



**Nara Lina Oliveira**  
**Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz (UESC)**  
**Brazil**

I have my bachelor degree in Environmental Management from the Universidade de São Paulo (2006-2010), a Master's degree in Ecology and Biodiversity Conservation at the Universidade Estadual de Santa Cruz (UESC) (2011-2013) and I am currently pursuing a Doctorate Degree in the same Program. My broad research interests is centered around Ecology of coral reefs as a response to anthropogenic stressors. I have studied spatial and temporal changes in population and vitality of a “weedy coral” in Abrolhos, Brazil, which increased our understanding on abiotic and biotic factors driving dynamics of the coral *Favia gravida*. In my current research I am studying the trophic ecology (relative importance of autotrophy and heterotrophy) of shallow corals from different functional groups and life histories. In times of global climate change, the natural niche and nourishment of coral will enable us to understand relative vulnerabilities of corals, aiming conservation actions and management at local and regional scales.