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FOCUS ON WOMEN

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Women in Latin America and The Caribbean



By Maxine Hillary, Washington, DC

The Latin America and Caribbean region has not been spared the effects of the worldwide financial and economic crises. The crash of stockmarkets, wobbly currencies, evaporating credit, failing exports, and plunging commodity prices have caused the economies of the region to suffer and decreased the amount of money Latin American and Caribbean people living abroad are sending home. It is clear that the economic indicators have had an impact on the women in the region who are even more challenged with finding ways to make a living and sustain their communities. Nevertheless, they are meeting the challenges head on, and with USAID support achieving success.

As well as engaging in industrial and service industries, some women are turning to agriculture and their involvement goes far beyond working the land. Women are taking the lead role in producing crops such as brazil nuts, peppers, and taro for local markets and exports. They are involving themselves in cooperatives and unions and entering into arenas that were once primarily the domain of the men in the region.

In this issue you will read about women who are learning new agricultural techniques, starting businesses, taking on drug lords, and creating safe and secure places for themselves, their families, and their communities.

With USAID's assistance, JA FARMS has taught sustainable agricultural techniques to women in Jamaica. In Mexico, microloans help indigenous women, and an initiative in Guatemala trains midwives in efforts to reduce the high infant mortality rate.

Projects ranging from agriculture development to educational assistance to business mentoring are providing the wherewithal for the women profiled in this edition to take on leadership roles, gain new skills, develop new products, and set examples for their peers and families. The empowerment of this sector of the region will most certainly benefit everyone who calls Latin America or the Caribbean home.

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The Force of Tomorrow: Peruvian Women Forge a Future

By Marcela Cardenas and Carla Queirol, Lima



La Fuerza women work on school uniforms.

How do you turn a place where drugs and guns are the rule of law into a progressive community where people can enjoy life without having to fear for their lives? You start with the grassroots and work on up. In Tocache, Peru, coca cultivation was just about the only way a family could support itself. Then the mothers and daughters joined forces to find another way.

“We have opened a big door in our lives,” says Gladys Gamarra, president of Tomorrow’s Strength, (*La Fuerza del Mañana*), in Tocache, a province in northeastern Peru’s Amazon jungle. During the decade when Tocache was a narco-trafficking and coca-growing stronghold, community women grew coca and led lifestyles which left them with ever-increasing violence and poverty.

Rosa Benitis, a 30-year old associate remembers those days. “There was a lot of money, but also lots of deaths. Sometimes you left your house and saw bodies floating down the river. There was no security anywhere. Life was worth nothing.”

The entrepreneurial association is made up of 30 community women and four men. Supported by USAID/Peru’s Alternative Development Program (ADP), it produces sheets, bedspreads, towels and clothing. ADP started a post-eradication project in Tocache in mid-2006 and now works with 153 communities that have renounced coca. The ADP contributed sewing machines and basic equipment to the budding association in 2007, which enabled it to get started.

Several of the women had to overcome their spouses’ initial resistance to the idea of them working outside the home. Some of the men, fearing that their wives would not be able to attend to their regular household and family duties, did not want their wives going regularly into town. This led to the association having two work spaces at first—one in Tocache and one in the community of Naranjal. Ruth Isminio, a 41-year-old member says that at first her husband objected to the long work hours, but he’s gotten used to her new schedule. She says, “Now he is content to get some attention when I’m home. Although sometimes when I arrive home late and tired, I go straight to bed.”

It took time to strengthen their organizational and operational skills. Eventually they won two contracts with the narcotics section of the U.S. Embassy in Lima for the production of bedding and uniforms for the Peruvian junior officers’ school at nearby Santa Lucia Military Base.

The results are significantly improving the quality of life for their families. The average income for each woman per month is between \$250 and \$700 dollars a month, while in the past they had considered themselves fortunate if they were able to earn \$100.

The association has been advised during the last two years by USAID/Peru’s ADP in gender and leadership issues, as well as administrative and commercial management. They also received technical assistance in industrial production of different types of garments.

The women are aware that their line of work has provided them not only with improved incomes and a much better quality of life, it has changed the way they view themselves and how their husbands see the role of women. Gladys Gamarra sums it up. “My work makes me so proud, sometimes I want to shout it out in every street.”



La Fuerza associates in front of their work space.

