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- Gender identities
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- Multi-resilience building & complex identities
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### Some general reflections

Confronted with global environmental change, globalization, urbanization and a homogenizing culture, the traditional narrow military security concepts is insufficient to deal with the new dangers. Poverty and marginalization is increasing, resources are getting scarce and polluted, and profit interests of small elites are creating a risk society. Additionally, gender violence is still the most common aggression worldwide. To deal with these new challenges an integral concept of security is proposed: Human, Gender and Environmental Security; a **HUGE** security.

Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE)							
	Determination	Mode of expansion,			Source(s) o		

Which Security of expansion security? whom?

Values at risk Security of what?

Sovereignty, territorial

National Unity, national

Survival, livelihood,

integrity, equality,

quality of life, cultural

Equity, identity, social

representations, cultural

relations and social

of threat **Security from** 

whom or what?

Other States, terrorism,

sub-state act., querrilla

Migrants, Alien cultures

globalization, poverty,

Humankind, Nature,

Patriarchy, totalitarian

governments, culture,

religions), intolerance

institutions (élites,

(States), Nations,

The State, nature,

**fundamentalism** 

**GEC** 

Level of

Without

Increased

Radical

**Ultra-radical** 

**Trans-radical** 

The State

Nations, social

Individuals

(Humankind)

Ecosystem,

urban and

system

agricultural

indigenous,

minorities

Source: Bjørn Møller, 2003:279 and Úrsula Oswald, 2001, 2004, 2008

youth, elders,

Gender relations.

groups

integrity

identity

solidarity

Sustainability,

**Anthropocene** 

biodiversity,

diversity

**National** security

(political, military)

Societal

security

Human

security

Security

Gender

security

**Environmental** 

#### HUGE

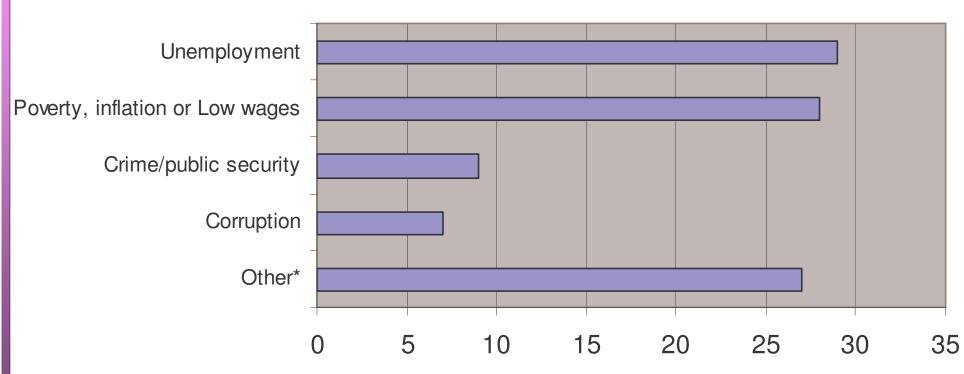
- Human, Gender and Environmental Security (HUGE) suggests a widened concept of security, which combines an ample gender concept, including children, elders, indigenous and other minorities with a human-centered focus on environmental security challenges, peace-building and gender equity.
- 'Gender security' is considering also livelihood, food security, health care, public security, education and cultural diversity. The HUGE concept analyzes the patriarchal, violent and exclusive structures within the family and society questioning the existing processes of social representation-building and traditional role assignation between genders.
- It reorients the analysis of 'human security' to equality and development processes, where social organizations, private investments in hand of ethic business, specific governmental policies, and legal reinforcements are stimulating the sociopolitical participation of women, young and elders.
- As a holist concept, HUGE includes 'environmental security' concerns, where a healthy environment, integral management of natural resources, prevention and remediation practices & redistribution of scarce resources reduce vulnerability from hazard impacts. Hazard-prone countries are enabled to develop technical, economic and human support to reduce social vulnerability, to progress in internal organization, conflict resolution and to stimulate resilience-building, supporting rapidly and efficiently regions affected by social and natural disasters, counting also on external help.
- It allows especially vulnerable (women, exposed groups) to reinforce their own resilience-building through bottom-up internal organization, which is combined with top-down policies and institutions, capable to guarantee effective early warning and evacuation, disaster support and reconstruction in regions affected by social and natural disasters. Immediate and efficient aid in isolated regions could prevent long-term effects such as famine and violent conflicts.

- As nonviolent conflict resolution is a central part of personal and social identity in a world where processes of unification and diversification are occurring faster than ever in the past, human beings have a basic necessity to simplify and to put order into complex realities through social comparison. The upcoming systems of values, ideas and practices creates simultaneously processes of living together with tolerance by offering persons and groups the possibility to get familiarized with the social and material world, on behalf contradictory messages and behaviours.
- At the international level HUGE links up free and equal access to market and dignified livelihood. Regional production reinforce self-sufficiency and trade without distortions. It revises world solidarity with the poorest countries, where financial aid, technological support and debt relief, but also grass-root interchange of experiences could strengthens the empowerment of the most vulnerable.
- A safe global world implies political and cultural diversity, able to promote a diverse livelihood for everybody, with open borders, participatory democracy and stable governance. Conflict prevention, nonviolent conflict resolution and peace-building processes in conflict-prone regions reinforces sustainable peace.
- In synthesis, HUGE studies social, environmental, human, cultural and identity concerns together with solidarity, resilience, peacebuilding and equity in contexts of increasing insecurity, dangers and fragility. Alternatives experimented by social movements and altermundism are revised and discussed in World Social Fora.
- In summary, the concept proposes the consolidation of a 'huge' solidarity process of sustainable and intra and intergenerational equality and development, reinforced by international and local collaboration and nonviolent conflict management.



