



**ACCELERATING PROGRESS TOWARDS THE ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN**

**BI-ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT**

**REPORTING PERIOD: 1 JANUARY – 30 JUNE 2020**

<p align="center"><b>Programme Title &amp; Project Number</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Programme Title: Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women in Guatemala</li> <li>MPTF Office Project Reference Number: 00092001</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Country, Locality(s), Priority Area(s) / Strategic Results</b></p> <p>Municipalities of Panzos, San Miguel Tucuru, Santa Catalina La Tinta, in the Department of Alta Verapaz, in Guatemala</p> <p>The strategic result is to secure rural women’s livelihoods and rights in the context of sustainable development and the SDGs.</p> <p>Direct beneficiaries 8,929 (7,061 women and 1,868 men) Indirect beneficiaries 38,165 (23,041 women and 15,124 men)</p>
<p align="center"><b>Participating Organization(s)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FAO, IFAD, UNWOMEN, WFP</li> </ul>	<p align="center"><b>Implementing Partners</b></p> <p>Association for Integral Development -ADRI-</p>
<p align="center"><b>Programme/Project Cost (US\$)</b></p> <p>Total approved budget as per project document: MPTF Contribution, Norway:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>by Agency US\$</li> <li>245,481</li> <li>FAO US\$ 49,776</li> <li>WFP US\$145,929</li> <li>UNWOMEN US\$49,776</li> </ul> <p>MPTF Contribution, Sweden:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>by Agency</li> <li>FAO US\$</li> <li>977,688</li> <li>IFAD US\$</li> <li>250,500</li> <li>WFP US\$</li> <li>1,652,292</li> <li>UNWOMEN US\$</li> <li>1,307,774</li> </ul> <p><b>Total approved budget:</b> US \$ US\$ 4,188,254</p>	<p align="center"><b>Programme Duration</b></p> <p>Overall Duration 8 YEARS</p> <p>Start Date (15 10 2012)</p> <p>End Date (31 12 18)</p> <p>Extension date: June 2021</p>
<p align="center"><b>Programme Assessment/Review/Mid-Term Eval.</b></p> <p>Assessment/Review - if applicable <i>please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p> <p>Mid-Term Evaluation Report – <i>if applicable please attach</i></p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No Date: <i>dd.mm.yyyy</i></p>	<p align="center"><b>Report Submitted By</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name: Laura Melo</li> <li>Title: Representative</li> <li>Participating Organization (Lead): WFP</li> <li>Email address: laura.melo@wfp.org</li> </ul>



## **List of Acronyms**

ADRI	Integral Development Association
ADP	Association of friends of development
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.
CENTRARSE	Centre for Action on Corporate Social Responsibility
COCODE	Community Development Council
COCOSAN	Community Committee Council for Food and Nutrition Security
CODE	Community Development Councils
COFETARN	Commission of economic promotion, tourism, environment and natural resources
COMUDE	Municipal Development Council
COMUSAN	Municipal Council for Food and Nutrition Security
CONADUR	National Council for Urban and Rural Development
CONALFA	National Literacy Committee
CONAP	National Commission of Protected Areas
CONRED	National Coordinator for Disaster Reduction.
COPREDEH	Presidential Commission for Human Rights
DEMI	Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women
DIGEEX	Directorate General of Out-of-School Education
DMM	Municipal Directorate for Women
ENEI	National Survey of Employment and Income
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization
FONTIERRA	Land Fund
GALS	Gender Learning and Action System
IFAD	International Fund for Agricultural Development
INAB	National Forestry Institute
INE	National Statistics Institute
INTECAP	Technical Training Institute
JP RWEE	Joint Programme “Rural Women Economic Empowerment”
MAGA	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food
MIDES	Ministry for Social Development
MINEDUC	Ministry of Education
MINECO	Ministry of Economy

MINFIN	Ministry of Finance
MINTRAB	Ministry of Labor
MPTF	Multi-Partner Trust Fund
MSPAS	Ministry for Public Health and Social Assistance.
OMM	Municipal Women Department
OPF	Parents' organizations
PAFFEC	Family Farming Programme for Peasant Economy Strengthening
PLANОВI	National Plan for Non-Violence against Women
PNDRI	Integrated Rural Development Policy
PNPDIM	National Policy for the Advancement and Integral Development of Women
PEO	Equal Opportunity Plan
PRECODE	Preparation to Exercise Delegated Competence
PRODENORTE	Sustainable Rural Development Programme for the Northern Region
RIC	Registry of Cadastral Information
RIMS	Risk and Impacts Management
SAA	Secretary of Agrarian Affairs
SCEP	Coordination Secretary of the Presidency
SEGEPLAN	Secretariat of Programming and Planning of the Presidency
SEPREM	Presidential Secretariat for Women
SESAN	Secretariat of Food and Nutrition Security
SIECA	Central American Secretariat for Economic Integration
UGMAGA	MAGA Gender Unit
UN Women	UN organization dedicated to gender equality and the empowerment of women.
WEAI	Women's Empowerment in Agriculture Index
WFP	World Food Programme

