

Ecuador

- [Factsheet “Raising awareness of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women”](#)

Factsheet “Raising awareness of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women”

Summary of a process of 20 facilitators who elaborated a diagnosis of the situation of Afro-Ecuadorian women in 52 communities in the Chota Valley, in the provinces of Imbabura and Carchi. The research was also carried out with Afro-Ecuadorian women in Quito and the Intag region.

► Fighting Violence against Women in Latin America

Raising awareness of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women

Context
In Ecuador, the National Council for Women (CONAMU), the National Coordinator of Basic Women's Organizations (CONABEM) and the National Council for Women's Empowerment and Political Participation (CONEMPP) are the main organizations working on the empowerment and political participation of women of different ethnicities in the national level. The organization is based in Quito with provincial offices in Pichincha, Cotacachi, Guano, Cacha, Imbabura, Cacha, San Blas, Sucumbi, Chacabamba and Puyo.

The National Council for Afro-Ecuadorian Development (CONADEA), which is also a member of CONAMU, coordinates the activities in the Imbabura region for CONADEA, the African Network of Latin America and the Caribbean and focuses on the women.

Cooperation
Since 2010, the team of CONADEA and CONABEM has been working on strengthening the cultural activities, particularly those related to the promotion of Imbabura and Cacha, to the existing problem of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women.

In order to make violence “visible” – including for those who may not want to talk – a pilot project was launched to train members of CONADEA to collect data on the different forms of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women and to enter the information into a database.

The project also strengthened the leadership skills of the participating women. Now, they increasingly carry forward the political dialogue with cultural activities to promote meaningful action to prevent and combat violence against women in the national level.

The project involved consulting and training 20 CONADEA women in the topic of gender-based violence to collect data on the violence mentioned earlier. These women, who bring the experience of the methodology used, conducted interviews to establish a baseline in the initial Afro-Ecuadorian communities. They also shared the different forms of violence experienced by Afro-Ecuadorian women with the communities of the Chota Valley, within the Provinces of Imbabura and Pichincha. For the first time, the historical and structural dimension of violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women in the two provinces were documented.

Lessons Learned and Insights
The baseline study shows the size and seriousness of the violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women. Due to the violence, Afro-Ecuadorian women have lost their security and their lives. They have lost their lives, and women are being killed. This is the reality of the violence against Afro-Ecuadorian women in the two provinces.



[Download \(2014, pdf, 512 KB\)](#)

[View in Spanish](#) | [View in German](#)