



SOFFIA ALARCON

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 [Soffia Alarcon](#)  [Soffia Alarcon](#) Gamechanger by Bloomberg Magazine

Climate policy, carbon markets and ESG specialist with 15 years of senior civil service, international development and financial services experience. Highly skilled in organizational leadership, management, and project design. Proven track record of assisting governments, corporates and financial institutions adequately track their carbon emissions and transition to a low carbon economy. Nominated one of the 12 most influential women on ESG and Sustainable Finance by the Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI). I am currently writing a book on how AI can fight green-and ESG-washing.

EXPERIENCE

- 03/22 – present **Schneider Electric** **Virtual, USA**
Associate Director, Americas, Sustainability Business
- Lead a team of 15+ sustainability consultants across the Americas to deliver sustainability and climate change advisory services including Science-based Targets, Net Zero strategies, Climate Transition Plans and disclosure of ESG and climate-related risks.
 - Develop and lead program management as part of clients’ journeys towards net zero including resource efficiency, renewables, and the use of carbon offsets.
 - Drive thought leadership strategies with C-Suite for a range of client profiles including banks, institutional investors as well as public and private companies.
 - Coordinate regional efforts with global sustainability and climate change advisory delivery teams/program managers.
- 12/19 – 02/22 **IHS Markit (now S&P Global)** **New York City**
Director, LATAM, Sustainable Finance
- Developed the next generation of ESG solutions and tools to advise financial institutions on how to disclose and manage environmental and climate-related risks.
 - Piloted the first machine learning-fed POC for Sovereign ESG metric on Biodiversity Loss to increase the number of E metrics in the Sovereign ESG product.
 - Disseminated the use of an ESG Reporting Repository that centralizes access to ESG data and improves transparency sustainability frameworks.
 - Delivered technological tools like Registries and Meta-registries to support the growth of carbon markets.
- 09/19 – 09/21 **MILLION COOL ROOFS CHALLENGE** **Virtual**
Kigali Cooling Efficiency Program
International Judge
- 06/16 - 11/19 **CARBON TRUST MEXICO** **Mexico City**
Country Director
- Led Carbon Trust Mexico’s full range of activities in Mexico and LATAM, including sales, finance and BD (increased revenue for Mexico Office 7x in 2.5 years).
 - Spearheaded the overall management of the office including a team of 12+ and commercial strategy.
 - Delivered consultancy projects on climate change policy, GHG accounting and MRV, sustainable finance, renewable energy and energy efficiency for countries, corporates, and financial institutions.
 - Advanced the design and adoption of carbon pricing instruments, including ETS and carbon taxes for both national and subnational jurisdictions in LATAM.
 - Developed consulting projects on Science Based Targets (SBTs) and TCFD for corporates in LATAM including Scope 3 GHG emissions accounting.
 - Led all range of activities associated with the provision of SPOs for green/sustainable bonds to ensure independent assurance against the ICMA principles.

- Raised the profile of Carbon Trust Mexico at international climate-related events and global summits across Latin America, the U.S. and Europe.
- Published on international climate policy issues and broadcasted for national radio and television programs as a climate change specialist.
- Served as mentor for the Women in Renewable Energy and Efficiency Network as well as the New Ventures Incubator Program.

04/13 – 06/16 **SECRETARIAT OF ENVIRONMENT & NATURAL RESOURCES** **Mexico City**

Director of Climate Change Mitigation Policy

- Led the first roadmap of a cap-and-trade system in Mexico including the political and governance framework and general barriers for a successful implementation.
- Designed and operationalized the National GHG Emissions Register —mandatory carbon reporting system— established in the General Climate Change Law.
- Analyzed the potential interoperability between the carbon tax, the clean energy certificates, the REDD market-based mechanism, the fossil fuel subsidies and the future carbon market.

05/12 – 04/13 **WORLD RESOURCES INSTITUTE** **Washington, D.C.**

Research Fellow - Measurement and Performance Tracking Project

- Co-authored a [Working Paper](#) on integration of corporate GHG emissions into the national GHG inventory workstream to create capacity and a culture of corporate GHG reporting.
- Developed case studies to compare best practices and challenges associated with preparing National Communications and GHG inventories in Latin America, Asia and Africa.

