



# UN WOMEN AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN BRIEFING ON COVID-19

INFORMAL BRIEFING  
EXECUTIVE BOARD  
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# | CONTENTS

1. Regional overview
2. Evidence-based and adaptative approach
3. Women's leadership
4. Ending Violence against Women and Girls
5. Women's Economic Empowerment
6. Engendering the emergency response
7. Looking to the future

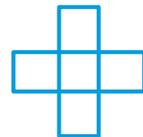


# REGIONAL OVERVIEW

LAC economic activity contracted by 7.4 percent in 2020, surpassing every other region in the world

## WOMEN'S SITUATION

- Disempowered economically
- Affected politically
- Facing increase of VAWG



## CONTEXT

- Austerity measures
- Trade and tourism paralysis
- Weaker social protection systems
- Gender-blind stimulus packages



## LOOKING AHEAD

- Deepened socioeconomic and sanitary crises
- Governance and political crises
- Social discontent may increase
- Heightened risks to civic space
- Greatest impact most severely women already left behind

# AN EVIDENCE-BASED AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGY

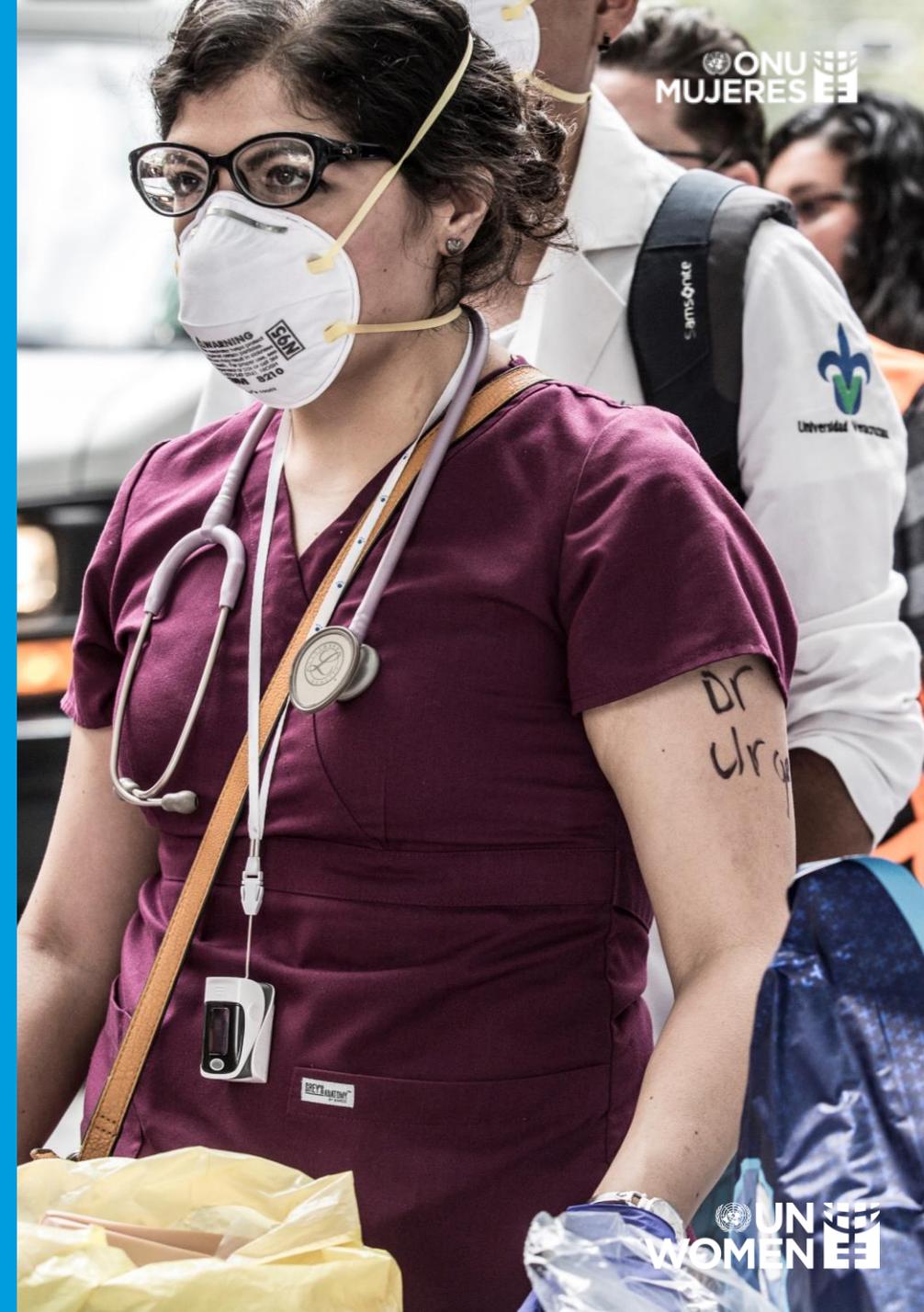
- Over 70 policy briefs produced
- 72,000 visits to online knowledge content
- 23M people reached on Twitter

Strategic communications for cross-cutting inclusion of the gender perspective in the crisis response

- Positioning of UN Women as a relevant voice on gender issues
- Consolidation of an active and responsive digital environment

Creation of the gender section of the ECLAC COVID-19 Socioeconomic Observatory

- Monitors gender measures and priorities of 33 LAC countries



# AN EVIDENCE-BASED AND ADAPTIVE STRATEGY

Stronger and increased partnerships with the UN, Development Banks, private sector, civil society, and governments of the region

Adaptive programming providing the most relevant responses

- Virtualization of activities, services, outreach, and capacity building
- Focus on addressing the most urgent needs of women on the ground



# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Mobilized Ministers of Women in the framework of the Regional Conference on Women in LAC
- Over 40 civil society dialogues and informal consultations with 215 organizations and networks on COVID-19
- Increased leadership of women human rights defenders, peacebuilders, and young women



# WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP IN COVID-19 RESPONSE

- Strengthened capacities of women in politics and decision-making
- Held strategic conversations with electoral bodies on COVID-19 impacts on political rights and 10 rescheduled elections



# ENDING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

## EU/UN SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE

- Supported national VAWG services
- Strengthened capacities of women's organizations, WHRDs and shelters
- Policy tools and recommendations

## ESSENTIAL SERVICES

- VAWG services to be considered essential services
- Adapted reporting and support mechanisms
- Capacities of service providers

## SOCIAL MEDIA/ CAMPAIGNS

- Social media campaigns and contents
- Radio and TV programmes & spots
- Accessible materials in indigenous languages and for women with disabilities

## INNOVATION

- Behavioral insights for prevention
- Artificial Intelligence to support victims
- Private partnerships to expand help lines and reaching wider groups
- Non-traditional spaces for reporting and help

## | EVAW: SOME COUNTRY EXAMPLES

BRASIL

2 films on VAWG in the context of the pandemic which reached more than 110 million viewers

COLOMBIA

630 stores set up safe spaces for reporting VAWG

MEXICO

More than 3,000 first responders trained to respond to issues of VAWG in emergency contexts

HONDURAS

Protection and shelter established for women's human rights defenders that suffered violence

JAMAICA

Toll-free telephone lines established to respond to women's emergency and care needs



## WOMEN'S ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

1

CARE  
ECONOMY AS A  
PILLAR TO  
BUILDING BACK  
BETTER

2

FOCUS ON THE  
WOMEN AND  
GIRLS MOST  
LEFT BEHIND

3

ENABLING  
WOMEN-  
OWNED  
BUSINESSES TO  
GROW AND  
ADAPT

4

PRIVATE SECTOR  
AS A KEY ACTOR  
TO ADDRESS THE  
CRISIS WITH A  
GENDER  
PERSPECTIVE

5

FINANCING FOR  
GENDER  
EQUALITY AND  
WOMEN'S  
EMPOWERMENT

# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION

## Care Economy as a pillar to building back better across the region



**MEXICO:** The Right to Dignified Care and the inception of the National Care System were established through the reform of articles 4 and 73 of the Constitution



**CHILE:** Approval of an emergency bill to extend postnatal support in the context of COVID-19 and a law that incorporates domestic workers into the unemployment insurance



**ECUADOR:** Collaborative design of “Transfers for Care” programmes that will be incorporated into national emergency response cash transfer packages

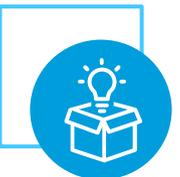
# ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT IN ACTION



**Regional Action Coalition for the Economic Empowerment of Women with the Vice-President of Colombia**



**“Investors for Equality”: regional innovative financing initiative**



**Strategic Alliance with Central American Bank for Economic Integration to guarantee substantive resources for women entrepreneurs**



**Close to 19,000 women, businesswomen and entrepreneurs had access to digital skill building platforms and tools**

# ENGENDERING THE EMERGENCY RESPONSE

Creation of a Regional Roundtable on Gender in Humanitarian Action with the participation of 17 regional organizations

Direct support 35,000 women and people in high-risk situations

Inclusion of use of sex disaggregated data and gender equality as a cross-cutting principle in 88% of Socio-Economic Response Plans (SERPs)

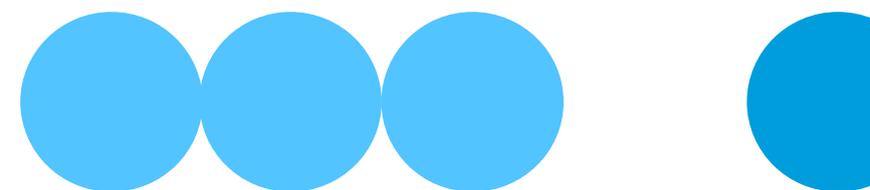


Progress in parity in the region could have a groundbreaking impact on the ability of countries to respond to the **COVID-19 crisis**

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**UN Women has promoted gender parity in the region** since its inception and proudly recognizes the region's progress toward parity even during the pandemic

## PARITY PROGRESS IN THE REGION



# PARITY PROGRESS IN THE REGION

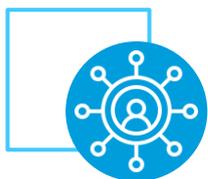
BOLIVIA	MEXICO	CHILE	PARITY AT THE HIGHEST LEVEL	PARITY LEGISLATION
56% of women in the upper house	<u>Extended parity</u> to all branches and levels of government	Constitutional reform with <u>parity constituent assembly</u>	<u>7 female VPs and 6 women mayors of capital cities</u> 3 heads of state in Caribbean, 0 in Latin America	<u>Reached ten parity legislations</u> —highest number in the world

# MOVING FORWARD

In 2021...

Women's leadership and increased participation in decision making will be a cornerstone to sustain democratic values and enhance crisis management

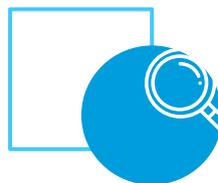
## Continued focus on mainstreaming gender throughout the response and recovery



Strengthened political participation of women & women's organization, HR, environment and peace defenders



Continued focus on care & macroeconomic policies and an increased focus on STEM, circular economy & climate change



VAW prevention with focus on innovation for transformative results



Innovative financing for women's economic empowerment



Strengthened UN System engendered response

**THANK YOU!**

**REGIONAL OFFICE**

**FOR THE AMERICAS AND THE CARIBBEAN**