



Human Energy®

Empowering Women in Latin America

Chevron's support of programs for women is helping transform ideas into economic success.



10,400 women

have benefited from our support of women's empowerment programs in Latin America since 2011.



Nilcinea Oliveira

"Today I see a better future for me and my family."

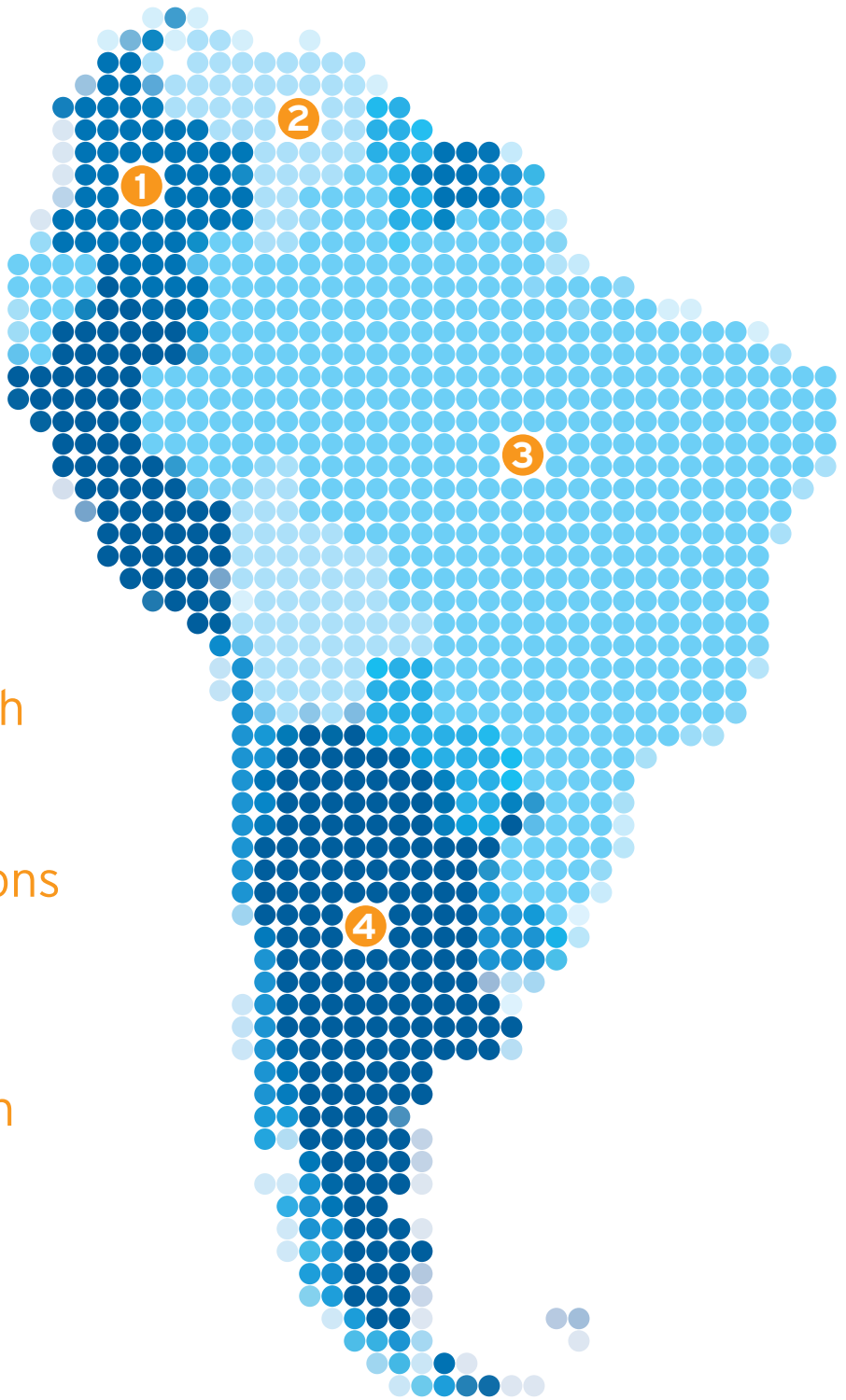
Nilcinea Oliveira was watching television in the seaside town of Itaipava in northern Brazil when she saw a story about how to make soap with used home cooking oil. In this port community, most men make a living fishing, but the employment opportunities for women are limited, and the report sparked an idea that would change her life.

