EL SALVADOR**



**BRASIL**



# Towards an inclusive and sustainable city

**PROJECT / ECOSYSTEMS IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT  
WITH A GENDER APPROACH IN THE CONTEXT OF THE  
COVID-19 PANDEMIC /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

COLECTIVA FEMINISTA PARA EL DESARROLLO LOCAL (FEMINIST COLLECTIVE FOR LOCAL DEVELOPMENT) / [https://www.instagram.com/colectivafeministasv/?utm\\_medium=copy\\_link](https://www.instagram.com/colectivafeministasv/?utm_medium=copy_link)  
FUNDACIÓN GUATEMALA (GUATEMALA FOUNDATION) /

<https://www.facebook.com/fundaguatemala>

UNIÃO DOS MOVIMENTOS DE MORADIA DA GRANDE SÃO PAULO E INTERIOR - UMM.SP /  
<https://www.instagram.com/umm.sp/>

UNIÃO NACIONAL POR MORADIA POPULAR - UNMP /  
<https://www.instagram.com/uniaonacionalpormoradia/>



**Three women's associations from Guatemala, El Salvador and Brazil have come together with the resolve of facing the challenges of water access, care for ecosystems and risk management, included within the purview of city law. This joint effort is especially relevant at a time when the pandemic has further revealed the importance of this basic resource for life.**

Water access is one of the greatest global challenges. In fact, this problem affects approximately a quarter of the population<sup>10</sup> in Latin America and the Caribbean. This is the case in countries such as Guatemala, where this resource's scarcity impacts urban settlements and rural communities, a situation similar to that experienced in El Salvador. Likewise, in Brazil, the high cost of water contributes to its limited availability to a segment of the population.

In this setting, the pandemic has further compounded this water gap. In particular, it has highlighted the care responsibility that falls on women, both within and outside the home, as well as in the management of the water supply.

In response to this issue, Fundación Guatemala, Colectiva Feminista and

the União Nacional de Moradia Popular de São Paulo (members of the Women and Habitat Network), under GRRIPP's counsel, undertook the project *Ecosystems in disaster risk management with a gender approach in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic*. Through this initiative, they sought to build women's capacities within the purview of city and public policies, focusing on the issues of water, sustainable agriculture and ecosystem protection.

This experience has provided participants with the opportunity to strengthen their capacities and engage in social processes to influence local authorities and pass on this knowledge. It has also facilitated the creation and consolidation of new networks between and within countries. Such was the case in El Salvador, where those involved in the project

<sup>10</sup> Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC).

**“ The project made it possible to strengthen collective learning between long-standing leaders and women who are just starting out on this path. It was an opportunity to identify challenges and take action at the right time. At the end of the day, it’s about achieving everything by working together. ”**

GRAÇA XAVIER

REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SÃO PAULO HOUSING MOVEMENTS UNION

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formed that country’s Feminist Network of Agroecologists and Entrepreneurs.

“This initiative has had a deep impact on women’s lives, driving improvements in their livelihoods and food security,” said Yolanda Nunhez, project coordinator (Fundación Guatemala). “They continue to impart this knowledge and set up urban gardens at their homes,” she said. These words show the positive change in the participants’ daily lives, and especially in the community.

### **A CITY TO LIVE IN**

Living in a city encompasses multiple factors: from disaster preparedness to

housing, access to water, food security, political participation and environmental protection, among other aspects. Along these lines, the project sought to empower and strengthen capacities with a gender and ecofeminism approach, considering housing as part of the ecosystem.

To make this possible, a course was designed with the endorsement of the Centre for Gender Studies of El Salvador. As part of this dynamic, each of the organisations was in charge of a module: Sustainable Agriculture (Fundación Guatemala), Women and Housing, Water and Feminisms in the Territories (UNMP), and Women’s Political Participation in the Defence of the Territory (Colectiva Feminista).



*Graça Xavier participating in the "Gender and intersectionality in climate change and management of disaster risk in Latin America and the Caribbean" conference.*



*Representative of Red Mujer y Hábitat, showing the network's projects during the final GRRIPP LAC event.*

● **Women had a leading role in the several training sessions** provided as part of the project.

●





Workshop organised by the Women's Secretariat of the União dos Movimentos de Moradia Popular in Sao Paulo.

The project also emphasised raising awareness about the importance of women's access to inclusive, diverse and sustainable urban environments and ecosystems, as well as the impact of the violation of these rights. To this end, the *Uniting feminisms for good living in cities and territories* campaign was launched on social networks, focusing on key issues such as food systems, environmental protection, water and housing.

The implementation of the initiative during the pandemic also provided an opportunity to strengthen digital capacities in information technologies management. In the Brazilian case, there was a problem with Internet access, and the project made it possible to provide this service. Therefore, women from 14 of the country's 26 states were able to actively participate. In addition, many of them acquired knowledge in the use of virtual platforms through this experience.

Finally, the experiences of the project's three organisations were compiled and classified, so that the document may serve as a model for these actions to be repeated and disseminate practices regarding risk management, resilience, sustainable agriculture, water, housing and social participation.

This project has shown it is possible to address the different problems and inequalities women face, at the same time transforming the city into a space with inclusive and sustainable rights. With this purpose, the project highlights their role in the political sphere, and above all the need to provide them with appropriate information. As Rosy Bonilla of Colectiva Feminista explained, "We want to raise awareness about their ability to contribute and make decisions on issues of local interest, claiming their right as women and as citizens to live in safe cities free of violence." ●

## OBJECTIVE

Supporting local actors in their resilient struggle for their right to the city and for public policies, with an emphasis on the right to water and protecting ecosystems.

— **Completing** the course “Ecosystems in disaster management with a gender approach in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. Bringing feminisms together.”

— **Bolstering** capacities for 75 local actors regarding city law, as well as access to housing and water, consolidating food systems and protecting ecosystems.

— **Creating** the outreach campaign “Uniting feminisms for good living in cities and territories.”

## RESULTS

— **Classifying** women’s experiences in community risk management with a gender approach during the COVID-19 pandemic in Guatemala, Brazil and El Salvador.



**CHILE**

Juanita Aguirre



# Transforming the community of carers

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**PROJECT / PLAN FOR EXPLORING NEIGHBOURHOOD CARE  
INFRASTRUCTURE /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

CIUDADANAS CUIDANDO / <https://www.instagram.com/ciudadanascuidando/?hl=es-la>



**In the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood, commune of Conchalí, in Santiago de Chile, a pathway of possibilities has opened that is changing the way the community participates in care work and creates community networks. With the help of GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice) and several social organisations, the neighbourhood is strengthening its care network in order to provide more comprehensive support to carers and the community in general.**

“Care does not only take place within a home or family, but also in the community, where there is more than one caregiver. With this initiative, we seek to promote this integration and disseminate what caregiving is, at individual, neighbourhood and community levels, in relationship with the territory,” says Gloria Sepúlveda, *Plan for exploring neighbourhood care infrastructure* project coordinator, at Ciudadanas Cuidando (Women Citizens who Care).

