



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

Advancing Free Trade
for Asia-Pacific **Prosperity**

Strengthening Rural Areas as a Contribution to Food Security in the Asia-Pacific Region

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APEC Policy Partnership on Food Security

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I. Executive Summary

This report includes the work done at the APEC Seminar: Strengthening Rural Areas as a Contribution to Food Security in the Asia-Pacific Region, on the 20 and 21 of June, 2019 in the city of Chillan, in the Ñuble Region of Chile.

The seminar's main objective was to promote collaboration and exchange of knowledge for the development of rural areas, with a new paradigm of the rural world as a place of opportunities, favoring urban-rural connections and contributing to food safety. To improve the implementation of existing and future policies and strengthen the commitment of APEC economies with their rural territories.

The seminar was organized into three sessions which are described in this report. Below is a brief summary of the seminar's main actions and conclusions.

Over two hundred people participated in the first session, including local and regional authorities, such as María Emilia Undurraga, National Director of the Bureau of Agricultural Studies and Policies (ODEPA by its acronym in Spanish), and Martín Arrau García-Huidobro, Intendant of the Ñuble region. The presentations during this session offered a shared diagnosis of the challenges faced by rurality: climate change, rural-urban migration, aging populations, and economic gaps that are reflected in the wellbeing of the territories.

In addition to this shared view, each speaker presented valuable findings from research and case studies, such as the model developed in New Zealand, which considers the endogenous, identity and cultural values of communities and territories as a key element in generating income through a tourism that is more conscientious and aware of the space it occupies.

Another interesting conclusion was expressed by Chilean representatives, which identified the need to strengthen formal and institutional support structures for farmers, focusing less on economic incentives and more on producing a change in behavior and values, especially regarding awareness and preparation for climate change.

The second and third sessions worked with the group of APEC economies, and Italy as an invited economy, first sharing seven (7) local experiences in which main learnings, key actors, main obstacles and key elements of context were identified in different listening groups. Group reflections allowed participants to reach a shared view of current rurality and important ingredients in public and private sector initiatives that have beneficial impacts on rural areas: encouraging the local knowledge base, strengthening abilities, and rethinking public and private instruments that are still not contributing to closing the gaps. Rural entrepreneurs and extensionists as change agents appeared as key actors.

The focus of the third session was to reflect on what we can do differently. We asked the group of APEC economies to self-manage the conversation and present what they considered the key issues and challenges. As a result, the participants discussed 10 key issues

simultaneously, related to: opportunities for collaboration between APEC economies, the need for continued action focused on key demographic segments, addressing rural-urban dynamics, climate change, and a reflection on the focus of public policy planning.

The APEC economies were able to connect their needs, find opportunities for collaboration and create networks to move forward with issues that are important for rurality. The space for this exchange was highly valued.

II. First session: Challenges and opportunities to build strong and dynamic rural areas

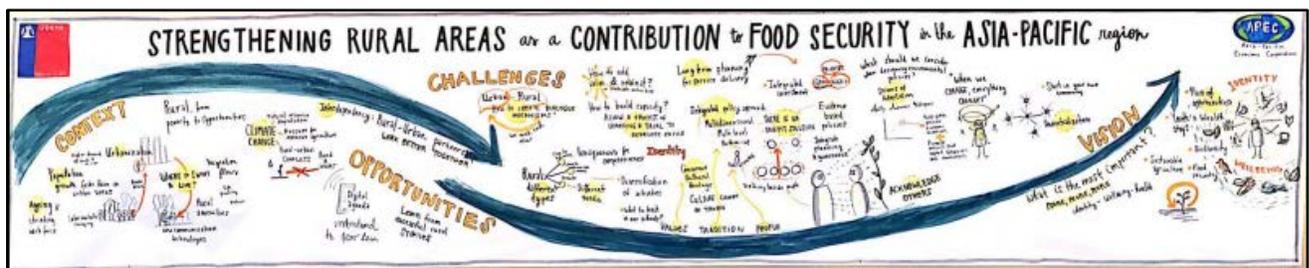
a. Objectives:

