FROM CITIZEN SECURITY TO FOOD SECURITY: A CROSS-SECTOR DISCUSSION OF VIOLENCE IN CENTRAL AMERICA

WEBINAR CHAT TRANSCRIPT

JUNE 20, 2016
**PRESENTERS**

Rebecca J. Williams, InnoVATE

Ken Baker, Glasswing

Fernando Rubio, Juárez & Associates

Karen Towers, USAID/Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean

Isabel Aguilar Umaña, Catholic Relief Services
Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Hello everyone!

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Welcome to our Special Seminar today, June 20th.

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Thank you for joining us!

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: We are about thirty minutes until the official start time, so in the meantime please feel free to introduce yourself, your affiliation, your location and your interest in the topic!

Katy Heinz: Hi, quick question- my colleague ios trying to enter from Honduras, but she gets a message saying the conference is full. Do you know why that might be?

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Hi Katy- please tell her to try now. The room didn't open officially until 2:30 pm EDT.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Good afternoon, everyone! This is Julie MacCartee, Knowledge Management Specialist with the USAID Bureau for Food Security in DC. I'll be helping facilitate the chat box today. Looking forward to some interesting content!

Carlos Iglesias: hello everyone, Carlos Iglesias from "Store It Cold" happy to be here

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Welcome, Carlos. Store it Cold sounds familiar - were you at the Ag Innovation Summit earlier this month?

Anna Reiff: Hello all, This is Anna Reiff with Church World Service!

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Hi Anna! Thanks for joining.

Carlos Iglesias: that is correct Julie, our Co-CEO's attended the event

Liz Ramos: Hi all, this is Liz, INGENAES Honduras

Becky Williams: Hola Liz! My former Spanish teacher in Cuerpo de Paz :) 

Liz Ramos: Yes!! Hi Becky!! It is a pleasure to know about you!

Becky Williams: Igualmente! I'm glad that you are working with INGENAES. Hopefully we will link up on that project :) 

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: We will be getting started in about 20 minutes.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: I hear you well, Becky!
Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: I hear you!

Anna Reiff: all clear

Carlos Iglesias: Hello Becky, I can hear you well

Archer Heinzen: Sound is great!

Liz Ramos: I can hear you

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: To our early joiners - what interests you about this topic? How does it relate to your work?

Carlos Iglesias: Food Security is a big part of our business, Store It Cold is the home of the CoolBot, a wonderful technology that allows the operation of a cold room with a standard residential air conditioner

Carlos Iglesias: Cold storage is simple not an option for small/medium producers here in Honduras, because it is too expensive

Carlos Iglesias: with CoolBot they can get a cold room going for as little as Lps. 50,000 ($2500)

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: That's great. So important for reducing post-harvest losses.

Zoe Crum: Hi Everyone - This is Zoe Crum from Feed the Children's DC office attending with Andrew Winters, and Stephen Doolittle of Feed the Children

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Welcome to those who have just joined! Please let us know your org, location, and what interests you about the topic of violence and food security.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Welcome, Zoe, Andrew, and Stephen! Watching together in a conference room?

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: ALL - if you just saw a little pop-up box about how to join the audio conference, you can click "Listen Only"

Zoe Crum: Yup!

Anna Rohwer: This is Anna Rohwer, also from Feed the Children.

Pilar Useche: Hi all, this is Pilar Useche at Univrsity of Florida

Leah Germer: Hi all, this is Leah Germer from World Bank (Agriculture Practice) - thanks for hosting a webinar on this topic. I'm interested in the links between ag, climate, and migration, and think it'll be helpful to hear today about push/pull factors due to violence and food insecurity in Central America.
Welcome Anna, Pilar, and Leah! Glad you could join today.

A couple of intro polls for you all! Please take a moment to fill them out.

I am interested in how to works well in a community that is affected by violence, and how it affects the development.

Glenn Galloway says hi from the University of Florida.

Hi everyone, this is Carrie from Sister Parish. We don't do work on food security, but I am interested in how other sectors are addressing the issues of violence that affect all the communities we work in in Guatemala and El Salvador.

Hello everyone. My name is Crystal Mendoza and I'm an MBA student at the University of Arizona, interested in non-profit or NGO management. I have been volunteering at a temporary housing program for refugees from Central American and during my time there I have met a lot of women who are fleeing while pregnant or with their children, mostly from Guatemala, which is why I am interested in this event.

Crystal - very interesting, thanks for sharing. And for volunteering! Are some of the women farmers?

