

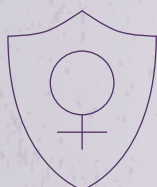
REPORT



Inter-American Commission of Women



OAS | CIM | MESECVI



*The **Organization of American States (OAS)** brings together the countries of the Western Hemisphere to promote democracy, strengthen human rights, economic development, peace, security, cooperation and advance common interests. The origins of the Organization date back to 1890, when the nations of the region formed the Pan-American Union with the objective of strengthening hemispheric relations. This union became the OAS in 1948 after 21 nations adopted its Charter.*

The Organization has since expanded to include the nations of the English-speaking Caribbean and Canada, and today, all the independent nations of North, South, and Central America and the Caribbean make up its 35 member states.

*The **Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM)** is the principal hemispheric policy-making forum for the promotion of women's rights and gender equality. Created in 1928 - in recognition of the importance of the social inclusion of women for the strengthening democracy and human development in the Americas - the CIM was the first intergovernmental body established to promote women's human rights.*

Report 2024 – Inter-American Commission of Women

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Foreword

Alejandra Mora Mora

CIM/OAS Executive Secretary

The history of women's human rights in the Americas has been forged through many people's commitment, persistence, and articulated work.

At the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM), we know that although we have made progress in making these rights visible and guaranteeing them, we still face structural challenges that require renewed determination, cooperation, and creativity.

In 2024, we welcomed the Minister of Women of Panama, Niurka Palacio Urriola, as the new President of the CIM. Together with her and the region's ministers and gender authorities, we have consolidated and diversified our strategies towards gender equality and strengthening all women's rights.

Throughout this year, the CIM and the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI) have worked on concrete actions for women and girls in the region. We have built bridges with Member States, civil society, academia, and international organizations to build inclusive public policies, prevent and eradicate gender violence, and advance toward parity democracy and women's economic empowerment.

As an example of this effort, this publication is designed to make our main actions visible, to report on the data, statistics, and milestones of our work on a living and resilient agenda sustained by the voices and leadership of women in the Americas.

The equality agenda requires everyone's commitment, and we are grateful for the work of all the people from the OAS, the Missions, and the States who are part of this journey.

Summary: CIM in 2024

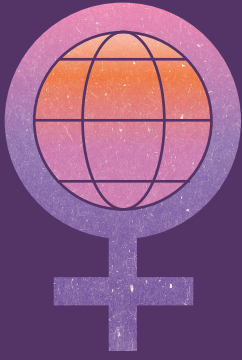
During 2024, the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) and the Follow-up Mechanism of the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI) carried out specialized activities, programs, and visits in 15 countries of the Americas and four countries outside the region.



In 2024, the CIM worked to strengthen coordination with representatives of OAS Member States, ministers, gender authorities, and political actors, as well as with civil society organizations, international organizations, public entities, parliaments, academia, and the private sector.

CIM meetings, by sector (2024)

Sector	Meetings	Details
OAS (Internal)	275	Internal CIM meetings and coordination meetings with other OAS agencies and institutional working groups.
Member States and Observers	220	Presentations to the Permanent Council and other bodies, Committee meetings, subregional (CARICOM, SICA, etc.) bilateral meetings, and public meetings organized with national authorities.
Civil society	129	Closed coordination and public meetings organized with one or more organizations
International organizations	71	Closed coordination and public meetings organized with one or more organizations, meetings of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership, etc.
Academy	38	Closed coordination and public meetings organized with an institution, lectures as part of a diploma course.
Media	25	Individual and/or group interviews
Other	52	Meetings with coordinating agencies and/or donors



1. Partnerships and Articulation for Gender Equality



Feminist Partnerships to Strengthen the Gender Equality Agenda

With support from the Government of Canada, the CIM has developed the project “Feminist Partnerships to Strengthen the Gender Equality Agenda,” which aims to strengthen and diversify strategic alliances at national, regional, and international levels, positioning the gender agenda as a cross-cutting priority. In 2024, the project achieved significant milestones in:



Women's rights organizations in the Dominican Republic

Strengthening of Alliances

- **The signing of two MOUs** with the Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Women's Affairs of the Dominican Republic and Honduras to incorporate a gender perspective into foreign policy.
- **Establishment of academic agreements** with the Universidad Nacional de Rosario (Argentina) and the Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú, to promote research and cooperation in gender equality and human rights.



Side-event to CSW68 “Intersectoral Partnerships to Promote the Agenda for Gender Equality and Women’s Rights”

Dialogues and Consultations

- **High-Level Dialogue at CSW68** with the participation of 13 Mechanisms for the Advancement of Women (MAMs) and 11 civil society organizations (CSOs), to strengthen intersectoral strategies for gender equality.
- **Dialogue at the 54th OAS General Assembly**, with the participation of 4 MAMs and 32 social organizations from nine countries in the region, participated in a dialogue at the 54th OAS General Assembly to address current challenges in the gender agenda.
- **Meetings with the women’s movement** were held in person in the Dominican Republic (11 CSOs), Guatemala (11 CSOs), and Honduras (19 CSOs) and in hybrid form in Washington, D.C. (49 CSOs from nine countries).
- **Discussions with academia and civil society:** four virtual consultations in December 2024 to gather recommendations against the discourse opposing gender equality.



Technical assistance, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Honduras

Technical Assistance and Training

- **Participatory Gender Diagnostics** prepared in the Dominican Republic to identify asymmetries and propose actions to incorporate a gender perspective in policies, projects, and organizational culture.
- **Introductory course on gender** in collaboration with the Portal of the Americas and with more than 400 government officials in the Dominican Republic and Honduras to strengthen competencies in gender equality, rights, and diversity.

