



Condega, June 2017 to December 2018 - Edition No. 12

The AMCC team sends warm greetings and is happy to be able to share this newsletter about the achievements and progress made during the period from July 2017 to December 2018.

#### I. WOMEN'S TECHNICAL TRAINING SCHOOL.

At the Women's Technical Training School, AMCC continues to develop technical and specialty courses in a space in which women can discover and develop their skills in traditionally masculine trades. During this period, the course development focused on specialty courses.

#### Specialty courses:

##### Course: Wood Carving

Date: 05-11 July 2017

Teachers: Felipa Nery Gonzales, Diana Leticia Merlos.

Place: AMCC

Number of students: 9 young women

Origin of students: Honduras Azul, El Peñasco, Laguna de Santa Rosa, Labranza N° 2.

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: 45 pieces of decorative and utilitarian wood.



##### Course: Zinc welding

Date: November 14 to December 6 2017

Teacher: Felipa Nery Gónzales, Belkis Ruiz Montalván

Place: AMCC

Number of students: Five young women, one adult woman

Student origin: Condega neighborhoods, Honduras Azul and San Andrés rural communities.

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: Silos and utensils

##### Course: Electrical installations

Date: From January 22 to February 9, 2018

Teacher: Mauricio Gomes Calderón, Diana Leticia Merlos.

Place: AMCC

Number of students: 10 students (5 women, 5 men)

Origin of students: Condega, Estelí, Palacagüina, El Salvador

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: Electricity generation, tools and their use, accessories and measuring devices, design and assembly of home electrical installations.



Place: AMCC

Number of students: 15 students - 13 women, 2 men

Origin of students: Matagalpa, Pueblo Nuevo, Totogalpa, Condega, El Salvador, United States, Mexico, Brazil and Finland.

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: Construction in adobe, reinforced adobe, bajarueque, taquezal, earth paints and plastering and finishing techniques, tests and experimentation with earth.





# EARTH BUILDING WORKSHOPS AND SHORT COURSES.



## Course: Technical Vocational

Date: From October 8 to December 8, 2018

Teacher: Diana Merlos, Jasmina Vílchez, Kathya Reyes, Julieth Cárcamo.

Place: AMCC

Number of students: 14 young women

Student origin: Condega, El Peñasco, Santa Teresa, El Espino, El Guanacaste, Laguna de Santa Rosa, San Andrés, Guasuyuca.

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: Methodology (learning by playing), small practical projects and developing products reusing wooden and metallic materials and integrating a light bulb

**Carpentry****Electrical installations****Natural building.****Electric Welding****Course: Zinc Welding**

Date: From September 22 to October 31, 2018

Teacher: Felipa Nery González, Escarlet Rodríguez Talavera

Place: AMCC

Number of students: 9 students (7 women, 2 men)

Origin of students: Comunidad El Níspero

Knowledge / Products / Practical work: Silos and utensils

**Requalification courses**

Technical re-qualification from June 2017 until December 2018: AMCC continues to strengthen the capacities and acquisition of technical experience for course graduates, through internships and work experience. During this period, 27 young people participated (87% women 13 % men), who were re-qualified in different trades and exchanged experiences and knowledge with the work teams. With the high unemployment rate and masculinization of these trades, for most women this is the first opportunity to gain experience. These opportunities to practice systems new to the majority of the population motivate young people to include these experiences into their fields of study or work. With a view to promoting sustainable life models that promote the proper use of natural resources, integrating ecological systems, which complement proposals for ecological buildings.

**Trade: Electric Welding**

Period: June 2017 - end of 2018

Number of students: Four graduates

Knowledge / Products / Practical work at AMCC: The design and development of metal gates, five windows, for model house; reinforcement of grills and supports for canal in multipurpose building.

Orders for clients / experience outside AMCC: Designs and elaboration of gates.





#### Trade: Carpentry

Period: June 2017 - end of 2018

Number of students: Six graduates

Knowledge / Products / Practical work in AMCC:

Divisions in model house and multipurpose building, doors and furniture for model house (bunk beds, desk, tables).

Orders for customers / experience outside AMCC:

Doors



#### Trade: Natural Building

Period: June 2017 - end of 2018

Number of students: Seven graduates

Knowledge / Products / Practical work at AMCC: Various jobs on buildings at AMCC premises. The consolidation of the natural building team.





