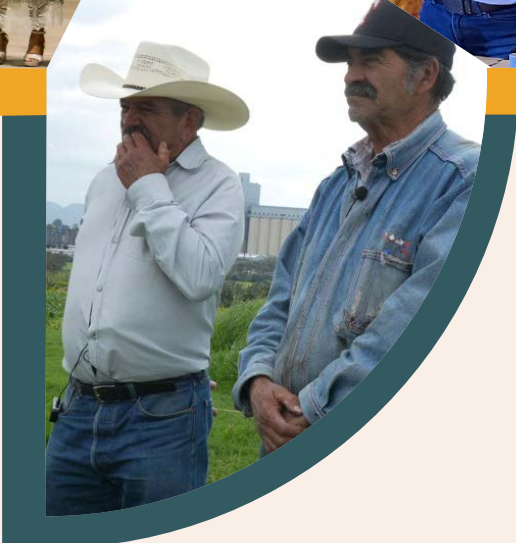


# Report

20  
25



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"Los Cerritos" Calpulalpan, Tlaxcala.



## A message from our *Executive Director*

Dear individuals and organizations,

Welcome to our 2025 Annual Activities Report.

In these pages, we share a summary of the journey we have taken alongside individuals, communities, and collectives in the defense of their Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights. We celebrate their organization, their courage, and their perseverance; and we remain by their side—especially when decisions do not favor their processes and it becomes necessary to sustain the struggle with greater strength and clarity.

We close 2025 commemorating our first 20 years in the defense and promotion of human rights. It has been a year of challenges and learning, of progress and obstacles, but always guided by a deep conviction to continue building spaces of dignity, justice, and hope.

We reaffirm our commitment to this collective struggle and invite you to keep joining forces, from every territory and every frontline, to help build a more just world.

**Alejandra Ancheita**



## A message from *Our Allies*

The Citizen Assembly of the Pueblo of Xoco began its struggle to defend its territory in 2017 in response to the construction of real estate developments that generate gentrification and gradually displace us from our properties and our place of origin.

Since we began working with ProDESC, we have learned to organize ourselves and plan our activities with greater knowledge and confidence, both with our neighbors and when addressing the authorities responsible for resolving our concerns, achieving positive results in raising the visibility of our struggle.

We thank ProDESC for the time and work they dedicate to the fight against gentrification in the Pueblo of Xoco. To those who read these lines, we invite you to join the cause for the respect and recognition of our rights.

**Members of the Citizen Assembly  
of the Pueblo of Xoco**

# About us

The Economic, Social and Cultural Rights Project, A.C. (Proyecto de Derechos Económicos, Sociales y Culturales, A.C., ProDESC) is a feminist organization with a transnational scope and an intersectional vision of human rights; founded in 2005 by the lawyer and human rights defender, Alejandra Ancheita. ProDESC's main objective is to defend and promote economic, social, and cultural rights, to contribute to their validity, justiciability, and enforceability, and thus build a more just and equitable society.

## Mission

To defend and promote, from a holistic perspective, the economic, social, and cultural rights of groups that are disadvantaged with respect to the full enjoyment of their rights.

## Vision

For communities and workers to enjoy a dignified life based on collective organization and the understanding and exercise of their human rights, specifically economic, social and cultural rights

## Methodology

The comprehensive defense method is the model applied by ProDESC for the promotion and defense of the economic, social, and cultural rights of communities and collectives. This proposal, unique in Mexico, is refined and complemented over time through a collaborative process involving communities and collectives as the central element.

The comprehensive defense method is based on a series of strategic guidelines that, when applied harmoniously, increase the probability of access to justice and the enjoyment of ESC rights for communities and collectives not only in Mexico, but in the Global South. These guidelines are:



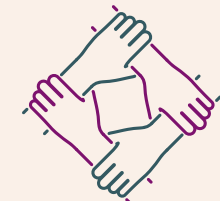
Strategic national and international litigation in human rights



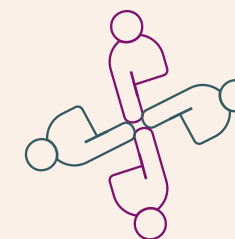
Strategic communications with narratives that contest hegemonic discourse



Analysis of key information for the defense of human rights



Organizing strategies to strengthen collective subjects



Advocacy with public and private actors interfering in human rights



Workshops and training for human rights defenders

# Theory of change

ProDESC has a 2017–2027 strategic plan with three objectives of change:

## Objective 1:

In 2027, women and men of the communities and collectives supported by ProDESC equally decide about their rights to land, territory and natural resources, and their collective labour human rights; building political agency.

## Objective 2:

In 2027, agrarian and indigenous communities supported by ProDESC make the enforceability of justice regarding their rights to land, territory, and natural resources effective.

## Objective 3:

In 2027, collectives of workers supported by ProDESC make effective the enforceability of justice regarding their collective labor human rights, including freedom of union association and collective bargaining.

# Our team

## Our Executive Director

Alejandra Ancheita is the Founder and Executive Director of ProDESC. Since 2005, she has led processes aimed at protecting economic, social, and cultural rights with unprecedented results, such as accountability mechanisms for major multinational corporations. Due to the impact of her work, Alejandra was awarded the 2014 Martin Ennals Award by the International Human Rights Community, and in 2015 she received recognition from the Senate of the Mexican Republic for her continuous work as a human rights defender. Alejandra studied Law at the Metropolitan Autonomous University (Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana) in Mexico City and holds a master's degree in International Law and Global Justice from the Fordham University School of Law in New York. In 2019, she received an honorary doctorate from Paris Nanterre University.