The other topic is, how to keep the persons safe while moving forward on development goals.

Hi Carrie. Glad there is cross-sectoral interest in this topic.

DEpt. of Int'l Law, OAS.

Please excuse any tech issues in the room - still getting a few things settled before we begin!

Are we supposed to be hearing you right now?

Hi! This is Adam from the Knowledge Driven Agricultural Development Project. I look forward to the event!

Julie - I have not personally met any farmers, or perhaps it never came up in conversation because they usually stay for about one night.

Hello everyone, I'm Davinsky de León and I work for World Renew in Guatemala. The topic itself is
interesting to all of us working in community development.

Elizabeth Poulsen: Hello all - I'm a project coordinator at the University of Florida for innovATE and INGENAES, and a former Peace Corps Volunteer in Guatemala. Interested in this topic for professional and personal reasons!

Stanley Kuehn: USDA NCBA CLUSA Coffee Rehabilitation & Ag Diversification Project El Salvador.

Daniella De Franco: Hi all, I work with TechnoServe on agricultural development and entrepreneurship projects in Central America. I'm interested in better understanding how violence influences women and men's economic decisions.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Welcome, all! Many different orgs represented here.

Marwane Zouaidi: Hello everyone. I am Marwane Zouaidi, currently an MA candidate at Penn State's School of International Affairs, and also an intern at CSIS in Washington DC. I am from Morocco, and as research has shown, the North African region is going to experience among the worst effects of climate change as it relates to food security. Needless to say, food insecurity and conflict are connected on many levels and I hope to hear many different opinions today!

Kevin Fath: Good afternoon, everyone. I'm joining from USAID/BFS. I am interested in this topic because I view food insecurity and lack of citizen security as mutually reinforcing factors in a vicious poverty cycle.

Stanley Kuehn: We are working in all the coffee growing areas of El Salvador and deal with security, employment and youth issues daily.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: We are glad you are all here for today's webinar. We will get started shortly. Throughout the event, please post questions and conversation points to each other and to the presenters using this chat box. If you have any technical difficulties, please start a private chat with KDAD A/V Tech (hover over their name and click "start private chat").

Jose Toasa: Hi all, this is Jose Toasa from the Inter-American Foundation

Archer Heinzen 2: I represent Co-partners of Campesinas, a small, all-volunteer non-profit working in vocational training in El
Salvador and Guatemala, not specifically in agriculture, but in an very violent environment. that affects our programming.

Marcus Laws: Hello everyone, I'm a Program Associate at NCBA CLUSA and work with Stanley.

John Vreyens: John Vreyens, University of Minnesota Extension. We are working in Kenya and Morocco on these issues. We are exploring youth and family development programs in Guatemala so I want to learn more about the context in Central America.

Salote Soqo: Hi, I'm Salote Soqo from the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). UUSC is a human rights organization. Our environmental justice and climate action program is investigating food sovereignty and food security as one of its main focus areas for the next 3-5 years, so I am here to learn about the extent of this challenge in Central America and determine what we can do to support and advance the rights of affected grassroots populations.

Debora Velis: Hi I work for Partners Worldwide in El Salvador and learning how to help farmers in areas of violence. Mostly in areas of poultry, vegetable and crops.

Abdulmojeed Yakubu: The political, ethnic and religious crises all over the world have constituted serious threats to global food security. Millions have been displaced and rendered homeless. Farmlands are being lost to incessant communal clashes while climate change is rearing its ugly head. Concerted efforts are needed to address these teething problems to improve the food security situation in all continents.

Lucas Wolf: Hello all, I'm the regional representative for Trees, Water & People. We are working on livelihoods and rural development projects in the CA-4, and our partners in Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador face significant security issues on a regular basis.

GLENN GALLOWAY: In case studies throughout the world focusing on the community-based natural resource management, we have found that security issues represent a common constraint to progress.

Alejandra Romero: Hi everyone, I'm the Regional Communications Fellow for Glasswing, and work with Ken.
Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Welcome, everyone, and thank you for sharing where you're from and why you are interested in today's Agrilinks webinar.

Daniela Montesinos: Hello all, I work for Save the Children in LAC- Child Protection for Latin America an the Caribbean

Katy Heinz: Hi everyone - Katy Heinz, specializing in communication with INGENAES

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: We welcome your questions and observations throughout the webinar.

