

Comunalia

ANNUAL REPORT 2024

Promoting local sustainable
development **by strengthening**
community foundations in Mexico.

Message from the President



Carlos García Miranda
President of the Board, Comunalia.

2024 has been a year of both challenges and reaffirmation for community foundations in Mexico. In a national context marked by social polarization and uncertainty around civil society funding, community foundations have demonstrated resilience and a deep commitment to strengthening the social fabric of our country. Thanks to their close connection with local communities, our member organizations play a vital role in driving sustainable, participatory solutions at the local level.

At Comunalia, we are proud to stand alongside them—celebrating their achievements and embracing the lessons that continue to strengthen these allies across their territories.

This year also marked a time of transformation for Comunalia. With the appointment of a new Executive Director and the renewal of much of our operational team, we began an internal process aimed at revitalizing our mission.

We have worked diligently to reaffirm our commitment to each member of the Alliance to strengthen and support them, and to create funding opportunities that enhance their institutional capacity. This new chapter is an opportunity to continue building a strong, collaborative, and strategic network that drives transformation and sustainable development from the ground up—to better address today's global challenges.

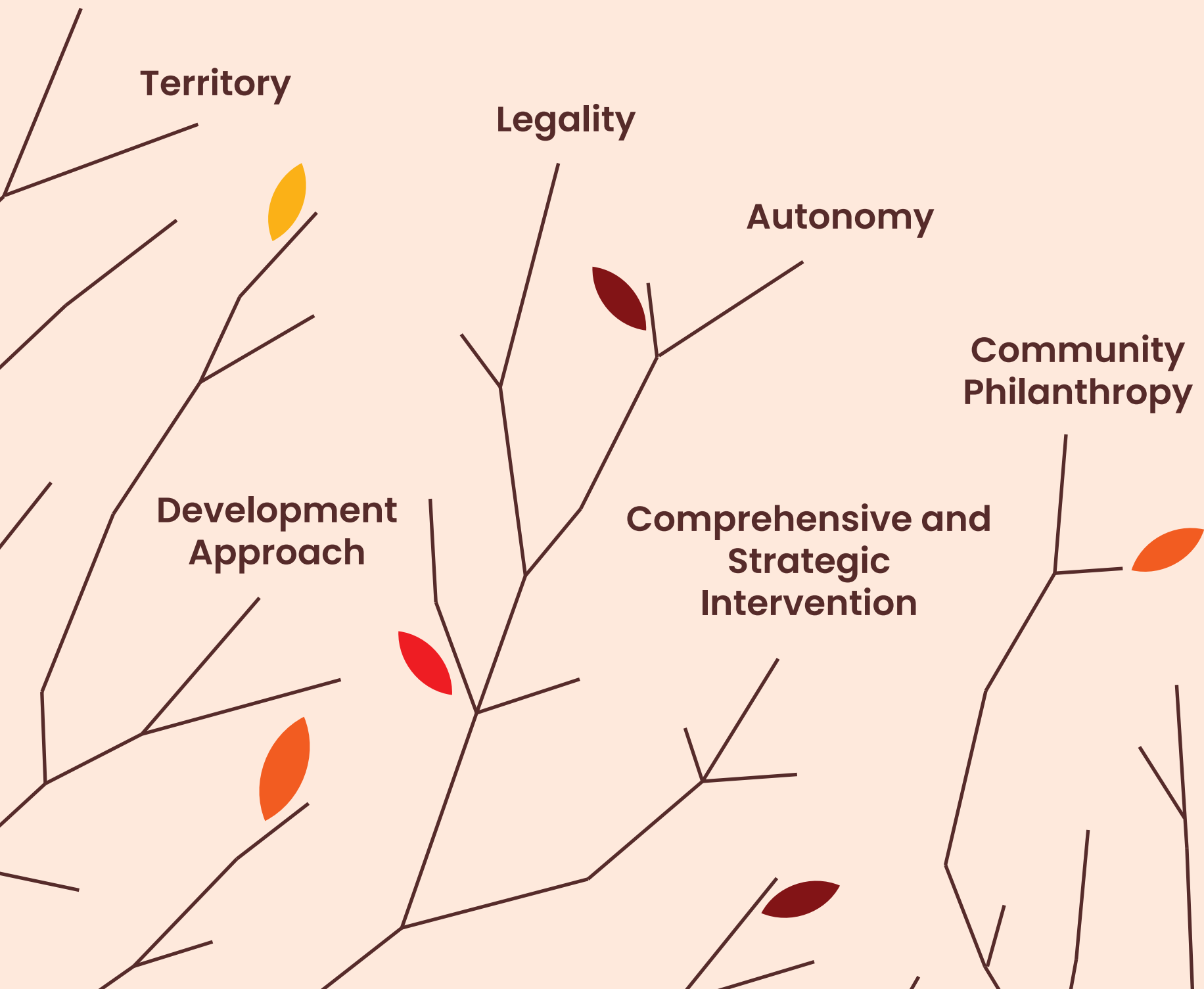
Mission

To strengthen Mexico’s Community Foundations.

Vision

We are the alliance of all community foundations in Mexico, that impacts the national level from the local level, with international projection. Through our work and that of our members, the identity and model of community foundations is recognized in the country.

Characteristics of the Mexican Community Foundation Model



Alliance of Community Foundations of Mexico



Our impact on sustainable development

We are the Alliance of Community Foundations of Mexico, advancing local sustainable development through capacity building.

We promote alignment with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the local level by strengthening the knowledge and capacities of community foundations and across the national and international philanthropy ecosystem.



STRATEGIC LINES

1

Fortify

Comunalia to expand its reach and impact.

2

Strengthen community foundations,

institutional capacities and core attributes to enhance the effectiveness of their work.

3

Increase

resources for Comunalia’s sustainability and promote new income streams for community foundations.

