






Inter-American Institute for Global Change Research



**IAI Training Institute on Climate and Health in the Americas  
November 7-18, 2005, Kingston, Jamaica**

**Participants' Bioprofiles**

Participant	Bioprofile
<p>Mario Lamfri Argentina</p> 	<p>Mario Lamfri received a Lic. in Physics from the National University of Cordoba, Argentina. He has a previous academic experience as professor and researcher in the Atmospheric Physics Group of the Faculty of Mathematics, Astronomy and Physics. Mario is currently on charge of the development of the area of application of spatial information to human health in the argentine space agency CONAE and his responsibilities involve research and teaching in the "Instituto de Altos Estudios Espaciales Mario Gulich". In this frame, he is developing several projects on the use of remote sensing in problematics such as dengue, chagas, argentine haemorrhagic fever, malaria, hantavirus, etc.</p>
<p>Ruben Bejarán Argentina</p> 	<p>Ruben Bejaran has a Ph.D. in Atmospheric Sciences from the University of Buenos Aires in Argentina. He is currently a researcher at the University of Buenos Aires. Ruben studied the spatial and temporal localization of mosquitoes in the Southeast of South America, specially the Aedes aegypti and the possibility of dengue virus transmission. At the moment he analyzes dispersion of the populations of Ochlerotatus albifasciatus (diptera: CULICIDAE) in Patagonia.</p>
<p>Alex Ifill Barbados</p> 	<p>Alex Ifill holds a masters degree in Water Pollution Control Technology from Cranfield University in the UK and a BSc in Environmental Biology from the University of Greenwich, also in the UK. He also holds a Diploma in Land Information and Geographic Information System. He is presently pursuing a Doctoral thesis in the Development of An Early Warning System For Dengue Fever Using GIS. He is presently employed by the Barbados Water Authority as a Water Quality Technologist and is the company's representative on the National Climate Change Committee. Alex Ifill has also investigated the Potential of Contamination of Groundwater in Barbados by Saline Intrusion due to Sea Level Rise for CPPAC in September 2000. Both his work and research interest are inter-linked with modeling and adaptation to climate change.</p>

Marilyn Effen  
Bolivia



Marilyn Aparicio Efen, Bolivian. Resident in International Public Health PAHO/WHO Washington DC – USA, Master in Sciences in Development Policies, Epidemiologist, Neurologist – Neurophysiologist, Medical Doctor. She made special courses like Cost - Effectiveness Analysis in Decision Making U.S.A Duke University North Caroline, Designing and Costing a Package of Essential Health Services U.S.A The World Bank (Population Health and Nutrition – Department). Designing and Implementing a National Burden of Disease Study U.S.A Harvard University - Harvard Center for Population and Development – Studies. Since 1999 - Working as a policy advisor for the Bolivia National Climate Change Program; working on national climate change strategies in particular for human health adaptation and conducting research on human health vulnerability. At the moment, working as health advisor, in “Climate Change Studies Project”, with international support from Netherlands Climate Assistant Program (NCAP), and the Stockholm Environmental institute. in charge of design, implement and analysis the human health vulnerability in two mountain ecosystems. Including; geographies Information system, health evaluation, entomologic, laboratory and climate evaluation. Since 2001 - Part of the International Human Dimensions Program in Bolivia. She has been advisor as a .Epidemiology and Health Services Planning, for World Bank Project, Luanda Angola- Africa, 1997. Chief Consultant on Quality and health Services Utilization for Data for Decision Making Project Harvard, PHR-USAID and Bolivian Ministry of Health.1996 .Working as Human Health Consultant for Bolivian Health Sector Reform for the Canadian International Health Society and ACDI,1995, Human Health Associated Consultant for Health Policies and Health Situation Analysis PAHO-WHO Washington DC .In 1994 She was International Health Affairs Director, in the Bolivian Ministry of Health. Since 1993, University Professor Facultad de Medicina - Universidad Mayor de San Andrés, (UMSA) La Paz – Bolivia, Since 2002, Human Environmental Health Course Master Degree Coordinator. Facultad de Medicina - Universidad Mayor de San Andrés, (UMSA) La Paz - Bolivia

Francisco de Assis Diniz  
Brazil



Francisco de Assis received a B.S in Meteorology from “Universidade Federal da Paraiba” in 1982, in Brazil. Francisco is working at the National Meteorological Institute (INMET) since 1982. He is a specialist in weather and climate forecast. He has been occupying positions of responsibility at the Weather Forecast Centre for the ten last years. Francisco is also member a national program policy in health environment and natural hazards. He is currently Director’s Technical Assistant.

Ricardo Guimarães  
Brazil



Ricardo Guimarães received an M.S. in Remote Sensing from the INPE (National Institute of Space Research), Brazil. He is an assistant research in DPI (Image Processing Department), where he is currently involved in the project with INPE, FioCruz (Foundation Oswaldo Cruz), UFMG (Federal University of Minas Gerais) and MS (Health Department of Brazil) studying the schistosomiasis in State of Minas Gerais, Brazil.