#### MOST IMPORTANT PROBLEMS IN LA

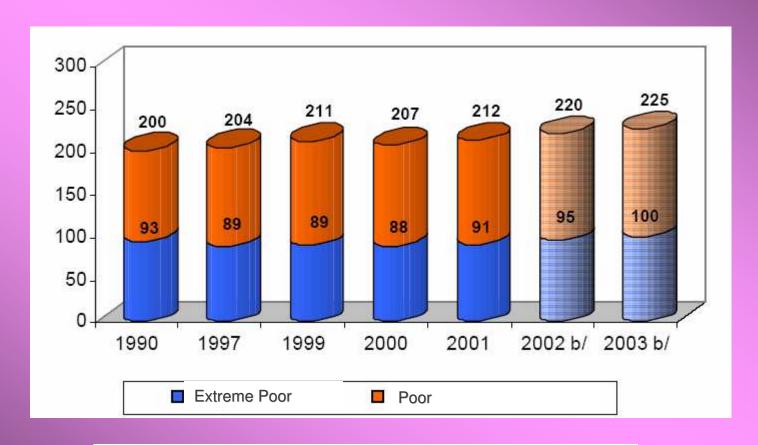
What do you consider to be the country's most important problem? % of respondents 2004, (unweighted average of all countries)



Source: Latinobarómetro, 2004

\*Includes political problems, terrorism, education, health and others

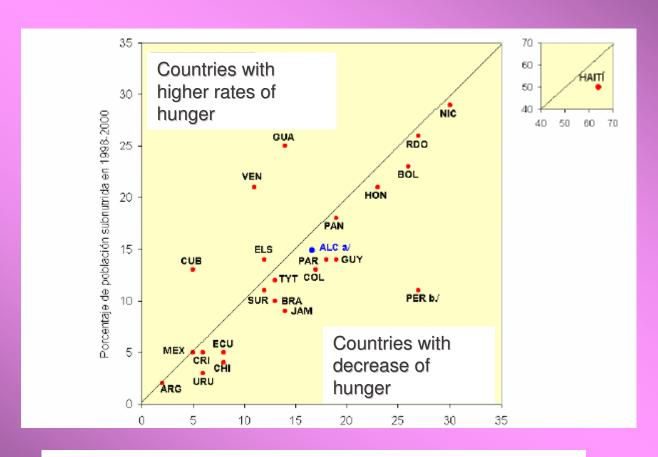
#### **EVOLUTION OF POVERTY IN LA (MILLION OF PERSONS)**



Source: CEPAL, 2004,

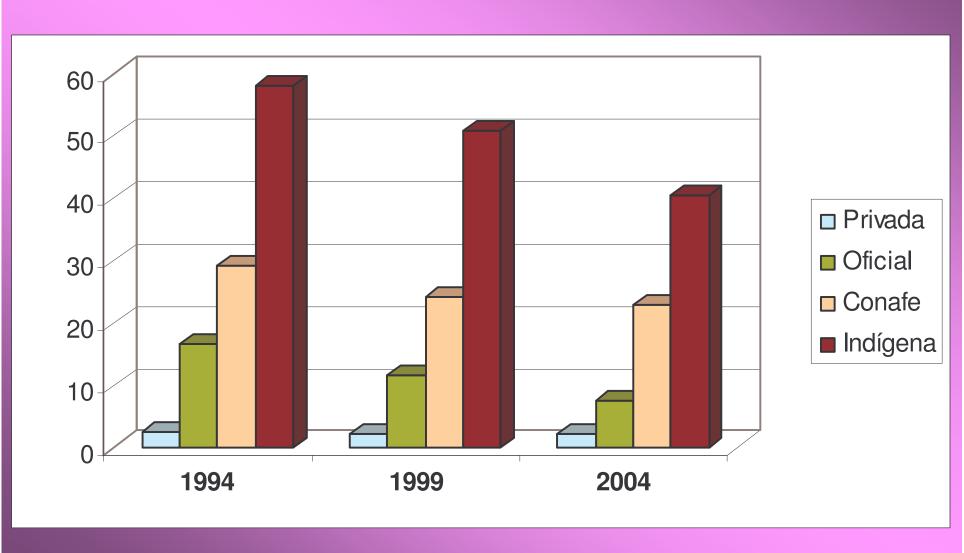
b) Data for 2002 and 2003 are projections

## **EVOLUTION OF HUNGER BETWEEN 1990-1992 AND 1998-2000 IN LA AND CARRIBEAN (%)**



Source: CEPAL, 2004, estimation by CEPAL, based on Data from FAO a) Correpondant to 24 countries

## Undernourishment and social differences among school children



Source: INN, National Census of Size 1994, 1999 y 2004

 Extreme poverty, better characterized as perverse poverty (Oswald, 1990): the perversity lies in the fact, that a child before being born, is condemned to be a second class citizen, due to brain damages, caused by the chronically undernourished and anemic mother. Later on, the child enter into the "Valley of Death" (Chávez, 1992):1-2 ½ years, because of fragile immune system. In case to survive, growth, intellectual improvement and motricity of the child are seriously damaged, due to chronicle hunger.

#### **Social Gaps in Mexico**

Concept	% of Population	% of Nat. Wealth	% of Financial Savings
Very Rich	0.23	40.3	78.0
Workers	52.7	18.4	10.0

INEGI, 2004 and Bank of Mexico, 2004

#### **Bank Savings**

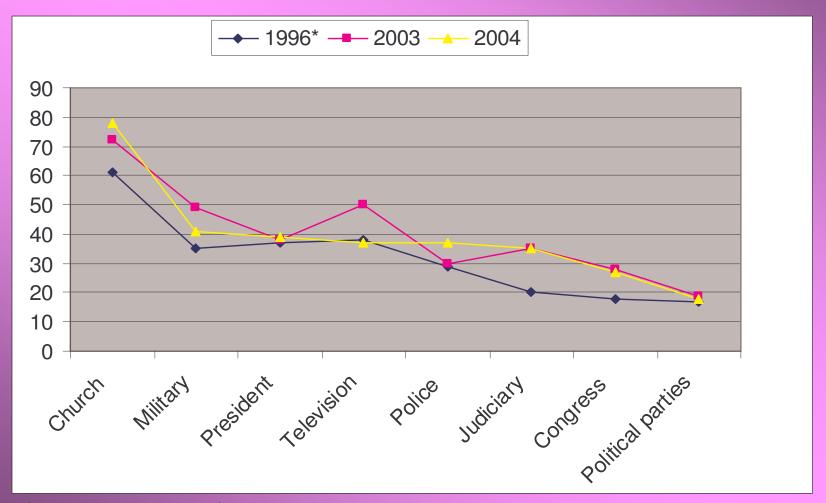
Account	Number of bank accounts	% of Mexican population	% of Nation al Saving
More than 1 Million pesos	73,481	0.07	63
More than 1,000 pesos	16'027,000	14.6	s.d.
Less than 1,000 pesos	15'700,000	14.2	s.d.

Bank of Mexico, 2004

#### **INSTITUTIONS AND CONFIDENCE IN LA**

For the groups, institutions or persons in this list, can you tell me how much confidence you have in earch?