Peruvian Brazil Nut Producer Inspires Community While Expanding Her Business

By Peru Mission, Lima

When you think of agricultural products in Peru, you probably consider potatoes or corn. But one Peruvian has made a crop that bears the name of another South American country a success and proven that she can hold her own in a male-dominated industry.

Sara Hurtado is a Brazil nut producer. She has managed a Brazil nut concession (an area of land granted by the government for sustainable use and development)

“When I began to work as a union leader five years ago there was a lot of machismo.. As we worked together they realized that I was just as capable of them, if not more.”

since 1984 and served as a union leader for Brazil nut producers in Madre de Dios, a region in the Peruvian Amazon. She recently created a small company that produces candies and desserts made from Brazil nuts.

Being a woman in this male-dominated industry has been challenging. A single mother, Hurtado believes it has strengthened her family. “I am a father and a mother at the same time. My Brazil nut concession has been like a father to my children. It is my livelihood and it has made it possible for me to raise and educate them.”

Hurtado works with the Peruvian NGO, Amazon Conservation Association (*Asociación para la Conservación de la Cuenca Amazónica – ACCA*), which, since 2008, has received support from USAID’s Initiative for Conservation in the Andean Amazon. ACCA supports the Association of Brazil Nut Producers with Organic Certification and has granted 21 certifications to Brazil nut concessions, including Hurtado’s, giving access to quality markets worldwide.

The Brazil nut (*Bertholletia excels*) is one of the few resources derived from the Amazon tropical rainforest that yields significant volumes of production while keeping the forests intact, thus providing valuable opportunities for combining conservation and development.

Brazil nuts are a high energy, nutritious food. The oil extracted from them is used to manufacture soaps, shampoos, hair conditioner, skin moisturizers, and lighting fuels. The empty pods are used as implements and burned to repel insects.

Since management of Brazil nut concessions is largely a male-dominated activity, with only 30% of concessions in Madre de Dios run by women, Hurtado faced an uphill battle in being taken seriously by other nut producers. “When I began to work as a union leader five years ago there was a lot of machismo. People would say that women should tend to domestic matters,” she comments.



Sara Hurtado has created a brazil nut-based line of confections.

Hurtado was the only woman among seven other union leaders. Their doubts turned to confidence and paved the way for more female leadership. Says Huretado, “As we worked together, they realized that I was just as capable as them, if not more.”

Hurtado’s operation ensures a livelihood for eight people in her Brazil nut company, Sarita, which specializes in the production of Brazil nut sweets. She’s travelled throughout Peru to see how pastries and sweets are made using different ingredients. “I took a pastry course and learned to use shredded coconut. I wondered if I could do the same with Brazil nuts,” she explains. Now that I have given Brazil nuts an added value, I have work during the entire year, not just during the three months of harvest.”

Her success did not come without a considerable marketing effort. She made it a point to promote her product and to show its value. Her next big leap is into the world of exporting. Hurtado is part of a group of Brazil nut producers near Alegria who have partnered to meet the demands of the export market. She has also formed a group of 19 concession holders who have created a company that successfully obtained organic certifications.

Approximately 1.2 million hectares of Peru’s forests produce Brazil nuts, and nearly 900 thousand hectares have been concessioned at present. Each concession is granted for a period of 40 years and requires a management plan that can guarantee the sustainable use and development of the resource.

Rural Women's Group Thrives Using Protected Agriculture Techniques

By Ruth Chisolm, Kingston

“

It's not just a man thing!" say the members of the St. Thomas Women's Agriculture Initiative (STWAI) as they laud the agriculture techniques that help them to generate high quality produce to sustain their livelihoods.

The USAID-funded Jamaica Farmers Access to Regional Markets project (JA FARMS) is partnering with two government agencies, the Rural Agricultural Development Authority (RADA) and the Bureau of Women's Affairs to promote protected agriculture as a viable income generating opportunity for women in the rural community of Bath, St. Thomas. Protected agriculture uses physical barriers and other mechanical means such as hothouses and exclusion cages to optimize agricultural production.

