



## EL SALVADOR LIBRES PROJECT FACT SHEET

### OVERVIEW

USAID's \$35 million LibreES: For an El Salvador Free of Gender-Based Violence project helps reduce gender-based violence (GBV) through prevention, protection, and accountability, developing safer communities for the most vulnerable groups.

The project is implemented by Arizona State University in collaboration with seven local partner organizations and numerous other resource partners who lend their expertise in GBV prevention work. Activities focus on municipalities with high rates of GBV in the departments of Santa Ana, San Salvador, and San Miguel.

### PRIORITIES

The project has three main objectives:

I. Prevention of GBV towards vulnerable populations such as

### LibreES

#### TOTAL INVESTMENT:

\$35 million

#### TIME PERIOD:

October 2022–October 2027

#### PARTNERS:

- Arizona State University
- Urban Strategies
- Asesoría a Programas y Proyectos de Desarrollo (ASPRODE)
- Asociación Salvadoreña de Mujeres (ASMujeres)
- Movimiento Salvadoreño de Mujeres (MSM)
- Fundación Empresarial para la Acción Social (FUNDEMÁS)
- Fundación para el Desarrollo (FUNDE)
- Universidad Francisco Gavidia

#### GEOGRAPHIC AREA:

San Salvador, Santa Ana, San Miguel

women and girls, LGBTIQ+ individuals, persons with disabilities, and boys, by working with local organizations, civil society, and key stakeholders, including potential perpetrators of GBV. Strategies include communications campaigns to change attitudes and behaviors, working with youth on positive masculinity, and using art and theater to promote healthy gender dynamics.

2. Protection of GBV survivors through the strengthening of systems and services that aid recovery through psychosocial support, engaging communities in advocacy for victims and the establishment of legal clinics, preventing the recurrence of violence through referrals and strengthening community support for survivors, and supporting economic livelihoods for survivors to live free from violence.

3. Reduce impunity and increase accountability of GBV by strengthening legal and judicial systems to hold perpetrators accountable for their actions and achieving justice for victims. The project's approach to accountability combines expanding legal services for victims, strengthening skills of lawyers who prosecute GBV cases, and improving legal clinics for students.

The project will also conduct innovative research into GBV through the Institute for the Elimination of Gender Based Violence. This Institute will conduct studies of root causes and effective strategies to address GBV, helping to inform the public and private sectors and the community of practice in the design of future projects and policies.

Activities include a nationwide GBV campaign to sensitize and increase awareness of the importance of preventing GBV. The campaign will be supported by local partners, and by Arizona State University's Cronkite school of journalism to develop evidence-based behavioral change messages tailored for various Salvadoran audiences. As part of LibRES's strategy to prevent GBV, local partners have organized therapeutic art fairs. The fairs include interactive stations where participants experience the services that LibRES is offering and understand the ways they can get involved in GBV prevention, including knowing about referrals for victims.

For more information on USAID El Salvador and USAID Central America Regional Programs, please call (503) 2501-3411; 3344; 3432 or visit [www.usaid.gov/el-salvador](http://www.usaid.gov/el-salvador)