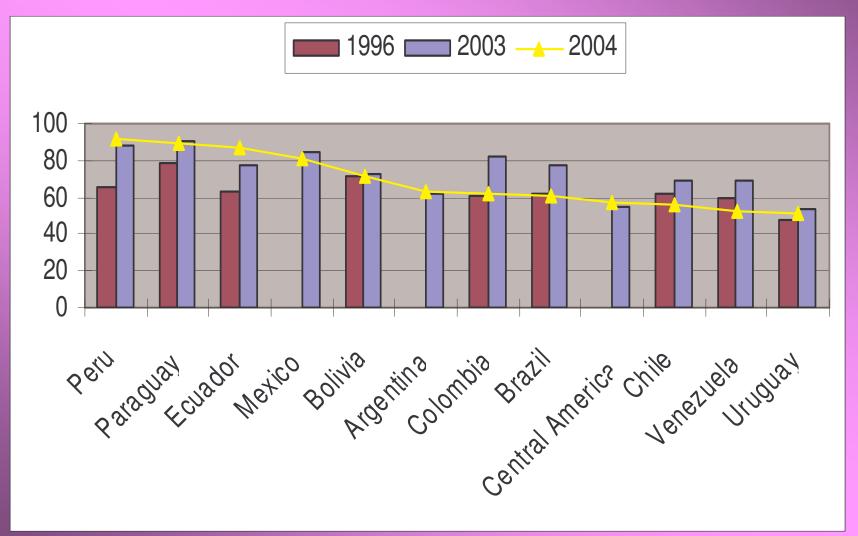
% responding "a lot" and "some" unweighted average of all countries



Source: Latinobarómetro

#### **GOVERNMENT AND DEMOCRACY**

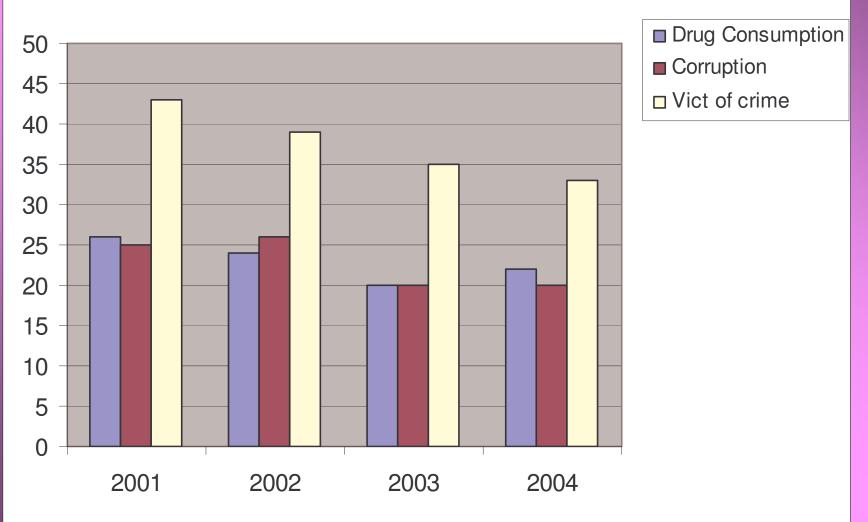
How satisfied are you with the way democracy works in your country? % responding "not very satisfied" and "not at all satisfied"



Source: Latinobarómetro

#### **Victim**

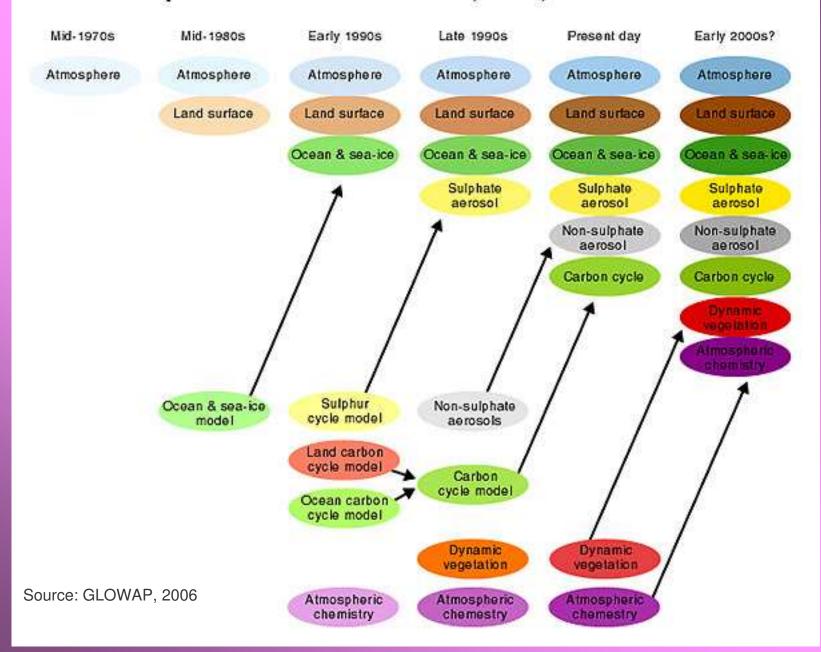
Have you or someone in your family been a victim of crime, or known of an act of corruption or of drug consumption in the past 12 months? % responding "yes" (unweighted average of all countries)



