



HOW CCA CONTRIBUTED TO THE SDGS IN 2022

In early 2022, *Connecting Communities in the Americas* finalized a document called [CCA and the SDGs](#), outlining how our programs are aligned with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals and suggesting ways to measure progress of the targets.

In reviewing the targets for the goals, we have also adjusted some of the wording to reflect the values of CCA more accurately. For example, we are rejecting the term “developing countries” with the belief that a) all countries are developing and b) development itself has historically been defined by those in power and/or who have exploited others to maintain those levels of development.

Targets	What we did in 2022	The difference it made
<p>SDG 17: PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS</p> <p>17.3 - Mobilize additional financial resources for participating countries from multiple sources</p> <p>17.6 - Enhance North-South, South-South and triangular regional and international cooperation on and access to science, technology and innovation and enhance knowledge sharing on</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mobilized \$20,000 for learning exchanges between 10 community foundations in Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Mexico and the U.S., including St. Croix in the Caribbean. ▪ Mobilized \$17,342 so that 10 attendees from 6 community foundations in Brazil, Mexico and the U.S. could attend the CCA Symposium in San Antonio. ▪ Facilitated learning through the monthly online CCA Peer Resource Sharing program, one online and one in-person symposium. Speakers were selected across countries, each presenting in their own language. 	<p>Most community foundations (CF) began partnering across countries for the 1st time. For some, this will be their first opportunity to visit another community foundation with the goal of learning together (results of the learning exchanges will be published in 2023).</p> <p>It was the first time that several Brazilian and Mexican attendees were able to attend a U.S. conference.</p> <p>Evaluations that were submitted by participants showed that CCA activities were viewed as opportunities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Learn from other’s experiences</i> - <i>Share one’s own strategies and views</i> - <i>Connect more deeply</i> - <i>Share tools</i> - <i>Learn about communities in migration or having settled in our places</i>

mutually agreed terms

17.15 - **Respect each country's policy space and leadership** to establish and implement policies for poverty eradication and sustainable development

17.16 - **Enhance the global partnership for sustainable development**, complemented by **multi-stakeholder partnerships that**

- **Invested** in interpretation services in English, Spanish and Portuguese to demonstrate value toward participants' languages and encourage more equal opportunities for expression and participation. Added this cost to our operating expenses.

- **Adjusted** grantee requirements to follow local (country) leadership in how to best carry out their projects with CCA, including how to engage communities, how to allocate funds, and (extra) time needed to build relationships and trust.

- **Met with** individual country CF and PSO leaders to better understand contextual needs and opportunities.

- **Participated** in monthly meetings and contributed to the Ibero-american Community of Community Foundations (CIAF), WINGS,

- *Learn about differences and common goals among CF*
- *Consider businesses as potential alliances*
- *Learn about how CF can address systemic issues*

Feedback from participants on how much the interpretation helped them to gain deeper understanding and made them feel more welcome and equal to their peers.

Grantee organizations were better able to use the funds in meaningful ways and remain flexible to the needs and opportunities that arose in their communities during the project period. Community members built and/or deepened trust with their local community foundations, opening opportunities for further collaboration.

Grantees felt validated by the granting organization.

Leaders felt that their unique country contexts and qualities were being recognized and continued active participation in CCA.

Leaders approached CCA with additional questions, opportunities and concerns related to their countries and organizations.

Philanthropy support organizations across Latin America and other nonprofits worldwide have greater access to resources, expertise and case studies.

mobilize and share knowledge, expertise, technology and financial resources, to support the achievement of the sustainable development goals in all countries

17.17 - **Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships**, building on the experience and resourcing strategies of partnerships

17.18 - ... **significantly increase the availability of high-quality, timely and**

and the Participatory Grantmaking Community to share knowledge and expertise. Then disseminated learning and resources with our network.

- **Promoted** partnerships between community foundations through Learning Exchange grants and grantee cohort relationship-building.

- **Partnered** with Hispanics in Philanthropy and Welcoming America to help strategize their work with community foundations.

- **Shared** CCA learning at the INSPIRE Community Foundations virtual Thinkfrastructure conference and in person at the Kansas Association of Community Foundation annual conference. In the latter, **co-presented** with community foundations in Mexico and St. Croix Virgin Islands and **advocated** for conference discounts.

- **Provided space** for organizations to share about successful cross-sector partnerships for sustainable communities.

- **Made specific introductions** between foundation personnel with common interests or programs (e.g. FC Monteverde and F Punta de Mita)

- **Invested time and resources** in 7 community foundations in Brazil, Mexico and the U.S. for

Our network has access to more opportunities and resources.

Perceived value of community foundation partnerships from Learning Exchange applications:

We believe that by answering these questions together and sharing our experiences, we will strengthen our work in the communities and regions we serve.

We are particularly interested in exploring what the field of philanthropy can learn from the things that [small] community foundations like ours are naturally skilled at and after learning together, finding ways to collaborate in telling that story.

We want to learn about each other's strategies, to be able to adapt and apply them to our regions where we serve.

Central to this conversation is the evolution of both of our organizations and the potential for learning from each other as we grow.

Mexican community foundations initializing Vital Signs research learned how ICOM in Brazil has been using the results to inform local government and become viewed as and critical partner for city development.

Community foundation leaders in different countries and who normally would not have a chance to meet are now engaged in strategy sharing, refining each one's work for more effective local impact.

Cities (regions) in Connecticut, Iowa, Texas, Florida, Baja California (Mexico), Bahia and Santa Catarina

reliable data disaggregated by income, gender, age, race, ethnicity, migratory status, disability, geographic location and other characteristics **relevant in national contexts**

mapping research on their immigrant, diaspora and migrating communities, which will be presented to their local communities, local nonprofits and government officials and used for strategic planning and partnerships.

- **Translated** existing mapping project reports so that they were all available in English and Spanish.

(Brazil) now will now have compiled and new data on their immigrant, diaspora and Latinx communities.

The data is complemented by qualitative information that brings depth and deeper understanding of each context.

Leaders of more organizations across the Americas have access to data about transnational communities in their own languages.