



CREATIVE



Peacebuilding Project ***Proyecto Tejiendo Paz***

Quarterly Performance Report **FY22Q2**

This publication was produced for review by the United States Agency for International Development by Creative Associates International, Inc. (submitted May 3, 2022)



Table of Contents

Acronym List	3
Executive Summary	5
<i>Summary of Key Activities</i>	5
<i>Challenges</i>	6
<i>Indicator Data</i>	7
Program Overview and Background.....	7
<i>Problem Statement</i>	7
<i>Theory of Change, Goal, and Objectives</i>	8
<i>Context and Analysis</i>	8
<i>Migration</i>	10
Analysis of Project Implementation.....	10
<i>Challenges and Lessons Learned</i>	10
<i>Social Inclusion and Gender Integration</i>	11
<i>Operational and Project Management Activities</i>	12
Geographic Plan/ Community Selection.....	14
Narrative of FY22Q1 Activities by Objective/ Result.....	15
<i>Cross-Cutting Activities</i>	15
<i>Objective 1: Establish and/or strengthen inclusive locally-led engagement, dialogue, and mapping to identify, prioritize, and develop action plans addressing sources of and increase resilience to social conflict and the impacts of COVID-19 on social cohesion</i>	17
<i>Objective 2: Build partnerships between communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders to implement plans prioritized by communities</i>	22
<i>Objective 3: Strengthen GoG and non-governmental capacity to participate in managing, responding to, and resolving local conflicts, including long-standing grievances and new instability linked to COVID-19</i>	34
Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Activities and Indicator Data.....	40
<i>External Evaluation</i>	40
<i>Performance Indicators</i>	45
Coordination, Compliance, and Future Activities	48
<i>Collaboration with USAID Partners and Other USG Agencies</i>	48
<i>Security Considerations</i>	49
<i>Development Experience Clearinghouse</i>	50
<i>Training Events</i>	50
<i>Success Stories</i>	50

<i>Future Activities, FY22Q3</i>	51
Annexes.....	51

Acronym List

ADIMAM	Association for the Integral Development of Municipalities of San Marcos Highlands (<i>Asociación Desarrollo Integral de Municipalidades del Altiplano Marquense</i>)
AGAAI	Guatemala Association of Indigenous Mayors and Authorities (<i>Asociación Guatemalteca de Alcaldes y Autoridades Indígenas</i>)
AGEXPORT	Association of Guatemalan Exporters (<i>Asociación de Exportadores de Guatemala</i>)
ANAM	National Association of Mayors (<i>Asociación Nacional de Municipalidades</i>)
AOR	Agreement Officers Representative
BSMP	Branding Strategy and Marking Plan
CAIMUS	Comprehensive Support Center for Women Survivors of Violence (<i>Centro de Apoyo Integral para Mujeres Sobrevivientes de Violencia</i>)
CARSI	Central America Regional Security Initiative
CCF	Complex Crisis Fund
CDRO	Cooperation for the Rural Development of the Western Highlands, <i>Cooperación para el Desarrollo Rural de Occidente</i>)
CEIPA	Ecumenical Center for Pastoral Integration (<i>Centro Ecuménico de Integración Pastoral</i>)
CEIDPAZ	Center for Research and Projects for Development and Peace (<i>Centro de Investigaciones y Proyectos para el Desarrollo y la Paz</i>)
CEPPS	Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening
CF	Community Facilitator
CIPREVICA	Research Center for the Prevention of Violence in Central America (<i>Centro de Investigación para la Prevención de la Violencia en Centroamérica</i>)
COCODE	Community Development Council (<i>Consejo Comunitario de Desarrollo</i>)
CODEDE	Departmental Development Council (<i>Consejo Departamental de Desarrollo</i>)
CODESAC	Departmental Commission on Security and Conflict Management (<i>Comisión Departamental de Seguridad y Atención de Conflictos</i>)
COMJUVECH	Chiantla's Municipal Youth Commission (<i>Comisión Municipal de la Juventud de Chiantla</i>)
COMUDE	Municipal Development Council (<i>Consejo Municipal de Desarrollo</i>)
COMUNIJUFAM	Municipal Commission for Children, Youth, Family, and the Elderly (<i>Comisión Municipal de la Niñez, Juventud, Familia y el Adulto Mayor</i>)
COMUPRE	Municipal Violence Prevention Commission (<i>Comisión Municipal de Prevención de la Violencia</i>)
COPADEH	Presidential Commission for Peace and Human Rights (<i>Comisión de Paz y Derechos Humanos</i>)
COPREDEH	<i>Comisión Presidencial Coordinadora de la Política del Ejecutivo en Materia de Derechos Humanos, COPREDEH</i>)
COREDUR	Regional Council for Urban and Rural Development (<i>Consejo Regional de Desarrollo Urbano y Rural</i>)

CRA	Conflict and Resilience Analysis
CSO	Civil Society Organization (<i>Organización de sociedad civil</i>)
CV	Community Vision
DEC	Development Experience Clearinghouse
DEMOS	Central American Institute of Studies for Social Democracy (<i>Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios para la Democracia Social</i>)
DEMI	Office for the Protection of Indigenous Women (<i>Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena</i>)
DMM	Municipal Women's Office (<i>Dirección Municipal de la Mujer</i>)
EWRS	Early Warning and Response System
FUDESA	Foundation for Education and Social Development (<i>Fundación de Educación y Desarrollo Social</i>)
GAM	Mutual Support Group (<i>Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo</i>)
GAX	Xela Support Group (<i>Grupo de Apoyo Xela</i>)
GBV	Gender-based violence
GIZ	<i>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</i>
GoG	Government of Guatemala
IEPADES	Institute for Sustainable Development (<i>Instituto de Enseñanza para el Desarrollo Sostenible</i>)
IDEI	Association for Investigation, Development and Integral Education (<i>Asociación de Investigación, Desarrollo y Educación Integral</i>)
INACOOOP	National Institute of Cooperatives (<i>Instituto Nacional de Cooperativas</i>)
INACIF	National Institute of Forensic Sciences (<i>Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Forenses</i>)
IPES	Indigenous Peoples Engagement Strategy (IPES)
JODEI	Youth for Integral Development (<i>Jóvenes por el Desarrollo Integral</i>)
LAC	Latin America and the Caribbean
LGBTQI+	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MAGA	Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (<i>Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación</i>)
MARN	Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (<i>Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales</i>)
MEL	Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning
MEM	Ministry of Energy and Mines (<i>Ministerio de Energía y Minas</i>)
MINECO	Ministry of Economy (<i>Ministerio de Economía</i>)
MINGOB	Ministry of the Interior (<i>Ministerio de Gobernación</i>)
MOLOJ	Political Association for Mayan Women (<i>Asociación Política de Mujeres Mayas</i>)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
MP	Attorney General (<i>Ministerio Publico</i>)
MUJER	Women's Association for Justice, Education and Recognition (<i>Asociación Mujeres por la Justicia, Educación y el Reconocimiento</i>)
NORC	National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago
OMAS	Municipal Water and Sanitation Office (<i>Oficina Municipal de Agua y Saneamiento</i>)
OMJ	Municipal Youth Office (<i>Oficina Municipal de la Juventud</i>)
PIRS	Performance indicator reference sheets
PNC	National Civil Police (<i>Policía Nacional Civil</i>)
POA	Annual Operation Plan (<i>Plan Operativo Anual</i>)

RFA	Request for Applications
SEPREM	Presidential Secretariat for Women (<i>Secretaría Presidencial de la Mujer</i>)
SAA	Secretariate for Agrarian Affairs (<i>Secretaria de Asuntos Agrarios</i>)
SEPAZ	Secretariate of Peace (<i>Secretaria de la Paz</i>)
SVET	Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Human Trafficking (<i>Secretaría Contra la Violencia Sexual, Explotación y Trata de Personas</i>)
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UPCV	Community Violence Prevention Unit (<i>Unidad de Prevención Comunitaria de la Violencia</i>)
USAC	University of San Carlos de Guatemala (<i>Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala</i>)
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
USG	United States Government
X-CO	Cross-Coordination

Executive Summary

Summary of Key Activities

Impact Evaluation: As part of the incremental funding received during FY2021, and per the requirements of the Complex Crisis Funds (CCF), the Peacebuilding Project contracted an external evaluation firm to implement an outcome evaluation through a quasi-experimental design. The firm completed the final report this quarter; the main finding of the evaluation is that there is sufficient evidence that the project had positive impacts on the achievement of the project goal, objectives, and survey indicators during the period evaluated (2019 – 2021). Through the qualitative analysis, the evaluators noted a positive change in perception of trust among community members, in perception among community members of the government’s role in local conflict resolution, and in percent of people who believe their communities are peaceful, safe, and secure. There was also a decrease in citizens' perception of levels of conflict in their communities.

Youth Migration: One of the qualitative findings of the impact evaluation is that migration reduces youth engagement and poses a challenge for continuity in working with youth, which is the population most inclined to migrate. One project participant shared with the evaluations that “many people prefer to migrate; we [the community] have seen establishments that are left without young people since they have left their communities due to lack of opportunities.” The project continues to engage with youth from the Western Highlands through the Network of *Voceros Juveniles para la Paz*. The network is an important space for youth to engage civically and create connections with other youth. This quarter, youth from the Network of *Voceros Juveniles*, with support from the Central American Institute of Studies for Social Democracy (*Instituto Centroamericano de Estudios para la Democracia Social*, DEMOS), conducted outreach with Municipal Youth Offices (*Oficinas Municipal de la Juventud*, OMJs) in their municipalities to better understand the functions, plans, and contacts within the offices as well as to present the work of the network and to link the youth-led initiatives with municipal offices and commissions. Please see Annex A for a success story on a *vocera juvenil* who decided not to migrate after participating in the network and receiving a scholarship to attend college.

Women’s Civic Participation and Prevention of Gender-Based Violence: March 8 marks the annual commemoration of International Women’s Day. Given the important role of women in peacebuilding and conflict mitigation, the project organized various activities throughout the month of March. The project ensured youth participation in these activities, specifically in screening one of their films, *Sueño Despierta*. The project held a conference on the meaning of March 8 and women’s economic rights and coordinated with other United States Agency for International Development (USAID)-funded projects in the implementation of the discussion “Women Inspiring Other Women.”

This quarter, the project also strengthened relationships and alliances with institutional counterparts responsible for the advancement of women, implementing activities with the Presidential Secretariat for Women (*Secretaría Presidencial de la Mujer*, SEPREM), the Office for the Protection of Indigenous Women (*Defensoría de la Mujer Indígena*, DEMI), and the Secretariat against Sexual Violence, Exploitation and Human Trafficking (*Secretaría Contra la Violencia Sexual, Explotación y Trata de Personas*, SVET). For example, during FY22Q2, the project began implementing a healing process for women survivors and victims of violence in Totonicapán with the DEMI. The project has focused on providing women and conference participants with information on mechanisms for reporting gender-based violence (GBV) and accessing resources. Finally, this quarter, project partner Foundation for Education and Social Development (*Fundación de Educación y Desarrollo Social*, FUDESA) completed their communication campaign “*Yo respeto a mi familia, vivo sin violencia*,” which focused on changing attitudes, increasing awareness, and strengthening knowledge around types of domestic violence and reporting mechanisms. Please see Annex B for a success story on four women from Comitancillo, San Marcos who are contributing to peacebuilding in their municipality and communities.

Indigenous Engagement: The project finalized a training process this quarter with 79 members (24 women and 55 men) of 48 *Cantones*, who are indigenous authorities from Totonicapán. The trainings strengthened their capacity for the peaceful resolution of social conflict. Indigenous authorities are key partners in resolving social conflict and preventing conflict from escalating into crisis and violence. Their ancestral knowledge, systems and practices are fundamental for the implementation of effective, alternative mechanisms of dialogue, mediation, and negotiation. Please see Annex C for a short blurb published by Creative on the importance of art, culture, and shared traditions in constructing social cohesion, which focuses on an activity held with 48 *Cantones*.

Challenges

One of the main challenges faced this quarter was turnover within partner government institutions. The Presidential Commission for Peace and Human Rights (*Comisión de Paz y Derechos Humanos*, COPADEH), Ministry of the Interior (*Ministerio de Gobernación*, MINGOB), SVET, and Community Violence Prevention Unit (*Unidad de Prevención Comunitaria de la Violencia*, UPCV) all saw turnover in senior-level officials. This turnover causes delays in the implementation of activities as the project needs to be presented to the incoming Government of Guatemala (GoG) representatives to ensure their continued buy-in and support. Changes to authorities at the community level also took place this quarter as there are often changes at the

beginning of the calendar year. These types of changes will continue to take place leading up to the electoral period, which starts next year.

COVID-19 continues to remain a challenge, although cases decreased this quarter. As of the end of March, only 33 percent of the population has received two doses of a vaccine; the vaccination of minors has been especially slow. The project continues to implement a mix of virtual and in-person activities; however, requests for in-person activities from project participants and partners have increased.

Indicator Data

During FY22Q2,

- 3,173 unique individuals (1,574 women and 1,575 men, 24 not identified) participated in activities addressing the peaceful management and resolution of conflict;
- 161 events, trainings, or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation were implemented;
- 109 ancestral authorities (42 women and 67 men) demonstrated increased capacity to respond to and resolve local and municipal conflicts;
- 207 women participated in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process;
- 780 people (394 women and 386 men) engaged in cooperative community dialogue; and
- 43 women were reached by a United States Government (USG) funded intervention providing GBV services.

Please see Annex D for the Executive Summary in Spanish.

Program Overview and Background

Problem Statement

The proliferation of social conflict marks the social and political landscape of Guatemala. These conflicts manifest themselves in many ways: roadblocks and public protests are common examples. In some cases, these conflicts lead to dialogue, and in others, they escalate into further conflict and violence. These tensions play out against a backdrop of endemic poverty, inequality, insecurity, and weak institutions, which can be seen as results of entrenched corruption. GoG institutions, many of which have been recently restructured, struggle with low levels of citizen confidence due to challenges in serving rural communities¹. The historic marginalization of Indigenous people in Guatemala magnifies these issues and weakens the social fabric of these communities. Having suffered devastating losses during the internal armed conflict, communities in the Western Highlands are particularly vulnerable to conflict and violence. This unbroken cycle of insecurity and conflict feeds directly into the high levels of migration from this region of Guatemala. The youth have very limited access to economic and civic participation opportunities, and gang and criminal violence further threaten stability. Family violence and GBV are common, and the full involvement of women in social, political, and economic development is limited by interconnected territorial, ethnic, and gender inequalities. These issues are being further

exacerbated by the COVID-19 Pandemic, illuminating the need to address underlying conflicts and increase trust and social cohesion. To address these challenges and achieve the goal of conflict reduction and improved social cohesion, the Peacebuilding Project will effect change at the individual and group levels (i.e., relationship-building) and the socio-political level (i.e., institutional strengthening).