- Listening to international and domestic experts, sharing their experiences and knowledge related to rural development and its contribution to food security.
- Talk about the challenges and opportunities of the new rural paradigm.

b. Speakers

Speaker	Presentation
José Enrique Garcilazo (US)	Rural Policies and the New Paradigm
Gonzalo Valdivieso (CHL)	Economic Dynamism in the Rural Territory
Alejandra Engler (CHL)	Fostering Sustainable Development in the Areas
Kelly Barry (NZ)	Culture and Rural Identity Relevance

A graphic record of the session was kept by Josefina Maturana from Glocalminds, resulting in the following summary:



(Annex 1: Close-up photos of the graphic record)

c. Collaborative moment: Harvesting challenges and opportunities with Menti

Three breaks were designed between speakers to talk to a partner, then post thoughts

about the challenges and opportunities with the interactive online software called Menti. Some interesting phrases participants shared:

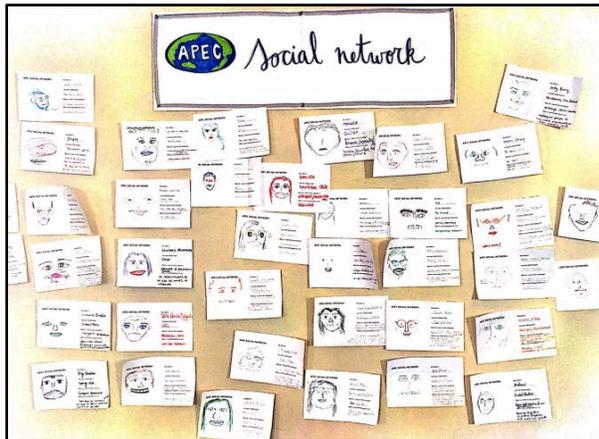
Challenges	Opportunities
<p>“Articulation based on the rural urban continuum and not as a dichotomous condition”</p> <p>“The challenge is to place people in the center of rural development, improving their life conditions in the rural sector with good public policy”</p> <p>“How to change our centralist culture”</p> <p>“Drive development from bottom up!”</p> <p>“Importance of ensuring high quality professors in rural areas, able to draw on local and intercultural knowledge and traditional experts in sustainable agriculture (elders) within field schools and other educational mechanisms that enrich rural experience”</p> <p>“Appropriate characterization of our rural community considering specific needs and then designing development projects. The presentation states that rural policies should not be generalized... because they are different”</p> <p>“We should work together with communities and create strategies and management plans to care for the environment we live in”</p>	<p>“Need for collective and cooperative actions to lift rural economies”</p> <p>“Develop resilient and sustainable rural communities built with the same rural actors”</p> <p>“Mainly change the focus from rural to urban, this focus helps to recognize that the origin of urban is rural”</p> <p>“Huge opportunities for recognizing rural areas (thanks to an effective typology) and implementing innovative policy“</p> <p>“How other sectors can help to have an integral vision of development. For example tourism with agriculture... Take advantage of the evidence... focused public policies. “</p> <p>“It is essential to change the training of young people to focus on the development of rural innovation”</p> <p>“We must observe and work with private investment, clusters as a driver of urban and rural areas”</p> <p>“Return to some ancestral practices which are much more sustainable than intensive agriculture. Bio agriculture. Include circular economy in agricultural processes”</p>

III. Second session: Different Rural Development Experiences to Consider

a. Objective

- To exchange concrete experiences and learnings about governance, projects, programs, and developed rural policies in the economies.

b. Social Network Activity



The facilitation team began the second session by presenting a few principles for collaboration and then inviting participants to interact, sharing information about themselves and making drawings of each other. (Annex 2: Photos from Social Network Activity)



c. Collective Stories Harvesting

During this session, the panel of speakers was facilitated using a social innovation methodology called Collective Stories Harvesting. The speakers shared concrete experiences and learnings around governance, projects, programs, and rural policies. The participants sat at different tables during the presentations, listening for different aspects: *Key Actors*, *Learnings*, *Conditions and Context*, and *Obstacles*. After every two presentations, participants were given time to speak at their tables and harvest information related to the aspect they were listening for.