Nearly ten years ago a national survey revealed that St. Thomas was one of the most impoverished parishes in Jamaica. Poor women and single-parent households were particularly challenged. The survey results combined with the thrust of a national poverty eradication program led to a series of community development interventions. The Bureau of Women's Affairs, while hosting workshops on its women's health and empowerment initiative in St. Thomas, recognized that job creation and employability were issues that the participants raised constantly. A women's agriculture group was among the suggestions for an industry. With the support of RADA and other local and international groups the Bureau was able to lease 30 hectares of land and the STWAI was born.

Shirley Duncan, director of the Community Liaison Unit, says the Bureau tries to take holistic approaches to women's development needs. "In establishing the group we recognized that in addition to interventions focused on health education, building self-esteem, and other self-development approaches, some of these women were very poor single mothers who desperately needed viable ways to earn a living." Agriculture was their opportunity.

In 2008 RADA introduced the Bureau to USAID's JA FARMS initiative and a successful partnership was created. USAID, through JA FARMS, provided a greenhouse and an exclusion cage to help bolster the group's crop production.

Wes Moses, Chief of Party for the JA FARMS project, says "Protected agriculture is a successful alternative livelihood in the sector and the St. Thomas Women's Initiative has successfully adopted the technology." One important aspect according to Moses is that the structures can be easily dismantled in preparation for a hurricane. Integrated pest management was also part of the group's training. Using techniques such as sticky traps and scouting, the use of pesticides was significantly reduced.

Moses believes the agriculture methods applied by this group will dissuade other farmers in the region from engaging in unsustainable farming practices in protected areas like the Blue and John Crow Mountains.



Trellising is another agriculture technique participants learn at JA Farms.

Farming techniques were not the only skills learned during the training. Says Duncan, "The JA FARMS team helped the group access markets, showed them how to package their produce, and how to establish market linkages with suppliers who want quality and consistent produce from a sustainable and environmentally-friendly source. The training also guides them through the sales process with purchasing managers as opposed to selling to 'middlemen.'"

The STWAI is made up of seven women and one male, ages 28 to 70. Members are confident that the group will grow and that production capacity will expand.

Karen Hilliard, Mission Director of USAID/Jamaica, sees this as a sustainable venture that is making a remarkable impact. "At the end of the day, when the project itself ends, these women will still have training that they can pass on to others. Through the JA FARMS project, RADA now has extension officers who are well trained in protected agriculture techniques, and equipped with greenhouse extension kits and laptops, so they can develop and guide other protected agriculture initiatives like this one."



Protected agriculture has increased pepper production. JA Farms recently sold over 400 lbs. to a local Kingston market.

A USAID Agricultural Project Makes A Difference in the Life of a Rural Woman in Colombia

By Sandra Escandón, Bogota

Ruth Zapata's situation is similar to those of many Colombians who have had to contend with the conflicts Colombia has endured for years. A victim of the FARC guerrillas and the drug cartels, she and her three children had to flee their home and sleep in the streets and under bridges.

Her tragedy began at the age of 14 when both of her parents died. Alone in a world of illicit drugs, she found herself in compromised situations just to survive. She married a landowner who mixed cattle ranching with coca cultivation. Eventually forced to sell cocaine, she served as "mule," taping bags of cocaine to herself and transporting it from city to city at night.

Her husband set up a lab to process cocaine after realizing that processing is the source of real money for "white gold," as it is called in international markets. She became a "cocaine cooker." What she didn't know was that she was slowly being poisoned by the lead she handled processing the cocaine. Lead poisoning is the reason Zapata is afraid to sleep alone, to turn off the lights, and fears relapses of episodes of fatigue,

Ruth Zapata recently spoke at a public event and highlighted how grateful she is to USAID and the Colombian Government for working with her in one of the productive projects with lulo and how it's helping her family.

She ended her talk by telling the audience that the week before two people were tortured and killed in her area and that the assassins are after her now. She and her family are sleeping in different homes every night. She thinks her history with narco-traffickers who are losing ground in Colombia is following her and she is a target.

weakness, and semicomatose states that could leave her bedridden for years. During one such episode she recalls, "They had a priest give me the last rights."

Disabled, Zapata faces life only able to function with the help of the "old man," her current husband. He is both a laborer and her crutch as they tour their farm. Her illness has resulted in a permanent lack of balance, creating the risk of falls down the steep hillsides on the property.

This does not prevent her from inspecting the crops they have planted on the seven hectares of land that Incofer (the Colombian Rural Development Institute) provided for growing bananas, oranges, cocoa trees, and lulo (also known as naranjilla), a tropical citrus fruit.



