

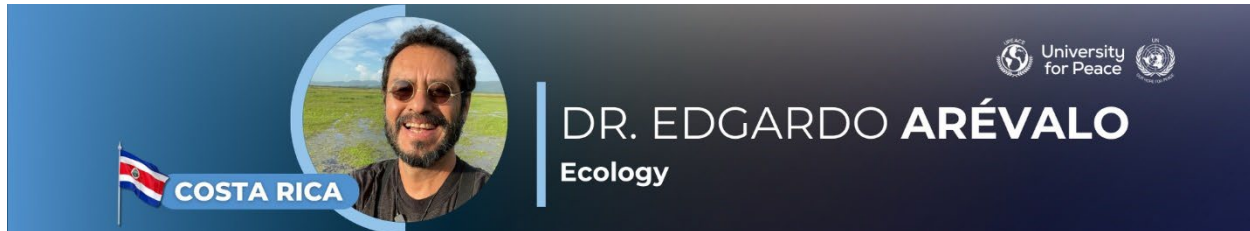


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Department of Environment and Development

Visiting Faculty Bios



With 30 years of experience as a tropical ecologist and educator, Dr. Arévalo has provided field instruction and teaching for a wide range of local and international educational programs. His expertise includes designing academic syllabi and delivering classes in both English and Spanish. Dr. Arévalo has conducted classes and seminars in multiple countries, including Costa Rica, England, the United States, and Australia. Additionally, he has expertise in environmental compensation, landscape ecology, biodiversity conservation, and ecosystem services.

Publications

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BRAZIL

MARIA RITA BORBA

Development and Conflict in Practice: Role and Application of Sustainability Frameworks in Development Projects




Maria Rita Manzano Borba has over 15 years of diverse professional and academic experience. During this period, her interests and work have focused on the intersection of development, natural resources, and conflict. Maria Rita has worked across geographies and developed solid multi-cultural communication skills to engage and consult with the public and private sectors, local communities and international organizations in dynamic and complex environments. She has worked for consulting companies, think tanks, extractive industries, and international organizations such as the UNHCR and IFC. Her skills and experience include conflict resolution and negotiation, facilitation, stakeholder engagement and dialogue processes, social risks and impact assessment, resettlement and livelihood restoration, social and environmental safeguards, and diversity and inclusion. Maria Rita holds two Master degrees, in Law and Diplomacy from the Fletcher School at Tufts University, and in Human Geography from the University of Sao Paulo. A Brazilian national, Maria Rita grew up in Brazil, studied in the USA, and lived and worked in Southern Africa, and Southeast Asia.



CANADA

BIPASHA BARUAH

Gender, Environment, and Development



Bipasha Baruah is Professor and Canada Research Chair in Global Women's Issues at Western University. Professor Baruah earned a PhD in environmental studies from York University, Toronto. She specializes in interdisciplinary research at the intersections of gender, economy, environment, and development. Most of her current research aims to understand how to ensure that a global low-carbon economy will be more gender equitable and socially just than its fossil-fuel based predecessor. Author of a book and more than 100 peer-reviewed articles, book chapters, and other works, Professor Baruah serves frequently as an expert reviewer and advisor to Canadian and intergovernmental environmental protection and international development organizations.

Peer-reviewed Monographs

Baruah, B. 2010. Women and Property in Urban India. Vancouver: UBC Press.

Peer-reviewed Journal Articles (Current and former graduate student co-authors' names are bolded and underlined)



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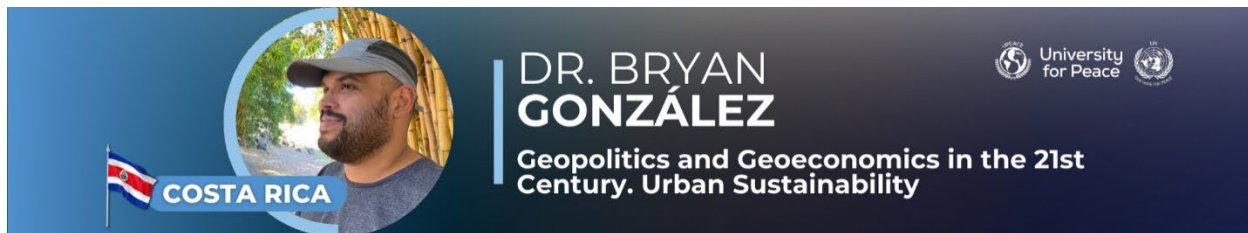


