

Outside Reading Notes
BOTFL Team Guatemala

Title: Our Presentation (Country Brief)

Source: Infosur Hoy:

http://infosurhoy.com/en_GB/articles/saii/features/main/2014/01/14/feature-01

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SFKDmCbfMS4>

<http://www.miamiherald.com/2014/01/22/3886315/lime-attack-incapacitates-guatemalas.html>

Date: January 21, 2014

Contributor: David Paul

Summary/Key Points

- Money Laundering
- Drug Cartels
- Vice president attacked with Lime. Attackers won't explain why, but citizens are upset about her unexplained wealth.

Title: Travel: Five Things to Know About Guatemala

Source: METRO-

<http://metro.co.uk/2014/01/13/travel-five-things-to-know-about-guatemala-4258001/>

Date: January 13, 2014

Contributor: Carolyn

Summary/Key Points

- Semuc Champey- Eighth Natural Wonder of the World, a place to visit?

Title: Changing Family Food and Eating Practices: The Family

Food Decision-Making System

Source: Cornell -

http://familyfood.human.cornell.edu/pdfs/Gillespie_Johnson-Askew_ABM_11-09.pdf

Date: 2009

Contributor: Alan

Summary/Key Points

- Background - Food decision-making processes interact with family and community environments to shape families' thinking (i.e., their constructed reality) about food, eating, health, and well-being
- Purpose - To understand the processes and impetuses for changing family food and eating routines and policies and to develop a framework for the family food decision-making system
- Results - The propositions elucidate the processes of and influences on family food decision-making systems. The framework illustrates the family food decision-making system and processes of changing family food and eating routines and policies.

Carolyn's leads.....

1.) Quick read from **National Geographic** that responses to a lot of our questions from the issue tree (the

comments at the end are also useful):

- <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2013/08/130812-amaranth-oaxaca-mexico-obesity-puente-food/>

3.) Two short **YouTube videos** showing **Puentes**, the women's group in Oaxaca (I believe this is what CRS was talking about) and some of the growing/harvesting of "Amaranto." ~Lots of great "related videos" on right column, too!

- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nE5pxdzR644> (**super helpful!**)
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TfGdJfaEhZs> AND

3.) **Website for Puentes:**

- <http://www.puentemexico.org/index.php?lang=en>
- This has a really good breakdown of the different stages of the project:
http://www.puentemexico.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=99&Itemid=343&lang=en

Comment From Jessica: The above link may well be a model we can lift and adapt. Like Carolyn said, its all right there! Its all been done!

4.) Who knew there was an **Amaranth Institute**??? There is!

~Their RESEARCH and INDUSTRY sections are helpful and have contact info.

- www.amaranthinstitute.org

5.) Another successful organization: **Mexico Land of Amaranth- Mexico Tierra de Amaranto** Founder Mary Delano/ WEBSITE: <http://www.mexicotierradeamaranto.org/>

~LOTS of press in English/ Spanish on organization and their impact in the communities/ market. Below are **3 articles about Mexico Tierra de Amaranto:**

- 1.) <http://www.csmonitor.com/World/Americas/2012/1113/Back-on-Latin-America-s-menu-purple-seaweed-blue-eggs-and-amaranth>
 - Mexico City gave amaranth the status of cultural heritage, both for its historic importance and its nutritional properties, joining a list of just a half-dozen other events and monuments given such status
 - People like Mary Delano, a biochemical engineer in the central Mexican state of **Queretaro**, have been fundamental to raising awareness about amaranth in Mexico. In 2005, Ms. Delano founded the organization called Mexico Land of Amaranth, which seeks to help overcome poverty and malnutrition in Mexico by teaching local communities to grow amaranth in their homes. At the time, she says, it was really only found in organic stores or in traditional granola-like bars known as "*alegrías*."
 - So far her group has worked with about 100 communities, "Our vision is that it not only become widely known in Mexico, but in the world,"
 - If amaranth takes a page from quinoa, Delano's vision won't be far out of reach. Quinoa's world production almost tripled to 78,000 tons in 2010 from 23,000 tons in 1990-

United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organization.

- 2.) <http://www.pri.org/stories/2013-07-01/alt-staple-lunch-mexicans-push-return-ancient-grain>
 - 6 min. radio program that talks about Delano and Mexico Land of Amaranth and amaranth's revival in Mexico. Interviews (translated) with local farmers. Helpful information on the farming techniques, nutrition, etc. Ideas for how to add amaranth to corn tortillas, chips, etc
- 3.) <http://www.altonivel.com.mx/17686-impulsa-walmart-la-tierra-de-amaranto.html>
 - Mexico Land of Amaranth (will need to translate page) - Sponsoring by Walmart Foundation. Check out the section of-- Land of Amaranth in numbers! Also, there is a Amaranth cookbook that is used in local communities and internationally.
 - We should look more into the Walmart Foundation connection!
- There are various YouTube videos if you search: Mexico Tierra de Amaranto

