

## CARLOS LUIS MUÑOZ BRENES

Environment for Development initiative-Central America, GSEBSA, CATIE-7170, Turrialba 30501, Costa Rica  
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### EDUCATION

- Tufts University, The Fletcher School, Medford, Massachusetts, USA.** **2008-2010**
- Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy.  
With concentrations in International Environmental and Resource Policy; Development Economics  
Certificate in International Sustainable Development  
Thesis: “How Multilateral Environmental Regimes Affect Policies for Forest Conservation and Ecosystem Services Provision”.
- Boston College, Boston, Massachusetts, USA.** **2001-2003**
- Master of Arts in Political Science  
With concentrations in Comparative Politics, Political Philosophy, and American Politics  
Thesis: “Political Regimes and Sustainable Development: Environmental and Tourism Development Policies in Costa Rica and Cuba”.
- State University at Distance, Costa Rica.** **1999-2001**
- License Degree Program in Management of Natural Resources (coursework completed).
- University of Costa Rica, Costa Rica.** **1992-1996**
- B.A. Ecotourism.

### WORKING EXPERIENCE

**Policy Analyst and Research Fellow, EfD-Central America at CATIE** **Set. 2010-to present**

The Environment for Development initiative (EfD) Central America Center is a capacity building program and contributes to the design and evaluation of public policies and local institutional arrangements that affect environmental protection, sustainable natural resources management and poverty alleviation. The Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), located in Costa Rica, is a leading regional research and higher education center. It provides since 1973 programs in higher education, research and technical cooperation in Latin America and the Caribbean. Some responsibilities include:

- Conduct and collaborate in research under EfD-CA programmatic agenda.
- Regional and national collaborations in the design and evaluation of public policies.
- Analysis and evaluation of institutional arrangements and policies on environmental, sustainable natural resources management and poverty alleviation.
- Develop multiple-level policy incidence strategies with business, governments, academia, and local leaders in Latin America and the Caribbean.
- Networking, dissemination, and communication of outputs.
- Conduct the seminar series, workshops, and training courses.

**Executive Director, Monteverde Conservation League (MCL), Costa Rica.** **2004–2008**

The MCL is one of top 5 national organizations working in conservation of biodiversity, sustainable development, and research since 1986. It's owner of Costa Rica's largest private nature reserve, the Children's Eternal Rainforest; with 22,500 ha. of protected area.

- Official and legal representative of the organization. Responsible for the general management of the organization and management of the reserve. Supervised and executed programs and projects, budgeting, and staff management.
- Developed relations and partnership building with strategic public and private entities, politicians, public figures, and leaders.
- Worked in conjunction with the Board in the strategic development of the organization and fundraising, writing fundraising proposals as well as by building extensive relations with members, donors, and officers from international sister organizations around the world.

## **Achievements:**

- Negotiated and signed an ecosystem services contract with CONELECTRICAS hydroelectric consortium.
- Declaration of the BEN as a core-site of the Water and Peace Biosphere Reserve, UNESCO-MAB.
- INBio Merit Award for the Conservation of Costa Rican Biodiversity.
- Declaration of public interest organization for MCL by the government of Costa Rica and attaining the benefit of receiving tax deductible donations.
- Achieved steady 20% average increase in annual operation budget over 4 years.
- Drafted the management plan for the BEN based on principles of conservation biology.
- Reactivated the land purchase campaign and expansion of the reserve with direct support from donors.
- Drafted a legislative bill to secure land tenure for the BEN
- Membership to UICN.

## **Long Course Coordinator and Academic Director, Monteverde Institute (MVI), Costa Rica. 1996-2001**

Founded in 1986, this not-for-profit association is dedicated to education, applied research, and community engagement. It achieves its mission by facilitating hands-on education abroad programs on the environmental, social, economic and cultural realities of Costa Rican communities. Responsibilities:

- Administered over 25 study abroad programs in cooperation with universities from the USA.
- Coordinated the structure of the academic programs with partner institutions and faculty.
- Developed partnerships with academic and research institutions in Costa Rica.
- Prepared budgets and reports to member universities.
- Lecturer on Sustainable Development issues in Costa Rica.

