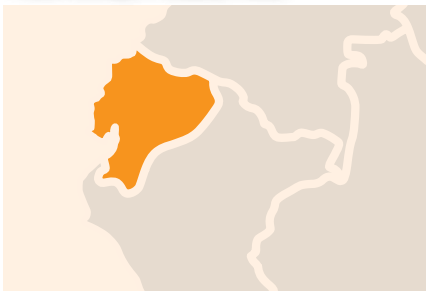


# Partner Profile: Fundación FACES



Photos courtesy of Fundación FACES



In Ecuador, an estimated 40 percent of low-income adults and 42 percent of women lack access to formal financial services.<sup>1</sup>

**Fundación de Apoyo Comunitario y Social del Ecuador "FACES" (Fundación FACES) is an Ecuadorian social enterprise and a partner within Global Partnerships' Rural-Centered Finance with Education initiative.<sup>2</sup>**

## Who Is Served

As of September 30, 2024, Fundación FACES currently serves nearly 29,000 clients in southern and northwestern Ecuador, with a focus on households living in poverty in rural areas. Approximately 64 percent of their clients live in rural communities and approximately 52 percent identify as female.<sup>3</sup>

## What Is Delivered

Fundación FACES offers loan products aimed at helping microentrepreneurs, with special products and services focused on empowering women clients or supporting clients using agricultural practices in line with environmental conservation (with lower interest rates available for those that are classified as working in particularly sustainable manner). Alongside these loans, Fundación FACES offers financial training to borrowers, as well as health and wellness training, including topics such as nutrition, prevention of domestic violence, and parenthood skills. Agricultural borrowers may also access technical assistance tailored to meet the needs and interests of the clients, such as animal husbandry, organic fertilizers, and the cultivation of various crops.

## Why It Is Impactful

Clients of Fundación FACES can use the credit as well as the accompanying education to make more informed decisions about their business and invest in opportunities to sustain or grow their incomes, enabling greater economic resilience and household well-being.

"Now we have money to educate our children, to get ahead, and to fix our house," says Fundación FACES client, Aracely Mendoza.<sup>4</sup> "That's our project as parents, and that is why we work hard, day after day... I think I speak for everyone here, for the farmers, in thanking (Fundación FACES) for the support and helping those of us who need it."

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

2. Fundación FACES is a current borrower of Global Partnerships Impact-First Development Fund, LLC and Global Partnerships Impact-First Growth Fund, LLC as of September 30, 2024.

3. Number of clients and breakdown by rurality and gender as of September 30, 2024, as reported by Fundación FACES.

4. "Historia Microempresaria: Aracely Mendoza." Fundación FACES. YouTube, December 3, 2021. [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DF\\_Lwofl94g](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DF_Lwofl94g).