Speakers
Marco Leonetti (IT)
Poomisakdi Rasri (THA)
Lincoln Marcelo Onofre Lagos (PE)
Toni Marcel S. Rimando (PH)
Vo Thi Quynh Nga and Truong Thi Thu Trang (VN)
Bette Brand (US)
Keri Iiti (NZ)

The main themes that emerged from each table during this session were summarized by our graphic recorder on the following canvas. (Annex 3: Close-up photos of Collective Stories Harvesting)



d. Main conclusions

Some significant elements emerged from these reflections. Among the conditions of context, the importance of having a long term strategic view and a multidimensional understanding. Also, any action, program or strategy being executed should respond to real needs built with a bottom-up approach.

The obstacles identified included a questioning of project sustainability, as they are normally developed and executed with very little time, weakening the coordination among actors and therefore the results.

As for key actors, beyond their specific identification, emphasis was placed on how they relate to each other, with growing collaboration in their communication and action, and looking for each actor to play a role as a change agent. This was considered one of the session's most important conclusions, together with the need for a bottom-up approach for any action executed by the central government or by companies.

IV. Third session: Workshop

a. Objectives

The second day of the seminar was designed as a workshop with the APEC economy representatives and guests, with the following objectives:

- Find common cooperation guidelines to continue strengthening rural areas.
- Generate collaboration links between countries to advance these guidelines

b. Individual review of the first and second sessions

To begin the day, the facilitation team invited participants to move around the room in silence for 10 minutes, observing the walls covered with information harvested from the previous sessions. Short documents were available for silent reading (Annex 5: Support documents).

Participants were then invited to answer a few questions in their journals. What is the most important thing I learned yesterday? What conversations do we need to have today to make a difference? What would I like to do differently when I return home? How is our work here connected to the food security of our children and future generations? Finally, we asked participants to share their reflections in groups of three.



c. Finding challenges to address

The facilitation team opened the space for participants to identify one main challenge for rural development in the APEC region and tell everyone about it in 1 minute. The room and the agenda were organized to create different areas where smaller groups could talk about the challenges, identify different aspects and then create an APEC Challenge Canvas. (Annex 6: a. Photos of APEC Challenge Canvas)



d. Harvesting Challenges Canvas

Over a period of three hours, 10 challenges were discussed in smaller groups. Then a representative of each small group explained their APEC Challenge Canvas and its main aspects to the whole group.



Following is a list of the 10 key challenges that were identified by the APEC economies, they have been organized into five more general categories. More details of each challenge in Annex 6: b. Complete canvas transcript table

i. **Opportunities for collaboration between APEC economies**

1. Assessment of political dynamics in APEC economies
2. How to encourage public-private partnerships in rural development
3. Fostering cooperation between rural people from different economies

ii. **Focus on demographic segments**

4. Fostering and prioritising the development of indigenous/tribal groups/ethnic minority people in rural areas
5. Empowering rural based women in their families and communities
6. Keeping youth in rural areas with a purpose + economic viability through entrepreneurship

iii. **Urban-rural dynamics**

7. Migration between rural and urban: want or need?
8. Understand urban-rural connections to improve policies that seek to improve the quality of life

iv. Climate change

9. Water

v. Reflection about policy planning

10. There is never time for good planning and execution, but we spend lots of time and resources trying to fix the unfixable

e. Messages to the APEC Ministers

The facilitation team asked the participants: if they had a chance to send the APEC Ministers a message to be read at their next meeting, what would they say? After taking a few minutes to write a short individual letter, participants were asked to team up with a partner and re-write a common message. Two groups were then merged and a new group letter was written. Groups were merged again and the final messages they wrote were read aloud to the group. These are transcribed below.