Knowledge / Products / Practical work at AMCC:  
 Diagnosis of existing systems, redesign of photovoltaic systems.  
 Requests for customers / experience off AMCC site:  
 Design and installation of a system in a nearby farm.



#### Project: Installation of rainwater collection system.

Period: June to July 2017

Number of students: Four young graduates of construction and electric welding courses, three volunteers from Estell Solidarité.

Knowledge / Products / Practical work in AMCC: Drainage of rainwater in handmade canals, ditches, water filtration and installation of tanks.



**Meeting with graduates:** This was held on November 25th, 2018, with the participation of 21 graduates of 2017 and 2018 of the different courses. During the meeting, the graduates shared their experience after graduating, expressed their concerns about the economic crisis in the country, changes on a personal level and made proposals.

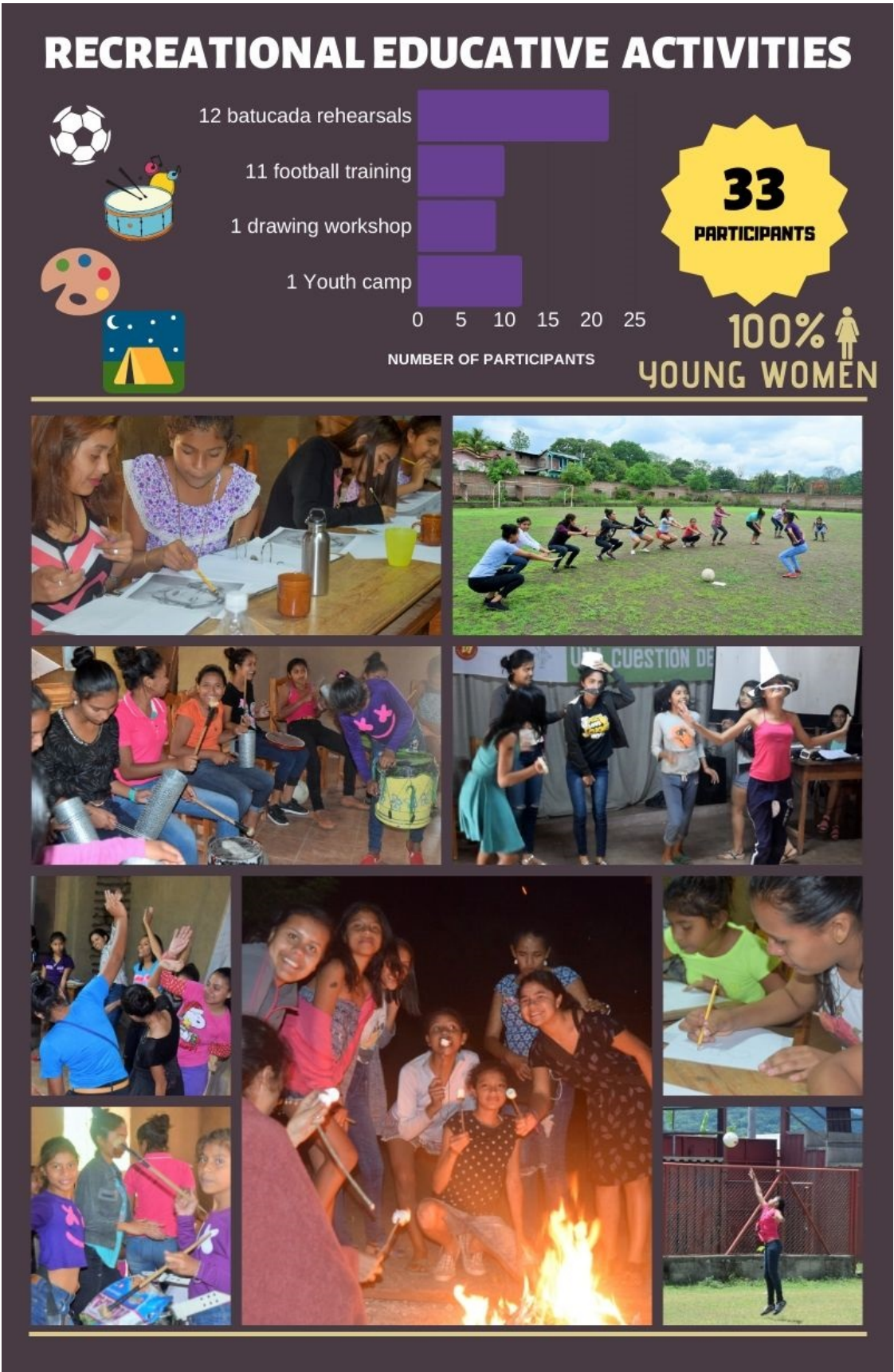


**Phrase of young graduate:** "At the beginning, I had to convince my family to give me permission to come [here] and to believe in me, we can all do this, the confidence acquired is a great achievement. After this, I changed my way of thinking about women's abilities, today I have the opportunity to learn to teach and I have strengthened my technical knowledge. To learn about methodology in training. My goal is to continue re-qualifying myself, to work at my dad's house, with earth plastering and make a space for my welding workshop."



II. YOUTH INITIATIVES

During the second semester of 2017, there were three workshops on maternity with the participation of 20 young women. There was one contraceptive methods workshop with the participation of 23 young women. To design these workshops there was support from a Peace Corps Volunteer. Throughout 2018, 8 workshops, 5 meetings, 13 tutorials with young girls were held and there were 3 sessions to address abuse. The participants are young adolescents from 12 to 25 years who also studied puberty, biological, psychological, and social changes, and reflected on the situations that young women live in daily life and what they should be prepared.



*Phrase of young woman from Naci para Volar group (NPV): What I like most is that here, they listen to me and respect our opinions; my mother says she likes me to come here to defend myself as a woman.*

**Parents (Ma-Pas) Training.** During this period, there were six meetings with mothers and fathers; in these meetings students' parents of technical courses participated and come together with those of young women from NPV group. One of the greatest achievements of the meetings is that mothers managed to gain greater confidence with their daughters and vice versa. There were also two discussion groups with mothers and daughters with the aim of strengthening the bond between them, and five meetings with Ma-Pas in which issues of self-esteem and gender violence were discussed.



