



INDIGENOUS WOMAN SHAPING THE PRESENT AND FUTURE

**CONSTRUCTING
PEACE AND DEMOCRACY
INSIDE AND OUTSIDE
NICARAGUA**




INTRODUCTION

In Nicaragua, indigenous women face a serious situation of violence and land invasion. Between 2015 and 2023, more than 60 occurrences of land occupations adversely affected more than 20 indigenous communities. According to a study by Amnesty International, 70% of Indigenous women in these areas have reported violence in the context of territorial disputes, showing our double vulnerability for being women and indigenous.

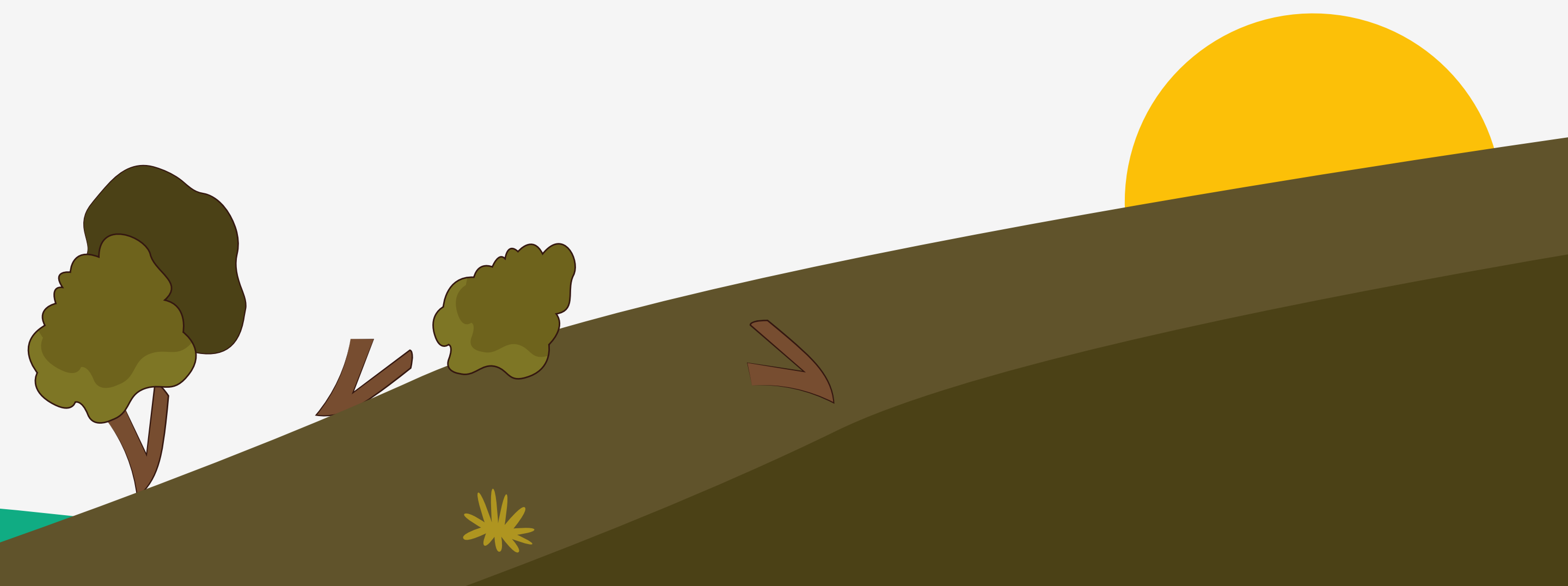
Women and girls in the communities suffer psychological, physical, and sexual violence mainly at the hands of settlers. Between 2018 and 2023, 35 cases of sexual abuse were documented, and in 2024, 58 incidents of violence against women were reported in 15 communities, according to the Center for Justice and International Law (CEJIL). Settlers kidnap women and girls, subject them to violence, and use them to reclaim land. The lack of justice is alarming. According to the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR), only 10% of the complaints of violence against indigenous women due to land conflicts are properly investigated.