Registration and Liaison with Women's Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)

- **Registration of more than 1,300 organizations in the Americas and the Caribbean** has allowed us to establish a direct communication channel. Through this channel, 15 newsletters have been sent with key resources, calls for proposals and strategic guides to strengthen their capacities and advocacy.
- **Informative webinars** in response to the demands of registered organizations. In 2024, CIM organized two virtual sessions to address registering social organizations with the OAS and opportunities for advocacy at the OAS General Assemblies. The webinars were attended by more than 90 organizations.

Studies and Publications

- Needs assessment with the participation of 118 organizations to identify priorities and challenges.
- Progress in preparing an academic study on opposition to gender equality in Latin America and the Caribbean prepared in collaboration with the National University of Rosario, the University of Brasilia, and the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru. The report presents original data to identify key advances and trends in the region.

Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership

CIM acts as the Technical Secretariat of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership. This strategic alliance brings together key inter-American and international institutions with expertise in women's leadership. Its members include:

OAS (CIM and IACHR), ECLAC, PAHO, ParlAmericas, UNDP, UN Women, CAF, SEGIB, International IDEA, Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWiL) and CLADEM.

In 2024, the Inter-American Plan of Action on Health and Resilience, adopted by the States at the Ninth Summit of the Americas, was followed up, with the Task Force placing particular emphasis on promoting women's leadership and participation in the health sector.

High-Level Dialogue: "Women's Leadership in the Regional Health and Resilience Agenda."

- The meeting emphasized the central role of women in achieving the goals of the Inter-American Plan of Action on Health and Resilience. Representatives from 12 international organizations and four women's social organizations specializing in health were in attendance.

Progress on the publication "Women's Leadership in Health in the Americas: Towards Parity and Inclusive Health Governance".

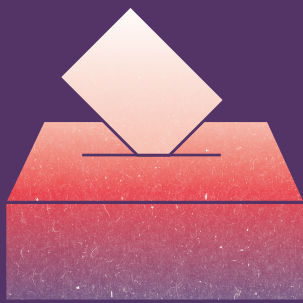
- This study, which will be launched in the first weeks of 2025, analyzes the barriers and opportunities to achieving equal representation of women in health decision-making.

Social media campaign: "More women leaders in health".

- Launched to highlight the challenges and contributions of women in the health sector, this initiative promotes their leadership in health governance across the region, with the involvement of 11 international organizations and achieving outreach to over 150 accounts.



High-level dialogue “Women’s Leadership in the Regional Health and Resilience Agenda”



2. Women's Political Rights for Democratic Governance



Since its creation, the CIM has promoted democracy and women's political rights as its central theme, recognizing their fundamental role in constructing just and equitable societies. This approach is aligned with the mission of the Organization of American States (OAS), whose primary commitment is to defend and strengthen democracy in the region. Within this framework, the CIM has promoted initiatives throughout 2024:

Model Inter-American Law on Parity in Public and Political Life

In January 2024, the Executive Secretariat of the CIM started drafting the Inter-American Model Law on Parity in Public and Political Life under the auspices of AECID.

With the development of a Model Law on Parity in Public Life, the CIM aims to unite the key inter-American standards and best practices on parity, drawing from existing national legislation in the region, its implementation, and outcomes.

Model Law Development Process:

- It was officially launched on May 7, 2024 with a public ceremony at OAS headquarters with the participation of OAS Secretary General, Luis Almagro; the Permanent Observer of Spain to the OAS, Carmen Montón; the Executive Secretary of the CIM, Alejandra Mora; and the former Vice President of Costa Rica, Epsy Campbell.
- Establishment of a Parity Advisory Group, composed of authorities, representatives of civil society, as well as academics and experts.
- Launching of a regional campaign to collect supplies.
- Holding two regional meetings with authorities, experts, and representatives of civil society to gather good practices, measures, and challenges to be considered in the drafting of the text.
- The first meeting was held on May 16 and 17 in Guatemala City and was organized by the CIM/OAS and the Presidential Secretariat for Women of the Guatemalan Government.
- The opening was attended by Karin Herrera, the Vice President of the Republic, and Ana Leticia Aguilar, the Presidential Secretary for Women, along with the virtual participation of Laura Chinchilla, former President of Costa Rica and Representative of the High-Level Group, aimed at promoting the implementation of the Electoral Observation Mission's recommendations on women's political participation.

- The meeting's objective was to debate critical issues related to achieving parity in public and political life, with an emphasis on the legislative and executive branches of government. The panels included interventions by authorities and representatives of civil society organizations from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, the United States, Guatemala, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Uruguay. Experts from other international organizations, such as UN Women, UNDP, and the OEI, also participated in the meeting.
- The second meeting took place in Washington, DC, at the OAS headquarters, on November 13 and 14, featuring Luis Almagro, Secretary General of the OAS, Niurka Palacio, Minister of Women of Panama and President of the CIM, and Ambassador Carmen Montón, Spain's Permanent Observer Representative to the OAS. This meeting aimed to highlight and present concrete measures for achieving parity in the branches of government, particularly focusing on the justice systems. The panels included remarks from authorities and representatives of civil society organizations from Argentina, Bolivia, the United States, Ecuador, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Mexico, Peru, the Dominican Republic, and Uruguay. The meeting also incorporated contributions from the Permanent Representatives of the OAS Missions from Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, the United States, Guatemala, and Mexico. Lastly, representatives from UN Women and other United Nations entities, as well as the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and ParlAmericas, also participated.