## NARRATIVE REPORT

### **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The progress achieved from January to December 2019 by the 'Joint Program for Accelerating Progress Towards the Economic Empowerment of Rural Women' in Guatemala (JP RWEE), has been focused on the four strategic programme outcomes; (i) guaranteeing food and nutritional security; (ii) increasing income to ensure livelihoods; (iii) empowering rural women; and (iv) supporting the implementation of gender-sensitive policies.

In accordance with the Annual Operational Plan, different activities were developed with target-specific groups and local organizations supported jointly by the implementing/implementing agencies. As a consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic and the measures to prevent the spread of the disease among the population adopted by the Guatemala Government, from 17 March 2020 to date, it was necessary to adapt the work plan to the current context, adopting a modality of teleworking and very essential field missions with prevention protocols, as well as approaching the new authorities remotely. During 2020, the change of authorities at the central government and local governments level took place in Guatemala, which were in the process of appointing new personnel and initiating actions during the first quarter of the year.

The main results during this first half of the year were achieved between the months of January to March, when there was an increase in the sale of farm and backyard surpluses; mainly from the sale of flour, fish, eggs and vegetables, as well as from the generation of income from agricultural and non-agricultural enterprises. However, from April onwards, due to the implementation of containment measures as a result of the pandemic, income generation was affected, impacting on the sale and income generation of the women.

In the first months of the year, the beneficiaries' knowledge of food and nutritional security was increased, as well as their use of time-saving technologies and the application of good practices to improve the biological use and consumption of food (eggs, fish, chicken and pork, and vegetables). After the first quarter, the focus was also on training in good practices for the prevention of COVID-19, (washing hands and surfaces with soap and alcohol gel, proper use of masks and distancing people).

The beneficiary population was supported by the JP RWEE agencies team, despite government restrictions due to the pandemic. This follow-up was done by telephone, and in the case of inter-institutional coordination with video calls. The total beneficiary population of the JP RWEE in the municipalities of Panzós, San Miguel Tucurú and Santa Catalina La Tinta was 4,622 people (3,716 women and 906 men), belonging to 72 rural women's organizations and groups.

According to the decision of the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) to provide a six-month extension at no cost (NCE) for Annual Work Plan 2020 (AWP), Guatemala rescheduled activities until June 2021, to comply with the activities affected by the pandemic. Technical accompaniment and joint monitoring by the FAO, IFAD, UN Women and WFP agencies was necessary to implement all the processes of the Joint Programme.

### **I.Results**

#### **Outcome 1: Women in rural areas have improved food and nutrition security.**

During the reporting period, 857 women from 20 groups have produced broilers and pigs, and home gardens for self-consumption, thus improving the consumption of animal protein (524 focused on self-consumption and 333 commercialization). They received in person trainings on the following topics: 124 women in agronomic management of vegetables, 49 women in good agricultural practices to intensify the production of cassava, sweet potato and banana for flour, 103 women in good livestock practices in egg production, 57 women in good livestock practices to intensify tilapia production and 524 in food and nutritional security, as well as in the transfer of good agricultural practices for the production of home gardens. In addition, technical assistance in food security was provided to 1,012 women, mainly in the maintenance of family gardens.

Ten extension agents (8 men / 2 women) from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA) were trained in good production practices for tilapia, eggs, vegetables, broilers and pig production, to provide technical support to

857 women participating in the project, and an approximate of 10 communities and 25 additional families per community serving in each of the three municipalities.

JP RWEE households decreased the percentages of loss before, during and after the harvest by 25% in corn and beans, following up on the implementation of the following good agricultural production practices: doubling of the milpa and harvesting in the indicated time, shelving and adequate selection of grain and seed, proper drying, grain cleaning, humidity control for storage and they continued to store their corn grain in improved artisan stores. As a result, the women participating during the semester increased 0.97 more quintals of corn, compared to the previous semester, giving them a total of 9.10 more quintals of corn, which represents 3.41 additional months of reserve. In the case of beans, during the semester they increased 0.15 more quintals of beans, compared to the previous semester, giving a total of 4.40 more quintals, which represents 7.54 additional months of reserve.

The women who implemented post-harvest techniques increased their maize and bean stocks, thus contributing to reducing expenses in the purchase of basic grains in the market and, therefore, having increased household cash savings equivalent to US\$ 168 for the case of maize and US\$289 for the case of beans, per semester.

