

**FRANCISCO ALPÍZAR RODRÍGUEZ****CONTACT DETAILS**Office email: [Francisco.Alpizar@wur.nl](mailto:Francisco.Alpizar@wur.nl)

Office phone: +31 317 486499

Office mobile: +31 (6) 3918 7125 (Whatsapp)

Visiting address: Of. 1107, Leeuwenborch

Building, Hollandseweg 1, 6706 KN Wageningen

Personal email: [Francisco.AlpizarR@gmail.com](mailto:Francisco.AlpizarR@gmail.com)

Mobile Netherlands: +31 (0)6 4823 1981(Whatsapp)

Mobile Costa Rica: +506 8720 9696

Web: [www.franciscoalpizar.com](http://www.franciscoalpizar.com)**CURRENT POSITION (see below for full list of positions; 2000-2019)****2019/08-present: Professor and Chair**

Environmental Economics and Natural Resource Group, Department of Social Sciences,  
Wageningen University and Research.

**CURRENT SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS, EDITORIAL AND ADVISORY WORK (see below for full list)**

**2024 Member of Scientific Advisory Board**, the Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics.

**2022-onwards, Principal Investigator**, Sustainable Consumption and Production Economics (SCOPE) Collaborative Research Program, Environment for Development Initiative (Chile, China, Costa Rica, India, South Africa, Nigeria, Tanzania and Vietnam)

**2022-onwards: Project coordinator and PI**, Horizon Europe-RIA-Biodiversity, Transformative Pathways for Synergising Just Biodiversity and Climate Actions

**2022-Lead author**, IPBES Assessment of the Underlying Causes of Biodiversity Loss and the Determinants of Transformative Change

**2021-Principal Investigator**, WaterLANDS: Water based solutions for carbon storage, people and wilderness (H2020), WP4 Mobilising Finance.

**2020, Board of Editors**, Review of Environmental Economics and Policy

**2019, Associate Editor**, Resource and Energy Economics

**2018, Gund Affiliate**, Gund Institute for the Environment, University of Vermont.

**2017, Board Member**, Latin American Association of Environmental and Resource Economist (LAERE)

**EDUCATION**

**2002 Ph.D., Environmental Economics**, Dept. of Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden, Dissertation title: "Essays on Environmental Policy-making in Developing Countries: Applications to Costa Rica"

**2001 Ph. Licentiate, Economics**, Dept. of Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden  
Dissertation title: "Choice Experiments: Theory and an Application to Urban Transport Demand"

**1996 B.Sc. in Economics**, School of Economics, Universidad de Costa Rica

## AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION AND CURRENT RESEARCH INTERESTS

My research explores incentive-based approaches to improve private and public management of natural resources. I draw on basic concepts and methodologies from environmental, development and behavioral economics to examine individual decisions and their role in achieving higher social welfare. Some specific areas of interest are:

- Behavioral insights into policy design (e.g. food choices, recycling behavior, nature-based tourism)
- Design and evaluation of economic policy instruments tackling environmental problems in developing countries (focus is biodiversity and agriculture, climate change, plastic pollution, air pollution)
- Economic valuation methods (e.g. Contingent Valuation Method and Choice Experiments applied to nature-based infrastructure)
- Design, financing and evaluation of Payment for Ecosystem Services
- Management and funding of natural protected areas.
- Linkages between biodiversity loss, climate change and the financial sector.

As an applied economist, my work has brought me close to decision-makers in governments, multilateral agencies (e.g. WB, IADB, UN), and NGO's (e.g. WWF, TNC, CI). In addition to making my work more relevant, this has given me the unique opportunity to publish work that is strongly anchored in concrete policy challenges, yet relevant to scientific audiences in general (e.g. PNAS, Nature Climate Change) and in the economics field.

## PAST POSITIONS

**2021-23 -Principal Investigator**, Amsterdam Institute for Advanced Metropolitan Solutions (AMS Institute), Amsterdam, NL.

