



**KAREN YOANA UDAETA RODRIGUEZ**

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**Bolivia**

Karen Udaeta-Rodríguez has worked extensively with rural communities inside and outside protected areas and indigenous community lands. In Bolivia, she is one of the pioneering biologists working on measuring ecosystem services provided by native high altitude forests, specially in relation to water cycles.

She works with NGOs, indigenous and social organizations, and government institutions (including the Ministry of Environment and Water), focusing her research on local development and integrated management of life systems. She also teaches biology, ecology and environmental issues at the state university.

As supplementary activity Karen co-founded Photographers for Conservation, a non-profit group that promotes understanding and appreciation of Bolivia's natural wealth; so city dwellers, who do not have the privilege to knowing it first hand, can appreciate and value it.