Follow-up training provided to the previously implemented methods on biological use and consumption of food including food safety, washing pile, water safety, vegetable and fruit, hygiene practices, high water tank maintenance, proper food preservation, use containers to serve food, consumption habits and separation of drinking and household water, and four good practices for the prevention of COVID-19 among which are, hand washing with soap and water, hand disinfection with alcohol, proper use of masks and maintaining distance between people.

14 groups of 333 women in the three municipalities were supported with agricultural inputs, mainly to produce tilapia meat, chicken meat, vegetables, eggs, pork and cassava, sweet potato and banana flour .

585 families in the three municipalities of the JP RWEE were supported with basic grains (corn and beans) to sustain their food security for approximately one month. This support was carried out because the families were affected by Storm Amanda in May, as well as the impact on the economy due to COVID-19. 1,102 women from communities in the three municipalities, not belonging to women's organizations, received additional support, (cash transfers for an amount of \$ 150.00 each), 802 women in prevention of food insecurity and 300 for the emergency of the Storm Amanda. 140 women used fuel-saving cookers and cisterns, which have been beneficial because they optimize the time they spend on food preparation.

## **Outcome 2: Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.**

During the reporting period, a total of \$ 79,359, were generated gross sales revenue : \$ 43,975 for associative sale 33 organizations a total of 1,041 people ( 872 women and 169 men) and \$ 35,384 generated sales of production groups farm and backyard ), by 857 women. Also, 333 women increased their sales by 45% (\$105.00 per month, corresponding to the sum of the farm and backyard products) of the products of corn, beans, vegetables, eggs and flours.

333 rural women from 14 groups implemented productive activities for the commercialization of fish, eggs and vegetables, in addition, follow-up has been given for the consolidation of the commercialization of cassava, sweet potato and banana flours, as well as training in good practices of manufacture. Three business models were developed; for poultry production (eggs), tilapia and vegetables. Market studies for these products were also included.

Two groups of women made up of 49 women from two communities in the municipality of Tukurú have begun the construction of a flour processing plant, with which they intend to improve the basic safety and manufacturing conditions of their product.

Technical assistance was provided to 29 agricultural and service enterprises for products such as: chickens, eggs, pigs, nixtamal mills, corn huskers, oyster mushrooms, tilapia, tortillas, beans, and a purification plant with the participation of a total of 1,078 people (802 women and 276 men). During the first quarter of the year, coordination work was carried out to identify 12 new groups of women for the implementation of the projects, (chickens, eggs, nixtamal mill and shelling) as planning for technical assistance and to monitor the associative marketing processes. Likewise, the consultancy on technical assistance to achieve competitiveness and commercialization in agricultural and non-

agricultural production chains was implemented. This is a process that began in June 2020 and will end in March 2021. The value chains of the consultancy are tilapia, flour, chickens and eggs, vegetables, shampoo, honey and textiles.

357 women participated in entrepreneurial activities for non-agricultural products including honey, shampoo, handmade soap, textiles, and food from the region. To carry out these activities, they have strengthened their knowledge and skills in production costs, marketing and quality control and food safety, leveraging their capacity to add value to their production.

The groups that implemented the community savings and loan methodology remained in operation during the reported semester. 46 groups, with a total of 1,114 women, have generated a total of \$90,397 and have thus been able to access loans which they use to increase working capital in their enterprises (purchase of fertilizers for maize production, purchase of pigs and chickens, and improvement in their enterprises). In addition, the savings and profits have been used to cover basic food expenses for their families.

Eight representatives of three women's organizations from the JP RWEE were included in MAGA's DIFOPROCO<sup>1</sup> programme, to expand their capacities in local governance, organization, participatory planning, financial administration, value chains and associative marketing; with which their productive and marketing activities were strengthened. Technical assistance and basic inputs were also provided to produce oyster mushrooms and their linkage to formal markets.

During the first quarter of 2020, 56 training sessions were given to 268 women on the costs of production, marketing, sales and distribution of products from the following enterprises: honey, textiles (typical bags, güipiles, chalinas, tablecloths, centerpieces of typical blouses) handicrafts (decorative home accessories, covers for water dispensers, filters, computer covers, cosmetics, pencil cases and crayons) chicken meat, and handmade chocolate. 27 trainings were carried out in which 210 women benefited. They were trained in issues of diversification and improvements in the quality of products, in food from the region, cakes and sweets; masks and handmade soap, this activity was carried out in coordination with the Secretariat of Social Works of the Wife of the President SOSEP.

Solar photovoltaic systems were acquired to provide women with access to renewable energy in the municipality of San Miguel Tucurú. There is the potential to develop a business plan to allow rural women to economically benefit from the provision of the solar energy produced.

