

MANUEL J. OLIVA

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EXPERIENCE

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WASHINGTON, DC

Acting Director, Foreign Agricultural Service, May 2016 – Present

Serve in leadership role for the Development Resources and Disaster Assistance Division, Office of Capacity Building and Development of the Foreign Agricultural Service.

Ongoing Achievements:

- Oversee design, implementation and evaluation of a \$100 million portfolio of global agricultural capacity building projects, in collaboration with international public and private sector partners.
- Lead strategic initiatives to integrate social and environmental safeguards, including climate smart strategies, within international agriculture and land-use focused development projects.
- Develop vision, strategic plan and operational procedures for division of over 250 staff.
- Serve as organizational spokesman, and maintain strategic contacts with senior representatives of U.S. agencies, international institutions and private sector partners.
- Leading development of division-wide project management standard operating procedures and knowledge sharing platform with GIS interface.

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENT

WASHINGTON, DC

Chief, Compliance and Enforcement, Air Quality, June 2012 – April 2016

Directed the city's newly established air quality compliance program.

Achievements:

- Served as a senior advisor to the Sustainable DC initiative, including development of the city's climate mitigation and adaptation plans.
- Testified at City Council hearings, and provided expert advice to local and national government partners, on the challenges of implementing sustainability practices within urban environments.
- Developed the agency's new Air Quality Compliance System to improve the collection and evaluation of field data, and information sharing with other District programs and the public.
- Led public outreach efforts in English and Spanish to address social safeguard and environmental justice concerns regarding proposed agency programs.

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

ARLINGTON, VA

Director, U.S. Climate Policy, December 2008 - November 2011

Directed climate change policy strategy in context of the organization's international natural resource conservation programs.

Achievements:

- Established and led a new program that worked in collaboration with the organization's field offices to increase public and private sector support for global climate change programs.
- Led multi-stakeholder dialogues, in English and Spanish, in Mexico, Brazil and Guatemala on the planning of climate projects that balance environmental, social and development needs.
- Served as an advisor to global offices and national country partners, on the state of policy, financial and technology issues within the international climate change negotiations.
- Worked with field offices to plan and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation projects consistent with international social and environmental safeguards.
- Organized coalitions of private sector and civil society partners, such as American Electric Power and the Environmental Defense Fund, to strengthen climate change advocacy efforts.
- Worked with corporate partners, such as Dell Computers and Shell Oil, to develop low carbon business practices with strong social safeguards.
- Served as a representative to senior U.S. and international government officials, multi-national stakeholders, the private sector and media within UN sponsored climate change forums.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC

Program Director, April 2007 - December 2008

Technical Director and Team Leader of the U.S. EPA Climate Leaders program.

Achievements:

- Managed U.S. national-level climate change program, which assisted Fortune 500 companies to develop complete greenhouse gas accounting and carbon reduction strategies.
- Served as an expert advisor to the United Nations, Inter-American Development Bank, and the World Resources Institute on developing carbon reduction strategies and support training.
- Guided company partners to develop ambitious clean energy projects and evaluation criteria.
- Advised national government officials on the design of low emission development programs that emphasize public-private partnerships and local community engagement.
- Organized broad stakeholder engagements to develop agency policies and tools.
- Successfully recruited global corporate partners, such as U.S. Steel and Cisco.

U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, DC

Environmental Engineer, October 2002 - April 2007

Program Manager of U.S. emissions trading program for electricity and industrial sectors.

Achievements:

- Served as agency expert on environmental and climate change policies and technologies for the U.S. energy and industrial sectors.
- Developed carbon accounting and trading protocols for U.S. greenhouse gas regulations.
- Advised Chilean and Mexican governments on the design of national level environmental programs, including market-based systems, which incorporate social and economic goals.
- Developed agency Emission Data Analysis Tool for U.S. power sector carbon emissions.

VERSAR INC., GEOMET DIVISION

GERMANTOWN, MD

Senior Air Pollution Engineer, May 1992 - October 2002

Project Manager of complete climate, energy and environmental consulting services for global private sector and U.S. government clients.

Achievements:

- Won and managed corporate-wide climate change risk management strategy contracts for global companies, including Bank of America.
- Managed local community energy access and energy efficiency programs.
- Managed green building assessment projects for global corporations, such as Citigroup.

