

# Partner Profile: Grameen Costa Rica



In Costa Rica, an estimated 43 percent of low-income adults and 39 percent of women do not have access to formal financial services.<sup>1</sup>

**Asociación Costa Rica Grameen (Grameen Costa Rica) is a Costa Rican social enterprise and a partner in Global Partnerships' Women-Centered Finance with Education initiative.<sup>2</sup>**

## Who is Served

As of March 31, 2025, Grameen Costa Rica serves more than 7,500 clients across Costa Rica, with a focus on rural low-income female entrepreneurs. All of their clients identify as female and live in rural areas.<sup>3</sup>

## What is Delivered

Grameen Costa Rica offers group loans intended to support rural microentrepreneurs. Alongside

loans, clients also receive an educational program called "Academia Grameen," which comprises digital training modules that deliver relevant topics for clients, and the opportunity to reinforce their knowledge with in-person meetings every other week. This dual methodology significantly enhances the knowledge women retain, as it aligns better with their education levels and digital literacy. Modules cover topics around entrepreneurship, and personal and family financial well-being. Since 2023, Grameen Costa Rica has partnered with a local expert in digital education with a gender focus to tailor their modules to their clients' needs.

## Why it is Impactful

Grameen Costa Rica's clients can use their loans and financial education to make more informed business decisions and invest in opportunities to sustain or grow their income. This in turn can enable greater economic resilience, food security, and well-being for them and their families.

Key to this impact is Grameen Costa Rica's educational programming. "All the workshops and courses they give us teach a lot," says Sofía, a farmer and client of Grameen Costa Rica. "One learns to become self-sufficient and to keep moving forward."<sup>4</sup>

1. The Global Findex Database." The World Bank, 2021. <https://globalfindex.worldbank.org>.

2. Grameen Costa Rica was a current borrower of Global Partnerships Social Investment Fund 6.0 LLC and Global Partnerships Impact-First Fund 10, LLC as of March 31, 2025.

3. Number of clients and breakdown by gender and rurality as of March 31, 2025, as reported by Grameen Costa Rica.

4. "¿Qué es Grameen Costa Rica?" Grameen Costa Rica, YouTube. May 8, 2019. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=owZDZWrB2Wk>.