The promotion of the "li qatenamit" markets was followed up through the local authorities. Linking the new municipal authorities process was composed of three meetings which were held by telephone (one in each municipality).

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

Currently, there are 38 women's organizations with boards of directors and internal controls for their functioning (minutes books, sales controls, savings and loan controls). Within the boards of directors of the organizations, 100 women represent them in activities at the community and municipal level, which has reinforced their knowledge in relation to their functions and the marketing of their products.

A group of 185 women received training on the importance of participation at the organizational, community, municipal and departmental levels; and 122 women strengthened their knowledge in relation to women's human rights issues, with the intention of encouraging participation within organizations.

In addition, 427 women participating in 16 organizations have been trained on issues of leadership, women's human rights, and citizen participation in order to strengthen their leadership at the organizational, community and municipal levels that allow them to access decision-making spaces. The contents and methodology of the module were adapted: "The importance of women's and girls' health for community development" and a workshop was facilitated with the promotion and technical team (7 women/2 men). As a result of this workshop, planning was generated for the

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<sup>1</sup> Directorate for the Strengthening of Productive Organization and Commercialization -DIFOPROCO-, Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food MAGA

implementation of workshops at the organizational level to address the training and awareness process on nutrition, health promotion, including sexual and reproductive health, focusing on gender equality and cultural relevance.

In the commemoration of International Women's Day, 50 women participated in walks and talks in the 3 municipalities. These activities were carried out to recognize women's rights and were supported by the municipal mayors and municipal women's directors.

#### **Result 4. A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women**

A total of 120 members of the Community Development Councils -COCODES- in the three municipalities strengthened their knowledge of the importance of women's participation in these structures. This training process was provided as part of the awareness-raising that must be carried out to create spaces for women's participation at the community and municipal levels.

The planning for training in food and nutritional security with a gender equality approach was prepared for 30 officials (25 men / 5 women) of the Council for the Development of Food and Nutrition Security (CODESAN). In addition, 20 women members of the organizations' boards of directors in the three municipalities were trained in project management for women by the Community Development Councils (COCODES) and Municipal Development Councils (COMUDES).

As a linking strategy for women's organizations, it has been coordinated with the Gender Unit of the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food -MAGA-, to provide assistance to the JP RWEE's organizations. This has been done through the implementation of the projects MAGA is carrying out in the Polochic area, and so links have been strengthened to focus on points of agreement that will result in improving the living conditions of the members of the different organizations. Technical Assistance to MAGA's Gender Unit has been maintained, by means of teleconferences and distance events (team of 8 women and 1 man). In addition, the planning of the strategy of the "Learning Routes for the empowerment of rural women" was prepared with the MAGA Gender Unit.

On the issue of generating economic opportunities for women in business, entrepreneurship and employment, the National Coalition for Women's Economic Empowerment was signed in March. This is a multi-sectoral alliance that seeks to support women in increasing their livelihoods through business, entrepreneurship and employment, and also aims to achieve financial inclusion and access to credit for women's enterprises as a mechanism for reducing poverty: Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (MAGA), Ministry of the Economy (MINECO), Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM), National Secretariat for Science and Technology (SENACYT), Vice President of the Republic. <sup>2</sup>

Through the aforementioned Coalition, dialogue has also been promoted with the private sector to achieve the productive inclusion of rural women, for which the Enlaces programme (<https://programaenlaces.org/>) has been developed, incorporating the social impact of companies led by women who seek to buy from rural women entrepreneurs.

Support was provided to the Vice Presidency of the Republic to incorporate a gender approach in the loans in response to COVID19 -that pass through the National Council of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises .

## **II. Describe any delays in implementation, challenges, lessons learned & best practices**

### **Delays in implementation:**

- The Polochic area is a vulnerable zone with different social, political and climatic events, and during this first semester, it was affected even more by the pandemic. The crisis caused by COVID-19 affected the development

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<sup>2</sup> This multisectoral alliance, which will include the three branches of government, the private sector, civil society, academia and international cooperation, seeks to generate actions to promote the economic autonomy of women and to implement the actions envisaged in Pillar I on the economy, competitiveness and prosperity of the National Innovation and Development Plan (PLANID) and the General Government Policy (PGG).

of the different activities programmed in the annual operational plan-AOP, since the government's provisions for restricting mobility and the development of massive events delayed the development of the different field activities that had been planned. Due to the restricted mobilization of the technical team in the field, from 17 March to 30 June 2020, due to the measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the training processes in the field were affected.