### Action and mobilization

There were five organisational (learning by doing) sessions in the second semester of 2017 and 15 sessions in 2018, where young coordinators from Nací para Volar participated. These sessions are held prior to each event and they update murals. This ensures that each event is organised, planned and facilitated by young women. Since April 2018, they have had to work in a tense atmosphere due to the outbreak of the socio-political crisis on 18th April 2018 in Nicaragua. These events have shown the importance of role of young women, creating a space for sharing, where women from northern Nicaragua commemorate the struggles of women throughout history and commit themselves to continue fighting for the defence of their rights. Events are also organised for the conservation of the environment, being consistent with the AMCC proposal and necessary to take further actions in the current climate emergency context.



25 de noviembre "Elimination of violence against women" 2017



8 de marzo "International women's day" 2018



28 de septiembre "The right to choose" 2018



25 de noviembre "Elimination of violence against women"



28 de septiembre "The right to choose"		
2017	Theatre presentation play called "The Little and the Great." Theatre presentation entitled "La Marchanta", addressing issues of violence, abuse, rape	70 people (31 Young women / 30 adult women y 7 young men, 2 adult men) Colectivo de 8 de marzo
2018	Protagonism of 12-year-old girls directing the activity, strengthening and projecting the leadership of young women.	41 people (10 adult women / 28 young women y young men / 01 adult man).
25 de noviembre "Elimination of violence against women"		
2017	March through the main streets of Condega. The march managed to get the attention of people who were in the streets, who showed a little more empathy for the situation of women and repudiation of acts of violence.	65 people (31 young women/, 23 adult women, 10 adult men, 1 young man). Red de Mujeres de Condega,
2018	Debate on the situation in the country, the murder and sexual abuse of women. An opportunity to promote young women's leadership and their writing and muralism.	51 people (36 young women, adult women y 6 young men)
8 de marzo "International women's day":		
2018	National strike and joining the march in Somoto: #NosotrasParamos. Participation in the Onda Local radio programme, to discuss the central theme: "Women move the world" (03-09-2018)	(58 young women, 37 adult women y 5 adult men, 3 young men), Red de Mujeres del Norte

Click here for the complete interview on the Onda Local radio programme "Women, we move the world" (9th March 2018)



25 de noviembre "Elimination of violence against women" 2017

### Events for the conservation and protection of the Environment.



Institutional celebration of June 5th, International Environment Day

Date: July 2017

Subject: To discuss and share with the family about what can be done for the environment and how to improve these actions.

