



The primary aim of ENGOV is to generate new knowledge on how environmental governance is shaped in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC). The project focuses on new developments and policies that enable or prevent the dual goal of ending poverty and protecting natural resources. Another important aim of ENGOV is to develop a more integrative analytical framework on environmental governance and natural resource use in LAC.

## WEBSITE

More information on the partners, activities, results and publications of the project can be found at [www.engov.eu](http://www.engov.eu)

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## ENGOV AND SOCIO-ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES IN QUITO

By Barbara Hogenboom

The fifth ENGOV meeting took place at the Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar in Quito, Ecuador, from 25 to 28 May 2013. Next to the internal research discussions, two trips in the city offered an insight in important socio-environmental initiatives. The Centro de Comercialización y Revalorización de la Cultura del Ecosistema Manglar “Martín Pescador” supports the struggle of communities living around mangroves. It shares information about the massive environmental destruction due to industrialized shrimp production in these fragile ecosystems, but also about the culture of Ecuador’s coastal communities. Their restaurant offers fabulous coastal food while a group of afro-Ecuadorians brings lively music and dances ([www.martinpescador.com.ec](http://www.martinpescador.com.ec)).

The Project of Participative Urban Agriculture, AGRUPAR, is an initiative of the Metropolitan Agency of Economic Promotion, ConQuito. This project stimulates small-scale urban agriculture through capacity-building to poor citizens, especially women. Over the past ten years, the project has supported the creation of more than 600 vegetable gardens, 70 micro-companies and 14 special market places where their products are sold. The advantages of vegetable gardens range from saving money and having some extra earnings to a healthier diet and better community relations. Moreover, several small producers now sell certified organic tomatoes that grow in self-made green houses on small plots and in backyards (see this explanatory movie on youtube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oxAu7IIXA1Y>).



Visit to the Centro de Comercialización y Revalorización de la Cultura del Ecosistema Manglar “Martín Pescador”



Explanation on greenhouse cultivation with AGRUPAR engineer.



Public colloquium 'Contemporary challenges for policy participation in environmental governance' organized by UASB-SQ

## COLLOQUIUM: CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES FOR POLICY PARTICIPATION IN ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

By Joaquín Zenteno Hopp

A colloquium was organized by the Andean University Simon Bolivar on Tuesday 28 May, as a public closing event of the ENGOV meeting in Quito. Barbara Hogenboom (CEDLA) introduced the ENGOV project, emphasizing that Latin America offers a unique case to study poverty alleviation strategies and environmental impacts. Mariana Walter (ICTA-UAB) presented an economic analysis about Argentina's trend of exporting more agricultural commodities that generate a direct environmental impact on the rural areas. Moreover, she presented a project in Ecuador, in which 64 environmental conflicts have been studied. She also explained the importance of local consultation processes as a peaceful democratic tool, in communities with a conflictive context. Afterwards, Christian Parker (IDEA-USACH) presented his latest research about the different discourses that exist in several Latin American countries with regard to the use of natural resources in the mining sector. He emphasized the importance of the generation of capacities to manage conflicts among actors with different approaches in order to achieve a more sustainable development.

Benedicte Bull (SUM-UiO) presented research results about elite shifts in Latin America and effects on development and environment, through informal or formal mechanisms of governance. She mentioned several cases in which left-to-center new governments seem to have created new elites, but environmental degradation is continuing. Finally, Pablo Andrade (UASB) exposed his criticism to the unsustainability of the current political models in Bolivia and Ecuador, which are based on subsidizing social programs with the income gained from the export of natural resources. He emphasized the need to adopt a new route, different from the current development model, that allows the transition towards ecological, economic and social sustainability, by investing in the creation of institutions that favor the conversion of the actually existing primary economies in economies that provide ecological services and at the same time are technology and labour intensive.



Participants of the First Academic EU-CELAC Summit (Source: <http://www.cumbreacademica-alcue.cl/noticia7.html#>)

## FIRST ACADEMIC EU-CELAC SUMMIT AND ENGOV'S FIRST POLICY BRIEF

By Cristian Parker G.

On 22-23 January 2013, ENGOV actively participated in the First Academic Summit between the European Union and Latin America and the Caribbean, in Santiago de Chile (<http://www.cumbreacademica-alcue.cl>). It was a meeting of universities, research institutions and centers of both regions, as a preparation for the VII Summit of Heads of State and Governments of Latin America and the Caribbean, and the European Union, held on 26 and 27 January in Santiago de Chile and attended by 60 government officials.

The Academic Summit addressed several issues including the Euro-Latin American Space of Higher Education; Cooperation in Science, Technology, Research and Innovation; the Academic World and the World of Public Policy, and University-Enterprise relationships. The findings were presented to the Heads of State and Government of the Official Summit.

