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# Mara Torres Pinedo CV

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## PERSONAL PROFILE

- ❖ 9 years project and program management experience in development practice on different contexts and countries, from indigenous communities to federal level legislative processes, with a particular focus in Latin America, US and UK.
- ❖ Experience and ability to build, research and manage multi-stakeholder networks at community, state and country levels, with strong participatory and collaborative elements.
- ❖ Ability to manage multiple projects with demanding deadlines and targets in resource restricted multicultural environments.
- ❖ Vast experience with participatory and collaborative approaches for professional practice and teaching; as well as mix-methods research experience in developing countries.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

**University College London. Postgraduate Teaching Assistant and Guest Lecturer.** London, October 2017 to date.

Deliver seminars in Geography modules: Human Ecology and Urban Political Ecology (2019).

Delivered seminars and assisted lectures and marking in BASC module Urban Inequalities and Global Development (2018 and 2019)

Assisted MSc teaching team in delivering and developing course material. Designed and developed the cohort website for MSc students, and participated as guest lecturer at modules Pathways for Prosperity I and II at the Institute for Global Prosperity (2017 to date).

**Rise Mexico Campaign.** London, September - November 2017.

Promoted and coordinated of a students network and crowdfunding campaign in the UK to support reconstruction efforts. Organised and coordinated a network over 13 Mexican students and alumni societies in the UK, raised over £20,000 and liaise with Mexican charities to deliver campaign funds.

**UCL Student's Union, Mexican Society VicePresident and Treasurer.** London, April 2015 to July 2018.

Managed oversight and review of grants and awards for UCL's Mexican Society. Designed and coordinated conferences and special discussion panels for the society. Coordinated logistics, funding applications and administration of UCL's Mexico Summit, the society annual event that had over 150 participants in its last edition.

**Kinto Sol CSO/Federal Commission on Electricity (CFE) - Research and Methodology Consultant.** Ruíz, Nayarit, May - September 2015.

Led the design and applied research strategy for the integration of a Development Plan for 5 Indigenous Communities impacted by the hydroelectric project "Las Cruces" Nayarit, Mexico. Designed surveys, questionnaires and systematisation tools. Conducted training workshops on facilitation skills and participatory research techniques for over 25 team members that implemented the tools in over 45 localities. Collaborated in the information analysis and research results final document.

**National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, Office in México. Consultant.** April - September 2015.

Elaborated the systematisation of experiences and Manual for the Advocacy Academy for Civil Society Organisations, project developed by the NDI in Ciudad Juárez, Chihuahua and Tijuana, Baja California during 2014.

**National Democratic Institute for International Affairs, Office in México. Program Officer,** Mexico, September 2012 to January 2015.

Helped deliver NDI's Technical Assistance for the Mexican Government and Civil Society Organizations. Designed and conducted training workshops and one-on-one consultations with legislative technical bodies, local authorities and civil society organisations in Mexico and in collaboration with NDI's regional team in Colombia, El Salvador and Honduras. Coordinate activities in order to strengthen civil society networks in Baja California Mexico. Helped design and assist implementation of strategies to engage civil society, public officials and legislative representatives. Provided oversight and review of sub grants (USAID and NED guidelines). Drafted program activity reports, monthly field reports, monitoring and evaluation data, and provided periodic updates on relevant political developments. Provided oversight and review of sub grant projects with beneficiaries.

**Jalisco Ministry for Rural Development. General Evaluation Coordinator for Jalisco State Technical Assistance Strategy for the Strengthening of Fruit Producers and enterprises.** Jalisco, May 2011 to March 2012.

Designed, coordinated and evaluated technical assistance strategies and services to enhance fruit production and organisational development for small and medium enterprises and production cooperatives. Led a team of four evaluators and 12 technicians that implemented the technical assistance for fruit producers and enterprises. Achieved the first coordinated evaluation of the fruit sector technical assistance in the state, as well as the integration of a base line to integrate better technical assistance programs for Jalisco's fruit producers.