This plan was carried out in the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood, in neighbourhood unit 29, and emerged from the collective conviction of a group of

women who are also carers. Based on their own experience, they discovered how to build a working methodology to advance three specific objectives of the project: to get to know the existing care network, to educate the community about its role in caregiving and to promote self-management in the caregiving network. These lines of work made it possible to achieve the main objective.

The work involved neighbours, the Research Centre on Mobilities and Territories, the Conchalí Municipality Friendly City Programme and Ciudadanas Cuidando. Together, under GRRIPP’s counsel and support, it was





Fifth participatory workshop. Carers take part in a playful participatory diagnosis (CuidAcción board) on aspects of the neighbourhood care infrastructure.

● **The different workshops bolstered the care**

network in the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood.



Fourth participatory workshop. Community participation in the Trayectoria game, with the support of MOVYT (Universidad de Chile - Mobilities and Territories Hub).



**“ Without support from GRRIPP, it would have been difficult to carry out this great project. Now, we are talking about promoting collective care in other territories. ”**

GLORIA SEPÚLVEDA  
CIUDADANAS CUIDANDO PROJECT COORDINATOR

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possible to transform a neighbourhood into a sustainable caring community with shared care responsibility.

## **SOCIAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

When we think of infrastructure, we usually associate it with physical elements such as roads, bridges or communication networks. However, the concept is wider, encompassing a fundamental aspect in society. “We perceive infrastructure not only as something material, but rather as all the networks and dimensions that allow us to inhabit a space,” says Macarena Solar of Ciudadanas Cuidando. Thus, it is necessary to recognise that the people, institutions and environment, as a whole, are part of a large infrastructure that enables us to have an integrated approach to care.

With the neighbours of the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood, we worked on a series of workshops that allowed them to reveal the

various aspects that compose their community's infrastructure. “The active participation and education of everyone in the field of care is extremely important: both those who exercise the role of carers and those who have yet to do it,” says Verónica Contreras of Ciudadanas Cuidando.

## **COLLECTIVE STRENGTHENING**

The first of the six workshops addressed the concept of care, with which we intended to broaden its perspective. For this exercise, an activity called the “Tree of Care” was carried out. Here, the neighbours recognised care as a necessary community activity and that it should be their right.

The second workshop entailed participatory mapping, reflecting carers' needs. By stating a series of questions, we learned how the neighbours are linked to their space and how they identify points of conflict and wellbeing.

Gender, interdependence and intersectionality approaches were addressed in a third workshop. Under the question “Who provides care in the city?”, we sought to understand care from these perspectives. In other words, the community’s role emerges from the realisation that we are all capable of providing care. Interdependence shows us that we all need care, and the concept of intersectionality helps us to be aware of the oppressions and privileges that people experience and how they impact their position in the world and that of others. In these talks, two activities were carried out. One of them was body mapping, which helped participants understand how their body is the first care territory and how different emotions are connected to parts of it.

In the fourth workshop, the concept of mobility was explored, identifying the origin

and destination of the trips we make and analysing routes. We tried to understand the diversity of experiences and needs that arise, as well as the objects and resources needed to carry out daily activities.

Finally, the fifth and sixth workshops addressed key issues such as self-management and sustainability over time, essential aspects to ensure that the social organisation of care is maintained effectively and efficiently in the future.

From now on, we expect to add more efforts for the sustainability of the care network, involving ministries, governments, municipal governments, companies and organisations, among others. Meanwhile, the residents of the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood continue to work to consolidate their community: they are a new and empowered generation of carers. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Exploring the existing care infrastructure in the Juanita Aguirre neighbourhood.

## IMPACTS

Territorial and horizontal work with the community allowed us to develop an exchange of knowledge linked to three lines of work or specific objectives:

— **Getting** to know the existing care network in the neighbourhood.

— **Promoting** the community’s role in care.

— **Promoting** self-management in the care network.



Sixth participatory workshop. The results of the first part of the CuidAcción board were reviewed and strategies were proposed to strengthen the existing care infrastructure. People then worked on proposals for a care system that also involves the State.



Second participatory workshop. Content awareness and review of the first workshop. What is care? Preparation of reflections to carry out participatory mapping on existing care infrastructure.

● **Carers' direct engagement strengthened their organisation and community identity.**

●



**CHILE** —

# A community for everyone

**PROJECT / AN INTERSECTIONAL APPROACH TO GENDER  
EQUALITY AND INCLUSION OF THE LGBTIQ+ POPULATION IN LOCAL  
DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

CORPORACIÓN GESTIÓN DE RIESGOS Y DESASTRES / [https://twitter.com/GRID\\_CL](https://twitter.com/GRID_CL)

RED NACIONAL DE MUNICIPALIDADES POR LA DIVERSIDAD, INCLUSIÓN Y NO DISCRIMINACIÓN /

<https://www.instagram.com/reddiversacl>





**Several Chilean municipalities have taken important steps towards more inclusive disaster risk management, with the participation of different populations. These efforts also aim at encouraging other communes to join the initiative.**

People's living conditions determine their vulnerability to disaster. Risk management seeks to identify and reduce these conditions, both to better prepare for emergencies and to limit potential damages and losses in case of an event.

In countries such as Chile, for example, although progress has been made in this respect, the support received by local governments and communities from central government authorities is still insufficient. Nor is there, at the national level, a set of norms explicitly promoting gender equality in this sphere, the inclusion of the LGBTIQ+ population or an intersectional approach to identify the population groups whose rights are more impinged upon. A formulation of differentiated proposals to address these specific demands is also absent.

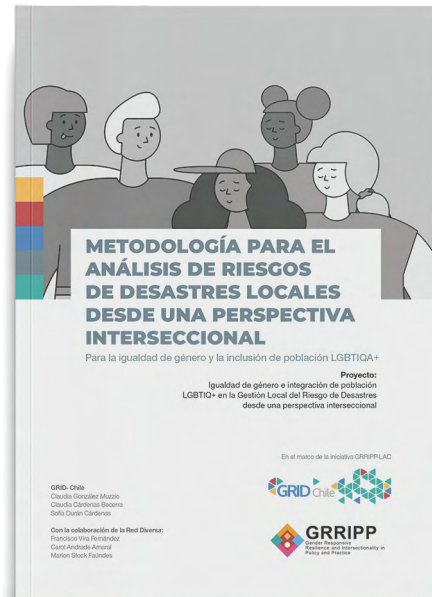
In such a scenario, the opportunity to work on disaster risk reduction and prevention emerged through the project *An intersectional approach to gender equality and inclusion of the LGBTIQ+ population in local disaster risk management*.