**2021-23 Global Advisory Committee**, Global Plastic Action Partnership, World Economic Forum

**2018-2022, Scientific Director and principal Investigator**, Coastal and Marine Resources (CMaR) Collaborative Research Program, Environment for Development Initiative (Chile, China, Costa Rica, India, South Africa, Tanzania and Vietnam

**2017-2023, Member of the Research Committee**, Environment for Development Initiative.

**2016-2019: Director for Research**

Tropical Agriculture and Higher Education Center (CATIE)

**2013-2019: Associate Professor**

Department of Economics, University of Gothenburg, Sweden

**2007- 2016: Director for Central America**

[Environment for Development initiative \(EfD\)](#), CATIE-Univ. of Gothenburg

**2005- 2017: Director and Chair of Scientific Committee**

[Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program \(LACEEP\)](#)

**2003- 2007: Thematic Program Leader**

Governance and Socio-Economics of Environmental Goods and Services, CATIE

**2003-2006: Director of M.Sc. Program in Environmental Economics**

Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE)

**2000-2003: Project leader, researcher and lecturer**

Capacity Building Agreement for Central America: Environmental Economics Unit-CATIE-SIDA  
(Swedish International Development Agency)

**PAST SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS, EDITORIAL AND ADVISORY WORK**

**2016-2022, Member of the Scientific Advisory Board**, Center for Collective Action Research, School of Political Science, University of Gothenburg

**2016- 2018, Member of the Advisory Committee**, Adaptation Finance Fellowship Program, Frankfurt School of Finance and Management

**2010-2017, Founding Board Member; 2015-16, Chair of Board of Directors; 2017-present, Member Assembly**, Forever Costa Rica Trust Fund

**2013-2016, Associate Editor**, World Development

**2008-to date, Member of Editorial Board**, Environment and Development Economics, Cambridge Journals

**2012, Member of Policy and Technical Expert Committee**, WAVES (Wealth Accounting for the Value of Ecosystem Services), The World Bank

**2012, Member of Advisory Council**, Center for the Management of Ecological Wealth, Resources for the Future

**2010 -2011, Guest Editor**, Special Issue on Critical Environmental and Development Issues in Latin America, Vol. 16:3. Environment and Development Economics, Cambridge Journals

**2009-2012, Member of Scientific Committee**, DIVERSITAS BioSUSTAINABILITY Core Project;

**2003-2009, Member of Board of Directors**, Latin American and Caribbean Association of Environmental and Resource Economists

**PUBLICATIONS**

**Alpizar, F. F. Carlsson and G. Lanza (2024).** On the perils of environmentally friendly alternatives, **Journal of Environmental Economics and Management**, Volume 125, doi.org/10.1016/j.jeem.2024.102967 .

