

ASOGEN, Asociación Generando Equidad, Liderazgo y Oportunidades



ASOGEN is a feminist human rights organization in Guatemala advancing gender equality through survivor-centred services, justice reform, and data-driven advocacy.

Founded in 2008, it remains the only organisation providing comprehensive care for survivors of violence in the department of Chimaltenango, offering legal representation, psychosocial and medical support, shelter, and economic empowerment training to over 500 women annually.

ASOGEN joined the Equal Measures 2030 (EM2030) in 2020, the newest member to come on board. The partnership began during the COVID-19 pandemic, requiring entirely virtual onboarding and training. Despite this, ASOGEN quickly committed to integrating EM2030's SDG Gender Index into its advocacy, justice-sector engagement, and national policy work using data as documentation and negotiation leverage.

500+

women trained annually

95%

Conviction rate in litigated cases

100+

local advocates trained in data-driven advocacy with SDG Gender Index integrated into training for prosecutors and judges

From individual accompaniment to national accountability

Guatemala continues to report high levels of femicidal violence relative to the region. According to ECLAC's 2024 regional analysis, the country recorded a femicide rate of 1.9 cases per 100,000 women, among the highest reported rates in Latin America. ASOGEN's work responds directly to this context through survivor support, justice advocacy, and institutional accountability efforts.

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“What drives and inspires us is the pursuit of the utopia that is out there on the horizon, a life free from violence for every woman and girl. We want to make this utopia a visible, tangible reality.” - Alva Gordillo Aguirre, Deputy Director, ASOGEN

In Chimaltenango, ASOGEN's work is deeply personal. Women arrive with few options and leave with legal support, a safety plan, and, increasingly, the knowledge that their case will be heard. ASOGEN's 95% conviction rate in cases it litigates on behalf of survivors, is a signal to perpetrators that impunity is no longer guaranteed. But ASOGEN's model has always been built on a clear understanding: local action and national transformation are not separate strategies. Every survivor case generates data. Every data point feeds advocacy. Every advocacy win changes the conditions for the next survivor.

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“Everything is interlinked. We cannot work at the individual and local level without also working at the national level.” - Alva Gordillo Aguirre, Deputy Director, ASOGEN

This connection between local action and national change was visible on 8 March 2024, when ASOGEN organized a march from the juvenile court to the National Civil Police commissioner, where they presented a petition.

THE JOURNEY

Before joining Equal Measures 2030, ASOGEN was already leading national advocacy on femicide and GBV policy. They were already working alongside the Ministry of the Interior, police, and judiciary helping drive the creation of the specialized Court and Tribunal against Femicide in Chimaltenango in 2017. A landmark step toward reducing secondary victimization of survivors in the justice system.

What the Equal Measures 2030 partnership added was a tool and a framework: the SDG Gender Index. By situating Guatemala's rates of femicide and GBV within global SDG accountability structures, ASOGEN could reframe the conversation with government actors. Violence against women was no longer only a moral argument. It was a measurable development failure — one that Guatemala had committed to addressing.

DATA STAT

Guatemala ranks very low on both the 2022 and 2024 SDG Gender Index, scoring **57.2 out of 100** and placing **95th out of 139** countries globally and **18th out of 20** in Latin America and the Caribbean.

The country has been rated "very poor" since 2015, and the trajectory is moving in the wrong direction. With its score declining between 2019 and 2022, from **59.4 to 57.2**.

Women's representation in government, access to housing, and parliamentary participation remain among the worst performing indicators in the country. Based on current trends, Guatemala would need to improve by more than five points per year to reach gender equality by 2030.

This is the context in which ASOGEN works. Every policy win, every conviction, every budget secured happens against this backdrop.

[See the country profile for Guatemala.](#)



Through Equal Measures 2030's Data-Driven Advocacy (DDA) training, ASOGEN's team and the advocates it works with built new skills in identifying, interpreting and communicating evidence. The results from a survey conducted indicated that the proportion of participants who felt confident or very confident using data rose from 19 to 77 after training, while those unsure how to use data dropped from 73 to just 1.

ASOGEN also participated in Equal Measures' 2023 Data Journalism Fellowship, through which Executive Director Danessa Luna, used data from the Judicial Branch to investigate the challenges faced by women victims of violence in accessing justice. Her analysis revealed a pattern of dismissals, particularly in cases of sexual violence and femicides, driven by discretionary criteria. Danessa's research plays a vital role in advocating for justice reform and monitoring the Judiciary's actions during the government's transition period.

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Documenting the denial of justice gives us an idea of the negative impact that exists in women's lives, as well as statistical data that is compelling for advocacy.”

