



GRRIPP

Gender Responsive
Resilience and Intersectionality in
Policy and Practice

ECOSYSTEMS IN DISASTER RISK MANAGEMENT WITH A GENDER APPROACH IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

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Context

During the COVID pandemic, the depth of the water access problem, one of the ecosystems on which life is sustained, was identified. In this sense, the multiple campaigns of care and protection against the pandemic emphasized the need to disinfect, to wash hands, showing that most of the population lacks this vital resource to meet daily needs, including those generated by COVID.

This situation has affected and continues to affect women directly, as traditional roles and gender stereotypes continue to overburden women with domestic and caregiving tasks, including everything related to health safety measures promoted in each State.

Faced with this situation, in various spaces, women's groups, in coordination with grassroots leaders, were protagonists in creating different options to comply with sanitary safety measures with water saving, enabling mechanisms with primary resources in its implementation. This is one more experience of resilience, developed women for their family and community collective.

Objectives

The project's main objective was to contribute to strengthening local women actors in their resilient struggle for the right to the city and public policies, especially in the right to water and the protection of ecosystems. Through this objective, the project aimed to generate competencies in women from grassroots organizations regarding environmental care practices.

Courses of action

- Promote specialized training of municipal personnel, community leaders, and local authorities concerning the right to the city and disaster risk management with a gender perspective in the context of a pandemic by COVID.



The photograph was taken as part of the regional campaign "Weaving feminisms for good living in cities and territories."

- Awareness-raising was carried out in coordination with municipalities, women's and youth organizations, and universities to recognize women's contribution to advocacy for the right to water and environmental protection.
- Experiences of women's participation in community water management were systematized as a strategy for COVID to solve daily domestic and care needs.

Approach

The project carried out its activities under the approach of the right to the city in dialogue with the gender perspective, the feminist approach, and intersectionality. The right to the city was considered a macro right that encompasses other rights such as access to drinking water, decent housing, health, work, a dignified life free of violence, and care. Starting from this perspective implies recognizing that societies are unequal and that gender relations are constitutive of this inequality and structure the organization of social life, which finds its expression in the city.

We worked from the perspective of ecofeminism, which implies a cross between ecology and feminism. It was considered a key to addressing the problems in urban contexts in the face of the extractive neoliberal model detrimental to the territories. In this sense, it is considered that feminisms and environmental issues feedback intrinsically because they have a common origin of struggle: subordination, control, and violence. In this sense, ecofeminism connects women's oppression with nature's domination and proposes the emancipation of all people based on the critique of androcentrism and anthropocentrism.

Impacts

Se visibilizó que la pandemia ha puesto de manifiesto la fragilidad de los acuerdos de trabajo de cuidados, la esencialidad de estas tareas, la dependencia que las sociedades tienen del cuidado no remunerado, y la aplicación desproporcionada de las mujeres y niñas.

A course was developed consisting of 03 modules, which resulted from the approaches the institutions worked on in their local contexts. On the one hand, the Guatemala Foundation designed the first module entitled "Sustainable Agriculture"; secondly, the União Nacional de Moradia Popular de São Paulo designed the third module entitled "Women and housing, water and feminisms in the territories" and finally, the Colectiva Feminista developed the third module entitled "Women's political participation in defense of the territory".

The campaign "Weaving Feminisms for Good Living in Cities and Territories" was developed to highlight the importance of women's right to access diverse, inclusive, and sustainable ecosystems and cities.

Published resources:

[Systematization document project "Ecosystems in the management of disasters with a gender approach in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic" – Brazil, El Salvador, Guatemala](#)

Ecosystems in disaster risk management with a gender approach in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Implemented by: Colectiva Feminista para el Desarrollo Local; Fundación Guatemala; União Nacional por Moradia, UNMP



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