**Our team**

**Alejandra Ancheita**

Founder and Executive Director

**Guillermo Torres**

Transnational Justice Coordinator

**Marlene Rodríguez**

Senior Lawyer

**Edmundo Estefan**

Senior Lawyer

**Perla de Jesús Herrera Pacheco**

Junior Lawyer

**Vanessa Ancheita**

Junior Lawyer

**Diana García**

Junior Lawyer

**Mónica Muñoz**

Junior Lawyer

**Gabriel Rocha**

Organizing Processes Coordinator

**Sofía Parra**

Head of the Human Rights and ESCR Defenders Program

**David Bravo**

Land and Territory Organizer

**Daniel Pacheco**

Land and Territory Organizer

**Índira Solís**

Labor Human Rights Organizer

**Eduardo Villarreal**

Analysis and Advocacy Coordinator

**Jesús Guarneros**

Analysis and Advocacy Member

**Mercedes Ramírez**

Analysis and Advocacy Member

**Valeria Berumen**

Strategic Communications Coordinator

**Estefanía Díaz**

Strategic Communications Member

**Abigail Mejía**

Strategic Communications Member

**Lautaro Costantini**

Institutional Development Coordinator

**Fernando Barajas**

Fundraising Manager

**Betzaida López**

Institutional Development Member

**Isaura Pagaza**

Administration and Finance Coordinator

**Kelly Rodríguez**

Head of Accounting and Human Resources

**Elizabeth Zamora**

Head of Accounting

**Edgar Álvarez**

Administrative and Accounting Assistant

**Ofelia Ojeda**

Maintenance Manager

**Verónica Valencia**

Maintenance Manager

**Board of Directors**

Founder and Executive Director of ProDESC

**Benjamin Davis**

Director of International Affairs at United Steelworkers

**Dolores González**

Co-founder of SERAPAZ

**Wolfgang Kaleck**

Founder and Executive Director of the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights

**Manuel Fuentes Muñoz**

Labor lawyer and Academic

**Jorge Fernández Souza**

Retired Judge of the Administrative Litigation Court of Mexico City

**Tamaryn Nelson**

Legal Advisor at Amnesty International

**Mylai Burgos**

Academic at the Autonomous University of Mexico City

# Our Accompaniment and Processes

## Anaa Witsukj (Oaxaca)

A social and solidarity economy project involving more than 1,200 people from 54 communities in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (Oaxaca), primarily from the Ayuuk, Zapotec, Chinantec, and Mazatec cultures. It represents a real alternative for marketing products through a community lemon-packing facility, fostering inclusion and development among its members and collaborators. Since 2014, the initiative has focused on strengthening communities through three pillars: 1) community-based economies, 2) education-in-action, and 3) harmony with nature.



Meeting at the Legal Counsel's Office of the Federal Executive of the Presidency of the Republic, members and representatives of Anaa Witsukj and ProDESC

## Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers from Sinaloa

(Sinaloa and Sonora)

A collective made up of temporary migrant workers who, since 2013, have positioned themselves as defenders of the labor human rights of people who migrate seasonally to the United States under the H-2 visa program. Since 2018, with ProDESC's accompaniment, the Coalition has operated the Migrant Worker Assistance, Advisory, and Support Center (CAAATM) in Topolobampo, Sinaloa, as a key space for guidance, defense, and strengthening of migrant workers' rights..

## Labor Coalition of Sex Workers (CLaP!)

(Mexico City and Yucatán)

A collective composed of cisgender and transgender sex workers engaged in

different modalities of work—including street-based work, content creation, and other services—who seek to advocate and organize for the defense, recognition, and effective guarantee of human rights, especially labor and social security rights, to ensure dignified working conditions.

## Center for Accompaniment and Worker Organization (Chihuahua)

A space promoted by ProDESC and the Rosa Luxemburg Women Workers Collective A.C., made up of women workers from



Members of CLaP! at the festival "Sex Work Anywhere"



Workshop with maquila workers at the Center for Accompaniment and Organization of Workers

maquiladoras in Ciudad Juárez. Opened in April 2022, it aims to organize workers in Chihuahua and provide legal advice on labor rights, particularly to women employed in the maquila sector.

**National Network of Women Labor Rights Defenders** (Baja California, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Morelos, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Puebla, Oaxaca, Veracruz, Tlaxcala)

A network created in 2013 to foster the collective organization of groups of women workers and labor human rights defenders. The Network serves as a space for training, capacity-building, and information-sharing to analyze and develop advocacy strategies for women’s labor human rights in Mexico.

**Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of the Community of Unión Hidalgo** (Oaxaca)

An accompaniment process supporting community defenders in Unión Hidalgo, Oaxaca, in filing a lawsuit against the “Gunaa Sicarú” project before French courts under the French Duty of Vigilance Law, as well as promoting recognition of defenders as new communal landholders.

**Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of the Ejidos Around the Chichankanab Lagoon System** (Quintana Roo)

Following the legal defense of the Ejido of Dziuché for the recognition of its ejido lands, ProDESC accompanies five neighboring Maya ejidos around the Chichankanab Lagoon System to strengthen their organizational processes and address threats to



Lagoon of Chichankanab, Quintana Roo.



Members of the Colectivo 16 de Octubre of Calpulalpan, in “Los Cerritos,” Calpulalpan, Tlaxcala.

their land, territory, and natural resources stemming from public and private interests. Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of Maya Ejidos Around the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone (Yucatán) An accompaniment process with three Maya ejidos located around the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone. ProDESC works with these ejidos to strengthen their agrarian structures and defend their land, territory, and natural resources against the expansion of megaprojects, land dispossession, and violations of their right to development.

**Citizen Assembly of the People of Xoco** (Mexico City)

A group of land and territory defenders from the original community of San Sebastián Xoco, located in the Benito Juárez borough of Mexico City. For decades, real estate interests have negatively impacted the community’s quality of life—a situation that has worsened with the partial

construction of the Mítikah project. This development has led to human rights violations affecting the community, including access to water, the right to prior, free, and informed consultation, and the right to development. In addition, the constant rise in urban services and taxes poses a significant threat of displacement for community residents.

**Colectivo 16 de Octubre de Calpulalpan** (Tlaxcala and Hidalgo)

A group made up of human rights defenders who protect the land and natural resources of the community of Calpulalpan in the face of the construction of the “Nueva Xcala” solar energy park, which violated agrarian regulations and caused environmental damage due to deforestation resulting from the project’s development. In this process, ProDESC provides legal and organizational accompaniment.



Graduates of the 8th cohort of the Transnational Justice School.

### **Transnational Justice School (EJT)**

(Latin American scope)

A learning space promoted by ProDESC since 2017 so that Mexican and Latin American defenders can access the tools, methodologies, and defense experiences that strengthen their struggles for economic, social, and cultural rights in the region, facilitating exchange among defenders from different territories.

### **Transnational Justice School Network (REJT)**

(Latin American scope)

A network created in May 2022 by individuals who completed their training at the EJT. Its purpose is to build bonds of solidarity

among School graduates, their collectives, and/or communities in order to encourage collaboration and build collective power in the defense of ESCR and the environment in Mexico and Latin America.