The proposal sought to promote the inclusion of these issues at a local administration level, in order to advance change in the face of discrimination and exclusion of the most vulnerable and underserved populations. The work approach takes into account the figure of intersectionality; that is to say, it shines a light on the population and its different vulnerability situations, taking into account the differentiated impact of threats according to people's gender and their interaction with other



Municipal training workshop on risk management with an intersectional approach for gender equality and non-discrimination, in Lampa, Chacabuco province, Chile.

As part of the project, workshops were held with local authorities and officials of the Lampa and Tiltil municipalities.



**“ This initiative, even if it was not executed a long time ago, succeeded in standing out due to the way in which GRRIPP projects are proposed. One of the great results was crafting this methodological instrument for the local diagnosis of disaster risk with an intersectional approach. ”**

CLAUDIA CÁRDENAS

RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT CORPORATION – GRID CHILE

categories such as age, socioeconomic status, education, migratory status, etc.

Thus, the project seeks to support local governments and organised communities through an instrument that allows them to assess their risk conditions from an intersectional perspective, in order to promote gender equity, also incorporating the LGBTIQ+ population from a human rights approach.

Nowadays, human rights cannot be effectively exercised according to international standards by all people, due to the different discriminations, violence and exclusions that continue to take place in Chilean society and that can be seen in the country's different territories. All of this translates into a lack of access to health, education, work and social

security, among other social rights, and also affects disaster risk management, in particular the right to recognition of gender identity and expression of the LGBTQIA+ population affected by a disaster.

### **WORKING FOR INCLUSION**

Under the technical counsel of GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice), the project was implemented by the Risk and Disaster Management Corporation (GRID Chile), in collaboration with the municipalities of Lampa and Tiltit, in addition to the National Network of Municipalities with Offices of Diversity, Inclusion and Non-Discrimination (DIVERSE NETWORK).



*Presentation of the publication *Methodology for the analysis of local disaster risks with an intersectional approach* in Neuquén, Argentina.*

“Inasmuch as vulnerability conditions increase, people will be more likely to suffer the occurrence of dangerous events. Hence, our work has focused first on raising awareness; on explaining risk management to municipal authorities and officials, as well as community organisations,” explains Claudia Cárdenas, from GRID Chile.

Based on this action, we underscored the need to identify all groups of people (migrants, people of different gender identities, people with disabilities, among others), to discover their specific needs. “This is not about making a plan for each human being, but about expanding the solutions to the groups whose rights are impinged upon,” she said.

As a second point, a methodology was designed to promote adopting an intersectional gender approach to community

risk diagnosis. This provides municipalities with a valuable tool for designing strategies to reduce and manage risks, inclusive and adapted to the needs of diverse communities. “These diagnoses, which are as complete as possible, will allow not only to create specific solutions for people, but will also respond to the different obligations of the municipality from a social, economic and territorial perspective,” says Claudia González Muzzio (GRID Chile).

The proposed methodology can be implemented anywhere in the world, due to its simplicity and clarity, and will be a great contribution to identify solutions focused on the needs of a diverse population. However, this work is only the first necessary step for disaster risk management and the inclusion of the whole community, to ensure it becomes a priority for local municipalities and other local governments. ●



## OBJECTIVE

Promoting gender equality and the inclusion of diverse populations in local disaster risk management with an intersectional approach. Enriching territory management towards greater justice, equality, equity, resilience and harmony to influence public policies that do not include gender equality or the integration of the LGBTIQ+ population.

**— Awareness**  
and training of  
local actors.

**— Development** of  
a methodology for the  
diagnosis of disaster risks  
at a local level, with an  
intersectional approach.

**— Production** of  
dissemination materials for  
awareness and training on  
the topic.

**IMPACTS**



**DOMINICAN  
REPUBLIC**

# A sustainable look at the environment

**PROJECT / ECOLOGICAL HOMES: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT  
WITH A FOCUS ON DOMESTIC WORK /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

NATIONAL FENAMUTRA UNION OF DOMESTIC WORKERS (UNFETRAH) / <http://fenamutra.com/>

ASSOCIATION OF DOMESTIC WORKERS (ATH) / <https://www.facebook.com/ATH189/>

NATIONAL UNION OF DOMESTIC WORKERS (SINTRADOMES) / <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100018533854034&mibextid=ZbWKwL>



## Environmental education can be a very powerful tool to improve quality of life for female domestic workers and their communities, creating greater development opportunities and healthier growth for all.

Since the project *Ecological homes: Solid waste management with a focus on domestic work* arrived in the Villa Juana neighbourhood, in Santo Domingo, it has transformed the lives of a group of female domestic workers. Each of them learned to better manage waste in their homes, which resulted in positive change: greater benefits for their families, their community and the environment.

More than an ecological initiative, the proposal became an opportunity to empower themselves as women, to find purpose – through several meetings and workshops – and to generate income for themselves and their families. All this occurred in the context of a pandemic, in which the economic situation became more precarious for many

vulnerable people, who had to find new sources of money.

The development of the project, promoted by GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice), was conducted by the unions National Fenamutra Domestic Workers Union (UNFETRAH), Association of Domestic Workers (ATH) and National Union of Domestic Workers (SINTRADOMES), which had been working, since before the initiative, in addressing the labour law from an environmental perspective. “With GRRIPP, we put an emphasis on ecological homes, which is an important element within this sphere. It is not possible to ensure care for workers without respecting their rights or preserving



Solid waste training at Fenamutra.

**The training meetings**

had the purpose of improving solid waste management.



Eco-fair, with crafts and products made from recycled materials.



**“ Although we had planned to have an impact on more than 40 female domestic workers, we also succeeded in getting involved their families and their employers, who were committed to the project. ”**

RUTH DÍAZ  
PRESIDENT OF FENAMUTRA

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Mother Earth,” says Ruth Díaz, president of Fenamutra.

### **SHARED KNOWLEDGE**

The metropolitan area working-class neighbourhoods —Villa Juana, Villa Agrícolas and Villa Consuelo—, known for their hardworking and honest people, also face challenges regarding order, cleanliness —due to informal businesses— and solid waste management. “We raised this huge problem with GRRIPP. Aside from this, they are exposed to atmospheric phenomena, such as cyclones and rains, which increase risk and pollution”, says Ruth.

The work, which involved the three unions, consisted of organising environmental

education talks and coordinating training meetings that provided women with tools to manage waste more effectively in their homes, through recycling and crafts workshops. At the end, an eco-fair was organized, where they offered their products to generate their own income and show, through each of them, how they contribute to environmental care. This event not only was well received by the public, but also had a positive response from local authorities and other political actors in the city.

Moreover, through the slogan “Don’t assault me! A cry for Mother Nature”, female domestic workers made their sustainable voice heard, with a series of demands to protect women, as well as the right to



*Training to promote skills among domestic workers regarding solid waste management, recycling, crafts and ecofeminism.*

**Training sessions revolved around issues such as solid waste, recycling, crafts and ecofeminism.**

decent work and the environment. This document has become a roadmap for the defence of their rights, and represents a brave fight against gender violence. It is also a call to action for significant changes in society. Domestic workers and their families in Villa Juana, Villa Agrícolas and Villa Consuelo have not stopped persevering in this task to this day. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Shining a light on domestic work visible, providing tools to promote participatory governance in solid waste management. The implementation of the recycling program in the communities and the environmental education programme resort to recycling to promote entrepreneurship and creativity, as well as reducing apathy among families regarding ecological homes.