- Alpizar, F., M. Bernedo and P. Ferraro (2024).** Input Efficiency as a Solution to Externalities and Resource Scarcity: A Randomized Controlled Trial. **Journal of the Association on Environmental and Resource Economist**. Accepted and forthcoming.
- Carson, R.T., Hanemann, M., Köhlin, G. W. Adamowicz, T. Sterner, F. Amuakwa-Mensah, F. Alpizar, E. Khossravi, M. Jeuland, J. Bonilla, J.S. Sheng Tan-Soo, P. Khanh Nam, S. Wagura Ndiritu, S. Wadehra, M. Julius Chegere, M. Visser, N. Andegbe Chukwuone and D. Whittington et al. Perceptions of the seriousness of major public health problems during the COVID-19 pandemic in seven middle-income countries. *Commun Med* 3, 193 (2023). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s43856-023-00377-8>
- Kahsay, G. A., E. Bulte, F. **Alpizar**, L. G. Hansen, and H. Medhin. 2023. Leadership accountability in community-based forest management: experimental evidence in support of governmental oversight. **Ecology and Society** 28(4):20. <https://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol28/iss4/art20>
- Alpizar, F., M. Bernedo, R. Cremades and P. Ferraro (2023).** High discount rates by private actors undermine climate change adaptation policies. **Climate Risk Management**. Accepted and forthcoming.
- Jaime, M., C. Salazar, **F. Alpizar** and F. Carlsson (2023). Can school environmental education programs make children and parents more pro-environmental? **Journal of Development Economics**, 161. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2022.103032>
- Villalobos, L., Robalino, J., Sandoval, C. and **F. Alpizar** (2022). Local Effects of Payments for Ecosystem Services on Rural Poverty. **Environmental and Resource Economics**. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10640-022-00733-7>
- Vignola, R.; Esquivel, M.J.; Harvey, C.; Rapidel, B.; Bautista-Solis, P.; **Alpizar, F.**; Donatti, C.; Avelino, J. Ecosystem-Based Practices for Smallholders' Adaptation to Climate Extremes: Evidence of Benefits and Knowledge Gaps in Latin America. **Agronomy** 2022, 12, 2535. <https://doi.org/10.3390/agronomy12102535>
- Thong, H., Z. Nie, F. **Alpizar**, F. Carlsson and P.K. Nam (2022). Celebrity Endorsement in Promoting Pro Environmental Behavior. **Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization**. Vol. 198, pp. 68-86.
- Bernedo Del Carpio, M., F. **Alpizar**, and P.J. Ferraro (2022). Time and Risk Preferences of Individuals, Married Couples and Unrelated Pairs, **Journal of Behavioral and Experimental Economics**(2021), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.socec.2021.101794>
- Capitan, T.; F. **Alpizar**; R. Madrigal and S. Pattanayak (2021). Time-Varying Pricing May Increase Total Electricity Consumption: Evidence from Costa Rica. **Resource and Energy Economics**, Vol. 66. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.reseneeco.2021.101264>
- Bernedo del Carpio, M.; F. **Alpizar** and P.J. Ferraro (2021). Community-based monitoring to facilitate water management by local institutions in Costa Rica. **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)**. Vol. 118 No. 29, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2015177118>
- Slough et al.....**F. Alpizar**.... (2021). Adoption of Community Monitoring Improves Common Pool Resource Management Across Context. **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)**. Vol. 118 No. 29, <https://doi.org/10.1073/pnas.2015177118>

