



PROJECT FACTSHEET

Breaking Down Gender Barriers

PROJECT OVERVIEW

REGION	Departments of Ocotepeque and Copán in Western Honduras
BENEFICIARIES	1.750 smallholder families which include 900 women and/or female youth
PROJECT DURATION	10/2021 - 04/2023
IMPLEMENTED BY	Hanns R. Neumann Stiftung (HRNS)
FINANCED BY	The Starbucks Foundation
PARTNERS	Honduran Coffee Institute (IHCAFE), International Women's Coffee Alliance (IWCA Honduras), the Trifinio Commission (CTPT), Women's Network - Trifinio Hosagua

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Women in Honduras, particularly the more than 2.2 million who work in rural areas have less access to resources, knowledge, and technical assistance. Gender equality is not only a human rights issue but one which affects family business and country development. If women farmers had the same access to production inputs as men, agricultural outputs in developing countries could increase between 2.5-4%. In Western Honduras, only 23% of female coffee farmers are affiliated with farmer organizations (FO). The COVID-19 pandemic has also led to increased time invested in housework and unpaid care work by women. High levels of poverty and a lack of opportunities contributes to migration, which impacts family dynamics, often separating the nuclear family. In Honduras, women represent 59% of migrants (higher than the global average).

The project aims to close the gender gap in rural communities and increase the resiliency of smallholder families by enhancing gender equality and empowerment of women and female youth in key coffee-growing regions through economic and social growth and improved health outcomes. A holistic approach integrates socio-economic aspects, health, education, and improved water and coffee processing infrastructure to enhance gender equality, economic opportunities, and family well-being.

Activities are implemented through a two-level approach:

1. **Inclusive Farming Family Businesses and Healthy Homes:** through training in gender equality and women's leadership, income diversification and business development, and the promotion of water access, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) practices.
2. **Inclusive Climate-Smart Region Development:** strengthening the role of FO including women participation, the gender competence, and capacities of regional networks, and promoting WASH and gender equality on a community level.

The project will be implemented in the departments of Ocotepeque and Copán. These departments are part of the Trifinio Region, a key tri-border coffee growing region including the border regions of Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. The area has significant economic and environmental importance as a biodiversity hotspot containing the headwaters of the three largest rivers in Central America, serving as a water reservoir for millions of people, fauna, and flora. Activities also contribute to the Honduran Coffee Sector Gender Policy by strengthening FO gender approaches and improving the availability and quality of services for women and youth.

EXPECTED RESULTS

Household Transformation

- Women and female youth have developed leadership and self-confidence skills.
- Women and female youth have increased access and control of economic and financial resources.
- Smallholder families have increased awareness supporting equal division of responsibilities and sharing of resources and benefits for all members.
- Smallholder families have diversified income sources and improved their resiliency to unexpected shocks.
- Smallholder families have taken steps to improve WASH practices at home.

Organizational and Regional Development

- FO have increased participation of women and female youth through inclusive strategies.
- FO have improved water access and contributed to healthy homes of smallholder families and better WASH practices.
- Platforms and women networks have increased outreach with women and female youth and improved availability and quality of services.
- Further integrated gender strategies into local agendas, creating learning cycles and extending project scope and impact.



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