Ruth Zapata walks the land where she and her husband raise legal crops.

The last two are produced with technical and financial assistance from MIDAS (More Investment for the Development of Sustainable Alternatives), an organization financed with funds provided by USAID and a collaborator with the Colombian government's Agency for Social Action and International Cooperation.

Zapata says the program has ensured that she and her family will live a life away from the trappings of the illegal drug trade. She looks forward to seeing her children grow into healthy lifestyles.

The USAID MIDAS program promotes economic and social alternatives to illicit crop production. The objective and approach of the MIDAS agribusiness component is to help agricultural producers and others involved in illicit products shift into legal activities or remain uninvolved in illicit coca and poppy production. Efforts are designed to provide responsible, larger, and new Colombian agribusinesses with an effective combination of financial, training, and technical support to help them develop new or significantly expanded businesses that will increase and sustain income opportunities in or near areas where illicit crops are produced.

To read more about the MIDAS Project Cntrl/Click on

http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/environment/IEEs/colombia/IEE05_21.pdf



First Vital Voices Mentorship Class.

Vital Voices Global Partnership Empowering Women Entrepreneurs

By Lilliam Baez, Managua

In February 2009, USAID/Nicaragua signed a one-year grant with Fundacion Violeta Barrios de Chamorro in the amount of \$59,032 to launch the Vital Voices Nicaragua chapter and to support the implementation of their economic mentorship program. USAID/Nicaragua provides support to Vital Voices Nicaragua in its mission to provide women with the capacity, networks, and credibility they need to unlock their leadership potential.

On July 9, 2009, Vital Voices Nicaragua successfully launched its second mentorship class.

Since their inception, Vital Voices mentorships have been a positive force for Nicaraguan women. Vilma López is a honey producer in El Sauce, León. Her mentorship allowed her to fully understand the value of honey production through meetings with important local development agencies that foster businesses like hers. One of the benefits she experienced was the broadening of a network that will help her develop and market her product. Says López, “The mentorship was excellent. We had the opportunity to meet people that widened our networks and to learn how valuable our business is... I was able to see that I have a business that can lead me to success--an activity that will allow me to better myself.”

Vital Voices mentee, María Isabel Saavedra, credits Vital Voices for igniting a creative spark in participants. Says Saavedra, “If we want women to succeed, it is ourselves who need to find a way how...” Saavedra opened a bakery in her Managua community that has created jobs and stimulated the local economy.

Vital Voices focuses on political participation, economic development, and human rights.

Their goals are to enable women to become change agents in their governments, advocates for social justice, and supporters of democracy and the rule of law.

Eugenia Podesta, Vital Voices Senior Program Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean, is headquartered in Washington, DC. She believes that Vital Voices is an important component in the empowerment of women in the Western Hemisphere.

“Vital Voices in Latin America and the Caribbean has provided a new platform and space for women leaders to grow and to help others grow. It is a space that offers the opportunity for women from different walks of life to come together and interact, and learn from each others experiences.”



María Isabel Saavedra and Piedat Aguilar show off their Vital Voices Mentorship Certificates.

“If we want women to succeed, it is ourselves who need to find a way how...”



In 1997 former First Lady, now Secretary of State, Hillary Rodham Clinton and former Secretary of State Madeline Albright established the nonprofit Vital Voices Global Partnership after the United Nations Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing to promote the advancement of women as a U.S. foreign policy goal. The United States Government, partnering with the Inter-American Development Bank, the United Nations, the World Bank, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the European Union, and other governments coordinated Vital Voices conferences throughout the world, bringing together thousands of emerging female leaders from over 80 countries. Vital Voices has trained and mentored over 5,000 emerging women leaders from over 150 countries in Asia, Africa, Eurasia, Latin America, and the Middle East. These women have in turn trained and mentored over 100,000 women and girls in their communities.

For more information on Vital Voices Cntrl/Click on <http://www.VitalVoices.org>

Youth Employment Program Provides Opportunities for At-Risk Young Women

By Adam Kubiske and Myrian Carvalho, Brasilia



Suellen Nascimento and Senhorina Joana Alves have both benefitted from the Entre Jovem program.

In Brazil, integrating women into the formal labor market is a much more difficult process than for men. Wages are significantly lower and discrimination in both hiring as well as promotional opportunities makes finding and building a career very difficult for women. One program is working towards reversing this trend.

