

# IMPROVING RESPECT FOR WORKER RIGHTS IN AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAINS

THE SOLIDARITY CENTER'S U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS PROJECT IN GUATEMALA, HONDURAS AND EL SALVADOR

The Solidarity Center's program provides technical support to union partners for labor organizing, collective bargaining, legal petitions, advocacy and communications, and promotes compliance by U.S. trade partners in Central America to prevent and address competitors that use wage suppression and labor exploitation for an unfair trade advantage.

# HONDURAS

The Workers' Federation of Agricultural Unions (FESTAGRO) organizers helped workers form three unions in the palm sector. As of 2025, the three unions achieved legal recognition from the ministry of labor and are engaging in the collective bargaining process with employers to improve working conditions.

## GUATEMALA

The formation of two new unions in Guatemala's banana and palm oil sectors, despite employer intimidation, demonstrated increased collective action in the sector, and was an initial step toward winning improvements via dialogue with government and through collective bargaining.

### BANANA WORKERS

In a historic win for banana worker rights, the Union of Banana Workers of Izabal (SITRABI) successfully organized the first banana union in Guatemala's southern coast since 2007 and helped usher the union through its successful registration with the government in August 2024.

### PALM OIL WORKERS

Despite fear of employer retaliation, CONDEG organizers helped a group of indigenous Q'eqchi' palm workers form Guatemala's first palm sector union, ushering them through a challenging organizing process culminating in the official registration of the union and its inaugural constitutive assembly.

# \$3.2 MILLION

### USD IN BACK WAGES, SEVERANCE, & OTHER LEGALLY MANDATED BENEFITS IN EL SALVADOR'S GARMENT SECTOR

With support from Solidarity Center partner Worker Rights Consortium (WRC), the federation of Independent Associations and Unions of El Salvador (FEASIES) won back wages, severance and other legally mandated benefits that were owed to workers when two factories, APS El Salvador and Style Avenue, closed.



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