Abstract
This is a study of women's formal and informal roles in a
disaster resettlement. Devastating eruptions of Mt. Tungurahua in the Ecuadorian highlands in 1999 and 2006
left many communities struggling to rebuild for years and others permanently displaced to resettlements built by state
and non-governmental organizations. For years, households diversified economic strategies, communities organized local
development, and the state and nongovernmental organizations sponsored recovery programs in the
resettlements and affected communities. Our analysis focuses on women's changing roles in post-disaster
resettlements in Penipe, Ecuador, based on surveys conducted in 2009 and 2014.

Research Questions
• How did women's work—both formal and informal—change following disaster, displacement, and resettlement?
• How do women express and interpret changes in their roles following disaster, displacement, and resettlement?

Research Activities
• Thematic analysis of narrative data to identify basic themes in women's narratives of their work (formal, informal, household) in resettlement
• Qualitative analysis of self-reported economic activities from two surveys (2009 and 2014) to batch economic activities by type
• Descriptive quantitative analysis of variation in women's and men's economic activities between 2009 and 2014

Findings Thus Far:
• As of 2009, the main jobs for men included agricultural work, while women's primary occupations were household work
• By 2014, men's increasingly worked as taxi drivers, and women continued primarily in household work, with an
addition of agricultural work as their second occupation
• Over time, men's work transitions from primarily agriculture to licensed taxi drivers, while women took on more
agricultural responsibilities in addition to their domestic work
• By 2014, most small businesses (convenience stores, food stands, domestic work) were owned and operated by women