4

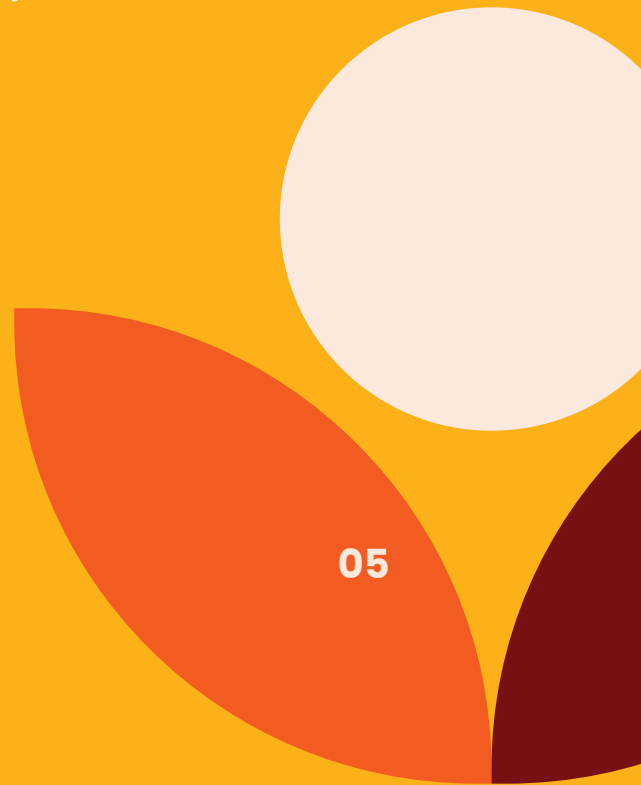
Promote

the creation of new community foundations in Mexico.

5

Foster

an enabling environment and elevate the visibility of the community foundation movement in Mexico.



STRATEGIC LINE

Fortify Comunalia to
expand its reach and
impact.



The contribution of our movement to the social sector

We identify the specific capacity-building needs of each foundation, which allows us to design individualized institutional development pathways.

This process made it possible to gather shared indicators and consolidate them into data that highlights the collective impact of the community foundation movement within Mexico’s social sector.

Sources of Income for Community Foundations in Mexico



Impact of community foundations



The Alliance of Community Foundations of Mexico is made up of **16 community foundations**, with the participation of **169 board members**, **314 staff members**, and **568 volunteers**.

We also strengthened how we communicate our value proposition in capacity building for community foundations:



Collective strengthening

Comunalia firmly believes in the importance and effectiveness of peer learning as a strategy to strengthen its members.

Communities of Practice: A trusted space where experiences are shared to address areas of opportunity, and tools are introduced to foster mutual understanding and create a peer support system.

Learning Exchanges (Internships): Resources that enable community foundations to visit one another in person, immerse themselves, and learn directly from the programs and strengths of their fellow organizations.



Individual Strengthening

Through these programs, we offer community foundations the opportunity to request support to address specific needs identified in their strengthening roadmap developed with Comunalia.

Personalized Technical Assistance: Resources to invest in consulting, advisory services, mentoring, and other support tailored to their specific needs.

Scholarships: Funding to attend training sessions, courses, conferences, and other relevant events that contribute to their work.

Vital Signs: A program that uses local data and participatory processes to identify the needs and priorities of communities.



Communication and Connections within the Community Foundation Movement

Comunalia HUB A central space where Comunalia shares not only its internal programs and tools, but also facilitates access to external capacity-building resources and opportunities.

Virtual Library: Training resources on topics relevant to community foundations, including recordings, presentations, operations manuals, case studies, and research materials.

Internal Calendar: Includes events, committee meetings, and Comunalia program deadlines.

External Training Calendar: A curated list of training events offered by well-recognized organizations in the sector.

External Calls for Proposals: Whether for funding or training opportunities, these are shared via email or WhatsApp groups.

Strategic Spaces to Help Position Community Foundations

Internal Spaces

Members of the Alliance's community foundations actively participated in the Finance, Connections, Credibility, Continuity, and Capacity Committees. These groups met regularly, contributed meaningfully to Comunalia's work, and guided our actions and decision-making to fulfill our purpose.

Committees that guide us:



External Spaces

In 2024, we brought the voice of community foundations into spaces where key decisions are made.

We participated in key committees and forums within the philanthropic sector to represent their interests and the movement's vision, while also gaining insights that strengthen our collective work.



We strengthened our participation in the Steering Committee of Connecting Communities in the Americas, an alliance that links us with community foundations across the continent.



We took part in the Arrecife Convening Committee to promote the principles and practices of community philanthropy in Mexico.



Ibero-American Community of Learning for Community Foundations (CIAF)

We are active members of the CIAF, where we share our model and initiatives that advance the community foundation movement throughout the region.



We participated in the Leadership Group and the Coordination Committee of RedColaborar's 2024 Annual Fair, contributing to this community of IAF grantees that promotes actions in support of the social sector in Latin America.

Community Foundations' voices



Cristina Nava
Executive Director, Fondo Potosino.

"Comunalia's internal strengthening in 2024 has allowed us to consolidate a shared vision for the future, enhancing collective strength and mutual learning. Through constant communication, the network drives joint projects, exchanges experiences, resources, and strategies that promote transformative change. This not only strengthens our impact in communities but also lays the foundation for us to become, in the medium term, a stronger and more influential voice in the formulation and implementation of public policies".

STRATEGIC LINE

Strengthen community foundations,
institutional capacities and core attributes to
enhance the effectiveness of their work.



Strengthening

Comunalia is focused on enhancing the work of community foundations (CFs) to achieve greater reach, impact, and long-term significance in their programs, by offering both collective and individual strengthening.

Collective Capacity Building

Collective capacity building highlights and leverages the knowledge and experience of Comunalia's members. It promotes spaces of trust, connection, peer support and mentorship.

