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Sandra Durán is a tropical ecologist from Colombia. She has a master degree in Natural Resources Management and a PhD in Ecology from the University of Alberta in Canada. Her research focuses on understanding how tropical forests are affected by global change drivers. Her work includes linking species richness, functional diversity and functional traits to ecosystem processes in second- and old-growth forests in the tropics. She has worked as a seasonal instructor at the University of Alberta, and is currently coordinating the development of a massive online open course (MOOC) on the impacts of climate and global changes in Latin America.