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Climate Change Adaptation and Population Dynamics in Latin America and the Caribbean: Key Issues for Policy Makers

Speaker's Biographies

Panel 1: Water Management and Engaging Stakeholders

Ronald Ruíz is Regional Manager of Natural Resources and Environment Management for the Government of Piura, Peru. He also serves as President of the Hydrological Resources Council of the Chira-Piura Basin. Ruíz has been an environmental consultant for different international agencies, as well as guest lecturer in various Peruvian universities on issues related to Land Use, Environmental Impact Assessment, Hydrographic Basins, Governance, and Water Policy. He obtained his degree in Industrial Engineering at the University of Piura, and holds a Master's Degree in Environmental Engineering. He has also taken postgraduate studies in National Development Planning at the National Engineering University of Peru.

Victor Guevara is the Director General for Policies and Regulations at the Ministry of Housing, Construction, and Sanitation of Peru. Throughout his professional career he has specialized in legal analysis and assessment, the development of policy proposals, the design and implementation of programs for organizational and communal strengthening, and analysis and facilitation of participatory processes for conflict prevention and building consensus, particularly related to water resources and extractive industries, with intercultural and interdisciplinary groups. Moreover, he has received specialized management training in the fields of water resources and environment and conflict transformation. He has more than ten years of work experience in the public sector, non-governmental organizations, universities, and the private sector, including positions with AQUAFONDO, the National Water Authority, and the Municipal Advocacy for the Children and Teens of the District of San Luis, among others. Additionally, Guevara has taught in various universities. He is a lawyer, and holds a Master's Degree in Natural Resources and Peace from the University for Peace of the United Nations (Costa Rica and Austria).

Daritzia Nicodemo is the General Coordinator at the Center for Urban and Regional Studies, Pontificia Universidad Católica Madre y Maestra (CEUR/PUCMM) in Santiago, Dominican Republic. CEUR conducts research and training, and generates processes oriented towards sustainable development, based on the society-environment interrelation. She has conducted research and published extensively on urban development policies, and is a full time professor at PUCMM. Previously, she was in charge of projects related to the Program of Municipal Management at CEUR. She has also worked for the Metropolitan Transport Authority of Santiago (AMETRASAN). Nicodemo is an architect, and holds a Master's Degree in Urban Planning and Municipal Management from PUCMM, as well as a postgraduate degree in University Pedagogy.

Roger-Mark De Souza is the Director of population, environmental security, and resilience for the Wilson Center. He leads programs on climate change resilience, reproductive and maternal health, environmental security, and livelihoods, including the Global Sustainability and Resilience Program, Environmental

Change and Security Program, and Maternal Health Initiative. Before joining the Wilson Center in 2013, De Souza served as vice president of research and director of the climate program at Population Action International, where he provided strategic guidance, technical oversight, and management of programs on population, gender, climate change, environment, and reproductive health. From 2007 to 2010, as the director of foundation and corporate relations at the Sierra Club, he led a multi-million dollar foundation and corporate fundraising program. Prior to working at the Sierra Club, he directed the Population, Health, and Environment Program at the Population Reference Bureau for 10 years, where he designed and implemented research, communications, and capacity-building projects in the United States, Africa, Southeast Asia, and Latin America and the Caribbean. De Souza holds graduate degrees in international relations and development policy from George Washington University and the University of the West Indies.

Carmen L. Lacambra is a biologist from Los Andes University in Bogota, and has developed her career in the field of sustainable development, conservation and integrated coastal zone management, focusing on the inclusion and integration of risk management, climate change, the private sector and coastal ecosystems into research and planning, both in Europe and Latin America. Dr. Lacambra is a founding partner of Grupo Laera, based in Bogota, Colombia. Partners of current projects include: USAID, the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, the Inter-American Development Bank, and the Global Climate Adaptation Partnership (GCAP) based in Oxford, where she is also a Senior Partner. Dr. Lacambra has been involved in climate adaptation projects at the global, regional and national levels with the University of Cambridge, the World Bank, UNEP-WCMC in UK, the Permanent Commission of the South Pacific (CPPPS), INVEMAR, FOMIN, ICF, USAID country offices, UNDP, WWF, IUCN, TNC and Birdlife International. Her PhD in geography from the University of Cambridge examined the role of ecosystems on coastal disasters vulnerability assessments in tropical areas; she also has a Master's degree in Coastal Zone Management.

