



United Nations Entity for Gender Equality  
and the Empowerment of Women

## **UN Women Support to Indigenous Women**

UN Women currently promotes development programmes and projects focused on indigenous women worldwide. Below are some of them.

### **Houses of Indigenous Women, Mexico.**

Since 2008, 19 houses have been dedicated to women's services in Mexico. The houses promote the rights of indigenous women, especially the right to live free from violence, and the right to sexual and reproductive rights. These areas of work revolve around the institutionalization of good practices, training of leaders and strengthening women's networks. The Mexican government is funding this program through the National Commission for the Development of Indigenous Peoples. UN Women provides support for topics, including gender mainstreaming.

### **Free and Informed Participation, Guatemala.**

This programme aims to raise awareness about voter rights and increase the political presence of indigenous women. Radio spots in five languages (K'iche, Cakchiquel, Mam, Q'eqchi and Spanish) encourage Indigenous women to vote in the upcoming presidential elections in September. The campaign includes exchanges between local journalists and Indigenous candidates, to break stereotypes that are sometimes portrayed in the media about these communities. There is also a goal to increase the number of public representatives in government, and therefore spaces are being reserved in radio, television and newspapers, where people can discuss progress and challenges in political participation.

### **Strengthening mechanisms to better promote access to regular courts and traditional courts on the framework of legal pluralism for indigenous women, Bolivia and Ecuador.**

This project aims to promote greater coordination and collaboration between the ordinary courts and the ancestral courts to ensure the active participation and decision making of indigenous women in the administration of indigenous justice. The programme also offers

support to indigenous women's organizations to enhance the development of EU regulations for proper treatment and living. This includes reducing impunity for violence against women and to promote sensitization of authorities and judicial ancestral courts in the collective rights of indigenous women. (Initiative: Association of Women Kichwas Sucumbios-AMNKISE / Ecuador, Kichwa Women Union of Peasant Organizations of Cotacachi-UNORCAC and Municipality / Ecuador; Union of Indigenous Communities of the parish Saraguro San Lucas UCORSAYTA / Ecuador; Development Center Comprehensive Women's Aymara - CDIM / Bolivia).

**Strengthening organizational capacities and partnerships in the Andean highlands and lowlands of Peru and Bolivia to influence public policies and cultural perceptions of gender.**

This initiative includes a call for support for consensus among indigenous women organizations' programming and agendas. This initiative also aims to promote opportunities for dialogue between organizations and government institutions. (Initiative: Amazonian Indigenous Women of the Interethnic Association for Development of the Peruvian Jungle-AIDSEEP Andean women in coordination with the National Coordinator of Peasant Communities Affected by Mining - CONACAMI / Peru, Quechua and Aymara indigenous women of the National Markas and Ayllus (CONAMAQ) in coordination with the indigenous women of lowland CNAMIB / CIDOB / Bolivia).