— **Entrepreneurship**, training and awareness promoted in 45 female domestic workers through the elaboration and sale of the objects produced in the workshops.

— **Organization** of an eco-fair.

— **Design** of the methodologies of the three courses.

— **Awareness** among of actors of public institutions on gender violence and environmental policies.

— **Skills** acquired among 45 female domestic workers regarding solid waste management, recycling, crafts and ecofeminism.

— **Relaunch** of signature-collecting, in support of the slogan against gender-based violence toward women: "Don't assault me! A cry for Mother Nature".

## IMPACTS

— **Organisation** of four encounters with local authorities and journalists.



**MEXICO** — Acapulco



# Ready for the challenges ahead

**PROJECT / BUILDING INCLUSIVE RISK MANAGEMENT: SPARKING  
CHANGES TOWARDS COMMUNITY RESILIENCE IN ACAPULCO,  
GUERRERO, MEXICO /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

SIA DESARROLLO / [www.siadesarrollo.com](http://www.siadesarrollo.com)

INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL MANAGEMENT OF DISASTER RISK AND CLIMATE CHANGE (IIGSRDYCC) /

<https://www.facebook.com/IIGSRDYCC>

CENTRE FOR DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT, UNIVERSIDAD AUTÓNOMA DE GUERRERO (CGD-UAGRO) /

<http://mgdesarrollosustentable.uagro.mx/>





## In Acapulco we are promoting a more resilient community, providing it with the necessary tools to act effectively and decisively in emergency situations. In that process, learning has been key.

Due to its geographic location, Acapulco is one of the cities in Mexico most vulnerable to disasters caused by hydrometeorological phenomena such as droughts and floods. Many of the actions related to risk management have not included social participation or taken into account inequalities in the territory. In response to this reality, the Institute for Social Management of Disaster Risk and Climate Change (IIGSRDyCC)<sup>11</sup> was created, to implement different community initiatives.

Within this framework, the project *Building inclusive risk management: Sparking changes towards community resilience* aimed to deepen the work carried out by the IIGSRDyCC and contribute to the consolidation of

transdisciplinary alliances, capability building and the construction of inclusive risk management. It was implemented by this institution, SIA Desarrollo and the Universidad Autónoma de Guerrero Centre for Development Management (CGD-UAGRO), under the advice of GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice), in the colonies of Palma Sola (FOVISSSTE sector) and Burócratas, with a participatory and intersectional approach.

### SETTING THE PATH

The first course of action was designing an inclusive evacuation protocol for Palma Sola. Specialists and members of the community participated in its crafting, underscoring the perspective of neighbourhood women, as well as

<sup>11</sup> IIGSRDyCC is the result of a research project in collaboration with a group of women in Palma Sola FOVISSSTE, within the framework of the Master's Degree for Sustainable Development Management, of the Universidad Autónoma de Guerrero Development Management Centre.



The Colonia Palma Sola community training with first aid specialists.

●  
**Art therapy sessions aimed to create spaces of containment,**  
 support and resilience in the face of disaster risk experiences.



Closing event of the art therapy sessions aimed at addressing psychological impacts in the Colonia Palma Sola FOVISSSTE.

**“ Issues of gender and resilience go beyond short-term projects. It is an authentic commitment to the community and a collective construction of work among different actors to strengthen the territory and the people. ”**

HÉCTOR BECERRIL MIRANDA  
TECHNICAL CO-MANAGER – CONACYT – UAGRO

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neurodivergent people and people with limited mobility. For its construction, technical studies and participatory visits were carried out, in order to identify risk areas and elements that hindered evacuation. From these evaluations, modifications were made to the infrastructure such as installing railings, repairing and painting stairs, and signaling dangerous areas.

In addition, emergency numbers were updated and assembly points were agreed upon in case of disaster. To improve the response to these critical situations, a local committee was formed; it received a megaphone, a stretcher and a first aid kit, and received first aid training. We worked with carers of people with low mobility or neurodivergent people, in order to ensure that the protocol creates the necessary

conditions for this group to evacuate safely and effectively.

The second course of action addressed the psychological effects caused by previous disasters through art therapy. In this exercise, IIGSRDyCC members were trained to carry out the sessions and provide psycho-emotional care, to provide them with tools to face future disasters. After this formative process, three art therapy sessions were organised in the community, with the participation of men and women of all ages.

Based on this experience, guidelines were established for the sessions, when required by the community. The main one is counting with the presence of a certified specialist in mental health issues that provides





Community of Colonia Burócratas participating in mentoring and workshops as part of the project in Acapulco.

support and supervision in these spaces. Furthermore, the ideal number of participants was established, and a self-care guide was designed for the continuity of this process.

The last course of action focused on the Burócratas neighbourhood through a mentoring process in resilience and risk management. A series of sessions were held with the community, based on the "Incorporation Roadmap for Smart Urban Resilience"<sup>12</sup>. During these meetings, we created spaces for discussion, where people detected relevant messages from the roadmap, and established courses of action. The objective was to spark comprehensive risk management processes and to address gender inequalities, social vulnerability and

resilience-building in the community. As part of the mentoring process results, six courses of action were presented to the State and municipal government authorities, and a commitment sheet was signed to implement these guidelines over the next six months.


The project was based on a solid groundwork carried out by IIGSRDyCC, which allowed its implementation to create a positive impact in the community of Acapulco. It not only responded to an emergency, but also focused on actively including people with disabilities and women in disaster prevention and response. The path has already been mapped out and will allow people to be increasingly prepared to face the challenges of the future. ●

12 The project is based on a mentoring process for IIGSRDyCC.



## OBJECTIVE

Consolidating community risk management processes with an intersectional approach, to promote urban resilience in the neighbourhoods of Palma Sola FOVISSSTE and Burócratas, in Acapulco, Guerrero.



— **Crafting** an evacuation protocol in the Palma Sola neighbourhood, with a focus on gender and inclusion.

— **Construction** of spaces of resilience, support and promotion of local skills in art therapy, to address the psycho-emotional effects of disasters in the Palma Sola neighbourhood.

— **Identifying** six community courses of action to address risk management and resilience, consolidated through a commitment between different social actors and government authorities for its implementation in the Burócratas neighbourhood.



**IMPACTS**





**COLOMBIA**

La Planada Natural Reserve

# A symbiosis between nature and tourism

*PROJECT /* **AUTONOMY IN TERRITORY AND HABITAT  
MANAGEMENT: COLLECTIVE KNOWLEDGE BUILDING WITH AN  
INTERSECTIONAL AND CLIMATE CHANGE APPROACH IN LA  
PLANADA NATURAL RESERVE, NARIÑO, COLOMBIA /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

NODDO NGO / [www.somosnoddo.org](http://www.somosnoddo.org)



## The Awá indigenous community, in southwestern Colombia, has begun to acquire new skills and tools to promote the sustainability of tourism activities in La Planada, due to the threat of climate change.