- Participating Agencies analyzed the delay in operational activities, concluding with a 15-week delay (approximately 20%) in annual workplan implementation and 20% delay in financial implementation.
- The contingency of COVID-19 has limited the reactivation of coordination with the Municipal Council of Food and Nutrition Security, it is expected to carry out the articulation of the 3 municipalities during the second semester.
- The dialogues of the new local authorities have been reactivated mostly by telephone and with some virtual meetings, because the prioritization of their actions was focused on taking preventive measures for the COVID-19 emergency.
- There is a delay in technical assistance for inter-institutional coordination through the “Technical board for rural development with a gender and people approach”, because some government institutions are prioritizing actions within the framework of COVID-19 designated by the Government.

## Challenges

The main challenges for the JP RWEE implementation in Guatemala have been the following:

- In response to the difficulty of providing technical assistance and training, the challenge is now to implement a new modality of training, education and technical assistance to the beneficiaries, access to technology is considered necessary to develop training and technical assistance, making training videos by the promoter team in Q'eqchi language, which would support the beneficiaries to continue their training in the topics covered in the work plan.
- As far as the commercialization of products is concerned, with the idea of identifying new commercialization channels, it is necessary to implement platforms that allow offering the products to the women, without neglecting the local markets, as well as to identify new enterprises that allow the beneficiaries to diversify their products for the improvement of their income.
- Due to the pandemic, the sales possibilities for some organizations have decreased, a situation that economically complicates the groups, but which has also meant a window of opportunity for new options. A case that can serve as an example is that of Mrs. Angelina Pop, who is part of the group of women weavers in the Xucup parcel, in the municipality of Panzós, turned the crisis into an opportunity and, taking advantage of the scraps of some fabrics, began to make masks, first for members of her family and later for people in her who require it.<sup>3</sup>
- The economic revival through a reinvestment and business revival plan is expected to start in the second half of the year.
- Women's entrepreneurship in the pandemic implies the revision of operational processes, as well as the provision of services such as technical assistance, among others, facing in some cases the decrease of working capital or limiting their marketing opportunities, which will require a specific reinvestment and reactivation plan.
- The complications caused by the pandemic have been several, access to supplies to continue carrying out productive activities has been a challenge. The women have had to request support to fulfill the requirements of some requests, situations that have highlighted the union of the different groups to solve the transfer of supplies.
- Government-led prevention, containment and mitigation measures continue to limit not only mobility, but also marketing processes, as well as the facilitation of local processes.
- The implementation of distance communication strategies has made evident the degree of inequality that indigenous women face in their access to and control over new technologies, which will require a specific strategy to overcome difficulties in the medium and long term.
- The increase in the cost of some foods had an impact on women's ability to save, which will require actions to promote processes that consider the new normality.
- The articulation between work teams has required adjusting for distance communication and access to new technologies, as well as the use of formats that have required greater monitoring and investment of resources for internet access.

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<sup>3</sup> More information on this case is detailed in the life history.

- As a challenge for the development of the different activities at a field level and as a measure to mitigate the different events that affect the work, the Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) should be considered as a support tool in the realization of these, not without first knowing the conditions and availability of access to ICTs of the groups and organizations.
- The implementation of a training strategy, field trips, technical assistance programmed during this reported semester, were not carried out as planned and possibly this year will not be able to be carried out as it was being executed. Therefore, the analysis will focus on finding alternatives, such as the use of social networks and telephone calls, in order to avoid contagion.
- The programmed activities corresponding to outcome 4, and everything related to systematizations of: Community Savings and Credit methodology, toolkit for women's economic empowerment, lessons learned from the implementation of WEAI, forum for the presentation of WEIA and GALS, were also delayed due to restrictions in the framework of COVID-19.

