# GENDER EGALITY COMMITTED TO WOMEN'S RIGHTS



# REALITY



WHILE ONE CANNOT DENY THAT PROGRESS HAS BEEN MADE IN TERMS OF EQUITY, NOWHERE IN THE WORLD DO WOMEN ENJOY THE SAME RIGHTS AS MEN. RATHER, WOMEN ARE RELEGATED TO AN INFERIOR STATUS AND ARE FAR TOO OFTEN MADE VICTIMS OF DISCRIMINATION AND POVERTY. PERHAPS THE MOST APPARENT IS WOMEN'S LACK OF WEALTH, POWER AND KNOWLEDGE WITHIN THEIR FAMILIES AND SOCIETY. WHEN THEIR STATUS IS REINFORCED BY SOCIAL, CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS NORMS AND MAINTAINED BY A LACK OF WILLINGNESS ON THE PART OF AUTHORITIES TO INITIATE CHANGE, FATALISM TENDS TO SETTLE IN.

## OUR COMMITMENT

CECI SAYS NO TO THE STATUS QUO AND PROMOTES THE POLI-TICAL, SOCIAL, ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL ADVANCEMENT OF ALL PEOPLE, IN ALL SOCIETIES.

SINCE 1992, CECI HAS PURSUED ITS OWN GENDER EQUALITY POLICY. THIS POLICY HAS BEEN USED TO DEVELOP A COMMON VISION AND INTERVENTION MODEL WE APPLY TO ALL OUR PROJECTS.

## **WEALTH**

#### **FIGHT AGAINST POVERTY**

Women have more equitable access to resources and related development opportunities. → They are more financially independent.

## **POWER**

#### **VIOLENCE PREVENTION**

Women who have been victims of violence can turn to health and legal services. →
They can receive care with dignity and combat impunity.

## **KNOWLEDGE**

### **RAISED STATUS**

Many women participate and are included and active in associations, organizations, cooperatives and political offices. → They defend their rights and pursue equality.

#### **ACCESS TO EDUCATION**

Women and their daughters flourish in an environment that supports their education. → They cease to be marginalized and actively participate in the development of their society.



# **OUR ACTIONS**



FOR OVER FIVE DECADES, CECI HAS PROMOTED WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT BY WORKING WITH FAMILIES, COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS. WE MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS AS WELL AS STRATEGIC INTERESTS RELATED TO STATUS.

# **♥** MALI, NIGER, BURKINA FASO

## SUPPORTING COOPERA-TIVES FOR WOMEN SHEA PRODUCERS

Not only has this project increased the economic and social power of 75,000 West African women, it has also literally improved their position and status in society.

# 2 X MORE

WORKING WOMEN DOUBLED THEIR INCOME IN THE LAST SEVEN YEARS; 60% OF THESE WOMEN SAVED PART OF THEIR EARNINGS TO REINVEST IN OTHER ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES.



The awareness-raising initiatives helped me realize that women have qualities that are important for successful leadership. Not only is their participation a right, it is an asset.



An opinion leader, District of Nyamagabe, Rwanda

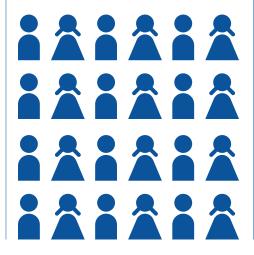
# Q GUATEMALA, HAITI, MALI, NEPAL, NIGER, SENEGAL

# CONTRIBUTING TO FOOD SECURITY

The inclusion of women in agricultural projects targeting hunger reduction through local economic development has opened up employment opportunities, some of which are non-traditional. It has improved women's access to resources that have produced results and income, improved their status in the eyes of men, and strengthened their self-esteem.

# + 475000

PEOPLE FROM VULNERABLE HOUSEHOLDS, NEARLY HALF OF WHOM ARE WOMEN FROM POOR REGIONS, HAVE DIRECTLY BENEFITTED FROM THIS SUPPORT.



# **♥ GUATEMALA,** EL SALVADOR, DRC, RWANDA BURUNDI

## PREVENTING VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND GIRLS

In addition to educating young people, leaders, authorities and associations and raising their awareness about the causes and consequences of violence committed against women and girls, these projects have increased victims' access to a greater number of effective health, safety and justice services.

## +84 JUDGMENTS

HAVE BEEN RENDERED IN TWO YEARS IN FAVOUR OF VICTIMS AND FOUR NEW LOCATIONS FOR WOMEN'S SERVICES HAVE OPENED THEIR DOORS.



**CECI.CA**