



We noted,

as much from the studies collected, as well as from the field experts consulted and the thousands of surveys conducted, that the holistic and principal effect of the pandemic on the situation of women in Latin America and the Caribbean was the deepening and aggravation of structural, pre-existing social, economic and cultural inequalities, such as:

INCREASE IN GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE

DECLINE IN FINANCIAL AUTONOMY

INCREASE IN CARE WORK ENTRUSTED TO THEM

EDUCATIONAL DIFFICULTIES EXACERBATED BY SOCIAL INEQUALITIES

DETRIMENT TO PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

INCREASE IN XENOPHOBIA AND RACISM

AGGRAVATION OF THE FEMINISATION OF POVERTY

LIGHTS AND SHADOWS IN THE WOMEN-CHURCH RELATIONSHIP AND

INCREASE IN HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND ORGANISED CRIME

Latin America and the Caribbean

“ that women

have a real and effective impact on the organization, the most important decisions and the direction of communities, while continuing to do so in a way that reflects their womanhood

Pope Francis
(QA 103)

We hope in faith that:

- decision-makers in our countries and in international organisations;
- traditional media and social media leaders;
- leaders and members of civil society organisations;
- the Presidents of Episcopal Commissions, the Bishops of our dioceses, our pastors,
- every member of the People of God; and
- every man and woman of goodwill

find their sphere of action and responsibility, to join forces and generate synergies that allow us women, religious and lay, to develop fully and exercise our co-responsibility, with competence, creativity and resilience.

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a project of
World Union of
Catholic Women's
Organisations

Listening to transform lives

WORLD WOMEN'S OBSERVATORY (WMO)

Goal

To give visibility to women, especially the most vulnerable, who seem to be “invisible”, both in terms of their sufferings and their potential, in order to inspire and generate:

- pastoral strategies on the part of the Church
- synergies on the part of civil society NGOs
- public policies on the part of States and
- contributions to the international agenda

which can favour the integral human development of women and that of their families, communities and peoples.

THE WWO AIMS TO:

- eradicate all forms of violence and discrimination against women, in order to establish, in practice, equal rights for men and women;
- apply and promote the principle of solidarity and the cultivation of community ties highlighting the role of women; and
- generate a culture of care in which women's leadership, well-known throughout history, emerge as a new form of exercise of citizenship.

FIRST RESULTS

"IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN"



WE OBTAINED:

Voices and testimonies of Latin American women that give visibility to their experiences of suffering and discrimination, as well as strength and resilience during the pandemic.

WE WANT:

To raise awareness and generate actions that favour the development of women in the post-pandemic period, based on the teachings of the Catholic Church.



Carried out in alliance with the Knowledge Management Centre of the Latin American Bishop's Council and its Pastoral Socio-Anthropological Observatory

SOME PROPOSALS



- Creation of spaces for accompaniment, listening and support, where women can feel safe and seek help.
- Training in women's leadership in all areas, including pastoral and theological education and preparation as pastoral agents for new ministries.
- Representation of women in public spaces, focusing on collaboration rather than competition.
- Reflection on gender theories and prioritisation of this issue "permeating"; pastoral, governmental and social efforts and actions.
- Actions to humanize relationships through intergenerational conversation circles.
- Research and dissemination on structural and symbolic violence.
- Prevention of violence by working, from childhood onwards, for equal rights between men and women, with strategies to reverse, among others, the problems of access to education - including digital education - and overcoming poverty.
- Reform of law enforcement systems to provide a comprehensive and effective response to the serious problem of violence against women.
- Creation of mourning spaces to share experiences and pray together, adding popular religiosity as a healing factor.

Latin America and the Caribbean

AFRICA: FIRST STEPS



In 2022 we started our activities in Africa.

In Nairobi, Kenya, we trained women as social correspondents able to listen to and raise awareness among other women in their respective communities.

Women of 24 WUCWO member organisations from 16 African countries participated in this workshop.



The action plan proposes to reach 25,000 women in approximately 20 countries in the region.