3 Communities of Practice focused on:

Executive Leadership
Program Coordination
Fundraising

With the participation of:

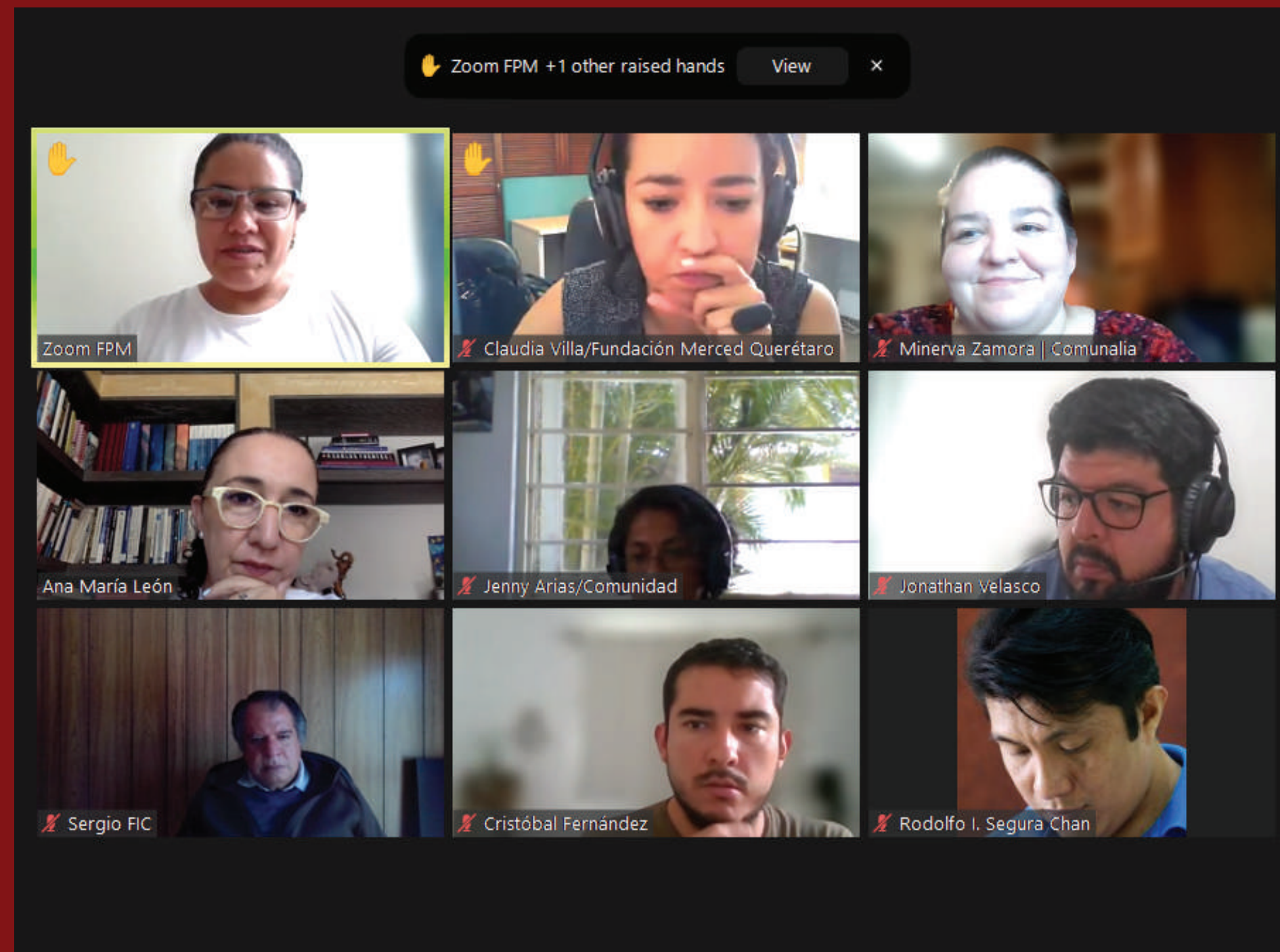
13 Community Foundations
23 Active participants across the communities of practice
27 Sessions held

2 Webinars focused on:

Conversations for a Better Mexico
COMUNIDAR's Business Model

With the participation of:

11 Community Foundations
32 Participants



Individual Capacity Building

Individual capacity building acknowledges that each Community Foundation operates within its own context, with distinct experience, strengths, and areas for growth. It provides support to address the needs identified in their “learning roadmaps” through technical assistance and scholarships.

8 Community Foundations supported with 16 scholarships:

amigos
de San Cristóbal A.C.


Fundación
Comunidad
Siembra tu capacidad


Fundación
Cozumel


COMUNIDAR


Fundación
Comunitaria
Malinalco


FUNDACIÓN
COMUNITARIA
OAXACA


FONDO
POTOSINO


MERCED
COAHUILA


FUNDACIÓN
COMUNITARIA
OAXACA


FUNDACIÓN
COMUNITARIA
PUEBLA IBP


Fundación
Merced
Querétaro


FUNDACIÓN
PUNTA DE MITA


FUNDACIÓN
PUNTA DE MITA

Participation in:

6 international events

7 national events

5 Community Foundations supported with 8 personalized technical assistance grants:

Topics covered:

- Program documentation and Theory of Change
- Gender equity
- Strategic planning
- Accounting and administrative processes
- Institutional development
- Team strengthening and procedures
- Fundraising processes

Individual Capacity Building

Giving Circles

In partnership with Philanthropy Together, we offered the Launchpad for Hosts program— a training and support process for community foundations to design, start, and strengthen **Giving Circles** in their territories.

We shared tools, methodologies, and experience to foster a culture of giving through strategies adapted to each foundation's context, helping mobilize resources within their communities.

4 virtual workshops held

6 community foundations participated



4 community foundations received grants from Comunalia to launch their Giving Circles programs:



4 Giving Circles were activated through the community foundations, raising MX\$172,450, which was matched by Comunalia, **resulting in \$344,900 MXN** to support 6 community projects.



Individual Capacity Building

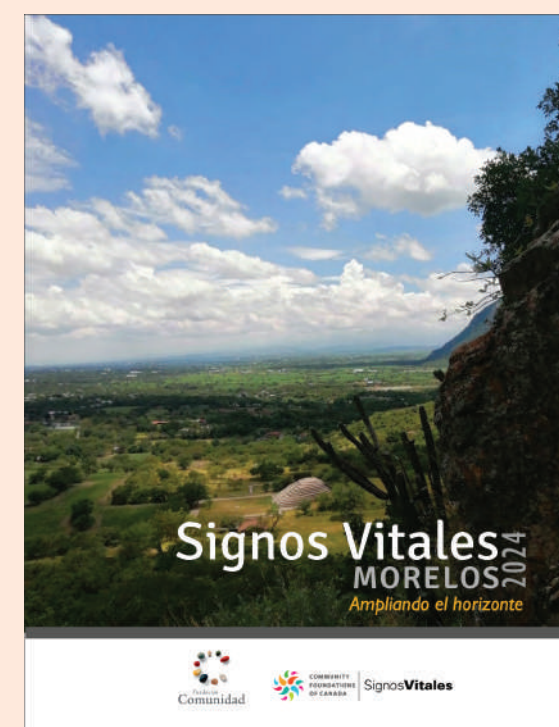


We support community foundations in implementing Vital Signs, a global initiative led by Community Foundations of Canada, which generates reliable and useful information that helps better understand local realities and enable more effective action from within the communities.

