

LATIN AMERICA LOCALIZATION

THEMATIC NEWSLETTER







In this period of structural change and strategic reflection in the humanitarian sector, one element has become central and is widely agreed upon: the importance of bringing decision-making closer to the communities that will be affected by those decisions, which have been referred to for some years now as "localization." Although the current debate has been driven by funding cuts, and in some cases is being developed from the perspective of increasing efficiency, it is important to keep the focus of reflection on the quality that multi-actor collaboration brings to our work.

In this context, we found it interesting to reflect on what we have learned from collaborating with local actors in Latin America, a region with strong institutions and many formal mechanisms to promote citizen participation, at least in general terms.

OUR VISION ON LOCALIZATION

At Action Against Hunger, we understand localization¹ as the process of "recognizing, respecting, and strengthening the leadership of **local authorities** and the capacity of **local civil society**" in order to propose relevant and lasting solutions, in line with the NEAR framework. To this end, we prioritize an ecosystem made up of a variety of local and national actors: non-governmental, community, and grassroots organizations, the public and private sectors, and academia.

Collaboration can take the form of implementing specific activities involving a transfer of funds or a partnership where the resources shared are not financial, but we always prioritize working in partnership with national/local actors, avoiding implementation alone. This is due to the **multi-actor nature of the fight against hunger**, as defined in our International Strategy².

As we have mentioned, in Latin America, close collaboration with local actors is "natural" and indispensable: they are fundamental allies for the effective implementation of activities and for ensuring relevant, sustainable actions that are adapted to the specific contexts of each territory.

In all countries, we work hand in hand with the **public institutions** that are relevant to our work and their corresponding technical teams (such as health authorities), and we promote collaboration with the **private sector**, which is the engine of local economic development and the key to labor inclusion programs, but which also plays an important role in risk management.

We also actively seek collaboration with civil society organizations to ensure that the technical solutions we propose are appropriate for each specific context. In fact, we collaborate not only with local NGOs, but also with leaders, committees, and community organizations of various kinds, from water management to risk prevention.

In recent years, we have also prioritized partnerships with academic institutions (both national and international) to generate **analysis and knowledge products** and **information systems** that are publicly accessible and useful for local decision-making, such as PREDISAN³ and analyses on migration issues, among others.

For the coming period, which presents particular challenges for Latin America, our priority is to continue these collaborations, **promote exchanges and mutual learning**, and identify more allies with whom to promote change and scale up solutions based on complementarity, effectiveness, and the technical strengthening of local leadership.

¹ Localization Strategy: <u>SPANISH</u> and <u>ENGLISH</u>

² Action Against Hunger - International Strategic Plan 2025

³ PREDISAN is a system that compiles, analyses and synthesizes massive data related to food security. PREDISAN allows for nowcasting, a technique that combines real-time data and statistical models to estimate the current state of a phenomenon, in this case food security, when official sources are not available, or it is too expensive to carry out periodic monitoring. PREDISAN leverages satellite information, primary survey information, non-conventional data sources such as mentions in published news stories or social media, and even conflict records, to model food insecurity. Using tools such as natural language processing and regression models, PREDISAN can identify current trends in food insecurity with high accuracy and in a variety of regional contexts.



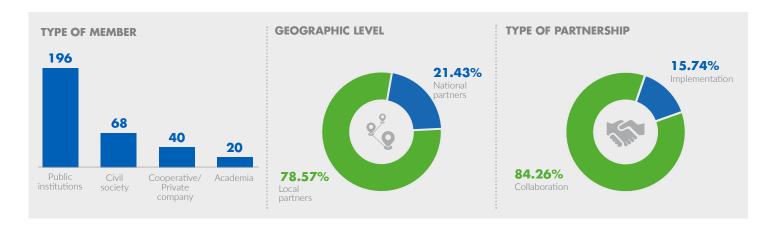
LOCALIZATION IN LATIN AMERICA

Working with communities, organized civil society, and public institutions is essential in the fight against hunger. Therefore, our interventions seek the active involvement of national and local organizations, recognizing them as key players in identifying needs and solutions. Localization goes beyond transferring resources: it involves placing local organizations at the center of the action and building agendas from the territories.

At Action Against Hunger, we believe in the complementarity between international, national, and community organizations to ensure the relevance, technical quality, efficiency, and sustainable impact of our actions. We are committed to empowering local leaders, especially women, indigenous peoples, and vulnerable groups, by strengthening their skills in diagnosis and proposal development from and for the communities.