Panel 2: Adaptation, Health, Agriculture, and Food Security

José Luis L. Arellano is project manager for operations and conservation at the Southern Border Basin Agency, National Water Commission of Mexico (CONAGUA). He has published extensively and has spoken at various conferences on management of hydrologic resources, adaptation to climate change, and other related topics. Arellano earned his Master of Science in Regional Rural Development from the Universidad Autónoma Chapingo in 2007, and his Doctorate in Water Sciences and Technology from the Mexican Institute of Water Technology in 2012.

Sally Edwards is an advisor for Sustainable Development and Environmental Health at the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization office for Barbados and the Eastern Caribbean Countries. She began working at PAHO/WHO in 2003 and has held several positions in various duty stations, including Geneva, El Paso Texas, Washington DC, Haiti and Barbados. She was part of the team that developed the PAHO Plan of Action and Strategy for Climate Change and Human Health and supports countries in the Eastern Caribbean in developing their national Plans of Action on Climate Change and Human Health. Previously, she was at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, working on the Climate Change Adaptation Strategies for Human Health (cCASHh) project, focusing on both the observed impacts of extreme weather events in Europe as well as the impacts of climate change on salmonella and campylobacter infections. She holds a BA in Development Studies and Geography, and a Master's in Environmental Epidemiology and Policy from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.

Lisa Palmer is a freelance journalist, and a fellow at the National Science Foundation-funded National Socio-Environmental Synthesis Center (SESYNC), where she is working on interdisciplinary science research. Previously, she was a Public Policy Scholar with the Environmental Change and Security Program at the Wilson Center. Her research was based on the nexus of population growth, agriculture, energy, environmental security, and climate change. She has written for publications such as The Guardian, The New York Times,

Slate Magazine, Scientific American, The Yale Forum, Fortune, Yale E360, and many others. Her writing also appears in both academic media as well as research journals including Nature Climate Change. Palmer is a graduate of Boston University and earned her master's degree at Simmons College in Boston.

Steven Wilson is Senior Manager of Projects for the Multilateral Investment Fund at the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and designer of the PROADAPT project. He has worked in international development for over twenty years. Previously, he worked at the United Nations Industrial Development Organization. Wilson has led projects and research related with international environmental norms and management, substances that erode the ozone layer, renewable resource technologies, energy efficiency, and climate change adaptation. He is one of the designers of PROADAPT, a \$12 million installation, co-financed by the Nordic Development Fund, which aims to help small businesses and supply chains in increasing climate resilience in Latin America and the Caribbean. Currently, he is implementing a global study on the climate resilience market in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, in collaboration with the NDF. He is an adjunct associate professor at the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service graduate program. He obtained a license and Master's degree in business and economics from the University of Texas and a PhD in Economics from the University of Tennessee.

Lunch Keynote

John Furlow is a senior Climate Change specialist at USAID. He is currently on a detail to the U.S. Department of State, where he is helping to establish the National Adaptation Planning Global Network. At USAID, Furlow led the development of the Climate Resilient Development Framework and the establishment of the Climate Services Partnership. He has worked with multiple USAID country Missions, providing technical support in the design of adaptation projects. Prior to joining USAID (in 2006), he worked at EPA in the Office of Research and Development's climate change assessment program.

Panel 3: Climate Change Adaptation Planning and Mainstreaming

Cynthia J. Arnson is Director of the Latin American Program at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars. Her work focuses on democratic governance, conflict resolution, citizen security, international relations, and U.S. policy in the Western hemisphere. Arnson is a member of the editorial advisory board of *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica*, the Spanish-language edition of the distinguished journal *Foreign Affairs*. She is a member of the advisory boards of the Social Science Research Council's Conflict Prevention and Peace Forum and of Human Rights Watch/Americas. She is co-editor most recently of *Reaching Across the Pacific: Latin America and Asia in the New Century*; co-editor of *Latin American Populism in the 21st Century* (Johns Hopkins, 2013); and author of *Crossroads: Congress, the President, and Central America, 1976-1993* (Penn State, 2d ed., 1993), among other works. Arnson was a foreign policy aide in the U.S. House of Representatives during the Carter and Reagan administrations. She graduated magna cum laude from Wesleyan University in Middletown, Connecticut, and has a Master's and Ph.D. in International Relations from The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies.