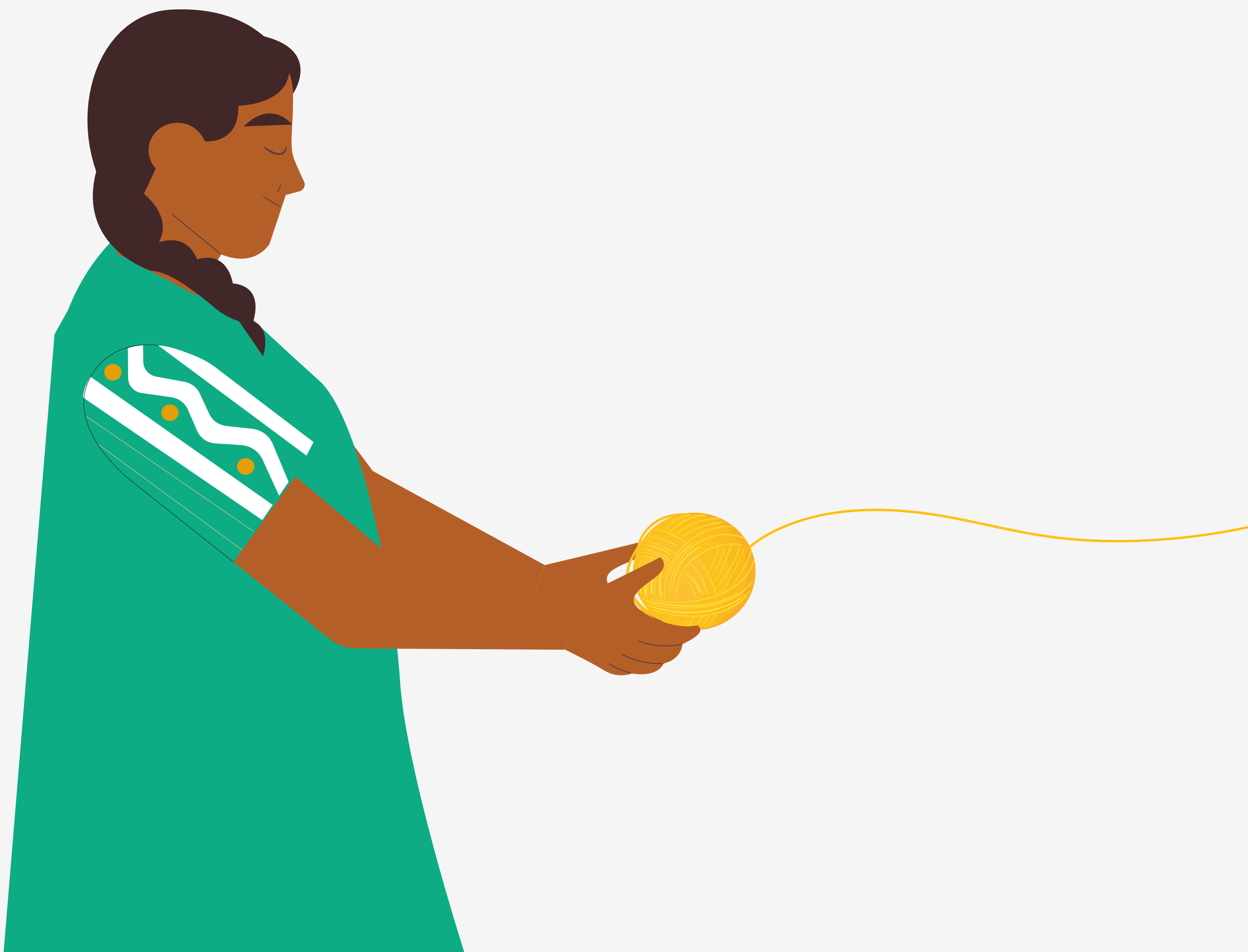
The negligence and failure of the State have placed us in a situation of vulnerability against the aggression and violence from settlers, the plundering of our lands, and stripping us of our rights. On multiple occasions, the State has become an accomplice and promoter of impunity for those who attack us.

In 2020, the path of hurricanes Iota and Eta destroyed dozens of communities and exacerbated our plight. These conditions in Nicaragua have forced us to move within and outside of the country, together with our families, to Honduras and Costa Rica. In our destination countries, we have also encountered numerous challenges in integrating into our host societies.



WHY AN INDIGENOUS WOMEN'S AGENDA?