EDUCATION

- M.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland (1992), College Park MD
- B.S., Mechanical Engineering, University of Maryland (1990), College Park MD

SKILLS

- Fluent in Spanish (spoken and written)
- Managing professional staff
- Bridging public and private sector interests
- Facilitating discussions between local communities, private sector and government agencies

EXPERTISE

- U.S. and international climate change policies, laws and programs
- Sustainable and equity-based strategies in natural resource management and agricultural practices
- Carbon accounting and trading protocols
- Social science principles to advance innovative sustainability programs
- Climate change risk management analysis and strategy development
- Clean energy and climate change technologies and practices

AWARDS/HONORS

- Keynote Speaker, 2018 graduation ceremony, Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center (CATIE), Costa Rica.
- Recipient of 2014 Manager of the Year award from the Department of Energy and Environment, and nominated as manager of the year for the city of Washington DC.
- Recipient of Gold Medal for Exceptional Service from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

PUBLICATIONS/PRESENTATIONS/MEETINGS

- “Building Capacity for Resilient Agricultural Practices and Improved Food Security.” The Borlaug Institute. 2017. (presentation)
- “Building Resilience of Agricultural and Food Systems: Experience from the Field and Future Directions.” World Bank Group. 2017. (panelist)
- “Why Forests? Why Now? The Science, Economics and Politics of Tropical Forests and Climate Change.” Frances Seymour, Jonah Busch, Center for Global Development. 2016. (expert reviewer)
- “Roots for the Future: The Landscape and Way Forward on Gender and Climate Change.” International Union for Conservation of Nature. 2015. (publication)
- “IUCN Climate Change Policy Influencing Strategy.” International Union for Conservation of Nature. Gland Switzerland. 2014. (presentation)
- “Climate Action Plan, District of Columbia.” Natural Resources Defense Council. Washington DC 2014. (presentation)
- “District Department of the Environment, Asbestos Program Revitalization.” Northeast Environmental Enforcement Project 77th Membership Meeting. Pittsburg PA. 2014. (presentation)
- “Challenges of Implementing Air Quality Regulations in an Urban Landscape - Urban Air Pollution, A Project for Iran.” District Department of the Environment presentation to Iranian Delegation. Washington DC. 2013. (presentation)
- “Sustainability for Global Biofuels: Tools, Models, Policies, and Frameworks.” The Wilson Center. Washington DC. 2011. (presentation)
- United Nations Cancun Climate Change Conference. Cancun Mexico. 2010. (participant)
- United Nations Copenhagen Climate Change Conference. Copenhagen Denmark. 2009. (participant)
- “Developing Policy and Partnership Opportunities, Conservation International’s Business & Biodiversity Council.” 2009 BBC Spring Meeting. Washington DC. 2009. (presentation)
- United Nations Poznan Climate Change Conference. Poznan Poland. 2008. (participant)
- “Practical Steps to Reduce Your Organization’s Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Guide to Greenhouse Gas Management for Small Business & Low Emitters.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Leaders Program Partners Meeting. Chicago IL. 2008. (presentation)
- “Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol - Core Module Guidance, Indirect Emissions from Purchases/Sales of Electricity and Steam.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2008. (publication)
- “Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol - Core Module Guidance, Direct Emissions from Stationary Combustion Sources.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2008. (publication)
- “Greenhouse Gas Inventory Protocol - Core Module Guidance, Direct Emissions from Mobile Combustion Sources.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2008. (publication)
- “Small Business and Low Emitter Guide to Greenhouse Gas Management.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. 2008. (publication)
- “Ensuring a High Quality Greenhouse Gas Inventory.” Workshop on a Climate Neutral UN, United Nations Headquarters. New York NY. 2008. (presentation)
- “A Credible Greenhouse Gas Protocol.” 17th Annual Business & Industry's Environmental, Health & Safety Symposium. Cincinnati OH. 2008. (presentation)
- “Greenhouse Gases An Effective Strategy for Managing GHG Emissions.” Chemical Engineering Magazine. 2007. (publication)
- “Introduction for New Climate Leaders Partners.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Climate Leaders Program Partners Meeting. Boulder CO. 2007. (presentation)
- “Designing a Customized Greenhouse Gas Calculation Tool.” The World Resources Institute. 2006 (contributing expert)