

GREEN HOMES: SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT WITH A FOCUS ON DOMESTIC WORK

UNFETRAH/FENAMUTRA, ATH, SINTRADOMES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Context

Hogar ecológico is a project designed and developed bγ La Unión Nacional Fenamutra Trabajadoras del Hogar (UNFETRAH), the Asociación de Trabajadoras del Hogar (ATH), and the de Trabajadoras Sindicato Nacional Domésticas (SINTRADOMES), to train domestic workers of Villa Juana, Villa Agrícolas and Villa Consuelo, and their employers to transform their traditional homes into ecological homes, and to promote the transformation.

In the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, where worldwide we had to adapt to a new lifestyle and care practices, the project promoted environmental education, entrepreneurship and financial independence, as well as the proper management and use of solid waste.

Objectives

The main objective of the project has been to provide tools to promote participatory governance in solid waste management.

The implementation of the recycling programme in the communities, and the environmental education program addresses the use of recycling to encourage entrepreneurship, creativity and reduce inactivity in families in ecological households.

Approach

The project uses the ecofeminism approach, a "theory and social movement" that seeks to achieve justice for women and transform the human relationship with other living beings and ecosystems, in search of a culture of equality.



Solid waste training held at FENAMUTRA's premises.

Credit: FENAMUTRA

The work took the ecological homes approach. Ecological homes are known as "green houses" because all the factors that are part of their construction respect nature and improve the living conditions inside. "Green houses" take advantage of natural resources, use ecological products and materials and their maintenance is 10 times cheaper than that of a conventional house.

Methodology

Training meetings were held on three main topics: solid waste, recycling, handicrafts and ecofeminism.

The purpose of these meetings was to provide the women participants with tools for better waste management in their homes. The meetings also sought to use recycled materials to make handicrafts products that could then be sold in order to generate additional income.

Impacts

- Skills acquired by 45 women domestic workers in solid waste management, recycling, handicrafts and ecofeminism.
- Design of the methodologies of the three courses.
- Entrepreneurship fostered in 45 women domestic workers through the sale of objects produced in the workshops.
- Organisation of an eco-fair.
- Sensitisation of public institution actors on gender violence and environmental policies.
- Drafting of the proclamation against gender violence against women entitled "No me agredas! A cry in favor of Mother Nature!"
- Organisation of four meetings with local authorities and journalists to disseminate project learning.

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Hogares Ecológicos: Solid waste management with a focus on domestic work

National Federation of Women Workers (FENAMUTRA); National Union of Domestic Workers (SINTRADOMES); Association of Household Workers (ATH).

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