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Bryan González Hernández has a PhD in Latin American Studies with emphasis in Latin American Thought. He also has a master's degree in Latin American Studies in Culture and Development as well as a B.A. in International Relations with emphasis in Foreign Policy and Diplomacy. His research has focused on topics such as Critical Studies of Development and Climate Change; Security and Geopolitics; International and Latin American Politics. Has worked as coordinator of a master's program in Latin American Studies at the National University of Costa Rica; professor in public and private universities in Costa Rica; and as associate researcher in national and international research centres, such as Latinia – Observatory of Latin America in Spain and the Centre for Studies on Geopolitics and Foreign Affairs in Brazil. He also worked on an educational and research project on socio-environmental issues called Escuela de la Tierra, while collaborating in the promotion of environmental education for a Wildlife Refuge in southern Costa Rica

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Books

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González, B. (2009). *Beyond the Free Trade: Essential Security*]. Heredia, Costa Rica: CIDCSO-UNA. (In Spanish).

González, B. (2005). *On Pre-emptive War*. Heredia, Costa Rica: UNA. (In Spanish)

Chapters in books

González, B. (2024) Liquid Mesoamerica. Hydro-strategic importance of the region in the plutogenic era. En Sylvester, O., Ramin, C. & Breitling, J. (Eds). *Water Emergency: Case Studies and Global Perspectives*. Costa Rica: University for Peace Press (In press). (In English)

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Mary Little LL.M. is an associate professor at the Center for Sustainable Development Studies, School for Field Studies (SFS), in Costa Rica. She also teaches Social Research Methods and Sustainable Tourism at the University for Peace. Before teaching, Mary studied human rights law advocated for the legal rights of refugees and women experiencing domestic violence. These experiences with advocacy have informed her social justice approach to research and teaching. Her research explores community-driven waste solutions, responsible tourism and regenerative food initiatives. Currently, she is focused on agrotourism as a mechanism for climate adaptation and the links between tourism, food security and social-solidarity movements for her Ph.D. research.

Publications and Reports

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MLS ALANCAY MORALES
Indigenous Perspectives on Environment and Development (Part I)

Alancay is a Brunka Indigenous person. He has worked and specialized on issues related to indigenous peoples' human rights and development. He is the Global Advocacy Coordinator for Indigenous Peoples Rights International. His experience also includes advocating before international institutions such as the United Nations, the Organization of American States, the World Bank; and working on the ground with indigenous peoples in the Americas, Asia, Europe, and Greenland.

DR. MARCO QUESADA
Coastal Resources Management

Marco Quesada is currently the Vice president of the Oceans Program for the Americas Field Division of Conservation International (CI). Before that, he was the Costa Rica



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country program director for CI for nearly seven years. Marco has an undergraduate (B.Sc., 1996) and a masters (M.Sc., 2001) degree in biology from Universidad de Costa Rica and a Ph.D. from the Department of Marine Affairs of the University of Rhode Island. His M.Sc. thesis focused on the subject of marine zooplankton ecology. His Ph.D. dissertation was developed on the roles of community participation in fisheries management. Marco has participated in scholar exchanges in Portland State University (US) and the University of La Rochelle (Fra), and a professor at U. Peace, Universidad de Costa Rica. He served as a member of the Marine Stewardship Council's (MSC) Stakeholder Advisory Council, and the Blue Carbon Scientific Working Group; acted as a national delegate to the InterAmerican Tropical Tuna Commission; and currently presides over the supervisory committees of Costa Rica's first Debt for Nature Swap, the Osa Trustfund and the Sustainable Biodiversity Fund.



