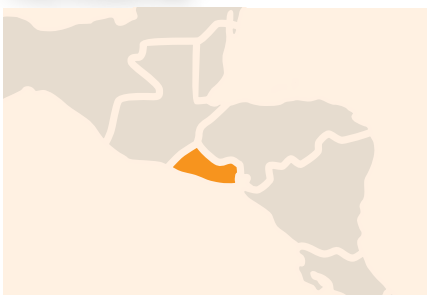




Partner Profile: ASEI



Photos courtesy of ASEI



In El Salvador, an estimated 71 percent of adult women and 77 percent of low-income adults lack access to formal financial services.¹

Asociación Salvadoreña de Extensionistas Empresariales Egresados del Instituto Centroamericano de Administración de Empresas (ASEI) is a microfinance institution in El Salvador and a partner in Global Partnerships' Women-Centered Finance with Education and Women-Centered Finance with Health initiatives.²

WHO IS SERVED:

ASEI currently serves close to 25,000 microentrepreneurs, with a focus on vulnerable communities and women in El Salvador. 79 percent of ASEI's clients are female.³ ASEI reaches a greater percentage of clients in poverty than El Salvador's national poverty rate, according to data captured by ASEI on their clients' socioeconomic profile.⁴

WHAT IS DELIVERED:

ASEI's clients can access small loans and training to support income-generating activities, with the majority of ASEI's clients accessing their

financing through group loans. In addition to financing, ASEI clients receive training in financial literacy. Specific topics include budgeting, business management, successfully managing debt, and special workshops focused on helping clients develop new entrepreneurial skills. There are also training sessions offered in health topics such as preventing COVID-19, hypertension, and diabetes.

In addition to health education, ASEI also offers clients affordable primary healthcare. These health services are delivered through three clinics ASEI operates out of branch locations, two mobile clinics operating out of customized vans that travel to regions where ASEI lacks permanent branch clinics for their clients, and additional community health outreach campaigns designed to serve rural and remote areas. For more specialized health concerns that go beyond the primary care and preventive screenings ASEI offers, ASEI has referral partnerships with specialists and labs and helps

clients connect with those services at reduced cost.

WHY IT IS IMPACTFUL:

ASEI clients can use their loans and financial education to make more informed economic decisions for their businesses and invest in opportunities to sustain or grow their incomes. Clients can then more easily weather economic shocks, increase food security for their families, and support their children's education.

"With the help of [ASEI's] loans, I've managed to provide for my children so they could move forward and obtain their degrees," said Gloria, a single mother, entrepreneur, and ASEI client. "I'm thankful for their support to help us overcome our challenges and move forward. It's the one way we can make progress."

ASEI clients and their families can use their health services and education to prevent illness, access better and more timely healthcare, and make more informed health decisions.

1. "The Global Findex Database," The World Bank, 2021, <https://globalfindex.worldbank.org>.
2. ASEI was a current borrower of Global Partnerships Impact-First Development Fund, LLC and Global Partnerships Impact-First Growth Fund, LLC as of September 30, 2023.
3. Data as of June 30, 2023, as reported by ASEI.
4. Data as of September 30, 2022, as reported by ASEI
5. "Historias que inspiran | Gloria Ester Zepeda," YouTube, Jan 3, 2023. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hY-FPE-38P8>.