- Bastos Lima, M.G.; N. Harring; S.C. Jagers; A. Löfgren; M. Persson; M. Sjöstedt; B. Brölde; D. Langlet; W. Steffen and **F. Alpizar** (2021) Large Scale Collective Action to avoid an Amazon tipping point: Key actors and interventions. **Current Research in Environment and Sustainability**. Vol. 3
- Saborío-Rodríguez, M.; **F. Alpizar**, L. Aguilar-Solano; M. R. Martínez-Rodríguez, R. Vignola, B. Viguera, C. A. Harvey (2021). Perceptions of Extreme Weather Events and Adaptation Decisions: A Case Study of Maize and Bean Farmers in Guatemala and Honduras. In book: *Extreme Events and Climate Change: A multidisciplinary Approach*. Chapter 6. Wiley Publisher, Editors: F. Castillo, M. Wehner and D.A. Stone. <https://doi.org/10.1002/9781119413738.ch6>
- T. Sterner, R.T. Carson, M. Hafstead, P. Howard, S. C. Jagers, G. Köhlin, I. Parry, R. Rafaty, E. Somanatan, J.C. Steckel, D. Whittington, **F. Alpizar**, S. Ambec, C. Aravena, J. Bonilla, R.C. Daniels, J. Garcia, N. Harring, K. Kacker, S. Kerr, H. Medhin, P.K. Nam, G. Romero, O. Johansson Stenman, M. Toman, J. Xu, M. Wang. (2020). Funding Inclusive Green Transitions through Greenhouse Gas Pricing. **Ifo DICE Report** I/2020 Volume 18.
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- Alpizar, F.**; M. Saborio-Rodriguez; M.R. Martinez-Rodriguez; B. Viguera; R. Vignola; T. Capitan and C. Harvey (2020). Determinants of food insecurity among smallholder farmer households in Central America: recurrent versus extreme weather-driven events. **Regional Environmental Change**. Vol. 20:22. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10113-020-01592-y>
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- Alpizar, F.**, P. Martinsson and A. Norden (2015). Do Entrance Fees Crowd Out Donations for Public Goods? Evidence from a Protected Area in Costa Rica. **Environment and Development Economics**. Vol. 20:3.
- Alpizar, F.** and E. Gsottbauer (2015). Reputation and household recycling practices: Field experiments in Costa Rica. **Ecological Economics**. Vol.120, pp. 366-375.
- Sterner, T., Y. Alem, **F. Alpizar**; C. Berck; C.A. Chavez, J. Dikgang; S. Kirama; G. Köhlin; J. Mariara-Kabubo; A. Mekonnen and J. Xu (2014). The Environment for Development Initiative: Lessons learned in research, academic capacity building and policy intervention to manage resources for sustainable growth. **Environment and Development Economics**, Vol. 19:3.
- Alpizar, F.** (2014). It took thousands of turtles. **Environment and Development Economics**. Vol 19: 3, pp.322-324.
- Blackman, A.; M.A. Naranjo; J. Robalino, **F. Alpizar** and J. Rivera (2014). Does Ecotourism Certification Pay? Costa Rica's Blue Flag Program. **World Development**, Vol. 58, pp.41-52.
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- Alpizar, F.** and P. Martinsson (2013). Does it matter if you are observed by others? Evidence from Donations in the Field. **Scandinavian Journal of Economics**, Vol. 115:1, pp.74-83.
- Alpizar, F.** and A. Bovarnick (2013). Targeted Scenario Analysis: A new approach to capturing and presenting ecosystem service values for decision making. UNDP.
- Alpizar, F.** and P. Martinsson (2012). Paying the price of sweetening your donation- Evidence from a natural field experiment. **Economic Letters** Vol. 114, pp.182-185.
- Nordén, A., Persson, U.M., and **Alpizar, F.** (2012). Incentives, Impacts, and Behavioral issues in the context of Payment for Ecosystem Services programs: lessons for REDD+. Globalization and Development: Rethinking Interventions and Governance, A. Bigsten (Ed.), Routledge Press.
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- Alpizar, F.** y J.C. Cárdenas. 2011. Experimentos de Campo y Economía del Desarrollo. En: Brañas-Garza, P. (Editor), 2011. Economía Experimental y del Comportamiento. Editorial Antoni Bosch, Barcelona.
- Blackman, A., R. Osakwe and **F. Alpizar**. 2010. Fuel tax incidence in developing countries: The case of Costa Rica. **Energy Policy**, Vol. 38:5.
- Espinoza, T. y **F. Alpizar**. 2009. Definición de pagos para la reducción de erosión en la cuenca del lago Apanás, Nicaragua. **Recursos Naturales y Ambiente** (ISSN 1659-1216), No. 56-57, pp. 35-42.
- Alpizar, F.**, F. Carlsson and O. Johansson. 2008. Anonymity, reciprocity and conformity: Evidence from Voluntary Contributions to a National Park in Costa Rica. **Journal of Public Economics**, Vol 92: 5-6, pp.1047-1060.
- Alpizar, F.**, F. Carlsson and O. Johansson. 2008. Does context matter more for hypothetical than for actual contributions? Evidence from a natural field experiment. **Experimental Economics** Vol 11, pp.299-314.
- Madrigal, R. y **F. Alpizar**. 2008. Diseño y gestión adaptativa de un esquema de pago de servicios ecosistémicos en Copan Ruinas, Honduras. **Investigación Agraria: Sistemas de Recursos Forestales**. 17:1, pp.79-90, ISSN: 1131-7965.
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- Leguía, J.E., B. Locatelli, P. Imbach, **F. Alpizar**, R. Vignola y C. Perez. 2007. Servicios Ecosistémicos e Hidroelectricidad en Nicaragua. **Recursos Naturales y Ambiente (ISSN 1659-1216)**, No. 51-52, pp. 40-47.
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## REPORTS

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- Alpizar, F. and R. Madrigal (2008). Constructing payment schemes for ecosystem services at the local level: Methodological approach and some lessons learned. Conference paper CSF-RFF-Moore Foundation.
- Madrigal, R. y F. Alpizar. 2007. Principios de diseño e implementación de esquemas de pagos por servicios ecosistémicos. CCAD-Iniciativa Corredor Biológico Mesoamericano. 55 p.
- Campos, J.J., F. Alpizar, B. Louman, J. Parrotta y R. Madrigal. 2006. Enfoque integral para esquemas de pago por servicios ecosistémicos forestales. IUFRO-LAT. 26 p.
- Madrigal, R y F. Alpizar. 2006. Lecciones aprendidas del diseño de esquemas de pago por servicios ecosistémicos. Programa FOCUENCAS II-CATIE, Turrialba, CR. 17 p.
- Alpizar F. y R. Madrigal (2005). "Construction of a land use index to guide the provision and payment of hydrological environmental services: Input to an integral approach to hydrological PES". GEF-Silvopastoral Project, CATIE.