Theory of Change, Goal, and Objectives

To achieve the goal of reducing social conflict and violence and improving social cohesion and peacebuilding in Guatemala, with a specific focus on the Western Highlands, the Peacebuilding Project is guided by the following theory of change:

If authorities have increased capacity and coordination to effectively respond to local conflicts, if inclusive local-level engagement is generated and sustained, and if diverse actors identify and work together to address conflicts, then local leaders will engage in formal mechanisms to address social conflict, relationships and trust will be strengthened, and cooperation in resolving conflict peacefully will increase, thereby reducing social conflict and violence and improving peacebuilding and social cohesion in Guatemala.

The Peacebuilding Project has three mutually reinforcing objectives:

Objective 1: Establish and/or strengthen inclusive locally-led engagement, dialogue, and mapping to identify, prioritize, and develop action plans addressing sources of and increase resilience to social conflict and the impacts of COVID-19 on social cohesion;

Objective 2: Build partnerships between communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders to implement peacebuilding and conflict mitigation priorities; and

Objective 3: Strengthen GoG and non-governmental capacity to participate in managing, responding to, and resolving local conflicts, including long-standing grievances and new instability linked to COVID-19.

Context and Analysis

The context in Guatemala continues to be challenging and complex, particularly with regards to social conflict. Although COVID-19 cases have begun to drop, the pandemic remains a concern, particularly in rural areas with low levels of vaccination rates. As of the end of March, only 33 percent of the population has received two doses of a vaccine; and the vaccination of minors has been especially slow.¹ The relaxation of COVID-19 prevention measures, in part due to the lower lethality of the Omicron variant and the decreased number of infections, is causing concern within the health sector. Holy week gatherings will take place in mid-April and the presence of another variant of COVID-19, Omicron BA, has been confirmed in the country,² meaning that there could be another wave of infections next quarter.

¹ <https://datosmacro.expansion.com/otros/coronavirus-vacuna/guatemala>

² <https://www.prensalibre.com/guatemala/comunitario/salud-confirma-nueva-variante-de-omicron-en-guatemala-y-temen-repunte-de-casos-por-semana-santa-breaking/>

COVID-19 continues to impact the most vulnerable families. The return to school has been slow, which will have a long-term effect on millions of children, adolescents, and youth as well as society.³ Out of school youth also contributes to increased household tensions, as adults must balance the care and education of children with work and economic responsibilities. Many families in rural Guatemala continue to lack access to internet and computers/devices for their children to attend school virtually. An increase in the cost of living due to the lasting impacts of COVID-19, as well as rising cost of fuels, is contributing to the crisis. As of the beginning of March, 3,230 cases of acute malnutrition were reported in-country.⁴ Decreased food security and increased tension within families contributes to intra-familial violence and migration.

As COVID-19 restrictions have been lifted, cases of femicide have increased. During FY22Q2, 261 femicides were reported; 135 of which were reported in March. According to the Mutual Support Group (*Grupo de Apoyo Mutuo*, GAM), this is the highest number of femicides reported in the country in 11 years.⁵ This coincides with an upward trend in homicidal violence observed in the first quarter of 2022, with 1,093 cases reported by the National Institute of Forensic Sciences (*Instituto Nacional de Ciencias Forenses*, INACIF).⁶

Although the elections are not until 2023, 2022 marks the start of the pre-electoral period, which is already contributing to increased political and social polarization. The Attorney General (*Ministerio Publico*, MP), Consuelo Porras, continues to face fierce criticism from social sectors as her office continues to crackdown on independent prosecutors.⁷ As a result, over the last quarter, multiple prosecutors investigating high-level corruption cases have retired or gone into exile. In addition, the selection process for Human Rights Ombudsmen (PDH) and the University of San Carlos de Guatemala (*Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala*, USAC) Rector have been marked with allegations of corruption. Finally, this quarter saw changes in high-level public officials, which weakens public institutions and has led to delays in project activities. Specifically, there were changes to key officials in MINGOB, UPCV, COPADEH, and SVET.

On International Women's Day, the Guatemalan Congress passed a bill prohibiting same-sex marriage, increasing jail time for women who have abortions, and limiting sex education.⁸ The PDH, international organizations, and local human rights groups swiftly denounced the legislation, which was ultimately shelved by Congress after President Giammattei announced that he would veto it. However, despite the law not taking effect, it represents a threat to sexual and reproductive rights and will have a lasting negative impact on social context in country, possibly leading to an increase in hate crimes and speech.

³ <https://www.bancomundial.org/es/news/immersive-story/2021/01/22/urgent-effective-action-required-to-quell-the-impact-of-covid-19-on-education-worldwide>

⁴ [https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/guatemala-desnutrici%C3%B3n_guatemala-registra-3.230-casos-de-ni%C3%B1os-con-desnutrici%C3%B3n-durante-2022/4739620#:~:text=Guatemala%20registra%203.230%20casos%20de%20ni%C3%B1os%20con%20desnutrici%C3%B3n%20durante%202022,-Este%20contenido%20fue&text=Ciudad%20de%20Guatemala%2C%202%20mar.y%20Asistencia%20Social%20\(MSPAS\).](https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/guatemala-desnutrici%C3%B3n_guatemala-registra-3.230-casos-de-ni%C3%B1os-con-desnutrici%C3%B3n-durante-2022/4739620#:~:text=Guatemala%20registra%203.230%20casos%20de%20ni%C3%B1os%20con%20desnutrici%C3%B3n%20durante%202022,-Este%20contenido%20fue&text=Ciudad%20de%20Guatemala%2C%202%20mar.y%20Asistencia%20Social%20(MSPAS).)

⁵ <https://www.efe.com/efe/america/sociedad/guatemala-registro-en-marzo-135-femicidios-la-cantidad-mas-alta-11-anos/20000013-4782109>

⁶ <https://lahora.gt/violencia-homicida-va-al-alza-en-el-primer-trimestre-de-2022/>

⁷ <https://insightcrime.org/news/guatemala-prosecutor-crackdown-corruption/>

⁸ <https://www.opendemocracy.net/en/5050/women-battle-guatemalas-new-anti-abortion-and-anti-lgbt-law/>

Migration

Despite the 50 percent increase in death rates among Guatemalan migrants in transit to the US and the warning of increased risks along the way, migration is likely to increase.⁹ According to the AmericasBarometer 2021 report, intentions to migrate are likely to increase due to the deterioration of the economic conditions for families and increase in food insecurity due to the impacts of COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁰ According to the Guatemalan Migration Institute, from January to March, almost 10,500 Guatemalans returned from the US or Mexico. Remittances continue to grow at a rate of 30 percent compared to 2021.¹¹ According to international organizations, remittances allow more than 6 million people (33 percent of the population) to survive.¹² This quarter, the capture of several *coyotes* was reported, as well as the detainment of several undocumented persons who were to be transported illegally to the US.¹³

The Peacebuilding Project recognizes that social conflict is often a driver of migration, and that migration can be a trigger for new conflicts in communities. Both conflict and migration result from entrenched inequality, exclusion, vulnerability, and poverty. Social conflicts negatively impact investment in the most vulnerable and marginalized communities by limiting economic opportunities and pushing people to migrate in search of opportunity and better living conditions. Gender, youth, and family conflicts also contribute to people leaving for safety reasons. In turn, irregular migration increases social conflict, especially at the family level, due to tensions generated by separation, acquired debts, and unfulfilled expectations, among others.

Increased corruption and impunity have an adverse impact on migration and social conflict. Corruption hinders the Guatemalan state's capacity to improve the conditions that cause migration and social conflict by diverting public resources intended for development. It discourages private investment and diminishes the population's trust in institutions, causing them to lose hope in improving their living conditions.

Analysis of Project Implementation

Challenges and Lessons Learned

The main challenges and lessons learned this quarter are:

- Changes in officials within partner government institutions, specifically COPADEH, MINGOB, SVET, and UPCV. The turnover caused delays in implementation as the project needs to be presented to the new officials to gain their support and commitment.

⁹ <https://www.prensalibre.com/guatemala/migrantes/muertes-de-migrantes-en-transito-aumentaron-50-por-ciento-en-2021/>

¹⁰ USAID, Vanderbilt University, LAPOP. LAPOP's Americas Barometer. Pulse of Democracy.

https://www.vanderbilt.edu/lapop/ab2021/2021_LAPOP_AmericasBarometer_Pulse_of_Democracy.pdf

¹¹ <https://www.prensalibre.com/economia/guatemala-recibe-us40-millones-diarios-en-remesas-familiares-en-los-primeros-meses-de-2022/>

¹² https://www.swissinfo.ch/spa/guatemala-remesas_guatemala-recibe-hist%C3%B3rica-cifra-de-remesas-durante-enero-de-2022/47332170#:~:text=%2D%20Guatemala%20recibi%C3%B3%20en%20enero%20de,martes%20por%20la%20banca%20central.

¹³ <https://agn.gt/category/migrantes/>

- Changes in community and indigenous authorities, which takes place at the beginning of each year and require presentations of the project to ensure continued support.
- Social polarization due to the pre-electoral process has deepened divisive factors at the community and municipal levels. For example, in the case of Nebaj, the Municipal Council is politically divided, which will likely impact municipal entry next quarter.
- Passage of the “Law for Life and Family,” although ultimately shelved by Congress, impacts the project’s planned activities. As noted in the background, the law has a negative impact on the context and the operating environment. The project will make sure that all activities adhere to Do No Harm principles while reinforcing the importance of human rights for all sectors of society.
- Addressing issues of new masculinities to contribute to the prevention of violence against women requires developing a strategy that includes specific awareness raising actions for different actors in a way that respects their values and culture and adheres to Do No Harm principles.
- There are increasing requests for in-person activities with the Networks of Youth Spokespersons and Network of Mediators, which require compliance with COVID-19 prevention measures. To date, the majority of these trainings and meetings have been virtual.
- The participation of indigenous women is stronger when activities are conducted in the Mayan language and when activities are facilitated by an indigenous woman.
- In indigenous communities, midwives are highly recognized, influential and have a great deal of information, especially on issues related to violence against women, children, and youth. They should be promoted as key players in the community and in project activities.
- Stakeholder attendance at community-level activities is most effective when convened by the person with the most legitimacy to do so. Conducting a good stakeholder analysis as a starting point for project work in communities is essential.
- Training activities should include graphic or audiovisual material to facilitate the understanding and acquisition of new knowledge, particularly for adults. Visual forums have proven to be a useful alternative to maintain interest, especially for women and youth.

Social Inclusion and Gender Integration

Social exclusion is an important structural factor contributing to social conflict. Women, indigenous peoples, and youth are among the most excluded groups in Guatemala. These groups may find themselves in situations that trigger social conflict and generally suffer the most negative impacts. As such, these groups are key actors in the peaceful and sustainable resolution of social conflict. As a result, the effective participation and representation of historically marginalized groups is a key aspect of Peacebuilding Project activities.

Gender Representation and Prevention of GBV: During this quarter, the project focused on three main areas for promoting gender equity and women’s empowerment and preventing gender-based violence:

1. Strengthening relationships and alliances with institutional counterparts responsible for the advancement of women. The project deepened its coordination and the implementation of activities with SEPREM, DEMI, and SVET this quarter.

2. Coordinating efforts to facilitate psychosocial services and healing therapies for women victims and survivors of gender-based violence in collaboration with DEMI (see Activity 2.1.1); and
3. Providing information on formal reporting mechanism and institutions available to support women experiencing GBV. This information has been shared through the campaign, “*Yo respeto a mi familia, vivo sin violencia*” (see Activity 2.1.3) as well as during the events organized as a part of International Women’s Day (see Activity 1.2.3).

Youth Inclusion: This quarter, the Peacebuilding Project promoted the inclusion of youth through the following key activities:

1. This quarter, youth from the Network of *Voceros Juveniles*, with support from DEMOS, conducted outreach with OMJs in their municipalities. The purpose of the outreach was for the youth to better understand the functions, plans, and contacts within the offices as well as to present the work of the network and to link the youth-led initiatives with municipal offices and commissions.
2. In March, Network of *Voceros* participated in activities to commemorate International Women’s Day. They youth screened their plays that included messages about gender inequalities and shared the challenges of being a woman and a young person in their communities (see Activity 1.2.3).
3. Young people from 10 municipalities participated in identifying community problems that directly affect them and are involved in the development of plans to respond to these conflicts. They also participated in the formation of “Friends of Peace” groups and “Municipalities for Peace” (see Activity 2.2.1).

Indigenous Peoples Engagement: This quarter, the Peacebuilding Project ensured the participation of indigenous peoples through the following key activities:

1. The Indigenous Advisory Group met to discuss progress in the implementation of the Indigenous People Engagement Plan and share information about the current context for indigenous peoples in the country (see cross-cutting activities, Activity 4).
2. The Internal Committee for Indigenous Perspectives held a dialogue on “Knowledge and Complementarity of Efforts by Indigenous Peoples” with the project team to strengthen their knowledge and understanding of indigenous practices.
3. SVET shared the National Plan for the Prevention of Sexual Violence, Exploitation, and Trafficking in Persons with the Board of Directors and communal authorities of 48 *Cantones* in Totonicapán. The plan includes quantitative information, local crime context, and a summary of the activities coordinated between SVET and 48 Cantones in 2021.
4. The project grantees Center for Research and Projects for Development and Peace (*Centro de Investigaciones y Proyectos para el Desarrollo y la Paz*, CEIDEPAZ) and Guatemala Association of Indigenous Mayors and Authorities (*Asociación Guatemalteca de Alcaldes y Autoridades Indígenas*, AGAAI) continued to implement their projects focused on knowledge and capacity building to strengthen ancestral and indigenous authorities in peacefully resolving conflict.

Operational and Project Management Activities

Cost Share and Leverage: Please see Annex E for a breakdown of cost share and leverage by activity, source, objective, and amount for FY22Q2. Cost share is also reported in the quarterly financial report.

Table 1: Cost Share and Leverage, FY22Q2 and Life of Project

Mechanism	FY22Q2	Life of Project	
	Amount	Amount	Percentage
Cost Share	\$92,467.07	\$192,019.65	32%
Leverage	\$28,042.73	\$98,106.36	11%

Human Resources: This quarter, the following positions were hired: Jr. Finance Manager (February – internal promotion); Jr. Communication Specialist (February); and Jr. Procurement Assistant (February). The project began recruiting for the following positions, which will be hired next quarter: Administrative Coordinator (Quetzaltenango), Municipal Strengthening Officer (Quetzaltenango or project municipality), two Community Facilitators (Huehuetenango), Reporting, Learning and Communication Coordinator (Quetzaltenango or Guatemala City), Temporary Program Assistant (Guatemala City) and Sr. Finance Assistant (Quetzaltenango).