Source: Latinobarómetro



#### The Development of Climate models, Past, Present and Future

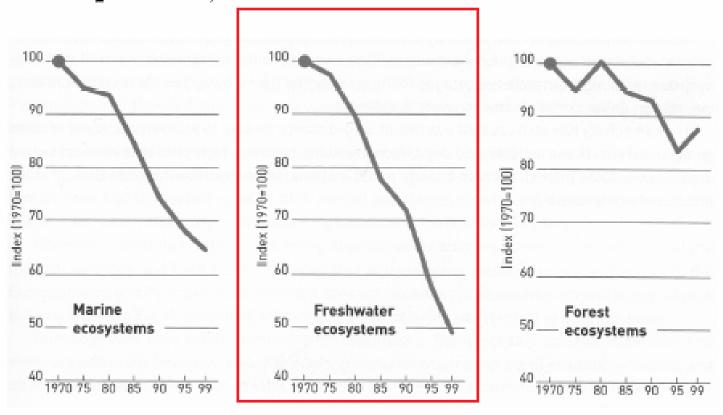


### **Biodiversity in Mesoamerica**



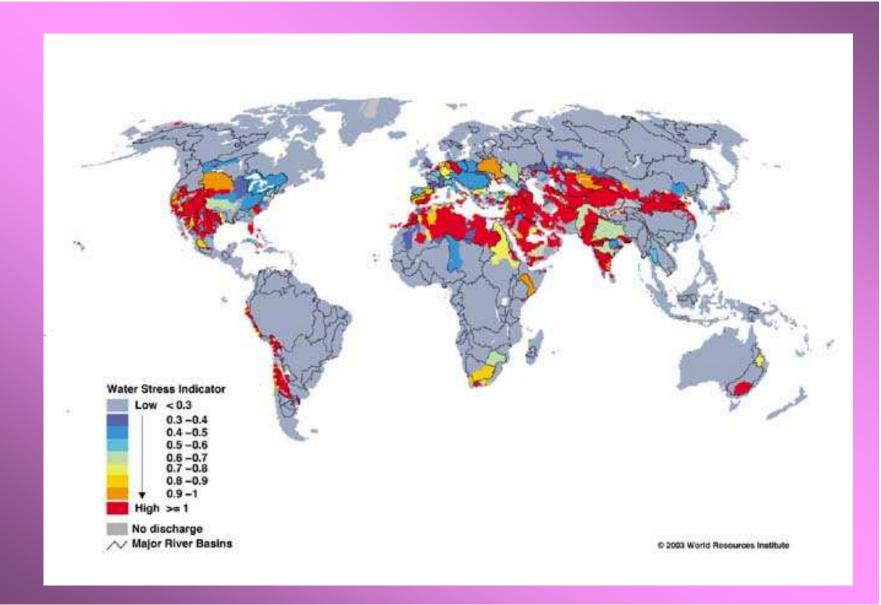
## Status of aquatic biodiversity?





The Living Planet Index, developed by the World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-wCMC) and WWF, provides an indicator of the health of the three major ecosystems types of the planet. It is based on the population trends of marine, freshwater and forest species.

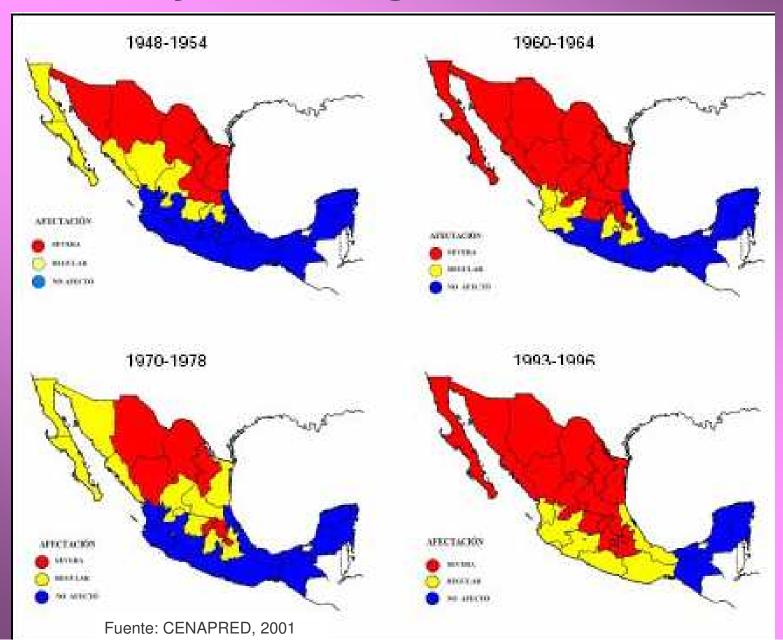
### **Zones with Highest Water Stress**



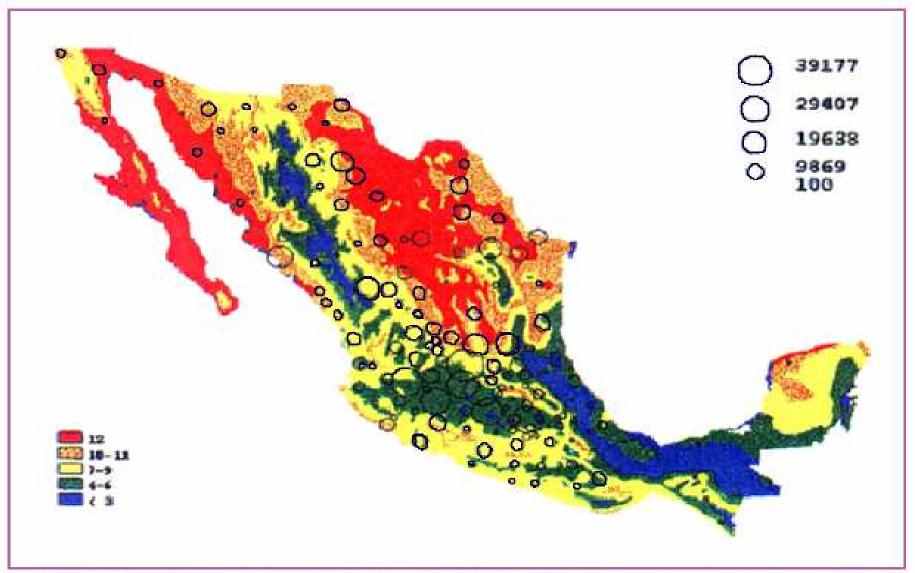
#### Water stress: physical and economic

- 84% of Mexican territory is located in semi-arid regions, get 28% of rain (temporary limited), has 77% of population, creates 84% of GDP and account for 92% of irrigated land.
- The Southeast gets 78% of precipitation, accounts for 23% of population and has only 8% of irrigated land. It's the region with high extreme poverty.
- Agriculture and livestock use between 78 y 82% of water, creating 5-7% of agricultural GDP.

### **History of Droughts in Mexico**



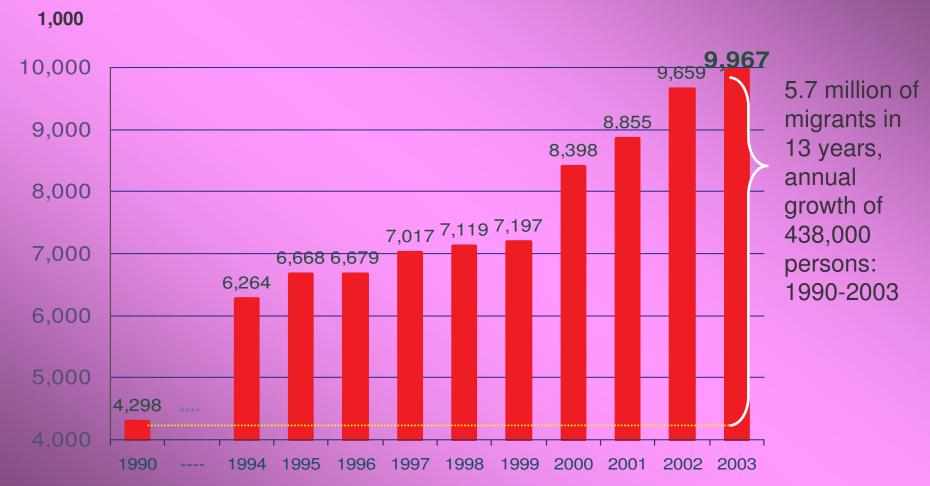
#### **Number of Dry Months and Migration**



Number of dry months and flow (estimation for 1993) of Mexican migrants living and working in the US, surveyed on the border on their return to Mexico (spatial distribution according to their region of birth in Mexico, rural and urban localities).