## **TEACHING AND OTHER EXPERIENCE**

### **Graduate School, Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)**

- Instructor. Environmental and Natural Resource Economics. 2011

### **Sustainability Challenge Foundation and Wageningen University, The Netherlands.**

- Associate Faculty. Program on Negotiations and Management of Sustainability. 2010

### **Earthwatch Institute Boston, USA**

- Research Associate EW-Starbucks project: Costa Rican Coffee from Community to Cup. 2009  
Worked in collaboration with the International Director for Research as part of Earthwatch-Starbucks Coffee project “Costa Rican Coffee from Community to Cup”, in the Tarrazú Region, Costa Rica.

### **National University, School of International Relations, Costa Rica.**

- Licensed Professor. Course on International Relations and Ecotourism Planning. 2005

### **Monteverde Institute, Costa Rica.**

- Coordinator and Instructor. International Environmental Law and Sustainable Development. 2004-2005
- Coordinator and Instructor. Political Economy of Sustainable Development in Costa Rica. 2000-2003

### **Boston College, USA**

- Teaching Assistant. Introduction to International Politics. 2003
- Teaching Assistant. Fundamental Concepts of Politics I and II. 2001-2002

### **National Institute of Education, Costa Rica.**

- English Instructor. Conversational English for Adults Levels I, II, and III. 1996

## **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

- Developing countries approaches to climate change; co-benefits for development and conservation from climate change mitigation and adaptation policies; sustainable development; international development and economics, rural and community development.
- Ecosystem services; institutional and legal mechanisms to foster and finance conservation of natural habitat; REDD+; ecotourism; debt for nature swaps; environmental and resource economics; sustainable agriculture; agroforestry; water.
- Negotiations; multilateral and bilateral negotiations; international environment and resource policy and politics; environmental diplomacy and international environmental law; international investment law linked to natural resources; environment and trade.

## RELEVANT COURSES AND AWARDS

- Environmental and Resource Economics Training Course: “Impact Evaluation”. Taught by Profs. Paul Ferraro and Rodrigo Arriagada. Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program. CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica. 2011.
- Course on “Economics of Ecosystem Services and Biodiversity”. Taught by Prof. Stephen Polasky. Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program. CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica. 2011.
- Environmental and Resource Economics Training Course: “Valuation and Household Surveys”. Taught by Profs. Dale Whittington and Fredrik Carlsson. Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program. CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica. 2010.
- United Nations Forum on Forests-Netherlands Fellowship 2008-2010. Center for International Environment and Resource Policy, Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, USA.
- Johannes and Julia R. Solleveld Fellowship for studies in International Environmental and Resource Policy 2008-2010. Fletcher School, Tufts University, USA.
- Course on “Sustainable Development Diplomacy-SDD”. International Program on the Management of Sustainability. By the Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality; Tufts University Fletcher School; Wageningen University and Research Centre; and the Sustainability Challenge Foundation, The Netherlands. 2009
- Scholarship to attend the UNFCCC COP 15 in 2009 by the Energy, Climate, and Innovation Program in Fletcher’s Center for International Environment and Resource Policy (CIERP).
- Course on “Climate Change: an interdisciplinary inquiry”. Taught by Profs. Thomas Heller, Bert Metz, and Diana Urge-Vorsatz. Central European University SUN. Budapest, Hungary. 2008.
- Social Science Fellowship 2001-2003. Graduate School of Art and Sciences, Boston College. USA.
- Department of Political Science Fellowship 2001-2003. Boston College. USA.
- Bradley Grant 2001-2002. Institute for the Study of Politics and Religion. USA.
- Central American Peace Scholarship (CAPS) 1990. USAID, 4-H Clubs, and 4-S Clubs-Costa Rica.