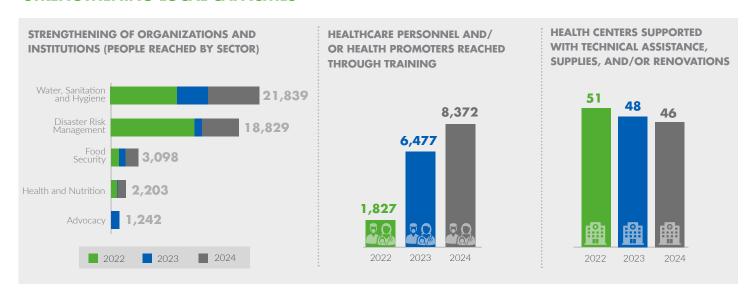
Between 2021 and 2024, we have established partnerships with **324** local and national actors in Latin America: **196** public institutions (61%), **68** civil society organizations (21%), **20** universities and research centers (6%), and **40** cooperatives and private companies (12%). These partnerships have enabled us to align actions with public policies, mobilize communities, generate technical evidence, and promote economic development.

This work reflects our commitment to strengthening local systems and collaboration as pillars for an effective and sustainable humanitarian and development response, whether through the **implementation** of actions with fund transfers or through **collaborative** processes aimed at common goals, but which have not involved transfers of financial resources.



In addition, over the last three years, we have been able to contribute to improving the technical knowledge of 47,211 people linked to local organizations and institutions. As part of our work to improve access to healthcare, we have been able to support the capacity building of **16,676 health promoters and/or workers,** as well as supporting **145 health centers** with advice, supplies, and/or rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems.

STRENGTHENING LOCAL CAPACITIES



WHAT OUR PARTNERS SAY

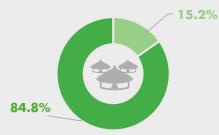
With the aim of continuing to strengthen local partnerships and advancing the implementation of the localization approach, **we have conducted a survey among our local and national strategic partners in Latin America.** The purpose of this consultation was to learn about their perceptions of the practices implemented, the achievements made, and the main challenges faced in the context of the interventions carried out jointly between 2022 and 2024.

The contributions gathered in this feedback exercise are essential for improving the quality of our joint work, ensuring more horizontal and effective cooperation, and moving towards humanitarian and development action that is truly centered on local actors.

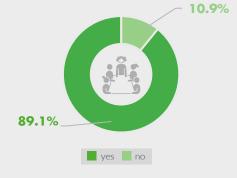


GOOD LOCALIZATION PRACTICES IDENTIFIED BY OUR PARTNERS WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF OUR ALLIANCES





PARTNERS HAVE TRANSFERRED THE KNOWLEDGE ACQUIRED TO OTHER LOCAL ACTORS



Of the 46 partners consulted, 41 highlighted Action Against Hunger's ability to adapt to the context. Among the most valued aspects, they pointed out the ways of working together, the approach to communities, and the strategies for coordination with community, institutional, and national actors. Below are the practices most frequently mentioned by the respondents, which reflect key strengths to **be consolidated and enhanced** in the future:



Conducting preliminary context analyses and assessments that actively involve local actors, maintaining a high capacity for listening and a **participatory approach.**



Adopt an approach that prioritizes comprehensive and multisectoral interventions, accompanied by **strategic coordination** with local actors at all levels—public institutions, the private sector, and social organizations—defining clear roles and guidelines from the outset.



Promote adaptability, flexibility, and innovation by implementing simple methodologies that respond to local needs and promote effective and sustainable solutions for diverse and changing contexts.



Consider, from and with the communities, the **cultural relevance** of interventions, adaptation to local language, and the implementation of **differential approaches** aimed at populations such as children, the elderly, youth, and women.



Ensure **horizontality, respect, and transparency** in relationships with communities and among key actors to strengthen trust and joint work. It is important to have people with great human warmth, high listening skills, and a high level of professionalism, as well as accountability exercises and socialization of interventions.

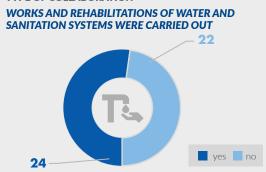
HIGHLIGHTED RESULTS



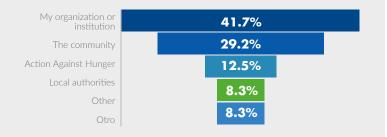
42 of the 46 partners surveyed identified **positive impacts** from their partnership with Action Against Hunger. 39 partners reported that they had carried out activities to deliver supplies, training and awareness-raising activities, and/or the provision of services, and 24 partners reported that they had carried out construction or rehabilitation of water and sanitation systems within the framework of these partnerships.

Approximately 70% of the interventions resulting from these partnerships are currently being managed by the local partner or community, demonstrating shared responsibility and the empowerment of local leaders to address needs and improve their capacities.

