

Sustainable use and fair distribution of natural resources

Peru belongs to the so-called “emerging markets” and it appears that much of Peru’s sustainability is due to the natural resources. The participants of the Job Shadowing in Peru, although they visited other places in Peru, they decided to focus their activity in Lima, as the capital concentrates a large number of communities, which belong to the whole economic spectra, ranging from very poor (the Collique area in the North) to the Municipality of Miraflores, which can be compared to any flourishing neighborhood in Europe.

In a nutshell, citizens are more prone to sustainable actions in the wealthier communities, while the main obstacle to sustainability is the economic situation. In any case and despite the above, it can be noticed that sustainability and environmental care are considered an important issue, and are even mentioned in the regional elections campaign slogans.

The group visited a small enterprise, a jam producing unit in Palca, Junin region in the Andes. What was interesting and remarkable there was the fact, that this was a 100% organic farm, producing zero waste products. This production inspired us to train young people about the secrets and rewards of sustainable use of resources.

Activity 5.10 Distribution of Natural Resources

Goals: Promote sustainability among youngsters through raising awareness about the importance of their own cultural heritage; create a consciousness of the unfair distribution of resources in the different parts of the country (the coast, the mountains and the jungle); suggest a collaborative method for a fairer distribution of resources and welfare; improve participant’s soft skills (communication, teamwork, time management); raise awareness about sustainability, environmental viability

Method(s): Group work, competition

Estimated Time: 3 h 45 mins

Level: 3

Materials: For making key-chains you will need 3 tables and chairs 15 chairs, 2,5m Wire, 5 Pliers (cutter and clothespin) and local seeds (80 units). You can use different materials based on the item you decide to work on (see description below)

Description: Since this activity required using of special tools, the facilitator should prepare a set of security rules to follow for giving to the participants before the activity. Security always comes first!

The facilitator should instruct participants to make a key-chain with the available resources. The facilitator should make the object before the activity in order to see the viability of doing it in time and make relevant adjustments if needed.

All participants in the group will be divided into 3 smaller sub-groups:

1. Jungle -----> 4 participants
2. Coast-----> 6 participants
3. Mountain-----> 4 participants

The areas that normally concentrate more people should have more participants for consistency. In the case of Peru this area is the coast, concentrating bigger part of the population compared to other places.

So, each region will have the number of participants proportionate by the population in this area, as indicated above. For more participants, the facilitator can adjust the groups accordingly or assign additional groups/regions.

Each group should have the materials; pliers, seeds and wire, in proportion of the resources of the place, in order to create a situation in situ:

1. Jungle -----> none plier / 40 seeds / 0,7m wire
2. Coast-----> 4 pliers / 15 seeds / 0,5m wire
3. Mountain-----> 1 pliers / 25 seeds / 2,3m wire

The pliers will represent the technology resources of the area, the seeds the natural resources and the wire the development of the area/energy resources. The analogies are more symbolic and don't represent the exact ratios of resources in the country.

With all these (materials), the groups will have to work together in order to make as many proposed by the facilitator items as possible. In this case, key-rings. The key rings model will be given before the activity and the object will be easy to make.

Important Rule: Participants will have to use ALL materials they have gotten in the production of the key-rings. It is proposed to give to the groups 1h and 30 mins to work on this task.

Participants are expected to start working with what they have available, but then in order to use all materials, they may realize that they can bargain and exchange materials. In order for this to happen they first have to communicate, therefore surpass prejudice, and any other obstacles.

After the time is finished, participants are gathered in a circle. They are asked to define in one word their mood or main impression that they have from the activity. Then, the following questions are made by the facilitator:

- How was the game? How did it make you feel? How did you engage with it?
- How did you interact with your team and how with others? Were there any tensions?
- Can you identify any similarities between this game and your daily life? What about the society?

The activity was designed during the Job Shadowing in Peru by Boyka Boneva (Greece, Bulgaria), Lena Marinou (Greece), Betsabe Torres (Peru), Ines Garcia Montero (Spain), Enrique Carlos Sanchez Ochoa (Spain), Ruben Cazebas (Spain), Juan Taboada Garcia (Peru), Luis Blanco (Peru), Miguel Rosas (Peru)