## SELECTED PRESENTATIONS

- “The Cancun Agreement and Beyond”. CATIE. February 2011.
- “What is a Debt for Nature Swap?” Monteverde, Costa Rica. August, 2009.
- “Negotiating Payment for Environmental Services in Costa Rica”. Global Development and Environment Institute (GDAE), Tufts University, Medford, MA. March 2009.
- “The Climate Change and Conservation Nexus: maximizing opportunities and overcoming barriers in existing and future international arrangements”. Margret and H. A. Rey Center, Waterville Valley, NH. January 2009.
- “Conservation of Forest Habitat in the Context of Private Initiatives”. University of California-Irvine, Costa Rica Study Abroad Program. Monteverde, Costa Rica. July 2008.
- “Mechanism for Financing Natural Habitat Conservation: Debt for Nature Swaps”. Boston College Program on International Law, Politics and Sustainable Development. Monteverde, Costa Rica. August 2006.
- “Environmental Law, Institutions and Policy in Costa Rica: Successes, Gaps, and Flaws”. University of Georgia. San Luis, Costa Rica. August 2006.
- “Nature Conservation... how much should it really matter?” University of Miami Program. Monteverde Conservation League. Monteverde, Costa Rica. July 2006.
- “Conservation Policy in the Context of a Developing Country”. Education Abroad Program, University of California. Monteverde Biological Station. Monteverde, Costa Rica. May 2006.
- “Conservation in Costa Rica... is it sustainable?” Boston College Program on Political Economy of Sustainable Development. Monteverde Institute. Monteverde, Costa Rica. August 2005.
- “The Development of Protected Areas and the Sustainability of Conservation in Costa Rica”. Missouri Botanical Garden. Saint Louis, Missouri, USA. April 2005.
- “Challenges for Conservation in Costa Rica: politics, economics, and recurring patterns”. Council for International Educational Exchange. Monteverde Conservation League, Monteverde, Costa Rica. November 2004.

- “Incentives for Private Conservation and Ecosystem Services to Society”. Environment and Conservation Lecture Series. University of Costa Rica. San José, Costa Rica. October 2004.
- “Private Conservation in Costa Rica: providing a service ... obtaining incentives”. 2004 Lecture Series, Monteverde Institute. Monteverde, Costa Rica. June 2004.
- “The Economics and Politics of Conservation: Perspective for the Future of Protected Areas in Costa Rica”. University of California’s Education Abroad Program. Monteverde Biological Station. Monteverde, Costa Rica. November 2003.

#### **PROFESSIONAL SOCIETIES AND ORGANIZATIONS MEMBERSHIP**

- Costa Rican Association of Professionals in Political Science and International Relations 2006-present
- Monteverde Conservation League (MCL) 2000-present
- Costa Rican Network of Private Reserves (Board member for MCL) 2004-2008
- Monteverde Institute; Vice-president (2004-2006) 1998-present

#### **OTHER INFORMATION**

- Languages: Spanish (native). English (able to write, read, and speak fluently). Learning French.
- Computer Skills: Excellent computer skills in Microsoft Office, internet research, Stata, ArcGIS 9, ArcView 3.3, and GPS.
- Traveled: USA (24 States); Canada; Nicaragua; Panama; Spain; Sweden; Germany; Mexico; Hungary; The Netherlands; Denmark, and Switzerland.
- Hobbies: Birdwatching (more than 500 species), bushwhacking, snorkeling. Photography of people, nature, and landscapes. Cultivation of Bonsai trees. Coin collection.
- Date and place of Birth: 14 August 1974, Ciudad Quesada, Alajuela province, Costa Rica.
- Married to Shirley E. Murillo Ulate; 1997. Father of Héctor Emilio; born 21 June 2005.

#### **REPORTS**

Chacón Cascante, Adriana; Robalino, Juan; Muñoz Brenes, Carlos L.; and Grieg-Gran Maryanne. 2011. Reduced Emissions due to Reduced Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD and REDD+). In Ring, Irene and Schröter-Schlaack, Christoph (Ed.), Instrument Mixes for Biodiversity Policies. POLICYMIX Report, Issue No. 2/2011, Helmholtz Centre for Environmental Research – UFZ, Leipzig, pp. 145-161. (Available at: <http://policymix.nina.no/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=i8Fro-4tcv0%3d&tabid=3564>).

Muñoz Brenes, Carlos L. and Mazumdar, Jonathan B. 2009. The Mekong River Basin: a study of water management and development. AquaPedia, Tufts University, Medford, MA, USA. Available at: <https://wikis.uit.tufts.edu/confluence/display/aquapedia/Mekong+River+Basin+-+A+Study+of+Water+Management+and+Development>