Subawards and Grants: During FY22Q2, the project had seven active subawards, of which one ended this quarter (FUDESA's communication strategy for social and behavioral change). Two subawards received extensions; the Expansion and Strengthening of the Network of Youth Spokespersons implemented DEMOS received a no-cost extension and the Strengthening of Skills for Managing Social Conflict for Community Mayors and Authorities from 48 *Cantones* by CEIDEPAZ received a no-cost extension. Association Miriam was approved on March 31 and will be signed next quarter. The Political Association for Mayan Women (*Asociación Política de Mujeres Mayas*, MOLOJ) grants package is with USAID and will be signed early next quarter.

Table 2: Active and Planned Peacebuilding Project Subawards, FY22Q2

Name of Award	Award dates	Grantee	Amount
Open Awards			
Implementation of a communication strategy for social and behavioral change for the prevention and reduction of domestic violence in the Western Highlands (phase 2)	June 07, 2021 - March 31, 2022 (original end date: Dec. 31, 2021)	FUDESA	\$80,778.57
Expansion and strengthening of the Network of Youth Spokespersons for Peace (phase 2)	June 08, 2021 – May 16, 2022 (original end date: February 28, 2022)	DEMOS	\$151,094.15
Institutional strengthening of COPADEH	August 16, 2021 - August 16, 2022	In-kind grant to COPADEH	\$100,375.00
Strengthening of skills for managing social conflict for Community Mayors	September 06, 2021 – May 02, 2022 (original	CEIDEPAZ	\$59,867.47

and Authorities from 48 <i>Cantones</i> , Totonicapán	end date: March 06, 2022)		
Strengthening of Indigenous and Ancestral Authorities for Conflict Management and Peacebuilding	September 27, 2021 - July 29, 2022	AGAAI	\$46,548.06
Follow-up on the process for socializing and receiving feedback on the draft regulations for consultations with Indigenous peoples as stipulated by ILO Convention 169	February 21, 2022 – August 22, 2022	In-kind grant to Ministry of Energy and Mines (<i>Ministerio de Energy y Minas</i> , MEM)	\$165,677.42
Implementation and Installation of a National Early Warning and Response System (phase 3)	March 10, 2022 – January 10, 2023	Institute for Sustainable Development (<i>Instituto de Enseñanza para el Desarrollo Sostenible</i> , IEPADES)	\$149,757.27
Pending Awards (published but not yet awarded)			
Addressing gender-based violence	24 months	Asociación MIRIAM	\$250,000.00
Empowerment of women of the western highlands of Guatemala as actors in the promotion of peace	24 months	MOLOJ	\$212,939.54
Strategy for approaching the promotion of human rights of LGBTQI+ persons	10 months	Tentatively: Asociación Somos Jóvenes Diversos en Acción	\$41,000.00
Conflict transformation in schools	11 months	TBD	\$200,000.00
Assistance to LGBTQI+ persons who are victims and/or survivors of discrimination or bias-based violence	18 months	Tentatively: Asociación Vidas Paralelas	\$100,000.00
Expansion and strengthening of the Network of Youth Spokespersons for peace and implementation of initiatives for peace (phase 3)	08 months	Tentatively: DEMOS	\$140,000.00
Communication campaign for social and behavioral change on peace and prevention of social conflict around natural resources	10 months	Tentatively: FUDESA	\$70,000.00

Geographic Plan/ Community Selection

The project has conducted municipal and community entry using a phase approach (outlined in the FY2021 Annual Report and the FY2022 Workplan). As of FY22Q2, the project is implementing in 84 communities in 10 municipalities and anticipates implementing in 130 communities in 15 municipalities by the end of FY2022. Please see Activity 1.1.2 for more information on entry progress this quarter.

Narrative of FY22Q1 Activities by Objective/ Result

Cross-Cutting Activities

Activity 1: Develop and implement Peacebuilding Project Gender Integration and Social Inclusion Plan, Indigenous Peoples Engagement Strategy, and Youth Participation Strategy

The project recognizes that social exclusion is one of the contributing factors to persistent social conflict in the country and that women, youth, indigenous peoples, and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer, and Intersex (LGBTQI+) individuals are among the most marginalized groups. The project also recognizes that these groups suffer the impacts of social conflicts more severely, increasing their vulnerability, but that they also play an important role in the peaceful resolution of conflicts and in promoting development in their communities. The activities implemented with these groups are mainstreaming throughout the project and reported under the appropriate Objective and Result below. Please see the Social Inclusion and Gender Integration section for analysis of these efforts.

Activity 2: Develop and implement the Peacebuilding Project Strategic Communication Plan

Strategic communication is a fully integrated component in the design of the Peacebuilding Project. To ensure that the Branding Strategy and Marking Plan (BSMP) approved by USAID is properly applied by all project partners, the communication team developed an updated guide this quarter for short-term subgrantee partners. In addition, multiple communication materials were updated and/or created this quarter; see Annex F for the updated materials.

Table 3: Communication Materials, Updated FY22Q2

Departmental Informational Sheets
Department of Huehuetenango
Municipal Informational Sheets
Municipality of San Pedro Necta, Huehuetenango
Municipality of Huehuetenango and community of Chilojá
Municipality of Chiantla, Huehuetenango
Subgrantee/ Partner Project Informational Sheets
Association MIRIAM
CEIDPAZ
DEMOS
GoG Institutional Strengthening Informational Sheet

Audiovisual materials are an important part of adult training and learning processes. This quarter, the project developed learning videos on the following topics for use across all three objectives: a) assertive communication; b) conflict analysis; and c) social conflicts. The videos focus on transmitting information and increasing knowledge that contributes to more effective conflict management.

As part of the communication strategy, the project publishes key messages on social media related to relevant international days. The project is able to engage different stakeholders, such as youth and women, in developing and disseminating the messages related to conflict mitigation and peacebuilding. The Peacebuilding Project partners also shared the messages through their networks, reaching a wider audience.

Table 4: Days Commemorated by the Peacebuilding Project, FY22Q2

Day	Date
International Day of Education	January 24
World Day of Social Justice	February 20
International Women's Day	March 8

Activity 3: Publish Peacebuilding Project Bulletins and Analysis

A core component of the Peacebuilding Project is to produce timely analysis on the most salient issues related to social conflict. This quarter, the project prepared an internal analysis to improve communication and understanding around the topics and issues most relevant to the project. Please see Annex G for the FY22Q2 internal analysis on social conflict. Please see Annex H for this quarter's external bulletin.

Activity 4: Establish Peacebuilding Project Advisory Council and Indigenous Advisory Group

Peacebuilding Project Advisory Council: The Peacebuilding Project Advisory Council is a mechanism to facilitate the advancement of the Peacebuilding Project objectives and provide technical advice on issues related to peacebuilding and reduction of social conflict and violence. The project held one virtual advisory council meeting this quarter on March 24 with eight people (four women and four men). The meeting included a context analysis to identify variables that could affect project implementation during the remainder of 2022 and to be prepared to adapt and implement mitigation measures. The five main variables identified were: a) polarization due to the pre-electoral period; b) increased institutional weakness; c) aggravation of social tension due to the increase in the cost of food, fuel and food insecurity, among other factors; d) weakening of citizen participation due to the recently passed NGO law, which may affect the work of youth networks, women and project partners; e) political crisis derived from the election processes of the attorney general, the PDH, the rector of the public university and the general controller of the nation, which may result in protests that could impact mobilization and activities.

Indigenous Advisory Group: In accordance with the Mayan value *Tink'ulub'ej*, which means “give and receive advice and guidance”, the Peacebuilding Project formed an Indigenous Advisory Group to support project interaction with indigenous peoples, promote cultural relevance, and integrate indigenous perspectives in project implementation. This quarter, on March 1, a meeting was held between the projects Internal Committee for Indigenous Perspectives and the external Indigenous Advisory Group with the participation of seven people (two women and five men). The objective of the meeting was to strengthen the interaction between the two groups and advance the implementation of the projects Indigenous Peoples Engagement Strategy. During the meeting, the work plan was reviewed and there was a dialogue about the challenges of working in the

Western Highlands. There was also an analysis of social conflict from the perspective of indigenous peoples.

Objective 1: Establish and/or strengthen inclusive locally-led engagement, dialogue, and mapping to identify, prioritize, and develop action plans addressing sources of and increase resilience to social conflict and the impacts of COVID-19 on social cohesion

Result 1.1. Communities and local authorities¹⁴ are prepared to come together to discuss and address social conflict

Activity 1.1.1. Train Community Facilitators (CFs)

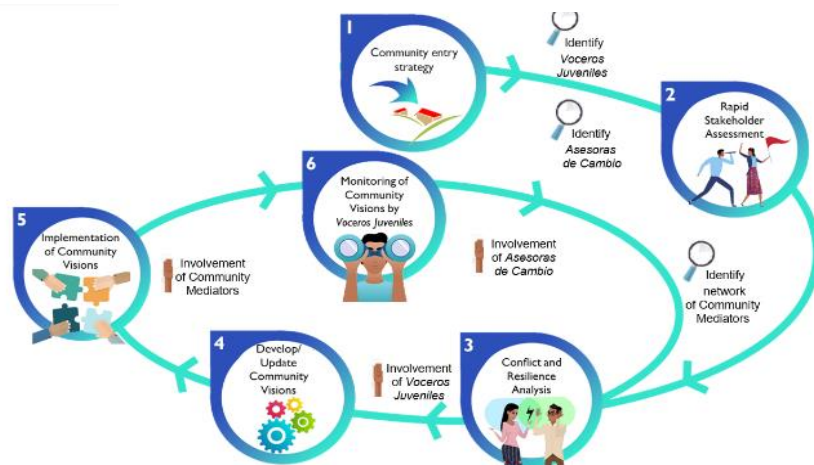
A strong community implementation team is key to the success of all Peacebuilding Project activities at the community level. In addition, building local capacity is one of the project's core implementation principles and is critical to building long-term sustainability. During FY22Q2, Peacebuilding Project partner, ProPaz implemented their training for community facilitators to strengthen their capacity in key areas. Eighteen people (nine women and nine men), including 13 community facilitators, three community supervisors, the Gender Facilitator, and the Social Conflict Manager, participated in two trainings this quarter. The trainings, held on January 14 and February 11, addressed methodologies for facilitating training processes and conflict types. The trainings were participatory and focused on adult learning.

In addition to training the community implementation, ProPaz held three trainings for the entire project staff: 1) municipal organization and dynamics on January 31; 2) reflections on a culture of peace from the experience of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) on February 28; and 3) a comprehensive look at violence prevention on February 28. Thirty-eight project staff members (16 women and 22 men) participated in the three training sessions.

Activity 1.1.2. Design and implement community and municipal entry strategy

The community entry strategy is designed to initiate contact with key stakeholders early on at the departmental, municipal, and community levels to generate interest and support, as well as ensure a shared vision of expectations. This quarter, the community implementation team continued to conduct entry at the community level in the first and second groups of municipalities.

Figure 1: Community Implementation Cycle



¹⁴ The Peacebuilding Project defines local authorities as community leaders, traditional authorities, and municipal authorities. Local authorities are those actors that play a leadership role at the municipal and community levels, whether formal or non-formal.

Community Level: During FY22Q2, the community implementation team visited 26 communities in eight municipalities; in 16 of the communities, it was the first time that the project visited and in 10 it was a return visit to address any questions. In each community, the team met with community authorities and leaders to present the objectives and scope of the project. Community leaders at this stage include Community Development Council (*Consejo Comunitario de Desarrollo*) COCODE representatives and community mayors (*alcaldes comunitarios*). The project makes every effort to include male and female representatives, although most of the representatives in these bodies are male. In total, 142 community members (38 women and 104 men) engaged with the project during community entry this quarter. Please see Annex I for a list of communities by municipality.

Table 5: Community Entry, FY22Q2

Department	Municipality	Number of communities visited	First visit	Revisit	Participants		
					Women	Men	Total
Huehuetenango	Chiantla	4	4	0	4	8	12
	Huehuetenango	6	2	4	11	25	36
	San Pedro Necta	4	2	2	6	16	22
Quiché	Chichicastenango	3	1	2	8	14	22
	San Gaspar Chajul	2	1	1	5	16	21
	San Andrés Sajcabajá	1	0	1	0	0	0
San Marcos	Comitancillo	2	2	0	4	16	20
Totonicapán	Totonicapán	4	4	0	0	9	9
Total		26	16	10	38	104	142

Activity 1.1.3. Conduct Rapid Stakeholder Assessment

The second step in the community implementation cycle is the rapid stakeholder assessment. The purpose of the rapid stakeholder assessment exercise is to identify key actors for each of the types of conflicts in each community. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness about the project and its activities and start to build trust and momentum with participants. The project carried out the rapid stakeholder assessment in communities in five municipalities and 14 communities this quarter. In total, 213 community members (104 women and 109 men) engaged with the project through rapid stake holder assessments this quarter.

Table 6: Rapid Stakeholder Assessments, FY22Q2

Department	Municipality	Number of Communities	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Huehuetenango	Huehuetenango	4	18	25	43
Quiché	Chichicastenango	3	16	21	37
	San Andrés Sajcabajá	1	0	5	5
	San Gaspar Chajul	3	33	27	60
	San Juan Cortzal	3	37	31	68
Total		14	104	109	213

Result 1.2. Communities and local authorities identify, prioritize, and devise strategies to address sources of and resilience to social conflict.

Activity 1.2.1. Facilitate community-driven conflict and resilience analysis and develop community visions

Once communities are prepared to come together to discuss and address social conflict, the project starts working with community members to identify, prioritize, and devise strategies to address sources of and resilience to social conflict.

Broad-based, Participatory Conflict and Resilience Analysis (CRA): The project conducted CRAs in seven municipalities during FY22Q2. In total, 734 community members (354 women and 380 men) participated in CRA sessions.

Table 7: Conflict and Resilience Analysis, FY22Q2

Department	Municipality	Number of communities	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Huehuetenango	Huehuetenango	6	92	94	186
Quiché	Chichicastenango	1	6	19	25
	San Andrés Sajcabajá	8	77	95	172
	San Gaspar Chajul	10	77	60	137
	San Juan Cotzal	11	99	93	192
San Marcos	San Miguel Ixtahuacán	3	2	13	15
Totonicapán	Totonicapán	1	1	6	7
Total		40	354	380	734

Facilitate Development of Community Visions (CVs): CVs are currently being developed in the second group of communities based on the results of the CRA process. The project anticipates having completed CVs in the second group of communities starting next quarter. No CVs from the first group of communities were updated this quarter.