### **Lessons Learned:**

- There was an increase in the demand for three main products, eggs, vegetables and fish due to the confinement and the choice of families in the communities to consume more fish than any other product that is easily obtained in municipal markets. According to women producers, this was due to an increase in consumption of foods that take care of the immune system in the face of the health crisis. Thus, women have stated that their products have been sold more locally than outside their community, as was not the case before.
- Availability of food from the backyard gardens has reduced the need to go to markets and, therefore, not be exposed to crowds. It has been noted that women participants of the program have generated revenues that contribute to the family economy, the same that have been an important pillar to mitigate the effects of the restrictions arising from the pandemic.
- Under the COVID -19 context, the use of digital media (especially social networks and virtual programs ) and remote work processes is a key tool for the effective continuity of the work plan, although it should be noted that only 40% of the participants have the conditions to access said media (type of cell phone and internet access). The use of ICT was strengthened, a means that allowed the flow and the possibility of approaching the source of information, as well as the development of events. Therefore, the use of ICT is considered important and essential in the development of projects and programmes.
- Through monitoring and evaluation activities, it is considered that the implementation of activities at the inter-agency level better strengthens the economic and social empowerment of the beneficiaries of the JP RWEE, so that they have better resilience to events that undermine the programme implementation.
- A contingency plan and prevention protocol developed by FAO, allowed to focus immediately on the situation and concentrate our time and effort on solutions to support and protect both the technical team and the community beneficiaries in the prevention of the coronavirus. All information was transferred in the Q'eqchi' language.
- The organizational strengthening, as well as having local personnel to carry out the articulation and technical assistance, has maintained good levels of communication at the territorial level, both with the women beneficiaries and with the key actors.
- The strengthening of community savings and loans as a tool for organizational articulation and strengthening has maintained the associative work and will allow for a more effective economic reactivation. Likewise, it is crucial to strengthen the adaptive capacity of people and women's organizations in situations such as those faced with a pandemic.
- Having a larger number of productive enterprises, has allowed the beneficiaries to have other options to continue active in terms of marketing their products or even readjusting them.
- Provide timely information on how COVID-19 spreads and what to do to prevent it to an effective result, thus providing the necessary to raise awareness among the population that the pandemic is a contagious disease and that for the care of beneficiary women and their families they must take your precautions to avoid contagion, (hand washing, use of a mask, social distancing and staying home ).

### **III. Qualitative assessment**

The COVID-19 pandemic provided an understanding of the importance of collaboration in addressing crises, so recognizing local partners, both governmental and non-governmental, to expand information or provide access to other types of collaboration has been very enriching during this reporting period.

During this period, inter-agency communication increased as actors were aware of how the crisis was evolving, especially how it was affecting the environment and the lives of the beneficiaries of the JP RWEE. Likewise, the uncertainty of knowing when it would be possible to return to the field to carry out the different activities planned.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation strategy of the JP RWEE, a tool was developed for collecting information with a socio-economic impact from a gender perspective within the framework of COVID-19. This instrument was reviewed by the agencies, which provided their input, as well as the establishment of the sample of the beneficiary population to be surveyed. The results of the survey will be reported in the next semester.

It was necessary to adapt the Work Plan to the current context, adopting a modality of teleworking and very essential field missions with prevention protocols. Social networks and telephone calls were used to continue with technical assistance to enterprises implemented in the JP RWEE by women's groups and associations and thus gave continuity to the work initiated (tilapia, eggs, vegetables, flour, chickens, pigs, shampoo, honey, and processing services).

The women supported with energy-saving cookers and cisterns, during the time they have used this technology, have stated that they spend less time on this task of collecting firewood and are aware that they contribute to the reduction of cutting down trees, as well as saving wood and are no longer exposed to direct fire and smoke.

The importance of developing the capacity of the volunteer promoters is highlighted through training workshops in preparing their families and the community for the prevention and care of the health crisis by establishing protocols based on human rights.

The use of ICTs was essential at this stage, it even allowed communication with most of the leaders of the groups and organizations. It also permitted the reflection and the preparation of contingency plans that include the use of ICTs for the development of some activities in the annual operational plan and that are in accordance with the conditions of the beneficiaries of the JP RWEE.

The development and adjustments of the annual operational plan were followed up with the technical teams and the revision of the respective information collection tools. And interagency meetings were established on a weekly basis. The follow-up provided by the Global Coordination team to the JP RWEE in Guatemala is appreciated, as it maintains fluid communication and respective support, as well as updating the situation which was carried out throughout the first half of the year.

**ii) Indicator Based Performance Assessment:**

	<b><u>Achieved</u> Indicator Targets</b>	<b>Reasons for Variance with Planned Target (if any)</b>	<b>Source of Verification</b>
<b>Outcome 1 Improved food and nutrition security</b>			
<p><b>Indicator 1.1</b></p> <p>Percentage of households that improve their food security according to the Latin American and Caribbean Scale of Food Security (ELCSA)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p>88% of households show a level of food insecurity by ELCSA metrics (1015 households)</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>28.3% of households show a level of food insecurity by ELCSA metrics.</p>	<p>ELCSA will be measured in the next final evaluation</p>	<p>According to baseline study, 88 percent of households are food insecure, equivalent to 1,015 households out of 1,159.</p> <p>The target is that by the end this figure will be reduce to 28.3 percent who are still food insecure.</p>	<p>Field trips, reports</p>
<p><b>Indicator 1.2</b></p> <p>Percentage of women and their households that improve their nutrition according to the FCS (Food Consumption Score)</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p>80% households with acceptable status. (FCS<sup>4</sup>).</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>90% With acceptable status (FCS).</p>	<p>FCS will be measured in the next final evaluation</p>	<p>According to the CP baseline, it indicates that 80 percent of households have acceptable levels of nutrition. Twenty percent present a level of poverty and the nutrition threshold. Therefore, the plan estimates that 90 percent will be at acceptable levels.</p>	<p>Field trips, reports</p>

