

How Public Policies May Increase Poverty And Dependence:

Ethnographic Observations From The
Mixtec Coast Of Oaxaca, Mexico

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Rural Inequalities: Evaluating approaches to overcome disparities

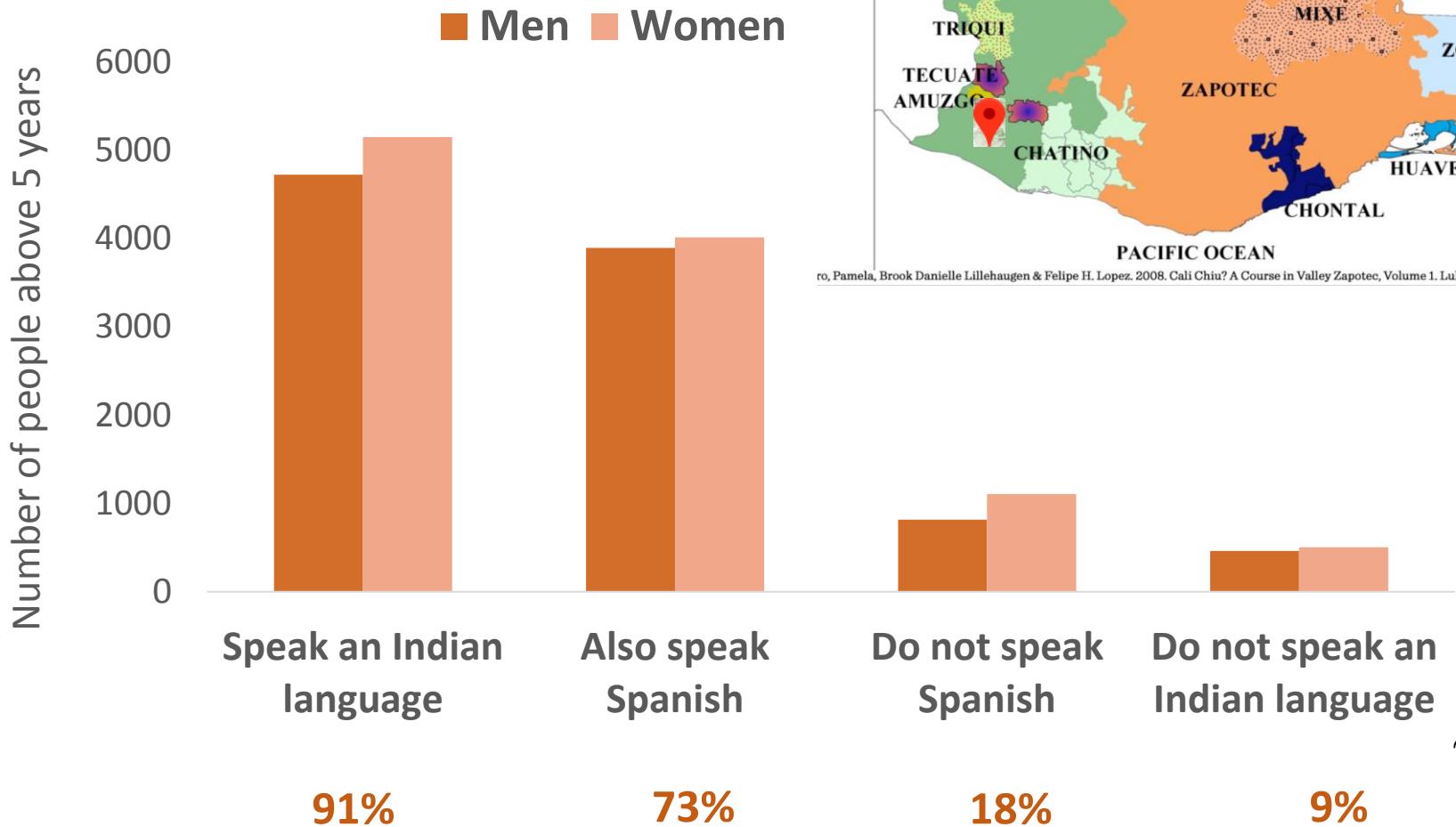
Rome, May 3, 2018

Location : Mixtec coast of Oaxaca



San Pedro Jicayán is an indian Mixtec village remotely located, near the town of Pinotepa Nacional