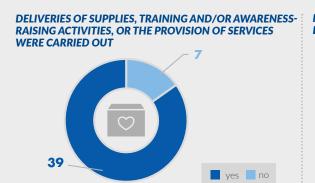
TYPE OF COLLABORATION



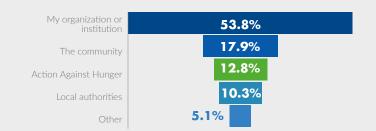
WORKS AND REHABILITATIONS OF WATER AND SANITATION SYSTEMS WERE CARRIED OUT







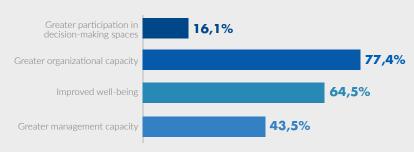
RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT OF SUPPLY DELIVERY, TRAINING/AWARENESS ACTIVITIES, AND SERVICE PROVISION





In both types of interventions, the most common responses regarding the impact on communities affirm an improvement in well-being and greater organizational, financial, and participatory capacity, thus demonstrating the positive impact on people as well as the strengthening of local capacities.

IMPACT OF INTERVENTIONS ON COMMUNITIES AND THEIR LOCAL ACTORS



In the specific case of the partners surveyed who indicated that they had carried out works and/or renovations on water and sanitation systems within the framework of the partnership with Action Against Hunger, 54.2% reported **improved** resource and facility **management** as another positive impact. On the other hand, among the partners who carried out activities such as the delivery of supplies, training, awareness-raising, and service provision, an average of 37,6% pointed to access to more **tools** for implementing a gender approach, improving emergency response, and strengthening the management of development-oriented actions as an additional positive impact.

PARTNERS' PERSPECTIVES: BENEFITS AND CHALLENGES OF COLLABORATION

All the partners surveyed reported having obtained benefits from the partnership with Action Against Hunger, and 52.17% stated they had identified challenges during the collaboration. The most common benefits mentioned in their responses were the **strengthening of various capacities** of local actors and the building of alliances and participatory processes. The challenges identified reflect both contextual conditions and institutional practices that have sometimes represented obstacles to the advancement of collaborative initiatives and processes.





In general, the above findings reflect a largely positive assessment by local and national partners of the practices implemented within the framework of Action Against Hunger's interventions in Latin America, as well as substantial progress in terms of capacity, inclusion, and territorial coordination. At the same time, they highlight structural and operational challenges that require ongoing attention in order to strengthen the quality, sustainability, and cultural relevance of joint efforts.





LOCATION IN THE COUNTRIES WHERE WE WORK

2022

CENTRAL AMERICA

TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

Institutional and community strengthening

2021

- Support for community organizations to manage public services.
- Institutional strengthening in health, water, and sanitation.
- Promotion of community involvement in local health.
- Working with academia to improve information management.

Health and nutrition

- Emergency plans in Ch'orti'
- Delivery of sanitary supplies to prevent COVID-19.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

Implementation of the SANTOLIC methodology in Huehuetenango.

Social economy and cooperatives

Promotion of agricultural cooperatives.

Training, leadership, and social change

Vocational training in Huehuetenango.

Information systems and governance

- Development of manuals and protocols for food security analysis in the Dry Corridor.
- Institutional strengthening through data management.



Social economy and cooperatives

- Promotion of community gardens.
- Creation of agri-food cooperatives in Nicaragua.
- Promotion of community tourism cooperatives.

Training, leadership, and social change

- Training of 2,000 young people in Nicaragua.
- Coordination with the Ministry of Education in Guatemala for a school hygiene campaign.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

- Institutional strengthening in 12 municipalities in Sololá to improve water governance.
- Infrastructure improvements benefiting more than 20,000 people.
- Support for institutions and organizations in Huehuetenango.

Health and nutrition

Training of community workers to identify and treat

Social economy and cooperatives

2023

• Strengthening cooperatives and economic initiatives led by rural women and youth in Nicaragua.

Training, leadership, and social change

Training community and municipal organizations in risk management in response to Hurricane Julia.



Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) in Guatemala

Ruk'u'x Ya' project in Sololá: restoration of 126 water systems, community construction of 5.270 latrines, and creation of eight Municipal Water and Sanitation Offices (OMAS).

Health and nutrition in Guatemala

- Training for Ministry of Health staff and community leaders.
- Training of community nutrition counselors.

Health and nutrition

2024

- Delivery of kits and treatments to health centers in Honduras.
- Strengthening of water quality monitoring by the Ministry of Health in Guatemala
- Response to dengue emergencies through support for healthcare personnel in Honduras.
- Psychosocial support for vulnerable people in Honduras and Nicaragua.

Training, leadership, and social change

- Training of young counselors and agents of change in nutrition and health in
- Youth leadership in social and behavioral change actions.
- Technical assistance to implement governance actions at the municipal and departmental levels.