Implementation and Dissemination of CVs: Please see Objective 2 for more information on the implementation of the CVs. The CVs in the first group of municipalities were disseminated to community members during FY2021. CVs in the second group have not yet been completed.

Activity 1.2.2. Support youth participation in local peacebuilding initiatives

Network of Voceros Juveniles para la Paz: A sub-award agreement was signed during FY2021 with DEMOS for the implementation of a follow-on grant aimed at expanding the network of *voceros juveniles* in the six municipalities in the second entry group. The grant originally went through February 28; however, the project provided DEMOS with a cost extension through May 16 to conduct research on the meaning of peace from the perspective of indigenous peoples with support from the youth network. During FY22Q2, members of the Network of *Voceros Juveniles para la Paz* created and disseminated awareness-raising messages to commemorate the following dates: International Day of Education, World Day of Social Justice, and messages for the prevention of COVID-19. Youth participants also participated in activities related to International

Women's Day.

During a virtual activity on February 22, which was attended by representatives from civil society organizations, government institutions, international organizations, and award recipients, members of the youth network shared some of their youth-led initiatives (see FY22Q1 for details on the initiatives). Two of the people recognized as Weavers of Peace by the network were presented at the meeting: Rafaela Ventura, a midwife from Chichicastenango, and Antonio Zacarías, a community leader from San Juan Cotzal. In addition, the play *Sueño Despierta* was shown, which tells the story of young people's concerns about migrating to other countries due to the lack of opportunities, the risks involved in displacement, and the family disintegration it entails. Finally, youth from different communities shared their experiences and lessons learned from participating in the network. In total 101 people (78 women and 23 men) participated in the activity.

Other youth activities: During FY22Q2 the project continued to engage in the *Red de Redes* initiative being implemented by USAID projects with youth across the country. On March 8, a youth committee meeting was held with representatives from the *Nexos Locales*, Proinnova, and Peacebuilding projects. At the meeting, a proposed curriculum for the diploma course on human rights was developed. On March 31, the human rights course was launched. The course consists of six modules, in which five youth from the Peacebuilding Project are participating.

The Peacebuilding Project coordinated with the Puentes Project to implement a course on successful entrepreneurship for young people in the community of San José Ixcániche in San Miguel Ixtahuacán, San Marcos. This course is being implemented with the support of FundaSistemas. It is a 6-month program, with sessions addressing topics such as a life plan, self-esteem, employment, and entrepreneurship, among other topics. This quarter, six sessions have been developed with the participation of 24 young people (18 women and five men). The activity responds to a conflict identified in the category of youth, gender and families, specifically that lack of education and work opportunities as resulted in youth vagrancy and alcoholism and has created tensions within families in the community of San José Ixcániche. As a result of the course, it is expected that participants will be to complete their studies and start their own businesses.

Activity 1.2.3. Support women's active role in community peacebuilding

Commemoration of key dates: This quarter, the project implemented activities related to International Women's Day during the month of March. The project ensured the participation of youth in these activities, especially in Comitancillo and Huehuetenango.

Table 8: Activities for the commemoration of International Women's Day

Date	Activity	Location	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
03/08	Video Forum: Origin and meaning of March 8, viewing of " <i>Sueño Despierta</i> ," and remarks from <i>Voceras Juveniles</i>	Comitancillo, San Marcos	55	11	66
03/08	Commemoration of International Women's Day with the Municipal Violence Prevention	San Gaspar Chajul, Quiché	30	0	30

	Commission (<i>Comisión Municipal de Prevención de la Violencia, COMUPRE</i>)				
03/10	Panel/ Forum: Women and the Management of Natural Resources	Virtual Western Highlands	29	6	35
03/11	Workshop on women's legal rights	Pachoc, Totonicapán,	37	11	48
03/14	Conference "Empowerment and leadership of women for the prevention of violence against girls, adolescents and women in the department of Huehuetenango"	Huehuetenango, Huehuetenango	39	7	46
03/16	Workshop on women's legal rights	Chichicastenango, Quiché	44	4	48
03/18	Commemoration of International Women's Day	San Pedro Necta, Huehuetenango	97	2	99
03/18	Conference on the meaning of March 8 and women's economic rights	Virtual Western Highlands	1	1	2
03/25	Discussion "Women Inspiring Other Women"	Virtual Western Highlands	134	49	183

Asesoras de Cambio: The project re-published the Request for Applications (RFA) for "Empowerment of Women of the Western Highlands of Guatemala as Actors in the Promotion of Peace" during FY22Q1 as a limited competition. MOLOJ was selected and the subgrants package was submitted to USAID for approval. Implementation will begin next quarter.

Result 1.3. Communities and local authorities have increased resources for peaceful conflict resolution

Activity 1.3.1. Establish and strengthen network of community mediators

The mediator network is designed to serve as a resource that communities, municipalities, and departmental authorities can call upon to generate conditions for dialogue or facilitate peaceful conflict resolution, particularly once the community visions have been developed. During FY22Q2, the project trained a second cohort of mediators. Thirty-three (33) people (20 women and 13 men) participated in 30 hours of training over the 13 sessions. The participants come from civil society, indigenous authorities/ organizations, municipalities, and government agencies. Participants from the first cohort of mediators participated in a closing ceremony, which was a first step in linking the two cohorts into a consolidated network, an effort which will continue next quarter. Next quarter, the project will also continue linking the mediator network to government institutions, municipal authorities, and community members so that they have increased resources for peaceful conflict resolution.

Table 9: Training sessions for the second cohort of network of mediators, FY22Q2

Session	Topic	Date
Opening	Opening session	Feb. 1
Session 1	Peacebuilding and the Peace Accords	Feb. 3
Session 2	Types of conflict	Feb. 8

Session 3	Do No Harm approach	Feb. 10
Session 4	Alternative methods for conflict resolution	Feb. 15
Session 5	Tools for conflict analysis	Feb. 17
Session 6	Constructive communication	Feb. 22
Session 7	Mediation	Feb. 24
Session 8	Schools or models of mediation	March 1
Session 9	Context analysis and conflict mapping	March 3
Session 10	Dialogue and democratic dialogue	March 8
Session 11	Inter-culturality and human rights	March 10
Session 12	Gender, families and youth	March 15
Session 13	Interpersonal relationships and management of emotions	March 17
Closing	Closing sesión	March 22

Objective 2: Build partnerships between communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders to implement plans prioritized by communities.

Result 2.1. Communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders implement action plans to address drivers of social conflict and promote cohesion

Activity 2.1.1. Support target communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders in implementing conflict mitigation and peacebuilding strategies

Grants Fund and Internal Project Resources: The Peacebuilding Project has a small grants fund designed to support the implementation of CVs and other locally led actions that contribute to reducing social conflict and increasing social cohesion in the Western Highlands. A detailed explanation of the implementation of these grants is included in the relevant sections of this report. This quarter, the project had seven open awards (one ended, two were extended, two were awarded, and two were on-going) and seven in development.

Table 10: Summary of Peacebuilding Project Small Grants in Implementation and Development

Name of Award	Grantee	Activity	Summary
Open Awards			
Expansion and strengthening of the Network of Youth Spokespersons for Peace (Phase 2) (Award extended)	DEMOS	1.2.2	To strengthen youth involvement in peacebuilding processes. DEMOS completed a training process with youth networks in the 10 target municipalities and is supporting the youth in the development of initiatives.
Implementation of a communication strategy for social and behavioral change for the prevention and reduction of domestic violence in the Western Highlands (phase 2) (Award completed)	FUDESA	2.1.3	To prevent inter-familial/ domestic violence, FUDESA implemented a communication campaign in the 10 target municipalities.
Institutional strengthening of COPADEH (Award on-going)	COPADEH	3.1.1	To contribute to the institutional strengthening of COPADEH, a consulting

			firm is implementing a training process with COPADEH staff.
Strengthening of skills for managing social conflict for Community Mayors and Authorities from 48 <i>Cantones</i> , Totonicapán (Award extended)	CEIDEPАЗ	3.1.3	CEIDEPАЗ implemented a training program with 48 <i>Cantones</i> to strengthen their capacity to address social conflict.
Strengthening of Indigenous and Ancestral Authorities for Conflict Management and Peacebuilding (Award on-going)	AGAAI	3.1.3	AGAAI is working with indigenous authorities across the Western Highlands to strengthen their skills to address social conflict.
Implementation and Installation of a National Early Warning and Response System (Awarded)	IEPADES	3.1.2	IEPADES is implementing the third phase of their grant related to early warning and response to social conflict.
Follow-up on the process for socializing and receiving feedback on the draft regulations for consultations with Indigenous peoples as stipulated by ILO Convention 169 (Awarded)	MEM	3.1.1	The project grants team worked with MEM to finalize their in-kind grant, through a consulting firm, which focuses on finalizing materials for consultations with Indigenous peoples.
Awards in Development			
Expansion and strengthening of the Network of Youth Spokespersons for Peace. (Phase 3)	DEMOS	1.2.2	To strengthen youth involvement in peacebuilding processes, DEMOS will continue trainings with youth networks in the target municipalities, expending to the final five municipalities.
Conflict transformation in the school environment	TBD	1.2.2	Create and implement an intervention strategy in educational centers that allows mediation and peaceful conflict transformation from the perspective of youth through training and coexistence actions.
Empowerment of women of the Western Highlands of Guatemala as actors in the promotion of peace (grant package with USAID)	MOLOJ	1.2.3	MOLOJ has been selected to implement a grant focused on training <i>Asesoras de Cambio</i> .
Addressing gender-based violence (grant package approved by USAID on March 31)	Asociación MIRIAM	2.1.1	Asociación MIRIAM has been selected to implement a grant focused on providing culturally relevant attention to victims of GBV.
Assistance to LGBTQI+ persons who are victims and/or survivors of discrimination or bias-based violence	Tentatively Vidas Paralelas	2.1.1	Facilitate differentiated prevention and psychosocial care services for victims and/or survivors of discrimination or violence due to prejudice, at the individual and family level for lesbian, gay, trans, queer, intersex, and other persons, under principles of equity and cultural relevance.
Communication campaign for social and behavioral change on peace and prevention of social conflict around natural resources and the environment	Tentatively FUDESA	2.1.3	Conceptualize, design and validate a communication campaign on peace and conflict prevention around natural resources

			and the environment, jointly with communities and municipal governments.
Strategy for approaching the promotion of human rights of LGBTQI+ persons	Tentatively Asociación SOMOS	2.1.3	Contribute to the transformation of social imaginaries that cause exclusion and discrimination based on gender identity in the Western Highlands of Guatemala.

External Resources and Strategic Partnerships: Key actors for external partnerships include the private sector, civil society organizations/ universities, municipal authorities (see Activity 1.1.2 and Activity 2.2.1), community members (see Activity 1.1.2), and non-USG international cooperation agencies. Over the course of FY22Q2, the Peacebuilding Project team continued to conduct outreach and engagement with representatives from these sectors.

Private sector

- Novella Foundation: Peacebuilding Project staff held three working meetings with Novella Foundation and the third Vice-Ministry for the Prevention of Crime and Violence to develop a joint proposal to support strengthening MINGOB in developing and implementing municipal strategies for addressing social conflict. The Peacebuilding Project will provide technical assistances and training through its project staff and the Novella Foundation will provide logistical support for meetings and activities. This activity would be part of institutional strengthening of MINGOB under Activity 3.1.1; as such the activities will take place in Guatemala City, strengthening MINGOBs capacity to response to conflict in the Western Highlands.
- Association of Guatemalan Exporters (Asociación de Exportadores de Guatemala, AGEXPORT): The project met with AGEXPORT to discuss the possibility of developing a small grant that would focus on the economic empowerment of women in communities that identified this strategy for transforming the conflicts, including gender-based violence (which includes economic violence against women). AGEXPORT would address two factors that drive migration: lack of economic opportunities and violence against women. The initiative will benefit approximately 225 women. The technical team is currently selecting the communities/ municipalities to covered and will finalize next quarter.

Civil Society and Universities

- National Association of Mayors (Asociación Nacional de Municipalidades, ANAM): ANAM has been supporting trainings with members of COCODES in San Pedro Necta. This quarter they co-facilitated a workshop; see activity 2.1.1 for more details.
- Cooperation for the Rural Development of the Western Highlands, Cooperación para el Desarrollo Rural de Occidente, CDRO): The project continues to coordinate the implementation of a training program with midwives (known as *comadronas*) in the community of Nimapá, Totonicapán. See activity 2.1.1 for more details.

Indigenous Authorities/Organizations

- 48 Cantones: This quarter, CEIDPAZ completed a training process with 48 *Cantones* to strengthen their capacity for peaceful conflict management. See Activity 3.1.3 for details.

- AGAAI: AGAAI continued implementing their small grant this quarter; see Activity 3.1.3.

Other International Cooperation Agencies

- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ): The FOSIT program implemented by the German Cooperation Agency, GIZ, formally finalized transferring its methodologies to the Peacebuilding Project in February as part of their project close-out. Both projects value the importance of the continued use of these methodologies, which will be disseminated and used by the Peacebuilding Project in the Western Highlands.
- UNESCO: This quarter, two coordination meetings were held with UNESCO in which the following agreements were reached: 1) to develop a joint work plan to strengthen and recognize the role of midwives as weavers of peace; and b) to support the implementation of ProPaz's Municipalities for Peace initiative. In addition, UNESCO's education specialist participated in the second training session on culture of peace with the Peacebuilding Project team.

Public sector/ Government Institutions

- SEPREM: SEPREM departmental delegates have prioritized specific areas of the National Policy for the Promotion and Integral Development of Women in collaboration with the *Puentes*, *Nexos Locales*, Community Roots and Peacebuilding projects that focus on coordinating and implementing a training program for Municipal Women's Offices (*Dirección Municipal de la Mujer*, DMM). The training will address women's economic empowerment; prevention and eradication of violence against women; strengthening of institutional mechanisms; and promotion of women's socio-political participation.
- SVET: See Activity 3.1.1 for information on the activity held with the SVET this quarter. The project has developed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the SVET, which will be signed next quarter.
- DEMI: During FY22Q2, the project began a healing process for women survivors of violence and women still suffering from violence in Totonicapán, which is being implemented with the DEMI through a series of workshops. As part of the commemoration of International Women's Day, a conference was organized with the DEMI in Huehuetenango that enabled 13 DMM Directors to learn about the situation of violence in the department and the procedures for accompanying victims during the reporting process.
- PDH: The approval by the Congress (and subsequent shelving) of decree 18-2022 delayed the relationship with the Sexual Diversity Ombudsman's Office. It was agreed to continue next quarter with operational activities, an investigation on LGBTQI+ migration (which includes internal and international migration), and the creation of materials to promote basic concepts of human rights of the LGBTQI+ population and mechanisms of denunciation in cases of discrimination due to prejudice.

