

Personal Information:

Last names, Surnames: Romero Oliva de Hirschmeier, Claudia Suseth
Date and Place of birth: Guatemala, 12/09/1979
Civil Status: married
Nationality: Guatemalan
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In short:

Expert in the field of Ecotoxicology and Aquatic Ecology, with experience in experimental design and optimization of ecotoxicological assays, analytic tests, development of scientific research, management of laboratories and personnel. With more than 10 years of international experience, I have developed the necessary competences to work in different cultures focusing in the adequate implementation of creative strategies in line with the needs of different groups, equipment and research projects.

▪ **Education:**

10/2011-01/2017
With maternity
leave during
07/2015-07/2016

Doctor rerum naturalium- CUM LAUDE area Ecotoxicology

Technische Universität Berlin-TU Berlin, Institut für Ökologie, FG Ökologische Wirkungsforschung und Ökotoxikologie/ Institute of Ecology, Department of Research of Ecological Impact and Ecotoxicology, Berlin, Germany.

Title of the thesis: "Metabolism and phytoremediation potential of macrophytes exposed to microcystins. Study Case: Lake Amatitlán, Guatemala."

02/2008-06/2010

Magister Scientiae (Filosofie Licentiate) major in Aquatic Ecology

Linnaeus Universit t, Department of Marine Ecology, Kalmar Sweden.

Title of thesis: "Climate induced changes-its effects on plankton food webs from the Baltic Sea."

01/1998-05/2007

Licentiate in Biology

Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala-USAC, Facultad de Ciencias Qu micas y Farmacia, Escuela de Biolog a, Guatemala.

Title of the thesis: "Caracterizaci n preliminar del h bitat del manat  (Trichechus manatus manatus) en el Golfo de Honduras /Preliminar characterization of the Manatee (Trichechus manatus manatus) habitat in the Gulf of Honduras."

01-06/2004

Diploma in Non Governmental Organizations Management

Universidad Rafael Landivar-URL, Humanities Faculty and FLACSO-Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales / Latinoamerican Faculty of Social Sciences, Guatemala. An internship was carried out in the Guillermo Toriello NGO during the last three months of the present studies.

▪ **Working Experience:**

09/2018 - indefinite

Director, Centro de Estudios Atitl n-CEA, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Solol , Guatemala

Position: Director of a Research Center and a Mayan Archaeological Site (San Andr s Semetabaj, Solol ) in the areas of environment, environmental education, local governance and archaeology.

Activities: Activities include the leadership, development of new research lines and publication of scientific data produced by the Environmental Research Laboratory studying the status of the Lake Atitl n Basin. Also to present the produced data to local and national decision-making institutions and to the general public in the Lake Atitl n Basin. Accompany several governance processes in the area having to deal with the well-being of the environment of the Lake Atitl n Basin. Finally the management of an Mayan Pre-Classic Archaeological Site with the development of new research lines. The Center includes 10 full-time workers and several international volunteers.

07-09/2018

Maternity leave

For the third child. Born on the 18.07.18

06/2017- 09/2018

Professor, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Facultad de Ciencias Qu micas y Farmacia, Escuela de Biolog a, Guatemala

Position: Professor for the courses of Citoembriology and Invertebrate Zoology.

