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“ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN”

ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT

REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 31 DECEMBER 2017

<p><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b>          Programme Title: Accelerating Progress towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Guatemala.          MPTF Office Project Reference Number:<sup>1</sup> 00092001</p>	<p><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Beneficiaries</b>          Guatemala, Alta Verapaz</p> <p>Add the number of beneficiaries for 2017          Direct (women/men) (1,591/394)          Indirect (women/men) 7,955 (6,955 women/1,000 men)          And from the beginning of the JP (PC) RWEE          Direct (women/men) (1,591/394)          Indirect (women/men) 7,955 (6,955 women/1,000 men)</p>
<p><b>Participating Organization(s)</b>          FAO, IFAD, WFP, UN Women</p>	<p><b>Implementing Partners</b>          MAGA, PRODENORTE, ADRI, CONALFA, SEPREM, MINECO.</p>
<p><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document:</p> <p><i>MPTF Contribution, Norway:</i>          by Agency US\$ 245,481          FAO US\$ 49,776          WFP US\$145,929          UNWOMEN US\$49,776</p> <p><i>MPTF Contribution, Sweden:</i>          by Agency US \$ US\$ 2,242,774          FAO US\$ 520,913          WFP US\$ 898,363          UNWOMEN US\$ 823,498</p> <p><b>Total approved budget: US\$ 2,488,254</b></p> <p>Government Contribution (if applicable)</p> <p>Other Contributions (donors)</p> <p>TOTAL:</p>	<p><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration 5 YEARS</p> <p>Start Date (15 10 2012)          Original End Date (14 10 2017)</p> <p>National Steering Committee approved:          End date (field activities)30/04/18          End date (final reports) 30/07/18)</p>
<p><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b>          Assessment/Review - if applicable please attach  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm. yyyy.          Mid-Term Evaluation Report – if applicable please attach  <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: dd.mm.yyyy.</p>	<p><b>Report Submitted By</b>          Name: Mario Touchette          Title: Representative          Participating Organization (Lead): WFP          Email address: <a href="mailto:mario.touchette@wfp.org">mario.touchette@wfp.org</a></p>

<sup>1</sup> The MPTF Office Project Reference Number are as follows: ETHIOPIA: 00092000; GUATEMALA: 00092001; KYRGYZSTAN: 00092002; LIBERIA: 00092003; NEPAL: 00092004; NIGER: 00092005; RWANDA: 00092006

## Acronyms

ADRI	Asociación Integral de desarrollo - Integral Development Association
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
COCODE	Consejo Comunitario de Desarrollo - Community Development Council
COCOSAN	Comité Comunitario de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional - Community Council for Food and Nutrition Security
COMUDE	Consejo Municipal de Desarrollo – Municipal Development Council
COMUSAN	Comisión Municipal de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional - Municipal Council for Food and Nutrition Security
CONALFA	Comité Nacional de Alfabetización -National Literacy Committee
CONAP	Comisión Nacional de Areas Protegidas - National Commission of Protected Areas
CONRED	Coordinadora Nacional para la Reducción de Desastres -National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction.
COPREDEH	Comisión Presidencial Coordinadora de la Política del Ejecutivo en materia de Derechos Humanos - Presidential Commission for Human Rights
DEMI	Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena - Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women
DMM	Dirección Municipal de la Mujer - Municipal Directorate for Women
ENEI	Encuesta Nacional de Empleo e Ingresos – National Survey of Employment and Income
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FODIGUA	Fondo de Desarrollo Indígena Guatemalteco - Guatemalan Indigenous Development Fund
FONTIERRA	Fondo de Tierras- Land Fund
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
INAB	Instituto Nacional de Bosques -National Forestry Institute
INCIDE	Iniciativa Civil para la Democracia - Civil Initiative for Democracy
INE	Instituto Nacional de Estadística – National Statistics Institute
INTECAP	Instituto Técnico de Capacitación - Technical Training Institute
JP	Joint Programme
JP RWEE	Joint Programme “Rural Women Economic Empowerment”
MAGA	Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación – Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food
MIDES	Ministerio de Desarrollo Social – Ministry for Social Development

MINEDUC	Ministerio de Educación - Ministry of Education
MINECO	Ministerio de Economía - Ministry of Economy
MINFIN	Ministerio de Finanzas - Ministry of Finance
MINTRAB	Ministerio de Trabajo - Ministry of Labor
MPTF	Fondo Fiduciario de Socios Múltiples - Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MSPAS	Ministerio de Salud Pública y Asistencia Social-Ministry for Public Health and Social Assistance.
OMM	Oficina Municipal de la Mujer – Municipal Women Department
PAFFEC	Programa de Agricultura Familiar para el Fortalecimiento de la Economía Campesina - Family Farming Programme for Peasant Economy Strengthening
PNPDIM	Política Nacional de Promoción y Desarrollo Integral de la Mujer – National Policy for the Advancement and Integral Development of Women
PEO	Plan de Equidad de Oportunidades – Equal Opportunity Plan
PRODENORTE	Programa de Desarrollo Rural Sustentable para la Región Norte - Sustainable Rural Development Programme for the Northern Region
RIC	Registro de Información Catastral – Registry of Cadastral Information
RIMS	Risk and Impacts Management
RWEE	Rural Women Economic Empowerment in Guatemala
SAA	Secretaría de Asuntos Agrarios - Secretary of Agrarian Affairs
SEGEPLAN	Secretaria de Planificación y Programación de la Presidencia – Secretariat of Programming and Planning of the Presidency
SEPREM	Secretaria Presidencial de la Mujer – Presidential Secretariat for Women
SESAN	Secretaría de Seguridad Alimentaria y Nutricional – Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security
UGMAGA	Unidad de Género del MAGA- MAGA Gender Unit
UN Women	UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.
WEIA	Women’s Empowerment in Agriculture Index
WFP	World Food Programme

## Executive Summary

### I. Purpose

From January to December 2017, the Joint Programme (JP) on Women's Economic Empowerment (RWREE) activities have been focused in achieving the JP main four results. The efforts made by the participating agencies (FAO, IFAD, UN Women and WFP) have contributed in consolidating interventions and enabling strong commitment to achieve the proposed goals, while considering the project's participants.

In that manner, activities carried out throughout 2017 accounted for 1,591 participating women and 394 men, from 60 communities in the department of Alta Verapaz; of which 15 were from the municipality of San Miguel Tucurú, 24 from Santa Catarina la Tinta, and 21 from Panzós. This represented a total number of 7,955 people who indirectly benefited from this initiative. Moreover, technical assistance<sup>2</sup> included capacity training on food security, increased grain productivity in crop production, appropriate use of post-harvest technology to be time-efficient, strengthened women's participation in value chain, strengthened administrative and financial management, marketed products and association consolidation, improvement of product presentation and packaging, organizational strengthening, and development of leadership skills and political participation.

Therefore, the push towards food security improvement and nutrition protection was reflected on 831 visits by our technical team to the communities, to implement good practices on food production, agriculture, backyard production and crop diversification. This resulted in a 10% increase of maize production (29 quintals/ha to 32 quintals/ha), and a 17% increase of bean production (17 quintal/ha to 20 quintal/ha), all of which increased food availability throughout July and August (normally known to be food scarce in women-led rural households) and incentivized crop diversification. The latter contributed to food availability for subsistence farmers and as income generator derived from the production surplus. In addition, it strengthened their knowledge on feeding, nutrition, access to safe water – this included water filter for 260 households and 400 women that participate in organizations registered in the BioFort Platform<sup>3</sup> who received training on seedling and consumption of biofortified crops, such as maize, bean, sweet potato, cassava (high in protein, beta-carotene, vitamin A, iron, and zinc).