**Jalisco's Coffee Cluster. Manager. Jalisco's Ministry on Rural Development.** Jalisco, México. March 2010 to May 2011.

Managed, implemented, and provided oversight of Jalisco's Coffee Cluster. Help build collaborative network between coffee producers, public officers, finance institutions, private enterprises and technical coffee specialists. Designed and conducted training workshops and one-on-one consultations on organisational development, strengthening relations with public officials and access to finance. Served as a liaison between Jalisco Coffee Cluster and Jalisco's Ministry for Rural Development. Developed the first Jalisco Coffee Cluster Master Plan which became the Rural Development Ministry blue print for the development of technical assistance and investment projects for the cluster in the state for the following years.

**ITESO, Guadalajara's Jesuit University. Program Coordinator. Professional Internship Program with Civil Society and Community Organizations. Guadalajara, Jalisco.**

November 2010 to August 2012. Developed strategies to bring together civil society organizations from marginalised communities with young professional interns in order to design and implement development projects. Designed and developed training programs for young professionals with intercultural and human rights approach. Designed and evaluated projects.

**Jelaan Civil Society Organisation. Founder member and Project Coordinator.** Jalisco, México February 2010 to December 2011.

Designed, fundraised, managed and evaluated community development projects. Designed and conducted training workshops and one-on-one consultations in marginalised communities and rural areas. After founding the organisation, I lead and guaranteed the necessary funds (from governmental and foundation donors) for the implementation of over 5 projects in the first two years of the organisation.

**Kinto Sol CSO - Municipalities of La Huerta and Cuautitlán, Jalisco. Municipal Planning Consultant.** La Huerta & Cuautitlán, Jalisco, México, January 2010 to June 2010.

Collaborated on the design and formulation of the Municipal Plan Strategy for the 2010/2012 Administration in the Municipalities of La Huerta and Cuautitlán, Jalisco.

**National Institute for Education Infrastructure (INIFED). Community Outreach Officer.** Michoacán, México. November 2008 to December 2009.

Managed, implemented, and provided oversight of infrastructure remodelling of public schools in Michoacán State. Promote transparency and community engagement and supervision on the implementation of the budget and reconstruction actions. This was done by coordinating construction companies, school committees and the program's technical team. And by integrating, train and coordination of more than 30 school committees (in rural and urban areas) to provide oversight to the budget and reconstruction actions.

**IXIM Civil Society Organization. Human Rights Promoter.** Palenque, Chiapas, México. January 2008 to August 2010.

Designed and conducted training workshops on Human Rights for indigenous communities. Assisted research on human rights violations.

**Rural Finance (Financiera Rural - COLPOS). Logistic Liaison.** Jalisco and Nayarit, México. October 2003 to March 2004.

Organised and coordinated meetings and training events for rural agricultural businesses and producers on new rural finance mechanisms. I liaised local branches with federal training team and conducted oversight and logistic coordination of training events in the western states of Jalisco and Nayarit, Mexico.

## EDUCATION

**MPhil/PhD Development Planning - Global Prosperity.** University College London (UCL), London, United Kingdom. April 2017 - to date. Supervisors: Professor Henrietta Moore, Institute for Global Prosperity and Dr Andrea Rigon, Development Planning Unit.

**MSc Risk, Disaster and Resilience.** University College London (UCL), London, United Kingdom. September 2015 - September 2016. Merit. Dissertation Topic: The politics of Sovereign Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance: Evidence from Mexico's Fund for Disasters.

**Project Management Postgraduate Diploma - Project Management Institute method.** Western Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESO), the Jesuit University of Guadalajara. Jalisco, México. August- December 2010.