- Danessa Luna, Executive Director, ASOGEN



THE COALITION EFFECT

The partnership with Equal Measures has strengthened ASOGEN's strategy. As Cecilia García, Equal Measures 2030's LAC regional lead, reflected: "Since they joined the coalition, they have really committed to showcasing these tools and linking that to their work."

→ **National budget secured for survivor services.** Using SDG Gender Index data and evidence from ASOGEN's own casework, the organisation successfully negotiated with the Ministry of the Interior to secure continued government funding for the CAIMUS network, the national system of comprehensive care centres for women survivors of violence. In December 2021, the government committed new budget resources to ensure CAIMUS centres continued operating nationwide.

→ **Justice-sector integration of gender data.** SDG Gender Index findings are now embedded in training programmes for prosecutors and judges in Chimaltenango and Sacatepéquez. ASOGEN leads the local security and justice roundtable, bringing together justice-sector actors to improve coordinated GBV response. Leading to improved coordination between justice institutions through security and justice roundtables. This is a direct result of the credibility ASOGEN has built as a reliable gender data source in the region.

→ **Strengthened oversight of sexual violence in schools.** ASOGEN's data-informed congressional engagement has led to improved monitoring of sexual violence cases in schools. One of the most underreported and under-addressed forms of violence in Guatemala.

→ **100+ advocates trained in data-driven advocacy.** With Equal Measures 2030's DDA curriculum, ASOGEN has trained over 100 local gender advocates to find, analyse, and use data in their work. These advocates operate across justice, health, and community sectors — each carrying new capacity into spaces ASOGEN cannot reach alone. The DDA curriculum built measurable skills in data use across ASOGEN's team and the wider network of advocates they train, with confidence in data use rising sharply post-training.

→ **2024 SDG Gender Index national launch.** ASOGEN led the national launch of the 2024 SDG Gender Index in Guatemala, convening representatives from government institutions, civil society, the judiciary, police, and the national statistics office. The launch became an important space for dialogue around gender inequality, institutional accountability, and the role of feminist organizations in advancing public policy.

Government representatives publicly acknowledged both the value of collaboration with civil society and the need to strengthen institutional capacities around gender data and analysis. Evelyn Ovalle from the National Statistics Office (INE) reaffirmed the institution's commitment to "work hand in hand with organizations like ASOGEN" and highlighted the importance of gender indicators, including women's time use data, in shaping care policies and broader gender-responsive planning.

Representatives from the National Civil Police also recognised the role feminist organizations have played in advancing equity and visibility around violence against women. As Dulran Pérez noted during the launch, "With these tools, we can give visibility to these issues and make our respective contributions."

The event reflected a broader shift toward recognising gender data not only as an advocacy tool, but as part of strengthening institutional planning, accountability, and access to justice. It also demonstrated the growing legitimacy of feminist civil society actors such as ASOGEN within national policy and data ecosystems.

→ **Global Advocacy and Visibility.** The SDG Gender Index provided a globally recognized framework that gave ASOGEN credibility in conversations with government institutions. Additionally, Equal Measures provides international visibility that also functions as a form of protection. Partners have shared that they feel “somehow protected” when Equal Measures gives visibility to their work. A form of solidarity that goes beyond technical support.

→ **Flexible funding.** Equal Measures 2030’s subgrants provided sustained resourcing for advocacy on child marriage and sexual violence, including through the disruptions of COVID-19. Engagement with other Equal Measures coalition members reinforced shared strategies around data-driven feminist advocacy

Sustaining impact in a constrained and dangerous civic space

ASOGEN operates in a politically complex environment where civic space for feminist and human rights organizations has fluctuated significantly over recent years. Previous periods of government hostility toward anti-corruption and feminist actors created serious risks and constraints for civil society organizations working on gender justice and accountability. While Guatemala’s political context has shifted following the election of President Bernardo Arévalo, organizations like ASOGEN continue to navigate uneven institutional conditions and persistent gender inequalities, particularly in relation to gender-based violence and access to justice. Despite this, ASOGEN has maintained its services, its justice-sector relationships, and its data advocacy throughout. During COVID-19, when presidential orders shut down the country, ASOGEN continued to support survivors, delivering hygiene products and food to homes, transitioning services online, and expanding its reach despite the restrictions.

LOOKING AHEAD

ASOGEN’s focus going forward is on consolidating and institutionalizing the gains already made, while deepening prevention alongside response. Future priorities include continued monitoring of GBV budgets and CAIMUS funding, strengthening prevention frameworks, deepening justice-sector training on SDG-aligned accountability, and expanding alliances across civil society, academia, media, and public institutions.

In a country where progress on women’s rights is actively under threat from conservative political forces, ASOGEN’s model — survivor-centred services, data-backed advocacy, and justice-system reform working in tandem, demonstrates what sustained, embedded feminist organising can achieve.



Learn more about ASOGEN’s work:



asogengt.org/



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