The Model Law is expected to be published in the first quarter of 2025

First Candidate Course for Indigenous Women: *Cristina Bautista Taquinas*

The course, organized by the CIM/OAS and MAPP/OAS in collaboration with the Ministry of Equality and Equity of Colombia, received sponsorship from the United States Mission to the OAS and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France. More than 50 indigenous women from 12 Latin American countries participated in the course. This pioneering initiative was developed after several consultations with the Inter-American Group of Indigenous Women of the CIM, during which it was determined that the course should include, in addition to sessions preparing for regular elections, sessions aimed at strengthening the candidates' skills within their own indigenous community governments.

The participants received new course material developed as part of the initiative: "A fabric of cultural and political resistance: Political leadership of indigenous women and their participation in decision-making in the state system and in indigenous peoples' own governments."



Publication: "Un tejido de resistencia cultural y política"

The course, named Cristina Bautista Taquinas at the proposal of MAPP/OAS, honored the memory of the courageous Colombian Indigenous leader who dedicated her life to defending the rights of Indigenous peoples and women.



Course for Indigenous Women: "Cristina Bautista Taquinas"

Two new courses for women electoral candidates in the context of the general elections in Panama and Ecuador

The CIM/OAS and the School of Government organized two new Courses for Women Electoral Candidates in Panama (January 24, 25, 26, and 27) and in Ecuador (December 2, 3, and 4):

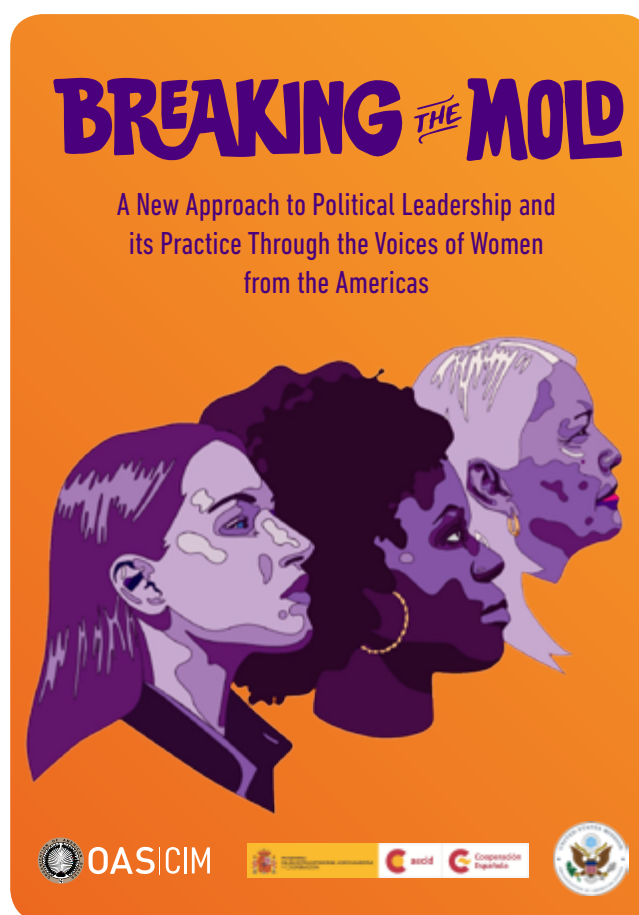


Panama City hosted the Course for Women Electoral Candidates for the second time, targeting women candidates for the May 2024 general elections. The event attracted 75 women candidates from various political parties in Panama, who traveled from different regions of the country. The Course was organized in collaboration with the Ministry of Women and the Electoral Tribunal of Panama, and it received sponsorship from the Spanish Cooperation Agency for Development (AECID).



Over 70 women aspiring to become assemblywomen and parliamentarians in Ecuador participated. This new edition, the third in the country, is named after Matilde Hidalgo Navarro, the first woman to vote in Ecuador and the region. The course was developed in partnership with the National Electoral Council (CNE), the Ministry of Women and Human Rights of Ecuador, and with support from the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of France.

The "Course for Women Electoral Candidates" offered by the CIM has trained over 2,000 women across 12 countries in Latin America, establishing itself as a regional benchmark in training women electoral candidates. Its primary strength lies in integrating a gender perspective, for which the CIM has developed specific content based on the experiences of women leaders in the region, covering areas such as political leadership, parity, electoral financing, and violence against women in politics, including digital violence.



Publication and Documentary of “Breaking the Mold”

Over 30 women politicians from the Americas are featured in the new CIM/OAS publication “Breaking the Mold: A New Approach to the Concept of Political Leadership and Its Exercise from the Voices of the Women of the Americas.” The document analyzes political leadership through the experiences of women leaders in the region.

The publication is available only in Spanish at the following link:

https://www.oas.org/es/cim/docs/RM_ESP_CIM.pdf

In May 2024, the CIM/OAS presented the documentary “Breaking the Mold: Political Leadership: Women’s Voices in the Americas,” which highlights the contributions of influential women to their vision of political leadership. Interviews were conducted with Michelle Bachelet, the first woman President of Chile; Laura Chinchilla, the first woman President of Costa Rica; the Honorable Dame Janet Bostwick, the first woman to serve as Prime Minister (on an interim basis), the first woman Attorney General, and the first elected woman parliamentarian in the Bahamas; and Nina Pacari, the first indigenous woman to serve as Foreign Minister in Latin America, the first woman judge of the Constitutional Court, and the first indigenous woman National Deputy of Ecuador. The documentary was launched on May 9 at the OAS main building in Washington, DC.