**Bachelor of Arts in International Relations.** Western Institute of Technology and Higher Education (ITESO), the Jesuit University of Guadalajara. Jalisco, México. August 2004 - December 2008. G.P.A. 9.43

## PUBLICATIONS

### Peer Reviewed

Curiel, R. P., Arnau, C. C., Pinedo, M. T., Ramírez, H. G., & Bishop, S. R. (2019). Temporal and spatial analysis of the media spotlight. *Computers, Environment and Urban Systems*, 75, 254-263

Curiel, R. P., Arnau, C. C., Pinedo, M. T., Ramírez, H. G., & Bishop, S. R. (2020). A continuous binning for discrete, sparse and concentrated observations. *MethodsX*, 7, 100709.

### Other reports and publications

CFE., Kinto Sol SC. 2016. Plan de Desarrollo Regional 2015 – 2025 de las Comunidades Indígenas de San Pedro Ixcatán, San Juan Corapan, Rosarito, San Blasito, y Saycota y sus Anexos, vinculadas con el Proyecto Hidroeléctrico Las Cruces, Nayarit . Nayarit, Mexico. 202 pp. [English title: 2015-2025 Regional Development Plan for the Indigenous communities of San Pedro Ixcatán, San Juan Corapan, Rosarito, San Blasito, y Saycota y sus Anexos, related to the Hydroelectric Project of Las Cruces, Nayarit].

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs Mexico. 2016. Manual para el fortalecimiento de habilidades para una participación efectiva de las Organizaciones de la Sociedad Civil: Incidencia. Mexico. 130 pp. [English title: Manual for the strengthening of skills for an effective participation of Civil Society Organizations: Advocacy].

National Democratic Institute for International Affairs Mexico. 2015. Academia de Incidencia para OSC's: Buenas practicas de fortalecimiento de la Sociedad Civil en México. Mexico. 26 pp. [English title: Advocacy Academy for CSO's: Good practices of Civil Society strengthening in Mexico].

Torres Pinedo, Mara. 2010. Plan Rector Sistema Producto Café del Estado de Jalisco. SAGARPA/SEDER. Guadalajara, Mexico. [English title: Jalisco's Coffee Cluster Master Plan].

## KEY SKILLS

**Research skills:** qualitative interviewing, qualitative data analysis using NVIVO, quantitative and network analysis using R and Gephi, survey design and implementation in challenging contexts.

**Languages:** Spanish (native), English (advance).

**Information technology:** experience in using Microsoft Office packages (Advanced), SPSS (intermediate), NVIVO (intermediate), R (intermediate) and Moodle (Admin level).

**Participatory planning and citizen engagement:** public hearings, participatory planning, town-hall meetings, negotiation and consensus building with multi stakeholder groups.

**Country work experience:** Mexico, El Salvador, Honduras, Colombia, United Kingdom, United States.

## SCHOLARSHIPS AND HONOURS

**UCL Education Awards. Team: Efrosini Charalambous and Mara Torres Pinedo. Nominated.** Academic year 2017-2018.

**Student's Union UCL. Societies Personality of the year award.** In recognition of the contribution to Societies at Students' Union UCL. 2017-18 Academic Year.

**CONACYT Overseas Studentship**, grant for PhD studies: tuition fees and annual stipend. January 2017 to December 2020. (£23,260 per year)

**UCL - Santander Studentship.** September 2015, to August 2016. (£5,000)

**CONACYT Overseas Studentship**, grant for MSc studies: tuition fees and annual stipend. September 2015 to September 2016. (£23,260)

**United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. Legislative Process and Governance Professional Fellows Program.** Washington D.C October - November 2013.

## REFERENCES

**Professor Henrietta Moore.** Institute for Global Prosperity, UCL. Email: [igpdirector@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:igpdirector@ucl.ac.uk)

**Professor Richard Taylor.** Department of Geography, UCL. Email: [richard.taylor@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:richard.taylor@ucl.ac.uk)  
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**Dr Alessio Koliulis.** Institute for Global Prosperity, UCL. Email: [a.koliulis@ucl.ac.uk](mailto:a.koliulis@ucl.ac.uk)  
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