"The story gave me the notion to make cleaning products by recycling the cooking oil to earn extra money for my children and my husband and to help the environment," she said. "I almost gave up on it when nobody was interested in helping."

In 2011, Oliveira and her friends received support to start their business through the Community Inclusion Project (Projeto de Inclusão Comunitária), a nonprofit organization that trains women in small business development. Today, Oliveira's company produces a full line of cleaning products and employs 19 women. Chevron partners with local nonprofits like the Community Inclusion Project and nongovernmental organizations in regions across Argentina, Brazil, Colombia and Venezuela to provide microloans, education and job training to improve women's livelihoods.

"In our region, women play a vital role in almost every household and in contributing to local economies," said Patricia Serrano, Policy, Government and Public Affairs general manager for Chevron's Latin American Business Unit. "The women's empowerment programs we support generate sustainable economic opportunities that benefit low-income families, foster gender equality and positively affect future generations."

World Bank studies confirm that women are more likely to share their economic gains with family and the wider community, which helps generate national economic progress.



Partnerships

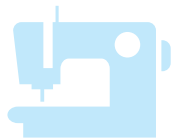
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1 Colombia

SAIL (Salud y Autosuficiencia Indígena en La Guajira)

Chevron partnership with Wayúu women's cooperative



2 Venezuela

Empreder
Empremujer

Dressed With Dreams
(Vístete de Sueños)



3 Brazil

Community Inclusion
Project (Projeto de
Inclusão Comunitária)
Rede Asta



4 Argentina

Entrepreneurs in Action
(Emprendedoras en Acción)

Contributions from women in the workforce

from 2000 through 2010 reduced extreme poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean by

30%

Source: World Bank

In the first decade of the 21st century, the World Bank reported, contributions from women in the workforce reduced extreme poverty in Latin America and the Caribbean by 30 percent.

Chevron affiliates and subsidiaries have worked in Latin America for more than 90 years. We have significant interests, operations and partnerships in oil and gas resource exploration, development and production in Argentina through Chevron Argentina S.R.L., in Brazil through Chevron Brasil Upstream Frade Ltda., in Colombia through the Chevron Petroleum Company, in Suriname through Chevron Global Energy Inc., in Trinidad and Tobago through Chevron Trinidad and Tobago Resources S.R.L., and in Venezuela through Chevron Global Technology Services. Our support of women's empowerment programs is designed to align with priorities established by our Latin American country partners.

Creating New Opportunities for Women

Chevron helps remove barriers to economic growth in communities in Latin America through direct business investments and by making strategic social investments in health, education and economic development.

"Our business success is deeply linked to society's progress. Through our support of efforts that improve livelihoods, communities benefit and so does our business," said Serrano. "We work with partners to identify needs and then invest in solutions that will create measurable and enduring value." And programs that make a difference for female heads of households are an effective strategy for reducing poverty, according to the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs.



According to the Venezuelan National Institute of Statistics, women there head 40 percent of households, the highest level in Latin America. For more than 10 years, Chevron has supported the development of Empered, a nonprofit organization in Venezuela that has trained nearly 7,000 entrepreneurs in project planning, marketing, finance and other skills necessary to develop successful businesses. This program is now active in four states in the country. In 2008, Chevron and Banauge, a nonprofit civil association, formed Venezuela's first entrepreneur network for women, called Empremujer, which has provided microloans and business development training to almost 4,100 women over the past four years.

"Chevron believes that supporting female entrepreneurship is one of the most effective ways of empowering women, positioning them as generators of wealth and as forgers of the future," said Harry Lopez, business development manager for Banauge.

Chevron also supports Dressed With Dreams (Vístete de Sueños). The Venezuela-based nonprofit trains formerly abused women to create and design clothing and gives them the skills to start their own businesses. The seamstresses' newfound financial independence benefits their families and employees. Dressed With Dreams has had an impact on an estimated 1,050 people since 2012.

"Every morning you have a new opportunity to start over, to take off the dress you wore yesterday, give it a new pattern, sew it up and put it on again. And now you're a new you. You're renewed," said Venezuelan fashion designer Alberto de Castro, founder of Dressed With Dreams.



Left, top: Susana Fuentes prepares food for sale as a participant in Entrepreneurs in Action in Neuquén, Argentina.