The USAID-supported *Enter Jovem* program, a youth employment program committed to training at-risk youth aged 16-24 for the formal job market as well as the promotion of gender equality, is entering its second phase. Enrolling 6095 youth within four years of the program's start, 56 percent of the participants have been female. The program requires at least 50% of its participants be female. Gender equality is promoted throughout all program activities, either by alleviating constraints which negatively affect women in the classroom or by working towards mitigating time demands of household work on women through community efforts.

Coursework includes subjects that have been traditionally oriented toward females such as cosmetology and clothing design, as well as more male-oriented professions such as historic site restoration, civil construction, and renewable energy generation. Sales is also included because the flexibility of hours it affords facilitates Enter Jovem participants earning money while continuing their studies.

One participant who benefited from the program was 20-year-old Camila Araújo. Attending high school at night and working with the *Enter Jovem* program during the day, Araújo managed to obtain a job as a cashier and was able to work her way up to a coordinator position in just under a year. Next year Araújo plans to attend university to study public relations.

Similar to Araújo's story is that of Senhorinha Joana Alves, age 23, who was selected out of a pool of 40 applicants for a position at a Carrefour supermarket. Personal presence was key to her landing the job. Says Alves, "I learned many things, but essential was the key concept of posture, which is very important in the labor market." Alves entered the *Enter Jovem* program through an NGO in Olinda in the Northeast state of Pernambuco.

Suellen Nascimento, age 20, cites the benefits of her Enter Jovem sessions. "The program helped in my training [and] expanded my knowledge. It was very nice to have had that opportunity. Now I'm working in a multinational [company]." Nascimento studies clinical analysis at the Polytechnic School of Pernambuco and intends to stay in school while continuing to work in her current position.

USAID/Brazil and the NGO, American Institutes for Research working with private sector companies including Motorola, IBM, and Microsoft, and Bahia State Electricity Utility Coelba will continue to support the newly extended program, which is expected to benefit an additional 1500 participants in the coming months. Gender equality will remain a priority.

For more information about Enter Jovem, ctrl/click on <http://brazil.usaid.gov/en/node/323>



During an Enter Jovem conference, participant Jamile Ferreira describes her experience finding work.

Women Weave to Save Their Families

Weaver association helps Chortí women support their families and avert another hunger crisis.

Wende Duflon, Guatemala City

Drought and the fall of world coffee prices exacerbated the already extreme poverty that afflicted rural Guatemalan families. The resulting hunger crisis forced the Chortí Mayan women in Jocotán to make difficult decisions such as whether to spend money on food or medicine. The three dollars it takes to transport a sick child to the clinic became an insurmountable challenge. The five dollars a month women earned from the sale of palm frond mats in the local market could not even cover their basic needs, much less medicine to help their sick or under-nourished children.

In an effort to improve incomes in the area and prevent another crisis like the one a few years ago, USAID helped 30 female weavers organize into the Asociación Ajpatnar Chortí. The association now employs 400 Chortí women who produce up to 20,000 palm fiber sleeves for rum bottles every month.

Working with local organization Kiej de los Bosques (Protectors of the Forests), USAID gave the women financial assistance and trained them in business administration, organizational management, and marketing. Demand for artisan products increased along with production capacity. At the start of the program, 30 women made 300 bottle sleeves a month. Now, 400 women make 20,000. They have formed an alliance with *Industria Licorera Nacional*, whose Ron Zacapa Centenario rum bottles sport the woven palm frond rings and braids created by these entrepreneurial women.

In addition to the ornaments for the rum bottles, the women have developed articles such as aprons and purses made from recycled snack bags and other plastic bags. Women who made only grass mats to sell at the local market now produce a range of items for department stores and factories in Guatemala City.

To learn more about Kiej de los Bosques, Cntrl/Click on the image below.



Handbag woven by Mayan Chorti women from palm fronds.