### **"Protecting People, Protecting Nature" Initiative (P3N)**

(National scope)

An initiative driven by various philanthropic foundations and civil society organizations to strengthen security capacities for defenders of land, territory, and the environment in Mexico. The initiative has three main components: 1) documentation of cases of aggression; 2) a rapid response fund to safeguard security; and 3)

strengthening holistic security for defenders. ProDESC is responsible for the holistic security strengthening component.

### **Community Security**

(Regional scope)

Accompaniment and advisory support to organizations, communities, and human rights defender collectives for the development of security plans and protocols based on a community-centered and holistic approach.

### **Southern Cooperatives Network (RECOSUR)**

(Mexico City, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca, and Michoacán)

A network of communities in southern Mexico in which Indigenous and Afro-Mexican women producers participate in the defense of cultural heritage, intellectual property, and fair pricing for a wide variety of their products. RECOSUR defends collective cultural heritage and intellectual property against the misappropriation of ancestral designs by various companies.

### **Latin American Community Security Network**

(Regional scope)

A regional platform created in 2021 following annual gatherings focused on the exchange of experiences in community and collective security in the Global South, particularly in the context of land and territory defense processes in high-risk settings generated by states, corporations, and transnational capital. To date, more



Members of RECOSUR and ProDESC

than 20 organizations, communities, and collectives in the region are working to strengthen strategic alliances grounded in transnational solidarity.

### **Agricultural Day Laborers Union (UJA) (Sinaloa)**

A collective formed out of the need to defend and promote the labor human rights of agricultural workers in the state of Sinaloa. The UJA seeks to serve as an organizational reference so that day laborers can understand and assert their labor human rights.

### **National Union of the Cinematographic and Audiovisual Industry (UNICA) (National scope)**

A union composed of professionals from the film and audiovisual industry who strive to protect labor rights in a sector where violations are frequent. They also seek to address the imbalance created by new forms of content production and distribution, which often disproportionately favor digital platforms.

# Map of support and processes

**Labor Human Rights**

Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers from Sinaloa (Sinaloa and Sonora)

Labor Coalition of Sex Workers (CLaP!) (Ciudad de México and Yucatán)

Center for Accompaniment and Organization of Workers (CAOPT) (Chihuahua)

National Network of Women Labor Rights Defenders (Baja California, Chiapas, Chihuahua, Morelos, Jalisco, Sinaloa, Puebla, Oaxaca, and Michoacán)

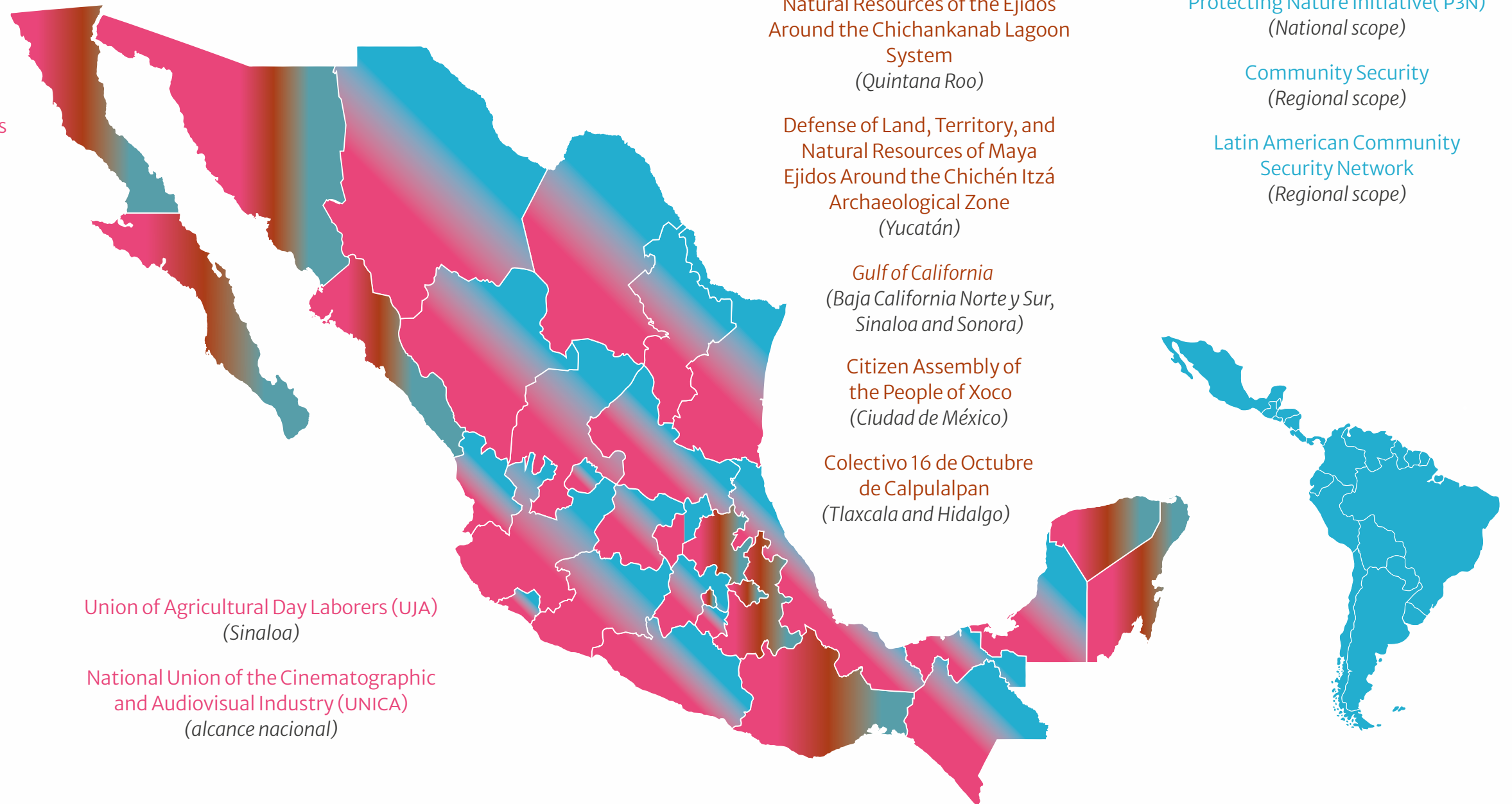
Conductores por Juárez (CXJ) (Chihuahua)