➤ To the ministers

Please resist political pressure. Listen to the voice of the people by acknowledging the value of rural communities including vulnerable groups such as indigenous/ethnic communities, youth, elderly and women in contributing to the economy.

Rural development needs to be people centred. Through collaboration we can develop solutions that address pressing problems and needs.

Rural communities will be able to thrive when people find meaning, belonging and employment, able to conduct business and access markets, and have good quality infrastructure.

This will support good quality rural life.

Love

From the Philippines and New Zealand

➤ Dear ministers,

In this difficult and transcendent task that you have ahead, please, take a minute to think about all the people whose lives will be changed for good because of your decisions. They hope for themselves a great future as anyone you know wants, and at the same time, they want to remain living in the rural areas where their family has been living before them. Perhaps you might give capacities to local governments to work their own development or you could adopt and implement the OECD new paradigm for rural policy. In closing, I leave you to carefully consider these following last words: give a man a fish, feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, feed him for a lifetime.

➤ Policy must be practical for every level and should think of infrastructure, technology, knowledge and all needs of rural people.

Giving them the room to make decisions by themselves before giving some help.

Be sure to acknowledge the role of rural people and diversity in rural development policy making!!!
From Thailand/Viet Nam

- We must focus on fostering rural development plans, but it has to be done with integrity (bottom-up) that considers best local practices



Annex 3 Close-up photos of Collective Stories Harvesting



CS Scanned with CamScanner

HARVESTING

ensure wellbeing focused on it?

Learnings

- Development needs full participation from every partners "PPP" (public-private)
- Knowledge transfer to local actors
- Participating approach
- Bottom up local solutions
- Horizontal talk approach between government departments
- What is better for families
- we are more & more concerned for rural development
- Big efforts among countries to define rurality be
- POLICY DRIVER: what is better for families

Infrastructure enhanced in reaction with each other

Bus formulas

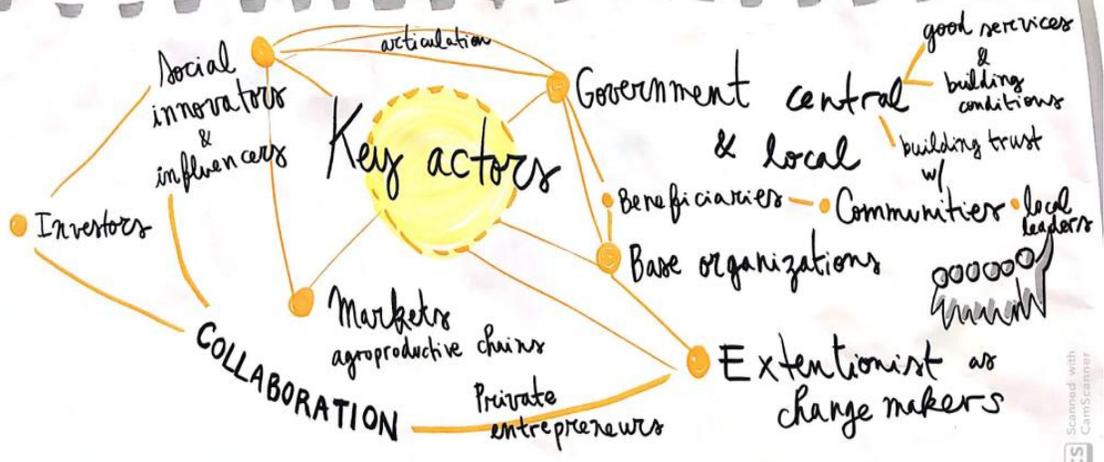
CS Scanned with CamScanner

Obstacles

- we can't work separately
- small markets
- lack of financing for entrepreneurs
- lack of services to approach companies
- short term support
- Projects w/ little time to achieve correct execution
- Companies to involve w/ territories. value chain
- Distrust in institutions
- weak coordination between government institutions
- How to achieve correct development in diagnostic stages