Social economy and cooperatives

· Strengthening cooperatives and promoting savings and credit in the Dry Corridor (Guatemala and Nicaragua).

Institutional and community strengthening

- Inclusion of vulnerable people in social protection programs in Guatemala and Honduras.
- Pilot project for economic recovery and local markets in Honduras.



CROSS-CUTTING LOCALIZATION ACTIVITIES: RESPONSE 2022–2024



through civil society organization strengthening

Key health actors

People reached through institutional strengthening



Information and data management with the PREDISAN platform

Our work in Central America is characterized by humanitarian action and development programs, so our work has always focused on building alliances and facilitating processes. In the case of humanitarian response, for many years we have led consortia of various NGOs (local and international) to optimize resources and ensure the effectiveness of the response in a context of forgotten crises and chronic resource shortages.

Along the same lines, we have developed the PREDISAN platform to consolidate and share information useful for decision-making by all actors involved in the fight for food security and child nutrition. In terms of disaster risk management, we have had very interesting experiences with public-private partnerships that have improved the resilience of some territories that are highly exposed to this type of threat.

In relation to development processes, we would like to highlight our experience with cooperatives and water resource management.





In Central America, cooperatives have established themselves as key allies in promoting food security, strengthening livelihoods, and improving the quality of life in communities. Their democratic structure and deep roots in the territory position them as key players in economic and social inclusion, facilitating access to services, reducing production costs, and strengthening the bargaining power of their members, including rural women and young people.

DRIVER OF INCLUSION

Through a partnership with the Spanish Agency for International Development Cooperation (AECID), we have collaborated with eight cooperatives that bring together more than **341,000 members.** This experience has allowed us to jointly develop diagnoses and innovative solutions to overcome administrative, financial, market, and technological barriers in strategic sectors such as rural development, agricultural production, community tourism, the environment, and savings and credit.

Together, we have managed to strengthen skills in productivity, adaptation to climate change, technical advice, development of sustainable business models, formulation of gender policies, and generation of better yields and incomes for members who are developing their resilience.

One of the main lessons we have learned is the importance of building interventions based on local priorities and capacities, taking advantage of the ability of cooperatives to reach remote and diverse areas. We have also identified the need to continue working hand in hand with the cooperatives that need it most, strengthening their alliances and expanding opportunities for access to financing.



RUK'U'X YA' HEART OF WATER: A LOCALIZATION MODEL

From 2022 to 2024, as part of the RUK'U'X YA' – "Heart of Water" program, developed with the support of AECID, we designed and implemented a model for local governance and sustainability in water, sanitation, and hygiene in the Lake Atitlán watershed, in the department of Sololá (Guatemala). The positive impact of this comprehensive program has been made possible thanks to effective collaboration between municipal authorities, communities, and institutions in the sector, with an approach that has improved the health and quality of life of both rural and urban populations in the area.

In fact, the water supply and sanitation systems used by more than 290,000 people have been restored and made sustainable, with the participation of 13 municipalities and 120 communities, covering 71 schools and 25 health centers. The communities, municipalities, and institutions involved were not only beneficiaries of the actions, but also strategic partners and allies, contributing labor, material, and financial resources in a tripartite collaboration scheme to meet the established goals.



⁴ Cooperativa Agropecuaria la Dinámica Limitada (COADIL, Honduras), Cooperativa de Ahorro and Crédito Chorotega LTDA (Honduras), Cooperativa de Ahorro and Crédito Integral San José Obrero R.L. (Guatemala), Unión de Cooperativas Agropecuarias del Norte de las Segovias (UCANS, Nicaragua), Cooperativa de Turismo Comunitario and Protectores del Medio Ambiente (COTUCPROMA, Nicaragua) and Cooperativa de Servicios Múltiples Ríos de Agua Viva (COOPRAV, Nicaragua).



This strategic model was designed in a comprehensive manner, correlating the community, municipal, and government levels. Training, capacity-building, and plan-creation actions were implemented to give centrality to local actors and ensure the long-term sustainability of the model.

One of the most valuable lessons learned from this experience has been to highlight that when different actors in the territory join forces, not only is the scope and comprehensiveness of the actions enhanced, but the commitment and ownership of those involved is also strengthened. Effectiveness lies in building strategically coordinated processes, with genuine community participation at every stage, especially in decision-making, and incorporating crosscutting approaches such as gender equality and cultural relevance, which are key to sustainability, respect, and local legitimacy.

Taken from a long-term perspective and considering the complexity of the territory, this process has shown that concentrating investments in a specific territory and promoting comprehensive and coordinated work can transform structural problems into opportunities, opening paths to better living conditions and comprehensive development processes.



TESTIMONY

Diego, Manager of the Cooperative Economic Development Unit, Chorotega Savings and Credit Cooperative. El Paraíso, Honduras.