Deep in Colombia's endless forests, a natural reserve known as La Planada is hidden. Its more than 3200 hectares are the habitat of endemic species such as orchids, palms, the mountain toucan and the spectacled bear, among others. Moreover, it is recognised as the place with the largest number of native birds in South America. This impressive ecosystem in the department of Nariño is also home to the Awá communities, some of which make up the Pueblo Viejo<sup>13</sup> Pialapí Indigenous Reservation. Since 2010, this organisation has the conservation and protection of the reserve in its hands.

Accompanied by this community, Noddo NGO and GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice) undertook a research project to strengthen the sustainability of

tourism in the reserve, specifically in the modalities of nature and scientific tourism. The first step was to carry out an analysis of the territory and traditional Awá architecture. The result was a collective roadmap for the progressive and planned construction of tourist infrastructure and fixtures in the reserve, as well as the production of handicrafts.

The community acquired a series of tools, techniques and methodologies to intervene in a planned way in the territory, respecting and integrating ancestral know-how, such as traditional Awá techniques and architecture. The central line of work was self-management of the territory and strengthening capabilities for autonomous elaboration of small infrastructures such as stairs, paths and *descansaderos* (small resting cabins), among others.

<sup>13</sup> The reservation was created in 1993 in order to conserve and protect the territory and give rational use to the fauna and flora.



Workshop to strengthen skills for preparing small to medium infrastructure as part of the joint reinterpretation stage.

● **The PAR methodology allows researchers** and communities to understand and transform the practices in which they participate.

●



Memory workshop, construction techniques and traditional Awá architecture as part of the joint reinterpretation stage.

**“ We have great expectations that the project will become a methodological reference to inspire other rural, indigenous and farming communities, in Colombia and Latin America, to undertake the self-management of their territories. ”**

NATHALIA MOSQUERA PALOMEQUE  
CO-FOUNDER OF NODDO NGO

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## **HOW TO MANAGE A NATURAL RESERVE?**

To carry out this project it was essential to know the terrain where work would take place, as well as understanding the Awá identity, their way of life, and their ways of building and organising. Subsequently, we held workshops focused on reading plans, budgets and architectural processes. These talks were also aimed at achieving an in-depth knowledge of the traditional architecture and important bioclimatic aspects for the community. In addition to these activities, illustration and woodworking workshops took place, opening new opportunities for the reservation's younger generations.

In the last stage of the initiative, we assessed the existing infrastructures in the reserve and those planned to be implemented in the future. In this analysis, constructions were prioritised according to the need, and the architectural designs, the materials and the proposed guide were examined.

The project was developed collaboratively, involving approximately 15 people, both men and women, between 18 and 60 years of age. This group of participants included part of the reserve's management team and community scientists. The implementation of the proposal was carried out under the Participatory Action Research (PAR) methodology and





Architectural design examination workshop.

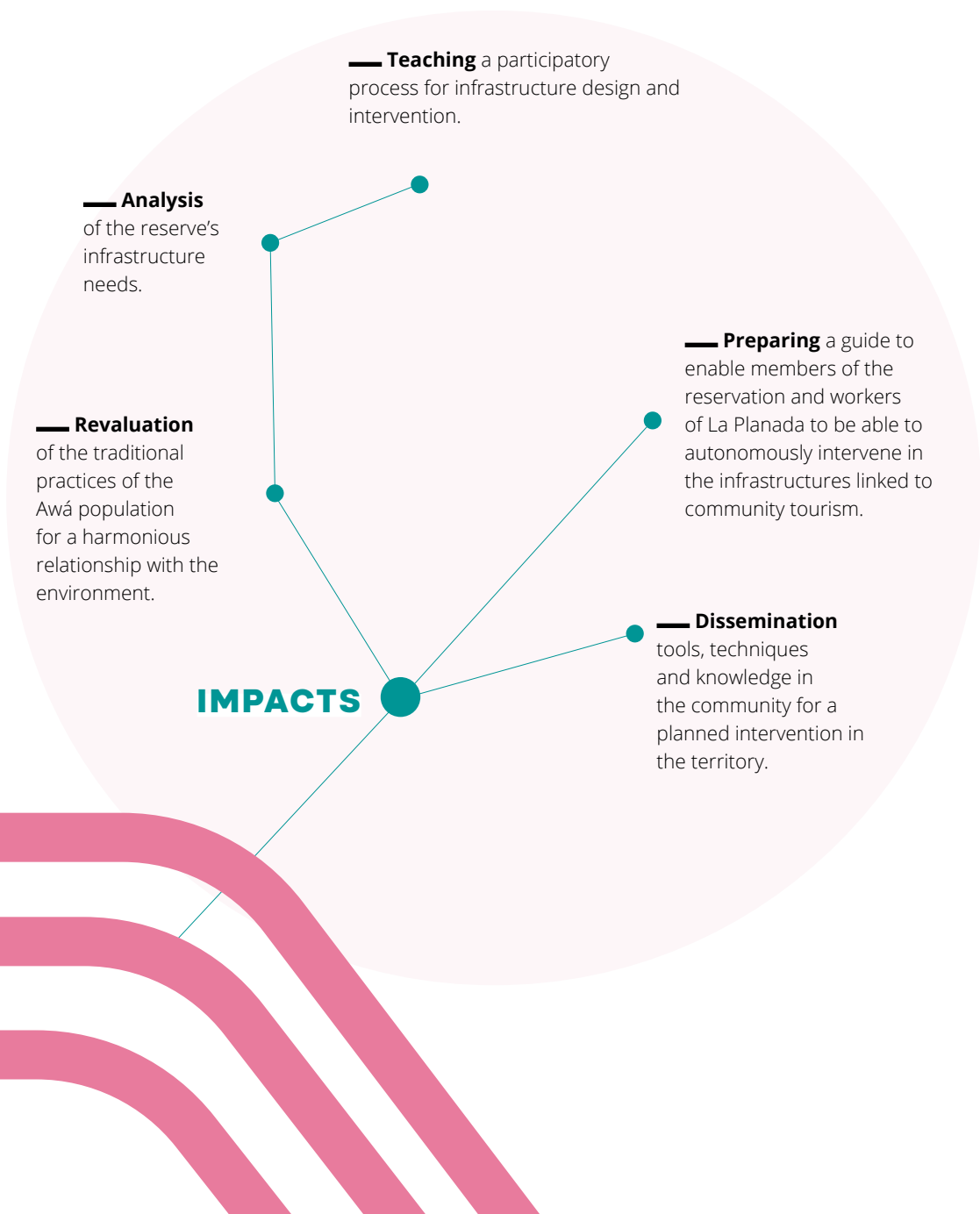
**The project analysed the ecosystem, the built environment and the social practices within the specific context of territory and population.**

Collective Knowledge, developed by AGRA Arquitectos. The process adopted an intersectional approach, which highlighted key aspects such as gender roles, the fight against climate change, and community relations and their management of the reserve. New venues were also opened for women and men to interact beyond the context of the reservation and traditional indigenous culture. The joint work is giving way to the construction of new relationships of respect and equality.