Mixtec and Spanish speakers



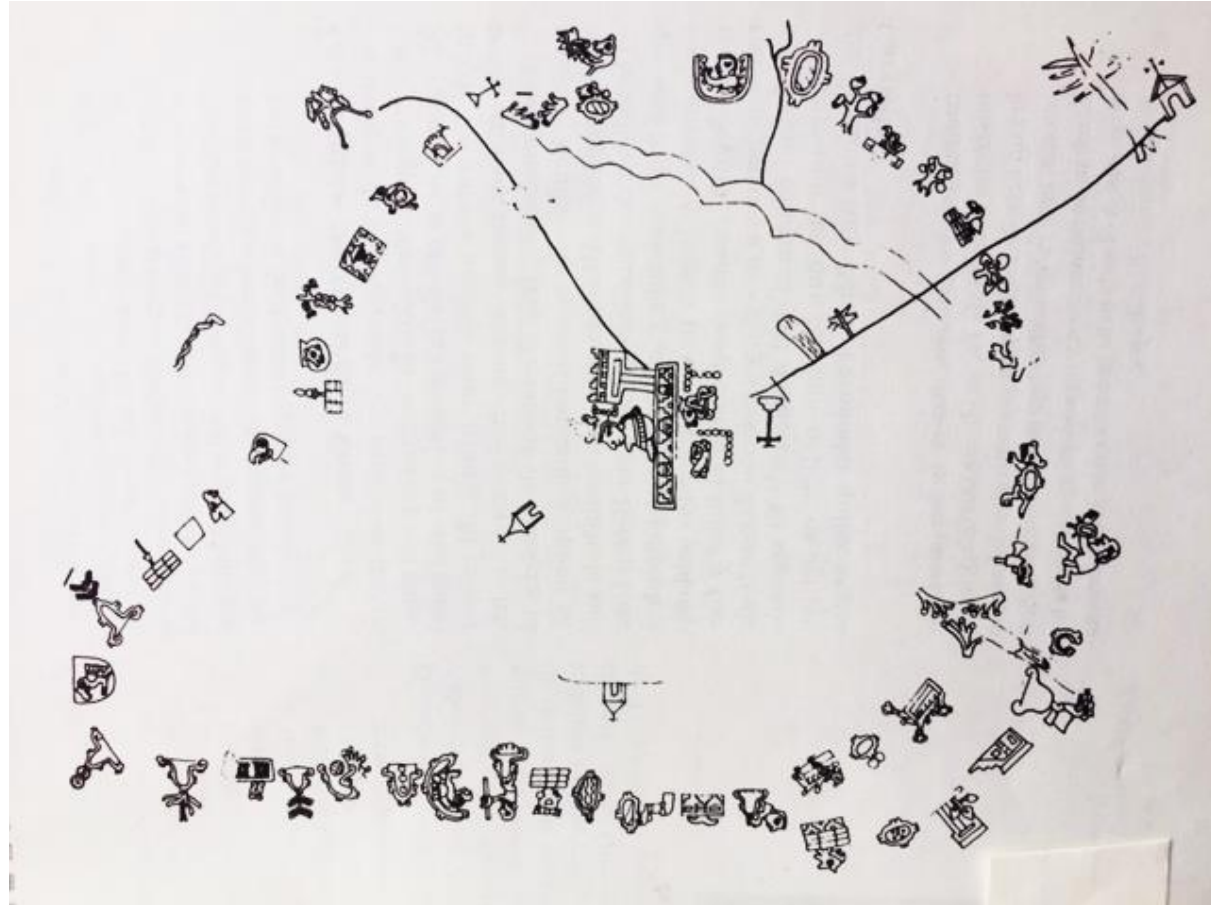
Distance does not means isolation



“Legitimate rights” of the people

- The glyphs mark the dominant points of the borders of the territory.
- The ruler is seated in his palace, upon the combination of day (9 Snake) and year (10 Deer) which allows to date the document.
- Under custody of the Agrarian Authority of the village.
- Officially recognized as a proof of the legitimate rights of the people of San Pedro Jicayán upon their “Communal lands”.

LIENZO de ÑUU CHIKUA’A
(Ancient Map of Jicayán)



Probably drawn in 1490 or 1542 (M. Smith, 1990)

Agriculture and individual possession



Main crops : corn (maize), frijol (bean), chile, cource

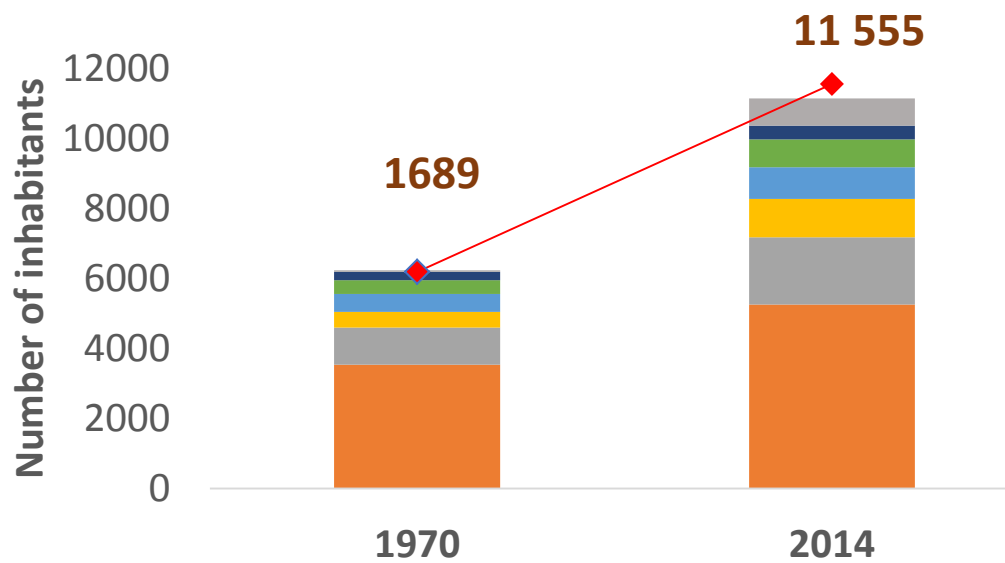
- Surface of the municipality: 85 km²
- Surface parcelada (individual possession): 8305 has
- Surface of urban settlements: 2019 has
- Beneficiaries (comuneros): 1902
- Most plots : ¼ hectare- 5 hectares, some comuneros : up to 20 or 30 hectares.

Agriculture is mainly on hill lands, with a hardened stick and machete. The narrow margins of the rivers may be tilled with plow. It is a great advantage to possess even small pieces of these tierras de riego (irrigated lands).

Public policies with developmental bias



Migration and rurbanization



Subsidy Programs

Progresa

S E D E S O L

Oportunidades

SEDESOL



SECRETARÍA DE
DESARROLLO SOCIAL

PROSPERA

PROGRAMA
DE INCLUSIÓN SOCIAL



Jicayán tomorrow...