Programa RADAR (alcance transnacional)

Southern Cooperatives Network (RECOSUR) (Ciudad de México, Chiapas, Guerrero, Oaxaca and Michoacán)

Union of Agricultural Day Laborers (UJA) (Sinaloa)

National Union of the Cinematographic and Audiovisual Industry (UNICA) (alcance nacional)



## Land and Territory

Anaa Witsukj (Oaxaca)

Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of the Community of Unión Hidalgo (Oaxaca)

Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of the Ejidos Around the Chichankanab Lagoon System (Quintana Roo)

Defense of Land, Territory, and Natural Resources of Maya Ejidos Around the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone (Yucatán)

Gulf of California (Baja California Norte y Sur, Sinaloa and Sonora)

Citizen Assembly of the People of Xoco (Ciudad de México)

Colectivo 16 de Octubre de Calpulalpan (Tlaxcala and Hidalgo)

## Right to Defend Human Rights

Transnational Justice School (EJT) (Latin American scope)

Transnational Justice School Network (REJT) (Latin American scope)

Protecting People, Protecting Nature Initiative (P3N) (National scope)

Community Security (Regional scope)

Latin American Community Security Network (Regional scope)

# Xoco Resists the Impacts of Gentrification

In 2025, the Citizen Assembly of the People of Xoco, with the accompaniment of ProDESC and various allied organizations, consolidated its role as a leading reference in the defense of land and territorial rights in the face of the Mítikah real estate project in Mexico City. The project envisions the construction of 109,606.58 m<sup>2</sup>, including a medical tower, a hotel, 500 apartments, office spaces, and a shopping center—approved without prior consultation and without considering the impacts on the community.



Symbolic closure of Mítikah, November 2025.



Members of the Citizen Assembly of the Original People of Xoco and allied collectives at the symbolic closure of Mítikah, November 2025.


Throughout the year, the Assembly promoted a range of actions to raise awareness about the effects of gentrification, including the rising cost of living and taxes, water shortages, and aggressions against defenders. On November 28, a public action was carried out, including a symbolic closure of the complex, demanding rights to water, mobility, accessibility, and a review of fiscal subsidies, as well as the denial of new construction permits and recognition of the capital's original peoples. The action brought together seven allied organizations and influencers, engaged approximately 14 media outlets, and resulted in 26 press articles published between November and December.

The strategy also included media positioning and direct community communication, highlighting the voice of members such as Silvia Chapa, who stated that gentrification constitutes “a clear expression of violence and classism that displaces us and puts us at risk.”

As a concrete result of these actions, the Government of Mexico City announced that the Mítikah project will not be expanded, securing a first significant victory for the Assembly and preventing the escalation of human rights violations. This case demonstrates how community articulation, legal accompaniment, and strategic advocacy can translate into tangible achievements for the defense of land, territory, and collective rights.

Visit the microsite

Follow the Assembly on social media

 @AsambleaXocOficial

or contact them at:  
 asamblea.ciudadana.pueblo.xoco@gmail.com

# Land and Territory

## Anaa Witsukj

In 2024, Anaa Witsukj, a social and solidarity economy enterprise, submitted a request to the Mexican tax authorities to access tax benefits and administrative facilities established by a Decree for taxpayers carrying out productive economic activities within the so-called “Development Poles for Well-Being” (PODEBIs) in the Isthmus of Tehuantepec (southern Mexico). PODEBIs are industrial parks managed by the federal government to attract investment to marginalized regions. This represents a free-market development model.

In 2025, the Ministry of Finance rejected the request submitted by Anaa Witsukj. In response to this denial, and with legal support from ProDESC, Anaa Witsukj filed a lawsuit to gain access to the tax benefits provided for PODEBIs, thereby promoting a more inclusive economic and fiscal model. The lawsuit also challenges the constitutionality of the Decree for excluding community-based, Indigenous, and solidarity economy projects like Anaa Witsukj. The case is currently ongoing.

## Chichankanab Lagoon System

In 2025, communities around the Chichankanab Lagoon strengthened their capacities for territorial defense through workshops and community-based activities, many of them held at the Indigenous and Afro-Mexican Women’s House (CAMIA), recognizing the active leadership of women in these processes.



Residents of the La Presumida ejido at “La Fiesta Chichankanera.”



Residents of the La Presumida ejido at “La Fiesta Chichankanera.”

In April, the ejido of La Presumida hosted the Fiesta Chichankanera, a cultural gathering organized jointly with ProDESC that reaffirmed the connection between territory, nature, and Maya culture as a form of collective resistance against dispossession.

ProDESC also convened an international exchange in the Yucatán Peninsula with allies from Chile, Argentina, and the United States, addressing obstacles to women’s land tenure and the construction of narratives for territorial defense, while also presenting the Practical Guide to Community Security.

In response to the “Maya Ka’an” tourism model promoted by the government of Quintana Roo since 2022, Maya communities from the municipality of José María Morelos, accompanied by ProDESC,

filed actions before the National Copyright Institute to denounce the misappropriation of their biocultural heritage and to demand protective measures and fair benefits in the exercise of their right to self-determination.

## Communities Surrounding the Chichén Itzá Archaeological Zone

This year, accompaniment continued with ejidos located around Chichén Itzá, Yucatán, in the defense of their land and territory. As part of this process, the Organizational Processes and Transnational Justice teams delivered the workshop “Powers and Responsibilities of the Ejido Commissioner and Supervisory Council” to ejido members and the governing body of the ejido of Xcalacoop.



Members of the Colectivo 16 de Octubre de Calpulalpan gathered in “Los Cerritos” with a member of ProDESC’s Organizing Processes team.

This space strengthened their capacities for the care and protection of natural resources, as well as for responsible administration oriented toward the collective well-being of the ejido.

### Colectivo 16 de Octubre de Calpulalpan

Throughout 2025, we accompanied the Collective in a strategic evaluation and planning process that defined three priority pillars: internal strengthening, organizational growth, and strategic communication to make visible their defense of the territory against extractivist projects.

We supported the development of their communications plan and narrative frameworks, which led to the publication of their first opinion column, “Malpaís. A Living History,” in September, positioning their voice in the public debate. Their advocacy capacities were also strengthened through

a workshop on stakeholder identification and mapping of support networks.