This work represents a significant advance of the Awá indigenous people of the Reservation to care for, strengthen and grow the reserve, all the while seeking to increase tourism and ensure its sustainability. It is an initiative that seeks ways to live in harmony with the ecosystem, at a time when the need to protect our natural resources is increasingly evident. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Contributing to the strengthening and sustainability of tourism activities in La Planada Natural Reserve through the collective construction of a roadmap that guides the implementation of infrastructure within the reserve.





PERU

# Women change the future

**PROJECT / COMMUNITY RESILIENCE WITH A GENDER APPROACH:  
GRASSROOTS WOMEN MANAGING DISASTER RISK AND THE IMPACT  
OF CLIMATE CHANGE IN PERU /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

THE WOMEN'S NETWORK GROOTS PERÚ / [https://www.facebook.com/grootspe/?locale=es\\_LA](https://www.facebook.com/grootspe/?locale=es_LA)



**In Peru, a group of women entrepreneurs has come together with determination to address the challenges of risk management and climate change. They not only share experiences, learn together and place the care of their communities at the centre of their actions, but now face with resilience the challenges that an increasingly complex and changing world presents to them daily.**

Disaster risk management is sometimes thought to be limited to physical or material aspects. However, it goes much further. "Actually, we also approach it as a risk that affects all things social", says Relinda Sosa, president of the Women's Network – Groots Peru. From her perspective and with the experience of the project *Community resilience with a gender approach: Grassroots women managing disaster risk and the impact of climate change in Peru*, Relinda is aware that strengthening the capabilities of women leaders and social leaders is essential to adapt to complex and variable living conditions, and take advantage of the

exchange of experiences and learnings to move forward together.

The project, led by Relinda and the team of women leaders, accompanied by a group of Peruvian professionals with the support of the GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice) platform, is implemented in two areas with different particularities: El Agustino district in Lima, and the districts of Jayanca and Olmos in the Lambayeque region. The initiative focuses on three specific actions: strengthening women's capabilities in risk management and climate change,

**“ The articulation with GRRIPP has been quite horizontal. Not only have they been attentive to our work, but we have also learned together, exchanging good practices with other projects. I think this has been very important.”**

RELINDA SOSA

PRESIDENT OF THE WOMEN'S NETWORK OF GROOTS – PERU

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improving and developing safe housing for families, and promoting the implementation of community bio-gardens, especially in Lambayeque.

These places share the objective of improving the inhabitants' living conditions, but also face several underlying problems, such as high physical, social, economic and environmental vulnerability due to poor urban planning, location in risk areas of steep slope and a lack of urban equipment and basic quality services.

To address these realities, Groots Peru, the organisation responsible for the project's implementation, has developed its own methodology, called Diamond Methodology<sup>14</sup>. This implies

diverse actions such as strengthening the organisation and the leadership of the grassroots women, encouraging communal resilient development with good practices, promoting alliances and/or collaboration networks with local and national governments and other actors, and encouraging political advocacy that contributes to improve the living conditions of the people. Tools used to this purpose are the Leadership Support Process, community mapping, local-to-local discussions, peer-to-peer learning exchanges and surveillance committees.

Thanks to the project's positive intervention, we have obtained significant results. Currently, 60 women leaders participate in the identification, analysis

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14 Methodology created and implemented by the member organisations of the Huairou Commission and Groots International.





Women grassroots leaders design and propose alternatives to prevent, mitigate and manage disasters caused by natural phenomena and climate change.



Work and training in the community that is part of the ecological orchards in the Jayanca and Olmos districts, in the Lambayeque regio

● **The project prompted network weaving,** for a synergic work between women and local authorities.

●





Delivery of improved infrastructure for the Iris Camac house, in the El Independiente Settlement, El Agustino.

and discussion regarding their communities' vulnerability to disaster risk and the effects of climate change. Moreover, we have succeeded in improving housing, providing training on orchards, developing local governance mappings, carrying out regional exchanges and conducting advocacy meetings with public authorities. These actions have been increasingly welcomed and have attracted new participants, including municipal ones. The workshops have also been key, as stated by Carmen Robles, project advisor at Groots Peru: "One of the favourable impacts is that general and technical

issues are addressed in a practical and realistic way, allowing people, especially women, to analyse and reflect on the risks and dangers to which they are exposed in their daily lives."

On this virtuous path, the project is fostering resilient and safe communities and, even more importantly, it is promoting women's leadership in an area that demands a more humane, intimate and collaborative vision. The common goal is well-being, but, above all, transforming the future of their communities and their families. ●

## OBJECTIVE

Developing and proposing alternatives to prevent, mitigate and manage natural disasters and climate change. To achieve this, we strengthened women leaders' capabilities, fostered the exchange of know-how and practices, and had an influence on public policies and budgets of subnational governments in the post-electoral scenario.

## IMPACTS

— **60 women** leaders strengthened their capabilities regarding the situation of physical and social vulnerability to the risk of disasters and the effects of climate change.

— **Ten families** in vulnerable situations have assessed their homes to improve their security conditions.

— **20 grassroots women** strengthened their food security practices, carried out forestation in degraded areas and implemented two community orchards.

— **Women leaders** have local governance mappings in DRM.

— **Metropolitan Lima and Lambayeque region** authorities work hand in hand with women leaders for the development of resilient and safe communities.



CUBA



# A dialogue to promote management policies

**PROJECT / INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR: TERRITORIAL  
MANAGEMENT FOR ADAPTATION, CLIMATE CHANGE  
MITIGATION AND DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT WITH  
A GENDER AND INTERSECTIONALITY APPROACH IN  
ISLAND TERRITORIES /**

**IMPLEMENTED BY:**

THE LATIN AMERICAN DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCES (FLACSO) CUBA PROGRAM /  
<https://www.facebook.com/flacso.cuba/>





## The exchange of knowledge enables building joint solutions, more effective and adapted to local needs, improving the response to climate change challenges.

Cuba was the scene of an innovative international meeting in which different specialists exchanged experiences on territorial management, adaptation to climate change and disaster risk management in Latin America and the Caribbean. These issues, which were addressed with a gender and intersectionality approach, allowed to deepen concepts and strategies to highlight the existence of inequalities of opportunities among the people who live in the different island territories of the region, which increases their vulnerability to disasters.

The *International Seminar: Territorial management for adaptation, climate change mitigation and disaster risk management with a gender and intersectionality approach in island territories* was developed as part of the project implemented by the Latin American Department of Social Sciences (FLACSO) – Cuba Programme, under the counsel of GRRIPP (Gender Responsive Resilience & Intersectionality in Policy & Practice).