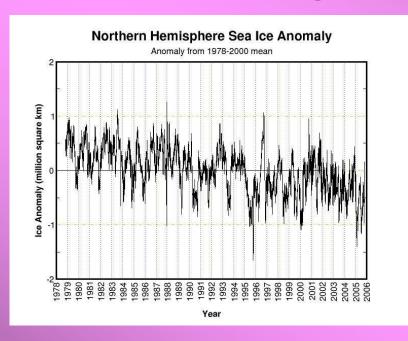
Someon on Michigan IS majoratory flow (CSLE):
After Nachonal de Nifelio e (1944)
Shirema de Información Geográfica y Estadistica de la
Frontesa Norte (COLE) CSS (CME)

## Mexican Migrants to USA 1990- 2003 (1000 Persons)



SOURCE: Public-use files from the US Census Bureau, Current Population Survey, March Supplement, elaborated by Fernando Lozano, 2005

#### Coverage of ice and glaciers





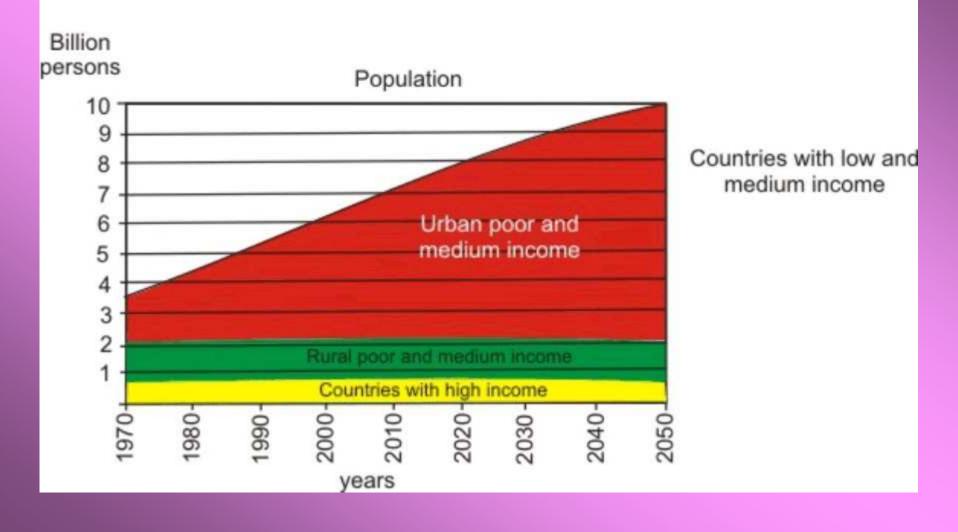




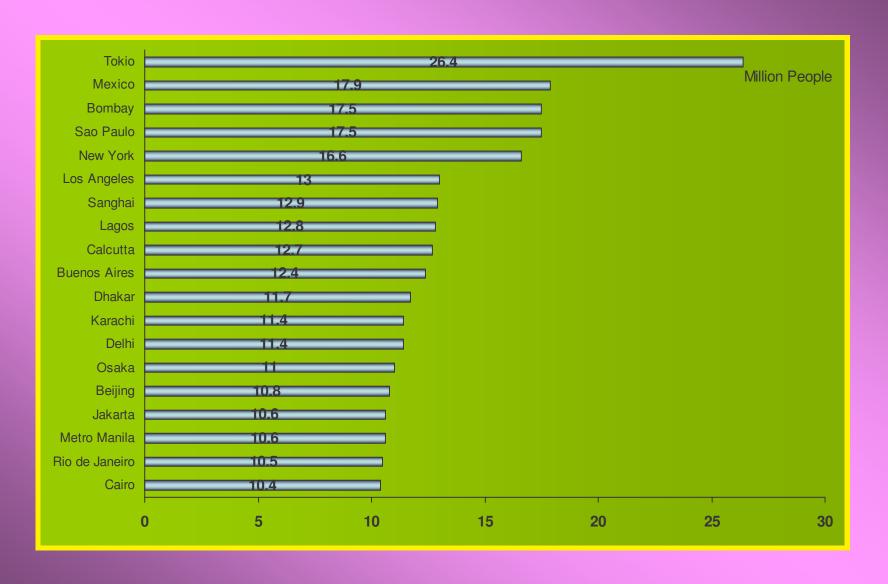
Larsen B

Chacaltaya (1996 y 2004)