Dr. Nika Salvetti holds an M.Sc. in Post-war reconstruction, graduated with distinction in 1999, University of York (UK), a B.Sc. in Economics, graduated Cum Laude, 1992, University La Sapienza of Rome (Italy), a Technical Diploma in accounting and foreign Languages, graduated in 1986, (Italy). She has been working over the past 18 years in developing countries and war-torn societies in Africa (Uganda and Egypt), Asia (Indonesia), Middle East (Jordan, WBG, Lebanon, Yemen), Central America (Guatemala, Costa Rica) and the Balkans (BiH, Kosovo, Serbia, Macedonia) heading and managing emergency, rehabilitation and development projects for the European Commission (several years), SNV-Dutch Cooperation (1999-2001), CARE Nederland (2001-2008), MOVIMONDO (Consortium of Italian NGOs- 1995-1998). She was also research fellow of the Institute of Nutrition for Central America and Panama (INCAP); University of York (UK) for research projects in Indonesia/Aceh and Lebanon/Beirut; and of the University of Rome.

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COSTA RICA

M.A. KIFAH SASA
Development Studies and
International Cooperation



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Kifah Sasa is Deputy Resident Representative of the United Nations Development Program in Costa Rica. He worked for ten years as a Nature, Climate and Energy Program Officer, supervising this UN agency's largest project portfolio in the country. Kifah has served as a regional economic advisor and senior advisor to the UNDP Green Commodities Program, supporting governments and companies to improve the environmental and social performance of agricultural commodities supply chains. He also coordinated marine conservation projects on Cocos Island. His achievements include innovating the way land use change is monitored in productive landscapes in Costa Rica (MOCUPP); and having led the mobilization of nearly 100 million dollars from vertical funds entering Costa Rica in the last decade. Prior to joining UNDP, Kifah created popular education organizations and supported community-based groups on a voluntary and free basis. With the Central American Integration System, he advised Central American ministers on social integration issues; housing and human settlements, and health. He has been a university professor at the Master's level at the University of Peace teaching courses on Development and International Cooperation and has also been a guest professor at the Tropical Studies Organization for ethno-biology courses. He trained in the UK (Middlesex, BA, MA), Holland (ISS, Post Dip) and Costa Rica (IB), is married, and is the proud father of a daughter.



CANADA

**DR. CORINNE
SCHUSTER-WALLACE**
Water Security and Peace



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Dr. Corinne Schuster-Wallace is the Executive Director of the Global Institute for Water Security and faculty member in the Department of Geography and Planning, University of Saskatchewan, Canada. She is also a co-chairholder in the UNESCO Chair for Mountain Water Sustainability, hosted by the University of Calgary. Previously positions include Senior Research Fellow for UNU Institute for Water, Environment, and Health and the Public Health Agency of Canada. She founded the Women Plus Water community and is the inaugural Chair of Cansu Global's Science, Innovation, Technology, and Education (SITE) initiative. In 2023 she was recognized as a Water Shero by the Red Dot Foundation. Her research utilises a coupled systems approach to water-related human health in rural, remote, and marginalised communities. Her work integrates university and community, different knowledge systems, and research, practice, and teaching. Coupling environmental and social systems provides a comprehensive understanding of socio-



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Dr. Luis E. Vargas-Castro is a tropical biologist whose current research combines ecology and conservation technology. He has ample experience in field ecology, wildlife monitoring and bioacoustics. Luis has worked on various research projects since 2008 and has a keen interest in data analysis, making science more accessible for all and developing projects with meaningful impacts on biodiversity conservation. Luis graduated from the University of Costa Rica with a B.Sc. in Biology and an advanced Bachelor's Degree in Zoology. He later obtained a Ph.D. in Biology at the University of Miami, FL. He has received professional training at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute (Panama), Cornell Lab of Ornithology (USA) and Organization for Tropical Studies (Costa Rica), among others. His work has been published in diverse research articles on behaviour, ornithology and ecology. Also, Luis worked as Assistant Editor at *Revista de Biología Tropical* (International Journal of Tropical Biology and Conservation) for two years and has taught in different courses of animal behaviour, ecology and tropical biology in Costa Rica and USA. He also currently works as a Researcher at Universidad Estatal a Distancia (UNED) and does consultancy work for ecology, wildlife monitoring and conservation research projects.

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