In Cuba, FLACSO is one of the institutions that has contributed, through its Environment and Development research department, to maintaining a solid institutional and scientific base to address these issues. It is an

### **The International Seminar was held between June 27 and 29 of 2023.**

The meeting was attended by members of the main organising entities, such as Pontificia Universidad Católica de Perú (PUCP) and FLACSO – Cuba. It was also attended by representatives from international programs and specialists such as the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, the World Food Programme, the Ministry of Science Technology from Cuba and Environment, as well as the Chair of Caribbean Studies, Norman Girvan, and representatives from universities, research centres, civil society institutions, government agencies and projects from 11 countries in Latin America, the Caribbean and Europe.

**“ This seminar is centred in the Caribbean as a junction point, where we not only shared cultural elements but also a common issue: the manifestations of climate change and disaster risk management. This assumes integration to be an indispensable requirement.”**

DR. C. MARTA ROSA MUÑOZ CAMPOS  
PRINCIPAL, FLACSO – CUBA PROGRAMME

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international organisation of a regional nature and is attached to Universidad de La Habana.

“Our relationship with GRRIPP stems from another international event held in June of 2022 in the Dominican Republic, where professor MSc. Janet Rojas Martínez participated for FLACSO – Cuba. On that occasion, the results of projects and exchange workshops on the themes of the platform were presented,” said Arianna Rodríguez García, a professor from the FLACSO – Cuba Programme. After this experience, it was decided to expand the area of work to the Caribbean and a second phase of the initiative was convened.

## **KNOWLEDGE NETWORKS**

The seminar was held in Varadero, in the province of Matanzas, and sought to consolidate a multidisciplinary and inter-institutional approach to territory management. This event provided favourable environments for networking and establishing alliances among academics, policy experts, public officials and project managers, among other key stakeholders. “(The seminar) allowed us to assess all the contributions of the social sciences to this environmental management. But, above all, the need to have an approach that ensures the involvement of several actors from different sectors of academia,” said Arianna.



Participants in the international seminar, which took place in Cuba between June 26 and 30 in a hybrid format.

**“ This encounter legitimises the intersectional approach to disaster risk management. It reveals the importance of exchange with the communities, where universities and the research centres have a fundamental role. ”**

DR.C. JORGE ALFREDO CARBALLO CONCEPCIÓN  
PROFESSOR, FLACSO – CUBA PROGRAMME

**“ The seminar reaffirms that an integrated vision of the territory is a key element for reducing gender gaps and increasing resilience to climate change. ”**

ARIANNA RODRÍGUEZ  
PROFESSOR OF FLACSO-CUBA PROGRAM

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Thus, we promoted active participation and theoretical discussions, with the addition of the presentation of successful experiences. For example, we analysed current public policies and emphasised the need to understand different aspects of vulnerability in order to guarantee the inclusion and participation of all groups in society on an equal footing. We also explored the ecosystem-based approach to adaptation and how it applies to land management. We examined the experiences and good practices of collectives and communities in response to health crises, extreme natural events and the effects of climate change. Finally, we

presented a variety of initiatives, projects, programs and policies focused on climate change adaptation and mitigation.

The seminar also provided the opportunity to have a window that transcends the event. Participating authors may publish a scientific article in a special issue of the journal: *Social Development Studies: Cuba and Latin America* (FLACSO – Cuba). After these three academic days, a commitment was firmly imbued in each of the attendees so that, from their respective areas of specialization, they may continue to provide contributions to the fight for environmental causes. ●



## OBJECTIVE

Promoting venues for the exchange of experiences on territorial management, adaptation and mitigation to climate change and disaster risk management in Latin America and the Caribbean, with a gender and intersectional approach, prioritising the case of island territories.

— **Challenges,** alternatives and opportunities for the inclusion of gender and social inclusion approaches were assessed.

— **Possibilities** for discussion were fostered among countries of the Caribbean area and the large oceanic states.

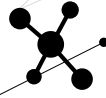
— **Defense** between academia and governments was championed, as well as between the sciences and the rest of society.

— **Asymmetries** were observed in the response to climate challenges between Latin America (managed by popular movements) and Cuba (managed by the State).

— **The need** for a change of approach was reaffirmed, to contextualise climate variability based on diversity, inclusion and equity.

— **Experiences** were disseminated at a local-community level.

**IMPACTS / RESULTS**



LESSONS  
LEARNED

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WALKING

FORWARD IN

**DIFFERENT**

**PATHS**

The lessons that mark the future for assuming new challenges and continue involving more Latin America and Caribbean societies.

# ADAPTING TO CHANGE WITH EMPATHY

The GRRIPP platform's collaboration with different groups and organisations has created valuable lessons that can now be used as a guide to implement and improve projects with a shared goal: to build more resilient, inclusive, sustainable and, above all, humane societies. The most important lessons learned from this work along the way are the following:

## **GENDER AND INTER-SECTIONALITY IN LAND MANAGEMENT**

- It is necessary to recognise that there are differentiated impacts in situations of environmental, social or health crises. Vulnerability to unexpected events is not the same for everyone. It doesn't depend solely on natural or environmental factors. Vulnerability to disasters is exacerbated by the social and cultural factors of marginalisation and discrimination.
- It is key to recognise how factors such as gender, ethnicity, sexual orientation and place of origin, among others, reproduce and exacerbate differentiated exposures to risks and limit access to resources. To prevent and counteract them, it is important to create responses and action plans that acknowledge these differences and prioritise the most vulnerable people.
- A gender and intersectionality approach allows us to recognise the capacities and

know-how that promote more sustainable coexistence, as well as social and environmental interaction. Recognising good practices and historically marginalised knowledge teaches us not only how to face a crisis, but also how to plan for it through a harmonious coexistence between human beings and their environment.

## **KNOWLEDGE THAT STARTS FROM THE BOTTOM UP**

- It is essential to have sound and contextualized knowledge of the places where the projects are developed, based on the information presented by those in charge. This will lead to more precise and effective action targeting.
- Providing spaces for dialogue and exchange of different types of knowledge is essential for acquiring new knowledge that is agreed upon and relevant to the diversity of territories in the region.



- Understanding and analysing the diversity of the different actors that make up a society is essential for identifying the policies and strategies that best suit each group's specific needs.
- The population's participation is essential, since it contributes to providing detailed information about their characteristics; this in turn will allow us to get to know their challenges and needs with greater certainty. For example, this approach is crucial to specifically address plans related to climate change and environmental threats.
- Being willing to listen to different voices and give them a space in decision-making is strategic for project evolution. The knowledge gained from the different territories (e.g., ancestral knowledge or self-management knowledge that emerges from the peripheries) is relevant for an implementation that respects and values the environment.
- The population's participation must take place throughout a project's implementation process. It aims to go beyond the collection of information (diagnosis) by providing spaces where the population actively participates



***It is enriching to learn from the experiences of colleagues from other countries. After the pandemic, it is necessary to recover these face-to-face spaces and relive the excitement of collaborating on joint projects."***

**ROSY  
BONILLA**  
FEMINIST  
COLLECTIVE –  
EL SALVADOR

in the implementation of the project, demonstrating not only their knowledge but also their capacity for agency.

