



## São Paulo School of Advanced Science on Scenarios and Modelling on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services to Support Human Well-Being

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Diana is Colombian, has a degree in Environmental Engineering, holds a master's degree in Research, Modeling and Risk Analysis in the Environment, and is currently a PhD candidate in Environmental Engineering Sciences. Her professional experience of over 10 years, led her to achieve positions as chief environmental engineer, environmental director and auditor of the public-private sector, where her interest in socio-environmental interactions was strengthened. In her master's degree, she studied the probability of risk and the effects on human health of the ecosystem imbalances caused for the mercury employed in artisanal gold mining. This research gave her insights about how the precarious social realities of developing countries, like Colombia, intensified by the world-known armed conflict, allow illicit practices to occupy places that are property of the State (but that it does not assume), these activities provide employment, income, and the option to acquire goods and services, but most of these illicit activities have the roots of their economy in natural resources, converting them into poverty traps.

In this sense, Diana is interested to research the different ways that environmental impacts affect socio-ecological interactions, so, her PhD work characterizes the sociological system from the use and availability of ecosystem services; identifies social movements, their public participation and their incidence in decision-making in the defense of their territory and cosmovision; and reports the effects of illicit gold mining on human well-being, in the specific case of study: the communities of the Department of Chocó in Colombia.