

# Progress in El Salvador country in 2021

Data as of:  
25 April 2024

## OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SLV\_D\_1.2

### **Electoral frameworks and arrangements promote gender balance in elections.**

The office has contributed to the fulfillment of outcome 1.2, influencing, together with other local actors, the approval of the reform of the article 10 of the LEIV, which recognizes political violence as a crime and establishes powers for its execution to different state institutions. This action contributes to reducing the distrust that many women have to participate in positions of popular election. Other actions such as raising the awareness of municipal actors in gender-sensitive municipal competencies, parity democracy, raising awareness of the importance of women's participation in public office through campaigns, the creation of gender-sensitive municipal planning models, and the preparation of protocols, have contributed to the equal participation of women and men in electoral processes. For the advancement of these goals, UN Women in El Salvador has the following as key partners: The Commission for Women and Gender Equality of the Congress, the National Association of Councilors, Unions, and Mayors of El Salvador, women's organizations such as ANDRYSAS, among others, and the Association for Parity Democracy. However, despite having conducted different actions to guarantee gender balance in the elections, compliance with this outcome is still a challenge and what legally remains in force is the application of the 30% quota for women's participation in elections on the municipal and legislative sphere.

## OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SLV\_D\_2.3

### **Increased economic empowerment of women through the promotion of national policies, the development of their business management capacities and their access to credit.**

UNW El Salvador through the MELYT program has promoted strategies for access to financial and business services and institutional policies for gender equality. In that regard the actions implemented have been focused on training women producers and entrepreneurs in saved methodologies, community loans of anchor companies, making visible and valuing community care work, among other. UNE El Salvador provided technical and financial assistance for the creation and financing of the Guarantee Fund of USD 1,000,000 that is integrated into the Financial Sector Support Facility for MIPYMES (micro and small support for enterprise) affected by COVID19, and that is implemented through 12 banking and credit institutions, that aimed at women entrepreneurs in Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador. The support provided has increased the access of women to product and services that promotes entrepreneurship: i) 270 female (peasant, indigenous and rural women) entrepreneurs equipped with basic digital baskets in collaboration with TIGO telephone and the Support Centers for MYPYMES and alliance with the National Commission of MIPYME. ii) Increased the quality and quantity of products and services that promote entrepreneurship, self-employment and MIPYME led by women with 2 Support Center for MIPYME in El Salvador (Cayaguanca and UNICAE) for assistance to 270 female entrepreneurs. iii) Strengthened 15 vegetable producers and their connection to the market in alliance with the social enterprise ACCESO, carried out a pilot of productive chain with the Super Selecto supermarkets. iv) 270 female entrepreneurs and businesswomen have received 8 training modules, through Alterna's strategy and methodology in coordination with the Centers of Attention to MSMEs (CAMs), CDMYPE UNICAES Santa Ana and CDMYPE Cayaguanca; iv) 3,865 rural, indigenous and peasant women from the HOSAGUA women's network strengthened their capacities (endowed with statutes, legal status, strategic plan, and annual operating plan. Promotional video and

brochure. Workshops for the formulation of community care services projects (21 people participated); Workshops on good environmental practices in the municipalities of the Trifinio region with officials from the Ministry of the Environment with an emphasis on waste management and recycling mechanisms (32 people participated)

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SLV\_D\_3.1

**An enabling legislative and policy environment in line with international standards on EVAW and other forms of discrimination including child marriage and early unions is in place and translated into action.**

During 2021 s the process of Evaluation of the Special Comprehensive Law for a Life Free of Violence for Women, LEIV, carried out under the methodology and guidelines of the MESEVCI – Belem Do Pará Convention, was developed, and they presented to the government 10 reform proposals to said law that are being studied at the Presidential House <https://www.asamblea.gob.sv/node/11695>. UN Women has contributed significantly to the elaboration of 44 reform proposals to 5 normative bodies that have been presented to the government and Legislative Assembly (Penal Code, Penal Procedure Code, LIE, Law Against Intrafamily Violence, Penitentiary Law), this process was participatory and will allow in the future, through the political lobbying strategy to 2022, to approve and standardize national laws under international standards for the protection of women's human rights. The office has also been working over the past year to ensure that the capacities of key justice sector institutions and others (FGR, CSJ, ISDEMU PNC) continue to be strengthened to enhance criminal investigation and femicide capabilities, as well as to provide specialized care services for women survivors of violence. The office will maintain by 2022 the lobbying strategy, close accompaniment with ISDEMU and the Legislative Assembly to achieve influence in the approval of these reform proposals, if this strategy is successful, then this legislation will guarantee the alignment of legal frameworks with international standards of women's human rights, which may have a real impact on the lives of Salvadoran women who represent 53% of the country's total population.

