Empowering Women Entrepreneurs in Guatemala

The Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE) works with the Red Nacional de Grupos Gestores (RNGG) to support women's economic empowerment in Guatemala, especially in rural communities where women face the most serious challenges. In 2021, CIPE launched a pilot Women's Business Resource Center (“WBRC” or “Corali”) in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala that addresses economic gender disparities and supports women's inclusion in their local economies.

What is CORALI?

Corali is a centralized, safe physical space where women from all backgrounds can access vital resources and gain a sense of confidence and self-reliance that will help them fulfill their economic aspirations. The activities carried out by Corali staff have a special emphasis on addressing self-esteem and self-confidence issues in women entrepreneurs and businesswomen, caused by the discrimination and barriers they face in their communities and homes.

Corali’s design and location attend to the different needs of the women beneficiaries and lowers the barriers to participation to access the center’s services. Corali’s features:

- Accessible through public transportation
- Security System
- Reception
- Computer Lab
- Business Development Services Room
- Training Room
- Meeting Rooms
- Daycare Facility
- Website
- Online Learning Platform
- Online Training Registration System
- Satellite Offices for Rural Communities

Entrepreneurship Training Programs

**Emprende Mujer:** A program designed for women who are in the development and start-up phases of their businesses to guide them through the initial steps of creating and launching a business.

**Mujeres Empresarias:** A program for micro, small, and medium-sized (MSMEs) women business owners who have already launched their businesses and have interest in business growth. Participants receive technical assistance from business experts on growth methods, participate in networking and other special events to strengthen their professional networks.

**Mujeres Extraordinarias:** A program focused on businesswomen and nascent entrepreneurs through the satellite offices. The satellite offices offer resources, trainings, and events that strengthen the ecosystem for women’s economic inclusion, promote public spaces for collaboration and dialogue about various women’s issues, and encourage women to be active in advocacy on gender and economic policies that support women-owned businesses and women in the private sector.

Regional Network of Women Entrepreneurs

REMUDEL is a nascent women’s community development network which advocates for gender and economic equity. To strengthen this nascent network, CIPE provides training and technical assistance to build its capacity to conduct advocacy, analyze legislation, and develop policy recommendations. A more established REMUDEL will work in tandem with Corali for center participants to have an advocacy platform to address barriers to women’s participation in the economy.