With the accompaniment of ProDESC’s Institutional Development Coordination team, the Collective accessed an international fund for defending communities, securing resources to continue their work. At the same time, progress was made on strategic legal actions against two energy generation companies, consolidating a comprehensive territorial defense strategy.

### Gulf of California

ProDESC, together with the Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA), the Mexican Center for Environmental Defense (DAN), and Nuestro Futuro – Our Rights to the Future and a Healthy Environment, has undertaken various actions to raise awareness about the negative impacts of projects related to the transport, distribution, and supply of liquefied natural gas (LNG) in the Gulf of California and associated land areas.

**El Golfo de California**  
es vida, es hogar, es historia.

**ÚNETE,  
FIRMA Y  
EVITEMOS QUE LO  
DESTRUYAN.**

Social media image, campaign “The Gulf We Are Losing”

The implementation of these projects poses a high risk to the preservation of marine and terrestrial ecosystems, as well as to communities surrounding the Gulf. For this reason, authorities were called upon to address three priority issues:

1. Conduct a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the Gulf of California and associated land areas.
2. Establish an immediate moratorium on all LNG and pipeline projects planned for the region until such assessment is completed.
3. Adopt urgent measures to address the impacts of LNG transport, distribution, and supply projects in the Gulf of California and associated land areas.

These projects could leave the territory severely damaged, putting flora and fauna at risk, as well as the livelihoods of people who depend on fishing. They could also

violate human rights and international commitments undertaken by Mexico, such as the Escazú Agreement and the Paris Agreement. It is therefore essential to apply the preventive and precautionary principles and to deny environmental impact authorizations in accordance with the law.

### Unión Hidalgo

In March, ProDESC members held a strategic meeting with Laura Itzel Castillo, President of the Chamber of Senators, to follow up on the case concerning the Indigenous consultation process in the accompaniment of Unión Hidalgo.

The meeting provided an opportunity to underscore the importance of guaranteeing standards of prior, free, and informed consultation in the context of the 2025 energy reform, as well as the need to ensure that the strengthening of the Federal Electricity Commission advances under a just transition framework and with full respect for community rights.



Members of ProDESC with Laura Itzel Castillo, President of the Chamber of Senators

# Labor Human Rights

## Labor Coalition of Sex Workers (CLaP!)

Working spaces with Coalition members were consolidated, defining lines of action for each of the working committees and strengthening their organizational structure. As part of this process, external conflict resolution support was arranged to reinforce internal cohesion.

In June, CLaP! organized the festival “Sex Work Anywhere,” creating a public space for dialogue, training, and information on the rights and realities of sex workers.

Coalition members also participated in interviews with Capital 21 and other media outlets, positioning their voices in the media and advocating for the recognition of sex work as work.

## National Network of Women Labor Rights Defenders

In 2025, the National Network of Women Labor Rights Defenders was strengthened with the incorporation of three new



Natalia Lane, member of CLaP!, sharing information with attendees at the festival “Sex Work Anywhere”



Members of the National Coordinator of Women Defenders of Labor Human Rights at the second in-person meeting.

organizations, consolidating an alliance of 10 women’s labor rights defender organizations nationwide.

Throughout the year, 11 meetings were held nine virtual and two in person in Mexico City where participants engaged in in-depth discussions on key issues such as the care system, the rights of artisans, and freedom of association. These spaces also strengthened tools for collective organizing, spokespersonship, and advocacy.

In partnership with Fundación Avina, Oxfam Mexico, and Ethos, and within the framework of a European Union-funded project, four sectoral advocacy plans were developed (care, apparel, agriculture, and digital platforms), setting the course for promoting concrete improvements in women’s working conditions.

In November, the Network reaffirmed its national growth and projection by re-opening its annual call to incorporate more

collectives and independent unions committed to gender-responsive labor rights defense.

## Coalition of Temporary Migrant Workers from Sinaloa

During this year, the Coalition’s Women’s Commission consolidated its work as it marked three years since its creation, positioning workplace violence against migrant women workers holding H-2 visas as a priority issue. This analysis served as the basis for the March 8 event held in Topolobampo, Sinaloa, where direct assistance and guidance were provided to workers facing labor abuses.

In terms of advocacy, a strategic meeting was held with Senator Karina Ruiz, which led to the promotion of a legislative point of agreement urging the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Labor and Social

Welfare to regulate recruitment under H-2 visas more rigorously, promoting transparency and fair working conditions.

At the same time, progress was made in developing strategies to seek official recognition of victim status for migrant workers affected by recruitment fraud related to employment in the United States, strengthening pathways for access to transnational justice.

### Center for Accompaniment and Organization of Workers (CAOPT)

In 2025, the Center for Accompaniment and Organization of Workers (CAOPT) in Ciudad Juárez advised and supported 163 workers, mainly on issues related to labor conditions, INFONAVIT housing rights, unjust dismissals, and severance payments, consolidating its role as a local reference point for labor rights defense.

Throughout the year, CAOPT organized its Jornadas por el Trabajo Digno (Days for Decent Work), celebrated its third anniversary by accompanying women working in the maquila sector, and strengthened political education through workshops and forums promoted by the Rosa Luxemburg Women's Collective. These spaces addressed key issues such as decent work, care systems, and Convention 190 of the International Labour Organization (ILO).

In the final quarter, CAOPT members positioned their agenda before local authorities, and in December the Center inaugurated a community playroom, reaffirming

its commitment to women workers and their children while expanding its impact beyond the labor sphere toward the overall well-being of families.

### Southern Cooperatives Network (RECOSUR)

During the year, the ProDESC team held several working sessions with representatives of RECOSUR to define strategic pathways aimed at strengthening their organizational process and defending their cultural heritage through legal and advocacy actions.

We also supported the analysis and identification of funding opportunities that could help consolidate their work in defending cultural rights, strengthening their sustainability and capacity for action.



Days for Decent Work, organized by CAOPT



Members of Red de Cooperativas del Sur (RECOSUR)

### Union of Agricultural Day Laborers (UJA)

In 2025, the Union of Agricultural Day Laborers (UJA) and ProDESC jointly defined their annual work plan and strengthened their organizational and communication capacities, including specific sessions focused on the strategic management of content on labor rights for social media.

UJA expanded its territorial and public presence by participating in the Tomato Fair in Gabriel Leyva Solano, Sinaloa, where it provided direct information to agricultural workers about labor rights, freedom of association, and working conditions. The union also positioned its voice in national media through several interviews, including those with [Animal Político](#) and [Capital 21 TV](#), highlighting the conditions faced by agricultural day laborers.

