

STEFANIA TIZIANA ALMAZÁN CASALI

Education

University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)

Ph.D., Resource Policy and Behavior, School of Natural Resources and Environment, May 2020

Dissertation: Modelling development paths and natural resource use derived from technology introductions in rural communities

Committee Members: Dr. Jose Alfaro (co-Chair), Dr. Maria Carmen Lemos (co-Chair).

University of Michigan (Ann Arbor, MI)

M.S., Natural Resource and the Environment, May 2016

Fields: Environmental Policy and Planning, Environmental Dispute Resolution, Forest Governance

Mexico Autonomous Institute of Technology (Mexico City, Mexico)

B.A., Economics, April 2014

Degree awarded with distinction after the dissertation of the undergraduate thesis: “The effects of labor dispute's dynamics on choosing employment in the informal sector: an approach for the Mexican economy”

Professional Experience

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Ann Arbor, MI)

Consultant, Sep 2016 –Nov 2016

- Reviewed full suite of activities performed by the IUCN Forest Law Enforcement and Governance (FLEG) Program in Eastern Europe and Russia and identified main outcomes, facilitating factors, challenges, and lessons learned from activity implementation.
- Developed professional report integrating individual outcomes, facilitating factors, challenges, and lessons learned from the IUCN FLEG Program in Eastern Europe and Russia for the full suite of IUCN FLEG activities and identified overarching lessons learned from the IUCN FLEG Program.
- Performed comparative analysis of outcomes from full suite of IUCN FLEG in Eastern Europe and Russia with the 2005 Saint Petersburg Declaration Indicative Action Plan as part of IUCN's accountability report.

International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) (Gland, Switzerland)

Student trainee-Global Forest and Climate Change Programme, Jul 2015 –Aug 2015

- Interviewed IUCN Country Coordinators working under the Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Program in Moldova and Russia to develop case studies to determine the complete impact and contribution achieved from selected activities implemented in these countries.
- Worked with representatives from the IUCN Communications team to review background information and current project activities to accurately portray the effects that selected activities had on *inter alia* policy development and change, local forest management changes/adaptations, forest dependency and rural livelihood development.
- Developed case studies from selected IUCN-FLEG activities in Moldova and Russia highlighting lessons learned from each activity implementation process, its challenges and accomplishments.

Sustainability Without Borders (Ann Arbor, USA and Ayacucho, Peru)

President of University-based volunteer organization, May 16 - present

Volunteer Project Manager, Sep 14 – May 16

Program Assistant, Conservation and Sustainable Development, Mar 02 – Dec 03

- Conducted research to inform program strategy, developed grant recommendations. Designed health, water access and well-being survey protocol (both in English and Spanish) for Chakiqpampa households in collaboration with University of Michigan public health researcher.
- Performed baseline assessment surveys of 32 Chakiqpampa households with the assistance of Quechua translator when interviewee did not speak Spanish.
- Led the student team building a water reservoir and aquaponics system prototype to improve the local community's clean water access in November 2015.

ESANE Consultores S.C (Mexico City, Mexico)

Senior Associate, Mar 13 – Aug 14

- Coordinated the design of a framework for Public-Private Partnerships (PPP's) in irrigation in Mexico.
- Led an interdisciplinary team of economists, political scientists and lawyers that reviewed Mexico's irrigation infrastructure status and operation as well as the country's legal, regulatory and fiscal framework relevant to PPP's.
- Presented the possible PPP schemes to Mexico's National Water Commission officials and groups of interested farmers. Projects that were deemed viable by Mexico's Finance Ministry will be implemented.

SAI Law & Economics (Mexico City, Mexico)

Junior Associate, Aug 11 – Mar 13

- Conducted a cost-efficiency evaluation regarding the alteration in food consumption patterns by beneficiaries of a national subsidized milk program (Liconsa program) due to the implementation of a new Government Milk Standard.
- Defined and estimated the cost of substituting subsidized milk consumption with alternative, nutrient equivalent, food baskets. The program targets around 6.5 million people in poverty stricken regions of Mexico.
- Drafted a report that was presented to the corresponding Regulation Authority, which resulted in modifications to the new Government Milk Standard in a way that enabled the subsidize milk program to continue.
- Conducted a market displacement evaluation in Mexico's satellite TV market.
- Estimated a client's profit margins under different cost scenarios of open TV content.
- Wrote the final report used to advise the client about the appropriate legal procedure to be conducted with Mexico's Federal Competition Commission.
- Conducted competition evaluation for a potential market concentration in the regional intercity bus transport market.
- Analyzed competition indicators and possible efficiency gains resulting from merging two regional competitors in 70 individual bus routes, their corresponding regional bus terminals or bus hubs and several package delivery routes.
- Coordinated a team of 4 people in charge of integrating the client's recently digitalized route and bus terminal flows database.

Research Experience

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Ph.D. Research, Sep 16 – present

Dissertation research investigates the relationship between technology introductions in a community, use of natural resources, local livelihoods, and overall household well-being in rural areas of developing countries (particularly in Latin America). This relationship will be analyzed using agent based modelling to capture the effects of decentralized decision-making on overall natural resource use and community well-being (measured through household well-being), and the system wide synergies and feedback loops associated with behavior changes due to the availability of a new technology.

Teaching Experience

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Graduate Student Instructor, School of Natural Resources and Environment,
Sep 2015 – Feb 2016

- Led discussion-based classes for a graduate-level introductory course on Environmental Economics.
- Developed lesson plans and materials to be used during discussion-based classes including in-class case studies, lecture slides and quantitative exercises.
- Handled grading and held office hours to address student questions or provide support on course assignments.

Field Experience

Liberia: Jan 2017 (field research and community survey deployment for a waste to energy project through University of Michigan MCubed project)

Liberia: Aug 2016 (scoping visit)

Peru: May 2015 (field research for community development project through University of Michigan student group)

Language & Computer Skills

Native **Spanish**-speaker

Proficient **English**

Intermediate **Italian**

Basic **French and German**

Proficient with STATA statistical software; Eviews statistical software; UCINet network analysis software, Visual Basic; and Microsoft Office.