<p>Guillermo Rua Colômbia</p> 	<p>Guillermo Rua holds a Bs in Biology and an M Sc in Medical Entomology. He is currently finishing his Ph D studies. Main topics in his studies have been the relationship between climatic variability, malaria transmission and vector ecology. Guillermo works for the University of Antioquia.</p>
<p>Jairo García Giraldo Colombia</p> 	<p>Jairo A. García Giraldo received an M.Sc. in Meteorology from the National University of Colombia. He is a Geographic Engineer from the Bogotá University Jorge Tadeo Lozano. He is currently a Scientific Investigator at Ideam, Colombia. He is working for the development of the Early Warning System for Malaria and Dengue in collaboration with the National Health Institute. This is a subproject of the Integrated National Adaptation Pilot founded by the World Bank. He has studied relations between climate variability and dengue and malaria for several years.</p>
<p>Ana Cristina Pompa Toledano Cuba</p> 	<p>Ana Cristina Pompa Toledano, graduated in Geography and Master in Meteorological Sciences, is a specialist of the Provincial Meteorological Center of Cuba. Since 1990 I have been working on bioclimatology in all its dimensions, i.e. the relation between climate and human, animal and plant health. I have done research and obtained results which are applicable to economy. At present, I direct two projects related to food sustainability in the province and the creation of an early alert system for extreme meteorological events to avoid losses in planned crops.</p>
<p>Antonio Wallo Vázquez Cuba</p> 	<p>Antonio Wallo Vázquez received an M. S. in Meteorological Sciences, from Havana University, Cuba. He is currently involved in a Doctoral Research at the Meteorological Institute in Havana. The main line of his investigation is related with the influence of the environment in the human health, mainly in the bronchial asthma. He is the coordinator of a research project in this thematic, carrier out in a county of Havana City. He applies the Geographical Information Systems in all these investigations.</p>



<p>David Joa Dominican Republic</p> 	<p>David Joa received a Ms in Public Health from “Central del Este” University, Dominican Republic. He works at the Tropical Diseases Centre (Ministry of Public Health), where he is Coordinating the National Program for the Malaria Control. He participated in a research that related the climatic behavior to the epidemiologist behavior of the malaria in Dominican Republic in 2001. David is also coordinating the Masters in Public Health of the “Central del Este” University.</p>
<p>Sherine Huntley Jamaica</p>	
<p>Hermes Ramirez Mexico</p> 	<p>Hermes U. Ramirez S. is a Chemical Engineer from the University of Guadalajara, Mexico; He received an M. S. in Geosciences of Environment from the University of Aix-Marseille III, France; a PhD in Chemistry from the University of Nice-Sophie Antipolis, France. Hermes is currently working as researcher at the University of Guadalajara, Mexico. He is studying the atmospheric pollution in the metropolitan Zone of Guadalajara, the water contamination in the Chapala Lake, the system of monitoring of a natural area protected against meteorological extreme phenomena and forest fires ("La Primavera", Jalisco, México) and the Variability of the index uv in the Metropolitan Zone of Guadalajara.</p>
<p>Jose Azoh Mexico</p> 	<p>Jose Azoh earned a Ph.D in anthropology from the University of Montreal in Canada. She has strong research and policy interests in social and human health issues in developing countries. Over the past eight years, she has conducted theoretically-informed and empirically-grounded researches on vulnerable groups and their quality of life. She is currently collaborating with a non governmental organization in northeastern Mexico (Nuevo León) on research methodology and human capacity building.</p>
<p>Albert Martis The Netherlands Antilles</p> 	
<p>Gladys Villarreal Panama</p>	<p>Gladys Haydee Villarreal is graduated in Natural Resources and Environment from the University of Panama (2004). Her thesis (April 2004” had for title: “Regional Climatic Description of the Republic of Panama”. She is a Meteorological Technician from the University of Panama (1994). Since 1995, Gladys has been working as Meteorologist at the National Environment Authority and processes Water Licenses and Concessions. She is in charge of the climate database of the ANAM Meteorological Network at national level, and the preparation of bulletins and rainfall analysis.</p>



Norma Ordinola  
Peru



Norma Ordinola holds an MBA from the National University of Piura (UNP), Peru. At the moment, she is involved in a doctoral research at UNP, studying strategies of mitigation for the carbon dioxide reduction from vehicular emissions in Piura. Norma works at the University of Piura (UDEP), and has been involved in a local meteorological and climatological research. She was responsible of the Peruvian Pilot Balloons Network during last ENSO (1997-1998) as part of the Pan American Climate Studies Program - Sounding Network (PACS-SONET,) project funded by the NOAA's Office of Global Programs. She also is an elected local authority since 2003.

Palmira Ventosilla  
Peru



Palmira Ventosilla is currently a researcher professor at UPCH and she is candidate of PhD in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology from the Peruvian University Cayetano Heredia (UPCH), supported by the Belgian government. She is a microbiologist in the vector-borne disease division of the Institute and has led community-based projects to use biodiversity to control vector-borne disease in communities in northern Peru and in the Peruvian Amazon. Palmira has developed great expertise in conducting community-based research in the course of her innovative projects. She is coordinator and PI of several projects in biological control and climate impact of Malaria and Bartonellosis, and she is involved in bio-business to improve the quality of life in endemic areas of Malaria and Bartonellosis. She is Co-PI in an Intercultural Trans-disciplinary Community of Practice for Addressing the Eco-Social context of the Health of Vulnerable Populations, with Canadian colleagues at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the BC Centre for Disease Control (BCCDC).

Karen Polson  
Trinidad e Tobago



Karen Polson received a MSc in Biology and Control of Disease Vectors from the University of London. She is currently involved in part-time doctoral research at the University of the West Indies, St Augustine, Trinidad, studying the impact of temperature on vector competence and insecticide susceptibility of the dengue vector, *Aedes aegypti*. Karen works in the Laboratory Division of the Caribbean Epidemiology Centre (CAREC/PAHO/WHO) as the Laboratory Technical Development Officer in the Entomology Unit.

Jorge Moreno  
Venezuela