#### OUTCOME XM-DAC-41146-SLV\_D\_3.2

**Women and girls who experience violence are empowered to use available, accessible and quality essential services and recover from violence**

During the reporting year, there were important challenges related to the fulfillment of this result, while in the country the effects caused by the COVID-19 pandemic situation and the different moments of increase in cases in 2021 persisted, this implied important challenges in the provision of essential services to survivors of violence for both national institutions and women's organizations. The situation of violence against women under the previous context was another of the great challenges facing women's access to essential services, during the year (January-June 2021) there was an increase of more than 30% in the total number of violent deaths of women in relation to 2020 and corresponding to 83 femicides, 7 femicides by induction and 29 attempted femicides, highlights the serious situation of sexual violence there is a trend to increase, during the period January-October In 2021, 2,297 cases were reported in which 77% correspond to cases of girls and adolescents. During the course of the year, the office has been working to continue strengthening the capacities of key institutions to prevent, detect, respond and protect women and girls who are victims of violence, progress was made with strengthening capacities to provide specialized services to women from government institutions in charge of ensuring safety in public transport, the PNC's Land Traffic Division, and re-equipping specialized care units for women (UNIMUJER-ODAC). Also at the community level, the office made important efforts to generate initiatives that promoted the empowerment of women and girls for the adoption of norms, patterns and attitudes against discrimination, and in the prevention and reporting of femicides and feticidal violence, campaigns of awareness-raising aimed at the population to promote

information on the various forms of harassment, and the instances to go to report, the “Citizen Window” of women (MSM advocacy model) was launched, a methodology built from and for women and which constitutes a local mechanism that facilitates the comptroller’s office, access to justice and the monitoring of women’s rights. UN Women has also been working during the last year to ensure that the response of specialized care services of key institutions and women’s organizations that provide care and access to women and girls survivors of violence continues to be strengthened, lines of advice were strengthened. specialized attention from the Supreme Court of Justice (198), from the Civil National Police (911) [https://www.spotlightinitiative.org/sites/default/files/publication/2.\\_RESUMEN\\_EJECUTIVO\\_SPOTLIGHT-comprimido.pdf](https://www.spotlightinitiative.org/sites/default/files/publication/2._RESUMEN_EJECUTIVO_SPOTLIGHT-comprimido.pdf) and 126 from ISDEMU <https://126teorienta.gob.sv/sobrenosotras/> and the model of the Shelter Home (CEMUJER) was launched, which provides comprehensive care to women and extends actions to protect and monitor cases. UN Women also highlights its contribution in supporting the work agenda of women’s organizations to generate evidence by conducting research related to women’s rights (ORMUSA), strengthening the capacities of organizations to provide specialized care to women survivors of violence in ways face-to-face, through social networks (Facebook) <https://www.facebook.com/cemujer.el.salvador/photos/p.3611160129010910/3611160129010910/?type=3&theater> and telephone service lines (CEMUJER) as well as launching the model of safe spaces for women. The office also promoted digital applications of women’s organizations promoting essential services, which are strategic so that women and girls can access information on essential services in the territories. <https://observatoriodeviolenciaormusa.org/campanas/campana-herramientas-de-informacion-para-mujeres-y-ninas-en-situacion-de-violencia/> The office in to 2022 and with the new strategic note, will maintain these multilevel interventions that will allow to continue improving the provision of services for women survivors and an effort will also be made to initiate measurements of ongoing pilots that generate evidence to continue improving and raising the quality of services.