## Proyection of population and urbanization



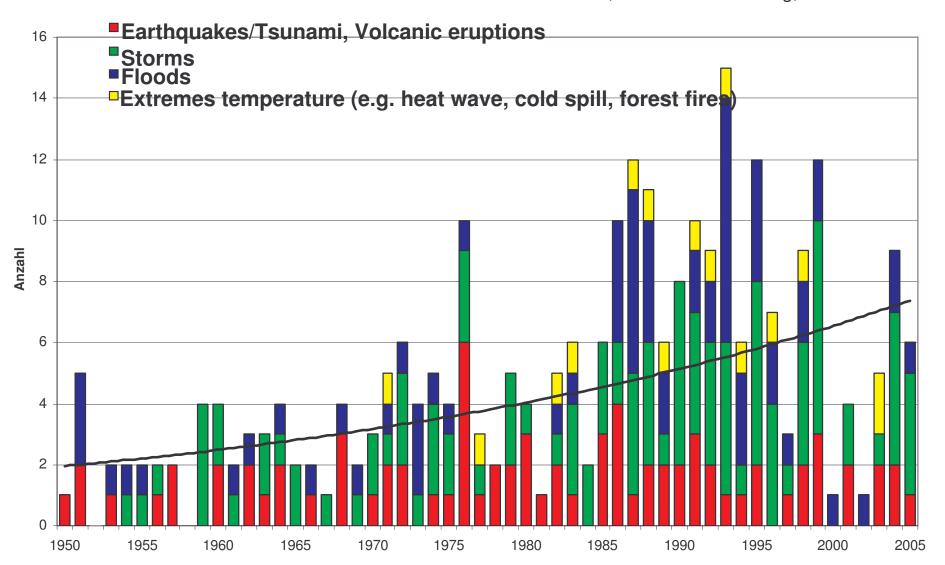
#### Big cities and slums



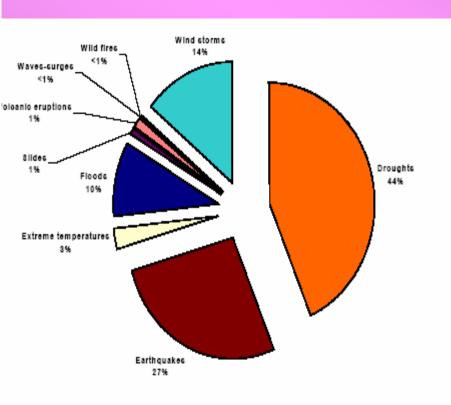
Source: UNO, 1999, World Urbanization Prospects

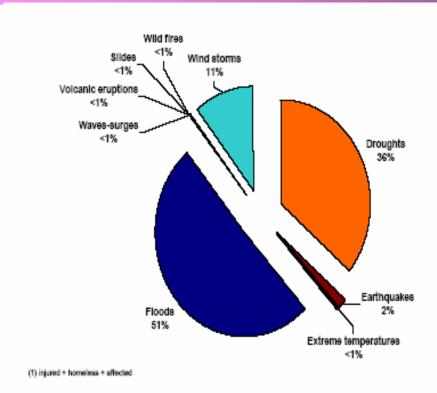
### Global Impacts: Major / Intensive Natural Disasters 1950 – 2005: 50 years

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## Deaths an affected persons (1974-2003): 30 years





**Total: 2'066,273 deaths;** 

5'076'494,541 affected persons

Source: Hoyois and Guha-Sapir (2004)



## Main attributes of social identity

 Thousand of years of experiences have created a society within a specific socio-historic environment, where symbolic elements have developed -class, ethnicity, age, religion, race, nationality, professional adscription, political ideology, education etc. However they are in permanent change, but the main attributes -gender, sex and race- and the socioeconomic condition —rich, poor- are stable. Each process of classification implies relations of identity, inclusion or rejection and exclusion, which constitutes the base of any power exercise.

#### **Social Identity**

- Tajfel (1979:31) affirms that social identity is generated in a world where processes of unification and diversification are occurring with giant steps, faster than ever in previous history.
- Hogg and Abrams (1988: 78) argue that persons have a basic need to simplify and order reality, where the categorization of the social environment is elaborated by social comparison.
- Social representation of gender is specifically charged with stereotypes, to be weak, incapable, dependent and vulnerable. These are social categories that are rich and complex in a symbolic system that has been socially and dialogically constructed (Habermas, 1998, 2000, 2001). Both are part of an inalienable collective life, enriched by ideologies, rites, beliefs and daily practices.

#### **Characteristics of Social Identity**

#### Social identity is:

- processual resulting from and leading to permanent change (Taijfel, 1985; Adams, 2005);
- relational due to its transformation linked to social interaction (Moscovici, 1976, 2000);
- multidimensional operating inside and between individuals, groups and ideologies (Doise, 1986);
- systemic: an open, dissipative and self-organizing system (Prigogine, 1992; Oswald, 2005)
- contextual forging relationships in specific contexts;
- essential due to the diversity and complexity of social interactions that are sustained and transformed by identity processes (Serrano, 2004, 2005).

# Three Phases of Gender Security First Phase: Post-modern Feminism and Gift Economy

Genevieve Vaughan (1997) included women's free labour in the home as a gift economy related to maternal thinking or mothering. The gift of goods through 'communication' challenges in depth the patriarchal economy of exchanges, profits and interests. By this intentionality of giving, the caretaking is more important than the objectivity, transforming homo sapiens into homo donans.

## Second Phase: Environmental Degradation and Ecofeminism

 In diverse geographical conditions people and nature were subjugated to the same violent patriarchal and globalization process. The neoliberal model of Margaret Thatcher's 'TINA' (there is no alternative), was challenged by "there is an alternative" (Mies 1998) and subsequently that "there are many alternatives: 'TAMA' (Oswald 2006).

### Third phase: Social Movements

 Refers to the processes of confluence of diverse social movements: feminists, pacifists, indigenous, environmentalists, alter-globalization to build an other world and mindset integrated in altermundism activities (Via Campesina, MST, WSF, economy of solidarity, other stock market).

## **Vulnerability**



- Results from "poverty, exclusion, marginalization and inequities in material consumption" O'Riordan (2002: 369).
- "The conditions determined by physical, social, economic, and environmental factors or processes, which increase the susceptibility o a community to the impact of hazards" (ISDR, 2004: 7) and poverty.
- "Is conceptually located at the interaction of nature and culture" that also links "social and economic structures, cultural norms and values and environmental hazards" (Oliver-Smith, 2004:11).
- Nevertheless, it increases the empowerment of victims. Wisner (2004: 194-205) distinguishes four approaches for dealing with social vulnerability: demographic, taxonomic, situational, contextual or proactive.

## **Social Representations**

- "Systems of values, ideas and practices"
   simultaneously creating a system of order, are
   able to offer a person the possibility to get familiar
   with the social and material world. The communication within a community offers a code of common social interchange, where several aspects
   of life, personal and collective history are classified without ambiguity" (Moscovici, 1976: xiii).
- Therefore, social representations originate in daily life, where society and its members are the thinking and acting system.
- The theory of social identity establishes a continuum between personal and social identity with a processual, relational, multidimensional, contextual and proactive character.