The year concluded with a joint evaluation process in which four strategic priorities were identified to strengthen the Union: internal communication, leadership development, improved planning, and

stronger engagement with workers in the sector.

### National Union of the Cinematographic and Audiovisual Industry (UNICA)

During the year, we continued accompanying the Union in the review of its bylaws and in disseminating information to strengthen its membership base and incorporate new affiliates.

As part of this collaboration, and with the aim of promoting women's leadership in the audiovisual industry, the Organizational Processes, Analysis and Advocacy, and Transnational Justice teams facilitated a series of workshops with La Gremia, a feminist collective within the sector. These spaces addressed the construction of collective power, the creation of a democratic and transparent union, the importance of union action in transforming labor conditions, and mechanisms for corporate accountability to demand responsibility for abuses.

This process strengthened organizational and strategic capacities to advance toward better labor conditions in the audiovisual sector.

### ProDESC's Participation in the Human Rights Grievance Mechanism for the Automotive Industry in Mexico

In October 2025, ProDESC participated in the conference “Due Diligence and Labour Rights Quo Vadis? Implementation, Expectations, and Perspectives along the Supply Chain,” organized by the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation. In this space, ProDESC representatives shared Mexico’s experience in the pilot phase of the Human Rights Grievance Mechanism for the automotive industry, highlighting areas of opportunity for its strengthening:

- The effective inclusion of Mexican unions as key actors to ensure communication and protection on the ground.
- The design of a broader and more targeted communication strategy so that workers can learn about and access the mechanism.
- The need for companies to adopt a genuine commitment to human rights, beyond the formal compliance with procedures.
- The importance of building trust between workers and the Mechanism so that it is perceived as a real avenue for justice.

The pilot program concluded in December 2025, with lessons learned currently being systematized by participating civil society organizations, including ProDESC. This document will be presented during the first half of 2026.

### Coalition Against Forced Labor in Trade

In March 2025, the Coalition presented the report [“Labor Diagnosis of the USMCA: Evidence, Opportunities and Recommendations from Civil Society for the Review of Chapter 23,”](#) which provides evidence and public policy



recommendations from the social sector’s perspective to strengthen discussion and improve the implementation of the treaty’s labor provisions.

Between July and October 2025, the Coalition Against Forced Labor in Trade (CAFLT) and its North America subgroup focused their efforts on monitoring the USMCA negotiations and the public consultations related to the treaty’s review. In this context, ProDESC directly contributed information on the recent opening of the official complaint channel before the Ministry of Labor and Social Welfare (STPS), and shared analysis on the implications of this mechanism and its possible institutional limitations.

Additionally, several inputs were submitted within the framework of the Mexican government’s open consultations

for the renewal of the USMCA. These highlighted that strengthening the design and implementation of the import prohibition mechanism under Article 23.6 would help fulfill the commitments assumed under the agreement, reinforce transparency, protect workers’ rights, and consolidate Mexico’s role as a key actor in promoting responsible trade.

The Coalition also supported and signed a letter addressed to the U.S. government regarding the negotiation of the trade agreement with Chile, urging the inclusion of clauses to combat forced labor in trade between both countries.

# Right to Defend Human Rights



Participants from the 8th cohort of the Transnational Justice School.

## Transnational Justice School (EJT)

In 2025, we consolidated the eighth generation of the Transnational Justice School, composed of 29 human rights defenders from Mexico and Latin America who strengthened their capacities in corporate accountability and conflict transformation.

During the closing gathering, the School's Network was presented, which now brings together 80 graduates from all generations, consolidating a regional community for collective action.

The growing recognition of the School was also reflected in the call for applications for the ninth generation, which received 242 applications from nine countries between October and December, confirming its impact and regional reach.



Graduates of the fourth cohort of the Comprehensive Security Course for defenders of land, territory, and the environment.

## Community Security

Through its Program for Human Rights Defenders, ProDESC strengthened its work on community security by presenting the *Practical Guide to Community Security for Women Human Rights Defenders in Mexico* particularly in the Yucatán Peninsula and Oaxaca as well as in spaces in Asia, Africa, and Latin America.

We provided direct advisory support to organizations facing risk situations, accompanying the development of security protocols in response to critical incidents. We also developed a diagnostic study on the situation of human rights defenders and communities in Chile to contribute to a contextualized risk analysis.

As part of capacity-building efforts, we also conducted two workshops in Tabasco with territorial defenders focused on risk identification and the construction of community security strategies.

## Protecting People, Protecting Nature Initiative (P3N)

This year we consolidated the fourth cohort of the *Comprehensive Security Course for Land, Territory, and Environmental Defenders*, composed of 31 participants from 14 states across the country. Participants successfully completed their training during the closing gathering held in July in Mexico City, strengthening their capacities in comprehensive security, digital care, and corporate accountability.

Regional strengthening continued in December with the 6th P3N Regional Gathering in Oaxaca, which brought together 24 participants from 17 organizations in Guerrero and Oaxaca, consolidating a space for coordination and the collective construction of protection strategies.

# Fundrais- ing for Partner Organiza- tions

Since 2024, ProDESC has collaborated with the Environmental Defenders Collaborative fund through the “Action Partnership” Program to provide small grants to human rights defenders, communities, collectives, and organizations that protect land, territory, and the environment.

As part of this effort, in 2025 we mobilized resources for 20 organizations in Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, France, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Peru. These funds were primarily allocated to capacity building, security, legal expenses, communication campaign development, and strategic travel, directly strengthening struggles for environmental and territorial defense.

# Our Publica- tions and Collabo- rations

## ProDESC Publications



### **USMCA Labor Diagnosis: Evidence, Opportunities, and Recommendations from Civil Society for the Review of Chapter 23.**

This document provides evidence, opportunities, and public policy recommendations from the perspective of civil society, with the aim of strengthening the discussion and improving the implementation of the labor provisions of the agreement.