Moreover, women received technical assistance and have been trained to develop skills on leadership, income decision-making, finance and management, production commercialization, business and organizational development. This resulted directly in improved income to sustain their livelihoods. In this sense, USD 23,753 were generated by 27 organizations, held by 734 women, of which produced and commercialized chicken, pork, eggs, maize, beans, sweet potato, plantain, flour, textiles, traditional Guatemala sweets, Aloe Vera soap and shampoo.

Regarding increased participation and decision-making at community-level, the project has fostered skills on community rights on food security and economic development. The focus was especially centred on women to ignite their own organisations, and push forward empowerment committees<sup>4</sup> that have led

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<sup>2</sup> Technical assistance is the process that will allow the incrementation of knowledge and ability in the application process for men and women, as well as practices and techniques that will foster sustainable actions within a program or project.

<sup>3</sup> Institutional Platform for the Development and Use of Biofortified Crops in Guatemala – a space for dialogue, coordination, and focus points for different initiatives of cooperation and research on a national or international level, private or public, promoting the use and growth of biofortified crops, aimed at strengthening food and nutrition security of rural families and population in general.

<sup>4</sup> Empowerment Committees are committed to accelerate women's empowerment processes within their own organisations, leadership development strengthening, involving even more women in decision-making posts, and facilitating awareness of the importance of just and equal treatment between women and men.

activities on improved production (historically only male-oriented technical assistance). The Joint Programme has strengthened women's empowerment within these committees through workshops on organization strengthening, associativity, credit and finance management<sup>5</sup>, community management, and participation in decision-making entities (COCODES, CODESEAN, COMUDES and COMUSAN).

Thus, it is important to mention that these results are by the means of field technicians and local associates, then promoters who themselves train others, who will in turn train even more women on theoretical and practical activities on the issue, ensuring a constant follow-up. In this sense, the JP has been able to reach an average of 6,955 women indirectly.

Finally, to achieve public policy strengthening for women's economic empowerment, the support towards the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) Gender Unit, was kept, in light of the implementation of the Institutional Policy for Gender Equality and joint-actions following their 2014-2023 Strategic Framework. Moreover, MAGA leads the "Technical Discussion for Rural Development focused on Gender and Peoples"<sup>6</sup>, that has been strengthened by the JP technical assistance on gender equality and inter-institutional management. Hence, to improve local surroundings on women's economic empowerment. In that manner, during 2017, the mentioned entity refined its coordination and planning mechanisms.

## **II. Results**

### **i) Narrative reporting on results:**

#### **Outcome 1: Rural women have improved food and nutrition security**

##### ***Outcome 1.1 Rural women increased food production and their knowledge on nutrition***

During 2017, 857 women were attended directly in the municipalities of San Miguel Tucurú (107 women in nine communities), Santa Catalina La Tinta (300 women in ten communities) and Panzós (450 women in 15 communities), and indirectly a total of 2550 people of which 1326 were women and 1224 men.

The assistance was carried out in improving food production, access and consumption, as well as income generation. This was done through 408 technical assistance services and 11 training workshops:

- Family gardens for the production of vegetables (Swiss chard, spinach, tomato, cilantro, pumpkin, leek, onion, pepper chili, jalapeño and serrano, celery, radish, cabbage and cucumber), consumption of native plants (amaranth baby leaves or "*bledo*", miltomate, nightshades, pigeon peas, *chipilín*, breadfruit, cassava, and sweet potato), of fruits (banana, plantain, nanche, papaya, citrus, pineapple, watermelon, coconut, and mango) and crop fields of native and medical plants.
- Production of maize, beans, through conservation agriculture with techniques such as: zero tillage, soil cover, crop rotation;
- Seedlings and improved granaries, fruit trees (orange, lime, and mango);
- Corn-field diversification;
- Use and handling of time-efficient technologies: manual fertilizer seeder, manual sprayer and seed germinators;
- Improvement on livestock production, infrastructure, food and prophylaxis.

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<sup>5</sup> Using OXFAM methodology for community savings and credit, with the support of PRODERNORTE who created and helped with the distribution of the material, each group being under the responsibility of the technical promotional team.

<sup>6</sup> Interinstitutional Working Group (including 14 institutions) that promotes rural development, with a focus on gender equality and cultural relevance.

*Output 1.1.1.: Rural women increase their farm and backyard production through the implementation of good agricultural practices.*

There have been ten best agricultural production practices put into place: no open burning, stubble management, grains planted per hole, plant spacing, incorporation of green manure, harvest and post-harvest handling, improved seeds, soil conservation practices (living fences and contour plowing), organic fertilizers, and crop diversification. Other ten good practices were implemented in backyard production systems: backyard orchards, medicinal plant orchards, native plant orchards, fruit tree pruning, fruit tree cultivation, livestock premises improvement, organic fertilizers, wastewater channelling, use of recycled resources for orchards, use of organic fungicides and pesticides.

These practices contributed to a maize production increase of 10% (from 29 to 32 quintals per hectare), and bean production increase of 17% (from 17 to 20 quintals per hectare), which allowed to identify increased food availability during shortage seasons (July and August) in rural women beneficiaries' households with implemented best practices for the improvement of farm system production, as well as backyard production, and increased maize and bean production.

*Output 1.1.2 Rural women master appropriate post-harvest practices on technology*

This was done through 68 technical assistance services (field visits) and two workshops for 600 women on post-harvest management, mostly on maize and bean crops. Along with the JP technical team, 165 volunteer women promoters followed-up the implementation of the ten best practices that contributed to reduce crop and storage losses:

1. Improvement of the infrastructure of traditional granaries to improved granaries;
2. Usage of metal silos;
3. Usage and management of phosphine pellets / tablets and natural herbs for pest control;
4. Detection of the grain's physiological development by identifying black leaf spots;
5. Bending (*Dobla*) of maize cob;
6. Grain and seed selection;
7. Threshing;
8. Dying;
9. Ventilation;
10. Storage.

*Output 1.1.3: Rural women increase their associative sales from overproduction to improve their food and nutrition security.*

Farm and backyard production of food is usually offered in local markets. Women cultivate their products, and some surplus (approximately 20% of the entire production) are sold in different ways: neighbouring homes (70%), community (20%), municipal capital (7%) and other stores (3%). Currently, sales have gone up 10% from their farm and backyard production. 82% of women (656 women) sold 20% of their production from the farm and backyard system in 2017. Before the program was established, this percentage of women did not generate any income. Currently these women make over USD 27 per month (from both farm and backyard production).

*Output 1.1.4: Rural women have increased access to resources, assets, and services that are critical for their food and nutrition security.*

The volunteer women promoters of the community have implemented strengthening activities to improve food and nutrition security, using a multiplying effect to monitor field actions for targeted population. This knowledge is spread through 165 volunteer women, who train five additional women, and so on, reaching 825 rural women.

