

Building Research Capacity & Increasing Joint Research in Priority Areas

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Recent Research Collaboration Efforts

UF- Colombian Institutions

Challenges & Opportunities

1. Florida Climate Institute -- International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT)
2. Master of Development Practice – Uni Andes/CIAT
3. UF Law school – UniNorte, UniMagdalena
4. Animal Sciences – UniNarino, UniAntioquia
5. Geology – Uni Nacional Medellin, Uni Caldas
6. Environmental Engineering – U La Salle
7. Materials Engineering – U Andes

1. FL-Climate Institute & CIAT

Climate change adaptation

- NSF: CIAT-UF exchange skills & info
- Collection of data on beans genetics
- Using genetic information and crop models to predict performance of bean varieties
- CIAT's role: data collection, on the ground logistics, feedback on models results.
- UF: supporting genetic information processing and Ag modeling

1. FL-Climate Institute & CIAT (2)

Climate change adaptation

- Helping plant breeders design plants according to climate conditions
- Project will be extended for rice (IRRI-CIAT)
- CORPOICA could benefit from similar
- Integrating this project into Ag-MIP?
 - combine climate, crop, and economic data to develop regional assessments of future climate change impacts on agriculture in the region.

2. Masters of Development Practice

Interdisciplinary solution to sustainable development challenges

- UF/UNIANDES/EMORY/COLUMBIA
 - Exploiting complementarities of similar programs
 - UNIANDES: targets practitioners that are already working in orgs. Students not available to provide service to private industry (SAB-Miller Brewery)
 - Opportunity to create field practicum for others
- UF/CIAT/COLFUTURO
 - COLFUTURO: Colombian students UF-MDP training
 - UF-MDP students research and community support in Cali/Popayan (CIAT) – adaptation to climate change

3. UF-Law School/ UniNorte/UniMagdalena

Building capacity in human rights

- USAID Higher Ed Development
- 3 yr, faculty exchange, training
- UF: helped UniNorte/Magdalena build human right curriculum into their law programs
- **Supporting collaborative research with their faculty**
- **Funded travel and publications (bottom line to Univ Administration)**

3. UF-Law School/ UniNorte/UniMagdalena

- Major outreach component: strengthen their outreach capacity to work with vulnerable populations
 - Brigadas: students participate in developing educational materials for vulnerable populations (know your rights)
 - Clinics in vulnerable communities (repopulated territories after massacres) to identify legal cases and build actions seeking access to clean water, sanitation, etc.

3. UF-Law School/ UniNorte/UniMagdalena

Building capacity in human rights

- Opportunity for Colombian government to support initiatives that started with USAID money
 - 3 Million US invested in Caribbean region, Antioquia and Valle del Cauca
 - Follow-up commitment, further coordination?

Other Experiences

1. Animal Sciences – UniNarino, UniAntioquia
2. Geology – Uni Nacional Medellin, Uni Caldas
3. Environmental Engineering – U La Salle
4. Materials Engineering – U Andes

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1. Science without borders /Brazil-Nexo Global
UF received largest number of Bolsistas of any other
US university)

Some Lessons Learned (1)

1. Need of interested and engaged faculty pushing forward on both ends
2. Often need of built in staff support (eg S.W.B)
3. Biases towards wealthier students
 - Funding to pay living expenses (e.g. reciprocal agreements)
 - English language barrier (UF Created new possibility to address partially)

Some Lessons Learned (2)

4. Faculty exchanges:

- Participate as part of committees in COL Universities, good way to start research collaboration
- Create curtesy, adjunct or affiliate positions
- Faculty reviewers/editorial board of university journals
- Question of resources (often institutions pay local costs each)

5. Bottom line of research publications

Some Lessons Learned (3)

6. DATA:

- collection
- access (collaboration of- and among Colombian institutions)
- standardization

Future research collaborations

Working as a network of LGUs for the future of the Colombian Rural Sector

Family farming, gender & child labor

- Traditionally view of agricultural sector as dominated by men
- Research reinforcing this view has relied on survey information that does not capture the role of women in agriculture
- Oversimplified view of farming systems and decision-making structure
 - Most agricultural surveys ask to interview the “head” of the household (*male bias*).
 - Questions at farm level, assuming homogeneous management of farm plots and ignoring joint management

Family farming, gender & child labor

- These simplifications yield rural women invisible to policy makers
- Tremendous practical implications
 - Who delivers and who receives extension services (access to information) (Blare and Useche 2014, MEAS-USAID Report)
 - Who is targeted by programs: training, technical assistance, credit, technology, marketing

Family farming, gender & child labor

- Today, monetary needs (a.o) are challenging traditional gender norms; women are more and more part of the labor force and men are more involved in child care.
- In rural areas, where markets do not provide same opportunities & services available in the cities, coordination between men and women for production and labor is key.

Family farming, gender & child labor

- Gendered land ownership and agricultural decision-making: Who are the farm managers?
(Twyman, Useche, Deere , *Land Econ* 2015)
 1. Large majority of women landowners in Ecuador participate in the agricultural decisions, i.e. manage parcels individually or jointly.
 2. Women's participation type depends on the form of land ownership and marital situation.
 3. Husbands' and wives' perceptions of women's role in ag decision-making differs.
 4. Women's asset property and off-farm work impact men's decisions & perceptions on their decision-making power

Family farming, gender & child labor

- No such studies exist in Colombia
- Land grant universities have proposed a cross-collaboration to analyze these issues as well as child labor in Colombia
- UF-Cornell-Penn State

Family farming, gender & child labor

- Betw 1.1 - 1.7 million children in Colombia are engaged in child labor.; primarily in agriculture, street & service work (2013).
 - Coffee, one of the country's most important and traditional crops, is one of the 2 agricultural products in the country included in the U.S. Department of Labor List of Products Produced with Child Labor
 - Cacao, a crop with major potential has shown to have the same problem in producing countries

Family farming, gender & child labor

- Our view is that child labor in the ag sector not only depends on monitoring & law enforcement, but also on household's structural characteristics
- Propose: a) to establish protocols for monitoring of children working conditions & school attendance at sectoral level; b) policy recommendations to change present socio-economic incentives - hhs labor supply; c) analyze impact of child labor on specialty mkt access

THANKS / GRACIAS