



Declaration
of
Human Rights

CENTRAL AMERICA AND MEXICO REGIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS PROJECT

FACT SHEET

OVERVIEW

The \$8 million regional Human Rights Defenders project helps preserve the safety and livelihoods of individuals working to counter corruption, promote democracy, and protect civic space by providing them with opportunities to enhance their professional contributions and networks.

Under the CentroAmerica en Ascenso Fellowship, the project provides tailored medium-term protection resources and fellowships to anti-corruption champions, human rights activists, and democracy activists that enable them to continue their professional work.

**Regional Human Rights
Defenders Project**

TOTAL INVESTMENT:

\$8 million

TIME PERIOD:

March 2024 – March 2029

PARTNER:

International Institute for
Education

GEOGRAPHIC AREA:

El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras,
Nicaragua

PRIORITIES

As part of the Human Rights Defenders project, USAID provides fellowships at U.S. universities for democracy champions and anti-corruption reformers to help them continue their work as practitioner-experts, expand and maintain their networks, and share their experiences countering corruption and impunity through academic pursuits. The project provides one-year appointments or two-year degree-candidate study.

Fellows can pursue academic programs and research projects customized to their roles as democracy champions and anti-corruption reformers. They can also teach courses, publish research, and continue advocacy work at host educational institutions, including American University, University of Florida, and the University of Notre Dame.

The project also offers psychosocial support and English language training, as needed.

ANTICIPATED RESULTS

- At least 40 anti-corruption reformers in El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua receive fellowships.
- Upon completion of their study, fellows find opportunities to remain meaningfully engaged in their work throughout the region.
- Returning fellows enhance their skills and expand professional networks to further their work to counter corruption towards advancing democracy and promoting human rights in Central America.

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