Moreover, field team carried-out 831 visits to bring technical assistance to improve food availability and quality to households of participating women. In addition, there were 48 capacity-building workshops, directly touching on 1203 women and 65 men on the following topics:

- Food classification: those with energy provision (cereal and tubers), illness prevention (fruits and vegetables), muscle building (meats and dairy products), non-soluble products (fast food, sweets and sodas).
- Health and nutrition at home: breastfeeding, weaning, supplementary food, personal and family hygiene, and pregnancy care.

In addition, 400 women are registered with the participating organizations within the BioFort Platform.<sup>7</sup> They receive workshops on seedling and consumption of biofortified crops, such as maize, beans, sweet potato and cassava (rich in protein, beta-carotene, vitamin A, iron and zinc).

The JP RWEE kept joint-coordination with the Municipal Office of Food and Nutrition Security in the municipality of Tukurú (which in turn serves as active and coordinating body of the Municipal Commission of Food and Nutrition Security – COMUSAN – in Tukurú). The COMUSAN in each municipality is formed by a multi-sector group (Ministry of Health -MSPAS-; Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food – MAGA; Municipal Directorate for Women -DMM-; Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security - SESAN). It has the power to decide and analyse the food and nutrition security situation in the municipality and is the entity responsible to contribute and socialize quality and timely information for decision making and search for technical agreements. Hence, there are active Commissions in the three municipalities targeted in the JP in Tukurú, La Tinta and Panzós.

*Output 1.1.5: Rural women know and apply new practices to improve the organic use and consumption of food.*

In the JP, 80% of participating women have adopted at least ten best practices in biological usage and food consumption to contribute to their food and nutrition security:

- Food safety;
- Hygienic cleaning stations;
- Safe water usage;
- Consumption of vegetables and fruits
- Home hygiene;
- Elevate and clean water deposits;
- Adequate food storage;
- Use containers to serve meals
- Consumption habits, and distinction of water (drinkable or household average use)

Due to constant gastrointestinal illnesses affecting mostly children, a new technology was introduced in 2017 to obtain safe water. Two hundred sixty (260) families from approximately 1300 members of organizations supported by JP RWEE were benefitted with water purifiers. Moreover, the water purifiers were introduced as an incentive to those involved in the savings and credit groups, especially the women,

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<sup>7</sup> Interinstitutional Platform for the development and use of biofortified crops in Guatemala. A space for dialogue, coordination, and cooperation initiative focus, of national and international research, public or private, destined to develop and use biofortified crops, to strengthen food security and nutrition protection of rural families and general population.

so that they have some facility to acquire them and therefore the groups dispose of resources for the filter replacements and improve the training on the use of safe water– along with correct use and maintenance information of the purifiers.

What is more, the JP RWEE coordinates and manages technical accompaniment with the Ministry of Agriculture (MAGA), Ministry of Health (MSPAS), through the Rural Extension System (entities responsible for the communities' wellbeing in the area).

## **Outcome 2: Rural women increase their income to secure their livelihoods**

### ***Output 2.1: Rural women have improved skills in associative selling and entrepreneurship, and participate in trading processes.***

In this output, an inclusive vision was set-up for both women and men through rural women's capacity strengthening. Therefore, women are better equipped on an organizational level, are economically empowerment with leadership roles, active participation in community entities, have better resources to manage their budgets and credits, market supply and demand of their products, and are household heads. What is more, men are oriented to perceive their spouses as equally able to develop actions towards the improvement of the family's wellbeing, her participation in organizations of the community or of the municipality.

In addition, PRONORTE jointly coordinated the JP, in which 70 participating women were offered scholarship to undertake positions in bakeries, confectionary, and food preparation in INTECAP (Training and Productivity Technical Institute). The JP field team was responsible for communicating to women interested to register and apply for the scholarship.

Additionally, under PRONORTE and JP RWEE joint-collaboration, 26 savings and credit groups were constituted (summing up to USD 12,043 in 2017). The sum was generated by the women's monthly quotas, food sale, raffles, loans, interest fines derived from late participation to meetings, late fines and other income generating activities. Of that, 383 women and 27 men were trained using this methodology, all of which are part of these 26 groups.

The JPRWEE promoted the PROMIPYME<sup>8</sup> Programme (Small and Medium Business Programme), which supported ten organizations conformed of 240 women, to improve their products' presentation, such as banana, cassava and porridge flour, soap, shampoo, textiles, Guatemalan traditional sweets, and cakes. This was done by improving the products image design, packaging, labelling, and organization's visibility. Moreover, organizations were linked to the Promipyme platform with the support of *Gestores Group*<sup>9</sup>, to be better connected to local fairs, markets, and government-led events. The organizations are aware of this possibility and understand the procedures for requesting support directly.

The JP has supported three microregional fairs in three municipalities (Tucurú, La Tinta and Panzós), usually called "Development Train Fairs" jointly coordinated with the COMUSAN. In addition, there was another fair, this time at Department level, coordinated with the three municipalities and participating entities such as MAGA, MIDES, MSPAS, Ministry of Education MINEDUC, ADRI, Plan International, and Nature Defenders. In total, 401 women of the 27 organizations with JP RWEE had the opportunity to offer their products and commercialize them.

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<sup>8</sup> Is a government led programme to support business development through designated advisors in the field, cost - free. It helps create added value to the organizations' products that request it, to promote and enhance rural competitiveness.

<sup>9</sup> National network to ignite rural economy and entrepreneurial development for women and business women or men at micro, small and medium enterprises.



Women who have been in contact with municipal and departmental markets have managed to make their products known to the public. This has helped them personally and collectively feel motivated, allowing them to understand that they too have the opportunity to go out and sell directly to buyers. It is a way for them to realize and experience first-hand opportunity and empowerment to directly sell their products to potential buyers. Similarly, three municipal fairs were carried out in Telemán (Panzós), La Tinta, Tukurú, and one at department level in Cobán, Alta Verapaz. Here, 225 women participated directly and 562 indirectly. The initiative has also had international exposure, with textiles and handmade products being showed in Milan, Italy through DECOART, a commercial company, generating a revenue of USD 200.

Up until December 2017, registered income summed up to USD 23,753 generated by the 27 organizations, formed of 720 women, through commercialization of chicken, pork, eggs, maize, beans, sweet potato, plantain, flours (cassava, plantain), textile, traditional Guatemalan sweets, aloe vera soap and shampoo.

*Output 2.1.1: Productive organizations will enhance their production technologies and trading practices*

There were eleven formed organisations of 400 women supported by JP, from productive entrepreneurship, bringing technical assistance and follow-up in different areas (production costs, production, quality, food safety, image design, marketing, trading and commercialization and product traceability).

These productive projects have helped women to recognize the importance of being organized and the rights they have on access to productive assets:

- Five nixtamal mills for the transformation of maize to flour and milled maize to thicken elaborated sauces;
- Five maize and bean shelling machines, with aim of selling services to members and non-members for income-generating activity;
- Two farms of 400 laying hens to have fresh and quality eggs. The women partners carry out all the related activities: cleaning, keeping, feeding, egg collecting, measuring and selling.
- Five farms of 1600 broilers – women have been trained to care for the chickens, vaccination, farm hygiene and phytosanitary handling;
- Four farms of 30 pigs (in total) for fattening, raising, and sale;
- Six Pelibuey sheep raising from reproduction to sale.

In addition, there have been 373 women trained in handling poultry and livestock production, to guarantee their best practices in food safety, health, animal wellbeing and safety, and environmental protection.