"The participation of the Chorotega Cooperative in the Resilient Communities Agreement has been an enriching and deeply transformative experience. For our institution, working hand in hand with this team has meant strengthening the link with our social bases and actively contributing to closing gaps that affect community resilience, especially in rural areas. During the implementation of the agreement, we have promoted key actions such as the installation of demonstration plots for beans and cardamom with a focus on sustainable practices, as well as a technical diploma course in coffee management. Support has been provided in the organizational, administrative, and market management of social economy enterprises, in addition to the provision of agricultural equipment. These actions have significantly improved productivity and access to opportunities, especially for women producers, promoting their economic autonomy.

"The impact has also been significant for us as a cooperative: strengthening our institutional capacities in gender, finance, and internal communication has improved the quality of the technical assistance we offer. The formulation of our gender policy and the implementation of communication protocols are concrete advances that this agreement has facilitated. Among the lessons learned, we highlight the need to maintain constant and structured communication. As an opportunity for improvement, we identify the possibility of deepening personalized training and establishing sustainable monitoring mechanisms to ensure long-term impact," concludes Diego.

See more at:

- Cooperatives in Nicaragua strengthen technical and management capacities
- Nicaraguan cooperatives strengthened technically Action
 Against Hunger Central America







COLOMBIA

TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

2021 2022

Institutional and community strengthening

- Strengthening community capacities in livestock and agricultural practices.
- Support for public entities to respond to malnutrition and use digital tools in emergency

Water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH)

· Improvement of community water and sanitation systems.

Health and nutrition

Strengthening local health

Information systems and governance

Sharing data collected in the field to improve interinstitutional coordination.



Social economy and cooperatives

Business training and delivery of supplies to local associations within the framework of the "Inclusive Cities and Solidarity Communities" project.

Training, leadership, and social

Campaign with the Mayor's Office of Bucaramanga to promote empathy towards migrants in 20 key institutions.

Water, sanitation, and hygiene

2023

(WASH)

Creation and strengthening of community water committees.

Emergency response and climate resilience

Formation of community risk committees and implementation of plans with local authorities in the Amazon.

Health and nutrition

Training professionals, midwives, traditional doctors, and community agents in health promotion and prevention.

Institutional and community strengthening

Coordination with economic actors for the social and labor integration of migrants.

Health and nutrition

2024

- Coordination with the national health system to expand coverage.
- In La Guajira, extramural deployment of health services in coordination with authorities and hospitals.
- Implementation of a community strategy with an ethnic focus, including training of community "watchers" (VBC).
- Training for more than 300 community leaders and 400 health professionals in priority municipalities in La Guajira.





CROSS-CUTTING LOCALIZATION ACTIVITIES: RESPONSE 2022–2024



People reached through civil society organization strengthening

Key health actors

People reached through institutional strengthening



Information and data management with information products, MIRE+, Hunger and Conflict.

In Colombia, the anticipation, analysis, and humanitarian response actions we carry out are based on a broad network of collaborations and alliances built during our 27 years of presence in the country. For example, the cash transfer and labor inclusion program for migrants⁵ that we lead has had 100 strategic partners in just the first three years of operation, of which 65 have been local and community organizations and 25 government institutions. Similarly, within the framework of the analysis and alert system for the activation of MIRE+6, we have an extensive network of local informants and decision-makers with whom the situation is analyzed and responses are agreed upon, including the Unit for Victims' Repair and Reconciliation (UARIV), the National Indigenous Organization of Colombia (ONIC), Municipal Mayors' Offices, Territorial Victims' Liaisons, Municipal Ombudsman Offices, and the Office of the Human Rights Ombudsman.



In relation to our collaboration with the public and private sectors in the country, we would like to highlight our work with community organizations and state-owned social enterprises.

ADN Dignidad

Consorcio MIRE+



LOCAL CAPACITIES AND GOVERNANCE FOR STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY ECONOMIES

In Colombia, we work directly with cooperatives and community associations through a model focused on capacity building and strengthening local initiatives for food production and agricultural livelihoods through a participatory and contextualized approach. We are currently working with seven community-based cooperatives located in the departments of Nariño, Valle del Cauca, and Chocó, with which we have developed a coordinated training plan adapted to the needs, preferences, and interests of these local groups. The plan includes key topics such as sustainable natural resource management, agricultural techniques adapted to climate change, seed production and conservation, and efficient water and waste management practices.

Through the Agricultural Field Schools (ECA), we work hand in hand with cooperatives on innovative production practices that not only improve food production but also promote diversification of livelihoods, such as shellfish gathering, artisanal fishing, and handicraft production. In addition, we provide key tools and resources for improving agricultural production and access to local markets.

