

## **IPM CRSP Trip Report: Ecuador**

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**Country Visited:** Ecuador

**Dates of Travel:** 5-12 April 2010

**Itinerary:**

April 5 Arrive Quito

April 6 Prep day at INIAP; drive to Guaranda

April 7 Day one of workshop

April 8 Day two of workshop; day one in the field. Visit Culebrillas (Illangama watershed), Bolivar Province

April 9 Day three of workshop; day two in the field. Visit Bola de Oro in Chillanes (Alumbre watershed)

April 10 Fourth and final day of workshop. Meetings with Gender team and LAC program PI.

April 11 Travel back to Quito from Guaranda, depart to US

April 12 Arrive US

**Purpose of Trip:**

Facilitate a Gender and Participative Methodology in Agricultural Research workshop for Ecuador team and strategic partners; initiate the Gender Global Theme research and Rapid Gender Appraisal; hold first planning meeting for FY 1 with IPM CRSP regional gender coordinator Elena Cruz and country gender point persons for Honduras (Yordana Valenzuela) and the Dominican Republic (María Cuevas). Set up graduate student from Virginia Tech (Megan Byrne) field research in Chillanes for June.

The goals of the workshop were as follows:

1. Increase gender awareness and commitment to gender issues in Latin America and the Caribbean Regional Program
2. Build host country capacity to increase equity, empowerment, and sustainability through gender-sensitive research and participative methodologies
3. Understand how gender issues and women's participation play a role in success of IPM objectives
4. Increase the profile of gender issues and activities in IPM CRSP programs
5. Identify gender-based constraints and opportunities in LAC Regional Program

### **Outcomes/Products of the Workshop:**

1. 4 day regional workshop on gender and participatory methodologies
2. Basic gender literacy among IPM CRSP RP researchers and partners
3. Exposure to qualitative gender research tools
4. Better integration of regional program team members
5. Rapid Gender Appraisal initiated
6. Networking and team building with IPM CRSP team members and strategic partners

**Sites Visited:** Community of Culebrillas, Illangama watershed, Bolivar Province and Bola de Oro, Alumbre watershed in Chillanes

### **Description of Activities/Observations:**

The workshop included local IPM and SANREM CRSP collaborators and collected data for two cross-cutting research activities for SANREM program (Technology Networks and Gendered Knowledge, Beliefs and Perceptions) and the Gender Global Theme rapid gender assessment using the Gender Dimensions Framework (Access and control of assets; Practices and participation; and Knowledge, beliefs and perceptions. The fourth dimension, Legal framework, was presented by regional gender coordinator Elena Cruz at the workshop). The workshop included two days of fieldwork where data was gathered by 24 workshop participants using the following activities: resource generator (using one-on-one interviews) and knowledge, beliefs and perceptions of soils (using gender-segregated focus groups to discuss two soil samples from the immediate vicinity and four different photographs from other parts of the world). The same activities were carried out in each of two communities, with 27 participants (12 men, 15 women) in Culebrillas, and 16 participants (8 men, 8 women) in Bola de Oro. Participants from the communities included youth and ranged in ages from 12 to approximately 65. The number closely matched what had been requested of the community so that small group exercises could take place. Participants of the workshop included IPM gender point persons from Dominican Republic and Honduras. They also consisted of IPM CRSP LAC strategic partners such as representatives of local NGOs including the Red Cross and Promoción Humana; government officials from the Mayor's office, the Ministry of Environment and the Ministry of Agriculture, and Bilingual Education; and the State University of Bolivar. (See list of workshop participants, below.) US team members Dr. Steve Weller from Perdue and Dr. Joseph Nelson also accompanied the group on field days, as did LAC PI Dr. Jeff Alwang. The latter used the visits to the two communities to observe farmer cultivation practices and gather data on field trials.

GGT coordinator (Christie), regional gender coordinator (Cruz) and country IPM CRSP coordinator (Barrera) agreed on Virginia Tech student spending 5 weeks in June/July carrying out research on gendered practices and participation; knowledge, beliefs and perceptions; and access and control of assets regarding pesticide use in Bola de Oro. This will serve to produce a case study and Rapid Gender Appraisal, both on the workplan for the GGT in FY 1. Carlos Monan, long-time SANREM CRSP collaborator and INIAP partner, now at the State University of Bolivar, agreed to make logistical

arrangements for room and board, while INIAP will provide logistical and technical support to and from Bola de Oro.

In the meeting with the LAC gender team (DR and Honduras and Ecuador, no representative from Guatemala was present), recommendations were made for the impact assessment socio-economic survey. Also, the following dates and coordination mechanisms were agreed upon:

Elena will present GGT requirements and workplan at the LAC IPM CRSP kickoff meeting in Honduras in May. Maria Elisa will have a revised reporting format out by May 3; Maria and Yordana will send annual report to Elena by August 10; Elena reports to Maria Elisa and Jeff Alwang by August 16, including the Rapid Gender Assessment developed in conjunction with IPM CRSP graduate student Megan Byrnes; and Maria Elisa will complete the overall GGT report Sep 30. The regional program will also contribute a module with readings (in English) and a PPT presentation on gender and IPM for the IPM CRSP website by the end of the FY.

USAID Mission representatives were invited to the workshop, but despite showing interest, did not attend.

**Training Activities Conducted:**

Program type (workshop, seminar, field day, short course, etc.)	Date	Audience	Number of Participants		Training Provider  (US university, host country  institution, etc.)	Training Objective
			Men	Women		
Workshop	7-10 April 2010	IPM team and strategic partners (governmental, NGO, and university)	12	12	SANREM ME in collaboration with local partners	Increase understanding of gender and USAID requirements and present participative methodologies aimed at increasing women's participation in CRSP research.
Focus Group	8 April 2010	Men and women farmers in Culebrilla, Illangama watershed	12	15	IPM ME in collaboration with local partners	Introduce and investigate the concepts of access to agricultural inputs and technology networks, and gendered knowledge and practices.
Focus Group	9 April 2010	Men and women farmers in Bola de Oro, Alumbre watershed	8	8	IPM ME in collaboration with local partners	Introduce and investigate the concepts of access to agricultural inputs and technology networks, and gendered knowledge and practices.

**Suggestions, Recommendations, and/or Follow-up Items:**

The workshop produced an extensive list of gender-based opportunities and constraints for our work in that region (see attached, with record of workshop activities). It also succeeded in illustrating the importance of working with women-only groups to increase the quality of women's participation; and the opportunity for women's empowerment when these present results of group work in front of a mixed-gender audience. In addition, it made clear that, despite the belief of the Regional team that no translation was required for working with the indigenous community in Culebrilla, in fact older women were unable to participate without a Quechua-speaking translator (of which we had several among our workshop participants). They concluded that it was necessary to send bi-lingual team members to work in that site for future activities. These and other institutional commitments such as including gender in curriculum and training of student researchers at the State University of Bolivar (see "Commitments for the Future" in workshop record) should be monitored.

List of Contacts Made: Participants in workshop

<b>Participante</b>	<b>Institución</b>	<b>País</b>	<b>Email</b>
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