CS Scanned with CamScanner

Key actors



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Annex 4 Closing Circle: First session

At the end of the first day, the facilitation team asked participants to meet in a circle and answer the following question in one word: ¿What treasure are you taking with you today? The replies were:

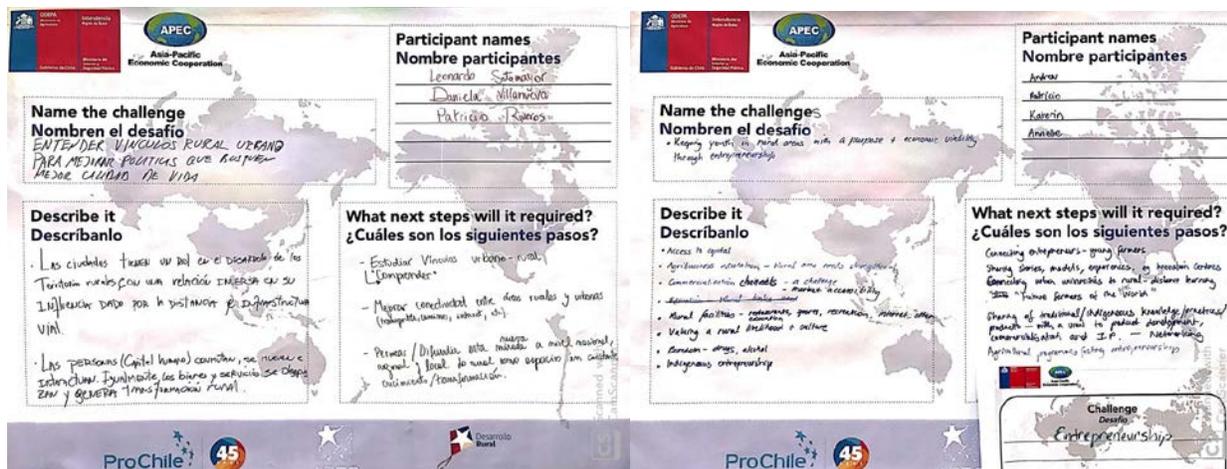
Richness	Interculturality	Collaboration x2	Passion	Partnership
Impressed	Innovation	Wellbeing	Together	Energy
Cooperativism	Bottom up	Trust	Economy	Leadership
Challenges	Perspective	Learning	Humanity	A lot of work
Experiences	Hope	Sustainability	Inspiration	Work and compromise
Action	Community	Alike	Power of diversity	Transition



Photo of the first closing circle

Annex 5 Support documents

- a. Strategic Framework on Rural-Urban Development to Strengthen Food Security and Quality Growth
Food Security Ministerial Meeting Piura, Peru 26-27 September 2016



Annex 6 b. Complete canvas transcript table

Name of the challenge	Description	Next steps	Speech
1. Assessment of political dynamics in APEC Economies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Buy in -Approach to make people invest in the implementation of projects -Motivation -Policy framework- followed/not followed -Political situation (information access, top down and bottom up) -"Shopping" for best practice. But can be a waste of time. Could be a mal adaptation if poor fit. -Agriculture results for 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Think of the future of the economy - "Go beyond politics" -Case studies must contextualize the political dynamics of each economy -Asses internal dynamics -Move from "shopping list" to domestically determined crafting of programs -Policies that transcend politicians 	<p>Assessment of political dynamics in APEC economies. We are sharing experiences and best practices to strengthen rural areas but first we have to assess how this is possible, assessing the political dynamics of each economy to understand why some policies work or don't work in different countries. People should have participation in the interventions that apply to them. Next steps: think about plans beyond politics. Think of the future, not just politicians but the welfare of the people. Most of us are from government, we will weather out the bureaucratic processes, we can put technical inputs to make it more scientific based than politically based to make decisions. We have to move from "shopping" for interventions to creating our own interventions. Get ideas from others but contextualizing how to implement them in our own economy. How policies and frameworks que that operate in different countries can be implemented elsewhere. Objectives that transcend political timing. Share practices and consider contexts to translate them to the local context in order to implement effectively. Look inside more than</p>