Moreover, it is important to highlight that each group who manages a productive project has its own user's manual and equipment maintenance. Also, they account for a rulebook for their income and spending. This allows women to be adequately organized, participate in team-working activities, in an associative fashion, are accountable, exercise control on incomes and expenses, audit and improve their income. Of the surplus generated, 50% is allocated to capitalize their businesses and the other half is distributed throughout the members of the associations. It is then possible for the 400 women to reach their estimated current income of USD 11,876 over 2017.

In addition, training for the use and management of the blue box mobile laboratory (to detect aflatoxins in maize), management of production costs, harvest practices (bending cob) and post-harvest (use of plastic silos), humidity control, quality control continued with the methodology “*learning by doing*”. This methodology applied to agricultural production management and livestock projects which are the basis for

the transfer of knowledge and formation of capacity. Together, a total of 1200 women and 56 men participated in 36 training workshops.

The use of information and communication technologies (ICT) was promoted: 77 women from eleven organizations used the AGRIUP<sup>10</sup> platform service. This service sends text messages to inform or warn on crop related issues, for better agriculture decision making. In this case, women received free information on weather conditions, commodity market prices and crop information.

With the objective of increasing income and avoiding monoculture damages (which deteriorates soil and environment), the diversification of production has been supported with the installation of cattle farms (broiler and laying hens), pigs and pelibuey sheep. In case of farms, parallel crops include plantain, pineapple, pumpkin seeds, corn and beans. The JP RWEE also supported food transformation (with the provision of corn mills) and the sale of services such as the provision of corn and bean huskers.

These activities are complemented by information strengthening through technical assistance provided in benefitted communities. Women's participation in productive activities was also of great importance in improving social organizations, so that the roles of women and men are complementary and harmonious. It was about increasing local capacities for agricultural and livestock development, incorporating the participation of women in agriculture. This also provided time-saving technology for food transformation and income generation.

**Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes.**

***Output 3.1: Rural women have enhanced leadership skills and knowledge about their rights to participate and influence in relevant policy forums at organizational, community, municipal, and national levels.***

Throughout 2017, the JP RWEE continued supporting the so-called "Empowerment Committee". Their objective is to promote women's empowerment within 11 mixed productive organizations and to strengthen the development of women's leadership. The results will therefore be to have more women incorporating decision-making positions which will facilitate the sensitization on the importance of fair treatment between women and men.

Eleven mixed organizations have been strengthened through their Empowerment Committees, conformed by 7 women of the board of directors within each organization. These women have been trained in leadership and community participation issues and received recognition at the organizational structure level of their communities.

Of the 16 women's organizations, 9 were accredited by the municipality to participate in the Community Development Councils (COCODES). There are 7 organizations that are still in the process of accreditation by the municipality (five in Panzós and two in Tukurú). Each of these women's organizations have their own board of directors.

Two women, representatives of the health commission and midwives of the municipality of Tukurú, are members of the Coordination of the Development Community Council (COCODES).

Twenty-one workshops were held, training 197 women and 18 men on leadership, rights, functions of the board of directors, committee formation, project management, accountability and organizational

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<sup>10</sup> Text message service (SMS) and mobile app: initiative supported by WFP Innovation Acceleration.

strengthening. Experiences were exchanged to motivate and carry out the activities therefore contributing to the sustainability of the organizations. Within the organizations, there are commissions with different functions to contribute to the economic development and the common benefit of all organized rural women.

*Output 3.1.1: Rural women have enhanced leadership and knowledge about their rights to participate and influence at forums on policies that are relevant at organizational, community, municipal, and national levels.*

Within the framework of the commemoration of November 25<sup>th</sup> (the Day of Nonviolence Against Women), JP RWEE provided technical assistance to the Municipal Directorate for Women (DMM)<sup>11</sup>, for the opening of the Attention to Victim's Office in the municipality of La Tinta. Technical assistance provided consisted in directing the joint-elaboration to report any abuse and implement a strategy for women to learn about this service. The office was inaugurated with the support and coordination of the following institutions: National Civil Police, Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM), magistrate's court and Women's Organizations in the municipality.

Other activities related to the commemoration were:

- 280 women demonstrated in the Polochic Valley to demand respect and dignity towards women, because of an increased number of gender-based violence cases.
- Meetings in the municipality of Panzós, Tukurú, La Tinta and Cobán, with the objective of bringing together institutions and general public to reflect on the problems women face every day in the region.
- Meeting at Department level with the network DMM from the 12 municipalities: San Cristobal, Santa Cruz Verapaz, Chamelco, Carcha, Cobán, Tukurú, Tamahú, La Tinta, Panzós, Chisec, Raxuhá, and Fray Bartolomé de las Casas.

Advisory was provided to the Municipal Directorate for Women, for the preparation of the annual Operations Plan in the municipalities of Tukurú, Panzós and La Tinta.

There are currently eight women participating in COCODES, representing 0.4% of the members of these structures. There are also two women participating in the municipalities of La Tinta and Tukurú in Municipal Development Council (COMUDE), representing 0.8% of the total members.

Through the Food and Nutrition Security Office of Tukurú, JP RWEE coordinated the provision of materials to strengthen the participation of women in the establishment of Community Council for Food and Nutrition Security (COCOSAN), and to expand its implementation in Panzós and La Tinta.

During the 2017 school year, 331 women who participated in the Joint Programme learned to read and write.

By the means of a joint coordination between JP RWEE, the Municipality of Tukurú, Barfoot College and the Government of India, two rural women were selected by the community assembly as grant-recipients, for a Solar Engineering scholarship in India. Their training started in September 2017 and recently ended in March 2018. The scholarship will enable women to bring about solar energy to their communities, from their installation, maintenance and pass over this training to other women, who in turn will be capable of the installing solar energy benefitting to 100 households.

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<sup>11</sup> DMM promotes social organization, prevention of violence against women, bring closer basic services such as health, education, access to financial resources for active economic life, open spaces for citizen and social participation, amongst others.

*Output 3.1.2: Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form and participate in productive organizations and/or cooperatives.*

The 27 women's committees were recognized by the Municipal Directorate for Women (DMM) of Panzós, La Tinta and Tukurú.

The JP RWEE continued to promote the importance of participation and organization of rural women. Twenty-seven organizations (11 mixed organizations and 16 women's organizations), made up of 870 members (720 Women and 150 men), have their organizational structures and operating regulations and are duly recognized by the Municipal Women's Departments. Through the monitoring carried out by the technical team of each organization, they have learned and recognized the importance of DMM and their role in municipal management in support of women. The women participants of the JP know and have access to the services provided by the municipality, SESAN, MAGA, MSPAS and MIDES, such as training workshops, seed provision, medical attention and support on social programmes.

Eleven (11) mixed organizations have policies for the promotion of women's economic empowerment. The main objectives are: identify the steps where women participate in productive chains so as to broaden their opportunities and integrate within the value chains; strengthen women's abilities for the management and financial process in economic entrepreneurship; as well as reinforce women's social and political empowerment processes to expand their opportunities of participating in decision making on a personal and collective level and strengthening their leadership skills.

