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Maria Luisa “Papusa” Molina received an interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Public Policy, Women Studies and Chicano Studies from the University of Iowa; she also holds a MA in Education and Development from the same university. Previous to her work at Instituto Kanankil as Director, she was the Coordinator for Academic Development at Universidad de Oriente and served as the General Director of the National Institute for Women from 2002-2006 in Mexico. She has also held different positions as professor, among them: James Watson Irwin Distinguished Chair in Women’s Studies at Hamilton College, New York directing the Center for the Study of Gender and Social Justice; professor at the San Francisco Institute for Integral Studies teaching in the Feminism and Spirituality Master’s Degree Program. Dr. Molina's early publications and research focused on the intersections of gender, race, class, and sexuality; most recently she has been engaged with the issues of research methodology from a Collaborative and Dialogic perspective