05-12/2017	<p><u>Developed activities:</u> Lecturing and supervision of laboratories for students. Supervising of Thesis projects with students. Also collaboration with diverse academic activities within the University. With a yearly education of 70 students within the docent activities and of 2 thesis students.</p>
	<p>Independent Consultant, Planning Department from the Municipality of Guatemala, Guatemala</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Consulting, analysis, data gathering and development and recommendations for land conservation guidelines and strategies in green urban areas within Guatemala City.</p>
06-11/2017	<p>Docent, Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Naturales, Departamento de Biología, Guatemala</p>
	<p><u>Position:</u> Docent for the course of Invertebrate Zoology I</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Lecturing and supervision of laboratories for students. Supervising of Thesis projects with students. With a yearly education of 25 students within the docent activities and of 1 thesis student.</p>
05/2017-present	<p>Independent Consultant, Instituto Privado de Investigación sobre Cambio Climático, Guatemala</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Consulting, analysis, planning and recommendations for the baseline of the water quality monitoring for the entire pacific watersheds with the influence of the sugar agro industry in Guatemala.</p>
03/2017-present	<p>Guest Scientist, Leibniz-Zentrum für Agrarlandschaftsforschung (ZALF), Münchenberg, Germany</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Coordination and analysis of data for its publication in international scientific journals.</p>
07/2015-07/2016	<p>Maternity leave</p>
	<p>From first two children (twins), high risk pregnancy with complete repose. Born on the 18.03.2016.</p>
07-09/2010	<p>Project assistant, Linnaeus Universitätt, Sweden</p>
	<p><u>Name of the Project:</u> Effekter Av förhöjd temperatur på cyanobakterieblomningar och dess giffighet, samt effekter av muddring på närsaltökning och stimulans av skadliga algblomningar under sommaren./ Effect of the increase in temperature on the cyanobacterial blooms and its toxicity with the increase in salinity during Summer Baltic Blooms.</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> <i>In situ</i> and <i>In vitro</i> evaluation of changes in the trophic structure of planktonic food webs from the Baltic Sea with focus on the ecotoxicological aspects of the increase of cyanobacteria due to climate change were presented in reports.</p>
10/2010	<p>Guest Scientist, Leibniz Institute for Freshwater Ecology and Inland Fisheries, Berlin, Germany</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Internship and colaboration in the development of the proposal for the research project titled: "Sustainable water use for agricultural pruposes in rural communities around Lake Atitlán, Guatemala, Central America. -the use of the green liver system". Funds were obtained and the project was part of my Doctorates program. Responsibilities included the design and development of experiments and field sampling as well as the coordination with the different sectors from the Region.</p>
02/2007-01/2008	<p>Main researcher, Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala</p>
	<p><u>Activities:</u> Authorship, design of research proposal, leadership of the research Project and development of Project through the financial support from the Fondo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnología-CONCYT. Two projects were granted:</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ex Situ</i> culture of <i>Ecteinascidia turbinata</i> (Ascidiaceae: Perophoridae) and extraction of secondary metabolites to be used against Cancer disease. AGROCYT-022-2005, A total of 5 people were contracted and responsibilities included their leadership together with the budgeting and development of reports: Total granted 250,000 QTZ. • Determination of oil in marine algae as potential prime material for Biodiesel. FODECYT-043-2007. A total of 4 people were contracted and responsibilities included their leadership together with the budgeting and development of reports. Total money granted 175,000 QTZ.

01/2006-01/2007	Director of the Aquatic Ecology Section , Consultoría y Tecnología Ambiental-CTA, Guatemala <u>Activities:</u> Responsible for the design and development of field monitoring activities, data gathering, production of biological/environmental impact assessment reports for megaprojects in Guatemala. Direct contact with clients and management of accounts were maintained as well as the search of new projects and potential clients. Personnel in charge: 1-2 independent researchers.
02-12/2005	Scientist and Field Researcher , Comitato Internazionale per lo Sviluppo dei Popoli-CISP, Guatemala, Belize and Honduras <u>Activities:</u> Responsible for the design, and execution of the Manatee Habitat Monitoring Program for the Gulf of Honduras (Belize, Guatemala and Honduras). Activities included the coordination with several field working groups, analysis of the data obtained during field sampling activities as well as laboratory results. Coordination of multinational groups (from 3-20 people) included academic and field based personal. Budgeting, planning and coordination of the different activities were reported monthly and resulted in a final report handed out to several NGOs and base organizations from the region. Personnel in charge: 1-7 independent researchers and field personnel.
01/2003-06/2004	Teaching assistant , Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala <u>Position:</u> Research assistant for the courses of Embryology and Reproduction and Invertebrate Zoology <u>Activities:</u> Responsible for the laboratory and theory evaluations as well as the docent support in both courses. A total of 30 to 150 students were supervised and evaluated.