[Download the Diagnostic Report](#)

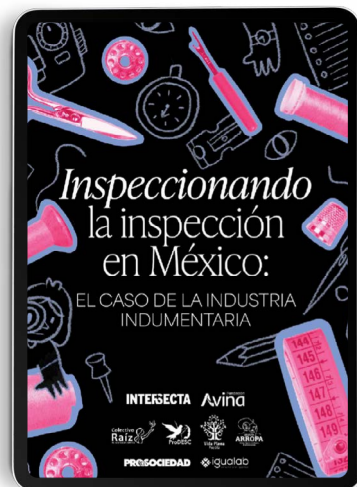
## Publications We Contributed To



### Exploitation and Opacity: The Hidden Reality of Mexican Coffee in the Supply Chains of Nestlé and Starbucks

This report exposes labor exploitation, supply chain opacity, and the environmental impacts of coffee production in Mexico, with a focus on the supply chains of Nestlé and Starbucks.

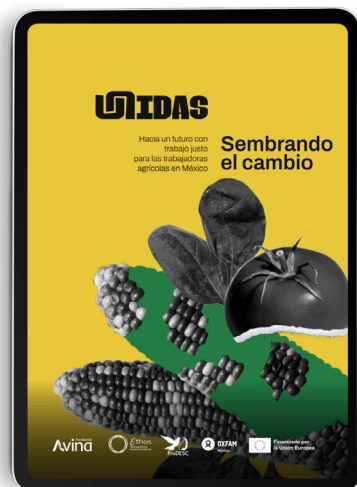
Download the report



### Inspecting Inspection in Mexico: The Case of the Garment Industry

The report, developed collaboratively, examines labor inspection in Mexico at both the federal and local levels and emphasizes the potential of labor inspection to promote a work environment free from discrimination and violence.

Download the report



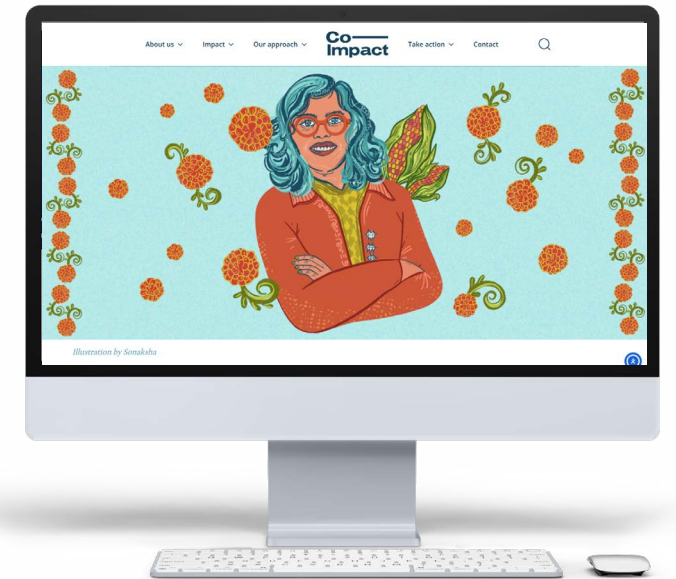
### Sowing Change: Toward a Future of Fair Work for Women Agricultural Workers in Mexico

The report summarizes the main structural barriers faced by women agricultural workers in Mexico and outlines actions for authorities to ensure a future with fair work.

Download the report

## Executive Director's Engagements

- The Arco C190 Working Group organized a side event alongside the ILO Convention 190 and Beijing+30 process, where our Executive Director, Alejandra Ancheita, participated as a commentator on gender-based violence and labor rights.
- As part of the activities surrounding COP30, Alejandra Ancheita participated in the talk “Defending a Living Earth,” convened by the Raoul Wallenberg Institute in collaboration with other organizations. During the dialogue, she shared reflections with other defenders on how to innovate in the defense of nature, strengthen the protection of territories, and confront the growing risks associated with this work.



Read the interview



Alejandra Ancheita, Directora Ejecutiva de ProDESC con Luisa Reyes, autora del libro *Mal de Río*

- In September, the Co-Impact Foundation [interviewed Alejandra Ancheita](#) as a changemaker. In the conversation, Alejandra highlighted the importance of recognizing women as ejidatarias and comuneras so they can participate in decision-making processes that affect their communities.
- Our Executive Director also participated in the International Book Fair as a commentator on the novel “Mal de río” by Luisa Reyes Retana. The novel presents a story of resistance that recounts struggles in the territory of the Usumacinta River and the strength of those who defend it in the face of projects promoted under the banner of “development.”

# ProDESC in the Media and on Social Media

In 2025, ProDESC’s digital presence continued to expand steadily, allowing the organization’s analysis, proposals, and the struggles it accompanies to reach increasingly broad and diverse audiences.

ProDESC’s website recorded **233,630 visits** and **147,531 active users** throughout the year. Compared to 2024, this represents an **increase of 19.9% in visits** and **35.5% in active users**, confirming a sustained trend of growing interest in the content and analysis produced by the organization.

## Annual Report 2025

This increase reflects that more and more people—including workers, communities,



Increase compared to 2024

**19.9%** **233,630** visits

**35.5%** **147,531** users

journalists, allied organizations, and members of the public interested in human rights—use the ProDESC website as a source of information, analysis, and tools for the defense of rights.

Among the most consulted content of the year were materials aimed at explaining labor rights in practical terms, as well as analyses on corporate accountability and transnational justice, confirming the public value of the materials produced by the organization.

The articles and sections with the highest number of visits in 2025 were:

- 1.** How to Request a Labor Inspection and End Abuses at Your Workplace
- 2.** 5 Facts You Should Know About Your Right to Decent Vacations
- 3.** Transnational Justice School – ProDESC
- 4.** Exploitation and Opacity: The Hidden Reality of Mexican Coffee in the Supply Chains of Nestlé and Starbucks
- 5.** Home – ProDESC

## Social Media

During 2025, ProDESC’s digital strategy consolidated social media as a key channel for making human rights violations visible, amplifying the voices of communities, and positioning public debates on labor justice, territorial defense, and corporate accountability.

One of the most important advances of the year was strengthening a differentiated presence across platforms, allowing the organization to engage with different audiences and expand the conversation to

sectors that are not usually exposed to human rights issues.

**Instagram** was the platform with the greatest growth. **The account increased by 172% compared to 2024, growing from 2,000 to 5,449 followers.** This platform is particularly relevant because it concentrates younger audiences, many of whom were not previously sensitized to human rights issues. Growth on this platform represents significant progress toward one of the communication strategy's key objectives: bringing these discussions to new generations and expanding the social base that engages with them.