Within the framework of the CAJP, the CIM continues its work to strengthen parity in the elections to the Court and the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights

In follow-up to the mandates adopted by the OAS General Assembly for 2023 and 2024, within the framework of the CAJP, the CIM organized two sessions on the topic of “Gender Parity and Geographic Representation and the Representation of Different Legal Systems in the IACHR and the IACHR.” The first session, held on February 22, aimed to examine the follow-up to the recommendations from the report that the CIM prepared on this topic in 2022 and to continue sharing best practices for selecting women candidates for the IACHR and the IACHR. The second session, conducted on December 12, sought to further enhance the exchange of best practices regarding candidate selection for the IACHR and the IACHR, as part of the follow-up to the recommendations of the aforementioned report. Under the leadership of the Member States, the sessions were attended by the Presidents of the IACHR, members of the Inter-American Juridical Committee, academics, experts, and representatives from leading organizations in this field, such as GQUAL/CEJIL and GWL.



3. Women's Economic Rights for Integral Sustainable Development



The economic empowerment of women is a strategic priority for the CIM due to their essential role in promoting gender equality and sustainable development in the Americas. In 2024, the CIM took solid actions in three key areas: integrating women into the labor market and fostering entrepreneurship; recognizing care as a shared responsibility, with particular emphasis on the transformative role of the private sector; and ensuring financial inclusion of women as a fundamental pillar for closing gender gaps in access to and use of economic resources.

In this context, the CIM focused on promoting proposals for tools to assist States in enhancing legal and regulatory frameworks and in raising awareness about the significance of adopting inclusive policies and practices that support women's economic rights from a gender perspective.

Financial Inclusion of Women

The CIM made progress in developing a Model Law for the Financial Inclusion of Women in collaboration with CAF—Development Bank of Latin America and the Caribbean. In April 2024, a round table was held to deepen the inter-American debate and analysis of women's economic rights and financial inclusion. The CIM continued with research, dialogue, and drafting until the first draft of the Model Law was achieved. The instrument will be finalized during the first months of 2025.

Job Placement and Entrepreneurship

Through the project “Strengthening Inter-American Legal Frameworks for the Autonomy and Economic Empowerment of Women,” the CIM made progress in proposing tools for the States to strengthen their capacity to formulate laws, regulatory frameworks, and design public policies with standards at the regional level for the full participation of women in the labor market by eliminating existing legal and structural barriers.

In March 2024, the CIM presented its work in women's economic empowerment to the States. As a follow-up to the Model Inter-American Law on Caregiving (LMIC), CIM has identified a series of concrete measures and initiatives for women's labor insertion and entrepreneurship that it makes available to the States.

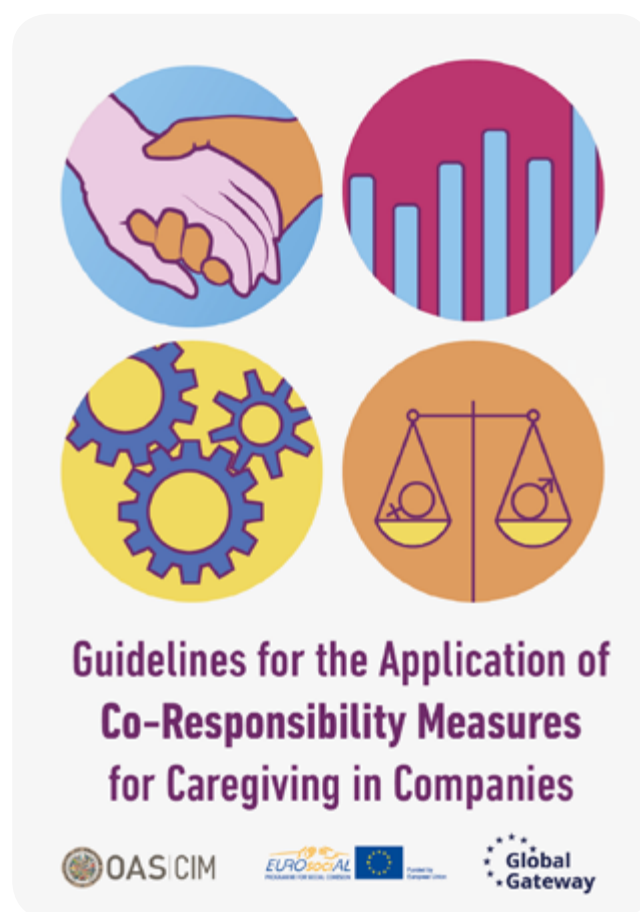
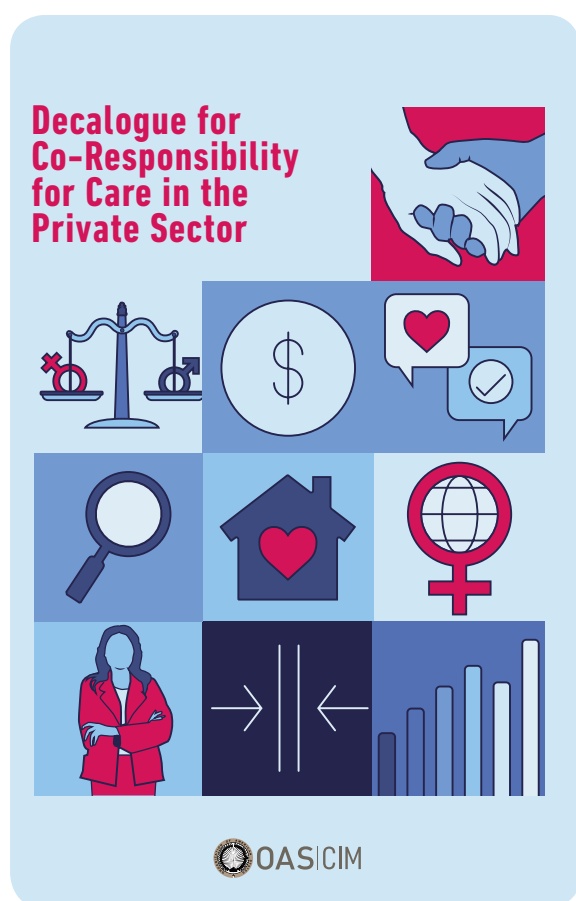
During the year, the CIM made progress in drafting a Model Law to close the gaps in women's participation in the labor market and entrepreneurship.



