



**MARÍA DEL PILAR CORNEJO DE GRUNAUER**  
**National Secretary of Risk Management**  
**Ecuador**

Mrs. Cornejo, married and one child, is an Oceanographer from the Escuela Superior Politecnica del Litoral (ESPOL), University of Ecuador; has a MSc degree in Physical Oceanography from Oregon State University, Corvallis Oregon (USA); and a Ph.D. degree in Meteorology and Physical Oceanography from the University of Miami (USA).

She has worked in different programs, projects and consultancies, with themes such as Integrated River Basin Management, Human Dimensions of Climate Change, Environmental Sustainability in Agriculture and Aquaculture, Oceanic Environmental Studies. She coordinated for more than five years the UNESCO---HELP Program; she served eight years as member of the Joint Scientific Committee of the World Climate Research Program.

Among her official duties are: to advise the President on risk management issues, to design national policies, to analyze, prevent and mitigate risk; to promote and coordinate the response to guarantee the protection of people and communities from adverse events caused by natural or anthropic sources; as well as the recovery and reconstruction of social, economic and environmental conditions affected by eventual emergencies or disasters.

In the academic field, Mrs. Cornejo has been a professor at the Escuela Superior Politecnica del Litoral (ESPOL) in Guayaquil for over twenty---two years, teaching graduate and undergraduate students; she also worked on research, has given and attended over a hundred of conferences, workshops in several countries such as USA, Chile, Brazil, Panama, Paraguay, Ecuador, Germany, Japan, Belgium, France, South Africa, among others.