

COST-EFFECTIVENESS OF MEDIATING LAND CONFLICTS IN GUATEMALA

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GUATEMALA LAND CONFLICT CONTEXT

- >> Violence in rural Guatemala often results from disputes over land, which is central to people's livelihoods and identity
- >> Land registry title errors, competing ownership claims, and land legislation rarely favor isolated and disenfranchised indigenous communities despite historical ties to the land
- Need legalized land titles to obtain loans to develop land
- Mercy Corps partnered with local organizations beginning in 2003 to promote peaceful solutions to agrarian conflict
- \(\) Land mediation is core part of larger effort that also aims to boost agricultural productivity and economic development

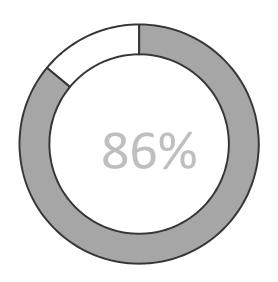
LAND CONFLICT RESOLUTION CHAIN OF IMPACT



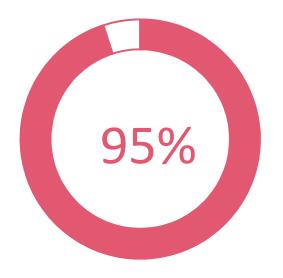


MEDIATION SUCCESS

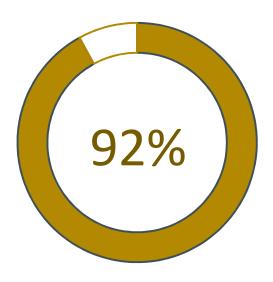
% of mediation participants who...



SAY THEY WERE "VERY SATISFIED" WITH THE MEDIATION PROCESS



WOULD RECOMMEND
THE MEDIATION
PROCESS TO OTHERS



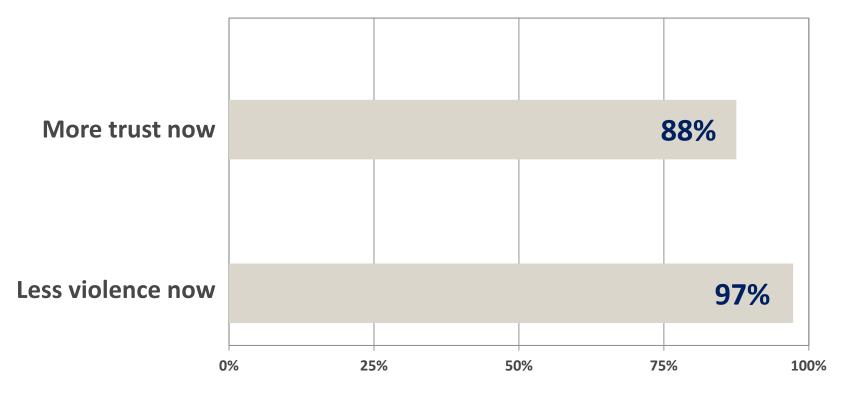
SAY BOTH PARTIES
COMPLIED WITH
AGREEMENT TERMS



Based on interviews conducted in October 2014 by Mercy Corps and local partner organizations with families involved in 42 land mediation cases (as a representative sample of 700 successful mediation efforts) in Alta Verapaz and El Quiché

REDUCED VIOLENCE AND INCREASED TRUST

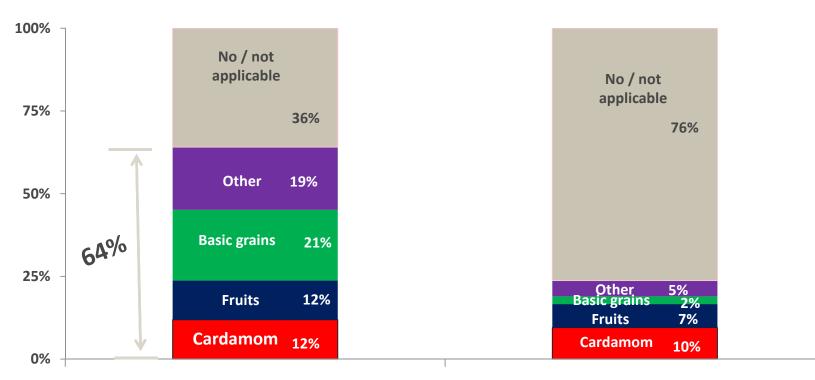
What impact, if any, has the mediation process had on the levels of trust and violence between your community and the other party?





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SOME EXPANDED CULTIVATION



Are there crops you can plant currently as a result of this process that you couldn't plant previously? Which ones?

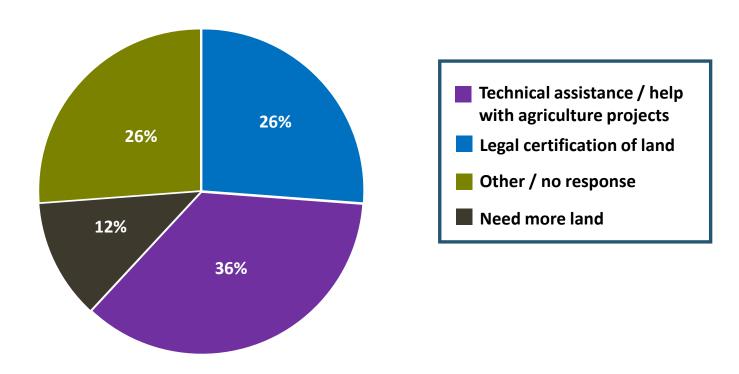
Do you sell crops that you didn't sell before? Which crops?



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ONGOING CHALLENGES

"What are the biggest challenges your community faces today?"





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COST-EFFECTIVENESS

- \$8,000,983 over 12 programs
- 700 land conflicts resolved = \$11,430 / conflict
- 32,796 families benefited = \$244 / family

Further investigation of cost-effectiveness should look at, for every \$X spent, what was the impact in terms of:

- Land titles acquired
- Crops grown and sold
- Lives saved