Relevant DMM functions activities were implemented, instead of just mere celebrations, proselytise or unplanned guidelines requested by the mayor. It is important to note that Decree Number 12-2002 of the Congress of the Republic, was amended through the Municipal Code, Decree Number 39-2016, where the Municipal Women's Office became the Directorate within the internal organization of the municipalities, and is responsible for preparing, implementing and integrating municipal policy proposals as well as local agendas and municipal actions based on the National Policy for the Promotion and Development of Guatemalan Women.

#### **Outcome 4: A more gender-responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women**

*Output 4.1: Government institutions implement policies and strategies that contribute to women's productive and entrepreneurial development, ensuring their access to resources, assets, and services*

Each of the participating agencies part of the JP RWEE have made efforts to ensure that government institutions adopt methodologies such as:

- Milpa System and Patio/Home approach (also called backyard or orchards), which aims to improve the consumption and biological use of food, complementary to families' basic meals and required healthy conditions at home and efficient use of natural resources. Families can complement and/or improve elements of traditional backyard and home production systems, by being less dependent on external aid, and by lowering harmful environmental practices, being more efficient and sustainable. The above follows strategic guidelines such as: strengthening of local capacities, sustainability, incorporating a systems approach by the family and flexibility/ adaptability. This methodology has been shared with the MAGA extension staff.
- Community savings and credit OXFAM-PRODENORTE, through the alliance with PRODENORTE, the JP RWEE incorporated the methodology in groups of women, who were interested in applying it. Non-experienced women in community savings were initially reluctant or doubtful, however when they began to see positive results, other groups followed suit.

- Nutrition Box and the mobile “Blue Box”, a methodology shared with 11 organizations, of which each accounted with a mobile laboratory (which serves to measure levels of aflatoxin in corn when stored) and a nutrition box for the use of women to practice with the field team. MAGA received four mobile laboratories and two nutrition boxes to be used with extension personnel at the departmental level.
- Methodological guide: training process on entrepreneurship and business development, A double purposed guide: on the one hand, it strengthens the knowledge on business development and entrepreneurship among rural women members of organizations with productive activities; and on the other, it provides guidance to facilitators (men and women) in the training process for the beneficiaries mentioned above. It also defined methodological steps to address six topics: i) entrepreneurship principles; ii) strategic planning and organizational theory, iii) trade, sale and distribution; iv) costs, budgets, accounting and financial administration; v) access to financial services; and vi) value chain. The tool was designed for groups of Q'eqchi women, but could be adapted for other groups of women with ethnic and cultural similarities. This guide was aligned with what was established by the PNPDIM axes, and was shared at the central level with MINECO, at the local level with MAGA extension staff and JP RWEE women's organizations.

Two workshops were held to support the Department of Food and Nutrition Security Commission of the municipality of Tucurú for the preparation of its 2017 work plan, which included different sectors to work on: social prevention, violence, religion, media, education and health. These workshops counted with the participation of 17 representatives of the following organizations: the Ministry of Agriculture, Ministry of Education, Ministry of Health, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Labour, SEPREM, INAB, DEMI, FODIGUA, SEGEPLAN, CONRED, MERCY CORPS, TRIKLE UP, INCIDE, and the Social Pastoral of the Archdiocese of Guatemala. The participatory elaboration of a multisector work plan, where the focus was on contemplating the importance of having differentiated services for rural women and children. As well as in the collection, daily analysis and reporting of results by gender and in situation of emergencies.

*Output 4.1.1: The public apparatus is aware of the restricted economic empowerment of rural women and apply criteria to secure women's access to the services it provides*

The JP RWEE, in coordination with the Municipal Women's Directorates and Women's Rights advocacy organizations in Guatemala, provided training to public officials and directors of the DMM, with the objective of promoting the empowerment, participation and leadership in local decision-making contexts of rural women in the Polochic Valley. Eighty (80) public officials committed to the process of disseminating the information to at least ten (10) government officials in their municipalities.

Another contribution was to provide support for a workshop on public policies and the situation of women in Alta Verapaz. This was addressed to the DMM's directors and representatives of the Ninth Commission of Women, Children and Youth of the municipal council. Nineteen (19) public officials participated in this workshop (the event was over 6 days and lasted half a day each). The DMM and the Ninth Women's Commissions were led as an affirmative action in the municipalities by women. The creation of the DMM responded to the need to address efficiently and effectively specific demands of indigenous and non-indigenous women living in the municipal territory. The DMM is directed by a woman and is constituted as the institutional channel between the Municipality and women in general, as well as the diverse organizational expressions of women at local level, with the objective that women participated actively in the municipal space, and that their practical needs and strategic interests be part of the municipal budget and planning.

The 4 agencies involved in JP RWEE helped to ensure that their counterpart, MAGA, through support to the Gender Unit of this Ministry, applied specific criteria to guarantee women's access to the services it provides. In this sense, points of view on gender equality from an economic perspective are shared with

the goal of ensuring that the Family Farming Programme for Peasant Economy Strengthening (PAFFEC) work plan takes them into account. Specific contents on the situation and economic position of women have been suggested to the National Statistics Institute (INE) for incorporation into the next data collection template for the national population census, to be held in April 2018.

The above-mentioned criteria were shared with MAGA representatives and extension technicians, with whom the interventions were jointly implemented. They also participated in training processes on the conceptual aspects of gender, participatory tools to identify community needs and to do diagnosis. The MAGA Gender Unit (UGMAGA) ensured the inclusion of criteria in the preparation of group plans, based on community needs, where women's and men needs are differentiated. This implied breaking MAGA family focus and consider positive actions for women and develop training processes with mixed groups, but also specifically some targeted for women. Moreover, it was customary to consider women exclusively responsible of the house, food and care of children, whereas men were destined for productive and livestock activities that generate income. The gender focus implemented by UGMAGA ensures that this vision does not continue to manifest itself in the training processes of extension staff.

#### *Output 4.1.2 Promotion of an environment that is favourable to reflect women priorities in regional and global policy processes*

The JP RWEE continues to provide support to the UGMAGA, being the coordinator of the technical working group and contributed to the applicability of the Institutional Policy for Gender Equality by carrying out actions agreed upon in the joint work plan.

The UGMAGA led the “Technical Table for Rural Development with a Gender and People's Approach” (Technical Working Group for a Rural Development focused on Gender), which is also supported financially and technically by the Joint Programme. This year, this entity obtained political support of the institutions members, so that delegates and alternates could participate regularly in meetings.

Training was provided through the support of the Joint Programme, with the participation of 40 women who oversee the Gender Units of the 14 institutions, members of the technical table<sup>12</sup>, for the learning of the management tools for drafting advocacy proposals of political influence on integral rural development, focused on gender and people; budget based on results and its compatibility with the gender<sup>13</sup> thematic classifier. This training took place during the second semester of 2017 and lasted two days.

#### **Delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learnt, and best practices**

JP field personnel could observe that in many cases, Rural Extension Systems technical staff at the municipal level, did not have the experience or profile to occupy the position to promote rural development. The project developed several actions for the empowerment and training of counterpart staff, however, a factor that limited the development of some activities was the high turnover of personnel in public institutions, mainly MAGA teams who were affected by staff instability during the period of this report.