On the other hand, this process has allowed us to strengthen our working methodologies, which must be adapted to local realities and to the different situations that communities experience over time. In the case of Colombia, these situations can vary from one community to another (within the same territory) or undergo significant changes in a matter of months due to risks, threats, or political changes that alter the daily lives of these communities. Thanks to an approach based on "participatory action," our teams have understood the importance of encouraging community participation in each stage of the project, from identifying needs to implementing solutions. This approach has fostered an exchange of knowledge between those in charge of technical aspects and those who are part of the cooperatives, which has strengthened local ownership of the initiatives and ensured their sustainability.





COMMUNITIES AT THE CENTER OF HEALTH AND NUTRITION WORK

In Colombia, we work closely with State Social Enterprises (ESE) in the departments of La Guajira, Norte de Santander, and the Darién region through memoranda of understanding that have been fundamental in promoting health and preventing malnutrition in an effective and sustainable manner. Through close coordination with local health systems, we have managed to improve and expand access to nutritional and medical care services, ensuring that the most vulnerable communities receive timely and quality care. This localization approach has allowed State Social Enterprises to act as key points in our comprehensive prevention strategy, where not only are the capacities of health professionals strengthened, but communities are also trained in healthy eating practices, hygiene, and nutritional status monitoring within the framework of community-based surveillance (CBS) systems.

Close collaboration with health authorities and community organizations has facilitated the creation of support networks that strengthen the response to situations of malnutrition, ensuring that actions are effective in the short term and sustainable over time. This localization model not only improves the coverage and quality of health services but also promotes community resilience and selfmanagement in the face of malnutrition, promoting the integration of medical care with local health and wellness promotion efforts. In addition, this type of partnership has allowed us to better understand the limitations in service delivery from the network of institutional actors, in order to achieve a more coherent approach and action to needs. In turn, it has strengthened the different roles and closed the gaps in coordination between local governance, health system actors, and us as international cooperation, achieving a rational use of resources and optimizing local response capacity without creating parallel systems.



TESTIMONY



Bocas de Mayorquín: when unity and hope transform communities

"Here we all help each other," says María Reyes proudly as she describes the dynamics of her community, located in the Mayorquín River basin in Buenaventura. "While one person sets their nets, another provides the boat and takes them out."

That corner of the Colombian Pacific, which María describes so fondly, is called Bocas de Mayorquín. It is a village that can only be reached after an hour-and-a-half boat trip through rough waves.

The peace radiating from the imposing mangroves surrounding María's home is apparent. The armed conflict has forced many to flee. In 2023, according to figures from the Ombudsman's Office, 266 people were displaced, including nearly 100 children. In such a difficult context, life is made up of shared efforts and a deep respect for the resources that the land provides. Resources that have been dwindling, due, among other reasons, to the effects of climate change.

It was precisely this limitation in resources and the distance from the municipal capital that prompted María to found the Gramapa Community Association. Like many women in her community, she grew up "piangüando", as they call fishing for piangua, a shellfish that hides in the mud among the mangroves. This activity has significant economic and cultural value in the Colombian Pacific, as it is not only one of the main forms of subsistence, but also an ancestral tradition that connects them to nature and their roots.

But 14 years ago, María realized that pianguar was not enough. It was not enough to raise her 14 children and 17 grandchildren, nor to sustain life in that community where she had seen so many people born and flee. So, together with Doña Juana and a niece, they founded a small stationery and school supplies business, which later became a network of 17 men and women who collect, store, and sell what the sea and the land give them: fish, shellfish, herbs, cassava, bananas, pineapples, and even ice, stationery, and clothing.

In short, they became a collection center that withstands fishing bans, rains, broken engines, and neglect so that, in María's words, "they can move forward together". The Gramapa Association is more than a network: it is a pact. In the community, no one fishes alone. They lend each other boats, share hooks, and distribute what they have. If the tide is not good, they resist together. If someone gets sick, they turn to the same herbs that their grandmothers have used for generations. And now, the collection center has helped to strengthen these community dynamics.

In this territory, we have worked alongside the community on early recovery processes, adapting spaces for vegetable and subsistence crop production, setting up seedbeds, drainage systems, and enclosures, thereby strengthening food security and local resilience.

From our experience in Bocas de Mayorquín, at Action Against Hunger we have learned the importance of working more closely with local community dynamics, understanding that the strength of communities lies in their capacity for organization and mutual support. The key has been to recognize that sustainable solutions must be centered on local knowledge and collective efforts. This approach has allowed our interventions to be more relevant, contextual, and sustainable by integrating traditional practices with our food security and livelihood strategies.

See more at:

Bocas de Mayorquín: when unity and hope transform communities | Action Against Hunger Colombia





PERU

TIMELINE OF ACTIVITIES

2022 2021

Institutional and community strengthening

- Development of the document "Guidelines for the safe operation of Community Kitchens" with delivery of educational materials to leaders in 7 districts (benefiting 4,690 people).
- Partnership with the Association for the Protection of Vulnerable Populations (APPV) to improve the prioritization of cases requiring attention.

