



## Empowering women's equal and safe participation in peacebuilding

January 2026



### Duration:

|             |           |
|-------------|-----------|
| Length:     | 36 months |
| Start Date: | June 2024 |
| End Date:   | June 2027 |

### Budget:

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| <b>TOTAL:</b> | <b>\$ 2.5 million</b> |
| UNFPA         | \$829,100.00          |
| UN Women      | \$1,166,140.00        |
| UNDP          | \$504,760.00          |

### Implementing Agencies and Partners:

**Implementing Agencies:** UN Women, UNDP, UNFPA

**National Counterparts:** Ministry of the Interior; Inter-Institutional Roundtable on Women, Peace and Security (MIMPAS); Presidential Secretariat for Women (SEPREM); Office for the Defense of Indigenous Women (DEMI); departmental and municipal governments; women's organizations linked to the Women, Peace and Security Agenda

## CONTEXT

Guatemala faces structural challenges associated with territorial conflict, historical exclusion, and the limited meaningful participation of women (particularly Indigenous, young and rural women) in decision-making spaces, conflict prevention and territorial governance. These gaps constrain the full realization of women's transformative potential as actors for sustainable peace and social cohesion in territories historically affected by conflict.

The Women, Peace and Security (WPS) Agenda and the Guatemalan National Action Plan on the Security Council Resolution 1325 constitute fundamental strategic frameworks for advancing more inclusive, preventive and territorially anchored governance. However, implementation requires stronger inter-institutional articulation, greater territorial ownership of commitments, and effective mechanisms to facilitate the organized and safe participation of women.

The PBF *Empowering women's equal and safe participation in peacebuilding* project, funded under the Gender Promotion Initiative's Pilot "GPI 2.0", implemented by UN Women, UNDP and UNFPA, is a strategic PBF intervention to address these challenges together with key institutions and a platform on women's organizations linked to the WPS Agenda.

## OBJECTIVES

To enhance women's participation, under conditions of equality and security, in conflict prevention and peace consolidation, by strengthening their leadership and advocacy capacities, as well as the territorial ownership and implementation of the Women, Peace and Security Agenda by the State and civil society.

## KEY IMPACT AND RESULTS

The project has achieved the relaunch of the National Women, Peace and Security Mechanism (MIMPAZ), which brings together 13 state institutions at the national level, and the National Women's Forum, a network of women's organizations dedicated to peacebuilding, key vehicles for ensuring the implementation of the 1325 National Action Plan. Together with these bodies and with institutions at the territorial level in Alta Verapaz, Quiché and Huehuetenango the project is working to mainstream women's peacebuilding priorities into institutional planning and budgeting, including within the System of Development Councils (SISCODE).

In addition, the Women Peacebuilders communications campaign, launched in the context of the 25th anniversary of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), highlighted 25 women leaders and generated more than 130,000 views and interactions on social media.

## CATALYTIC EFFECTS

**Financial catalytic effects** The GPI 2.0 Project has mobilized additional non-PBF financial resources through a strategic partnership with the Central American Institute for Fiscal Studies (ICEFI), leveraging USD \$19,000 in direct investment in the prioritized departments, as well as the implementation of eight departmental workshops with a total investment exceeding USD \$50,000, financed by ICEFI and its donors. These resources expanded the territorial reach and sustainability of project actions, reinforcing the catalytic nature of the PBF investment.

**Non-financial catalytic effects** The project has generated significant non-financial catalytic effects by integrating the Women, Peace and Security Agenda into the System of Development Councils, strengthening its institutionalization beyond the project cycle. It also promoted strategic articulation with key Executive actors and with the Central American Institute for Fiscal Studies, expanding the national reach of the National Action Plan 1325.

Complementarily, the creation and strengthening of territorial networks of women mediators and peacebuilders has contributed to community-level conflict prevention and social cohesion, while improving coordination practices between the State and civil society. Taken together, these advances increase trust, legitimacy and the sustainability of territorial peace processes promoted under the Women, Peace and Security Agenda.

### Voices from the Field

"By 2027, our goal is to bring forward and have more women strengthened within decision-making spaces."  
**Francisca Dominga Pérez, Departmental Delegate of the National Forum of Women for Peace**

"We realized that we had not worked on that area (violence prevention), and that is precisely where the project 'Women Leading Peace' fits in, as it will help strengthen the issues we had not previously addressed."  
**Alida Vásquez, Second Councilor of the Municipality and President of the COMUDE Women's Commission, Huehuetenango**