To overcome this limitation, coordination was carried out with the municipal authorities, which allowed for the liaison of the municipal technicians of the Municipal Planning Offices (OMP) to provide technical assistance to the volunteer promoters and project participants, as well as the hiring of an intern from the Faculty of Agronomy at the University of San Carlos of Guatemala (USAC). The intern's role was to

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<sup>12</sup> Members of the table: MAGA, MINTRAB, MINEDUC, MINECO, SESAN, MIDES, MSPAS, MINFIN, SEGEPLAN, SAA, INE, INAB, FRONTERAS, CONAP, RIC.

<sup>13</sup> Budgetary structure that Government institutions should use, following Article 36 of Decree Number 54-2010, to identify institutional actions and budgetary assignments to respond to public policies that promote gender equality to women and girls.

provide technical assistance and support services in the agricultural production systems on the farm and backyard of the women participating in the project. There was no resistance on the part of the officials to incorporate gender consideration in their work, and it was possible to observe the lack of knowledge and tools to address the subject.

The wide participation of partners from various sectors and institutions involved in the territory such as MAGA, SESAN, SEPREM, municipal and community authorities and key actors is valued.

Despite heavy rains that affected the region in 2017, families had reserves for two months of consumption, with an average of 3 and 5 quintals of corn, and between 1 and 2 quintals of beans. Both products were stored in their homes; corn stored in granaries and silos, and beans in nylon sacks.

Moreover, families stated that before rain started, their main source of food came from their own production and purchase. However, once rain ended, it came from purchases and donations or food aid, and field harvesting. Still, families were consuming basic grains, foods of animal origin, sugar, oil, vegetables and fruits, in the same amount as before the rains.

What is more, families perceived that losses on their productive assets, affected them slightly, and just moderate negative impact on their food source and consumption. They requested support from MAGA and the municipality to obtain corn, beans and vegetable seeds. In addition, they had corn and bean reserves for two to three months. Moreover, families perceived the change in the reserve, prices of corn, beans, seeds and fertilizer as average. Because the population participating in the JP RWEE applied good post-harvest practices, and because of the harvest time, they managed to store basic grains on time. However, their recent harvest was damaged by floods.

Among lessons learned during this period, we can highlight the importance of the support of the JP RWEE team for the target population in each process related to the development of capacities, and the implementation of good practices in organizational, productive and commercial strengthening. This helps to ensure that the target population achieves the results since the Polochic region remains with little presence of government institutions that provide such support.

In addition, contact between the population and government institutions has been key, so that they understand and can request the services provided to them at territorial level. Also, coordination with the mentioned government institution is fundamental (beyond lacking personnel and scarce budget), since all women participating in JP have been registered in institutions such as MAGA, PRODENORTE, PROMIPYME and the DMM, to be kept into consideration in any actions relating to the territory. The role of the DMM in the three municipalities is relevant, to continue supporting these organizations when the JP RWEE is no longer in the territory.

Linking local population, e.g. volunteer promoters, who live in the communities and speak the local language, facilitates monitoring and learning processes, creates a bond of trust and produces a multiplying effect among the target population. The training received by the advocate team generated opportunities for women because it is transmitted in their own language with practical examples allowing them to easily participate in the Programme. These learning opportunities highlighted the importance of belonging to strengthened organizations.

The integration of community savings and credit groups was the milestone rural women's economic implying that the methodology was easy to learn and practical in its implementation. It has been a great motivation for women to experience confidence and importance of creating and working in groups. Moreover, management of economic assets gave them the opportunity to obtain resources for investment, income generation as well as for their personal use and care.

What is more, combined training with income generated activities in organizations, introduced women into non-traditional activities (usually undertaken by men), therefore contribution to closing gender gaps. For example, women were destined to care for children and the household chores without decision making power on resources. Now, women have productive assets, gardens, vegetables, plots, pig farms, chickens, pelibuey sheep, working tools, supplies for weaving, craft projects, etc. This allowed women to generate their own income, while learning to manage resources and deciding in the acquisition of food and other inputs at home.

Prioritizing the agencies' intervention with specific groups created greater joint-work synergy and comprehensive results.

In 2017, the agencies prioritized eight communities, so that both women in subsistence situations and in women's organizations and mixed organizations, received full support of each agencies. This has been derived from the visit of the Global Coordinator to Guatemala. A joint work plan was carried out; greater synergy and comprehensive results were generated.

### **Qualitative assessment**

The strategic alliance at the territorial level and the support of the local authorities that participate in the interventions of the Joint Programme, have allowed communities to learn about support mechanisms and coordination to guarantee its continuity. Such is the case of MAGA, CONALFA, PRODENORTE, PROMIPYME, INTECAP, which strengthens and complements JP actions, including some services such as: literacy, productive projects, vocational scholarships, agricultural supplies. This has benefited to rural women to learn to read and write, learn a new occupation such as baking, as well as having tools for their production, such as wheelbarrows, hoes, shovels and more to improve their products.

These interventions have helped women, exercising their leadership and community participation; they are more encouraged, and have their own income, which allows them to begin their economic independence and exercise their human rights. Moreover, they now have access to training and technical assistance on time-saving technologies (easing their fatigue) access and control of productive resources, diet diversification, more nutritious and safe foods, and community level decision-making. Some examples can be notorious in the communities that formed savings and credit groups, which have started with productive agricultural, livestock and craft projects.

All the above represent qualitative and quantitative information, collected by field technicians in their reports, based on their records and perception of the beneficiaries (who in turn expressed their gratitude for the support provided). For the following year, the JP RWEE contemplates the completion of an intermediate evaluation, which will result in qualitative and quantitative information.



**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment**

	<u>Achieved</u> Target indicators	Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)	Source of Verification
<b>Outcome 1 Improved food and nutrition security</b>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.a.</b> Percentage of households that improve their food security according to the ELCSA.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 80.5% of households show a level of food insecurity by ELCSA metrics (869 households)</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 40.3% of households show a level of food insecurity by ELCSA metrics (325 households)</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.b.</b> Percentage of women and their households that improve their nutrition according to the FCS (Food Consumption Score)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 80.2% of households show a poor or low score in FCS.</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 50% of households show a poor or low score in FCS food</p>	<p>ELCSA will be measured during the forthcoming Mid—Term review (June 2018).</p> <p>FCS will be measured during the forthcoming Mid—Term review (June 2018).</p>	<p>No measurement in this period.</p> <p>No measurement in this period.</p>	<p>Field trips, Reports</p> <p>Field trips Reports</p>
<b>Output 1.1.1 Rural women increase their farm and backyard production by implementing good agricultural practices.</b>			
<b>Indicator 1.1.1 a</b>		There were no delays	

<p>Percentage increase in the production of corn and beans</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 1.32qq/Ha in maize and 17qq/Ha in beans</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 1.45 qq /Ha in maize and 18.7 qq/Ha in beans.</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.1 b</b> Number of new best farm and backyard practices implemented</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 10 best farm and backyard practices (benefiting 857 rural women)</p>	<p>1.45qq/Ha (10% more in maize) and 18.7qq/Ha in beans (10% more).</p> <p>10 best farm and backyard practices</p>		<p>Production's register</p> <p>Records, Field trips, photographs</p>
<p><b>Output 1.1 2 Rural women master appropriate technologies for post-harvest practices</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.1.2 a</b> Percentage reduction of post-harvest farm and storage losses</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 17% of women had losses during postharvest and storage</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 10% of women have losses during post-harvest farm and storage</p>	<p>15% of women had losses during postharvest and storage</p>	<p>There were no delays, this is a learning process. Women have been trained in new techniques, however this indicator is affected by climate events.</p>	<p>Reports Field trips,</p>
<p><b>Output 1.1 3 Rural women increase their sales of surpluses in association for food nutrition security.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.1.3 a</b> Percentage of women increase of sales of surpluses farm and backyard</p>	<p>20% increase of sales (of 857 women)</p>	<p>There were no delays.</p>	<p>sales's register</p>