Three community foundations published their Vital Signs Reports:



[Read it here](#)



[Read it here](#)

Sharing with the ecosystem:

- The third cohort of community foundations shared the findings and challenges of the process with other members of the Alliance.
- Webinars on **Theory of U, 3D Mapping, and Strategic Stakeholder Analysis**, presented by Fundación Comunidad, Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca, and Fundación Internacional de la Comunidad.
- Presentation of the initiative to the Community Philanthropy Node of Red Colaborar.
- Presentation to the organization Comuna Nación in Peru.

SignosVitales®

Webinar Teoría U, Mapeo 3D y Actores Estratégicos

Miércoles, 06 de noviembre, 2024
 de 9:30am a 11:00am (Centro de México).

Facilitan:

Sergio Dávila
 Coordinador de Programas

Abigail Pelaez
 Directora de Desarrollo Institucional

Erik Friend Drake
 Presidente

Sesión virtual ¡Regístrate hoy!

SignosVitales®

Presentación Reportes Vitales

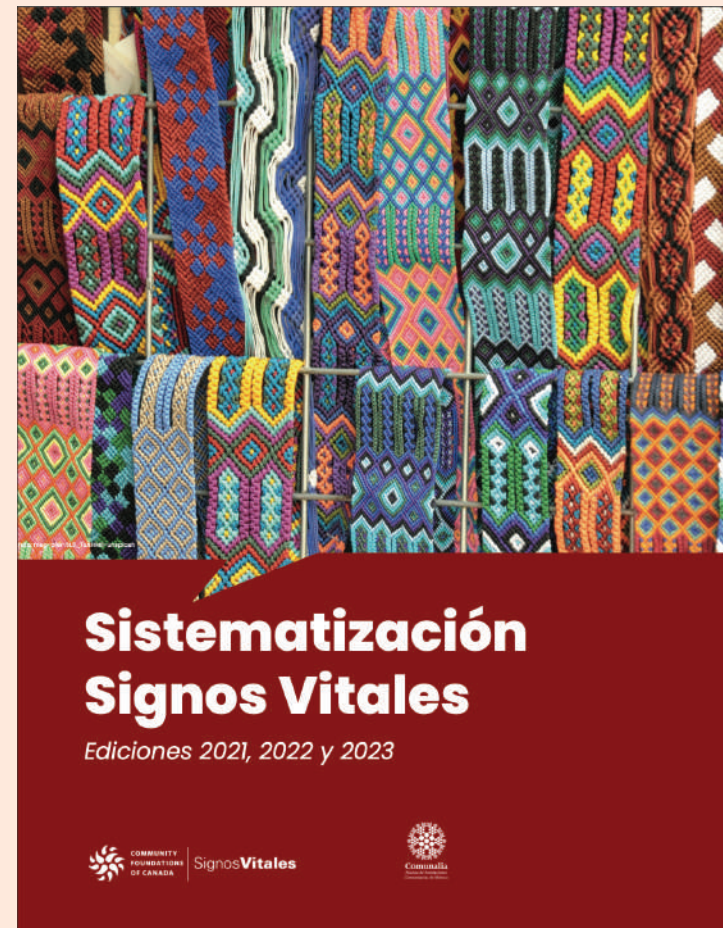
CON EL LIDERAZGO DE:

Martes, 12 de noviembre, 2024
 de 4:00pm a 5:30pm (Centro de México).

Sesión virtual ¡Regístrate hoy!

Individual Capacity Building

Vital Signs Systematization 2021–2024



To transform experience into knowledge, we documented how Comunalía has promoted the Vital Signs model in Mexico, capturing the achievements, challenges, and strategies involved both in its implementation by community foundations and in the support and promotion provided by Comunalía between 2021 and 2024.

[Read it here](#)

7 community foundations participated:



Vital Signs 2024–2025

We welcomed the fourth generation of community foundations joining the Vital Signs program. Comunalía provides funding and support to each participating foundation to publish their reports in 2025.



4th **Vital Signs** generation

Community Foundations' voices



Elena Palencia
General Programs Coordinator, Fundación Punta de Mita.

"Comunalia's support in 2024 has been key to strengthening our institutional capacities, allowing us to learn from other community foundations, share common challenges, and recognize ourselves as part of a broader community development ecosystem. The spaces for exchange, reflection, dialogue, and guidance have enriched our daily work, connecting us with local and global practices, and shortening the path toward building collective solutions that enhance our impact and commitment to the communities".

