

Youth Excel - Central America and the Caribbean Grant Competition Meet our Grantees!

Youth Excel's first Grant Competition opened with a public request for concept notes for implementation research projects focused on improving young women's and girls' physical, virtual, and/or psychosocial safety and mobility in Central America and the Caribbean.

Youth Excel received concept notes from many local youth-led and youth-serving organizations in eligible countries: Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. In August 2021, Youth Excel competitively selected the five (5) winners of the competition who will be engaged for one year to use research and learning to strengthen young women's and girls' safety and mobility in their communities.

Grantees will conduct implementation research and develop knowledge products, with a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) approach prioritizing protection for everyone involved in the process. They will also participate in a Data Summit in 2022 and share their knowledge, findings and adaptations through periodic learning events.

Learn more about our winners here:

Name	Organization overview	Project overview
Alianza para la Paz ONG (APAZ) - Guatemala	APAZ is a regional non-governmental organization, founded in Guatemala in 2015. Its mission is to build participatory, just and equitable societies that allow peace, security and the strengthening of democracy from an intersectional approach that addresses the multiple discriminations and inequalities by age, gender, sex, ethnicity, origin, sexual orientation, among others.	Project: To analyze the dynamics of gender violence faced by young women in vulnerable areas of the municipalities of Guatemala and Villa Nueva, as well as the options they have to overcome the cycles of violence. It seeks to generate opportunities and alternatives for care in an effective way that is close to the areas where they live.
Asociación Ak' Tenamit - Guatemala	The Ak 'Tenamit Association is a Guatemalan indigenous grassroots organization that has been working since 1991 promoting innovative initiatives focused on the well-being of the country's indigenous people, with a special focus on girls. It has a permanent team of 74 indigenous professionals and its headquarters are in the jungle of the country's Atlantic coast.	Project: To increase the autonomy and leadership of Guatemalan indigenous women and girls through technical training for self-employment and decent employment in new technologies. It will identify barriers and opportunities, mobilizing multisectoral support for the creation of inclusive public policies with state resources and innovative strategic alliances for indigenous girls and young women.

<p>Fundación Guatemala - Guatemala</p>	<p>Fundación Guatemala is a feminist civil society organization with experience in the development of training processes for the empowerment of women, who join a network for continuous exchange and strengthening. It specializes in research from a gender perspective to transform the realities experienced by adult and young women in different contexts and settings.</p>	<p>Project: To collectively build the Young Women's Agenda for the Right to Safe Mobility in Cities as an instrument of local advocacy, with young women from eight regions of Guatemala, methodologically supported in the development of women's safety audits and their territorial involvement.</p>
<p>Universidad Autónoma de Santa Ana - El Salvador</p>	<p>The Autonomous University of Santa Ana, guided by its own aims, objectives, and regulations, trains students in the areas of health and social sciences. Its institutional mission is to train professionals through teaching, research and social projection, with academic quality, ethics and competitiveness to contribute to national development.</p>	<p>Project: To guarantee access to the development and maintenance of social work and personal skills to women and girls from 15 years of age, from the city of Santa Ana, El Salvador, C.A. increasing the current level of health and well-being, involving them in taking care of their own health from an integral point of view.</p>
<p>Warriors Zulu Nation Honduras - Honduras</p>	<p>Warriors is an empowerment organization for children and youth founded by young people and led by young people organized in November 2011, reaching legal status in September 2016, strengthening the protective factors to prevent violence. We use different methodologies and initiatives of interest to children and youth to develop interventions within them, such as extreme arts and sports.</p>	<p>Project: To support the development of artistic training workshops to create safe spaces where good practices are promoted, and dignified conditions are created for collective resilience with a focus on the protection and promotion of rights. We bet on safe communities where children and youth can develop without fear or limitations.</p>