



AUGUST 2022

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES LAB REPORT RURAL INEQUALITIES AND URBAN PROBLEMS

Red de Apoyo Popular, Manos al Campo & Nanaykuña

RURAL INEQUALITIES AND URBAN PROBLEMS EVENT REFLECTIONS

PLANNING

Of all the events we have helped to organise, this event was the first that we had so many meetings to prepare to provide a webinar of great impact. This stage of setting the ground was very important to brainstorm and concretise ideas. We feel that each of us made personal progress in assuming a little more leadership and practising our teamwork dynamic. Having the support of the CIVICUS team in this process helped a lot.

CHALLENGES

The inequality gaps of the different territories were made visible, especially through the constraint generated by internet access. As well, for us, language was a big barrier. Despite having translators, these spaces of “development” expect you to speak in English, creating a gap for those who do not have these language skills.

For us, a great lesson is that Spanish-speaking people must take ownership and be visible worldwide through these events because if we don't fight and speak, we are not seen. We need to be visible and acknowledged to put our struggles on the global agendas, allowing everyone to work together for the common good without leaving groups with less access to international stages behind.



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SURPRISE

The participation of people from so many different nationalities was great. We had a get-together of people from 16 different countries, including Uganda, Nigeria, Congo, Zambia, South Africa, India, Chad, Pakistan, Cameroon, United States, Palestine, Canada, Colombia, Mexico, Peru and Kenya, something that on our own, would have been difficult to reach. The lively participation in the debate was more than we expected, so much so that the time was too short for more people to speak.

LEARNING

Despite good planning, some details were missing that complicated the understanding of the methodology by the participants. It is necessary to plan the whole event in more detail so possible problems can be foreseen. Nonetheless, logistical mistakes aside, we went ahead, solved the arising issues and looked for alternatives. Flexibility, adaptation and quick responses were fundamental to avoid getting stuck in problems and overcoming unforeseen events.

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PARTICIPANT QUOTES

How can we make them accountable (powerful land owners and big companies)? The option that we have as a community is to come together. We need to be resilient. They are the 1%, and we are the 99%.

We need to highlight that insecurity contributes to poverty. We count on humanity to help us to reduce poverty. One example is the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where the fields of our lands are destroyed due to state terrorism. Security is given more priority than livelihoods.

Transnationals have as their objective to privatise things and charge us for it.

PARTICIPANT REFLECTIONS

We need more spaces for meeting and reflecting together with activists from all over the world.

The performance session was really good for better understanding the land conflict that is experienced in many countries worldwide. These conversations are really important to create more awareness about the issues around land rights, like privatisation of resources, the negative externalities of companies in the environment, and the effects of capitalism on community development.

We need to build on people's power to confront landlords.