Dialogue: “The Role of the Private Sector in the Economic Empowerment of Women”



High Level Dialogue: “Labor Insertion of Women and their Entrepreneurship”



Care and Co-responsibility

Throughout 2024, CIM focused on encouraging the active involvement of the private sector in initiatives that not only ensure equal opportunities but also address the genuine needs of women in all their diversity.

The Guide for the Application of Co-Responsibility Measures in Companies was presented in July 2024 to facilitate the implementation of specific actions to promote care and reconciliation between work, family, and personal life.

In November 2024, the Decalogue for Co-Responsibility for Care in the Private Sector was presented. It proposes ten principles for building more equitable and inclusive work environments aligned with staff care needs.

In 2025, CIM will continue to support the private sector in transforming the region in a way that benefits working people, drives economic growth, and strengthens the social fabric.



4. Engagement Strategy for the Caribbean Region



The CIM and MESECVI continued to enhance their relationship with Caribbean States to ensure that projects, policies, and programs are inclusive, responsive, resonant, and equitably reflect Caribbean contexts.

The actions in 2024 affected crucial areas like women's political participation, gender-based violence, economic inclusion, and climate change, significantly broadening CIM's reach and presence in the region.

First Edition of the CIM Course for Caribbean Women Electoral Candidates

The CIM launched the first edition of the Course for Women Electoral Candidates in the Caribbean, with the support of the United States Mission to the OAS. The training took place in Trinidad and Tobago, in collaboration with CIWiL, ParlAmericas, and the local government. Fifty women leaders from seven Caribbean countries (Trinidad and Tobago, the Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Guyana, Jamaica, and Suriname) participated and received training on key issues such as political violence, campaign strategy, climate leadership, and gender-sensitive communication. The event facilitated the creation of an informal regional network of young women candidates to enhance future exchanges and collaboration.

MESECVI Mission in St. Lucia

For the first time, MESECVI conducted a field visit to the Caribbean. Meetings with key actors and visits to shelters and crisis centers helped identify structural and operational challenges. In addition, a training workshop with 45 participants promoted the use of MESECVI tools and strengthened coordination between agencies and civil society.

Subregional training for States Parties to MESECVI

In 2024, three comprehensive workshops on the use of the MESECVI indicator tool were organized for 30 technical officers from six Caribbean States (St. Lucia, Antigua and Barbuda, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, St. Vincent, and the Grenadines). These efforts supported the countries in effectively presenting reports during the 4th Multilateral Evaluation Round.

Small Island Developing States Gender Equality Forum (SIDS)

CIM participated in the first High-Level Forum on Gender Equality for Small Island Developing States (SIDS), organized in Antigua and Barbuda by UN Women. The event brought together 200 key stakeholders from government, civil society, the private sector, and academia to address climate and development challenges from a gender perspective.



First regional edition of the Course for Women Candidates in the Caribbean



MESECVI Mission in St. Lucia



Meeting of the CIM and the Permanent Missions of the Caribbean States to the OAS

Regional round table on women's economic participation

In collaboration with the OAS Executive Secretariat for Integral Development (SEDI), a roundtable was organized for the Eastern Caribbean States to promote women's leadership in productive sectors. During the meeting, best practices were identified, and public policy recommendations were developed for the formalization of women-run businesses and their sustainable economic participation.

Strengthening of regional networks and strategic alliances

Throughout 2024, the CIM actively engaged with the Caribbean Regional Group for Gender Equality to contribute to discussions and help establish a working group focused on training and communications. Additionally, the CIM conducted meetings with the CARICOM Caucus, OAS offices, and Caribbean focal points to assess progress and refine the Caribbean Engagement Strategy 2024-2026.

Strategic Partnerships on Climate Change, Climate Justice and Gender Violence

The CIM strengthened its participation in key initiatives related to climate change, risk management, and gender violence in the Caribbean region.

Through its collaboration with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA), CIM has advanced the integration of a gender perspective into regional policies on risk management and climate change. Additionally, CIM has formed a partnership with the Gender and Development Institutes (IGDS/UWI) at the University of the West Indies to host the symposium "Feminist Conversations on Gender Equality, Diversity and Climate Justice" in 2025.

Simultaneously, MESECVI collaborated with the Government of Jamaica to enhance cooperation in combating gender-based violence, including violence enabled by new technologies. They planned a national conversation for 2025 to commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention.