	economy or the person working the land, which is important?		look outside. Value what is being done within the economy.
Participants	-Marco Leonetti-Fernando Ulloa-Nikko-Nicole-Annette-Gabriel-Lincoln		
2.How to encourage PPP in rural development	-Asymmetric information, lack of information -Lack of resources -Lack of trust among stakeholders	-Joint planning -Responsibility sharing -Big farming groups -Contract farming	How to promote public private collaboration: lack of information, lack of resources, shared and collaborative planning; Lack of trust among stakeholders, large agricultural groups and more direct relationships between entrepreneurs and farmers to increase the quality of products.
Participants	-Rasri-Poemishdi-Panee Boonyaguakul-Trang Truong-Noa Vo		
3.Foster cooperation between rural people from different economies	-There are different understanding about what rural means *Idea:to put everybody on the same page before the meeting -People who live in rural areas they feel isolated - Isolation⇒innovation pristine⇒Interest ing sharing stories	-Use technology to communicate between countries *Idea: social media to make virtual communities digital	How to foster cooperation between people who live in rural areas in different economies. There is a different understanding of what rural means in different economies, important to put everyone on the same page. Could be interesting to have a spreadsheet with information from each economy, to arrive here with a more comprehensive idea of each economy. The problem in rural areas, is the feeling of isolation, make them more involved in policy design. Find a way to reach cooperation. It is hard to move people who work on the fields every day to faraway areas. Use of technology with social media.
Participants	-Marco Leonetti-Bette Brand -Gustavo Mendez		

<p>4. Fostering+prioritising indigenous/tribal groups/Ethnic minority people development in rural areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Indigenous groups marginalised/vulnerable -Many live in rural areas+remote areas -Empowerment to develop own solutions for prosperity -No one size fits all -What is good for indigenous development is good for the economy overall 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Diagnosis/assessment of current state -Language/definition -Incentives -A thousand cups of tea -Indigenous community involvement/led in whole process 	<p>Language use and definitions around what language we should be using. Tribal groups and ethnic minorities. Acknowledgement of what it means in different countries. What is good for Maori is good for the economy. Strong relationship between indigenous groups. Next steps: diagnosis and assessment of current state, language, definitions of words used. Language going into different policies, we are still trying to define for example "partnerships". Actions that incentivize indigenous participation. Community and bottom up approach. Relationship between indigenous communities and poverty. Special focus on these groups that play a special role in the development of countryside life. Task of economy diagnosis and policy design with the participation of the populations involved.</p>
<p>Participants</p>	<p>-Shontelle-Kelly-Toni-Nga</p>		
<p>5. Empowering rural based women in their families and communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Women work equally but don't have decision -Women don't have the same access to finances -Policies have changed the balance to improve women's decision-making participation - Long term change process -Thai programme eat well, wellbeing income -Viet Nam- women's union -Marginalised indigenous populations in a 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Better/specialized jobs in rural areas...but how? -Rural-based investment and economic development -Long-term projects and multigeneration thinking 	<p>Empowering rural based women in their families and communities. Each economy is quite different, policies and ways of empowering women. In NZ, there are PPPs to develop leadership workshops to grow capacities and confidence to participate in decision making. In Thailand, over 30 years they have changed the balance of power in decision making. These are long processes. In Viet Nam there is a women's union. Indigenous women, colonization and its impact, what it does to indigenous populations and what they need to do to move forward. Next steps: talk about what we are doing, women exchanges in APEC economies, make sure they are participating in decision making committees.</p>