## Gender as mode of social situation

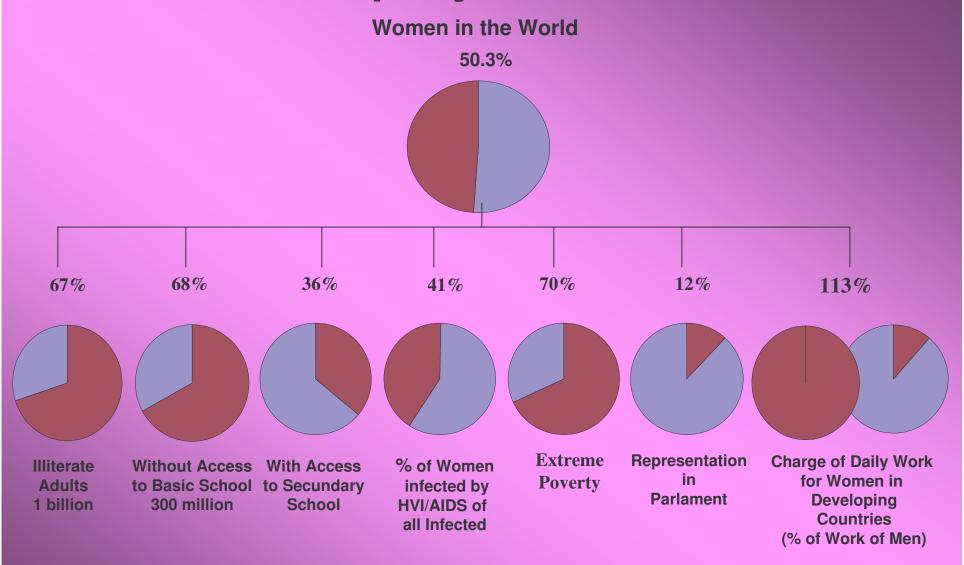
- Role: man and women get different social roles (military, childrearing)
- Norms: Men assertive, logic, strong; women deferential, modest, weak: a society expect to conform to those roles
- Performance and behavior: not fixed trails, but increasingly more flexible, variable and adaptable
- **Identity:** "All the ways on might understand oneself to be a man or a women...with any subset of gender norms, roles and traits ascribed (Anderson: 2006:4)" and understood, while repudiated others (stereotypes, racism, fundamentalism)
- Symbolism: gendered representations through conventional association, imaginative projection and metaphoric thinking: male space (garage) women (kitchen)

Gender Equity Indicator	Country	Average		Reporting	
Ratio of girls to boys in primary education	0.63	0.95	1.03	163	2001
Ratio of girls to boys in secondary education	0.46	0.69	1.39	144	2001
Ratio of girls to boys in tertiary education	0.15	1.13	3.36	116	2001
Ratio of literate women to literate men	0.42	0.93	1.09	123	2004
Women's share in salaried office employment (%)	6.1	40.26	55.9	136	2003
National parliament seats held by women (%)	0	14.43	49	182	2005
U.N. Gender Equity Index (combined male-female parity in economic, political, and resource decisions)	0.123	0.551	0.908	78	2003

Lowest Worldwide Highest Countries

#### Source: United Nations Statistics Division (UNSD), 2005 http://unstats.un.org/unsd/demographic/products/indwm/ww2005/tab4b.htm

#### **Inequality for Women**

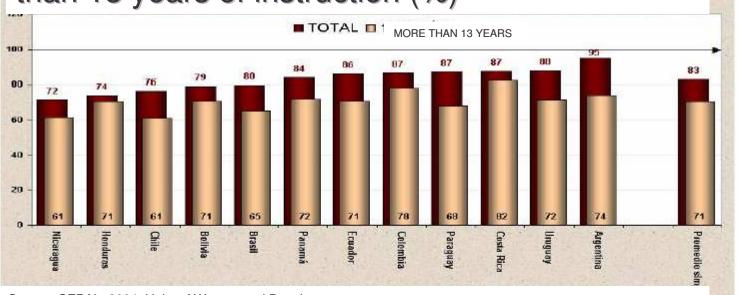


Source: UNIFEM, 2000 and UNAIDS, 2000

90% of all Maternal Deads ocurs in Developing Countries: (500,000 deads/year)

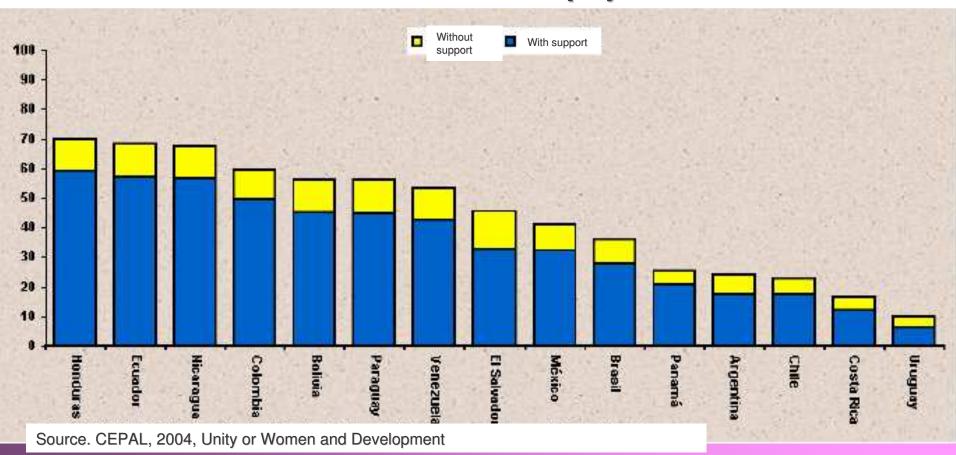
# Gender differences in income with same education and training in LA





Source: CEPAL, 2004, Unity of Women and Development

## POVERTY IN HOUSEHOLDS WITH ECONOMIC SUPPORT FROM WOMEN IN LA (%)



#### Patriarchal Hegemony has a Negative Influence on Solidarity

(i.e., as patriarchy increases, solidarity decreases)
? ? ? ? ? ? ? (-)

Sustainable Human
Development?
has a
Negative
Influence on?
Patriarchy
(i.e., as human integral development increases, patriarchy decreases)

Patriarchy Mindset

Sustainable Human Development Solidarity Ethos

Sustainability Ethos

```
? Solidarity
has a
Positive
Influence on
Sustainability
(i.e., as solidarity
increases,
sustainability
increases)
?
(+)
```

(+)?????????

Sustainability has a Positive Influence on Human Development

(i.e., as sustainability increases, human development increases)



- Resilience means in Latin *resilio*, referring to "return from a leap, jump, rebound", and in common acceptation "elasticity".
- In physic it represents the capacity of a material to recover the same form after having been exposed to extreme pressures.
- In the social field it refers to the "human capacity which permits persons after having passed through adverse situations to be not only safe but also **transformed through this experience**"
- Gloria Laengle defines it as "the capacity of human being to overcome difficulties and at the same time learning from the errors".
  - Angela Quintero refers to "the capacity of a family to adapt and reconstruct from the adverse situation"
- Helena Combariza defines "human resilience is the capacity of an individual or social system to live well and develop positively, irrespective of the difficult conditions and even being reinforced and transformed".

