Research interests

I have worked for scientific institutions and NGOs, in Colombia, Australia, Germany and Kenya which has enriched my understanding on the biological and socioeconomic aspects influencing biodiversity conservation outcomes under different scenarios, mainly in marine and terrestrial protected areas. By practical experience and field work, I have advanced knowledge in the design of ecological assessment studies and long-term monitoring programmes, and understand the key role of ecological based science to achieve natural resource sustainability. While developing and participating in several research projects, I have obtained experience in project development and management, and have demonstrated skills to work independently and as a team player. I am interested in a further understanding on the ecological, social and economic significance of ecosystem services supply, as a way to influence environmental policy and law enforcement. In a broader sense, in pursuing a career at the interface of science, society, and policy.

Education

10/2014 - 06/2017 Master of Science in Sustainable Resource Management

Technische Universität München.

Interdisciplinary study program combining concepts and techniques for sustainable management of natural resources

Emphasis: Landscape management and Forestry

06/2005 - 12/2010 Bachelor of Science (Hons) in Biology.

Pontificia Universidad Javeriana. Emphasis: Ecology and Conservation.

Selected professional and research experience

03/2017 - Today Researcher

Terrestrial Ecology Department, Technische Universität München

- I have led a research study on endangered bird species of coastal forests in Kenya for more than one year
- field and laboratory technical support to research programmes in Germany
- Species distribution and habitat suitability modelling, nocturnal telemetry, playback calls, and detailed assessments of vegetation structure are among the activities and methods implemented
- I have used GIS tools and statistical software like R and SPSS for data analyses
- Improvement of conservation strategies are among my outcomes after sharing recommendations with diverse stakeholders in Kenya

03/2015 - 05/2015 Field Assistant

German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) and Technische Universität München

- Bird ringing and telemetry tracking on riparian bird species
- Land-use detail mapping

10/2013 - 06/2015 **Consultant**

World Commission Monitoring Centre (WCMC) and the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

- Management and updating of the Protected Area Management Effectiveness evaluation (PAME) and the World Database on Protected Areas (WDPA)
- Detailed evaluation process to ensure consistent and complete data
- Management effectiveness analysis was performed, and current and future management of Protected areas was summarized

10/2012 - 12/2013 Research Assistant

School of Geography, Planning, and Environmental Management. University of Queensland, Australia

- Datasets at global and national scales were analysed with GIS tools
- Effectiveness of different protected area management and governance systems in reducing deforestation was measured

04/2009 - 12/2009 Intern

Fundación Malpelo y Otros Ecosistemas Marinos - Malpelo and other marine ecosystems foundation, Colombia

- Detailed statistical analysis of long-term database to orientate ecological research activities in order to obtain information statistically and ecologically consistent for an effective management
- Set up the bases for a long-term monitoring programme in the marine protected area
- Results were further discussed in a national context and published in a book chapter

Awards and research grants

- Funds based on a quality-oriented selection process to support students for the completion of seminar papers and research. Granted by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research, Germany.
- Funding for research activities through the DAAD German Academic Exchange Service, within the framework of the project "Quality Network Biodiversity Kenya: Population ecology of the Sokoke Scops owl".
- 2014 Scholarship for post-graduate studies for outstanding academic results. Granted by COLFUTURO.

Publication List

Chapter in book

 Monitoreo ecológico como herramienta eficaz de manejo. Cuadros, I., Zamora C, Acosta, A. Conocimiento Científico Permeando la Política Ambiental. Romero-Torres, M. & Acosta, A. Eds. 2012. Editorial Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá D.C. Colombia.

Articles

- Safeguarding a sinking flagship species in a biodiversity hotspot. Cuadros, I., Zamora, C., Ulrich, W; Seibold, S; Habel, J. 2018. Biodiversity and Conservation. DOI: BIOC-D-17-00826R2.
- East African coastal forest under pressure. Habel, J., Cuadros, I., Zamora, C., Teucher, M., Hornetz, B., Shauri, H., Mulwa, R., & Lens, L. 2017. Biodiversity and Conservation, 1-8.
- Changes in protected area management effectiveness over time: A global analysis. Geldmann, J., Coad, L., Barnes, M., Craigie, I. D., Hockings, M., Knights, K., Leverington, F., Cuadros, I., Zamora, C., Woodley, S. & Burgess, N. 2015. Biological Conservation, 191, 692-699. doi: 10.1016/j.biocon.2015.08.029.
- Measuring impact of protected area management interventions: current and future use of the Global Database of Protected Area Management Effectiveness. Coad, L., Leverington, F., Knights, K., Geldmann, J., Eassom, A., Kapos, V., Kingston, N., Gonçalves de Lima, M., Zamora, C., Cuadros, I., Nolte, C., Burgess, N. & Hockings, M. 2015. Phil. Trans. R. Soc. B, 370(1681), 20140281. doi: 10.1098/rstb.2014.0281.
- A Preliminary Assessment of Protected Area Management within the WWF 'Coastal East Africa' Priority Place, Eastern Africa. Knights, K., Cuadros, I., Coad, L., Leverington, F., O'Connor, B., Zamora, C., Gonçalves de Lima, G. 2014. Parks 20 (2): 77–88. doi: 10.2305/IUCN.CH.2014.PARKS.
- Progress towards the CBD Protected Area Management Effectiveness targets. Coad, L., Leverington, F., Burgess, N., Cuadros, I., Geldmann, J., Marthews, T.R., Mee, J., Nolte, C., Stoll-Kleemann, S., Vansteelant, N., Zamora, C., Zimsky, M. and Hockings, M. 2013. PARKS, 19(1).