Information systems and governance

Promotion of data collection and analysis on the migrant population and creation of spaces for dialogue with organizations and authorities.







Institutional and community strengthening

 Partnerships with local governments, companies, and institutions in Lima to promote social and labor inclusion

Social economy and cooperatives

Commercial coordination between rural producers and sales networks in Cusco and

Training, leadership, and social

Collaboration with the Aurora Program to incorporate a gender perspective and violence prevention in

Institutional and community strengthening

2023

- Strengthening of 13 ollas comunes (community-led cooking initiatives)
- Post-cyclone Yaku support for ollas comunes and community kitchens.
- Coordination with the national humanitarian network and local governments for coordinated actions in Piura.
- Participation of the GTAA in joint emergency response with the National Civil Defense Institute (INDECI), Regional **Emergency Operations Center** (COER), local governments, and the private sector.
- Inclusion of Awajún professionals and participatory design with the Awaiún Autonomous Territorial Government (GTAA) in risk management.

Emergency response and climate resilience

- Strengthening local and community authorities in risk management and emergency response.
- Support for Awajún communities in the development of emergency plans, training in rapid response, and integration into national decision-making spaces.
- Support for the development of 19 emergency plans in indigenous communities.
- Identification of initiatives such as indigenous environmental monitoring in the event of disasters (e.g., oil spills).

Health and nutrition

2024

- Coordination with the Ministry of Health to prioritize care for migrants without Comprehensive Health Insurance (SIS).
- Strengthening of the health system in rural areas of Avacucho with an intercultural approach and training of community agents.
- Support for health facilities affected by flooding in Piura and Lambayeque, with community surveillance in spaces such as community kitchens and ollas comunes.





change

At Action Against Hunger, we define a crisis as an event or series of events that pose a significant threat, exceeding the capacity of those who must deal with it using their own resources. In such cases, additional resources or extraordinary measures are required (Intervention Criteria, ACH Operations Policy). This is precisely the situation that prompted us to respond to the 2007 earthquake in Peru, a country with highly developed local capacities, but where the magnitude of the event and the social construction of risk had led to terrible and fatal consequences.

Since then, we have continued to stand alongside local actors who respond to these emergencies and disasters, both to facilitate the means for their response and to support joint research into the best ways to reduce risks. But we have gone further. Over time, we have learned from the locals about their needs and potential for reconstruction, and we have committed ourselves to working together to develop livelihoods and systems that will gradually reduce economic vulnerability and poverty.



CROSS-CUTTING LOCALIZATION ACTIVITIES: RESPONSE 2022–2024



7,905 People reached society organization

strengthening

1*.*281

Key health actors

737

People reached through institutional strengthening





To achieve this, we have partnered with local NGOs, women's organizations, community kitchens, the local health system, indigenous organizations, local governments, universities, and small producer associations, among others, and at the national level, mainly with different NGOs and ministries (Health, Inclusion, Vulnerable Populations, Ombudsman's Office, etc.).

Below, by way of example, we will mention some of these partnerships to improve the lives and livelihoods of local populations.



AMAZONAS: THE AWAJÚN AUTONOMOUS TERRITORIAL GOVERNMENT - GTAA

The GTAA is the autonomous indigenous government and highest representative body of the Awajún people of the Peruvian Amazon and is protected by International Convention 169-ILO on Indigenous Peoples, which was ratified by the Peruvian State. The Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government is represented by its natural community leaders and has a defined organizational structure governed by regulations based on customary principles and participatory management. This indigenous-based organization promotes the comprehensive governance of the territory traditionally occupied by the Awajún people through political advocacy, preparation for natural and anthropogenic hazards, sustainable management, protection and defense of the environment and biodiversity, and ensuring processes of empowerment and social rights – all aimed at achieving "Good Living" (Tajimat Pujut).

In Amazonas, the Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government and Action Against Hunger, with financial support from ECHO and collaboration with UNICEF, have been working for more than three years with leaders, authorities, municipal officials, and health and protection operators. During this time, we have developed actions in key areas such as **disaster preparedness**, **strengthening access to drinking water**, **promoting hygiene and community health**, and **responding to emergencies caused by floods and oil spills**.

The combined capacities of the Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government and Action Against Hunger have made it possible to:



 Organize, equip, and train 19 indigenous community committees to respond to emergencies.



 Strengthen the Regional Health Directorate and Amazonas Health Networks by training professionals in epidemiological surveillance, providing equipment and furniture for nine health facilities, and conducting ten comprehensive health campaigns to serve 4,644 people (mostly women).