## Gender diversity and values

## Women contribute subjective and objective values Subjective values (social identity):

- · Caring about their families, children, neighbors and those in need
- Positive self-esteem in crisis situations
- Emotionally stabilizing families before, during and after conflicts
- Guardians of traditions and values
- Locally attached

#### Objective values (social representation):

- Flexible, adaptable and able to shift activities immediately by diversifying (refugee camps, survival activities, collection, reconstruction, services, agriculture, reforestation, ecotourism)
- Open to collaborate in rescue activities
- Generate survival strategies in crises & reduce survival dilemma
- Contribute to the national economy and subsistence
- Create local employments, incomes and stabilize emigration
- Generate political stability and conciliate conflicts

## Women's Role and Perception

Women's roles and social identity are manifold:

- reproductive (child-bearing, nurturing and maintenance of households)
- productive (livelihood support, food production, survival strategies, jobs)
- social (integrating family and community as a whole)
- psychological (stabilizing personal relations and emotions)
- cultural (historic memory of family, clan and village, myths)
- Self-perception of women: weak, incapable and depending on men, creating social vulnerability
- Societal women's work force is taken for granted and considered without or with less economic value, producing a historical discrimination, which got consolidated during thousands of years (USA: 40% of GDP).

## **Women and Disasters Management**

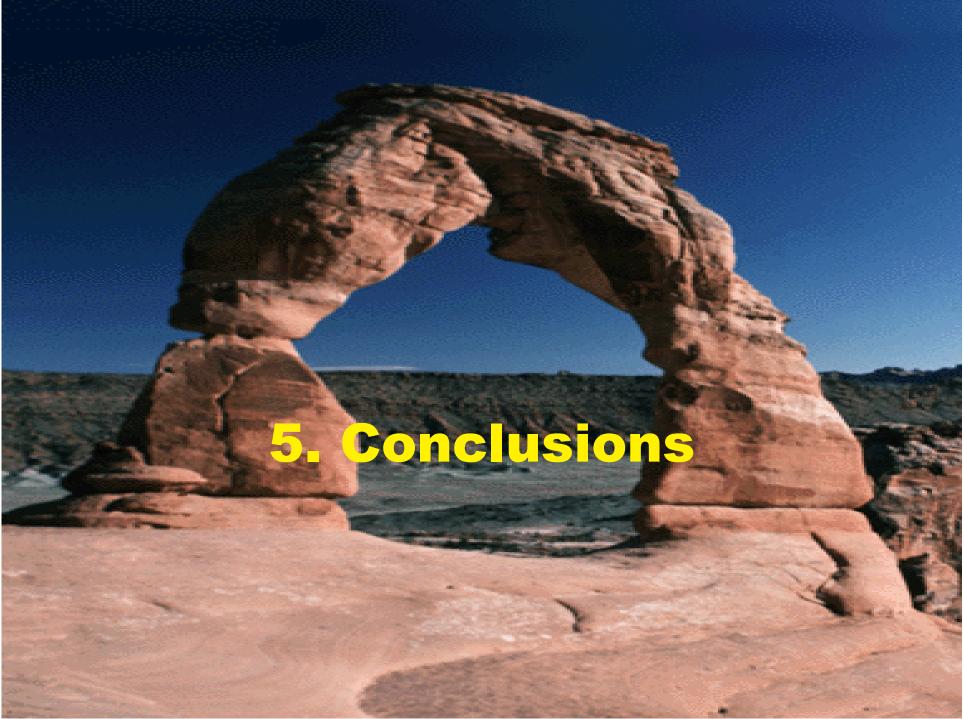
#### Water and food production in hand of women:

- Under normal conditions women produce half of world food; in developing countries even 60% to 80%;
- But women in México only own 17% of their land & in Africa 2%
- Women practice survival strategies in coping with long-term disasters such as economic crises and famine.
- They contribute in Africa to:
  - 33% of the paid labor force
  - 70% of agricultural labor days
  - 60-80% of subsistence production
  - 100% of food transformation
  - 80% of food storing
  - 90% of spinning and weaving
  - 60% of harvesting and market activities
  - 2% own land or have land rights (FAO, 2002)

## Survival strategies in poor countries

(Oswald 1991, 2007)

- 1. Cooperation during massive rural migration to urban slums
- 2. Illegal occupation of marginal and risky land
- 3. Construction of shelter with precarious materials (waste)
- 4. Complementary cash income due to chronic unemployment of men
- 5. Selling unnecessary good
- 6. Credits and micro-credit systems with familiars and neighbors
- 7. Economic crises threaten food supply and family survival
- 8. Recollection of perished fruits and vegetables at central market
- 9. Collective popular kitchens
- 10. Rotation of women in community work (kitchen, child rearing, vigilance)
- 11. Common struggle for basic services (electricity, water, roads, community center)
- 12. Communal efforts for regularization of land and services
- 13. Struggle for public subsidies and poverty alleviation programs
- 14. Temporary paid work (washing, ironing, cleaning)
- 15. Multiple activities: services, handicrafts, food selling, grocery (in windows)
- 16. Social organization against organized crime and gangs
- 17. Empowerment and fight against intra-family violence
- 18. Social and economic consolidation of colony and families



of family and community.
2. Complex social networks sustain humans in normal times. Human vulnerabilities during change, dangers, hazards, disasters or conflicts are usually a matter of disruption or failure of these networks.
3. More accurate understanding and training will facilitate to support networks that underlie a resilient society, where women.

1. HUGE analysis integrates human, gender and environmental

security with cultural factors, which lends to a more nuanced understanding of humans as social beings aligning in networks

youth and elders educate, care and reproduce the historical memory and the cultural background, but often generate also the material sustain.

4. Active participation of marginal opens the possibility to reduce gender related social vulnerability, improve security in human and environmental terms, and increase the survival of whole

communities, frequently affected by physical, social, ideological

- and cultural violence and insecurity.

  5. Traditional land tenure, collective work, communitarian solidarity reinforces these social networks, giving security to highly vulnerable.
- 6. The present development of Human Rights do not guarantee minimal life conditions nor HUGE. They reinforce an individualization process which increases social vulnerability. On the contrary, social rights reinforce networks and create within diverse cultural contexts and cosmovisions options for resilience-building, reduction of social vulnerability, self-

reliance, peaceful conflict resolution; in synthesis HUGE.

