



Asociación Educativa Integral para una Juventud Sana (AEIJSA)
In Bilwi (Puerto Cabezas), NICARAGUA

To address a macho culture and a system of patriarchy, AEIJSA had worked exclusively with women which led to a permanence of existing structures on a community and family level

The **solution** was to include men in the intervention and sensitize them in relation to the conception of gender

IMPACT

- o Inclusion of the men in domestic tasks and division of “women’s work”
- o Changing of the conception of gender and of the representation of women within the structure of the local government

Experience description

Women benefiting from the work of AEIJSA expressed the need to include their husbands and companions in the interventions because their presence in the family was nonexistent. After elaborating a methodology guide to work with indigenous men, these men were included in the interventions on the role of women and the division of domestic work. During regular visits to the households, the association could observe a transformation of how men and their women as well experiences the conception of gender, the role of every person in relation of taking care of the kids and the integration of men in the household.



Other characteristics



BENEFICIARIES

- o The partner of the women benefiting from the work of AEIJSA
- o Fathers from the indigenous group of the Miskito's
- o Community Leaders
- o Religious Leaders



CHALLENGES

- o The macho culture and the system of patriarchy
- o Men’s affectivity was related to debility and a sexual disorientation
- o The lack of a methodology to talk with indigenous men about masculinity



LESSONS LEARNED

- o Men are an essential part when working to prevent gender-based violence
- o The system of patriarchy limits the promotion of affection
- o The consideration of cultural practices is important to achieve a change of traditional roles