Implementation of CVs and Activities/ Technical Assistance to Address Conflicts: During FY22Q2, nine activities were implemented in support of community visions from 18 communities in four municipalities in the first entry group. A total of 236 people participated in the activities (118 women, 116 men, and two no response). The specific activities/ technical will be reported in the Annual Monitoring and Evaluation Report under *Indicator 2.1: Number of community*

strategies that are being implemented to address identified sources of conflict (which is an annual indicator). Below is a summary of the most impactful actions this quarter.

Chiantla, Huehuetenango

Natural resources: As a follow-up to the transformation of the conflict due to lack of potable water service and electricity charges by ENERGUATE in El Rancho, the Peacebuilding Project provided technical assistance and support to the community's COCODE in requesting verification from Municipal Disaster Reduction Office of the state of some of the sections of pipes where the water is piped from the spring to the community. The rainy season is approaching and parts of the road and ditches through which the pipeline passes have suffered damage. As a result of this process, the municipality sent the person in charge of the Municipal Disaster Reduction Office to verify the condition of the pipeline and made a commitment to forward the report to the Municipal Council for appropriate action.

San Pedro Necta, Huehuetenango

Governance: One of the contributing factors to conflict identified in multiple community visions in San Pedro Necta is the weak capacity of COCODES and community authorities to manage conflicts and response to the needs of citizens. In response, the following capacity building processes were held this quarter:

- Three training sessions were held for members of COCODEs from the project's intervention communities on alternative methods of conflict resolution. The trainers were led by ProPaz technical staff. Thirty-five people (11 women and 24 men) participated in the trainings, which will continue next quarter.

Table 11: Training sessions for members of COCODEs in San Pedro Necta on alternative methods of conflict resolution

Session	Topic	Date
1	Communication models: active and passive listening	January 19 and February 7
2	Nonviolent communication and conflict escalation	February 16
3	Dialogue and constructive negotiation skills	March 16

- On January 31, a workshop was held for members of COCODEs that focused on the functions, rights and obligations of community authorities based on the Law of Urban and Rural Development Councils and the Municipal Code. Nine people participated (three women and six men); this training was carried out in coordination with the ANAM and the Regional Council for Urban and Rural Development (*Consejo Regional de Desarrollo Urbano y Rural*, COREDUR).

Youth, gender and families: In response to conflicts identified in this category, this quarter the project has been working to support processes that address conflicts that affect youth and women:

- A training process on citizen participation and spaces for peaceful coexistence for young people began this quarter. On March 22, the first workshop on self-esteem and entrepreneurship was held with 26 youth (19 women and seven men). In addition, a

meeting was held with departmental delegates from the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Food (*Ministerio de Agricultura, Ganadería y Alimentación*, MAGA) and the cultural development department of City Hall on how to support youth from the community La Pinada and municipal center. It was agreed that next quarter there will be a youth art exhibition.

- Women's economic independence is a key element in the prevention of gender-based violence. In the community of Tepan, a group of women began organizing themselves to become entrepreneurs. The Peacebuilding Project facilitated support from ANAM to provide legal advice to 17 women in the community so that they can organize as a non-profit association and undertake economic projects. In addition, the project coordinated with the Ministry of Economy (*Ministerio de Economía*, MINECO) to advise the women's group. A meeting will be held next quarter with National Institute of Cooperatives (*Instituto Nacional de Cooperativas*, INACOO) to advise the group. This initiative has been implemented in close coordination with the San Pedro Necta DMM.

Comitancillo, San Marcos

Natural resources: The conflicts and triggers that have appeared most frequently in communities in Comitancillo fall into the category of natural resources. In response, the project has facilitated spaces for local authorities and organizations to discuss concrete actions to address them.

- Project technical staff met with the Departmental Delegate of the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (*Ministerio de Ambiente y Recursos Naturales*, MARN) of San Marcos on January 12. MARN committed to supporting processes proposed by community leaders and facilitating training processes that contribute to the mitigation natural resource conflicts, such as water scarcity, water distribution, and waste management. On March 16, local authorities, the Community Mayor's Office and the COCODE, with the technical support from the Peacebuilding Project, met to plan the implementation of an "Environmental Educators" training, which will address adequate management of solid waste.
- On February 17, the Association for the Integral Development of Municipalities of San Marcos Highlands (*Asociación de Desarrollo Integral de Municipalidades del Altiplano Marquense*, ADIMAM) and the Municipal Water and Sanitation Office of the Municipality of Comitancillo, with the support of the Peacebuilding Project, held a meeting to discuss a proposal to mitigate conflicts related to water scarcity. A training process on integrated water management in the communities with water conflicts will be led by the Municipal Water and Sanitation Office (*Oficina Municipal de Agua y Saneamiento*, OMAS) and facilitated by ADIMAM, with the support from the Peacebuilding Project.

Governance: In coordination with the Municipal Human Rights Commission, two training sessions were held to strengthen the capacities of community authorities for the prevention and mitigation of conflicts. The training sessions were held on February 9 and March 2, with the participation of 46 people (two women, 42 men, and two no responses). The topics addressed were: a) the role of mayors in addressing violence and conflict in the communities; and b) community organization and regulation for conflict prevention. AGAAI, personnel from the MP, the Public Criminal

Defense (*Defensa Pública Penal*), members of the Municipal Human Rights and Peace Commission, and the mayor, among others, participated.

Totonicapán, Totonicapán

Youth, gender and families: During FY22Q1 a training process began for midwives in the community of Nimapá to strengthen their leadership and knowledge so that they can exercise their rights and support other women in the prevention of gender-based violence. This quarter, three sessions were held, with the participation of 25 women. This training process will conclude next quarter and the project will develop a success story, focusing on outcomes of the training.

Table 12: Training sessions for midwives

Session	Topic	Date
2	Conflict	January 21
3	Alternative methods for conflict resolution	February 18
4	Communication	March 18

In coordination with DEMI, two self-support groups have been formed to provide psychosocial services and healing support to women victims and survivors of GBV. The process is implemented with two different groups, one with women who are still victims or have recently been victims; and the other group with women who have completed their individual psychological therapy process. This quarter, five sessions were held with 43 women. The process will be finalized next quarter and the team will identify outcomes from the process.

Table 13: Psychosocial services workshops with group 1

Session	Topic	Date
1	Definition of violence and its different manifestations	February 25
2	Transgenerational analysis of violence, family genogram and life timeline	March 17
3	Inner reflection	March 25

Table 14: Psychosocial services workshops with group 2

Session	Topic	Date
1	Self-esteem	March 04
2	Light and shadow	March 18

To strengthen the leadership of youth in the community of Nimapá, a training process began on March 25 with 18 youth (12 women and six men). The training started with a pre-test assessment and then focused on the topic of self-esteem. The training is being implemented in coordination with a public school in the community, community authorities, and an educator from the Ministry of Health

Governance: On March 21, a training process on domestic and gender-based violence for community authorities, women and youth who are members of the community board of Cojxac began in coordination with the DEMI and SVET. The first session, in which 26 people participated (11 women and 15 men), focused on an assessment of existing knowledge through a pre-test. It is

expected that this process will improve the authorities' responses to domestic violence and violence against women so that they can carry out a neutral management with full respect for human rights.

Natural resources: Logging was identified as a trigger for conflict in the community vision in Tzanixnam. In response, a training process is being held with 16 (all men) community authorities and members of the community's Natural Resources Board. During the first session, on March 28, a knowledge assessment was carried out and then a dialogue was held on the importance of natural resources and their conservation. The goal of the process is to agree on specific actions to mitigate the conflict.

Activity 2.1.2. Promote cross-learning

Participant Exchanges: On March 30, DEMOS organized a virtual exchange between the members of the *voceros juveniles* network to promote peer learning, interaction, and communication regarding the challenges, needs and opportunities within the network. Thirty-one people participated in the exchange (27 women and four men) from the 10 target municipalities. The main challenge of the network is to position itself in local spaces and as an integrated platform for youth interests. The youth highlighted the importance of training and the application of the knowledge and skills developed but emphasize the need to hold in person meetings and activities to promote the network and strengthen the sense of belonging of its members. This is particularly important given high levels of youth migration.

Municipalities for Peace: During FY22Q2, ProPaz began implementing their Municipalities for Peace strategy. A Municipality for Peace is a space for coordination, management, dialogue and consensus for conflict prevention and peacebuilding between municipal authorities. The key structure of this strategy is the Friends of Peace group, which is made up of representatives of the municipality, public institutions, local organizations, community leaders, among others. After organizing the Friends of Peace groups in each of the 10 target municipalities, the process of training and exchange among the members of each group began. The training sessions will continue during the next quarter.

Table 15: Formation of Friends of Peace groups

No.	Group		Date
1	Quiché	San Andrés Sajcabajá	February 17
2		San Juan Cotzal	February 24
3		Chichicastenango	February 25
4		San Gaspar Chajul	February 23
5	Totonicapán	Totonicapán	February 28
6	Huehuetenango	Huehuetenango	February 16
7		Chiantla	February 17
8		San Pedro Necta	February 18
9	San Marcos	San Miguel Ixtahuacán	March 1
10		Comitancillo	March 7

Table 16: Training session for Friends of Peace groups, FY22Q2

No.	Group		Dates	Participants		
				Women	Men	Total
1	Quiché	San Andrés Sajcabajá	March 1 and 2	8	6	14
2		San Juan Cotzal	March 14 and 15	9	8	17
3		Chichicastenango	March 17 and 18	6	11	17
4		San Gaspar Chajul	March 30 and 31	8	4	12
5	Totonicapán	Totonicapán	March 24 and 25	12	4	16
6	Huehuetenango	Huehuetenango	March 11 and 25	14	5	19
7		Chiantla	March 10	7	4	11
8		San Pedro Necta	March 15	7	5	12
9	San Marcos	San Miguel Ixtahuacán	March 30	5	4	9
10		Comitancillo	Next quarter	-	-	-
Total				76	51	127

Activity 2.1.3. Promote key changes in behavior

The Western Highlands suffer from high levels of domestic violence and this issue has been exacerbated by the COVID-19 Crisis. Gender-based violence was identified as impacting all target communities during the Peacebuilding Project original community selection process and this finding has been validated with the project communities. In response, the Peacebuilding Project awarded small grants to FUDESA to implement a strategy and communication campaign for the prevention of domestic violence. The strategy and campaign, known as *"Yo respeto a mi familia, vivo sin violencia,"* focused on changing attitudes, increasing awareness, and strengthening knowledge around types of domestic violence and reporting mechanisms. The first phase of the strategy and campaign was implemented in four municipalities in FY2021; with complex crisis funds, the project was able to expand the coverage to six new municipalities, reaching a total of 10 municipalities in the Western Highlands. Once the project is fully implementing in the final group of five municipalities, the team will assess how to effectively expand the campaign to cover those communities.

The communication campaign included radio spots, videos for social networks, and radio shows on domestic violence that ran during the month of January. This phase of the strategy included workshops and forums with community members and municipal authorities. In addition, posters, calendars, stickers, and banners were distributed in January to departmental and municipal governments, local authorities, and families. On January 26, 39 people participated in a closing event for the second phase of the strategy for preventing gender-based violence in the Western Highlands. The strategy focused on addressing irregular migration by providing families with information and tools on living a life free from domestic violence.

Table 17: Delivery of materials produced by FUDESA

Level	Department	Municipality	Deliveries
Municipal	Huehuetenango	San Pedro Nécta	1
	Quiché	San Gaspar Chajul	1
		Chichicastenango	1
		San Andrés Sajcabajá	1
	San Marcos	Comitancillo	1

		San Miguel Ixtahuacán	2
	Totonicapán	Totonicapán	2
Community	Huehuetenango	Chiantla	5
		Huehuetenango	6
		San Pedro Nécta	6
	Quiché	San Gaspar Chajul	8
		Chichicastenango	5
		San Juan Cotzal	11
		San Andrés Sajcabajá	6
	San Marcos	Comitancillo	5
		San Miguel Ixtahuacán	6
	Totonicapán	Totonicapán	7
Total			74

Table 18: FUDESA activities on GBV prevention, FY22Q2

Activity	Date	Women	Men	Total
Comprehensive care in the context of domestic violence and violence against women.	Jan. 12	5	26	31
Creation of informational content for the prevention of domestic violence	Jan. 13	6	13	19
How to disseminate, through the media, processes for attention to domestic violence	Jan. 14	27	2	29
I respect myself; Dating: my affective relationships with respect and responsibility	Jan. 15	17	5	22
My responsibilities and obligations to my family	Jan. 22	16	4	20
Closing conference 2022	Jan. 26	27	12	39
Radio Transmissions				
Parenting with love	Jan. 5	Estimated 70,220 listeners		
	Jan. 6			
	Jan. 7			
Values of coexistence in the family	Jan. 10			
Organizations and entities that support the population in domestic violence issues	Jan. 12			
	Jan. 13			
	Jan. 14			
Healing the wounds left by domestic violence	Feb. 7			
Virtual Forum				
Social collective networks in favor of children and values of coexistence for the prevention of domestic violence	Jan. 19	252 people reached		

An evaluation of the campaign was conducted to identify its impact in the 10 municipalities. Eight evaluation activities were carried out with three groups in Totonicapán and Chichicastenango, the implementation team of the Peacebuilding Project, and media managers where the campaign messages were advertised. The relevance of the messages in local languages facilitated the appropriation of the campaign's objectives at the community level. The dissemination of the messages in Mam, Ixil and K'iche' languages, in the dialectal variants of the municipalities where each is spoken, was recognized by community authorities and project facilitators. The campaign broadened the concept of domestic violence as a practice against the human rights of the people who experience it. The practice of identifying violent actions within the home as something

"private" to individuals and families, without the intervention of external actors, was modified and understood as a cause of social instability that impacts communities. For municipal officials, the dissemination of the campaign messages, printed materials, and municipal and community banners was identified as important support and has helped them to guide and support their citizens.

Result 2.2. Improve communication and collaboration around conflict management at the municipal level

The Peacebuilding Project recognizes the importance of working with key municipal stakeholders to improve their understanding of local dynamics and grievances, identify emerging trends, and work with the appropriate actors to address them. Engagement with Municipalities is framed in three categories: a) strengthening systems and structures for conflict management; b) strengthening capacities of municipal and authorities and officials to prevent and respond effectively and peacefully to social conflicts; and c) strengthening relationship and communication between municipalities, communities, and other actors.

As noted in the Operational and Project Management Activities section, the project is hiring a Municipal Strengthening Officer who will be responsible for coordinating and implementing activities at the municipal level. This position will start early next quarter.