<p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 (only 583 indicated that sell surpluses at baseline)</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 10% increase of sales (of 407 rural women)</p>			
<p><b>Output 1.1.4. Rural women increase access to resources, goods and services that are useful for their food and nutritional security.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.1.4 a</b> Women trained in food security</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 270 trained women in food security</p> <p><b>Indicator 1.1.4 b</b> Percentage of women trained in nutrition and proper use of foods including food preparation</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 540 trained women in nutrition and proper use of food, including preparation</p>	<p>1048 women trained in food security including food preparation.</p> <p>1048 women trained in food security including food preparation.</p>	<p>There were no delays</p>	<p>Participation list</p> <p>Reports</p> <p>Field trips,</p>
<p><b>Output 1.1.5 Rural women know and implement new practices for improving biological utilization and consumption of foods.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.1.5 a</b> Number of new best practices for improving biological utilization and consumption</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p>	<p>5 new practices</p>	<p>There were no delays</p>	<p>Participation list</p> <p>Reports</p> <p>Field trips,</p>

<p><b>Planned target</b> 5 new practices in self-consumption-related</p>	<p>Food safety Hygiene at home Safe water Consumption of vegetables and fruits Proper storage of food 1,244 participants.</p>		
<p><b>Outcome 2 Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 2.a</b> Number of organizations that have increased their income through sales. <b>Baseline:</b> 0 organizations <b>Planned target:</b> 20 organizations of rural women</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.b</b> Percentage of rural women belonging to organizations that increase their entrepreneurial skills through training <b>Baseline:</b> 6% (72 rural women) <b>Planned target:</b> 20 % (216 rural women)</p>	<p>18 organizations of rural women increased their income through sales 27 organizations have established their organizations and participated in municipal trade fairs</p> <p>78% of rural women belonging to organizations that increase their entrepreneurial skills through training (857 women)</p> <p>1,630 women have been trained in Economic Empowerment</p> <p>27 women's organizations received technical assistance</p>	<p>In Indicator 2.4.; country team expects reach the target in the next evaluation.</p> <p>There were no delays in Indicator 2.b.</p>	<p>Sales register</p> <p>Sales register</p> <p>Participation in trade fairs and retail sales</p>

<p><b>Indicator 2.c</b></p> <p>Total income generated by sales.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>\$20,000 annual</p>	<p>\$23,753 was generated by the sale (27 organizations)</p>		
<p><b>Output 2.1.1 Productive organizations will improve their production technologies and trading practices.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 2.1.1 a</b></p> <p>Number of productive harvest technologies and practices for marketing</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>2 practices 1 technology</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.1 b</b></p> <p>Number of post-harvest practices for markets</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p>	<p>2 practices (benefiting to 800 rural women). Using selected seeds Suitable variety or hybrid. Plant health plan. 1 technology Use and handling of the Blue Box</p> <p>2 practices Implementation: Drying grain (moisture meter) and use of plastic silos</p>	<p>There were no delays</p> <p>There were no delays</p>	<p>Reports Field trips,</p> <p>Reports Field trips,</p>

<p>1 practice</p> <p><b>Indicator 2.1.1 c</b></p> <p>Number of organizations receiving technical assistance to improve production technology and marketing practices</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>3 organizations</p>	<p>27 organizations</p> <p>1,200 women trained on effective negotiation and marketing, value chains and associative marketing, financial management</p>	<p>There were no delays</p>	<p>Reports</p> <p>Field trips,</p>
<p><b>Outcome 3: Rural women have enhanced leadership and participation in their communities and in rural institutions, and in shaping laws, policies and programmes.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 3.a</b></p> <p>% of women who take part in decision-making spaces at the organizational level</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 2% of women participants</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>5% of women participants</p>	<p>19% of women take part in decision-making spaces (they are part of empowerment committees).</p>	<p>Initiated sensitization processes to increase participation in these spaces</p>	<p>Participation list in decision -making spaces.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.b</b></p> <p>% of rural women elected as representatives in rural councils.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0% rural women elected representatives in rural councils.</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>5% of 240 participants are part of rural councils (COCODES/COMUDES)</p>	<p>2% of rural women participants of rural council (COCODES/COMUDES)</p>	<p>The social and political participation has been a very important challenge; however, women are actively participating in the productive organizations.</p>	<p>Participation list in rural council.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 3.c</b> Number of Producers Organizations led by women</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 16 organizations of producer's organization led by women</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p>	<p>27 of producer's organizations led by women.</p>	<p>There were no delays</p>	<p>Registration Lists</p>

25 Organizations led by women			
<b>Indicator 3.d</b> Evidence of empowerment of rural women in decision -making in their homes <b>Baseline:</b> 11% rural women <b>Planned target</b> 20 % rural women	A Mid-Term review will be conducted in June 2018.	Survey in process	Survey
<b>Output 3.1.1 Rural women know their rights and participation and decision-making mechanisms at the organizational, community, municipal and national level.</b>			
<b>Indicator 3.1.1 a</b> Number of women who gain knowledge of their rights <b>Baseline:</b> 270 rural women <b>Planned target</b> 500 rural women  <b>Indicator 3.1.1 b</b> Number of women who know the mechanisms of participation and decision-making at community, district and national organizational level. <b>Baseline:</b> 221 rural women <b>Planned target</b> 1,200 rural women	1,200 women trained on human rights, mechanisms for participation and decision-making	There were no delays	Registration Lists  Registration Lists
<b>Output 3.1.2 Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into POs, cooperatives and unions.</b>			
<b>Indicator 3.1.2 a</b>	3 formally organized with boards		Legal documents

<p>Number of informal rural women’s groups to formally join POs, cooperatives and unions.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Planned target</b>  5 formal groups</p> <p><b>Indicator 3.1.2 b</b></p> <p>Number of organizations adopting gender policies  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Planned target</b>  20% organizations</p>	<p>27% organizations implement gender policies in the Organization</p>		<p>Gender policies in the Organization</p>
<p><b>Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 4a</b></p> <p>Number of policies and strategies that contribute to women’s productive and entrepreneurial development, guaranteeing their access to resources, goods and services of government budgets and donor funding allocated to programmes benefitting rural women  <b>Baseline:</b> 4  <b>Planned target</b>  1</p>	<p>Joint Programme contributes to the recognition and implementation of the Institutional Gender Policy at the Ministry of Agriculture –MAGA-</p>	<p>New authorities have been elected, and have supported the Gender Policy, however some work is necessary to influence in gender issues through an action plan.</p>	<p>Gender Police MAGA, and work plan.</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4. b</b></p> <p>An updated system of gender indicators that is internationally comparable.  <b>Baseline:</b> 0  <b>Planned target</b>  1</p>	<p>In process</p>		<p>Updated system of gender indicators</p>
<p><b>Output 4.1: Policy makers and parliamentarians have enhanced capacities to effectively mainstream gender into land, food, agriculture, nutrition and rural employment policies, laws and budgets.</b></p>			