▪ **Additional Education:**

Course / Seminar / Workshop	Company / University/ Country	Date
• Symposium , Ecotoxicología, Main Lecturer and organizer	Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Centro de Estudios en Biotecnología-CEAB, SEPPRA, BIODIM	08/2018
• Seminar: Retos de la Gestión Ambiental para Guatemala. / Challenges of the Environmental Management in Guatemala.	DAAD German Academic Exchange Service, German International Cooperation , AGAA and USAC, Guatemala	05/2018
• Workshop: Planificación Conjunta CCGSS-USAC, relativa al proyecto: Cambio global y sustentabilidad en la cuenca del Usumacinta y zona marina de influencia: bases para la adaptación al cambio climático desde la ciencia y la gestión del territorio. / Joint Planning CCGSS-USAC, from the Project: Global Change and sustainability in the Usumacinta river and marine influence zone from the Usumacinta Basin: bases for the adaptation and climate change from science to the management of the territory.	Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala y Centro del Cambio Global para la Sustentabilidad del Sureste de Tabasco A.C., Mexico.	10/2017
• Pre Conference Course: ForSyS (Heureka) Training (Prof. Ola Eriksson) (Satellite Image interpretation)	IUFRO Conference, Halle (Saale), Germany	09/2017
• Pre Conference Course: Guido's Toolbox Training (Prof. Peter Vogt) (Satellite Image interpretation)	IUFRO Conference, Halle (Saale), Germany	09/2017
• Workshop: Bioindicadores dulceacuicolas y marinos aplicados a ambientes actuales y pasados. / Marine and freshwater Bioindicators applied to recent and past environments.	Universidad del Valle de Guatemala, Guatemala	04/2017
• Course: Conflict management (in german)	TU Berlin, Germany	11/2013
• Course: Taxonomía de cianobacterias. / Taxonomy of Cyanobacteria	URL y SEPPRA, Guatemala	09/2010
• Course: Flow Cytometry	Linnaeus Universit�t, Sweden	09/2009
• Course: Sustainable Coastal Management COAST-2006A	SIDA-Swedish International Cooperation Agency, Sweden	10-11 /2006
• Course: Electrofishing	Smith Root Inc., EUA y CTA, S.A., Guatemala	06/2006
• Course: Curso Trinacional de Metodolog�as del SAM, con �nfasis en el desarrollo del monitoreo para la	Sistema Arrecifal Mesoamericano-SAM, Belice y Centro de Investigaci�n	08/2005

Course / Seminar / Workshop	Company / University/ Country	Date
conservación del manatí (<i>Trichechus manatus</i>). / Trinational course of SAM methodologies for the monitoring of the conservation of the manatee (<i>Trichechus manatus manatus</i>).	y Estudios Avanzados, Unidad Mérida, Mexico	
• Course: Taxonomía de Pinophyta y Magnoliophyta de Guatemala. / Taxonomy of Pinophyta and Magnoliophyta in Guatemala	Herbario BIGUA, USAC, Guatemala	11/2004
• Course: Primer curso de Estudios Genéticos para el Manejo de Vida Silvestre con énfasis en Tortugas Marinas. / First course of genetic studies for the Management of Wildlife with emphasis on Marine turtles.	Probioma, USAC, Fonacon, CONAP, CECON, Fonacyt, ICADS, Guatemala	08/2004
• Course: La Importancia de las colecciones de Herbario en Mesoamérica. / Importance of the Herbariums in Mesoamerica.	USAC, Guatemala	10/2003
• Seminar: Primer Seminario sobre Patología de Artrópodos. / First Seminar of Arthropod pathology (collaborator)	USAC, Guatemala	02/2003
• Course: Preparación de Pieles Ornitológicas para Colecciones de Referencia. / Workshop on preparation of Ornithological skin for Reference Collections.	USAC, Guatemala	05/2001
• Workshop: Taller de Malacología. / Malacology Workshop	SMBC, Guatemala	05/1999
• Course: Técnicas de Monitoreo de Aves. /Bird Monitoring Techniques Workshop.	SMBC, Guatemala	04/1999
• Workshop: Taller de Herpetología. / Herpetology Workshop	SMBC, Guatemala	04/1999
• Course: Riesgo y Seguridad en el Laboratorio. /Workshop on risks and security in the Laboratory.	USAC, Guatemala	05/1998