STRATEGIC LINE

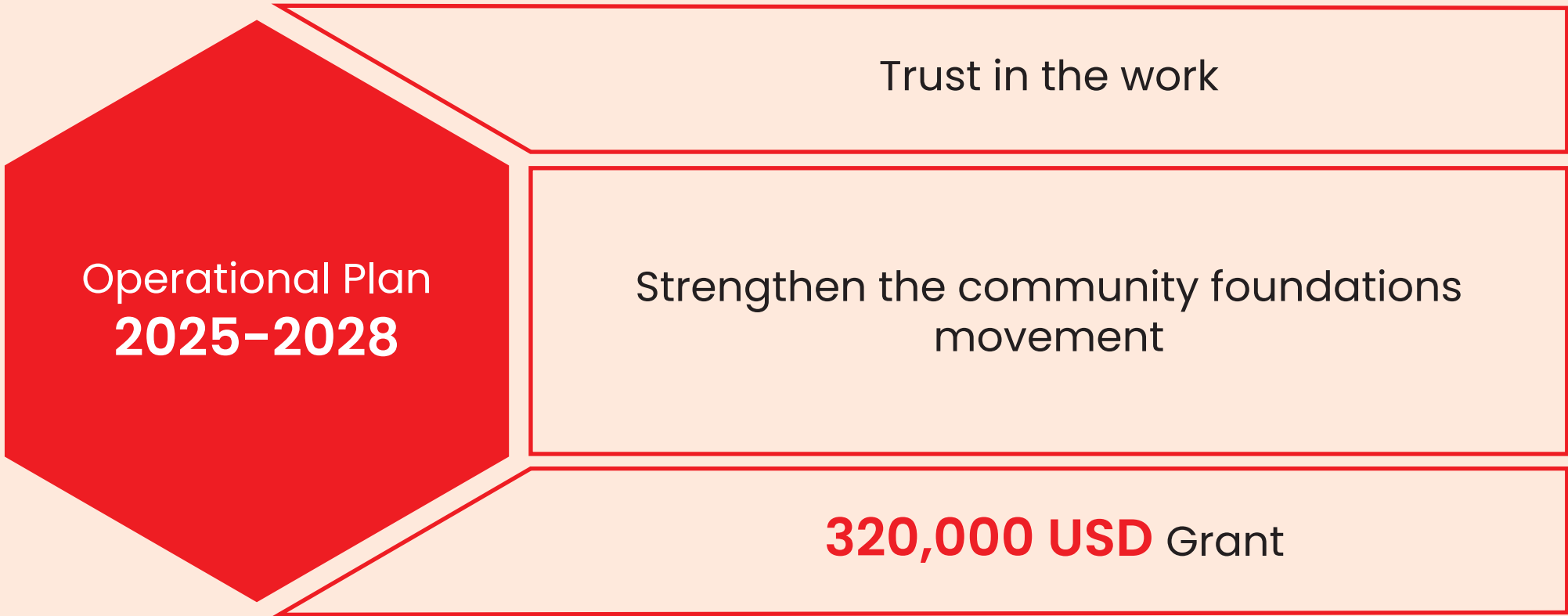
Increase resources for Comunalía's sustainability and promote new income streams for community foundations.



Signing of the new donation agreement with the Mott Foundation

We presented the 2025–2028 Operational Plan to the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, aimed at strengthening the community foundations movement in Mexico with a strategic and sustainable vision.

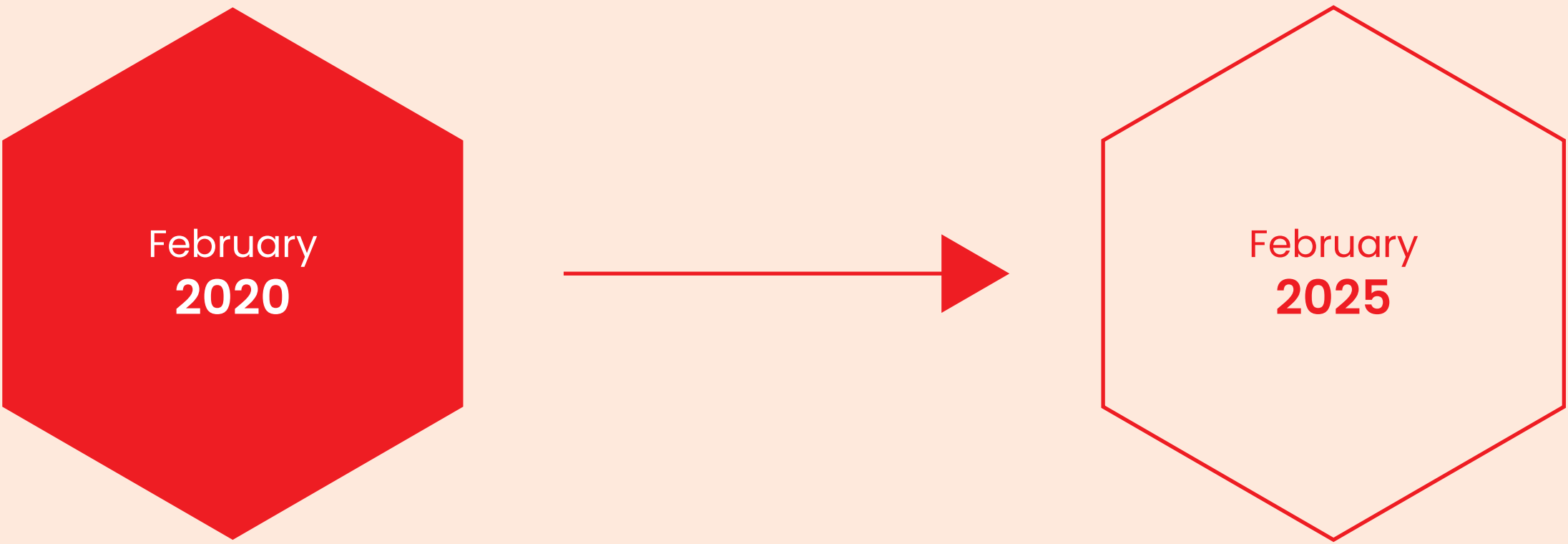
The Mott Foundation reaffirmed its confidence in Comunalía’s work and results by approving a 320,000 USD grant to support our consolidation phase.



Implementation of the final phase of Inter-American Foundation’s Grant

In 2024, Comunalía continued implementing the objectives and activities established in the grant agreement with the Inter-American Foundation (IAF) for the period from February 2020 to February 2025. This support has been key to promoting community philanthropy in the territories where the foundations operate, strengthening their capacity for response and local sustainability.

Grant period:



Community Actions Fund

We launched the call for proposals for the Community Actions Fund, with a total of \$600,000 MXN available thanks to the support of MONEX Financial Group and the Mott Foundation. The fund aims to support the continuity of economic development projects led by our community foundations and their partners, promoting their sustainability and impact.

3 grassroots development-focused projects were selected:

Fundación
Comunitaria
Oaxaca

Fondo
Potosino

Fundación
Internacional de
la Comunidad



#LiftUpPhilanthropy Funding from WINGS Foundation



In collaboration with Cemefi and Alternativas y Capacidades, we presented the Mexican Philanthropy Climate Action Initiative which was awarded funding through #LiftUpPhilanthropy from the WINGS Foundation a €60,000 grant to be implemented from November 2024 to October 2025.

The project aims to mobilize Mexico's philanthropic sector toward climate action by strengthening capacities, promoting best practices, and coordinating resources to advance community resilience projects.