On **LinkedIn**, the community **grew by 56%, increasing from 3,026 to 4,733 followers.** This platform has allowed ProDESC's work to gain visibility in professional, academic, and technical spaces, enabling research, reports, and public statements to reach specialists, international organizations, donors, the academic sector, and decision-makers.

**Facebook** continues to be the organization's largest and most stable community, with **18,694 followers and 10% growth**, allowing ProDESC to maintain consistent communication with communities, allied organizations, and audiences that closely follow its work.

Meanwhile, **X (formerly Twitter)** reached **9,645 followers.** Although the platform has experienced a decline in global usage in recent years, it still concentrates a key niche of journalists, analysts, specialists, and political actors, making it a strategic space for timely conversations and public advocacy.

**+1.4 million content views**  
**Instagram:** 848,000 views  
**Facebook:** 425,000 views and a reach of 267,000 people  
**LinkedIn:** 115,000 impressions  
**X:** 102,000 impressions

**Digital Reach**

Overall, **ProDESC's digital platforms generated more than 1.4 million content views** during 2025, significantly expanding the public visibility of the struggles supported by the organization.

One of the moments with the greatest impact was the **campaign** to defend the territory against liquefied natural gas projects in the **Gulf of California**, where a single post exceeded **298,000 views**, helping broaden the public debate on the energy transition and environmental justice.



Increase relative to 2024



Followers:



Increase relative to 2024



Followers:



Increase relative to 2024

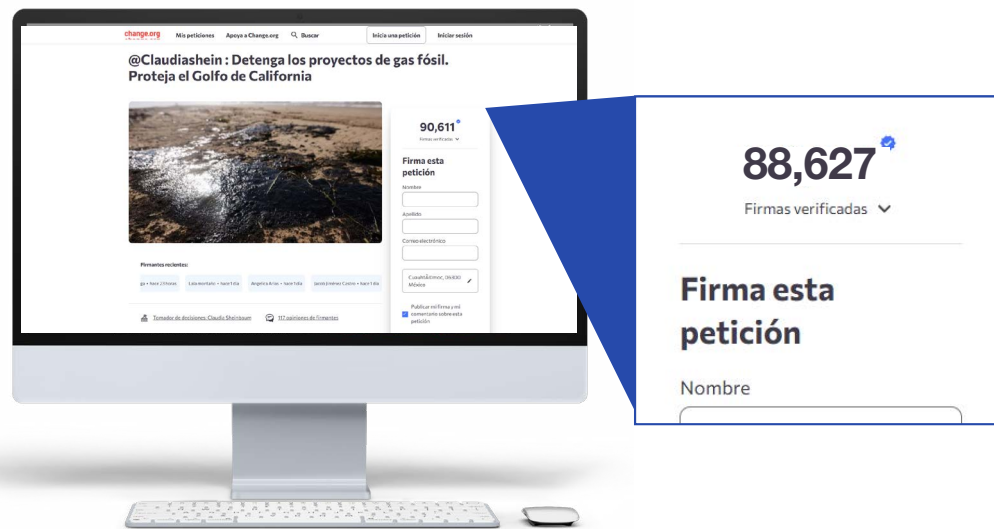


Followers:



Followers:





Webpage of the petition on chance.org to stop fossil gas projects and protect the Gulf of California.

## Digital Advocacy and Citizen Mobilization

As part of this strategy, ProDESC strengthened its alliance with the citizen participation platform Change.org to promote public pressure mechanisms in defense of the Gulf of California.

The petition addressed to federal authorities to stop fossil gas projects in the region gathered **88,627 citizen signatures**, becoming one of the most significant digital mobilization tools in the process.

Beyond the number of signatures, this action helped articulate public concern about the environmental and social impacts of these projects, strengthen the visibility of the issue in the media and on social networks, and demonstrate that the defense of the Gulf of California has broad public support.

These types of digital tools complement ProDESC's legal and public advocacy strategies, expanding social participation and

strengthening the legitimacy of the demands put forward by communities.

## Strategic Collaborations

Collaborations with allied organizations were a central component of the communication strategy during 2025, as they made it possible to multiply the organic reach of content and strengthen the public legitimacy of the demands promoted by the communities supported by the organization.

Joint actions were carried out with organizations such as CEMDA, Defensa Ambiental del Noroeste (DAN), Oxfam México, Fundación Avina, and Nuestro Futuro, which made it possible to coordinate efforts to position agendas related to environmental justice, labor rights, and corporate accountability.

Likewise, alliances with collectives and youth organizations linked to the anti-gentrification movement, such as Frente

Antigentrificación, Obrera MX, and other citizen initiatives, generated a significant impact on social media. These collaborations helped bring new audiences to both the networks of the Asamblea Ciudadana del Pueblo de Xoco and those of ProDESC, while also conveying a powerful message about the importance of articulating inter-generational struggles for the defense of territory and the right to the city.

These digital alliances helped demonstrate that the defense of human rights is not only an institutional agenda, but also a collective cause that connects historic

communities with new generations of urban activists.

## Media Impact

In addition to its digital presence, ProDESC maintained a constant presence in traditional media outlets.

During 2025, **260 media appearances** were recorded, including interviews, news articles, reports, and analyses in various national media outlets.

These media mentions were mainly linked to:

- the launch of research and publications;
- the campaign to defend the Gulf of California against liquefied natural gas projects;
- public actions carried out alongside the Asamblea Ciudadana del Pueblo de Xoco against the impacts of gentrification;
- and efforts to position various struggles for the defense of human rights.

Overall, this media presence helped amplify the voices of communities and workers in the national public debate, contributing to placing issues on the public agenda that are often overlooked.



Poster promoting the symbolic closure, convened by the Citizen Assembly of the Original People of Xoco and allied organizations and collectives.

## **You Can Also Defend Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights with ProDESC**

ProDESC has been an **authorized charitable organization before Mexico's Tax Administration Service (SAT)** since January 2020. This allows the organization to receive donations in kind or via bank transfer through its website using **PayPal**. It is important to note that **all donations are tax-deductible**.

Your contributions are used to defend the **economic, social, and cultural rights of groups in vulnerable situations in Mexico**. Every contribution brings us closer to a just world where human rights are respected.

**Don't hesitate—join our  
community of donors!**

**If you would like more information,  
please contact us at:  
[recaudaciondefondos@prodesc.org.mx](mailto:recaudaciondefondos@prodesc.org.mx).**





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