Alpizar, F. y L. Mercado (2005). "Identificación de aspectos prácticos ligados al desarrollo de mercados para servicios ambientales: Lecciones aprendidas de experiencias en la región latinoamericana". UNDP-SURF.

Alpizar, F y L. Mercado (2006). "Guía para el diagnóstico rápido de las condiciones mínimas requeridas para el desarrollo de esquemas de cobro y pago por servicios ambientales: caso del recurso hídrico para consumo humano en el ámbito local", UNDP-SURF.

Alpizar, F y L. Mercado (2006). "Introducción al diagnóstico rápido de las condiciones mínimas requeridas para el desarrollo de esquemas de cobro y pago por servicios ambientales". UNDP-SURF

Alpizar, F (1999) "Insights into Biodiversity Conservation: A Political, Ecological and Economic Approach". Beijer International Institute of Ecological Economics.

Alpizar, F. y R. Madrigal (2005). "Propuesta metodológica para el establecimiento de tarifas de entrada en las Áreas Silvestres Protegidas de Costa Rica: Casos de estudio en Parque Nacional Braulio Carrillo, Parque Nacional Manuel Antonio y Parque Nacional Corcovado". The Nature Conservancy, Costa Rica.

Alpizar, F. y F. Castillo (2007) Estimación de tarifas de admisión y por servicios prestados por las Áreas Protegidas de Costa Rica: Estudios de caso del Parque Nacional Braulio Carrillo, Sector Barva y el Parque Nacional Chirripó.

## CONFERENCES AND SEMINAR PRESENTATIONS

### Accepted paper presentations at:

- EAERE Conference 2001, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2016, 2017, (2020 online), 2022
- World Congress, 2002, 2010, 2014, 2018
- AERE Congress 2011, 2015
- Global week conference: Globalization and Development: Rethinking interventions and governance, Gothenburg, Sweden 2011
- LACEA 2010, Medellín, Colombia
- Latin American Association of Environmental and Resource Economists, 2003, 2005, 2007
- Conference Game Practice and the Environment, Alessandria, Italy, April 2002

### Keynote presentations and other

- LAERE Keynote presentation, Inaugural Seminar, 2021
- Toulouse School of Economics, 2020
- Center for Environmental Economics, Montpellier, 2020
- Behavioral insights for the design of environmental policies: From micro-decisions to large scale collective action dilemmas. Lecture given for the Dan and Carole Burack President's Distinguished Lecture series, University of Vermont. 2019

- Are resource conserving technologies a win win? Behavioral scientists versus engineers. Seminar at the Gund Institute for the Environment. 2019
- Input efficiency as a Solution to Externalities: engineers vs behavioral scientist in a randomized control trial. Paper presentation at BIOECON 2019.
- Behavioral Insights for Policy Design in Developing Countries, Universidad de los Andes, Colombia 2017
- International Society for Ecological Economics 2012 and Río+20, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- Green Growth Knowledge Platform, Mexico 2012
- “Pragmatismo e Innovacion en el Financiamiento de Áreas Protegidas” Congreso Mesoamericano de Áreas Protegidas 2010, Mérida, México.
- “From optimal entrance fees to practitioner’s tools”, workshop of the Environment for Development Initiative, Kenia, 2009.

## TEACHING

### CATIE

- The Ethics of Climate Change
- Environmental and Natural Resources Economics, 3rd trimester of M. Sc. Program (2002-present)
- Economic Valuation of the Environment, 4th trimester of M. Sc. Program (2003-present)
- Advanced Topics of Environmental Economics, short capacity building course (2002)
- Environmental Economics and Valuation of Environmental Good and Services, two-week capacity building course (2002-2011)
- Director, MSc. Program in Environmental Economics (2003-2006)

### University of Gothenburg

- Guest lecturer, Environmental Valuation Course (PhD course). November 2011
- Invited Professor, Environmental Policy Instruments (M. Sc. in Industrial Ecology). Responsible for developing and teaching course. January 2005.
- Graduate Teaching Associate, Environmental Valuation (Ph.D. course). November 2000.