Practical work: An almond and papaya tree nursery and compost heaps. Mural started on the multipurpose building including the use of recycled materials (bottle tops and glass).

Participants / Coordinations: AMCC team and people linked to the SONATI organization - Estelí,



Contents: "You are Earth, I Am Earth" Festival,

Internships: Bicycle ride protest by Indian Corn in Estelí, Natural building workshops with architecture students, Workshop "ElemenTerre" in Estelí.

Participants / Coordinations: 140 people - Amapolas Collective, UNAN-Managua and Casa Mondo - Estelí.



Earth Festival



"You are Earth, I Am Earth" Festival



Bicycle ride protest by Indian Corn in Estelí



students, Workshop "ElemenTerre" in Estelí.



#### Day for June 5th, International Environment Day.

Date: June 5, 2018

Contents: The socio-political crisis of the country and the environmental problems of the immediate surroundings and throughout the country.

Participants: 50 people.

### III. SUSTAINABILITY AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT

**Evaluation and strategic planning:** During the second half of 2017, AMCC finished the final document of its Strategic Planning evaluation. It is based on the collective evaluation process of 5 years (2012 - 2016) and it presented the plan for the next period (2018-2022). In the new plan, AMCC project its Technological and Ecological Youth Centre, where women trained in rights and clean technologies will foster an inclusive, diverse, critical and democratic culture. With a new internal structure and a collegiate team management in the process of being established.



**Management and Mobilization of funds:** This is a permanent activity to guarantee the survival of AMCC. During this period the organization had 60% of the annual budget covered, thanks to the support of the following organizations: World Day of Prayer –Germany (DMO), DMO-Austria, Winds of Peace Foundation, Terre Des Hommes - Germany (TDH), OCSI Navarra, Pamplona City Council, OCSI Madrid and Misereor specific funds,



The AMCC team and the target groups continue to optimize resources to cover international events by developing other activities and relying on small collaborations from other organizations. The commitment of the staff, bartering, collective kitchens and solidarity networks, are sustainable practices that have allowed the organization to continue functioning, without having all of its budget.



**Cornelia Marshall's visit (DMO representative)**

**Staff training:** Since its foundation, AMCC decided to work on reducing the gender gap in technical education. Through the implementation of an AMCC staff training plan, the team members have been motivated to continue training. At the end of 2017, a training workshop for natural building monitors was started in which six graduates participated and through which they acquired knowledge about popular education. Three staff members had IT training. In addition, nine members received a digital security workshop and three participated in psychosocial or self-help workshops.



**Advances in the construction of the premises:** Through the programme of technical requalification and one-off hiring of young graduates, this has allowed young women to gain experience and receive an income. Although there is still much to do, the quality of the work achieved and the colour of the murals are an example of the capacity of the women. During the second half of 2018, due to the crisis in Nicaragua, AMCC decided to reduce

