

Amalia Gue de Teni





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Amalia Gue is the president of Ixbalam'ke, a cooperative of 65 women dedicated to the production of textiles using traditional weaving techniques. They live in the community of Samac de Cobán in Alta Verpaz and are inspired by the landscape and beauty of the region. All the women in her community know how to weave, having grown up around looms. Girls learn to weave using the backstrap loom by the time they are eight years old. The members of the cooperative maintain the intricate technique of gauze weaving, and the use of coyuche, or natural brown cotton, practices that are rapidly disappearing. They also have a project making smaller-sized looms for younger generations to continue to learn the tradition of weaving.