

## Rural Women Leaders Strengthen Their Capacities to Transform Their Territories

- *In partnership with REDLAC, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) conducted a series of workshops with more than 30 women leaders from rural women's organizations in Latin America.*
- *The initiative seeks to contribute to the fulfillment of the objectives of the Inter-American Decade for the Rights of All Women, Girls, and Adolescents in Rural Settings.*

**Washington D.C., June 4, 2025.** With the conviction that no change is sustainable if it is not built from the local level, more than 30 rural women leaders from Latin America participated in three days of capacity building, organized by the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the OAS and the Network of Rural Women of Latin America and the Caribbean (REDLAC).

The activities were carried out within the framework of the project "Feminist Partnerships to Strengthen the Agenda for Gender Equality", with the support of the Government of Canada, and were aimed at strengthening the capacities of organizations in the formulation of projects with a gender perspective and in the mobilization of resources.

Throughout the three days, participants deepened their knowledge of project idea construction, acquired key tools such as the Theory of Change, the problem tree, SMART objectives, and strategies for mobilizing and diversifying funds for their initiatives.

"Working on concrete problems is positive because it situates us and makes us think," said one of the leaders at the end of the workshop. Another participant noted: "The problem tree helped me a lot, and learning about the search for financing opened another door for me."

Two of the sessions took place virtually, while the third was held in person during the VII Ibero-American Summit of Local Gender Agendas, held in Zapopan, Mexico, co-organized by the CIM/OAS. In this space, the women leaders participated in a collective exercise of co-creating the Theory of Change, focusing on identifying goals, obstacles, and opportunities to transform their environments.

This training initiative is part of the ongoing work that the CIM/OAS promotes in collaboration with the Inter-American Rural Women's Roundtable, to support organizations in developing their own viable and sustainable agendas. It also seeks to contribute to the implementation of the commitments acquired by the Member States in the adoption of the Inter-American Decade for the Rights of All Women, Adolescents, and Girls in Rural Settings.

## **\*INFORMATION FOR JOURNALISTS**

### **About the CIM/OAS**

*The Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) of the Organization of American States (OAS) is the primary hemispheric forum dedicated to promoting and protecting women's human rights and gender equality. Founded in 1928, the CIM has been a pioneer in identifying the barriers faced by women in the social, economic and political spheres, and in formulating policies and programs to overcome those barriers. CIM works in collaboration with OAS Member States, civil society organizations and other key actors to advance the gender equality agenda in the Americas.*