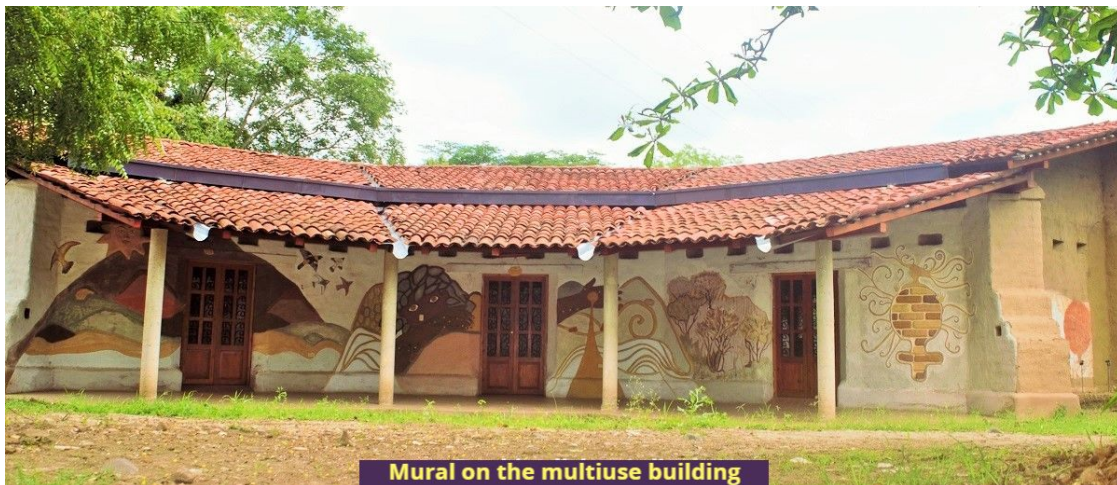




Model house



Front view of the rainwater harvesting system



Mural on the multiuse building

– Click here to Access the video to see progress of the model house building

Open Doors 2017: On November 23 and 24, 2017 AMCC held the annual open Door event. For this, there were 32 participants, in the different natural building workshops and some also participated in sexual and reproductive education and self-defence workshops. The participation of the Ministry of Health through a Peace Corps volunteer made it possible to offer a free smear test and HIV testing service.



Main entrance AMCC



Contraception workshop



Double-click to edit



Welding workshop





**5**  
**EXCHANGES**  
**IN AMCC**

WITH ASSOCIATION OF INDIGENOUS YOUTH IN THE NORTH OF NICARAGUA  
**SEPTEMBER 2017**  
WITH CARITAS, SAN MIGUEL, EL SALVADOR  
**OCTOBER 2017**  
WITH CARITAS, SANTA ANA, EL SALVADOR  
**JANUARY 2018**  
WITH PUTNEY SCHOOL (VERMONT), USA  
**JULY 2018**  
WITH AMAPOLAS COLLECTIVE (ESTELI)

**ARTICLES PUBLISHED**

**2017**  
**INTEGRAL TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN NORTHERN NICARAGUA**  
AUTORAS: Amanda Centeno, Helen Shears y Fátima Medina.

**2018**  
**INTEGRAL TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR WOMEN IN NORTHERN NICARAGUA**  
AUTORAS: Amanda Centeno, Helen Shears y Fátima Medina.

**TECHNICAL TRAINING FOR EARTH BUILDING IN NORTHERN NICARAGUA - FATIMA MEDINA, KATHYA REYES, JULIETH CARCAMO**  
AUTORAS: Fátima Medina, Kathya Reyes, Julieth Cárcamo.



**7**  
**EVENTS**  
**INTERNATIONAL**



**7 – 19TH MARCH 2018**  
**STREET FOOTBALL EVENT,**  
Bahia - Brazil  
**16 – 24TH JULY 2018**  
**FIFTH CONFERENCE OF TERRE DE HOMMES DELEGATES**  
Osnabruck - Germany  
**31ST JULY – 3 AUG 2018**  
**REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF ORGANIZATIONS WITH FORMER SOUTH NORTH VOLUNTEERS -**  
Guarija - El Salvador

**5 – 6TH MARCH 2018**  
**COMPREHENSIVE MANAGEMENT OF RISK AND SOCIAL HABITAT RECONSTRUCTION - MESOAMERIKAAB NETWORK**  
San Salvador - El Salvador

**16 Y 17 OCTOBER 2017**  
**II CENTRAL AMERICAN FORUM ON THE CITY, CULTURE AND TERRITORY**  
Managua - Nicaragua



**12 – 13TH SEPTEMBER 2018**  
**SEMINAR ON JOB PLACEMENTS FOR YOUNG WOMEN IN LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN**  
Mexico City, Mexico

