Experience at Ande Conference

Jessica Rochmann September 2016

I am deeply grateful for the Salinas Scholarship which was very important in making it possible to attend my first Ande Conference.

As the activities started it was evident that this would be a very special first Ande Conference for me.

The overall experience has exceeded my expectations by far. The combination between assisting to sessions covering important topics and meeting future allies was ideal.

In preparation for the conference, having the Pathable app to facilitate meetings and reviewing attendees was a great help and made getting together with 7 potential allies very easy.

I can identify the following main topics which will further the work we do in Guatemala:

- 1. Sharing experiences with people from around the world is inspiring and makes us realize that we have much in common. The opportunity to share innovative solutions to common problems is one of the main benefits of this conference.
- 2. The valuable knowledge and experiences shared by the Speakers, not only opened the scope of possibilities, but also presented opportunities for engaging in new business relationships. As of today we are working on 3 new initiatives.
- 3. Meeting with potential allies personally has an important effect in identifying alignment of visions and also creates a bond, both very positive bases for building future relationships and deals. Hopefully we will continue to pursue new deals with 3 potential allies.
- 4. Meeting Ande Staff personally will make it easier to continue our efforts to be more active and participate in more initiatives in our region and hopefully also in other areas.

I am very interested in obtaining additional information regarding the Aspen Latinos & Society Program and/or other related programs.

Thank you again for your support and I congratulate your efforts.

Jessica Rochmann Administrative Director

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