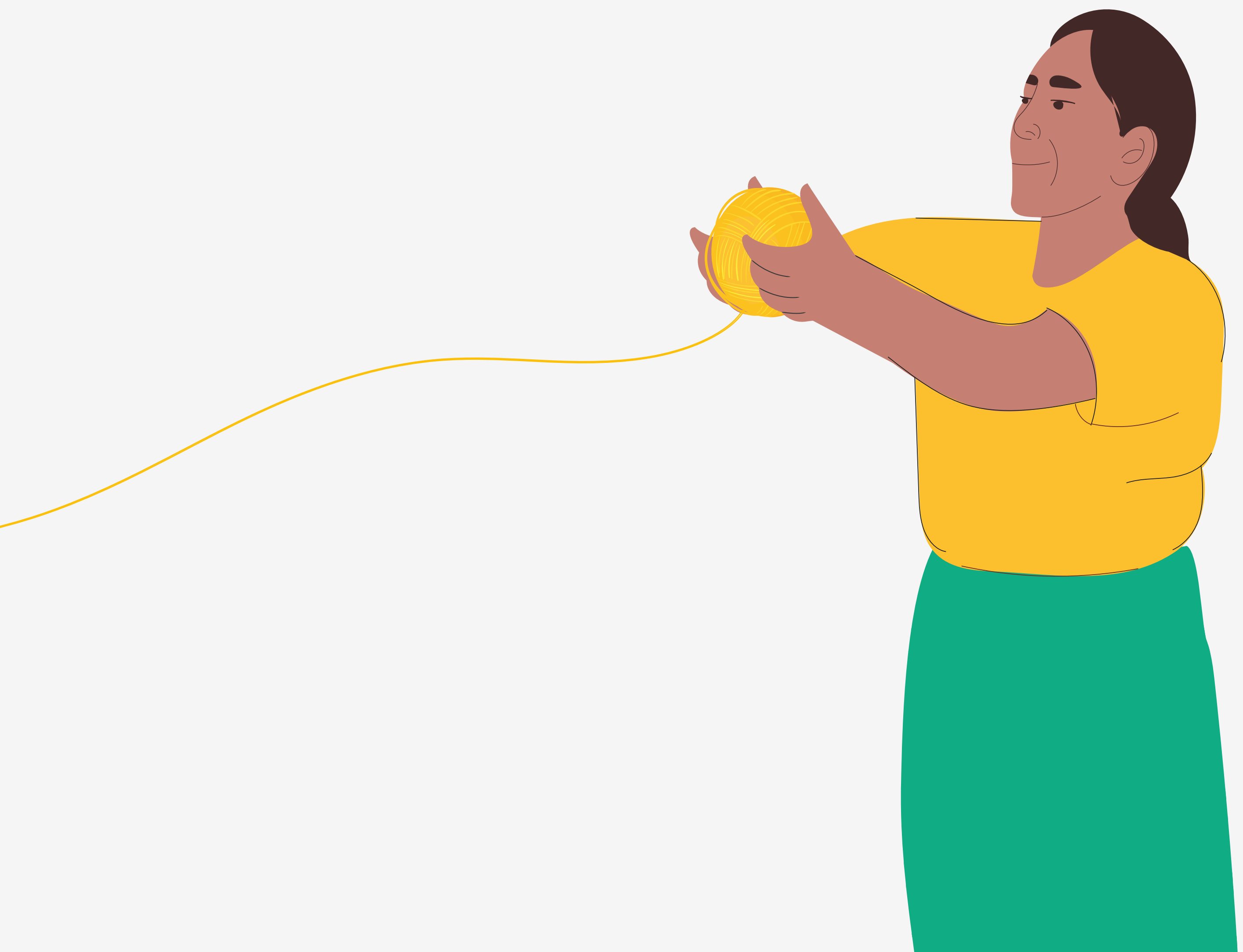
The agenda is the result of reflection and dialogue among 23 indigenous women from the Miskitu community of the North Caribbean of Nicaragua, who are refugees in Costa Rica. We met to discuss our reality and how to improve it. We seek to guarantee the exercise of our rights and inclusion as protagonists in the construction of peace and democracy in our communities in Nicaragua, in addition to improving our living conditions and our rights in Costa Rica.



ACTION AGENDA FOR THE PROTECTION OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN

In the following lines, we present the challenges we face as indigenous women in the face of the violence experienced in Nicaragua, the conditions of forced displacement, and integration in Costa Rica.

Along with the challenges, we propose actions that we hope to carry out with the cooperation and support of Nicaraguan civil society organizations, women's groups, Costa Rican authorities, and international actors.



CHALLENGES

ACTIONS



PROTECTION IN THE FORCED DISPLACEMENT



EMPOWERMENT OF INDIGENOUS WOMEN

- Promote regular dialogues between the community of displaced Indigenous women in Costa Rica with human rights organizations and Costa Rican authorities to arrange support in migratory and humanitarian matters..
- Restart the national and international debate on the need to grant refugee status to people displaced by events related to climate change.
- Guarantee the full right to health and education for Indigenous women and their children, as well as ensure the full exercise of other fundamental rights, such as equality before the law.
- Hold informative meetings to learn about our rights and ways to defend them both in Nicaragua and Costa Rica.
- Accede to psycho-emotional support and self-care tools due to constant exposure to violence.
- Generate initiatives for the development of skills and capacities that provide Indigenous women with access to decent jobs.
- Prioritize funding for political, economic, and social empowerment initiatives for Indigenous women in conditions of forced displacement from the international community and Nicaraguan civil society.

CHALLENGES

**PRODUCE AND
DISSEMINATE STUDIES AND
INFORMATION ON THE
SITUATION OF
NICARAGUA'S INDIGENOUS
COMMUNITIES**

ACTIONS

- Produce and disseminate information about the serious human rights crisis facing Indigenous women on the Caribbean Coast of Nicaragua with the support of think tanks, universities, organizations, media, and humanitarian agencies.
- Prioritize in the agenda of independent Nicaraguan and Costa Rican media, issues related to the situation of indigenous Nicaraguan women in both countries.