<p><b>Indicator 4.1.a</b> Number of alternative methodologies that contribute to women's economic empowerment at the local level and comply with PNPDIM political guidelines. <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned Target:</b> 1 methodology</p>	<p>In process</p>		<p>1 methodology</p>
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.b</b> Number of government institutions with initiatives that promote women's economic rights in their programs, projects and activities. <b>Baseline:</b> 4 <b>Planned Target:</b> 1 government institution 1 national mechanism</p>	<p>Municipal Offices of women (DMM) have received technical assistance  Gender Unit of MAGA  Space agricultural institutions</p>		<p>Reports</p>
<p><b>Output 4.1.1: Public officials are aware of the limitations for economic empowerment of rural women and apply criteria to guarantee women's access to the services they provide</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 4.1.1 a</b> Number of criteria used to ensure women's access to services provided by institutions <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned target</b> 2 criteria  <b>Indicator 4.1.1 b</b> Number of officers trained public sector <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned target</b></p>	<p>In process</p>		

100 officers	99 public officers		
<b>Output 4.1.2: An enabling environment is promoted to reflect rural women's priorities in regional and global policy processes.</b>			
<b>Indicator 4.1.2 a</b> Number of regional dialogue mechanisms / National strengthened to promote the empowerment of rural women <b>Baseline:</b> 0 <b>Planned target</b> 1 dialogue mechanism	<sup>14</sup> Technical Board for Rural Development of Gender and Indigenous Peoples created.		Reports

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<sup>14</sup> Composition of the board is: MAGA, MINTRAB, MINEDUC, MINECO, SESAN, MIDES, MSPAS, MINFIN, SEGEPLAN, SAA, INE, INAB, FONTIERRAS, CONAP, RIC.

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### iii) A Specific Story

Olga Marina Macz Caal, was born on July 27, 1987, (30 years old) and lives with Emilio Caal Maquin (33 years old), a local farmer. Together they have a 3-year-old girl.

Since Olga was 13 years old, she started working in a private home as a nanny. She then went on to work in dining halls, a hardware store, as well as a *tortillería* to cover school expenses since she came from a low-income family. With humble but hard-working people parents, her mother considered herself a housewife a stay at home mother to care for her five brothers, and then, her father, a farmer.

With great effort, Olga managed to graduate as an elementary school teacher. Five months later, she received a call from the Ministry of Education, where she had applied for a job, and she was granted a position as a community school teacher.

Being a teacher made her happy, and aspired one day to study at University level graduate as a Social Worker, passionate of what the career prospects offers.



*“The support I received from the JP RWEE has impacted my life in a positive way. In my way of acting and thinking, because of the knowledge and information acquired in the workshops on women’s human rights, economic empowerment, entrepreneurship and leadership. Now I feel strengthened and I see things differently, and I feel more committed to my community and family. I feel liberated and I know that my opinion counts and it can be taken into consideration”* says Olga.

She defines Economic Empowerment as a decision to improve her life and participate in her home and community. Moreover, to make decision on how to manage her economic resources, and no longer depend on others., to decide on her leisure time, be it in a community activity or activities in the workplace, look out for opportunities, and talk about life as an indigenous and rural woman.



*“An example that I have is when I got together with my husband, he did not like me leaving the house, or having friends, much less being in an organization. Since I received JP RWEE training and technical support, I understood that I have rights and duties, and that my participation is important both in decision-making at home and in my community. Now I am the Secretary of the Women’s Group for the producers of the Association of Alta Verapaz Polochic, and we develop natural aloe shampoo. I am also part of the savings and credit group, and I understand how it works thanks to the training of the JP RWEE. Everything we have learned in the group*

*will benefit us for the rest of our lives”*, says Olga.

### **III. Other Assessments or Evaluations (if applicable)**

### **IV. Programmatic Revisions (if applicable)**

On the basis of JP RWEE workplan mapping and taking into account the visit of Ms. Azzurra Chiarini, Global Coordinator, in June 2017, she recommended a review of the work done under JP RWEE, so as to ensure sustainability, touching on current participation women's needs. The agencies participating in the JP RWEE agreed to this recommendation, and assured to take all necessary measures to implement them in the second half of 2017 and before the JP RWEE conclusion.

In 2017, the agencies prioritized eight out of sixty communities, so that low-income women, in women's organizations and mixed organizations, could receive the support of each of the agencies within the Joint Programme. A combined work plan was created to generate greater synergy and comprehensive results. The Programme team coordinated the work in the field and showed great willingness to make efforts to reach the entire prioritized population.

### **V. Coordination mechanisms**

Coordination was carried out with the Joint Programme work team, so as to have monthly meetings at the national and local level with the field team.

During this year, in accordance with the governance of the Joint Programme, the National Directive Committee was held with the participation of representatives of the following agencies so as to share the progress: SEGEPLAN, MAGA and the Office of the Resident Coordinator of the UN in Guatemala. On this occasion, the government institutions expressed their satisfaction with the work done by the Programme and invited the participating United Nations organizations to systematize the experience to extend it to other regions of Guatemala.

The JP was very well supported by the authorities, made clear evidence of that during Directive Committee meetings, where they stressed on the importance of continuing work in the area and to request for expansion to other municipalities of Alta Verapaz.

In addition, it was supported by the mayors of Panzós, Tukurú and La Tinta, with whom the DC are in constant communication, and have participated in the meetings so as to follow up on the interventions of the Programme. The coordination in the area of intervention at the local level has also been with the personnel of MAGA, SEPREM, DEMI, SESAN, MINECO, MSPAS, CONALFA and the DMM.

### **VI. Resources**

- Provide any information on financial management, procurement and human resources.
- Indicate if the Programme mobilized any additional resources or interventions from other partners.

**January 2017 to December 2017**

<b>EXPENSES BUDGET SWEDEN FUNDS</b>						
<b>Category Reference</b>	<b>Expense Description</b>	<b>PUNO 1 FAO</b>	<b>PUNO 2 WFP / JOINT ACTION</b>	<b>PUNO 3 UNW</b>	<b>PUNO 4 IFAD</b>	<b>Total</b>
1	Staff and other personnel costs	\$ 59,283	\$ 90,890	\$ 60,759	\$ -	\$ 210,932
2	Supplies, Commodities, Materials	\$ 1,434	\$ 37,844	\$ 4,995	\$ -	\$ 44,273
3	Equipment, Vehicles and Furniture including Depreciation	\$ -	\$ 24,600	\$ 10,018	\$ 8,686	\$ 43,304
4	Contractual Services	\$ 8,723	\$ 93,902	\$ 44,561	\$ 72,993	\$ 220,179
5	Travel	\$ 4,486	\$ 9,666	\$ 13,146	\$ 17,094	\$ 44,392
6	Transfers and Grants Counterparts	\$ -	\$ 41,150	\$ 137,474	\$ -	\$ 178,624
7	General Operating and Other Direct Costs	\$ 11,145	\$ 41,970	\$ 14,025	\$ 7,239	\$ 74,379
8	Indirect Support Costs (cannot exceed 7%)	\$ 5,954	\$ 23,800	\$ 8,206	\$ 4,550	\$ 42,510
9	Total Received funds	\$ 489,773	\$ 898,363	\$ 685,104	\$ 169,534	\$ 2,242,774
10	Agency Earned Interest Income					
11	Refunds					