5. Peace and Security from a Gender Perspective



In October 2019, the UN Security Council urged regional organizations to hold meetings with the involvement of governments, relevant agencies, and civil society to assess the implementation of the women, peace, and security agenda in their respective regions and to develop practical and measurable actions.

In this regard, and with the support of the governments of Italy and Liechtenstein, the CIM initiated a dialogue and reflection process to identify these entry points. These include the unmet demand for social and economic equality, the social conflict that generates this demand, and the violence that sometimes arises from this conflict; transnational organized crime and the insecurity it creates; the deterioration of democracy; explicit threats to women’s human rights; the reduction of civil society spaces for action; violence against women human rights defenders and environmental advocates; the destruction of the environment and the increasing insecurity of all kinds resulting from climate change; the proliferation of weapons, particularly small arms, and their role in the intensification of gender-based violence and the rise in femicides; and displacement and migration related to all these situations.

In 2024, CIM conducted research and consulted with women leaders about their experiences and lessons learned in crisis and conflict management. We presented the preliminary findings from this process during a side event at the 54th Regular Session of the OAS General Assembly.

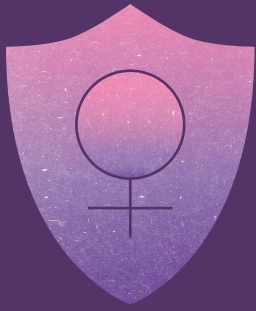
The final results will be presented in two reports in early 2025 and will form the basis of an entire training program supported by the Italian government for women’s leadership in crisis and conflict management.

Skills that CIM will work on in the 2025 training module:





Women's Leadership in Crisis and Conflict Management:
New Perspectives for Facing New Challenges



6. Integral Protection of Women's Human Rights



CIM worked throughout 2024 to promote the rights of women, adolescents, and girls living in rural areas of the Americas, achieving concrete progress within the framework of the [Decade for the Rights of Rural Women](#).

Official Declaration of the Inter-American Day of All Women, Adolescents, and Girls in Rural Settings

CIM supported the establishment of April 17 as Inter-American Rural Women's Day, which the OAS Permanent Council approved. As part of this process, CIM was tasked with preparing an annual report on the creation of spaces, actions, and concrete activities aimed at (1) highlighting the situation and rights of all women, adolescents, and girls in rural areas and (2) empowering them to lead and actively participate in decision-making processes and the development of public policies.

Empowerment and Skills Training for Rural Women

The CIM, in collaboration with the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA), developed a Course on Empowerment and Soft Skills for Rural Women. This program expanded training opportunities for rural women in the region and was officially launched in November 2024 in an asynchronous virtual format.

Meetings with the Inter-American Table of Rural Women

In May and August 2024, two meetings were held with the members of the Inter-American Rural Women's Roundtable. These sessions focused on identifying legal frameworks, public policies, and initiatives that benefit rural women, as well as discussing the contributions of rural women to the Biodiversity Action Plan in preparation for COP16 in Cali, Colombia. The findings will be integrated into a technical publication that the CIM expects to present in 2025.

Access to Justice for Rural Women

During the 54th OAS General Assembly, the CIM co-organized the side event "The Rights of Women in Rural Areas and their Access to Justice" in partnership with the Justice Center of the Americas (JSCA) and the governments of Germany and Paraguay. This space highlighted rural women's challenges in accessing justice and promoted inclusive solutions.



The rights of women in rural areas and their access to justice

Rurality and Climate Change

The CIM seeks to strengthen rural women's leadership capacity and resilience to the effects of climate change.

CIM participated in three international forums and strategic dialogues to disseminate the agenda of the Decade for the Rights of Women, Adolescents, and Girls in Rural Environments:

- The Seminar on Good Practices, organized by the MERCOSUR Family Farming Meeting (April).
- The Red Colaborar panel entitled "The Decade of Rural Women: An Opportunity to Move Forward Together" (June).
- The panel "Challenges of Rural Women's Human Rights in the Face of CEDAW", held in Guerrero, Mexico, in collaboration with electoral and human rights authorities (October).



7. MESECVI: Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women



The Belém do Pará Convention's follow-up mechanism (MESECVI) commemorated key milestones in the fight to eradicate violence against women in 2024.

30th anniversary of the Convention of Belém do Pará: until the right to live free from violence becomes a reality

The year 2024 marked the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the Convention of Belém do Pará, the main legal instrument in our region to guarantee women's right to a life free of violence.

Events throughout the region have marked this anniversary. The commemorations began in Santiago, Chile, on June 10, 11, and 12, with a regional meeting of civil society and the Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI.

In June 2025, MESECVI will continue to disseminate the importance of the Convention and its implementation to guarantee the rights of women and girls in Latin America and the Caribbean and to redouble efforts to eradicate violence against them.

20 years of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Convention of Belém do Pará: for the defense of women's human rights

The 20th anniversary celebrations of the Follow-up Mechanism for the Convention of Belém do Pará (MESECVI) also began in 2024. The creation of this body in 2004 to monitor compliance with the obligations established by the treaty and contribute to its effective implementation marked a fundamental step in the efforts of the States Parties to combat violence against women in the region.

The commemorations for these 20 years began with a session at the Permanent Council of the OAS, in which the Mechanism's authorities highlighted its essential role in continuing to promote strong actions to guarantee the right of women and girls in the region to live free from violence.

IX Conference of States Parties to the MESECVI

The IX Conference of States Parties to the Follow-up Mechanism of the Belém do Pará Convention (MESECVI) was held on June 11 and 12 at ECLAC headquarters in Santiago, Chile, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Convention and the 20th anniversary of the Mechanism.

