

EDWIN J. CASTELLANOS

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Director

Sustainable Economic Observatory
Universidad del Valle de Guatemala

SUMMARY OF PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

22 years of continuous work in research and education in Guatemala and Mesoamerica in the area of climate change and natural resource management, particularly forests and water. He is the Coordinating Lead Author in the IPCC 6th Assessment Report in the chapter on vulnerability and adaptation for Central and South America. He also participated in COP 21 in Paris in December 2015 as the National Commissioner on Climate Change.

He is a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Inter American Institute for Global Change Research, IAI; member of the External Advisory Council for WWF Latin America; and member of the Alliance for Climatic Resilience in Rural Latin America. He is the university representative before the National Council for Climate Change, the highest decision body on climate change issues for Guatemala.

He has been the Principal Investigator in multiple projects at the national and regional level on the topic of adaptation to climate change by rural and small farmer communities. He has also lead the studies for the past 15 years on monitoring deforestation and studying the causes for that problem in Guatemala, as part of the national REDD+ (Reduced Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation) initiatives and other initiatives to develop carbon-offset projects.

He promoted the creation and served for three years as the Secretary of the Guatemalan System for Climate Change Sciences, SGCCC, a network of research centers that provides scientific advice to decision makers. He received the National Medal for Science and Technology in 2016, and he was the first Global Visiting Scholar at RTI International in 2017 (USA).

RECENT PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS:

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| 2020-present | Director, Sustainable Economic Observatory, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Recipient of the <i>Pantaleón</i> Endowed Chair on Environmental Sciences. |
| 2018-Present | Member, External Advisory Council for Latin America, WWF. |
| 2016-Present | Scientific Advisory Committee, Inter American Institute for Global Change Research, IAI. |
| 2017-Present | General Coordinator, International Network of Science, Technology and Innovation of Guatemala. |
| 2014-Present | University Representative to the Guatemalan National Council of Climate Change. |
| 2018-2020 | Dean, Research Institute, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Coordinated the work of eleven research centers. |
| 1998-2017 | Professor of Environmental Science, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Co-Director of the Research Center for the Environment and Biodiversity.• Director of the GIS and Remote Sensing Laboratory.• Taught the course “Climate Change” in the Masters program in Technology and Energy Sustainability, and “Environmental Sciences” to undergraduate students. |
| 2014-2017 | Secretary, Guatemalan System for Climate Change Sciences. |
| 2017 | Global Visiting Scholar, RTI International, Research Triangle Park, North Carolina, USA. |

VOLUNTEER PROFESSIONAL WORK

- 2017-Present Board of Directors Mesoamerican Journal on Biodiversity and Climate Change.
- 2012-2017 Guest Editor for the Special Issue on "Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation with Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples" published by the journal Climatic Change.
- 2010-Present Advisory Board, Private Institute for Climate Change Research, ICC, Guatemala.
- 2000-Present Scientific Advisory Board of Defensores de la Naturaleza, the largest conservation NGO in Guatemala.
- 2011-2012 Member of the International Panel of Experts for the meeting: Indigenous Peoples, Marginalized Populations and Climate Change (IPMPCC), which resulted in the book: Traditional knowledge for climate change assessment and adaptation.

EDUCATION:

- 2001 Ph.D. Environmental Science. Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
Concentration area: Ecosystems Ecology. GPA: 3.9.
- 1992 M.S. Analytical Chemistry. Michigan State University, E. Lansing, MI
Concentration area: Electronics and Instrumentation. GPA: 3.8
- 1986 B.S. Chemistry. Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. Distinguished student.

HONORS AND DISTINCTIONS

- 2018 Distinguished Researcher, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.
- 2016 National Medal for Science and Technology, Guatemalan Government.
- 2016 Ricardo Bressani Medal, impact of teaching and research, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala.
- 2014 Included in the list of Personalities of the Year, Siglo XXI, Guatemalan newspaper.
- 2011 Member of the Academy of Medical, Physical and Natural Sciences of Guatemala.

RECENT SELECTED PUBLICATIONS:

- Angelsen, A., M. Aguilar-Stoen, J. Ainembabazi, **E. Castellanos**, and M. Taylor. 2020. Migration, Remittances, and Forest Cover Change in Rural Guatemala and Chiapas, Mexico. *Land* 9: 88.
- Castellanos, E.**, A. Paiz, J. Escribá, M. Rosales and A. Santizo (Eds.). 2019. Primer reporte de evaluación del conocimiento sobre cambio climático en Guatemala. Editorial Universitaria UVG Guatemala.
- Klein, J., et al. 2019. An integrated community and ecosystem-based approach to disaster risk reduction in mountain systems. *Environmental Science and Policy* 94: 143-152.
- Castellanos, E.**, T. Thomas and S. Dunson. 2018. Climate Change, Agriculture, and Adaptation Options for Guatemala. IFPRI Discussion Paper 01789, Environment and Production Technology Division.
- Ramos-Castillo, A., **E. Castellanos** and K. McLean. 2017. Indigenous peoples, local communities and climate change mitigation. *Climatic Change* 140:1-4. DOI 10.1007/s10584-016-1873-0
- Hannah, L., C. Donatti, C. Harvey, E. Alfaro, D. Rodríguez, C. Bouroncle, **E. Castellanos**, F. Díaz, E. Fung, H. Hidalgo, P. Imbach, P. Laderach, J. Landrum and A. Solano. 2017. Regional modelling of climate change impacts on smallholder agriculture and ecosystems in Central America. *Climatic Change*. 141:29-45 DOI 10.1007/s10584-016-1867-y.
- Pons, D., M. Taylor, D. Griffin, **E. Castellanos** and K. Anchukaitis. 2017. On the production of climate information in the high mountain forests of Guatemala. *Annals of the American Association of Geographers* 107(2):323-335.