▪ **Honors, prizes and financed projects:**

- **2018:** The World Academy of Sciences-TWAS Price, for young scientists, TWAS for the advancement of science in developing countries.
Yearly award given to one person representing a developing country as Guatemala. Nomination by the National Academy of Medical, Physics and Natural Sciences of Guatemala, the Advisory Commission and Council of Remarkables from the National Science and Technology Council from the National Secretary of Science and Technology of Guatemala.
- **2015: PAS** Frauenförderung Promotionsabschlussstipendien, Technische Universität Berlin, Germany
 - Scholarship for the termination of the Doctorates (03-06/2015).
- **2011-2015: DAAD** German Academic Exchange Service, Berlin, Germany.
 - Complete scholarship for the Doctorates program in Berlin, Germany (11/2011-03/2015).
 - Scholarship for learning the german language, Berlin, Germany (03-10/2011).
- **2008-2010:** Linnaeus Universit t y Svensk K rnb slehantering AB-SKB, Sweden.
 - Complete scholarship for the development of the *Magister Scientiae* studies (02/2008-06/2010).
- **2010:** Universidad Rafael Landivar, Guatemala.
 - Complete scholarship for the short course: Taxonomy of Cyanobacteria (09/2010).
- **2007:** Consejo Nacional de Ciencia y Tecnolog a-CONCYT, Guatemala.
 - Grant for the research project FODECYT-043-2007.
- **2006:** SIDA-, Swedish International Cooperation Agency, Sweden G teborg, Sweden.
 - Complete scholarship for the course: Sustainable Coastal Management COAST-2006A.
- **2005:** CONCYT, Guatemala.
 - Grant for the research project AGROCYT-022-2005.
- **2004:** Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala, Guatemala.
 - Complete scholarship for the short course: First course of genetic studies for the Management of Wildlife with emphasis on Marine turtles. (06/2004).
- **2003:** Universidad Rafael Landivar y FLACSO-Facultad Latinoamericana de Ciencias Sociales,

Guatemala.

- Complete scholarship for the study of the Diploma on Non Governmental Organizations Management. (01-06/2004).