	post colonisation state		
Participants	-Panee- Trang Truong-Lenardo Sotomayor-Rasri Posmisandi		
6.Keeping youth in rural areas with a purpose + economic viability through entrepreneurship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Access to capital -Agribusiness education-rural area needs strengthening - Commercialisation channels -A challenge/- Market accessibility -Rural facilities: Restaurants, sports, recreation, internet, others -Valuing a rural livelihood + culture -Boredom, drugs, alcohol -Indigenous entrepreneurship 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Connecting entrepreneurs - Young farmers -Sharing stories, models, experiences (eg innovation centres) -Connecting urban universities to rural-distance learning “Future farmers of the APEC world” -Sharing of traditional/indigenous knowledge/practices/products. With a view to product development, commercialisation and intellectual property-Networking -Agricultural programmes fostering entrepreneurship 	<p>Keeping youth in rural communities with a sense of purpose and wellbeing, entrepreneurship. Lots of different challenges for entrepreneurs in rural areas. Access to capital, agribusiness education, education centers linked to rural areas needs to be strengthened, agriculture not well considered for youth, they want to get out, they don't see agriculture as a value chain and business. Not just putting caps on cows. Commercial channels. Rural facilities, restaurants, sports, recreation, friends, internet, education and many other services that are crucial in rural areas. Valuing a rural livelihood and culture. Drugs and alcohol can be a problem due to boredom in rural areas. Indigenous entrepreneurship (Maori) is higher than in regular population, looking for ways to foster that. Next steps: connecting entrepreneurs and young farmers across the APEC region, sharing knowledge, experience, stories. Future young farmers of the APEC region. Connecting universities with rural areas. Sharing traditional indigenous knowledge, stories and products. Agricultural programs fostering entrepreneurship. Protecting intellectual property.</p>
Participants	-Andrew -Patricio -Katerin -Annette		
7.Migration between rural and urban: want or need?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drivers by: Lack of services -Low wages -Urban creep -Political preference for urban development model 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Better/specialized jobs in rural areas...but how? -Rural-based investment and economic development -Long-term projects and multigeneration thinking 	<p>Migration. Next steps: similar to the last group. Model of development that's not based on the urban model but keeping the rural area vibrant, more and better specialized jobs in rural areas, rural model for investment and development, many policies prefer urban development models. Need long term projects and multigenerational planning.</p>
Participants	-Abigail-Keri Iti -Lincoln -Nikko-Kelly		

<p>8. Understand urban-rural connections to improve policies that seek to improve the quality of life</p>	<p>-Cities play a role in the development of rural territories, their influence is inversely proportional to distance and road infrastructure -People (human capital) commute, move and interact. Goods and services also travel and create rural transformation.</p>	<p>-Studying urban-rural connections -Improve connectivity between rural and urban areas (transportation, roads, internet ... etc) -Permeate/publicize this new view at a domestic, regional and local level. Rural areas as places that constantly grow/transform</p>	<p>Understand the links between urban and rural areas to create policies that can increase the quality of life. Cities have an influence that change in rural areas as you get further away, because of infrastructure. People commute, influence of cities on rural territories. Goods and services flow between urban and rural, transforming rural territories. Next steps: study urban-rural linkages and try to understand them. Low intensity economies. Different cities and linkages between social, economic and others. Improve connectivity between urban and rural areas. Not just ministry of agriculture, also infrastructure, treasury, permeate all stakeholders and policy makers.</p>
<p>Participants</p>	<p>-Leonardo Sotomayor -Daniela Villanueva -Patricio Riveros</p>		
<p>9. Water</p>	<p>Effects of climate change -Access -Supply -Quality -Sustainability -Risks</p>	<p>-Rationing -Assessing the current situation -Changing habits (personal, local and political/government) Innovation/new technologies to address water issues -Finding means to generate potable water -Differentiate water use (potable/commercial/industrial) -Filtration systems to produce potable water</p>	<p>Climate change, narrowed down to water. Water is a life source and we need to value it as such. Also a key crucial enabler for development. Talked about current usage of water, needing to think about sustainable use. Key issue around effects of climate change and access to supply, quality, sustainable usage and risks associated to over usage of water. The Philippines recently entered rationing system to prevent over usage. Supply or availability of water, conversations with civil society. Needing to change individuals' habits. Innovation and looking at new technology or systems that can minimize water use but still achieve productivity and economic viability. Responsible use of water. How to potabilize water.</p>
<p>Participants</p>	<p>-Nicole -Shontelle -Toni -Patricio</p>		