<sup>4</sup> According to the FCS “the households food consumption status based on the following thresholds: 0-21: Poor, 21.5-35: Borderline, >35: Acceptable”

<p><b>Indicator 1.3</b></p> <p>Percentage increase in the production of corn and beans</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b></p> <p>0.45 TM/Ha production of corn and beans. Según estudio de Línea de Base del PC, según FAO</p> <p>1.32 TM/Ha. en Maíz</p> <p>0.77 TM/Ha. en Frijol</p> <p><b>Planned target</b></p> <p>10% Increase in the production of corn and beans</p>	<p>60% Increase in maize (2.11 MT/ha in maize)</p> <p>36% Increase in beans (1.05 TM/ha in beans)</p>	<p>LB indicates that 94% of women produce between less than 1 qq and 5 qq of maize and beans on an average of half a hectare of land. This means that up to 10 qq of maize and beans are produced on 1 hectare, which is equal to 0.45 MT (<math>10/22 = 0.45</math>).</p> <p>The baseline records information on maize and bean production separately at: 1.32 MT per hectare in maize production and 0.77 MT/Ha in bean production.</p>	<p>Production's register</p> <p>Records, field trips, photographs</p>
<p>Output 1.1 Rural women have increased access to and control over resources, assets and services critical for their food and nutrition security</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.1.1 : Women trained in food security</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target:</p> <p>380 trained women in food security</p>	<p>894 women trained in food and nutrition security.</p>		<p>Participation list</p> <p>Reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.1.2</p> <p>Percentage of women trained in nutrition and proper use of foods including food preparation</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target:</p> <p>50% of 380 trained women in nutrition and proper use of food, including preparation</p>	<p>100% (857) women trained</p>		<p>Reports</p>

<p>Indicator 1.1.3</p> <p>Number of new best practices for improving biological utilization and consumption</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>5 new practices in self-consumption-related</p>	<p>10 new practices</p> <p>4 new practices to prevent COVID-19</p>	<p>Including the use of time-saving technology for food preparation (improved cookers and cisterns)</p>	<p>Reports</p>
<p>Output 1.2 Rural women have greater capacity to enhance and control local food security reserves and their production</p>			
<p>Indicator 1.2.1</p> <p>Number of new best farm and backyard practices implemented</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>10 best farm and backyard practices (benefiting 1,237 rural women).</p>	<p>10 practices (benefiting 857 women)</p>		
<p>Indicator 1.2.2</p> <p>Percentage reduction of post-harvest farm and storage losses</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <p>17% of women had losses during postharvest</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>10% reduction of post-harvest farm and storage losses</p> <p>100% of women manage to reduce post-harvest losses</p>	<p>25% reduction in post-harvest losses.</p> <p>857 women have managed to reduce post-harvest losses (100%)</p>	<p>The baseline measured the percentage of women who had post-harvest losses. The percentage of initial loss is not available.</p>	<p>Reports, field trips</p>

<p>Indicator 1.2.3</p> <p>Number of productive harvest technologies and practices for marketing</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>2 practices</p> <p>1 technology</p>	<p>3 Technologies (maize huskers, nixtamal mills and modules for oyster mushroom production)</p> <p>2 Practices (use of the Blue Box methodology and field trip for exchange of experiences)</p>		<p>Reports</p>
<p>Indicator 1.2.4</p> <p>Number of post-harvest practices for markets</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target: 1 practice</p>	<p>Use of plastic silos to store corn grain</p>		<p>Reports</p>
<p><b>Outcome 2 Rural women have increased income to secure their livelihoods.</b></p>			
<p><b>Indicator 2.1</b></p> <p>Percentage increase of sales of surpluses farm and backyard</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0</p> <p><b>Planned target</b> 10% increase of sales (of 407 women rural)</p>	<p>45% increase in sales</p> <p>(333 women went from \$100 to an average of \$105 in sales).</p>	<p>Sales correspond to farm and backyard production</p>	<p>Sale's register</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.2</b></p> <p>Number of organizations that have increased their income through sales.</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 0 organizations</p> <p><b>Planned target:</b> 20 organization of rural women.</p>	<p>67 (97%) Organizations have increased their sales</p> <p>1,831 people (1662 women and 169 men)</p>	<p>34 groups report sales from surplus farm and backyard production and 33 organisations report sales of products from their enterprises.</p>	<p>Reports</p>