ENGOV participated in this Summit and offered an example of a valuable EU-LAC cooperation experience under FP7. ENGOV members Michiel Baud (CEDLA), Hector Sejenovich (IIGG) and Cristián Parker (IDEA-USACH) took part in round tables and working groups, presenting the EN-



To read the policy brief in English or Spanish, please visit: <http://www.engov.eu/en/policy-briefs.html> or [http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/policy-briefs-engov-01-2013\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/research/social-sciences/pdf/policy-briefs-engov-01-2013_en.pdf)

GOV project and its potential as a bridge between academia and public policy. ENGOV also prepared its first Policy Brief, *Environmental Governance of extractive activities in Latin America and the Caribbean: the need to include local communities*. This document, with inputs from research done by ENGOV, was delivered to the official delegations of the Summit of Heads of State and Governments CELAC – EU later that week. The Policy Brief emphasizes the need to consider the participation of affected populations by mega-projects to ensure socially and environmentally sustainable investments.



Fieldwork on production systems and protected areas in Minas Gerais (photo: Silvia Borges Lucio)

## RESEARCH BY CDS-UNB ON MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION TO CLIMATE CHANGE

By Fabiano Toni

We are currently working on a collaboration between CDS-UnB and the Governmental Chico Mendes Institute for the Conservation of Biodiversity (ICMBIO), with the aim to develop a participative research project in the municipality of Mambá, State of Goiás. The research region includes an Area of Environmental Protection – APA Rio Vermelho – in which ICMBIO is interested to establish an agreement with the local community about more sustainable development. To reach this goal, the project proposes a participative methodology, including a land use inventory, focus groups and capacity building in natural resource use and conservation alternatives. CDS's approach is founded in Political Ecology and Landscape Ecology, and the aim is to do a comparative study with the region of Mosaico Sertão Veredas – Peruaçu, situated in the North of Minas Gerais.

In April, the first two master theses that were developed within the framework of the ENGOV Project were presented at CDS. Silvia Borges Lucio studied the interaction between traditional cattle production systems and protected areas in the Northeast of the State of Minas Gerais. Ana Pimenta Ribeiro did a comparative study on how the creation of two Natural Parks in the state of Minas Gerais affected the land use practices of the local population.

## RESEARCH BY UAM-XOC. ON LOCAL SOLUTIONS TOWARDS ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

By David Barkin

In our research on “Assessing Local Solutions for Environmental Justice” local participants describe how they are strengthening their communities and improving their quality of life. Among the groups collaborating in the effort are indigenous communities, peoples involved in local development processes, workers who have taken control of production centers threatened with closing, and peasant producers associated with Via Campesina. This is the largest coalition of social organizations in the world, bringing together peasants committed to ecologically and so-





Meeting at the University Sierra Juárez,  
28 January 2012



Meeting in San Pedro Nexicho, 14 July 2012

cially sound practices from more than 150 countries. There are five common principles that appear to be guiding these efforts and are proving effective in increasing productive capacity and improving living standards while protecting environments in alliances with others: autonomy or self-management, solidarity, self-sufficiency, productive diversification, and sustainable regional resource management.

With new productive activities local communities take advantage of local resource endowments while protecting and rehabilitating ecosystems. They report on how effective collective management of water, forests and other natural resources contribute to overcome the institutional restrictions that constrained them in the past. Their explanations go beyond the specific actions to improve productive activities or environmental management practices, focusing on governance processes. Their alternative strategies deepen social cohesion and the effectiveness of local institutions, assuring direct participation to cement solidarity within the community and attend to basic needs. They are systematizing these experiences, drawing on elements from the underlying cosmologies and paradigms that shape their ethical frameworks and guide their decisions in negotiating with local, regional and national governmental authorities.

For more information about this research process consult the analytical framework paper for this project available on the environmental governance website as well as the publications of the researchers involved. See <http://www.engov.eu/en/research-themes.html> > Research Theme Assessing Local Solutions towards Environmental Justice.

## SOME RECENT ENGOV PUBLICATIONS

Baud, Michiel 'The Netherlands and the new Latin America' (article in Dutch), *Internationale Spectator*, April 2013, Volume 67, No 4.

Besalú Parkinson, A; González, Silvia; y Merlinsky, G. 'Ambiente, salud y cambio climático: desafíos en clave del derecho colectivo', *La Ley*, September 2012.

Fuente Carrasco, Mario Enrique, 'La comunalidad como base para la construcción de resiliencia social ante la crisis civilizatoria' *Polis Revista Latinoamericana* 33, 2012. [En línea <http://polis.revues.org/8495>]

Fuente, Carrasco M. E. and David Barkin 'La minería como factor de desarrollo en la Sierra Juárez de Oaxaca. Una valoración ética'. *Revista Problemas del Desarrollo*, 172 (44), 2013.

Opinion article "Marx, el ecologismo y Correa", written by J. Martínez-Alier-ICTA, in *La Jornada*, México DF. México, published 22 April, 2013

Opinion article "Referendos mineros locales: Kañaris, en Perú", written by J. Martínez-Alier-ICTA, in *La Jornada*, México DF. México, published 22 February, 2013

Opinion article "Injusticias hídricas: el agua corre hacia el poder", written by J. Martínez-Alier-ICTA, in *La Jornada*, México DF. México, published 16 January, 2013

For all ENGOV output, including publications, please visit: [www.engov.eu](http://www.engov.eu)