Jessica Jacob Dávila is a specialist in climate finance. Previously, she was Director of Social and Environmental Responsibility at FINDETER, a credit institution linked to the Ministry of Finance and Public Credit of Colombia. During her time at FINDETER, she was elected as representative of the Climate Change Committee of all Latin American Development Banks within ALIDE, as well as regional President of the Financial Initiative of the United Nations Program for the Environment (UNEP FI) and President of The Colombian Green Protocol. Before that, she coordinated the Africa and Latin America Group at UNEP FI. Mrs. Jacob studied international economics with a concentration in development at the Sorbonne University in Paris, and specialized in Political Science and Economics at the University of Geneva, Switzerland.

Patricia Ramírez is the Executive Secretary for the Regional Committee for Hydraulic Resources of the Central American Integration System (CRRH-SICA). She is also member of the Coordination/Integration group for the Regional Climate Center for the Commission on Climatology of the World Meteorological Organization. She has worked for the CRRH-SICA since 2000, where she served as a link with the Regional Program for the Reduction of Environmental Vulnerability and Degradation in Central America (UE-SICA), director of regional projects in meteorology and climate, coordinator of the Forum of the Climate of Central America (FCAC) and as part of the Regional Technical Committee of SICA for Food and Nutritional Security in Central America. Previously, she was the director and associate director of the National Meteorological Institute of Costa Rica, a member of the group on Agro-meteorology for the regions of North America, Central America and the Caribbean for the World Meteorological Organization, and the Work Group II of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. She participated as a technical advisor with the scientist negotiating team for Costa Rica before the CMCC-NUU and was a member of the Executive Council for the Inter-American Institute for Global Change (IAI).

Miguel Saravia is the Executive Director of the Consortium for the Sustainable Development of the Andean Ecorregion (CONDESAN), based in Lima, Peru. For over 20 years, he has managed and implemented programs and projects, with a specific emphasis on information systems and knowledge management. He is currently member of the Board of Directors of the International Mountain Society. Apart from his role as Executive Director, he is Coordinator of the Action for Mountains Project, Andes Leader for the Challenge Program on Water & Food, and is in charge of the Mountain Forum. He is Associate at the Permanent Seminar on Agricultural Research (SEPIA), the Information Architecture Institute (IAI), and the Knowledge Management for Development group (KM4Dev). He has served as president of the Board of Directors of ASOCAM and of the Board of Directors of the Regional Andean Tundra Project; member of the Board of Directors of the Peruvian Science Network, of the Mountain Forum, and of the RAMP-Peru Project. He studied Library and Information Sciences at the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru, and did postgraduate studies in management of non-governmental organizations at the Open University, UK.

Paula Sierra is the Research Program Coordinator at the Marine and Coastal Management Research Institute (INVEMAR) in Santa Marta, Colombia. She has worked at INVEMAR since 1996. There, she has lead the integrated coastal zone management (ICZM) research group recognized by Colciencias (national agency in Science, Innovation and Technology). She was also part of the team that elaborated the coastal zone policy in Colombia between 1996 y 2000 (institutionally led by INVEMAR and the Ministry of the Environment). The Main topics in the research program are related to coastal planning and policy options, climate change (impacts, vulnerability and adaptation), and focus on uses of information technologies for ICZM and climate change. She has participated in the elaboration, execution and coordination of more than 20 research projects (at least 3 international projects); and she has been a trainer in more than 10 ICZM courses in Colombia, during the past 15 years. She is a PhD candidate on Marine Sciences, and a marine biologist from Jorge Tadeo Lozano University in Bogota. Ms. Sierra has a diploma on remote sensing and geographical information systems applied to coastal zones, as well as a Master of Science on Geo-informatics and Coastal Zone Management from the International Institute for Aerospace Survey and Earth Science – Twente University, The Netherlands.

Miguel Villazón is a senior advisor at the office of the Mayor of Valledupar, Colombia. He works on fostering connections between the Municipality of Valledupar and civil society organizations, with a special focus on including the community into the local decision-making processes and urban planning. He holds a degree in Political Science from Del Rosario University in Colombia, and specialized in International Cooperation and Development at the Externado University in Bogota.