<p>10. There is never time for good planning and execution, but we spend lots of time and resources trying to fix the unfixable</p>	<p>-Capacidad de quienes capacitan: efectividad y eficiencia</p>	<p>-Mercados -Alianzas estratégicas -Alianzas productivas -Asociatividad =Visión de futuro =Transferencia tecnológica Que funcione -Responsabilidad: \$Uso de recursos y resultados (Satisfacción productiva, Incentivo económico, mejoramiento tecnológico, acceso a mercados)</p>	<p>There's never time to plan well but we spend lots of energy trying to fix the unfixable. We are always looking for lower costs and higher prices, larger margin. Our best option is for us to be efficient producers, transfer technology for people to remain on farms, be more efficient. Why can't we do better? What do we need? Technical transfers are appropriate? I can teach them to produce, but if they don't have other capacities, they are not being productive, growing. We are missing the opportunity to help our people. Find markets, create partnerships with the private world, teach them to relate to each other. Educational process required for association. Keep efficiency in mind, capacities for rural areas, cooperation, productivity, not subsidizing but giving them tools to work on their own. Call to improve the quality of the work in rural areas. we need to plan ahead and stop trying to fix the unfixable.</p>
<p>Participants</p>		<p>-Carlos Cristi Vargas-Gabriel Parra Varela-Lincoln Onofre-Fernando Ulloa Rojas</p>	

Annex 7 Closing circle: Second session

In closing, the facilitation team invited participants to form a circle and tell the group ¿what are you taking with you from this seminar? Replies shown in the table below.

<p>When I arrived you were strangers and I am leaving with friends</p>	<p>Hoping to see you all again</p>	<p>Happy to work together</p>	<p>The most important thing in this world is people</p>
<p>Thank you for sharing your experience with us</p>	<p>Thanks for making me laugh and have a good time</p>	<p>Happy to know you and I have to learn English!</p>	<p>You are good people and keep fighting for your dreams</p>
<p>Thank you for the experience. .Remember the back-up of what we have and use it for everyone's benefit, you increased that back-up</p>	<p>Thank you, I learned. I've understood that rural development exists outside my economy.</p>	<p>Thank you for being here and sharing your experience. We will develop policy and take advantage of your experience</p>	<p>Thanks for what we've shared and the friendship. Rural development will allow us to have food safety. Thank you for bringing the best of each of you to this space. Hasta la vista baby</p>

Thank you for your passion	Grateful, hope to continue to be connected	Thank you for two happy days. Chile is fantastic	It is an honor to be part of this circle and I am inspired
Thank you for the experiences of friends. The best moments of my life	Thanks for sharing you passion for rural development. I hope to see you in the Philippines!	The very relevant issue of urbanization was touched upon. Thank you for your grain of hope.	Grateful for this day. These issues are the key to future development. I am hopeful.
Grateful and happy	I am happy, grateful and touched Grateful	Grateful, with new knowledge	Renewed hope
It is easy to become depressed with these issues, I am going home with the feeling that we can.			



Photo of the second closing circle