Women in Guatemala

- Guatemala has a total population of 11.2 million, of which 49.5 % are women.
- The average life expectancy for women is 68 years.
- Illiteracy continues to be a problem that affects primarily women. The illiteracy rate for women in urban areas is 12.63%; in rural areas it is 49.42%.
- The unemployment rate for the economically active population in Guatemala is 6.4%. Women make up 3.8% of that population in urban areas and 2.5% in rural areas.
- According to a paper published by the Harvard Human Rights Journal titled *Sending Countries and the Rights of Women Migrant Workers: The Case of Guatemala*, as of 2000, women comprised 74% of the service sector and 98% of the domestic service sector. To read the article Cntrl/Click on: <http://www.law.harvard.edu/students/orgs/hrj/iss18/lawson.shtml#Heading93>



Maya Chorti women weave using palm fronds.

Good for Business and Good For the Environment

By *Eliana Stanziola and Rita Spadafora, Panama City*

Two years ago, Raquel Santana Rodriguez began applying best management practices learned through the USAID Improved Management and Conservation of Critical Watersheds Project. These days she's earning more than ever due to a dramatic increase in her family farm's productivity.

Her cattle are in better physical condition, a fact illustrated by an increase in their fertility rate. Cows are giving birth every 11 or 12 months, compared to the 18 months between calves before. Bulls reach record weights while production costs declined substantially. Prior to receiving the assistance, Raquel had five head of cattle. Now she is raising eight head of cattle in the same pasture, with ten more grazing on her farm.

With USAID technical support, Rodriguez introduced practices such as planting improved varieties of pasture grasses, construction of drinking troughs, and crop and pasture rotation. USAID-funded training helped her adopt good environmental practices that include live fencing, protection

My priorities are to produce the best quality products I can and at the same time protect the natural resources and biodiversity on my farm.

of gallery forests, and planting of native tree species.

Rodriguez also works at the Gatuncillo Producers Association plant nursery, which is part of the USAID-assisted Green Chain Nurseries. She and the other nursery members grow native forest species to reforest their own farms or to sell to others who reforest within the Panama Canal Watershed. The nursery also produces organic fertilizer made from chicken manure, as well as ornamental plants.

Percentage of active population by sector of activity (1994)

Central America :

Agriculture : women: 7 % ; men: 41 %

Industry: women: 19 % ; men: 23 %

Services: women: 74 % ; men: 36 %

South America:

Agriculture : women: 10 % ; men: 27 %

Industry: women: 14 % ; men: 28 %

Services: women: 76 % ; men: 45 %

Caribbean:

Agriculture : women: 11 % ; men: 23 %

Industry: women: 12 % ; men: 28 %

Services: women: 77 % ; men: 49 %

Source: *International Labor Organization (UN)*

Proudly, Rodriguez received the Clean Production Award for Small Businesses, given annually by Panama's National Environmental Authority (ANAM). This award energized her aspirations to raise environmental awareness in her community and throughout the country. "With better knowledge and everyone working together," she concludes, "We can build a better Panama."



Raquel Santana Rodríguez, a leader of the Cañones de Buena Vista community in Colón province and winner of ANAM's Clean Production Award for Small Businesses.

Women's share in the main professional groups (1990)

Latin America:

Professionals and technicians: 49 %

Administration and management personnel: 23 %

Office clerks and similar: 59 %

Sales force: 47 %

Production and transportation operators and manual workers: 17 %

Caribbean:

Professionals and technicians: 52 %

Administration and management personnel: 29 %

Office clerks and similar: 62 %

Sales force: 59 %

Production and transportation operators and manual workers: 21 %

Source: *Women's Indicators and Statistics Database (UN)*



Graduates of a midwife training program developed by the Guatemalan Ministry of Health with the support of the USAID/ Calidad en Salud program, which is placing skilled birth attendants in remote Mayan communities in Guatemala, pose with one of their trainers.

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http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/

To learn more about what USAID is doing to help women in Latin America and the Caribbean, check out some of our stories at the following links:

- http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/country/haiti/cohfel.html
- http://www.usaid.gov/locations/latin_america_caribbean/health/cam_report.html
- http://www.usaid.gov/stories/guatemala/fp_guatemala_casa.html
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- http://www.usaid.gov/stories/haiti/pc_ht_womensoccer.html
- http://www.usaid.gov/stories/mexico/ss_mx_loans.html
- http://www.usaid.gov/stories/paraguay/ss_paraguay_midwife.html
- http://www.usaid.gov/stories/peru/fp_peru_girls.html



Mayan Chorti women weavers have prevented a food crisis in their community. To read more, Ctrl/Click on the photo above.

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