Cristina Manfre: Hi All, This is Cristina Manfre from Cultural Practice, LLC. Nice to see my colleagues from INGENAES working in Honduras on this webinar.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Please know that any questions posed to the presenters in the chat box will be asked during the Q&A session towards the end. Please keep your questions coming throughout and we will ask as many as we can.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: You can also start individual chats by hovering over someone's name and clicking "start private chat". Please note, if you have any technical issues please start a private chat with the "KDAD A/V Tech" so that those without technical difficulties may engage on content of the presentation using the main chat box.

Clay Boggs: Hi, my name is Clay Boggs, I am the foreign policy staffer for Rep. Norma Torres (D-CA), who is the co-chair of the Central America Caucus

Courtney Dunham: Hi All, I'm a Senior Program Officer for Partners of the Americas. I'm looking forward to the webinar!

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Hi Clay. Glad to see the Legislative Branch represented!

Mercy Corps: Mercy Corps HQ - we have our Regional Program director for Latin America, our Senior Program Officer nad our Program Officer all online from sunny Portland, Oregon!

Felice Chay: Hello, everyone. I'm Felice Chay, RPCV Honduras and I also worked for 6+ years in Nicaragua. I've spent the last four years working for a specialty coffee importer in the US and have worked extensively with many producers, coops and private exporters throughout Central America.

Elizabeth Poulsen: Liz Sampson is that you (at Mercy Corps?) Hi from Liz Poulse,n hope you're well!
Mercy Corps: Hi!! This is Liz Sampson - great to hear from you!

Vicki Gass: Hi everyone. i am Vicki Gass, Oxfam America Policy Advisor to Central America

Cassie Welch: Hello Everyone, I am the Program Manager for the Global Food Security Consortium at Iowa State University

Cornelia Flora: Will we be able to download the slideshow after the presentation?

Mario Aldana: Hello everyone, i’m Mario Aldana working in IICA Nicaragua

Luis Gomez: Hey all, I'm Luis Gomez and I'm on a Project Management Unit with Chemonics International working on the USIAD El Salvador SME project

Rachel Lupberger: Hi all, this is Rachel Lupberger from CNFA!

christy olenik: hi all - here representing Making Cents International

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: All - we are recording this webinar and will send you a link to the recording in about a week, along with other post-event resources

Denise Zúñiga: Denise van Wissen, Nutritionist, World Renew Nicaragua--Hi to all!

GLENN GALLOWAY: Hi Cornelia, greetings from UF.

Mercy Corps: Is there sex disaggregated data for this chart?

Mercy Corps: on attendance rates by age in Central America?

Becky Williams: Hello Mercy Corps - I can give you a link to a report with the sex disaggregated data

Mercy Corps: many thanks Becky!


Ricardo Brown-Salazar: Hello everyone, those of you interested in Panama can send me an email to rbs@ufl.edu to add you to a new email list we have (Panama-L@lists.ufl.edu) focused
mainly in research, sustainable development and other
topics of interest in Panama. Also you can subscribe
yourself sending an email to listserv@lists.ufl.edu with
the line SUBSCRIBE Panama-L YourFirstName
YourLastName

Cornelia Flora:
Can the audio be louder? We can hardly hear.

Liz Ramos:
Thanks Becky!!!

Mary Ann Anderson:
Had to hear.

Susan Wesley-Vega:
difficult to hear, speakers can speak more directly to
mic, please?

Stanley Kuehn:
agree lots of background interference

Daniel Alvarado:
less breathing

Liz Ramos:
It is not clear to hear

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS:
Agreed, Fernando is a little hard to hear. Our A/V team
is working to see what they can do.

Hector:
Hector Ortega. I work for Oxfam in Honduras and I am
the economic Justice Programmmme Coordinator

Archer Heinzen 2:
Still can't understand Fernando

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS:
Apologies for the audio difficulty. Our presenters are
joining from different locations around the world. We're
working on it!

Paige Castellanos:
Hi All - Post Doc from Penn State here. I'm currently in
transit at the airport. Is there going to be a recording
available?

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS:
Paige - yes - we are recording this webinar and will send
all attendees an email with the recording, transcript,
slides, etc.

Paige Castellanos:
Great! Thank you!

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS:
Please post any questions for the presenters here!

GLENN GALLOWAY:
How is CRS measuring resilience in their YouthBuilders
program?

Davinsky de Leon 2:
Isabel, are you able to work in any place in Guatemala or
do you have an specific area of action?

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS:
ALL - You will see a photo slide show in the
Presentation window during this question-and-answer
session
Kevin Fath: For Ken: Can you expound on the role the private sector plays in these programs? What resources do they bring to the table? What role does the private sector play, if any, in your more rural project sites?

