

# ERIKA LUNA PEREZ

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## KEY COMPETENCIES

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- Strong analytical and systems thinking skills gained from more than four years of interdisciplinary research experience employing various quantitative and qualitative data analysis methods (coding and statistics, Geographic Information Systems, surveys and literature and policy reviews).
- Excellent writing and verbal communication skills (in English and Spanish), demonstrated through thesis and report writing, and as a science communicator.
- Strong organizational and time-management skills demonstrated through simultaneously working on multiple and collaborative academic and non-academic projects.

## EDUCATION

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**M.Sc. Resources, Environment and Sustainability** *Anticipated completion: December 2021*  
*University of British Columbia — Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability*

- Supervisors: Dr. Navin Ramankutty and Dr. Amanda Giang
- Thesis: ‘A Descriptive Analysis of Mexico’s Crop Species Diversity’.

**B.Sc. Earth and Environmental Sciences** *2013 - 2019*  
*National Autonomous University of Mexico — Faculty of Science*

- Honors Thesis: ‘Impact of future urban growth on the local climate in the Mexico City Metropolitan Area (MCMA) and its socio-environmental implications’.

**Exchange academic program** *Spring 2017*  
*University of California, Berkeley — Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management Department*

- Relevant courses: International Rural Development; Political Ecology.

## RELEVANT EXPERIENCE

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**Research Assistant, University of British Columbia** *May 2021 - Present*  
*School of Public Policy and Global Affairs*

- Project: The Gender Data Revolution
- Academic literature and policy review on Gender Data.
- Organization of a virtual knowledge production workshop involving more than 80 participants from various international academic and policy institutions.

**Sustainable Food Systems Data Assistant** *September 2019 - August 2020*  
*Centre for Sustainable Food Systems at The UBC Farm*

- Data cleaning and analysis of historical farm’s operations databases. The arranged data is now fully documented and available to the public on the UBC Farm’s Dataverse website.
- Built a map using the Tableau software as an innovative way to visualize data from the farm. The map has helped researchers select the best available fields within the farm to conduct their research.

**Research Assistant, University of British Columbia** *Summer 2018*  
*Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability*

- Project: Towards a Systematic Understanding of Environmental Injustice in Canada.

- Mapped drinking water advisories and presented the information to faculty from the UBC Environmental Justice Research Cluster to inform a project seeking to evaluate different kinds and sources of pollution.

**Data Collector and Analyst**

*November 2017 - January 2018*

*Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)*

- Conducted surveys (field work) and developed a comprehensive data base of 60 small farmers in the peri-urban area of Mexico City. The data informed the first-ever farmers' market sponsored by FAO and Mexico City's government.

**Research Assistant, University of California, Berkeley**

*Summer 2017*

*Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management Department*

- Project: Potentials and Problems of Hydro-power Development in Eastern Africa.
- Conducted a literature and policy review of international multilateral agencies documents to assess their role in development projects and the positive and negative impacts on local communities.

**Research Assistant, Université de Montréal**

*Summer 2016*

*Faculty of Law*

- Globalink Mitacs Program
- Project: Sustainable development law - Sustainable Agriculture in a Green Economy.
- Conducted a literature review and developed an annotated database which helped the principal investigator to enhance collaboration with researchers in Latin America.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT**

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**Co-founder of DAMUSA**

*September 2020 - Present*

[DAMUSA](#) seeks to elevate the importance of collecting, analyzing and visualizing Gender Data in Food Systems.

- Principal investigator and data analyst. Currently assembling an annotated database (academic publications, grey literature, policy reports, webinars).
- Community engagement coordinator. I have organized webinars with participants from various institutions, including policy makers and women farmers.

**Science Communicator**

*December 2017 - Present*

[Planeteando and the nature of food](#)

- My entries are about socio-environmental problems from a big-picture perspective. Blog posts have reached an audience of over 14,000 people.

**SKILLS**

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**Languages**

Spanish: native

English: fluent (TOEFL iBT: 102 points)

**Software**

MS Word, Excel, and PowerPoint

R

GIS (ArcGIS and QGIS)

NVIVO

Tableau