05/11 – 04/12 **CARBON CREDIT CAPITAL (CCC)** **New York City**

Analyst

- Developed the operational and technical components of a REDD framework for Verra, including the Project Design Document (PDD), legal structure, Business Integration Model (BIM) and the Scope of Work (SOW) for forestry consultants.
- Identified and assessed feasibility of GHG emission reduction projects under the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) framework and REDD+ in India, Brazil, Ecuador, Chile and Guyana.

01/11 – 04/11 **KARBONE** **New York City**

Intern

- Researched and analyze data from various emission and renewable energy credit market including RECs, and various carbon credits.
- Executed in-depth research for clients including presentation of results.

05/08 – 07/10 **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION (FDS)** **Mexico City**

Climate Change Mitigation Advisor

- Developed a CDM project in methane capture and landfill gas management: UNFCCC Project 1699.
- Represented FDS on multi-disciplinary groups focused on the development of mitigation and adaptation projects for the public and private sector.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

01/15 - 12/19 **INSTITUTO TECNOLÓGICO AUTÓNOMO DE MÉXICO** **Mexico City**

International Climate Change Policy

Provide a comprehensive overview of global climate change issues, including the science and impacts of climate change, the cost of reducing GHGs and inaction, international negotiations, and design of climate change policies and carbon markets in Mexico, China, United States, and the European Union.

EDUCATION

2014 - 2016	LEAD International <i>Leadership for Environment and Development (LEAD) Fellow</i>	Cuba, Argentina & Mexico City
2010 - 2012	COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF INTERNATIONAL AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS Master of Public Administration, Concentration in Energy and Environment Co-founder of the first environmental student association at SIPA (IEPA, then re-named ECO)	New York
2004 - 2008	EL COLEGIO DE MEXICO <i>Bachelor of Arts in International Relations</i>	Mexico City

Certifications

- ESG Data and Investment Implementation (2021), Federated Hermes (virtual)
- Climate Change: Financial Risks and Opportunities (2021), Babson College, EDX (virtual)
- Climate Change & the TCFD: Risks and Opportunities for the Banking Industry (2019), UNEP-FI, (virtual)
- Emissions Trading Masterclass (2017), International Action Carbon Partnership, Lisbon, Portugal
- Emission Trading for Emerging Economies (2014), International Action Carbon Partnership, Santiago, Chile

PUBLICATIONS & CONTRIBUTIONS

ESG & Energy Transition

- **Alarcón Díaz, S.** and Alisa Rosales (2021). [“Increasing ESG awareness and the consequences for Latin America”](#), IHS Markit.
- U.S-Mexico Forum Energy and Sustainability 2021-2025 (2021), University of San Diego-Center for US-Mexico Studies.
- **Alarcón Díaz, S.** and Iván Islas Cortés. (2021). “El despacho de renovables, ¿alegoría climática o posibilidad real de inversión en México?”, in Konrad Adenauer Stiftung México (ed.), “México hacia una transición energética”, 271-279pp.
- Arturo Palacios and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2018). “Cómo los bonos verdes pueden desbloquear oportunidades de negocio en cambio climático”. *Forbes México*.
- IADB (2018). Developing clean energy solutions for LATAM cities. Washington, D.C.
- **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2017). “Retos de la reforma energética en el Contexto de la Contribución Determinada a Nivel Nacional”. *Perspectivas Energéticas-El Colegio de México*. Ciudad de México. 2017.
- Mexico Energy Outlook (2016). International Energy Agency. Paris, France.