Activity 2.2.1. Increase municipal capacity to address local conflict

Municipal Commissions: A component of this activity focuses on strengthening the capacity of the Municipal Commissions for Human Rights and Peace/ COMUPREs (the exact commission depends on the municipality), as well as Municipal Development Council (*Consejo Municipal de Desarrollo*, COMUDEs), to prevent and respond effectively and peacefully to social conflicts. The Peacebuilding Project works to strengthen the capacities of these commissions so that they can fulfill their functions and support the implementation of the Municipal Plans for Peace and CVs, which often include conflicts related to matters of municipal jurisdiction. This quarter, the project participated in 26 meetings with municipal commissions.

Table 19: Meetings with municipal commissions, FY22Q2

Location	Date	Activity	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Chiantla	January 20	COMUDE meeting	5	15	20
	February 16	Meeting of the Municipal Women's Commission	9	9	18
	February 24	COMUDE meeting	4	18	22
	February 25	COMUPRE meeting	5	9	14
	March 4	Chiantla's Municipal Youth Commission (<i>Comisión Municipal de la Juventud de Chiantla</i> , COMJUVECH) ¹⁵ meeting	13	4	17

¹⁵ Comisión municipal de la juventud de Chiantla (COMJUVECH)

	March 16	Meeting of the Municipal Women's Commission	11	7	18
	March 18	COMUPRE meeting	15	22	37
San Pedro Necta	February 24	COMUDE meeting	3	40	43
San Gaspar Chajul	January 21	COMUDE meeting	4	27	31
	March 22	COMUDE meeting	7	28	35
San Juan Cotzal	January 21	COMUDE meeting	4	23	27
	February 25	COMUDE meeting	4	15	19
	March 11	COMUDE meeting	8	31	39
	March 21	Meeting of the Municipal Human Rights Commission	9	9	18
Comitancillo	January 19	Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Human Rights and Peace	2	1	3
	February 16	COMUDE meeting	8	56	64
	February 21	Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Human Rights and Peace	6	1	7
	March 23/3	COMUDE meeting	5	57	62
San Miguel Ixtahuacán	February 1	COMUDE meeting	2	31	33
	February 17	Municipal Commission for Children, Youth, Family, and the Elderly (<i>Comisión Municipal de la Niñez, Juventud, Familia y el Adulto Mayor, COMUNIJUFAM</i>) ¹⁶ meeting	5	9	14
	March 17	COMUNIJUFAM meeting	9	6	15
	March 30	COMUDE meeting	0	12	20
Totonicapán	February 9	Meeting of the Municipal Commission on Human Rights and Peace	5	12	17
	March 2	Training for the Municipal Commission on Human Rights and Peace	7	9	16
Chichicastenango	March 9	Training for COMUPRE	7	13	20
	March 29	COMUPRE meeting	8	15	23

As part of the strengthening of municipal commissions, training continued during this quarter for commissions in Totonicapán and Chichicastenango. On March 2, the third workshop, which focused on conflict resolution tools, was held with the Municipal Human Rights Commission in Totonicapán; 16 participants (seven women and nine men) now have more tools to enable them to manage conflicts peacefully. In Chichicastenango, 20 people (seven women and 13 men) participated in the second COMUPRE training workshop on conflict and conflict resolution.

To ensure that the support and strengthening of the municipal commissions is adequate to their needs, an organizational assessment was carried out this quarter with the COMUPRES of Chichicastenango and San Juan Cotzal. The assessment is done through a questionnaire and then exported into an Excel spreadsheet to analyze the elements that need to be strengthened in each commission.

¹⁶ Comisión municipal de niñez, juventud, familia y el adulto mayor (COMUNIJUFAM)

Activity 2.2.2. Strengthen information flows among stakeholders at the municipal level and with communities

No activities to report during FY22Q2.

Objective 3: Strengthen GoG and non-governmental capacity to participate in managing, responding to, and resolving local conflicts, including long-standing grievances and new instability linked to COVID-19

Result 3.1. GoG and non-governmental actors have increased capacity and coordination to identify, prevent, address, and respond to local conflict

Activity 3.1.1. Strengthen GoG capacity and inter-institutional coordination

GoG Capacity Building Programs: The PartnersGlobal GoG capacity building courses have been completed for this fiscal year. The project is responding to specific requests for trainings by GoG partners under sub-activity Strengthening GoG Institutions that Address Conflict (see below).

Strengthening the National Civil Police (Policia Nacional Civil, PNC): During FY22Q2, PartnersGlobal began developing, with the support of an expert on police science, the design of a capacity-building program for the PNC. Much attention has been given to language sensitivity and understanding of the framework of police science. The detailed concept note outlining a proposed pilot capacity-building intervention on conflict prevention and resolution skills for police officers that had been previously presented was shared with the incoming III Vice-Minister and head of the PNC. A meeting was held with the new point of contact for the from the III Vice-Ministry to present the project and request missing information for the vetting of police personnel that will participate in the training.. The project has identified 83 PNC members to be vetting and is finalizing the required personal information with the PNC. The project will then submit the list to USAID. Given that the vetting process can take up to six months, it is highly possible that the training will not be able to start this fiscal year. PartnersGlobal will continue to work on the training materials and the toolkit.

Strengthening Departmental Commissions and Governments: The Departmental Commission on Security and Conflict Management (*Comisión Departamental de Seguridad y Atención de Conflictos*, CODESAC) is one of the commissions within the Departmental Development Council (*Consejo Departamental de Desarrollo*, CODEDE). The CODESAC is responsible for generating dialogue and coordination between public institutions, civil society, the private sector, and municipalities. The Department Governor leads the CODESAC in implementing strategies, plans and programs to address social conflict and prevent escalation in to violence. During FY22Q2, the project continued to provide technical assistance to CODESACs in Quiché and Totonicapán. The project also met with the Governor of Quetzaltenango.

Meeting with the Governor of Quetzaltenango: Given a recent increase in social conflict, and after talking to his counterparts in other departments, the Governor of Quetzaltenango expressed his interest in working with the Peacebuilding Project and COPADEH. The project held an

introductory meeting with the governor on January 31 to discuss potential collaboration. The project will sign an MOU next quarter that includes the implementation of an early warning and response system through project partner IEPADES.

CODESAC Quiché: This quarter, the project held two inter-institutional meetings with the Quiché CODESAC. The first meeting was a workshop for the designing of the CODESAC annual operating plan and the second was a follow-up for implementing the Annual Operation Plan (*Plan Operativo Anual*, POA) and presenting the Early Warning Response System (EWRS). There was also a virtual meeting with the governor to discuss the support that the project will continue to provide.

Table 20: Quiché CODESAC

Location	Date	Topic	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Santa Cruz del Quiché	February 1	POA workshop	5	9	14
	February 9	Virtual meeting with Quiché governor and advisors	3	6	9
	March 9	POA follow-up and early warning system presentation	6	11	17

CODESAC Totonicapán: This quarter, the project held a meeting with the Totonicapán CODESAC to design their annual operating plan.

Table 21: Totonicapán CODESAC

Location	Date	Topic	Participants		
			Women	Men	Total
Totonicapán	February 8	POA workshop	1	11	13

Strengthening GoG Institutions that Address Conflict

COPADEH: At the end of FY2021, Creative and COPADEH signed an in-kind grant that formalized support for education and training for staff of central office and regional headquarters of COPADEH; Creative awarded a consultancy for the implementation of the training. The training process for COPADEH staff began in FY22Q1 with the implementation of the first three training modules. During FY22Q2, four sessions were held with 70 people (25 women, 32 men, and 13 no responses). The training is designed to strengthen the capacity of COPADEHs managerial and operational staff to effectively carry out dialogue, negotiation, and conflict management processes in a context of peaceful and sustainable solutions, with the participation of various actors and with a vision of transformation. The modules covered in the sessions this quarter were: socialization, dialogue, and negotiation; and tools and practices for the successful development of dialogue and negotiation processes. The last module for this training process will be held next quarter as well as a formal closing ceremony. The project will write a success story on its work with COPADEH by the end of the fiscal year.

MEM: On February 21, the project signed an in-kind agreement with the Ministry of Energy and Mines to follow up on the preparation of the process of socialization and feedback of an instrument that seeks to regulate the implementation of consultations with indigenous peoples derived from ILO Convention 169. The agreement includes technical support for MEM, through an external consultancy, to carry out the following activities:

- Final review of the proposed normative instrument for consultation with indigenous people.
- Pedagogical mediation of the normative instrument approved to carry out the socialization, feedback, and validation meetings with key actors.
- Translation of the mediated normative instrument into five Mayan languages: K'iche', Kaqchikel, Q'eqchi', Mam, and Ixil.
- Design and produce audiovisual pieces based on the mediated documents, both process and content, in Spanish and five Mayan languages mentioned before.
- Monitoring of context conditions to decide the right moment to start the process of socialization, feedback, and validation of the normative instrument.

MINGOB: The project held multiple meetings this quarter with representatives of III Vice-Ministry to follow-up on the possible design of a capacity-building process. On March 12, the III Vice-Minister and the Peacebuilding Project visited the Comprehensive Support Center for Women Survivors of Violence (*Centro de Apoyo Integral para Mujeres Sobrevivientes de Violencia*, CAIMUS) of Quetzaltenango and its shelter to learn about the challenges and opportunities in providing services to victims and survivors of GBV. The project and the III Vice-Ministry are discussing a possible collaboration to support the Quetzaltenango CAIMUS. The pilot effort would serve as a model with MINGOB that could be applied in other departments.

DEMI: Two actions have been prioritized by the DEMI for the current year: 1) updating of community strategy for the prevention of violence against indigenous women; and 2) disseminating of the Articulated Agenda of Mayan, Garífuna and Xinka Women within the relevant department and municipal commissions.

SEPREM: SEPREM has prioritized the formulation of an Institutional Gender Policy with COPADEH to provide the commission with technical and methodological tools that will gradually promote the incorporation of principals of equity in their management, functions, programs, and policies. The promotion of peace and attention to conflict requires gender-differentiated analysis and response. Through SEPREM, the commission will be strengthened to comply with the National Policy for the Comprehensive Promotion of Women.

SVET: On March 19, the SVET presented their national plan for the prevention of violence, exploitation, and human trafficking to community and indigenous authorities from 48 *Cantones* in Totonicapán to engage them in prevention and timely attention, strengthen the SVET and foster inter-institutional coordination. Fifty-one people attended the activity (13 women and 38 men).

Activity 3.1.2. Strengthen early warning and response

IEPADES began implementing the third phase of their grant related to early warning and response systems. This phase focuses on setting up departmental early warning and response systems to identify and analyze conflict trends, alert authorities to possible escalation of conflict, inform decision-making, and initiate timely responses to prevent violence. This includes strengthening the capacity of CODESACs to manage an EWRS. IEPADES will also work on the design of a national system, ensuring linkage with the departmental systems. This quarter, the EWRS design was presented to the departmental government in Huehuetenango. The presentations will be held with the rest of departmental governments next quarter.

Activity 3.1.3. Strengthen non-governmental actor capacity and engagement

Civil Society Capacity-building Course: During FY22Q2, PartnersGlobal finalized preparations and launched the online course on crisis management and conflict transformation, directed at diverse civil society actors working at the national and regional level. Part of the planning and preparation phase for this course involved several in-depth discussions with ProPaz on which civil society organizations to invite and what specific factors to consider in the selection process.

Beyond being a capacity-building course focused on conflict transformation and dialogue tools, there is a peer-learning approach that is being piloted. Each participant is paired from the beginning of the course with a partner; together, they work together on diverse activities, or formats, throughout the course. Instead of meeting weekly, PartnersGlobal is holding sessions every 15 days. In the weeks when there is not a session, the paired partners work together applying a practical lens that builds upon what is discussed during the session. This has a double purpose: strengthen capacities of civil society actors to articulate, identify and appropriate conflict transformation tools, and strengthen communication among civil society actors.

Table 22: Participating Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

CSOs participating in the crisis management and conflict transformation course
Association for Investigation, Development and Integral Education (<i>Asociación de Investigación, Desarrollo y Educación Integral, IDEI</i>)
Dragonflies Collective Guatemala
Ecumenical Center for Pastoral Integration (<i>Centro Ecuménico de Integración Pastoral, CEIPA</i>)
Indigenous Observatory
National Network of Mayan Youth, RENO'J
Pastoral Social Caritas Archdiocese Los Altos
Pastoral Social Caritas San Marcos
Pastoral Social Caritas Sololá-Chimaltenango
Pop Noj Association
Research Center for the Prevention of Violence in Central America (<i>Centro de Investigación para la Prevención de la Violencia en Centroamérica, CIPREVICA</i>)
Tijonel School
Tz'ununija' Indigenous Women's Movement
Women's Association for Justice, Education and Recognition (<i>Asociación Mujeres por la Justicia, Educación y el Reconocimiento, MUJER</i>)
Xela Support Group (<i>Grupo de Apoyo Xela, GAX</i>)
Youth for Integral Development (<i>Jóvenes por el desarrollo integral, JO DEI</i>)

The course was inaugurated March 17 and there have been two sessions with the participation of 18 people (14 women and 4 men). The topics for the sessions were: identity and self-reflection, foundation for constructive communication, and characteristics of conflict.

Strengthening Indigenous Authorities

CEIDPAZ: A small grant was provided to CEIDPAZ at the end of FY21Q4, which they began implementing last quarter with the newly elected leaders of 48 *Cantones*. The grant focuses on implementing a training process with 48 *Cantones*, the ancestral authorities of Totonicapán, in strengthening their capacity for conflict resolution. Implementation this quarter focused on implementing the training sessions with the 48 *Cantones* Boards of Directors as well as the community boards. In totally, 79 people (24 women and 55 men) participated in six training modules: 1) exercise of rights; 2) social organization and development; 3) conceptual framework of conflict; 4) social conflicts in Guatemala; 5) guidelines for an integral approach to conflict in communities; and 6) analysis of coordinating the legal system of 48 *Cantones* with national law.

Table 23: Training module dates with 48 Cantones governing boards and community authorities

	Module I	Module II	Module III	Module IV	Module V	Module VI
Five 48 <i>Cantones</i> Governing Boards	Feb. 15	Feb. 15	Feb. 17	Feb. 17	March 1	March 3
48 <i>Cantones</i> Community Authorities	Feb. 16	Feb. 16	Feb. 18	Feb. 18	March 2	March 4

AGAAI: A small grant was also provided to AGAAI at the end of FY21Q4; the group is strengthening the role of indigenous authorities and Indigenous Advisory Councils in conflict management and peacebuilding. This quarter, AGAAI delivered 19 training workshops in 11 municipalities with 72 people (24 women and 48 men) on three topics.

