

CASE STUDY | AMIR, HONDURAS

Association of Renewed Intibucana Women

The Association of Renewed Intibucana Women ([Asociación de Mujeres Intibucanas Renovadas, AMIR](#)), is a community-based organization of some 650 Indigenous Lenca women in 25 communities. Its organizational structure includes 32 grassroots groups.

AMIR promotes women-led sustainable agricultural production, which contributes to climate adaptation and mitigation, and is supported by [FCAM](#).



GLOBAL ALLIANCE
FOR GREEN AND
GENDER ACTION

1.1

Context of risks, vulnerabilities and impacts related to climate variability and climate change

Intibucá, a department in western Honduras, is home to Indigenous Lenca communities who have been historically excluded from decisions regarding the use of their lands, including mining and plans for large projects like the Agua Zarca dam. Honduras is highly vulnerable to climate change due to its exposure to climate-related hazards, such as hurricanes, tropical storms, floods, droughts and landslides. In recent years, climate-related weather change has caused repeated crop failure, which has led to increased food insecurity and displacement. The effects are particularly severe for the area's Indigenous Lenca women. Women are responsible for nearly half of Intibucá's agricultural production, yet their income levels are among the lowest in the region.

In Honduras, as in many places across the globe, women are denied access and control over key resources like land, which not only contributes to their food and economic insecurity, but precludes their full participation in measures to adapt to and mitigate climate change. [AMIR](#) saw the challenge first hand: in Silimania, Monquecagua and Planes Rio Grande, three areas in Intibucá, Lenca women were engaged in agriculture on plots that they rented, which meant they had no guarantee

of using the plots again. This created a barrier to their investment in the health of the plot, such as measures to enhance soil nutrition, since the women may not be able to enjoy the benefits. Moreover, the women lacked sufficient knowledge about the management of certain crops and consequently used practices that are harmful to the environment.



1.2

Activities to address the context- and location- specific climate change vulnerabilities

Collective plots facilitate women's climate action

Women participate in the production of fruits and vegetables, as well as in the processing of products at AMIR's plant. The women sell their products, including preserves, jams, wines, sweets and frozen products, under the brand name Siguatas Lenas (the term comes from the Lenca language and has several meanings, including woman and girl).



To deal with the problem of women's land ownership, AMIR tried a new strategy. The group raised funds to acquire plots in Silimania, Monquecagua and Planes Rio Grande for collective use by Lenca women. In the case of Silimania, the property was used by its previous owners to produce vegetables, basic grains and tubers, with aggressive management that had deteriorated the soil considerably. Moreover, the plots were difficult to get to, and therefore AMIR engaged with local authorities, which helped improve access to the collective plots. In Silimania, a new paved street and improved main street to the plot now enables women to use a car to enter with the tools, supplies and materials to carry out their work and harvest crops with less effort and lower cost.

AMIR provided materials, supplies, tools and seeds for the development of collective plots, including installation of an irrigation system. Through training and technical support, the women have strengthened their skills and knowledge to implement agroecological methods, including the use of local resources for the manufacture of organic fertilizers and sustainable management of irrigation systems using solar energy.

The women are now sustainably managing the available water resources, and have implemented soil and forest conservation and recovery measures, which help reduce the impacts of climate change.

The women have already harvested potatoes, vegetables and beans, and are excited to increase production. The collective plots enable the women to meet their household needs, as well as contribute to AMIR's collective strategy of marketing agricultural products. With access to the land, the women can use it sustainably and make decisions about economic resources, which fosters their autonomy.

Another major problem facing women is the lack of access to financing, because women do not meet the requirements requested by banks. Given this problem, **AMIR organized a savings and credit union, which enables women to access financing with minimal requirements, giving them the opportunity to use and manage credit, and respond to the different problems they face.** These actions reflect GAGGA's commitment to strengthening the infrastructure that allows women-led organizations to access sustained, adaptive funding and develop community-based financial mechanisms.



1.3

Impact of activities

A Green Market for Lenca Women

Through persistent advocacy, AMIR succeeded in securing a framework agreement with the municipality of Intibucá to support women's economic initiatives. This partnership led to the creation of the Green Market for Lenca Women, a twice-monthly market space that allows women producers to sell their agricultural and processed goods—such as jams, preserves, wines, sweets, and frozen products - under the Siguatas Lenas brand, a name derived from the Lenca language, symbolizing “woman” and “girl.”

The Green Market has become a vital platform for income generation, visibility, and empowerment, helping women bypass exploitative intermediaries who previously bought their products below market value. AMIR has also secured funds to construct a permanent market infrastructure on AMIR-owned land, reinforcing women's leadership in the local economy. By facilitating peer-to-peer learning and collective organizing, GAGGA has helped partners like AMIR expand their influence beyond production into sustainable, women-led market systems that strengthen local economies while advancing gender justice.



The success of AMIR exemplifies GAGGA's mission as a funder, convener, and catalyst for gender-just climate action across the Global South. Through its alliance model, GAGGA builds and connects the infrastructure that enables women-led and Indigenous organizations to access adaptive funding, tools, and knowledge to confront climate change at its roots. By partnering with regional women's rights funds, such as the case of FCAM, GAGGA ensures that resources reach frontline communities like AMIR, those with the lived experience and proven solutions necessary to create scalable and equitable climate impact.

GAGGA's approach goes beyond grantmaking: it amplifies women's voices in global climate finance, fosters collective advocacy, and strengthens cross-regional solidarity. By equipping partners with tools to influence climate policy at local, regional, and international levels, GAGGA reinforces its role as a trusted bridge between grassroots communities and global institutions.





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