Carbon Markets and GHG Accounting

- **Alarcón Díaz, S.**, Edurne Zoco and Paola Perez (2021). [Carbon sequestration—Nature-based solutions overview](#), IHS Markit.
- Partnership for Market Readiness. (2016). “Greenhouse Gas Data Management. Building Systems for Corporate/Facility-Level Reporting. Technical Note 12”. World Bank. Washington, DC.
- Partnership for Market Readiness; International Carbon Action Partnership. (2016). “Emissions Trading in Practice. A handbook on design and Implementation”. World Bank, Washington, DC.
- International Carbon Action Partnership. (2016). “Emissions Trading Worldwide: International Carbon Action Partnership Status Report 2016. Berlin, Germany
- Singh, N. and K. Bacher. (2015). “Guide for Designing Mandatory Greenhouse Gas Reporting Programs”. World Resources Institute. Partnership for Market Readiness. World Bank, Washington, DC
- State and Trends of Carbon Pricing, (2015). World Bank, Washington, DC.
- Singh, N. and M. Vieweg. (2015). “Monitoring Implementation and Effects of GHG Mitigation Policies: Steps to Develop Performance Indicators. Working Paper”. World Resources Institute. Washington, DC.
- Damassa, T. and J. Blumenthal with S. Elsayed. (2015). “Data Management Systems for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories: Insights from Ten Countries. Working Paper”. World Resources Institute. Washington, DC.
- Hsia-Kiung and Erica Morehouse. (2015). “Carbon Market California. A Comprehensive Analysis of the Golden State’s Cap-and-Trade Program. Year Two: 2014”, Environmental Defense Fund.
- Singh, N., T. Damassa, **S. Alarcon Diaz**, and M. Sotos. (2014). “Exploring Linkages Between National and Corporate/Facility Greenhouse Gas Inventories”. Working Paper. Washington, DC: *World Resources Institute*.

- Damassa, T. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2013). “Tracking Greenhouse Gases: 3 Factors for Successful National Inventories”. *World Resources Institute*.
- Finnegan, J., T. Damassa, K. DeAngelis, and K. Levin (eds.). (2014). “Capacity Needs for Greenhouse Gas Measurement and Performance Tracking: A Report on Scoping Activities in Six Countries. Working Paper”. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.
- Secretariat of Environment and Natural Resources. (2014). *Guide to report to the RENE*. GIZ-SEMARNAT.
- Damassa, T. and S. Elsayed. (2013). “From the GHG Measurement Frontline: A Synthesis of Non-Annex I Country National Inventory System Practices and Experiences. Working Paper”. World Resources Institute, Washington, DC.

Paris Agreement and climate policy

- **Alarcon-Diaz, S.**, C. Elliot (2018). “Build and Sustain Capacities Through Institutionalizing Data & Information Processes for NDC Implementation”. Working Group on Transparency of the NDC Support Cluster.
- Bugada Bernal, B. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2017). “La salida de Estados Unidos del Acuerdo de París. ¿Escollo superable o irremontable?”. *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica*.
- Echegoyen López, M. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2017). “México, país líder ante el Acuerdo de París”. *Ubi et Orbi*.
- Bugada Bernal, B. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2015). “La COP21: ¿parteaguas en la política climática mundial? El cambio climático y sus 2 décadas de claroscuros”. *Foreign Affairs Latinoamérica*.
- **Alarcón Díaz, S.**, Gloria Cuevas Guillaumin, Víctor Hugo Escalona Gómez. et. al. (2015). “Elementos Mínimos para la Elaboración de los Programas de Cambio Climático de las Entidades Federativas”. SEMARNAT-INECC-BID. Ciudad de México.
- Vazquez Castañeda, C. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2015). “La agenda del cambio climático en México. Un vistazo al carácter estratégico de la política pública”, *Cuadernos Universitarios de Sustentabilidad*. Universidad Autónoma de México.
- **Alarcon Diaz, S.** (2014). “Want to contain global warming? Bring businesses into the deal”. *El Daily Post*.
- Mosqueda Rodríguez, E. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2014). “Towards a Climate Market in Mexico”, *Environmental Magazine*. Issue on State Perspectives on Climate Change.
- Cuevas Guillaumin, G. and **S. Alarcon Diaz**. (2014). “Un enfoque ecosistémico para la adaptación al cambio climático y su mitigación”. *H2O Gestión del Agua*.
- **Alarcon Diaz, S.** (2013). “Mexico Poised to constitute a National Climate Change Strategy”. *Environmental Law Institute*.

INTERESTS

Professional soprano singer, AI and machine learning apprentice, thriller-fiction novels reader, vegan lifestyle and an avid user of post-consumer recycled materials.