

USAID/INGENAES Nutrition and Gender Study: Honduras

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My field practicum research will take place from May 8th 2017 to July 15th 2017th in rural, Western Honduras. Working with the United States Agency of International Development (USAID,) and the University of Florida, my field practicum will directly address gender. The project will be both research and development for USAID's Feed the Future project, INGENAES. I will be researching in the field while also presenting agriculture extension methods to two distinct regions, Santa Rosa de Copàn, department of Copàn, Honduras, and Gracias, department of Lempira, Honduras. My project will be focused on answering the question "how does masculinity affect the willingness of males to participate in gender and nutrition training and apply knowledge in the household?" In order to answer this question, I will go about taking surveys and hosting focus groups in the areas surrounding both Santa Rosa de Copàn and Gracias. The surveys will try to answer questions regarding the effectiveness of agriculture development in relation towards gender in rural Honduras. This project was envisioned because it is theorized that development workshops have been focused mainly on women, and we want to figure out if men have any participation as well. We want to see how agriculture development affects males in rural Honduras, as well as measure if said males are participating negatively or positively with other development projects in their communities.

The data will be collected in two distinct districts to check for variations and similarities. I will be administering surveys in randomly selected communities in intervals of up to 20km, 40km, and 60km from each city center. The random community selection will be implemented in order to eliminate potential biases while obtaining data that is more accurate for USAID and the University of Florida. The communities selected will be under 200 households each, and the houses surveyed will be required to have at least one male over the age of 18 residing at them. Every other community surveyed will also participate in a focus group to add qualitative data to the quantitative survey data. I am planning to Survey around 300 households, while hosting around 12 focus groups in total (6 male and 6 female.)

The workshop trainings component of the project will come in the form of gender, nutrition, and agriculture-extension meetings with rural Hondurans. These workshops will be hosted by USAID, and I will be there to help teach and promote better farming practices through the lens of gender. Honduras is currently facing a feminizing shift in its agricultural lifestyle because more and more, the men are moving to the cities for the male-dominated job market, leaving the women behind to watch after the farms. The workshops, surveys, and focus groups will ultimately look into the developing world of the rural-agrarian lifestyle of both female and male Hondurans.

Once all the data is collected and assembled, the project will conclude with future policy recommendations for USAID in terms of agriculture, gender, and nutritional workshops. The data collected will help paint a clearer picture about the current status of males in rural

Honduras, and whether or not they are benefiting from trainings and development projects from USAID.