# Expanding Livelihood Opportunities for Poor Households

### International conference on

The territorial approach in agricultural and rural policies: An international review

> Rome November 4th and 5th, 2010

Jean-Paul Lacoste, Ford Foundation





## What is the Problem?

- Worldwide, 1.4 billion people live in extreme poverty, earning less than \$1.25/day
- 75% of the world's extreme poor live in rural areas
- Many of these households earn their living from the entrepreneurial use of natural resources or by participating in the nonfarm economy



## Challenges Faced by Rural Households



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- Many rural income-generating activities are characterized by low-productivity
- Rural markets often do not work well for poor households on the input and output side

Most households lack access to affordable sources of financing for household and business activities

## Institutional responses to these problems have limitations

## Delivery of Financial Services

- Products often not adapted to needs of rural producers
- > Delivery channels are often inaccessible
- > Financing for each stage of the value chain is not available
- Provision of Technical/Business Development Services
  - > Often not available at all or not based on market principles
  - Lack of understanding of best practice
  - Retail institutions lack human resources to deliver the services

## Public Policy

- Typically lack of public policies focused on rural livelihood development
- Public bureaucracies often are not responsive to needs of poor producers at the local level

## The response from the Foundation: strategic grantmaking

- A commitment with the most marginalized, including women, the poorest of the poor and ethnic minorities
- An asset perspective
- Diversity of partners
- Innovation
- Long term commitment
- Building capacity
- Multiple approaches
- Working simultaneously at local, national, regional and global levels
- Scale

## Goals of the Initiative "Expanding Livelihood Opportunities for Poor Households"

- Aspiration: Reduce poverty of rural households and communities
- Long term Goal: Improve the infrastructure for the delivery of financial, business development, and organizational development services to poor rural and urban households



# The initiative has **FOUR APPROACHES**

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## **Research and Development**



### Approach: Research & Development

### **Grantee: Social Investment Fund (FIS)**

**Objective:** to develop an innovative business model for the massive commercialization of solar panels to poor rural households in Peru and Argentina



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### Approach: Research & Development

Grantee: University of California, Davis, in collaboration with the Government of Ecuador

**Objective:** To design and test an innovative index-based crop insurance



*I*<sub>4</sub> *Index Insurance Innovation Initiative* 





## Approach: Research & Development

## Grantee: SNV, The Netherlands and Ecuador

**Objective: To** scale up **inclusive business** development in Latin America through identification, systematization and dissemination of best public and private practices



## 2 Building Livelihood Support Organizations

## CATIE





### Approach: Impact Assessment

Grantee: Trocipal Agricultural Center for Research and Traning (CATIE), Costa Rica

**Objective:** To design, test and disseminate a tool to assess the impact of value chains on poverty

#### Approach: Building Support Institution

Grantee: Regional Program for Training in Rural Development (PROCASUR), Chile

**Objective:** For a cooperative learning model to promote successful and scalable practices in rural finance in Asia, Africa and Latin America

Proca sur

## **3 Public Policy Analysis** and Advocacy

#### **Approach: Public and Private Policies**

#### Grantee: Institute of Peruvian Studies, Peru

**Objective:** To promote well-targeted, demand driven financial services and profitable operations by public agricultural banks, improving access of low-income people to financial services in rural areas



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## Creating inclusive business opportunities: Linking local communities with big business



W B C S D - S N V A L L I A N C E Background and outlook

ABOUT THE

About WBCSD

About SNV

About this blog

#### Approach: Regional/Global Networking

## Grantee: SNV, The Netherlands and Ecuador

**Objective:** To disseminate best practices, share experiences, strengthen collaboration and make policy recommendations on livelihood promotion

#### Video footage of inclusive business in action

The Business Call to Action (<u>BCTA</u>) is a global effort focused on challenging big businesses to move beyond philanthropy to implement inclusive business initiatives that apply their core business and skills in a transformative and scalable manner, which in turn will enhance growth and contribute to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (<u>MDGs</u>).

atures a number of interesting videos displaying usiness in action. Find below a <u>three-minute video</u> BCTA and highlighting of the inclusive business es being pursued by participating companies. For Is on some of these initiatives led a.o. by Coca-Cola, Chartered, Vodafone, Thomson Reuters, and check out <u>this video</u> as well as <u>this one</u>.

#### ss Call to Action 2010 👔



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#### RECENT POSTS

Video footage of inclusive business in action

What prospects for pro-poor commercial forestry?

2010 event series on inclusive business

Charting a course to realize the full potential of impact investing

New support for inclusive business initiatives through Business Innovation Facility

Advancing poverty reduction

Extractive industries

#### Approach: Multiple

Grantee: Latin American Center for Rural Development (RIMISP), Chile

**Objective:** to increase knowledge, build capacity and influence public policies in rural territorial development processes based on cultural identity







## Thank You!

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