Table 24: Training modules with indigenous and community authorities by AGAAI

Department	Municipality	Organization and Role of Indigenous Authorities	Conflict Mediation	Role of a Mediator
Huehuetenango	San Ildefonso Ixtahuacán	Jan. 28	Feb. 4	Feb. 11
	San Sebastián H.	Jan. 28	Feb. 4	Feb. 11
	Huehuetenango	Feb. 19	Feb. 26	March 12
	Chiantla	Feb. 19	Feb. 26	March 12
	San Pedro Necta	Feb. 16 and March 3	March 17	March 24
San Marcos	San Miguel Ixtahuacán	Dec. 12	Feb. 14	March 16
	Comitancillo	Dec. 12	Feb. 14	March 16
	San Marcos	March. 8	Feb. 14	March 15
Quiché	Santa María Nebaj	Feb. 26	March 12	March 13
	San Gaspar Chajul	Feb. 26	March 12	March 13
	San Andrés Sajcabajá	Feb. 26	March 12	March 13

Departmental round tables were also formed during this quarter. Workshops with these round tables will be held during the next reporting period. As part of their subgrant, AGAAI held a

training session on March 11 with 18 Peacebuilding Project staff (nine women and nine men) on the process of forming Indigenous Advisory Councils.

Result 3.2. GoG and other key stakeholders have improved information-sharing, communication, and coordination mechanisms

Activity 3.2.1. Facilitate dialogue and conversations around peacebuilding and conflict mitigation

Conversaciones Comprensivas: Two out of three comprehensive conversations on agrarian conflict were held this quarter. The first conversation, on February 24, included the participation of representatives from public institutions, civil society organizations, and the private sector. The Peacebuilding Project facilitated a historical reflection on the subject. Seven people participated in the conversation (two women and five men). The second conversation was held on March 31 with the participation of three people (one woman and two men). Representatives from COPADEH, the UPCV, and Fundazúcar participated. The COPADEH representative gave a presentation on the features of current conflicts. The participants discussed what actions can be taken to improve communication between sectors and address agrarian conflict. The final conversation will be held next quarter; key takeaways and lessons learned will be shared with a wider audience through a conflict forum on the topic.

Conflict Fora: As part of commemorating International Women's Day, the project held activities and fora to reflect on women's rights and the role of women in peacebuilding (see Activity 1.2.3 for more information). On March 8, a video forum was held in Comitancillo, San Marcos. Municipal leaders, members of the Municipal Commission for Women, *voceros juveniles*, and other women participants came together to share their experiences and discuss possibilities for the future. On March 10, a forum on women and their role in natural resource management was held. Three professional women participated in the activity, sharing data and their experiences regarding the relationship between women and natural resources. Patricia Ávila, from MARN in Huehuetenango, emphasized the importance of women's participation in decision-making on the management of natural resources to improve their quality of life. Martha Julia Tax from Helvetas spoke about women's rights and access to natural resources, reflecting on the unequal power relations that make access to natural resources, especially land, unequal. Finally, Juana María Tax from the DEMI of Totonicapán discussed the relationship between women and natural resources from the Mayan worldview.

Activity 3.2.2. Build GoG capacity in strategic communication

During FY22Q2, PartnersGlobal held a meeting with Eddy Cano, head of capacity building within COPADEH. Considerable interest was shown in an extended capacity building process within the institution on effective and strategic communication. It was agreed to prepare a concept note specifically for COPADEH with supporting material that he will send, as well as follow up conversations to better accommodate their internal context and needs.

Monitoring & Evaluation (M&E) Activities and Indicator Data

In this narrative, the project is reporting against quarterly indicators; annual indicators will be reported in the Annual MEL Report during FY22Q4. Please see Annex J for the Performance Indicator Tracking Table_FY22Q2. The project notes that on February 22, the project Agreement Officers Representative (AOR) approved an updated Monitoring, Evaluation, and Learning (MEL) Plan, which added back the Central America Regional Security Initiative (CARSI) indicator *Number of people reached by a USG funded intervention providing GBV services*, per USAID's request. The MEL Plan narrative was updated to document why the indicator was added back and the Indicator and Target Matrix and Performance Indicator Reference Sheets (PIRS) were updated with the new targets.

External Evaluation

The Peacebuilding Project originally included an external impact evaluation, which was designed to be randomized control trial, to be implemented by the National Opinion Research Center from the University of Chicago (NORC) and contracted by USAID. NORC conducted the original baseline survey in September and October 2019. However, due to funding constraints and technical concerns (see the Peacebuilding Project Annual M&E Report, FY2020 for details), the NORC impact evaluation was discontinued by USAID in January 2020.

As part of the incremental funding received during FY2021, and per the requirements of the CCF funds, the Peacebuilding Project budgeted for external evaluations to be contracted by the project. One of the evaluations is an outcome evaluation through a quasi-experimental design. The project awarded a consultancy to a local Guatemalan evaluation firm, *Grupos Cambios*, who carried out data collection in 25 intervention communities and 26 control communities through 691 surveys in FY21Q1. In addition, NORC provided the original dataset to the evaluation firm. As such, where the survey questions were the same between the two collection instruments, the evaluators made comparisons using either differences-in-differences or propensity score matching methodologies.

The main finding of the evaluation is that there is sufficient evidence that the project had positive impacts on the achievement of the project goal, objectives, and survey indicators during the period evaluated (2019 – 2021). The below summary of the findings is divided into the quantitative analysis (survey indicators) and qualitative analysis.

Quantitative Analysis

For Survey Indicators (SI) 1 – 4, the evaluation team used the same set of questions that were used in the baseline and as such were able to make comparisons between the baseline and mid-term evaluations. During FY2020, with the NORC dataset, the project M&E team conducted a simple frequency analysis to estimate the baseline values for the below indicators. However, the external firm contracted by the project, Grupos Cambios, recommended recalculating the baseline values using a more robust statistical methodology (which is the same methodology they used to calculate the mid-term values, allowing the values to be compared). As such, the baseline values reported below differ from the baseline values originally reported in FY2020.

SI1: Change in perception of trust among community members and within and between communities and, where appropriate, municipalities: The baseline value for this indicator was 77 percent, while the value in the mid-term evaluation was 91.3 percent; as such, the change in the perception of trust among community members and within and between communities and, where appropriate, municipalities increased by 14.3 percent. Since the Peacebuilding Project is designed to promote social cohesion and relationships of trust and collaboration among community members and within and between communities, this indicator confirms the importance of activities that promote peaceful coexistence, a sense of belonging, and the strengthening of inter-personal relationships. According to the evaluation, the training processes promoted by the project have been useful to key actors at the local level as they have allowed them to visualize the importance of working together to solve problems at the community level.

SI2: Perception among community members about the role of government in local conflict resolution: The baseline value for this indicator was 77.2 percent, while the value in the mid-term evaluation was 88.5 percent; as such, perception among community members of the government's role in local conflict resolution increased by 11.3 percent. Key stakeholders interviewed recognized the importance of department governments, which have an active role in inter-institutional coordination to address conflict. The CODESACs are a space for promoting the exchange of information and proposals to address conflict hotspots.

SI3: Change in the percentage of people who believe their communities are peaceful, safe, and secure: The baseline value for this indicator was 82.6 percent, while the value in the mid-term evaluation was 82.9 percent; as such, the change in percent of people who believe their communities are peaceful, safe, and secure increased by 0.3 percent. This result coincides with data that show that target municipalities have visibly lower levels of homicidal violence compared with the national average¹⁷. It does not, however, mean that there are not conflicts, either latent or manifest, within the communities; rather, it suggests that communities are able to resolve conflicts through peaceful mechanisms. The results of the mid-term evaluation demonstrate progress towards peaceful resolution of conflict.

Indicator S4: Citizen perception of conflict levels in prioritized communities: The baseline value for this indicator was 0.7 percent, while the value in the mid-term was 0.5 percent; as such, the change in citizens perception of levels of conflict in target communities decreased by 0.2 percent. This indicator addresses active (as opposed to latent) conflicts in communities, which is why the percentages are low. Since the project is designed to reduce social conflict and violence and improve social cohesion and peacebuilding, any decrease in perception of levels of conflict indicates positive progress towards the project goal. The mid-term evaluation demonstrates that the project has contributed to changing attitudes and behaviors, both at the individual and collective levels, which contributes to increasing social cohesion. Key stakeholders interviewed expressed an increased willingness to peacefully resolve differences and conflicts, a key indicator of success for the project.

¹⁷ Ministry of the Interior of Guatemala / Infosegura UNDP (2021). Statistical Compendium 2020: Citizen Security Indicators and Police Actions.

For SI5 – SI7, the Peacebuilding Project technical team requested changes to the survey questions to adapt to the current implementing environment and to ensure that they adhere to Do No Harm principles. The results presented below compare the project intervention communities with the control communities identified by the evaluators.

Indicator S5: Percentage of community members who report domestic violence as unacceptable under any circumstances: In the control group, the value for this indicator was 100 percent, while in the intervention group it was 99.3 percent. The difference between the two groups is minimal, at 0.7 percent. The qualitative evaluation results demonstrate that the project has effectively addressed domestic violence, which is a main trigger of conflict. Despite respondents indicating that domestic violence is unacceptable, there is a risk of social desirability bias in the responses, which is a type of response bias that is the tendency of respondents to answer questions in a manner that will be viewed favorably by others. Respondents may understand that domestic violence is an undesirable behavior and respond as such; however, it does not mean that domestic violence does not exist. Given that domestic violence is often an invisible and under-reported issue, the project should continue to address it through an integrated approach that raises awareness of the negative consequences for victims and for the levels of community cohesion.

Indicator S6: Percentage of community members who recognize the role of women as leaders in conflict resolution: In the control group, the value for this indicator was 88 percent, while in the intervention group it was 85.2 percent; as such, the percentage of community members who recognize the role of women as leaders in conflict resolution in the intervention communities is 2.8 percent lower than in the control communities. Key informant interviews highlighted that the project has contributed to increasing women's participation in project-supported networks and trainings in conflict resolution, which they consider to be an opportunity and strength for the municipalities and women's organizations. At the community and municipal levels, representatives in spaces for formal civic and political participation (e.g. COCODES, COMUDES, etc.) are largely male and women's civic participation is constrained by various barriers, including household responsibilities, limited skills and experience, and patriarchal gender norms.

Indicator S7: Percentage of community members who recognize the role of youth as leaders in conflict resolution: In the control group, the value for this indicator was 87.6 percent, which in the intervention group it was 85.6 percent; as such, the percentage of community members who recognize the role of youth as leaders in conflict resolution in the intervention communities is 2.1 percent lower than in the control communities. These results reinforce a key assumption of the project design, which is that youth are often not included in decision-making bodies and that even when they are present, they are not able to effectively make their voices heard.

Qualitative Analysis

General summary: One of the main findings of the qualitative component of the evaluation is that the project is well-known and recognized among the population in the target intervention areas. Participants know that the project is funded by USAID and that the purpose of the project is to strengthening organization and institutional responses to conflict management through training and capacity-building processes. Key informants recognized that the project has qualified, trained

professionals and that the staff on the field implementation team are from the Western Highlands, giving them legitimacy and an intimate understanding of local conflicts. Relationships with the municipal authorities is a project strength, with municipalities expressing satisfaction with the project. In addition, the project is widely accepted at the community level. At the departmental level, the CODESACs, with support from the project, promote the exchange of information and proposals to address conflict.

Operational challenges were among the weaknesses identified in the qualitative analysis, particularly those related to the COVID-19 pandemic and restrictions on working directly with communities. Many communities barred outsiders from entering and community members had limited time to dedicate to project activities. This forced the fieldwork to be virtual for an extended period of time, which presented a challenge to working with communities.

Objective 1: The qualitative component of the evaluation demonstrated that the project has contributed to building good relationships between neighbors and authorities, and, to some extent, in identifying the central conflicts faced by the communities, such as territorial conflicts, alcoholism, and logging. Poverty, unemployment, lack of opportunities, and the high cost of living are other problems that were identified by the project.

Participating in the project has made young people more confident in resolving conflicts. There is a youth network which is present in the ten target municipalities. Municipal stakeholders recognized the participation of youth project capacity-building processes. In addition, youth participation has been promoted through the OMJs. The project has a critical opportunity to continue strengthening youth engagement, as key informants identified “lack of space and opportunity provided by adults” as a barrier to youth participation. An important caveat is that migration is a limiting factor for promoting processes with youth, which is the population most inclined to migrate. As one participant said, “many people prefer to migrate; we [the community] have seen establishments that are left without young people since they have left their communities due to lack of opportunities.”

There is a perception among key stakeholders that women’s contribution to conflict transformation is more evident as result of the project. However, their participation in conflict resolution is at the local level remains minimal, and sometimes nonexistent. The municipal representatives interviewed emphasized that the project has contributed to increasing women’s participation in project-supported networks and trainings in conflict resolution, which has resulted in a greater desire by the women to participate in formal decision-making spaces. Some of the community representative interviewed noted that in some cases women are more involved in their communities because their husbands have migrated, and they must assume non-traditional responsibilities.

An area for improvement under Objective 1 is related to the mediator network. Although the project has trained a network of mediators, key informants interviewed believe that the network is in development or do not know that it exists. This suggests a need for awareness-raising with municipal and community authorities on the role of the mediator network as a resource for resolving local conflicts. The project provided in-person and virtual training, but external stakeholders shared their perception that the number of participants decreased due to the COVID-

19 pandemic. It was also found that the approach to conflict resolution is limited, and the stakeholders mentioned the repeated use of the concept of “resolution.”

Objective 2: The qualitative component of the evaluation demonstrated that the most visible activity of the project has been trainings and learning about tools to manage social conflict. Key informants stated that project has effectively addressed conflicts related to natural resources by raising awareness about the care and preservation of the environment.

The qualitative analysis found that greater attention to domestic violence has been advocated through the project interventions. The trainings have been effective, particularly at the community-level, which has led to the perception of an increase in reports of domestic and gender-based violence. In addition, in the case of municipal authorities, the mayors have begun to be more concerned about the issue and recognize the importance of the problem of domestic violence and GBV as well as the need to promote concrete measures to address it. These types of violence are generally associated with high alcohol consumption.

The trainings implemented by the project have enhanced the municipalities’ capacity for conflict resolution as well as improved relations with the communities. The project has contributed to the improvement of communication processes, resulting in increased communication and coordination between communities and municipalities as well as between communities and government institutions (largely through digital platforms). Almost all current project municipalities have created either a Human Rights and Peace Commission or a Violence Prevention Commission, but not all are operational. Many lack the support of municipal authorities and/or the financial resources to fully operate. Municipal authorities are the first line of response to local conflicts. It is mostly municipal authorities who get involved when conflicts arise. Key informants reinforced the assumption that municipal authorities play a key role in conflict resolution, involving other government institutions when appropriate and as necessary, and stated that the municipalities should strengthen their vision and organizational structure to better attend to social conflict. In some communities, local authorities (such as indigenous authorities) and churches participate in conflict resolution. In other communities, members of Community Development Councils (COCODES) are trusted. Additionally, some community leaders have naturally emerged as conflict mediators.

