

**PROGRAM:**  
Friday, 30 / 5

**ONE**

- Analysis and Reflection on Day 3

**TWO**

- Interest Groups: Convergence Activity 3

**THREE**

- Group discussion
- Sharing strategic actions
- Open discussion

**FOUR**

- Group discussion
- Next steps
- Review
- Closure

Farewell Dinner

## Anticipating the future: Humans, animals and the environment

What does the future hold? No one can predict the future. We can, however, envision an ideal future. An ideal future where humans, animals and the environment converge could be a disease-free world or at least one where disease is managed more effectively.

Achieving this state means anticipating a future state in the midst of an ever-changing world.

“What’s critical,” says workshop facilitator Richard Bawden, “is not worrying about getting it right, but thinking about how not to get the future wrong.”

This week has provided room for visioning a future that is in some ways a chance to achieve a better world. Many have suggested ways to aid this process.

“We need to look at problems as a whole and step out



*Arsenio Vasconsellos of Paraguay and Ma. Lourdes Abularach of Bolivia.*

of our professional orientation to view things from new vistas,” says Cristina Lopez of Uruguay.

Other important ingredients include trust, ethics, communication, and policy setting and implementation.

“We must think about

the range of possibilities, adapt and generate change to prevent it from happening,”

says Richard Bawden.



**Anita Soto, Director, Center for Food Safety Management, and Veterinary and Livestock Research, University of Chile**

## From the university to the field

“Woman first, Chilean second, and an academic third,” is how Anita Soto describes herself.

A medical veterinarian at the prestigious University of Chile, Soto has taken her mantra from the classroom and research lab to the field.

Soto admits that she does not like to work in the clinical care of animals, but rather investigate and promote rural development.

Earlier in her career, she

specialized in food safety in Denmark, where she earned her degree. She lived there for eight years, having left Chile as an exile during the political reign of former Chilean dictator Augusto Pinochet. While in Denmark, she worked at the Central Unit for Food Control in Copenhagen.

Soto is currently the Director of the Center for Food Safety Management at the University of Chile.

*What roles do you play at the University and in the rural environments in which you are working?*

I am dedicated to several subjects that deal with food safety, peasant family farming and rural development. Some people in my country are wondering why I devote myself to this and not technology, and what this has to do with women, rural development and food. Often I appear as a very diversified

# Anita Soto - From the lab to the field (From page 1)

person, but I've been explaining to some, that the combination of rural family farming, food production and health are critically important on local and global levels. Therefore, instead of working with large industry, I work with the rural agro-industry.

*What are your Center special areas of focus?*

The Center is very new, formed without much support, in conjunction with several people from various components of the university, the private sector, the government and consumer organizations. The center provides opportunities for specialized study. We have worked on issues such as national CODEX and are analyzing and discussing how to strengthen those regulations. We have ample information available and while other portions of it is in the process of being published. The bottom line is that we

have formed a network of professionals from various fields interested in and involved in food safety.

*What is the biggest challenge within food safety?*

The first is creating dialogue with the many different actors involved in the topic. The Center was established, among other things, with the aim of becoming a space for dialogue, especially between the public, the private sector and academia. A second challenge is producing safe, high quality food for Chilean consumers. My country has shown the ability to be a future agricultural power, but we have failed to realize how we must prepare to be a more successful exporter. One aspect of this preparation is supporting not only large industry but also small producers.

Contact information for Anita Soto: [asoto@uchile.cl](mailto:asoto@uchile.cl)



## Creating public - private partnerships to drive business and reduce poverty

**Jake Walter**  
Director  
Technoserve, Mozambique

A look at Jake Walter's passport would quickly affirm his self-description as a citizen of the world.

Pages of stamps and customs denotations testify to his having lived, visited and worked in many different places.

Born in the U.S., Jake spent his teenage years in Brazil, followed by 10 years in East Africa. Jake is now the Director of Technoserve — a technology and services provider in Mozambique.

After a widespread civil war, Mozambique is one of the poorest countries in the world and is host to a large number of people who rely on subsistence farming. Technoserve is working to revitalize the economy through the expansion of productive capacity. Ultimately, Walter and Technoserve seek to alleviate rural poverty.

*What are your functions within Technoserve?*

We have a team of people who have come mostly from the private sector, while others have come from the government. They believe in Mozambique's great potential for industrial growth. Each one of them, along with consultants and partners in local government, are creating strategies for each of these industries.

I select team members and support their work with ideas and feedback. Our team processes lead to viable industries and enterprise.

In addition, we work with those in business, entrepreneurs and the government - especially the latter - to obtain and implement policies to improve the industrial sector in Mozambique. The industries with whom we work can be competitive, but should also demonstrate a high

impact in rural areas in terms of job creation or demand for the production of agricultural goods. We do not choose any industry, but we do purposely involve a lot of poor people, with the idea that industries and businesses create wealth for poor people living in Mozambique.

*Do you have a personal motivation for this work?*

Yes. I would love to see more relationships between public and private sectors. There exist some private interests aligned with public interests. The aim is to reduce poverty.

I also like the motivation and inspiration of leaders, and I enjoy working with my team to inspire the creation of industries that compete and create wealth for their country.

*What role does leadership play and is this what is needed in the agricultural sector?*

Each sector is different. The first step is to study each sector in detail and learn how a country can be competitive in the area. The next step is to recognize the keys that can unlock that potential.

Each sector is different, and it is not always driven just by leadership, by political policies, or by entrepreneurs. Each industry has its particular dynamic in the global sense and dynamics in individual countries. The solution for Mozambique's production of poultry, for example, is not the same as that of Honduras. Each one must analyze, independently, the roads that lead to success. It is a process of analysis and observation first, and then understanding the best solutions and actions.