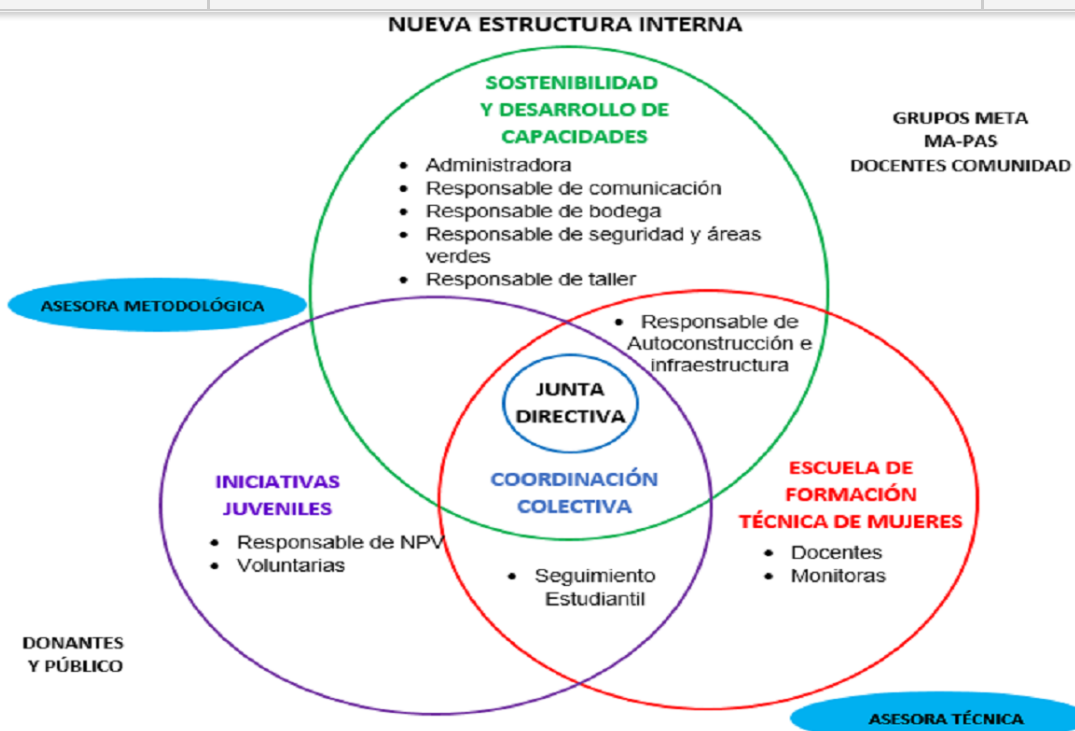
**22ND – 25TH OCTOBER 2018,**  
**18TH IBERAMERICAN SEMINAR ON EARTH ARCHITECTURE AND BUILDING -**  
La Antigua - Guatemala

**15**  
**NETWORKS AND**  
**ALLIANCES**

[Click here to read the article "Technical training in Earth building in the north of Nicaragua"](#)

**External communication:** During the second half of 2017 and the first quarter of 2018, 9 short videos were produced, including: "Right to decide", "We Stop", 4 videos of the progress and 1 final video of the natural building course. The Facebook profile was updated regularly with courses, videos, campaigns and pronouncements together with other networks, this dynamic changed from the second half of 2018 following the crisis in the country.

*The AMCC technical courses offer for the year 2019 includes a technical vocational course, zinc welding, maintenance of Photovoltaic solar energy systems and short courses on earth finishes. In the Youth Initiatives programme, new NPV groups will begin with workshops on sexual and reproductive rights and recreational educational activities.*



#### YOUTH INITIATIVES PROGRAMME

**María Fernanda Pineda - Youth Initiatives Programme Coordinator**

**Eveling del Carmen Hernández Gonzales - Youth Initiatives program Volunteer**

#### WOMEN'S TECHNICAL SCHOOL PROGRAM

**Obdulia del Carmen Gutiérrez Rivera - School Program Coordinator.**

**Diana Leticia Merlos Bellorín - Welding Instructor and Storeroom.**

**Felipa Nery González Ruiz - Zinc Welding Instructor and Carpentry Technician and instructor.**

**Kathya Auxiliadora Reyes Rivera - Natural Building Teacher, Infrastructure, and Self-Build coordinator.**

**Julieth Gutiérrez Cárcamo - Infrastructure and Self-Build assistant**

#### SUSTAINABILITY AND CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

**Fátima Sánchez Medina - Coordinator of the Sustainability and Capacity Development Programme.**

**Wilmara Patricia Calero Talavera - Administrator.**

**Dania Marileth Rodríguez Montalván - Communication**

**Miguel Ruiz González - Head of Safety and Green Areas**

#### ADVISORS

**Francisca Amanda Centeno Espinoza - Methodological Advisor**

**Helen Shears - Technical Advisor**



Copyright © 2019 Asociación Mujeres Constructoras de Condega, \*, All rights reserved..

\*||LIST:DESCRIPTION|\*|\*

#### Our mailing address is::

\*|Asociación Mujeres Constructoras de Condega|\*

Frente al cementerio nuevo de Condega, sobres la carretera hacia Pire.

Condega - Estelí 0000

Nicaragua

¿Want to change how you receive these emails??

Puedes: [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this lis.](#)





This email was sent to [<<Correo Electrónico>>](#)

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Asociación Mujeres Constructoras de Condega · Frente al cementerio nuevo de Condega, sobres la carretera hacia Pire. · Estelí 0000 · Nicaragua