<p><b>Indicator 2.3</b></p> <p>Rural women belonging to organizations that increase their entrepreneurial skills through training</p> <p><b>Baseline:</b> 72 rural women</p> <p><b>Planned target:</b> 216 rural women</p>	<p>894 women</p>		<p>Reports</p>
<p><b>Indicator 2.4</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>Total: \$79,359 (\$43,975 gross proceeds from associative</p> <p>35,384 generated in sales of farm and backyard production groups).</p> <p>Total \$90,397 generated in savings by 46 community savings and loan groups.</p>		<p>Sales register</p> <p>Saving register</p>
<p>Output 2.1 Rural women have enhanced entrepreneurship skills and value chains to access markets for their products</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.1.1</p> <p>Number of organizations receiving technical assistance to improve production technology and marketing practices</p>	<p>49 organizations and groups receive Technical Assistance for marketing.</p>		
<p>Output 2.2 Rural women have increased access to decent wage employment opportunities</p>			
<p>Indicator 2.2.1</p> <p>Baseline:</p> <p>Planned Target:</p>	<p>N/A</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>			

Output 3.1 Rural women, including young women have enhanced confidence and leadership skills to participate in local governance			
<p>Indicator 3.1.1</p> <p>% of women who take part in decision-making spaces at the organizational level</p> <p>Baseline: 18%</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>25 % of women participants</p>	<p>25% women participants (254 women)</p>	<p>They are members of the different committees of their organizations.</p>	
<p>Indicator 3.1.2</p> <p>% of rural women elected as representatives in rural councils.</p> <p>Baseline: 5% rural women elected representatives in rural councils.</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>5% of 240 participants are part of rural councils (COCODES/COMUDES)</p>	<p>2% of 240 elected women (5 women are members of the COCODES)</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.1.3</p> <p>% of Producers Organizations led by women</p> <p>Baseline: 92% of producers' organization led by women</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>100% of Producers Organizations are led by women</p>	<p>100% of the producer organisations are run by women.</p> <p>72 producer groups and organisations are run by women.</p>		<p>Participants list</p>

<p>Indicator 3.1.4</p> <p>Evidence of empowerment of rural women in decision -making in their homes</p> <p>Baseline: 11% rural women</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>20 % rural women</p>	<p>Not measured in the reporting period</p>	<p>It will be measured in the next final evaluation</p>	
<p>Output 3.2: Rural women have greater organizational capacities to form, sustain and participate into POs, cooperatives and unions</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.2.1</p> <p>Number of informal rural women´s groups to formally join POs, cooperatives and unions.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>5 formal groups</p>	<p>11 groups</p>		
<p>Indicator 3.2.2</p> <p>Number of organizations adopting gender policies</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target</p> <p>20% organizations</p>	<p>100% (22 organisations out of 587)</p>		<p>Register of organisations</p>
<p>Output 3.4: Rural women, including young women have enhanced awareness on their rights in a more supportive community/local environment.</p>			
<p>Indicator 3.4.1</p> <p>Number of women who gain knowledge of their rights</p> <p>Baseline: 270 rural women</p>	<p>122 Women received training on their rights</p>		<p>Participants list</p>

Planned target 500 rural women			
<p>Indicator 3.4.2</p> <p>Number of women who know the mechanisms of participation and decision-making at community, district and national organizational level.</p> <p>Baseline: 221 rural women</p> <p>Planned target: 1,200 rural women</p>	268 Women know the mechanisms of participation and decision making		Participants list
<b>Outcome 4: A more gender responsive policy environment is secured for the economic empowerment of rural women</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.			
<p>Indicator 4.1.1</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</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target: 1</p>	<p>1 partnership with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food - MAGA, to assist the RWEE CP organisations.</p> <p>National Coalition for the Economic Empowerment of Women, (MAGA, MINECO, SEPREM, SENACYT, Vice President of the Republic).</p>		
<p>Indicator 4.1.2</p> <p>An updated system of gender indicators that is internationally comparable.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p>	Not yet executed.		

Planned target: 1			
Output 4.2: Greater availability of tools and data to track progress in the economic empowerment of rural women			
<p>Indicator 4.2.1</p> <p>Number of alternative methodologies that contribute to women's economic empowerment at the local level and comply with PNPDIM political guidelines.</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned Target: 4 methodologies</p>	Not yet executed.		
<p>Indicator 4.2.2</p> <p>Number of government institutions with initiatives that promote women's economic rights in their programs, projects and activities.</p> <p>Baseline: 1</p> <p>Planned Target: 1 government institution, 1 national mechanism</p>	Not yet executed.		
Output 4.3: An enabling environment is promoted to reflect rural women's priorities in regional policy processes.			
<p>Indicator 4.3.1</p> <p>Number of regional dialogue mechanisms / National strengthened to promote the empowerment of rural women</p> <p>Baseline: 0</p> <p>Planned target: 1 dialogue mechanism</p>	Not yet executed.		