▪ **Publication List:**

- (1) **Romero-Oliva, C. S.;** Quezada, M.L., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Pérez-Silva, E., Lana, M. Saprophytic Litter Fungi and Coleoptera as proxies of fragmentation processes in a tropical rainforest. *Submitted*.
- (2) **Romero-Oliva, C. S.;** Quezada, M.L., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Pérez-Silva, E., Lana, M. 2017. Litter Macrofungi and associated Coleoptera as bioindicators of land use change in fragmented landscapes from the tropical rainforest of Lachuá, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. IUFRO 8.01.02. Landscape Ecology Conference, Halle (Saale), Alemania. ISBN number: 978-3-86829-915-1.
- (3) **Romero-Oliva, C.S.,** Contardo-Jara, V., Pflugmacher, S. 2015b. Time dependent uptake, bioaccumulation and biotransformation of cell free crude extract microcystins from Lake Amatitlán, Guatemala by *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Egeria densa* and *Hydrilla verticillata*. *Toxicon*, 105, 62-73.
- (4) **Romero-Oliva, C.S.,** C., Contardo-Jara, V., Pflugmacher, S. 2015a. Antioxidative response of the three macrophytes *Ceratophyllum demersum*, *Egeria densa* and *Hydrilla verticillata* to a time dependent exposure of cell-free crude extracts containing three microcystins from cyanobacterial blooms of Lake Amatitlán, Guatemala. *Aquatic Toxicology*, 163, 130-139.
- (5) **Romero-Oliva, C.S.,** Contardo-Jara, V., Block, T., Pflugmacher, S. 2014. Accumulation of microcystin congeners in different aquatic plants and crops – A case study from Lake Amatitlán, Guatemala. *Ecotoxicology and Environmental Safety*, 102, 121-128.
- (6) Lindh, M., Riemann, L., Baltar, F., **Romero-Oliva, C.,** Salomon, P., Granéli, E., Pinhassi, J. 2013. Consequences of increased temperature and acidification on bacterioplankton community composition during a mesocosm spring bloom in the Baltic Sea. *Environmental Microbiology Reports*, 5 (2), 252-262.
- (7) **Romero-Oliva, C.S.** 2004. Memoria de Labores del II Encuentro de Guardarecursos de Guatemala. Asociación de Guardarecursos de Guatemala (AGGUA), Centro de Acción Legal Ambiental y Social de Guatemala (CALAS), Centro de Estudios Conservacionistas (CECON-USAC).
- (8) Fernández Koppel, J., **Romero-Oliva, C.S.** 2004. Manual de Laboratorio de Embriología y Reproducción. Escuela de Biología de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. Editorial Universitaria.
- (9) Monroy, C., **Romero-Oliva, C.S.** 2004. Manual de Laboratorio de Zoología de los Invertebrados I. Escuela de Biología de la Universidad de San Carlos de Guatemala. Editorial Universitaria.
- (10) **Romero-Oliva, C.S.,** Paredes, S. 2001. Memoria de Labores de la Segunda Mesa de Trabajo de Tortugas Marinas. Fundación para la Conservación en Guatemala. Fundación para la Conservación en Guatemala (FCG).

▪ **Conferences:**

- 2018:** **Romero-Oliva, C.S.** Cianotoxinas en cuerpos límnicos guatemaltecos. Seminario: Retos de la Gestión Ambiental para Guatemala. DAAD Servicio Alemán de Intercambio Académico, Cooperación alemana, AGAA y USAC, Guatemala. *Oral presentation*.
- 2017:** **Romero-Oliva, C. S.;** Quezada, M.L., Arroyo-Rodríguez, V., Pérez-Silva, E., Lana, M. 2017. Litter Macrofungi and associated Coleoptera as bioindicators of land use change in fragmented landscapes from the tropical rainforest of Lachuá, Alta Verapaz, Guatemala. IUFRO 8.01.02. Landscape Ecology Conference, Halle (Saale), Germany. *Oral presentation*.
- 2017:** Conferencia dictada durante el día de los Humedales para la Asociación Guatemalteca de Limnología y Gestión de Lagos-AGUALIMNO-con el título: "Metabolismo y capacidades de fitoremediación de macrófitas expuestas a microcistinas: Estudio de caso: Lago de Amatitlán, Guatemala". Colegio de Profesionales, Guatemala. *Oral presentation*.
- 2011:** **Romero-Oliva, C.S.** and Pflugmacher, S.: "Ecosystem protection in a sustainable removal of cyanobacterial toxins in water". 21 Annual Meeting of the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry-SETAC "Ecosystem Protection in a Sustainable World: A Challenge for Science and Regulation" del 15-19/05 Milan, Italy. *Oral presentation*.
- 2010:** Granéli, E.; **Romero-Oliva, C.S.;** Salomon, P. "Effects of Increased Temperature and Acidification on spring and summer Baltic Sea Phytoplankton Communities" Time Series of harmful algae bloom events: Climate and Anthropogenic Induced Impacts in the 14th International Conference on Harmful Algae del 1-5/10, Hersonissos, Crete, Greece. *Oral presentation*.
- 2010:** Primer Simposio Cianobacterias, Cianotoxinas. El Agua, La Salud. AGISA, AIDIS, SEPRA, UNESCO, OPS/OMS, ERIS y Universidad Rafael Landívar, del 27-29/10 in Guatemala. *Attendance*.
- 1999:** III Congreso y IV Asamblea General de la Sociedad Mesoamericana para la Biología y la Conservación. Guatemala. *Attendance*.