Objective 3: The qualitative component of the evaluation demonstrated that the project has contributed to institutional strengthening through conflict resolution trainings. Respondents reported that at the beginning of project implementation, they faced challenges due to the closure of the Presidential Coordinating Commission for Executive Policy on Human Rights (*Comisión Presidencial Coordinadora de la Política del Ejecutivo en Materia de Derechos Humanos*, COPREDEH), Secretariate for Agrarian Affairs (*Secretaria de Asuntos Agrarios*, SAA) and Secretariate of Peace (*Secretaria de la Paz*, SEPAZ), which were subsequently replaced by COPADEH. Inter-institutional efforts are limited and threatened by these types of changes in public administration. Key informants believe that strengthening institutional capacity is a central and critical challenge. No joint institutional plans for executing concrete actions were identified. Strategic communication to strengthen relations between central level institutions and local authorities, and between these levels and the community level, is scarce, dispersed, and short-term.

Dialogue is recognized by participants as the main tool for problem solving. Participants report that dialogue is “one of the principles of the community,” and that they “always rely on dialogue as the first step in the peaceful resolution of conflict.” The creation of “dialogue tables” is common. These are temporary initiatives to reduce tension and provide outlet mechanisms but do not provide definitive solutions. Respondents also identified another tendency: to litigate conflicts, which means that when agreements are not complied with, everything is canceled or lost. The involvement of different governmental and non-governmental sectors in the dialogue roundtables has improved. The evaluation found that the project has contributed to improving coordination and planning between government institutions.

There is a general perception that none of the government institutions involved in addressing social conflicts are focused on conflict prevention (as opposed to conflict response). The evaluation found that the project has contributed to broadening relationships and coordination with the institutional framework and social organizations. The project has brought together a range of actors, from municipal agencies to governmental entities as well as international organizations and non-governmental organizations.

Performance Indicators

Indicator 1: Number of people participating in project activities that address the peaceful management and resolution of conflicts: During FY22Q2, 3,173 unique individuals (1,574 women and 1,575 men, 24 not identified) participated in activities addressing the peaceful management and resolution of conflict.

Table 25: Age and Ethnicity Disaggregation of Peacebuilding Project Participants, FY22Q2

Age							Ethnicity			
29&under			30+			Not identified	Indigenous	Non-Indigenous	Other	Not identified
Female	Male	Total	Female	Male	Total					
415	261	676	712	816	1528	969	1,855	688	6	624

For disaggregation by community, municipality, or department, see Annex J (tab Indicator 1). For disaggregation by activity, see Table 26.

Indicator 2: Number of USG supported events, trainings, or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation among key actors to the conflict: During FY22Q2, 162 events, trainings or activities designed to build support for peace or reconciliation were implemented.

Table 26: Number of events, trainings, or activities by activity

Activity	Number of activities	Participants			
		Women	Men	No Response	Total
Cross-cutting Activities					
Peacebuilding Project Advisory Council and Indigenous Advisory Group	2	6	9	0	11
Objective 1					

1.1.2. Design and implement community and municipal entry strategy	26	38	104	0	142
1.1.3. Conduct Rapid Stakeholder Assessment	14	104	109	0	213
1.2.1. Facilitate community-driven conflict and resilience analysis and develop community visions	40	354	380	0	734
1.2.2. Support youth participation in local peacebuilding initiatives	4	51	9	0	60
1.2.3. Support women's active role in community peacebuilding	9	458	91	0	549
1.3.1. Establish and strengthen network of community mediators	1	20	13	0	33
Objective 2					
2.1.1. Support target communities, municipalities, and other stakeholders in implementing conflict mitigation and peacebuilding strategies	27	150	141	2	293
2.1.2 Promote cross-learning	1	76	51	0	127
2.1.3. Promote key changes in behavior	1	251	325	0	576
2.2.1. Increase municipal capacity to address local conflict	26	130	382	8	520
Objective 3					
3.1.1. Strengthen GoG capacity and inter-institutional coordination	6	44	85	13	142
3.1.3. Strengthen non-governmental actor capacity and engagement	3	75	122	0	197
3.2.1. Facilitate dialogue and conversations around peacebuilding and conflict mitigation	2	3	7	1	11
Total	162				

For disaggregation by topic, participating entities/organizations/actors, municipality, or department, see Annex J (tab Indicator 2).

Indicator 5: Number of national and local authorities (governmental and ancestral) and non-governmental actors that demonstrate increased capacity to respond to and resolve conflicts at the local, municipal, and/ or national levels: During FY22Q2, one hundred and nine ancestral authorities (24 women and 55 men) demonstrated increased capacity to respond to and resolve local and municipal conflicts.

Table 27: Age and Sex Disaggregation of Authorities, FY22Q2

Type of Authority	Gender		Age			Ethnicity			
	Female	Male	29& under	30+	Not identified	Indige nous	Not Indign eous	No Response	Total
48 Cantones									
Board of Natural Resources	1	8	1	8	0	9	0	0	9
Board of Community Mavors	1	8	0	9	0	2	0	7	9

Board of <i>Alguaciles de Primera Quincena</i>	3	5	1	7	0	7	0	1	8
Board of <i>Alguaciles de Segunda Quincena</i>	3	7	2	8	0	10	0	0	10
Board of Baths & Hot Springs	0	8	2	6	0	8	0	0	8
Representatives from Chicaxtun, Chiyax	1	4	4	1	0	5	0	0	5
Representatives from Cojxac	3	4	1	6	0	7	0	0	7
Representatives from Nimapa	2	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	2
Representatives from Nimasac	9	6	2	13	0	14	0	1	15
Representatives from Poxlajuj	1	1	0	2	0	2	0	0	2
Representatives from Tzanixnam	0	4	3	1	0	4	0	0	4
Community Mediators									
Representatives of Ancestral Authorities Councils	1	4	2	3	0	5	0	0	5
Judicial facilitators from the Judicial Organism	3	3	1	5	0	1	5	0	6
Public Prosecutor's Office	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Representatives of Municipalities	13	4	6	11	0	12	5	0	17
Representative of USAC	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1
Total	42	67	26	83	0	88	12	9	109

Indicator 9: Number of local women participating in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process supported with USG assistance (GNDR 10): During FY22Q2, 207 women participated in a substantive role or position in a peacebuilding process.

Table 28: Disaggregation by Criteria, FY22Q2

Criteria		Total
Share information and represent her own perspectives or those of a group she represents	Women that participated the stakeholder assessments	54
	Women participating in multisectoral dialogue, forums, conversations	3
	Women participating in <i>Voceros Juveniles</i> Network	21
	Women participating in the Peacebuilding Project Advisory Council and Indigenous Advisory Group	2
Help define issues, problems, and solutions	Women that participated at least in two sessions of CRA and CV development	71
	Women that participated in at least two sessions for the development of municipal and/or departmental conflict management strategies/ plans	6

Influence decisions and outcomes associated with a process or initiative.	Women serving in Municipal Commission for Human Rights and Peace or Violence Prevention	8
	Women serving in Departmental Commission for Security and Conflict management.	22
	Women serving as government officials who participate in trainings.	20
Total		207

Table 29: Age and Ethnicity Disaggregation of Women Participating in a Substantive Role

Age Group			Ethnicity				Total number of women
29&under	30+	Not identified	Indigenous	Non-indigenous	Other	Not identified	
63	105	39	112	53	3	39	207

Indicator 1.1: Number of citizens engaged in cooperative community dialogue, including community vision development: During FY22Q2, 780 people (394 women and 386 men) engaged in cooperative community dialogue through the conflict and resilience analysis and the *voceros juveniles* activities. For disaggregation by community, age, and ethnicity, please see Annex J.

Indicator 2.4: Number of people reached by a USG funded intervention providing GBV services (e.g., health, legal, psycho-social counseling, shelters, hotlines, other): During FY22Q2, 43 women were reached by a USG funded intervention providing GBV services (specifically psycho-social counseling).

Table 30: Age and Ethnicity Disaggregation of People that Received GVB services

Age Group			Ethnicity				Total number of women
29&under	30+	Not identified	Indigenous	Non-indigenous	Other	Not identified	
19	24	0	43	0	0	0	43

Coordination, Compliance, and Future Activities

Collaboration with USAID Partners and Other USG Agencies

USAID/Guatemala Meetings: Throughout the quarter, project leadership continued to meet weekly with the USAID AOR. Additionally, on February 14, the USAID/Peacebuilding Project quarterly CCF check-in was held. During the quarter, three monthly Communications Workshops were held, which project staff attended: a) storytelling; b) campaign development; and c) photography. In addition, the project provided inputs to the USAID AOR for her presentation on the project's work on intersectionality at the Peace and Security Summit.

On March 31, Mileydi Guilarte, USAID-Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Deputy Assistant Administrator, visited a project community in Huehuetenango as part of her visit to Guatemala. During the visit, she and other USG representatives meet with community leaders,

women, and youth from the community of Chiloja. The community explained its current situation in terms of domestic violence, migration, and the effects of COVID-19. They also shared information about a conflict that they have prioritized with the project related to inadequate solid waste management of solid waste and their proposed solutions. Peacebuilding Project facilitators explained the project community implementation cycle and participatory field methodologies. During the dialogue, community members and project staff responded to questions raised by the USAID delegation. In addition, on March 29, representatives from Peacebuilding Project partners CEIDPAZ and Association Miriam participated in a roundtable discussion with Ms. Guilarte in Guatemala City.

Coordination with La Ruta: On February 3, the USAID projects that are part of the La Ruta coordination efforts held a meeting to review progress in the implementation of the La Ruta workplan. The project prepared a document on the achievements to date, investments to date, and plans for 2022. At the local level, a meeting was held on February 7 with Blanca Juárez, Territorial Advisor for San Miguel Ixtahuacán, San Marcos, who recently joined La Ruta. During the meeting, the Peacebuilding Project team presented their progress within the framework of La Ruta. An important point of discussion was the work with the ancestral and indigenous authorities in the municipality, 13 B'aktun and the Council of Ancestral Authorities.

Coordination Meetings and Activities with other USAID-funded Projects: The Peacebuilding Project participated in coordination meetings with the following USAID-funded projects:

- Cross-Coordination (X-CO): The Peacebuilding Project continued to participate in the virtual monthly X-CO meetings. The January 14 agenda included the participation of Danielle Pearl and Colleen Brady, from USAID/Washington, who presented the "Locally Led Development Spectrum and Checklist."
- Indigenous Peoples Engagement Strategy (IPES) Workshop: On February 10, project staff participated in a USAID-led IPES lessons and challenges workshop. The project presented lessons learned and challenges related to working with indigenous peoples as project partners.
- Proyecto Puentes: The Peacebuilding Project coordinated with the Puentes Project to implement a course on successful entrepreneurship for young people in the community of San José Ixcán in San Miguel Ixtahuacán, San Marcos. See Activity 1.2.2.
- Red de Redes: See Activity 1.2.2 for information coordination with the *Red de Redes* this quarter.
- Several meetings were held between the Community Roots, *Puentes*, *Nexos Locales* and Peacebuilding Project to plan a training for DMMs through SEPREM's departmental delegates. SEPREM and the projects prioritized specific areas within the National Policy for the Promotion and Integral Development of Women. The training will begin in April, with monthly training sessions being held with representatives from DMMs in Huehuetenango, Quiché, and Totonicapán.

Security Considerations

The major security consideration this quarter continued to be risk of infection from COVID-19. Although cases came down this quarter, there is concern over a spike following Holy Week in

April. Although vaccination rates in urban areas are relatively high, overall vaccination rates remain low with only 33 percent of the population having received two doses of a vaccine. The project continues to implement a mix of virtual and in-person activities and rotates between in-person presence in the Quetzaltenango and Guatemala City offices and remote work from home. Given this reality, the project has delayed opening regional offices in Huehuetenango and Quiché; they will likely not be opened this fiscal year. Instead, the team has developed "mobile offices," equipping the project cars with supplies and equipment that the community implementation team needs to hold activities.

Various groups with different complaints (i.e., indigenous authorities protesting government decisions, military veterans demanding severance for their service, groups opposed to COVID-19 vaccines) have continued to organize roadblocks and/or demonstrations throughout the country. As pre-electoral period approaches, protests and conflicts will continue to increase. The project has met with colleagues from the Consortium for Elections and Political Process Strengthening (CEPPS) and will continue to coordinate with them and others as the elections approach.

Development Experience Clearinghouse

This quarter, the following documents were uploaded to the Development Experience Clearinghouse (DEC):

- Peacebuilding Project Quarterly Performance Report_FY2022Q1

Training Events

Table 30: Participant Training Information Reported in TEAMS

Activity	Quarter	Participants		Cost
		Women	Men	
Training for the second cohort of the mediators' network	2	18	12	\$1,369.45
Strengthening of skills for managing social conflict for Community Mayors and Authorities from 48 <i>Cantones</i>	2	24	55	\$34,897.47

Success Stories

This quarter, the Peacebuilding Project is submitting three success stories:

- **Live Your Dreams:** this story focuses a *vocera juvenil* from San Andrés Sajcabajá, Quiché who decided not to migrate after participating in project activities and receiving a scholarship to attend college. Please see Annex A.
- **Weavers of Peace, 4 Women Leading Development in Guatemala:** these profiles focus on four women from Comitancillo, San Marcos who are contributing to peacebuilding in their municipality and communities. Please see Annex B.
- **Art, Culture, and Shared Traditions in Constructing Social Cohesion:** Creative published a short blurb in their Think Creative magazine on the projects work with 48 *Cantones* in Totonicapán, highlighting the importance of art, culture and shared traditions in constructing social cohesion. Please see Annex C.

Future Activities, FY22Q3

Please see Annex K for a timeline of FY22Q3 activities.

Annexes

- A. Success Story: Live Your Dreams
- B. Success Story: Weavers of Peace, 4 Women Leading Development in Guatemala
- C. Success Story: Art, culture, and shared traditions in constructing social cohesion
- D. Executive Summary in Spanish
- E. Breakdown of cost share and leverage by activity, source, objective, and amount, FY22Q2
- F. List of communities by municipality
- G. Updated communication materials
- H. Internal Analysis on Social Conflict_FY22Q2
- I. External Bulletin on Social Conflict
- J. Performance Indicator Tracking Table_FY22Q2
- K. Timeline of FY22Q3 Activities