

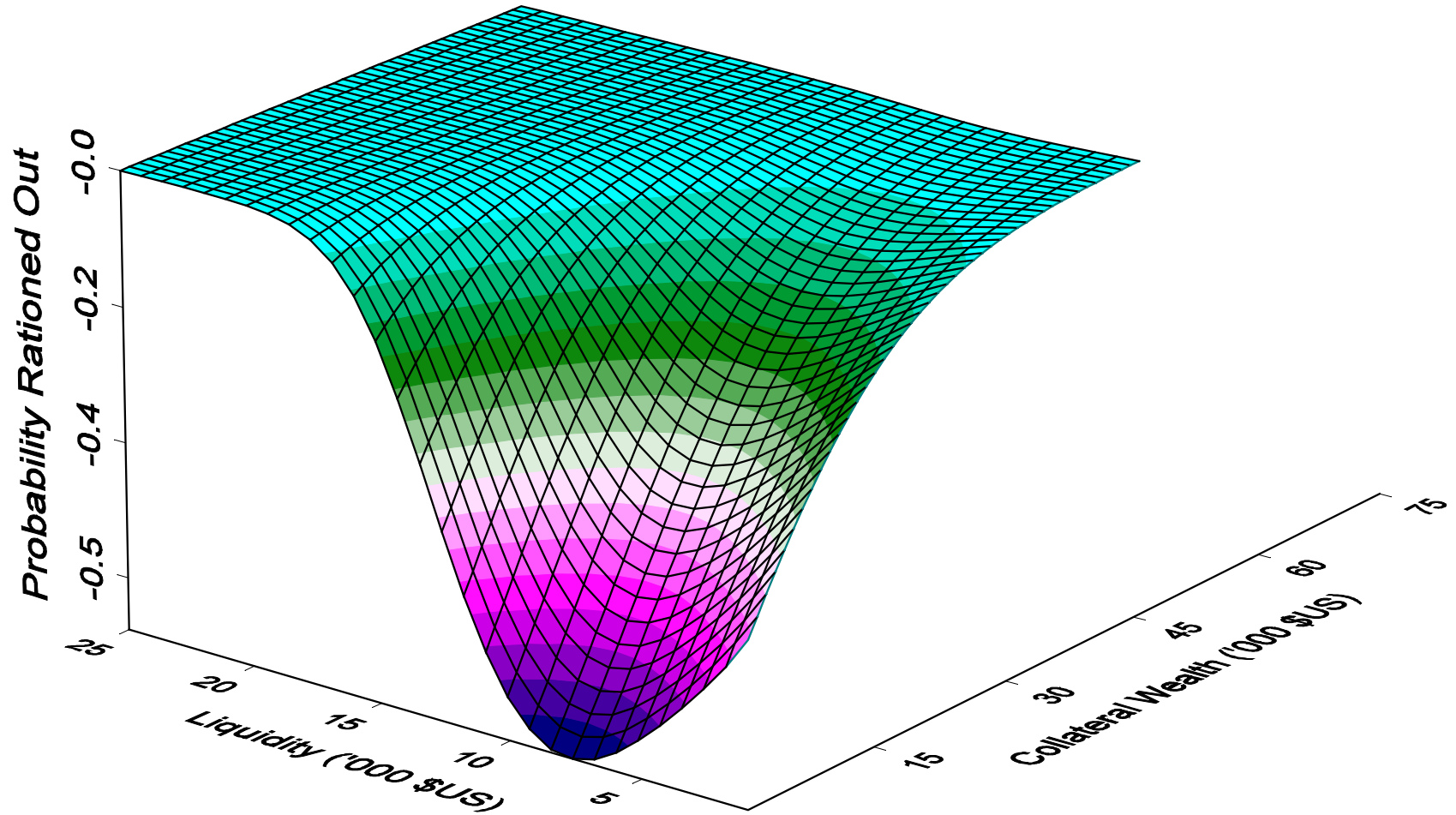


The Rural Finance Challenge

- Public Policy towards Rural Financial Markets has seen sweeping transformations
- Yet the challenge of making rural financial markets work, *and work for all*, remains
- Consider the following example from contemporary Peru:

Financial Sufficiency Abyss

Wealth-Biased Credit Rationing, North Coast of Peru, 1998





The Rural Finance Challenge

- Gaps in rural financial markets costly to the economy
- Wealth biases put poor families in a hole ...
 - Reducing their income-earning potential in the short run;
 - Reducing their asset accumulation over the longer term; and,
 - Narrowing the base & distorting the income distribution consequences of economic growth
- Challenge is to make markets and time work for all
- Fortunately, there are many lessons to be learned about best practice in rural finance
- Conference will be built around following 6 themes:



Paving the Way Forward for Rural Finance

An International Conference on Best Practices

- **The Macroeconomics & Political Economy of Rural Finance**
Claudio Gonzalez-Vega, Ohio State University
- **Legal & Regulatory Requirements for Effective Rural Finance**
Heywood Fleisig, Center for the Economic Analysis of Law
- **Risk Management Challenges in Rural Financial Markets**
Jerry Skees, University of Kentucky
- **Rural Financial Institutions**
Manfred Zeller, University of Gottingen
- **Innovative Products for Rural Finance**
Juan Buchenau, Frontier Finance
- **Rural Finance Outreach and Sustainability**
J.D. von Pischke, Frontier Finance