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Thanks for your question, Kevin

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Please note that in the YouthBuilders program, the average age of youth is 16-24.

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: In Leer Aprender, it is 15-24.

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: In a program I worked on in Cote d'Ivoire, the levels of violence from civil unrest massively affected food security programs because staff were waylaid in the capital.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: This is a good opportunity to bring up any topic you would like for our panelists to discuss. To remind youself of our panelists' bios, see the event page: https://agrilinks.org/events/citizen-security-food-security-cross-sector-discussion-violence-central-america

AV Monitor: Ken, are you able to employ or make use of any former gang members?

Ken Baker: AV - that is very difficult work. We know we have X gang members in our programs, but do not specifically know (we also have current gang members in our programs).

AV Monitor: Thank you!

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: That's interesting, Fernando: Using game and play in addition to teaching reading skills.

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: As you say, it keep youth fully engaged while building skills in the face of violence.

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Do participants experience the same?

Isabel Aguilar Umaña: Hi, Davinsky! We can work in all the country but we tend to prioritize areas in which violence or lack of opportunities are affecting youth!

Merrie Winfrey: Anyone else using a masculinities approach with young men to address gender-based violence?

Davinsky de Leon 2: Thank you, Isabel.

Becky Williams: Fernando Rubio: We target 15-24 youthOut of school youth left - were expelled from the school and are not
currently engaged in the school system and they did not have the chance to finish at least nine years of education.

John Attah: In Nigeria, violence takes different forms from terrorism in the north-eastern part of the country to civil unrest/aggitations in the south south part of Nigeria to the rustlings between small holder farmers and nomadic cattle rears in North Central Nigeria poses serve threats to food security in Nigeria as agricultural production has drastically reduced as people have abandoned their farms for safety.

Becky Williams: Fernando Rubio: We still face the fact that women are less engaged in education, but only in rural settings.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: John - how often are people able to return to their farms? Is the abandonment often permanent?

Denise Zúñiga: Thx for sharing about Nigeria, John Attah.

Fernando Rubio: Seasonal migrating youth return to their farms.

Fernando Rubio: Both we have no solid data from youth emigrating to the US.

Stanley Kuehn: Thank you.

Eduardo Ruata: At TNS we don't use masculinity approach, rather gender equity approach, we work large agronomy projects in the region and women do much of the work, the problem is that women don't have the opportunity to decide the use of the income.

Holly Christofferson: As part of our Gender work, Plan International does does a Positive Masculinities program.

Cristina Manfre: The USAID-funded Gender Agriculture from Policy to Practice (GAPP) project delivers masculinity workshops to both men and women in Wester Honduras. The project aims to improve policies at the local level and with in rural credit institutions to make them more equitable. Specifically policies that govern access to agricultural resources, like credit. The program also provides gender equality training but the focus on masculinity is the result of the recognition that we often overlook men in the discussion of gender equality. The project has been successful in establishing more equitable credit rules and in getting women's economic initiatives funded by local governments.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Thank you each for sharing.
John Attah: It is only temporal as few people are willing to take the risk of returning to their farms especially in the North East where there is occasional terrorist attacks, in the North Central there is still an ongoing debate in the senate to pass a grazing bill into law for nomads to ranch their cattles. In the South South part of Nigeria due to the bombins of oil wells by militants, it is polluting the arable lands there and making the lands less productive and they also suffer high impacts of climate change.

Fernando Rubio: Mistrust in the community is an issue. So, we need to work with local leaders first, and our personnel is bilingual.

Isabel Aguilar Umaña: Macho culture is a major risk factor... That's why we need to integrate gender and new masculinities approaches if we want to prevent violence.

Fernando Rubio: So, local promoters or local educators are speaker of either Mam or Q'iche', the two mayan languages we work with.

Fernando Rubio: Crisitna, would you send me material on the masculinities work? My email is fernando.rubio@usaidlea.org

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Also, feel free to share links to resources directly in the chat pod!

Holly Christofferson: Here is a link to Plan's Champions of Change program: https://plan-international.org/because-i-am-a-girl/men-champions-of-change

Fernando Rubio: Thanks, Holly

Abdulmojeed Yakubu: I think it will be of great interest if the The USAID-funded Gender Agriculture from Policy to Practice (GAPP) in Honduras is extended to a developing country such as Nigeria. My country needs many interventions in the area of agriculture to improve the lot of the common man. Empowering women and youth in the rural areas in terms of inputs and capacity building will go a long way in increasing agricultural outputs.