Our partners' voices



Nick Deychakiwsky
Program Officer at the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation.

"Beyond being a network for its current members, beyond helping to connect them with each other and their peers in other countries, Comunalia has helped Mexican community foundations clarify who they are and what they do, and it has articulated this broadly to Mexican philanthropic and civil society actors. The Mott Foundation deeply appreciates this, as well as the generosity with which Comunalia and its members share their experience with community foundations and their support organizations throughout Latin America".

STRATEGIC LINE

Promote the creation of
new community
foundations in Mexico.



Expanding the Community Foundation Movement

We launched the diagnostic and identification phase to engage potential community foundation promoter groups, laying the groundwork for a future strategy to grow the movement.

This process conducted with the support of LANZA S.C. and the backing of the Mott Foundation reached five groups interested in the community foundation model.

At Comunalia, we are convinced that strengthening the social fabric begins at the local level. That's why we remain committed to fostering the creation of new community foundations that can transform their territories from within.

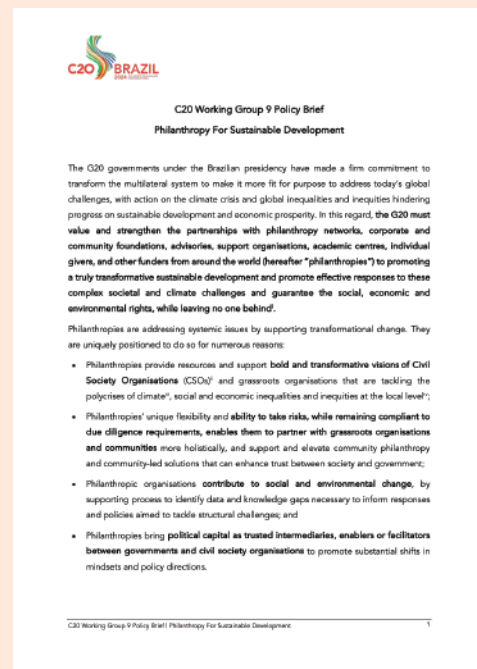


STRATEGIC LINE

Foster an enabling environment and
elevate the visibility of the community
foundation movement in Mexico.



Participation in national and international events



[Read it here](#)

Comunalia on the Global Agenda: Philanthropy and Sustainable Development

Comunalia joined the Steering Committee of the **C20's Working Group 9** on Philanthropy and Sustainable Development, coordinated by **WINGS, GIFE, and IIED**. We promoted the work of community foundations in Latin America and highlighted relevant initiatives such as the Active Communities Fund, Comunalia's research on trust in civil society, MY World Jalisco, and the BCS Community Alliance. These initiatives were included in the recommendations submitted to the G20, emphasizing the impact of a community driven approach.

Ibero-American Civil Society Summit

Comunalia attended and supported the participation of partner foundations by providing scholarships for the Ibero-American Civil Society Summit, organized by CEMEFL.

- Fundación Comunitaria Punta de Mita
- Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca
- Fundación Comunitaria Cozumel
- Fundación del Empresariado Chihuahuense
- Fundación Merced Coahuila
- Fondo Potosino
- Amigos de San Cristóbal



International Visibility of Local Impact

We contributed to the development of the official position of Mexican civil society before the UN as part of the **Fourth Voluntary National Review**, presented at the **High-Level Political Forum**. This effort strengthened the visibility and impact of community foundations in the local implementation of the SDGs.





Promoting Resilience and Sustainability

Comunalia, together with local organizations, participated in the **"Weaving Resilience"** gathering in La Paz, BCS, strengthening the focus on equity and sustainability to address environmental challenges in vulnerable communities.

[Read it here](#)



Advancing Regional Strengthening of the Philanthropic Ecosystem

Comunalia took part in organizing the Third Meeting of the WINGS Latin America and Caribbean Working Group, held at Casa CEMEFI. The event brought **together 41 representatives from 30 organizations** to share strategies and collaborative experiences aimed at strengthening regional philanthropy.



Impact Minds 2024

Comunalia participated in and facilitated the attendance of community foundations at Latimpacto's Impact Minds 2024 event in Oaxaca. In this space, our partners connected with leaders from the social and business sectors, promoting innovative strategies.



Strategic Connections from Oaxaca

We participated in the networking event “Amigos y Amigas,” organized by Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca, to strengthen alliances around community development.

This space fostered valuable connections between the community foundations in our network and organizations, businesses, and social actors.



CCA Meeting 2024

On behalf of the Alliance, Comunalía participated in the Connecting Communities in the Americas meeting in Dubuque, Iowa, where we moderated the panel on innovation and territorial work, highlighting the Mexican community foundation model.



The 2024 RedEAmérica International Forum

Within the framework of the RedEAmérica International Forum in Panama, we participated in the panel “Resilient Communities” alongside CEMEFI and Fundación Empresas Polar, where we invited Jennifer Arias from Fundación Comunidad to share the experience of the Comunidades Unidas en Resiliencia project.



Manifiesta Nodes Meeting: “Weaving Networks”

Together with Corporativa de Fundaciones, Fundación Merced Querétaro, FECHAC, and Fundación Comunitaria Oaxaca, we participated in the Manifiesta Nodes Meeting: “Weaving Networks,” a space to address the challenges and opportunities of civic space in Mexico.

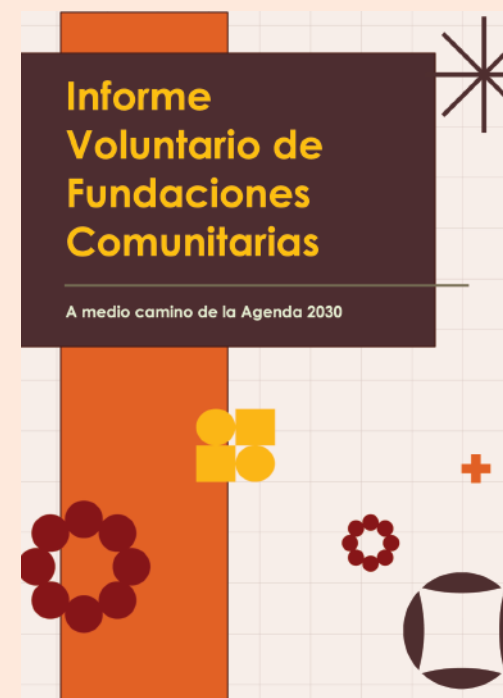
Initiative for Climate Action in Mexican Philanthropy

Together with Alternativas y Capacidades, CEMEFI, and WINGS, we convened and conducted working groups to identify strengths, opportunities, and actions to advance Mexican philanthropy in addressing climate change.