In addition to teaching courses at CATIE and Gothenburg University, I have guest lectured or delivered short-courses at a variety of institutions, including Universidad Técnica de Pereira, CINPE, Universidad Nacional, Chalmers University of Technology, and Walton School of Business, University of Arkansas.

## WHAT TO EXPECT FROM ME IN THE FUTURE?

**In progress:**

Alpizar, F.; M. Bernedo Del Carpio; P. Ferraro and B. Meiselman (XXXX) Exposure enhanced goods and technology disadoption: Evidence from a randomized controlled trial with resource-conserving technologies.

Naranjo, M.A.; F. Alpizar and P. Martinsson (XXXX). Alternatives for risk elicitation in the field: Evidence from coffee farmers in Costa Rica.

Alpizar, F.; P. Martinsson and M. Veronessi (XXXX) Telling you what to do versus telling you who to follow: a field experiment on different social reference points.

Alpizar, F. and P. Martinsson (XXXX). Conditional cooperation in the field: Are nature lovers good cooperators?

## RESEARCH GRANTS

- |                  |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>2022-2026</b> | Horizon RIA; Horizon CL6-2022-BIODIV-01: Transformative pathways for synergizing just biodiversity and climate actions. <b>[US\$2,419,704]</b>                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>2020-2025</b> | Horizon 2020, call H2020-LC-GD-2020 Building a low carbon, climate resilient future: Research and Innovation in Support of the European Green Deal. WATERLANDS. <b>[€23,068,483 of which €1,001,426 for WUR]</b>                                                                             |
| <b>2017-2019</b> | National Environmental Planning Agency of Jamaica and Inter-American Development Bank: Payment for Ecosystems Services (PES) Scheme under GRT/FM-14607-JA Integrated Management of the Yallahs/Hope River Watershed Management Areas Project <b>[US\$1,300,000]</b>                          |
| <b>2013-2016</b> | International Development Research Centre (IDRC): "Water for Human Consumption, Communities and Climate Change (AC3): Expected impacts and adaptation in in Central America" <b>[US\$ 1,434,854]</b>                                                                                         |
| <b>2012-2017</b> | Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU), International Climate Initiative/Conservation International: Ecosystem-based adaptation for smallholders subsistence and coffee farming communities in central America (CASCADA) <b>[US\$ 1,790,646]</b> |
| <b>2011-2015</b> | International Development Research Centre (IDRC): Strengthening the research capacity in environmental economics to support adaptation to climate change. <b>[US\$ 413,641]</b>                                                                                                              |
| <b>2013-2014</b> | InterAmerican Development Bank: Capacity Building in the economics of Ecosystem Services and Climate Change in LAC <b>[US\$ 600,000]</b>                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>2010-2012</b> | The Tinker Foundation Incorporated: Ecopayments design given behavioral responses: who gets paid, and how to do they respond <b>[US\$ 159,500]</b>                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>2007-2017</b> | Göteborg University: The Environment for Development Initiative - Costa Rica 2005-2020 <b>[US\$ 2,391,443]</b>                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>2010-2017</b> | International Development Research Centre (IDRC): Using Environmental Economics to Influence Policies in Latin America and the Caribbean <b>[US\$ 975,205]</b>                                                                                                                               |

- 2012-2015** International Development Research Centre (IDRC): Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program (LACEEP) **[US\$ 1,223,211]**
- 2008-2011** Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA): Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program (LACEEP) **[US\$ 1,182,660]**
- 2009-2012** International Development Research Centre (IDRC): Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program (LACEEP). **[US\$ 983,476]**
- 2005-2008** International Development Research Centre (IDRC): Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program (LACEEP). **[US\$ 737,000]**
- 2005-2007** Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA): Latin American and Caribbean Environmental Economics Program (LACEEP) Phase II. **[US\$ 604,804]**