The high-level meeting of the competent national authorities of the MESECVI - led by Antonia Orellana, Minister of Women and Gender Equality of Chile, in her role as President of the Conference of States Parties to the Belém do Pará Convention - culminated in

a commitment to accelerate the implementation of measures and the strengthening of mechanisms to eradicate gender-based violence in the face of threats to the progress of equality and the right of women to live free of violence.

This commitment was embodied in the [“Declaration on Acceleration Strategies for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention to Prevent, Punish and Eradicate Violence against Women”](#) approved by the authorities of 26 Latin American and Caribbean countries, together with a [new strategic plan of action](#) for the next five years.

The IX Conference brought together representatives of the State’s Parties to the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women, Convention of Belém do Pará. Representatives of civil society organizations, international organizations, and United Nations agencies also participated.

Regional Event to Commemorate the 30th Anniversary of the Belém do Pará Convention

Civil society organizations and social actors working in favor of women’s human rights participated in the regional event to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Inter-American Convention on the Prevention, Punishment, and Eradication of Violence against Women - Convention of Belém do Pará - held on June 10 in Santiago, Chile.

This meeting made it possible to reflect together with civil society, a great ally, and promoter of the Convention, on the achievements and persistent challenges in terms of violence and gender equality and to define a joint strategy for the coming years, taking into account the realities and challenges faced by women in all their diversity in Latin America and the Caribbean.

During this event, the new Regional Articulation for Follow-up of the Belém do Pará Convention was presented, comprised of various civil society organizations involved in monitoring its implementation.

Prevention of violence and sexual exploitation against migrant, displaced, and refugee women and girls

In the midst of regional concern about the situation of migrant women and girls who are victims of violence along the migratory route, MESECVI, together with the CIM and the Department of Public Security (DPS/SMS) of the OAS, and with the financial support of the United Kingdom, developed actions to strengthen the capacities of the States to prevent such violence, improve the capacity to care for migrant women and guarantee their access to justice.

The first phase of this project was implemented in Panama and Saint Lucia, where strengthening workshops were held with key actors from the State, civil society, and cooperation agencies in the area of attention to migrant women. In addition, three guides, a report, and two compendiums were prepared to support the efforts of the States in addressing violence and sexual exploitation against migrant women and girls.

► [Guidelines for the development of a protocol for the protection of migrant, displaced and refugee women from violence and sexual exploitation. Panama.](#)

► [National study on shelters for women victims of sexual and gender violence. St. Lucia](#)

Gender-based violence, structural racism, and racial discrimination

In the framework of the Day of Afro-Latino, Afro-Caribbean, and Diaspora Women, the Committee of Experts (CEVI) of the MESECVI presented its [General Recommendation on gender-based violence against Afro-descendant women.](#)

This instrument arose from the concern expressed by the CEVI about the particularly vulnerable situation of Afro-descendant women in the region, who face aggravated violence as a result of the intersection between racism and gender discrimination, as well as greater obstacles to access to education, health, decent work, adequate housing and to exercise their sexual and reproductive rights, among others fully.

This publication was produced thanks to a partnership between MESECVI, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the Network of Afro-Latin American, Afro-Caribbean, and Diaspora Women.

The process of drafting the Inter-American Model Law to prevent, punish, and eradicate technology-facilitated violence against women is moving forward.

Throughout 2024, work continued drafting an inter-American model Law to prevent, punish, and eradicate technology-facilitated gender-based violence against women. Within this framework, regional consultations were initiated, with the support of the Republic of Italy, to disseminate and nurture the preliminary draft Model Law, with contributions from specialists from various fields and countries.

Between October and November, five consultations were held, including face-to-face meetings in Buenos Aires, Bogota, and Cartagena, with more than 150 specialists in various areas that intersect with digital and technology-based violence against women.



Consultation on the draft Model Law on digital gender violence at the University of Buenos Aires



Consultation on the draft Model Law on digital gender violence against women in Bogota



Panama Project on Violence and Sexual Exploitation against migrant, displaced and refugee women, with the Minister of Women, Juana Herrera



MESECVI Mission in St. Lucia



Regional commemoration with civil society for the 30th anniversary of the Convention of Belém do Pará

Participants in these consultations included representatives of the three branches of government, including the Minister of Justice of Colombia, legislators from both countries, magistrates of the Constitutional Court of Colombia, as well as civil society and women's organizations, academia, think tanks, and international organizations, who presented their contributions to the text of the future Model Law.

The regional consultation process will continue during the first half of 2025, with meetings planned in Trinidad and Tobago, Mexico, Central America, and Brazil.

Leadership of the EDVAW Platform

International cooperation was also a key focus of MESECVI's activities, as it assumed joint leadership of the [EDVAW Platform](#) for the Elimination of Discrimination and Violence against Women for the first time, comprising seven United Nations and regional independent expert mechanisms on violence against women.

In 2024, MESECVI served as co-chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), and four key meetings were held to strengthen the platform, achieve its strategic objectives, increase its visibility, and consolidate joint advocacy on critical gender issues.

Also, during 2024, the Platform issued joint statements on key dates such as March 8, International Women's Day, which focused on issues such as poverty, inequality, and gender-based violence, and November 25, International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women, focused on the effects of armed conflict on women and girls.

These actions, from the co-presidency, have allowed the platform to continue consolidating itself as a strategic space for coordinating global and regional efforts in the fight against discrimination and gender violence.