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Thanks Holly!

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: A PDF of the presentation is available now on the event page. In about a week, the webinar recording and transcript will be available here as well: https://agrilinks.org/events/citizen-security-food-
security-cross-sector-discussion-violence-central-america

Fernando Rubio: More on our project here, http://www.usaidlea.org/


Fernando Rubio: Here, a summary of our alternative education model, http://www.usaidlea.org/images/Enfoque_1_F.pdf


Richard Meyer: How frequently can violence be traced to immigrants to the US who were sent back to their home areas?

Kevin Fath: For any panelist: In what ways might food security or nutrition interventions best integrate with the work you are doing?

Becky Williams: Richard - InnovATE is soon going to publish a paper looking at the drivers of violence. It will be up on the InnovATE website soon

Fernando Rubio: A lot of anecdotal evidence regarding Richard's question, but lacks of hard evidence. There is imported violence, but difficult to say how much is imported

Kristyn Nanlal Khetia: Julie, can you add the links that others have shared as additional resources to the event page?

John Attah: @Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS; please do you have any reference document or program on integrating/helping farmers back to their farms after a period of Violence

Richard Meyer: is there a way that someone could note that on their calendars and send me the link when available? If so, thank you.

Becky Williams: I wrote the paper so I would be more than happy to email it to you. What is your email address?
Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: John - not that I know of, but I will ask

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Kristyn - yes, we will collect all of these resources and add them to the event page

Luis Gomez: To Fernando, are there any efforts to get women and girls into soccer/football as well?

Merrie Winfrey: Also, Richard, if you go to InnovATE's website: http://www.oired.vt.edu/innovate and sign up for our periodic newsletters and announcements, you'll get notice of our publications.

Kristyn Nanlal Khetia: Thanks Julie

Richard Meyer: meyer.19@osu.edu

Becky Williams: I will send you the draft

Becky Williams: If I forget my email is rjwillia@ufl.edu

Richard Meyer: thanks.


Lucas Wolf: thanks for posting that Briana, much appreciated

Ricardo Brown-Salazar: I do not like football soccer, when I used to live in Honduras between 1992 and 1998, and in 2000-2001, was uncommon to be long time with a group of people without them starting to talk about football... I went back to Honduras for 2 weeks in 2014 and it was a shock for me that now the main topic was not football... the main topic were horrible crime stories

Carlos Iglesias: Besides sports, has anyone ever tried or seen music programs to help at risk youth?

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: We have about 15 minutes left. Thanks to those who have shared questions and comments!

Karen Towers: music has been used in Paraguay and I believe in Venezuela
Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Back in college, I worked at an organization that did exchanges between at-risk youth in Seattle and Sao Paulo through music.

Fernando Rubio: World vision has a music program in Guatemala

Isabel Aguilar Umaña: Music has been a successful strategy in Guatemala and El Salvador...

Karen Towers: The Inter-American Development Bank did an interesting evaluation of their youth orchestra program in Venezuela

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Rap groups produced songs about their lives together, and connected over how to face violence.

GLENN GALLOWAY: Violence also places project participants at risk, for example, in forestry development projects.

Fernando Rubio: I think that our interventions must de-normalize violence

Fernando Rubio: As violence is part of the routine, people tend to believe it is normal

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: We have 10 mins left. Please take a moment to take our ending polls!

Isabel Aguilar Umaña: Besides CBT, focus deterrence has shown good results. We use the GRYD model in our Second Chances program

Kareem Mansour: Thank you!

Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: Thank you for your participation!

Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: For all post event products over the next week, go here: https://agrilinks.org/events/citizen-security-food-security-cross-sector-discussion-violence-central-america

Liz Ramos: Thanks for all!

Luis Gomez: Thank you everyone for the great information and different perspectives

GLENN GALLOWAY: Many thanks!

John Attah: A big big thank you to Agrilinks and our speakers, it has been a thrilling and highly educative one and half hour. Thank you to joining and feel free to continue the discussion on the same event page, at the bottom (requires sign in to your account)"
Becky Williams: Thanks everyone
Fernando Rubio: Thanks for the session.
Fernando Rubio: Great session
Julie MacCartee, USAID/BFS: If you have further comments about Agrilinks webinars and their utility for your work, please feel free to contact me: jmaccartee@usaid.gov
Davinsky de Leon 2: Thank you everyone!
Laura Ostenso, KDAD Agrilinks: Special thanks of course to Becky for facilitating.
Becky Williams: It was a pleasure

[End of Chat Transcript]