Bottom: After participating in Rede Asta business training workshops, Brazilian artisans such as Léa de Almeida Rocha Serra, left, and Ana Lucia Almeida Rocha have increased their incomes by creating and selling items crafted from recycled plastic bottles.

In Argentina, we partner with the Other Voices Foundation (Fundación Otras Voces), a nongovernmental organization, to support Entrepreneurs in Action (Emprendedoras en Acción). The program provides training in accounting, marketing, health and safety, personal development, and more, as well as advice on how to increase production capability by improving workspaces. Program participants are women from poor neighborhoods in the city of Neuquén who want to establish cooking and sewing enterprises that enable them to support their children's education and health care. From 2013 through 2014, our support helped nearly 200 women participate in Entrepreneurs in Action.

In Brazil, the income of women living in poverty accounts for about 40 percent of the total family income, according to Data Popular. Also, the Brazilian Institute of Geography and Statistics reported that households headed by single women, which account for 35 percent of all households in the country, are 70 percent more likely to suffer from poor living conditions. The Brazilian president has made economic empowerment of women a policy priority in recognition of women's contributions to improving the nation's economy.

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40%:

Total family income provided by **Brazilian women** living in poverty.

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Source: Data Popular

"The Community Inclusion Project in Itaipava gives us the freedom to be businesswomen, mothers and wives. I know more about business administration, such as how to calculate the prices of our cleaning products," said Oliveira. "Today I see a better future for me and my family."

Chevron's support of the Community Inclusion Project, which helped Oliveira build her business, benefited approximately 440 participants from 2011 through 2014.

In addition to supporting the Community Inclusion Project, in 2014 Chevron launched its support of another Brazilian organization, Rede Asta. The organization helps female artisans in low-income areas build small businesses by providing training, forming production networks and setting up sales channels. Participants increase their income by handcrafting unique furniture, jewelry, kitchen products and more, crafted from recycled materials with guidance from designers. Chevron employee volunteers conduct workshops with Rede Asta and its participating artisans to improve their business management skills, with a goal of increasing sales by 35 percent by the end of 2015. Of the 48 small businesses assisted by Rede Asta, our investment in 2014 helped support 11 businesses involving 55 women.



Chevron partners with a cooperative of Wayúu women to provide weaving materials, training and marketing support.

Empowering Women and Respecting Culture

Along the northern coastal area of the Colombian state of La Guajira where we operate, fishing is a way of life for the indigenous Wayúu communities. It is one of the country's most impoverished states. For nearly 40 years, we have worked with and among the Wayúu, producing energy, strengthening the communities' capabilities and respecting local customs. Our programs address community needs involving women's and family health issues and provide economic opportunities.

"Among the Wayúu, women have the responsibility to give continuity to our traditional and cultural heritage by teaching our children so we can guarantee they can have better education while keeping their cultural indigenous background," explains Danis Cohen, Chevron's Policy Government and Public Affairs coordinator for the Guajira District. Cohen, who is Wayúu, said, "Our health programs and economic programs are important to empowering Wayúu women and our culture."

Chevron, Texas Children's Hospital and Baylor College of Medicine support SAIL (Salud y Autosuficiencia Indígena en La Guajira), a pediatric health care program working with the community to decrease the high morbidity and mortality rates among the children and women of La Guajira.

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In 2013, Chevron received an award from Artesanías de Colombia, a government organization focused on protecting and developing Colombian culture, including the country's handcraft sector. Over the past four years, approximately 1,860 women have participated in the program.

"Our goal is to empower women by providing them the tools they need from the moment they conceive of their idea or business through its establishment and until we know it will succeed," said Serrano. "We are partners in the communities where we live and work and are committed to their prosperity."



To learn more about the Community Inclusion Project (Projeto de Inclusão Comunitária), watch the video at youtu.be/IGKaNP3tgmM.

- For more information about Banauge/Empered and Empremujer, visit banauge.org.
- Learn more about Dressed With Dreams (Vístete de Sueños) at Chevron.com/news/inthenews/article/10152013_chevronawardhelpsvenezuelanwomenbuildsmallbusinesses.news.
- Read more about the SAIL program at bcm.edu/news/general-news/chevron-baylor-texas-childrens-team-up and bipai.org/where-we-work/country.aspx?id=982.