Fourth Multilateral Evaluation Round of the Belém do Pará Convention

In 2024, 16 countries in Latin America and the Caribbean completed the reporting process for the MESECVI Indicator System, which monitors progress and challenges in implementing the Belém do Pará Convention.

The evaluation process for the English-speaking Caribbean countries was also relaunched with a series of workshops for the authorities and officials of the States Parties, who will report to the system of indicators in the coming months.

The first findings of this round, focused on access to justice, truth, and reparation for women victims and survivors of violence, show that, although there is evidence of progress in the creation of regulations and services for women, there are still significant barriers and challenges that perpetuate impunity.

The national reports of [Chile](#), [Colombia](#), [Ecuador](#), [El Salvador](#), [Guatemala](#), [Paraguay](#), and [Uruguay](#) are available within the framework of this round.



8. Strategic Communication for the Promotion of Gender Equality and Women's Rights



In 2024, CIM implemented a comprehensive communication and positioning strategy focused on:

- To Share key messages about women's rights and gender equality using Social and Behavior Change Communication (SBCC) principles to promote changes in knowledge, attitudes, norms, beliefs, and behaviors.
- To strengthen CIM's role as a hemispheric reference point for women's rights and gender equality by enhancing its relationships with key audiences.
- To improve the visibility of its strategic axes, aligned with the four pillars of the OAS (Democracy, Human Rights, Development, and Security), and in response to the mandate from Member States to explore new funding sources for its work.

These objectives have been realized through a diverse range of communication products that present technical concepts in an accessible and effective manner to maximize the reach and impact of CIM's work:

- Publication of over 1,000 messages and around 300 stories on social networks (Facebook, X, Instagram) in English and Spanish, aimed at highlighting the achievements, key data, and priority issues of the CIM.
- Design, layout, and publication of at least 20 strategic documents and technical reports aligned with the CIM's work axes, distributed both digitally and physically at key events.
- Drafting and distributing about 30 institutional news articles, in English and Spanish, to report on CIM's activities, achievements, and strategic positions in the region.
- Production of 40 reels and short videos tailored for social media, featuring inspiring stories, relevant data, and testimonials that enhance the narrative on women's rights and gender equality.
- Preparation of 45 newsletters summarizing CIM's progress, events, and key products tailored for influential audiences and strategic partners.
- Management of around 35 interviews, press releases, and opinion articles in traditional media (television, radio, and print) to improve media coverage visibility of the CIM and its positioning on the public agenda.

- Opening new official accounts on TikTok and LinkedIn in Spanish, along with English accounts on Facebook, Instagram, LinkedIn, and TikTok, has enabled the CIM to broaden its presence on key platforms and reach a global audience by 2025.

In this way, CIM and MESECVI manage more than 20 digital platforms in English and Spanish to reach diverse audiences, interact in real time, and position their messages with greater reach and effectiveness.

CIM activity in the social networks with the most followers as of December 2024.

Account	Messages sent 2024	Followers			Publications view
		12/2022	12/2023	12/2024	
Twitter (@CIMOEA)	1340	18,200	19,600	20,200	Average of 500 visits/day Quarterly average reach ¹ of publications: 145,300
Twitter (@CIMOAS)	860	967	1014	1025	Average of 60 visits/day Quarterly average reach of publications: 456
Facebook	570	26,000	27,000	28,093	Quarterly average number of visits: 3000 visits Quarterly average of views ² of publications: 70,700
YouTube	81 videos	675	747	798	15,927 views during 2024
Instagram (@cim.oas)	209 326 stories	2,315	4,298	5750	Quarterly average of 2,400 Quarterly average of publication views: 172,200
CIM Women in Politics Network	150	590	858	911	Average of 20 visits per day
Tik Tok	25			14	717 video views

Additionally, in 2024, various campaigns were conducted on key dates, utilizing dynamic formats such as reels, testimonials from activists and authorities, as well as informative pieces, to enhance participation, raise awareness of priority agendas, and promote transformational messages:

- March 8 - International Women's Day**

#WorkInEquality

Objective: To highlight the challenges faced by women in the labor market, emphasize the importance of closing the gaps, and promote their full economic integration.

Results:

Reach: +2900 accounts

Interactions: +600 accounts

- April 17 - First Inter-American Day of Rural Women**

Objective: To recognize rural women's leadership, vindicate their rights, and renew the commitment to change in their favor.

Results:

Reach: +1400 accounts

Interactions: +300 accounts

- November 29th: International Women's Human Rights Defenders Day**

Objective: To emphasize feminist activism and the essential contributions of women human rights defenders in the region.

Participation: 25 organizations and activists from 10 countries sent their testimonies to the CIM/OAS.

Results:

Views: +1000

Interactions: +80

- November 25 and 16 days of activism| Joint campaign with MESECVI**

Objective: To raise awareness of gender violence enabled by technology while providing tools to identify and combat it.

Results:

Views: +4500

Interactions: +200

In 2025

let's continue transforming realities and building a future where every woman and girl can live free from violence, with equal opportunities and full autonomy!

We are deeply grateful for the leadership of the Minister of Women of Panama and President of the CIM, Niurka Palacio, and the Executive Committee of the CIM.



Niurka Palacio
President



Panama



Antonia Orrellana
Vice-president



Chile



Yanci Salmeron de Artiga
Vice-president



El Salvador



Virginia Albert-Poyot
Vice-president



Saint Lucia

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Samantha Marshall
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