VICTORIA SARMIENTO-GIRALDO

PERSONAL INFORMATION

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EDUCATION

* **Ph.D. in Geography and Urban Studies.** Temple University. August 2019 – Currently
* **Graduate Certificate in Geographical Information Science & Systems**. Universität Salzburg. 2018
* **M.Sc. Biology**, **Wildlife Management and Conservation.** Universidad Nacional de Colombia. Bogotá, July 2010
* **BS. Biology**. Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá, August 2006

EXPERIENCE

**Research Assistant, Department of Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University**

* August 2022 - Currently
* Assisting an academic project related to health and pollution in Medellin, Colombia as a case study of a new framework in health science called Bio3Science.
* Mapping particulate matter (air pollutants) for the city of Medellin for 2019, 2020 and 2021using machine learning methods and remote sense derived products.

**Research Assistant, Loretta C. Duckworth Digital Scholar Studio, Graduate Extern Program, Library. Temple University**

* August 2021 - May 2022
* Assisting an academic project related to promoting social and environmental

equity in Philadelphia. The project coordinated by Associated Professor Christina Rosan, focused on community-based monitoring of air quality to seek environmental justice.

* Developing GIS analysis and web mapping of an equity index for the city of Philadelphia.

**Graduate Teaching Assistant, Department of Geography and Urban Studies, Temple University**

* August 2019 – May 2021
* Assisted an instructor in teaching lectures for Sustainable environments course, which included grading assignments and exams, and advising students during office hours.

**Consultant, Sustainable Agriculture and Value Chain Development in Colombia**

* March 2018 – May 2018
* Camilo Waldraff, Main Consultant for United Nations Environment Programme
* Provided technical advice defining a conceptual framework for sustainable agriculture, identifying ecosystem-based adaptations practices and market information research.
* Designed, co- write, and co-edited an 80 pages report. Its goal was to identify the preparedness and potential for Sustainable Agriculture in Colombia, and how such products can reach higher value within the sustainable agriculture value chains.

**Expert in Biodiversity Conservation Strategies, Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute of Biological Resources.**

* July 2015 – October 2016
* Project: “Paramos, biodiversity and conservation in the northern Andes”. Financing subvention agreement DCIENV/ 2014/346-637. European Union
* Supported 5 local environmental agencies designing and implementing conservation science-based strategies to manage hydrological and biodiversity resources in high mountains ecosystems at local scale, including ecological restoration, private conservation strategies, farm planning and management, and sustainable agriculture activities.

**Wildlife Coordinator, Alexander von Humboldt Research Institute of Biological Resources**

* August 2011– April 2015
* Project: Criteria for identifying and establishing the border of High Mountain Ecosystems (Páramo) in Colombia.
* Developed research methods to characterize wildlife conservation priorities in high mountain ecosystems and established partnerships and engagement of different stakeholders and local authorities.
* Led a 4 person team, for writing a guide to characterize mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and soil macrofauna in high mountain ecosystems.
* Established agreements with researchers in 5 Universities and 3 NGO’s.
* Supported 4 local environmental agencies compilating biophysical and socioeconomic information to characterize high mountain ecosystem and to assess ecosystem services.

SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES

**Technical Skills:**

* Proficient in R and Python for data analysis and visualization.
* Experienced in Java Script for web mapping.

**Soft Skills:**

* Excellent communication skills, including stakeholder engagement and community outreach.
* Strong project management skills, including budgeting, scheduling, and team coordination.
* Analytical and problem-solving skills, with a demonstrated ability to develop innovative solutions.

**Language Skills:**

* Fluent in Spanish (native speaker) and English.

REFEREES

Victor H. Gutierrez Velez,

Assistant Professor, Geography and Urban Studies Department, Temple University

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Elizabeth Riedman

Graduate Student, Geography and Urban Studies Department, Temple University

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