

**Elena María Abraham** is a Scientific Researcher of the CONICET (National Council of Scientific and Technical Research), Director of IADIZA (Argentine Institute for Research on Arid Lands) and Professor of Environmental Planning and Management at the Congress University, Argentina. She is working on developing methodological frameworks able to consolidate integrated, participative and multi-scale approaches to desertification assessment and on the generation of local development strategies to combat desertification in the Monte desert, Argentina. To date she has published over 120 contributions to the knowledge of theoretical, methodological and application aspects related to the environment and human settlements in drylands.