

Partner Profile: Pro Mujer Bolivia



An estimated 3.6 million adults in Bolivia lack access to formal financial services, and only 18% of women have borrowed from a formal financial institution.¹ In addition, access to quality, affordable healthcare remains a challenge for families living in poverty, particularly those living in rural areas.²

Fundación Pro Mujer Bolivia IFD (PMB) is a partner within Global Partnerships' (GP) Women-Centered Finance with Education and Health initiatives.³ PMB is a Bolivian microfinance institution that provides credit, education, and access to health services for low-income female microentrepreneurs.

WHO IS SERVED:

PMB serves female microentrepreneurs across all regions of Bolivia, where, on average, 20% of the population lives with basic deprivations in terms of health, education, and living standards. 78% of PMB's clients are women.

WHAT IS DELIVERED:

PMB leverages the village bank platform to deliver working capital loans and broad-based education covering topics such as business planning, financial literacy, gender-based violence prevention, environmental preservation, and digital literacy. In addition, PMB facilitates access to preventive health services for clients and their dependents through a voluntary affordable health package that includes health consultations, reproductive health exams, blood glucose tests, and blood pressure tests.

WHY IT IS IMPACTFUL:

Access to working capital loans and related education enables PMB's clients to make more informed decisions, better deal with shocks, and sustain and eventually grow investment in income-generating activities, resulting in improved economic resilience and food security for their households. With access to health information and services, PMB's clients can adopt healthier behaviors, practice prevention, and receive timely and appropriate treatment, enabling improved household health. In 2019 approximately 220,000 individuals received health services from PMB.

1. Source: World Bank population data 2019 & World Bank Global Findex 2017

2. Source: Source: USAID & Pan-American Health Organization 2007, "Health Systems Profile – Bolivia" https://www.paho.org/hq/dmdocuments/2010/Health_System_Profile-Bolivia_2007.pdf

3. Pro Mujer Bolivia is a current borrower of Global Partnerships Social Investment Fund 5.0, LLC as of September 30, 2020.