Title: Economic growth slows markedly in Q3
Source: Focus Economics:
<http://www.focus-economics.com/en/economy/charts/Guatemala/GDP>
Date: January 9, 2014
Contributor: Matthew

Summary/Key Points

- Exports were weaker than expected, while the domestic market was stronger than expected
- Expected GDP growth in 2014 is about 3.6%

Comment From Jessica: We should incorporate some real economic analysis from this source in our Bootcamp report

Title: Bill Gates Annual Letter
Source: Gates Foundation:
http://annualletter.gatesfoundation.org/?cid=bg_pt_II0_012122/#section=myth-one
Date: 2014
Contributor: Matthew

Summary/Key Points

- Thy Myths
 - Poor countries are doomed to stay poor
 - Foreign aid is a big waste
 - Saving lives leads to overpopulation

Title: Opportunity and Risk in Central America's Emerging Markets
Source: Forbes

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/riskmap/2014/01/22/opportunity-and-risk-central-americas-emerging-markets/>

Date: Jan 22, 2014

Contributor: Kerri

Summary/Key Points

- Now is a good time to invest in Central America because its recent lasting stability
- Central American Integration System connects the countries
- Country leaders are currently making economic policies to attract FDI
- US does not seem to want to invest
- Risks- security, corruption, indigenous unrest

Title: I, Rigoberta Menchu

Source: Its a Book About A Nobel Peace Prize Winning, Indigenous Guatemalan Woman

Date: 1/24/13

Contributor: Jessica

Summary/Key Points:

- a. Rigoberta is born in 1959 in Chimel, a settlement in the northwestern Guatemalan mountains. Her parents are community leaders and she is the 6th of 9 children. A member of the Quiche (pronounced Kee-chay) Indians, one of twenty-two groups descended from the Mayans, Menchu was raised in a community that interwove traditional, ancient Mayan beliefs with Catholicism. As a girl, her family lived half the year in a village in the *Altiplano* (mountaintop) where they celebrate traditions. She spends the other half of the year in horrible conditions as migrant farmworkers picking coffee on *fincas* for wealthy *Ladino* landowners. Her 2-year-old brother dies while on the plantation which causes her to have a political awakening and wants to learn Spanish and get educated.
- b. As a teen, she takes a job as housemaid in Guatemala City where she learns Spanish and is influenced by a rebellious friend, Candelaria, who inspires her to grow some balls. Meanwhile, the Ladinos start trying to claim the land of her peoples' village so her family gets involved in the resistance, eventually becoming Guerilla fighters. One by one her family members is killed and Rigoberta is eventually exiled to Mexico City.
- c. The book is written by a Venezuelan antropologist who transcribed Rigoberta's stories. After its written, Rigoberta becomes a human rights activist, gets involved with the U.N., and wins the 1992 Nobel Peace Prize.

Title: Our Presentation

Source: CS Monitor

<http://www.csmonitor.com/layout/set/r14/World/Americas/2012/1113/Back-on-Latin-America-s-menu-purple-seaweed-blue-eggs-and-amaranth>

Date: January 24, 2014

Contributor: Alan

Summary/Key Points

- Amaranth is gaining popularity in Mexico due to observance of its importance by the government (will have the status of cultural heritage) and NGOs (Mexico Land of Amaranth, which seeks to help overcome poverty and malnutrition in Mexico by teaching local communities to grow amaranth in their homes)
 - If it follows quinoa's path, it could explode--Quinoa world production tripled between 1990 and 2010
-

Title: Guatemala Films

Source: Snag Films <http://www.snagfilms.com/films/browse/tag/guatemala/>

Date: January 25, 2014

Contributor: Alan

Summary/Key Points

- Movies pertaining to Guatemala, hover over the movies for a description
-

Title: Quinoa should be taking over the world. This is why it isn't.

Source:

<http://www.washingtonpost.com/blogs/wonkblog/wp/2013/07/11/quinoa-should-be-taking-over-the-world-this-is-why-it-isnt/>

Date: January 28, 2014

Contributor: David

Summary/Key Points

- Great article about quinoa's rise to popularity and the barriers from further growth
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Title: Cuando Tiemblan las Montañas (Historia de la Guerra en Guatemala)
[Story of the War in Guatemala]

Source: Youtube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ql-j3jOCUOw>

Date: February 5, 2014

Contributor: Alan

Summary/Key Points

- Friend from Guatemala sent this over as a movie to watch
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Title: Update: Ex-Guatemalan soldier sentenced to 10 years in prison; for war survivors, justice and pain

Source:

<http://www.scpr.org/blogs/multiamerican/2014/02/10/15803/it-s-not-something-you-can-forget-fo>

[r-guatemalan-w/](#)

Date: February 11, 2014



Contributor: Matthew

Summary/Key Points

- man in Riverside sentenced to 10 years for lying on his application for US citizenship
- Guatemala has filed a formal extradition request to prosecute him

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Industry of Amaranth