Provide humanitarian aid to 548 families affected by oil spills through access to drinking water, hygiene items, and primary health services, as well as strengthening their capacity to respond to environmental emergencies.

Our partnership with the Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government has also enabled them to develop advocacy actions with national and regional government bodies for the approval of laws that protect the rights of the Awajún people and other indigenous peoples. To date, joint interventions have reached some 11,914 people (57% women).

As an organization, working with the GTAA has allowed us to learn about the great capacity of Amazonian indigenous cultures to adapt response activities to their needs and prepare using their own tools and languages. They also taught us the value of their ancestral flood response processes, avoiding paternalism and strengthening their knowledge of livelihood recovery.







PARTNERSHIPS SERVING WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS

In addition to this collaboration with the GTAA, over the years we have had a wide variety of other local partnerships, among which we can highlight our work with the **Agricultural Service for Research and Economic Promotion (SAIPE)** and the **Jesús Obrero Agroindustrial Training Center (CCAIJO).**

SAIPE and CCAIJO are two local NGOs: SAIPE was created to address the needs of the Awajún and Wampís peoples in preserving their territory and way of life, while CCAIJO defines itself as an entity that serves and accompanies the population, providing training, technical support, and facilitating management processes for community development.

Thanks to our joint work with SAIPE in Amazonas and CCAIJO in Cusco, these organizations have been able to improve their communication and data management capabilities, enabling them to achieve significant results with the people they serve.

Thus, the entrepreneurs trained and supported by SAIPE and CCAIJO have managed to increase their levels of organization and business management and develop more efficient and environmentally friendly production techniques. This has had a direct impact on increasing their production and sales, improving their income, and providing access to employment for women and young people in Amazonas and Cusco.

The combined capacities of Action Against Hunger, SAIPE, and CCAIJO enabled indigenous women entrepreneurs to improve: their **marketing**, revaluing their history and culture in the value chains of plantain flour, honey, and cheese; their negotiation skills in business roundtables; **packaging**, to preserve and make products more attractive in more competitive markets; design

spaces; their **coordination** with national institutions; and the optimization of their sales management. The improvements reached approximately 235 producers in the planta in flour and honey chains (29.3% women) and 387 in the cheese

and participation in national and regional marketing



TESTIMONY

Amazonas: Pamuk Gil Inoac, president of the Awajún Autonomous Territorial Government

"Through the work we are doing as part of the **'Indigenous Rapid Response'** project on disaster risk management, we are building the capacities of our human resources in the different Awajún communities. We now know the procedures we need to follow and how we need to act before, during, and after an emergency in our territory. We know more about our rights in the face of the impacts of oil spills and floods. We are better organized and are strengthening our resilience and disaster preparedness strategies."



Cusco: Matilde, cheese producer

"My name is Matilde Huancaturpo, and I was born in the Colca community, Ocongate district, in Cusco, and I belong to the Sumahawsangate association. Thanks to the work we have done, I am currently making different types of cheese, including Andean cheese, flavored cheese, Gouda cheese, and rocoto cheese. All our cheese is natural because it is made at high altitude and there is always natural grass, so the milk is also natural. My product is now reaching important hotels in Cusco. I go to the market in Cusco every Saturday[...] in Lima, we have already participated in events on three occasions[...] we liked it, and we sold our products at the Cheese Fair. CCAIJO and Action Against Hunger help us promote our products in the markets [...] they give us talks so that we can promote them in hotels and restaurants[...] they support us in our marketing efforts [...] and that way we earn more and improve our family's life."





REGIONAL RESPONSE



PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



19,514

SECURITY AND LIVELIHOODS



NUITRITION



AND HYGIENE



MANAGEMENT



GENDER AND PROTECTION



CENTRAL AMERICA



PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR



2,763





TARGET FOR 2025

TARGET FOR 2025

16,449 € 7,209,331



мета 103,200 € 10,250,000

COLOMBIA



PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR







22,724











META 190,000 € 27,000,000

PERU



PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR











TARGET FOR 2025





META 50,000 € 5,500,000

OTHER COUNTRIES

PEOPLE REACHED BY SECTOR







23.476

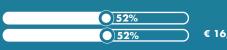




TARGET FOR 2025

25,819





€ 16,000,000



103,123 TOTAL PEOPLE REACHED
JANUARY - JUNE 2025









FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT OUR OUTREACH, VISIT OUR WEBSITE 🖔



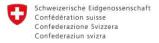
STRATEGIC ALLIES











Agencia Suiza para el Desarrollo y la Cooperación COSUDE

























FOR FOOD.
FOR WATER.
FOR HEALTH.
FOR NUTRITION.
FOR KNOWLEDGE.
FOR LOCAL ACTORS.
FOR EVERYONE.
FOREVER.
FOR ACTION.
AGAINST HUNGER.