## **DECOLONIAL APPROACH: VALUING THE KNOWLEDGE GAINED AND AGENCY DEMONSTRATED IN THE TERRITORIES**

- A decolonial perspective recognises and values the know-how gained from the territories and the point of view of communities and grass-roots organisations, which directly affect the management and care of the territory at the local level.
- Creating a space for collaboration and dialogue with organisations from different public, academic and citizen sectors enriches the experience of projects and actions in the territories, gaining new knowledge, perspectives, and opportunities through the exchange of experiences and knowledge.
- Having the ability to coordinate the efforts and actions of different local community organisations among themselves and with programs and initiatives of the public and/or academic sector allows us to get to





know the territory and its needs in greater depth, in order to promote sustainable and socially just environmental management.

- Working as a team and exchanging knowledge, including through digital means, is a valuable skill in this day and age. Technology can be a powerful tool for collaboration.
- In this type of project, it is key to be present in the territory and to rely on the participation of the people who live there during project development and implementation, so that they can have a positive impact on their lives and their territories.
- A well-managed territory can strengthen people's connection with themselves and with others, promoting a more harmonious coexistence.

## CARE & COMMUNITY

- Care encompasses not only those who receive it but also those who provide it. This activity is presented at domestic, neighbourhood, metropolitan and regional scales, and goes beyond the care of human beings, since it also seeks to take care of the environment and the territory we inhabit.<sup>15</sup>



***We are beginning to rethink resilience as not just as a return to equilibrium, but rather as a quality that relates to uncertainty and the processes of open futures.”***

**HÉCTOR  
BECERRIL**  
TECHNICAL  
CO-HEAD OF  
CONACYT –  
UAGRO

- Care highlights the role of emotions, feelings and mental well-being as foundations for the success of the projects presented. They must be understood holistically: socially, environmentally, emotionally and spiritually. It is this dimension that strengthens trust bonds and the strengthening of work and cooperation networks.
- Care infrastructure has an important social dimension. An example of this is the role played by community care, which highlights the importance of strengthening this aspect in the social role.
- It's important to be aware that collaborative work can be exhausting. Therefore, these difficulties must be recognised and spaces for dialogue must be found, in order to address them and establish mechanisms to take care of the team.
- It's not just about implementing projects. It's about building a community between the team and the participants.

<sup>15</sup> Excerpted from Belen Desmaison's contribution to the publication "GRRIPP Lexicon: A Collective Vocabulary for Liberation in Darker Times" (pp.25 - 28). Available at: <https://www.gripp.net/resources>





Participants of the Women and Habitat Network and GRRIPP encounter, and forum 'Feminist cities: Cities and environment sustainability' held in Bogota.

- Around the world, caretakers are demanding long-awaited recognition of their work and improved working conditions. On that path, they continue to strive to transform political and economic systems that ignore the value that care has for society, in order for it to function. Fostering the advancement of care, empathy and compassion becomes essential in times when current ways of living and inhabiting need a radical transformation toward the sustainability of life on the planet.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> Excerpted from Belen Desmaison's contribution to the publication "GRRIPP Lexicon: A Collective Vocabulary for Liberation in Darker Times" (pp.25 - 28). Available at: <https://www.gripp.net/resources>

## EXPLORING NEW IDEAS AND TOOLS

- It is necessary to encourage a diversity of perspectives and know-how. Each form of knowledge adds value and can enrich these processes.
- There are many efficient ways to deal with a reality or change a situation. That's why it's important to recognise that all ideas can add up to a common goal. In this sense, it is advisable to put aside preconceived ideas and open oneself to the possibility of exploring new knowledge about reality.
- It is key to promote the use of new technologies to close digital gaps, but above all to understand them as meeting spaces for the exchange and acquisition of new knowledge.

**“ Becoming familiar with other realities inspires us to continue moving forward and evaluate whether our actions are going in the right direction to effectively provide help. ”**

CLAUDIA CÁRDENAS

RISK AND DISASTER MANAGEMENT CORPORATION – GRID CHILE

## **FLEXIBILITY, ADAPTATION, AND RESILIENCE**

- The possibility of applying improvements to projects is always positive, while also recognising that unexpected or unforeseen situations may arise in the process. While it is important to have an initial roadmap, it is also valid to allow it to evolve in order to achieve one's objectives in the most efficient way.
- A 'tailor-made suit' needs to be designed, ensuring that the initiative actually meets current needs.
- It is necessary to practice adaptive management that allows the main idea to be adjusted according to the entry points/inputs (information, events) that

emerge. This makes it possible to go deeper and work in more detail than initially planned.

## **THE PATH IS BUILT STEP BY STEP**

- Within the GRRIPP framework, every small achievement has meant that projects reaffirm their objectives and forge a more sustainable path.
- It is necessary to go through different stages. In this coming and going in the same territory, long-term opportunities are being created.

- To pave the way for the future, it is crucial to establish a connection with people, organisations and institutions as the project is implemented.

### **KNOWLEDGE CO-CREATION: BEYOND INSTITUTIONAL VALIDATION AMONG CITIZENS, PUBLIC AND ACADEMIC ORGANISATIONS**

- The validation of the knowledge gained by the participants in the training processes is valuable, since it can strengthen their profiles and open up new opportunities.
- The execution of these projects supports the teams at an organisational as well as a professional level, setting the stage for greater internationalisation.
- It is essential to recognise each team's ability as an organisation to carry out these kinds of initiatives.
- It is important to co-create spaces for true dialogue, integration and participation in decision-making, as well as the implementation of practical know-how, theoretical and public management projects. To go beyond the recognition of know-how by providing a space and a role in decision-making for territory management.



***We can be stronger organizations, as long as we learn to establish the connections we really need.”***

**RUTH DÍAZ**  
PRESIDENT OF  
FENAMUTRA

### **ESTABLISHING AND CONSOLIDATING INTERNATIONAL NETWORKS**

- Working in collaboration with other networks makes it easier to address various issues effectively and with the same resources.
- Exploring projects carried out in other contexts and learning from their experiences contributes to the strengthening of their own work.
- The existence of common problems in different territories allows them to be tackled together, capitalising on the experience of all the teams involved.
- Establishing increased awareness about local initiatives in regional and international arenas broadens their reach and increases their impact.

The path of planning and executing projects toward the implementation of gender-sensitive policies is an exciting, but at the same time challenging, journey. It is a journey in which collective work makes it possible to explore new realities, adapt to the population's diverse needs and have a positive impact on the lives of communities. These initial achievements driven by GRRIPP represent the foundation of a vision that will continue to be built in the future. ●







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