67 people from 21 civil society organizations, 6 companies, and 5 foundations participated and collaborated in the workshop.

Bringing Tools Closer to Act in Emergencies

We signed an agreement with the National Center for Support in Epidemiological Contingencies and Disasters, enabling foundations to access tools, training processes, and support networks that strengthen their capacity to respond to disasters in their communities.



Community Foundations Voluntary Report

Comunalia published the Voluntary Report of Community Foundations, developed in collaboration with the 17 foundations that make up the Alliance, aiming to highlight the reach and diversity of our movement.

[Read it here](#)



Publications to promote the Community Foundations movement



Connecting Community Foundations with Family Philanthropy in Latin America: Mexico

[Read it here](#)

As a member of the Advisory Council, Comunalía participated in the review of the report Connecting Community Foundations with Family Philanthropy in Latin America: Mexico, prepared by the Dorothy A. Johnson Center for Philanthropy with support from the Mott Foundation.

The report identifies key opportunities to strengthen collaboration between community foundations and philanthropic families. We supported its dissemination through four events held in Guadalajara, Puebla, Mexico City, and NL.



Lightning Giving Circles

[Read it here](#)

To promote new forms of community funding, Comunalía joined CEMEFI and HIPGive for the second year in activating a Lightning Giving Circle, raising a fund of 62,500 pesos delivered to 2 organizations focused on gender equity.

Building on this experience, we developed the Practical Guide in partnership with HipGive and Un Día Para Dar México, so that more groups and organizations can replicate this agile and participatory model.

Presentation webinar:

Over 80 people attended the webinar



Anti-Racism Learning Community Workshops

In collaboration with CEMEFI, we participated in 4 sessions of the Anti-Racism Learning Community, a space dedicated to strengthening collective reflection and promoting inclusive practices in the social sector. From this effort, we contributed to the development of the Guide to Adopting Anti-Racist Philanthropic Actions, a key tool.

Communication

The communication strategy implemented across our social media and outreach platforms achieved the following results.

	Reach	Reach growth (%)	Followers	Followers growth (%)
INSTAGRAM	3,840	↗ 38%	1,249	↗ 11%
LINKEDIN	83,685	↗ 34%	3,310	↗ 25%
FACEBOOK	44,300	↗ 22%	3,712	↗ 6%



Newsletter

Total: **3**
604 contacts
Average opening rate: **52%**

Increase compared to 2023-2024

Our allies' voices

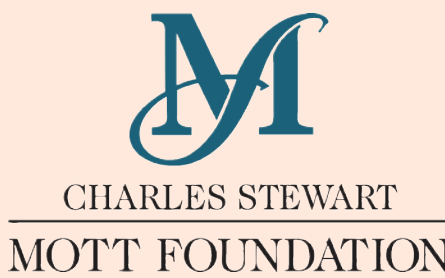


Felipe Bogotá
Executive Director of TerritoriA.

"Comunalia has been a guide for our work at TerritoriA. Drawing from their experience and generous exchanges, we have learned and implemented various practices that promote community philanthropy and the vitality of Community Foundations in Colombia. I had the opportunity to learn about their services to Community Foundations, the studies, representation, and knowledge management for the alliance in Mexico, and I can say that they are an organization to look up to as a Support Organization for philanthropy in general".

Partners

Comunalia's reach and that of its partner community foundations –is also made possible thanks to the trust of:



Allied institutions



Transparency

Audited Financial Statements 2024

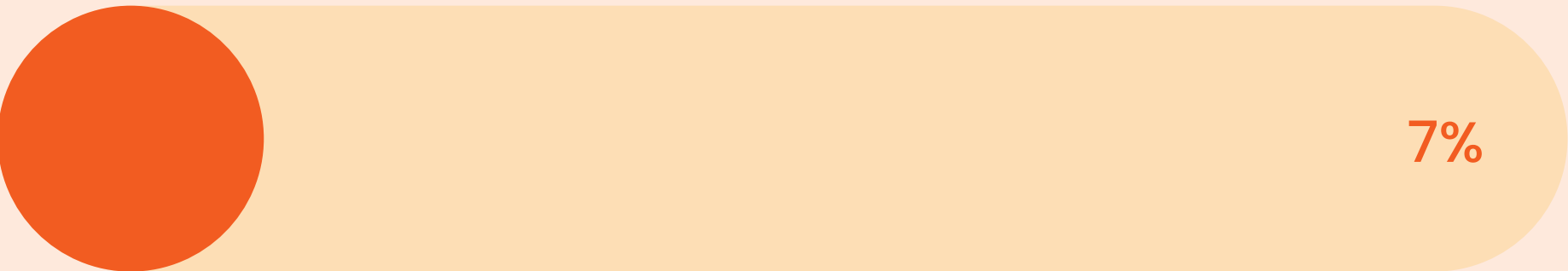


Income:
\$12,047,348 MXN

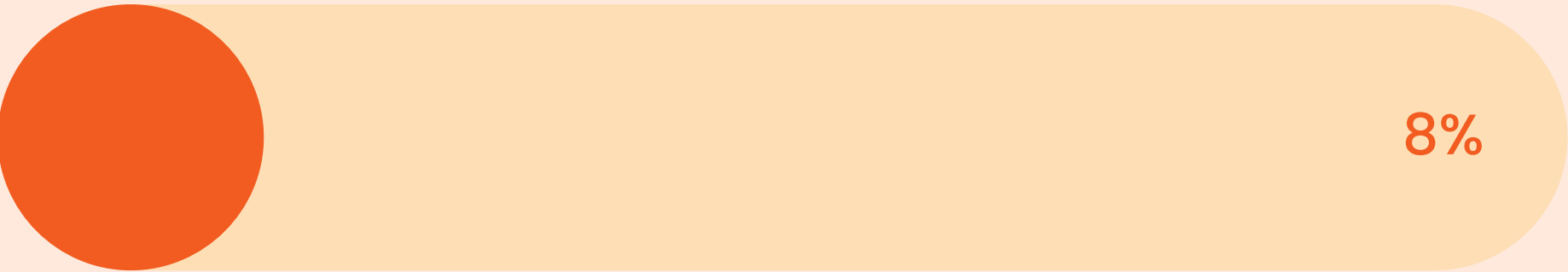
Institutional Donations



Memberships



Comprehensive Financing Result

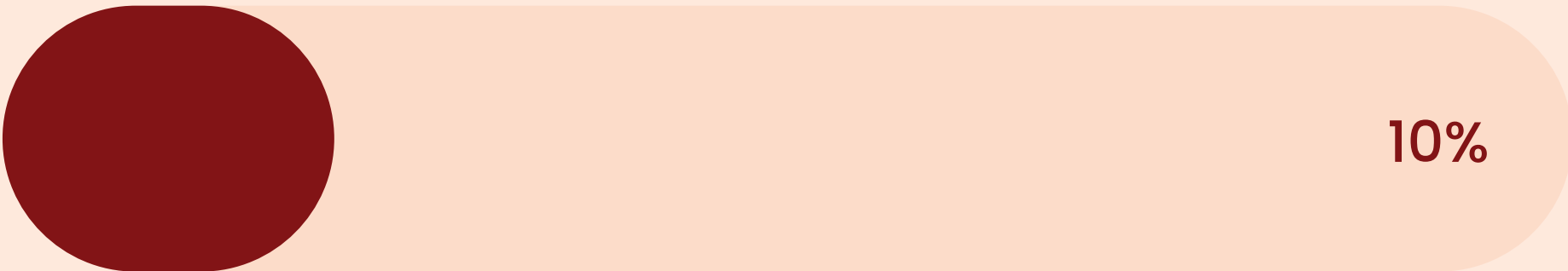


Expenditure:
\$8,506,572 MXN

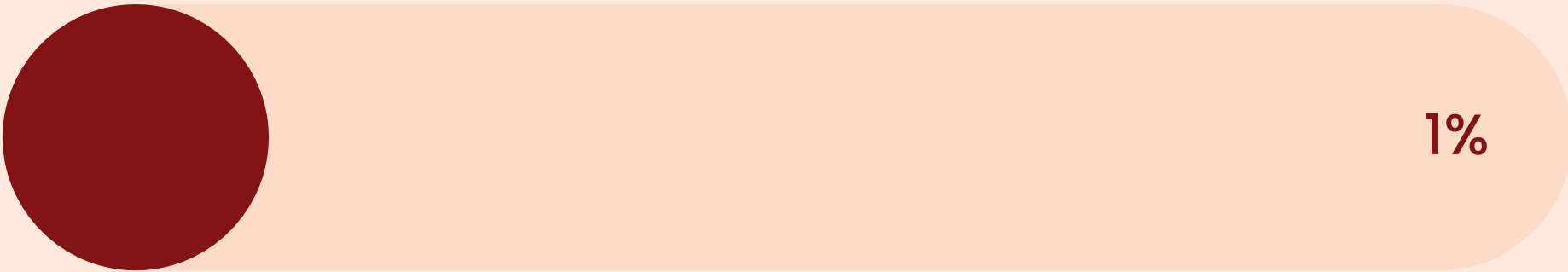
Program spending



Operating Expenses



Administrative Expenses



Board of Directors



Carlos García Miranda
President.



Alberto Cárdenas Aldrete
Secretary.



Susana Morán
Member.



Erik Bruce Friend Drake
Member.



David Pérez Rulfo
Treasurer.



Alejandra Rivera Casillas
Member.



Luis Ruiz Saucedo
Member.

Team



Daniella Undreiner
Executive Director.



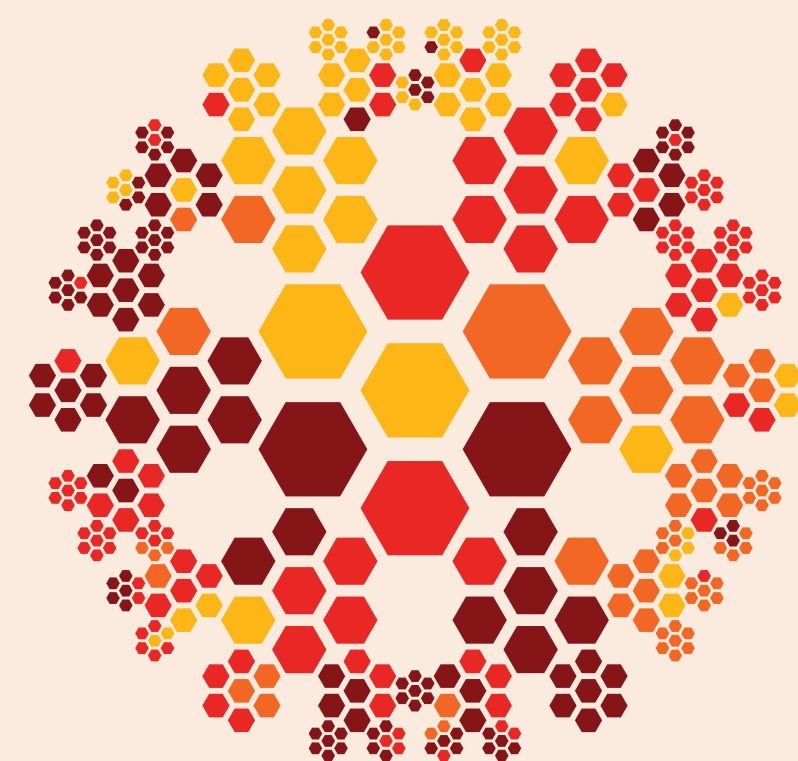
Raquel Maldonado
Administrative Assistant.



Minerva Zamora Domínguez
Programs Coordinator.



Anakaren Perales
Institutional Development and
Connections Coordinator.



Comunalia

LOCATION

Avenida del Estado 208
Colonia Tecnológico Monterrey
Nuevo León, México. CP: 64700

CONTACT US

Phone: 81 2719 6670
Mail: contacto@comunalia.org.mx
www.comunalia.org.mx

SOCIAL MEDIA

@Comunalia