



# PAULA ITURRALDE-PÓLIT

M.Sc. in Biology and Ecology

Date of Birth: September 3, 1984  
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I am permanently seeking new experiences and knowledge that keep my curiosity awake. My goal as a scientist is to contribute to the understanding of climate change effects on species ecology. My goal as a communicator is to inspire and enthrall people into science for biodiversity conservation through storytelling and creative writing.

## EDUCATION

Universidad de Costa Rica (UCR) - Ph.D. Sciences (c)

Project: "The effects of climate change on insectivorous bat communities in montane forests of Costa Rica". Candidate to degree. 2012 - 2013

Université Francois Rabelais de Tours (France) - M.Sc. Ecology and biodiversity

Project: "Comparison between different models and scenarios of future climate change in the potential distribution of mammals of Ecuador". 2012 -2013

Pontificia Universidad Católica del Ecuador (PUCE). B.Sc. Biological Sciences

Project: "Assessment of the impact of Climate Change on the distribution range of mammals in Ecuador". 2003 - 2010

## MAIN INTERESTS

- Research on Global Change Biology and species responses to climate change.
- Manage multidisciplinary projects to engage audiences beyond science in conservation.
- Science communication, science storytelling, and science journalism
- Writing for impact and creative writing

## PERSONAL SKILLS

**Science communication:** I am a creative writer with experience developing content for blogs, magazine articles, social media posts, and audio (podcasts). I also have experience in editing texts, audio, and video.

**Research grant writer:** I have experience writing proposals for research grants with a high acceptance percentage.

**Softwares:** Hindenburg Pro, Adobe Premier Pro, Adobe Lightroom, canva, SAS Lab Pro, ArcMap (ESRI), Storymaps (ESRI), and R (R studio).

I make good coffee!

## LANGUAGES

	A1	B1	C1	C2	Native
Spanish	[Progress bar from A1 to Native]				
English	[Progress bar from A1 to C2]				[Progress bar from C2 to Native]
French	[Progress bar from A1 to C1]			[Progress bar from C1 to Native]	
German	[Progress bar from A1 to B1]	[Progress bar from B1 to Native]			

## WORK EXPERIENCE

2021- now	Manager and creator of Virtual Courses on Conservation - Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar - Ecuador
2022	Science Blog writer and creator for Humans for Abundance - Ecuador
2022	Facilitator of the virtual course "Environmental Communication" - Talleres Endemico
2021	Science blog writer and creator for Fundación Futuro - Ecuador
2020	<u>BioBlitz Latam</u> - Project creator, developer, organizer and communicator
2016-2017	Specialist consultant of the project: "Improvement of education at rural high-schools from south Costa Rica"
2014-2016	Researcher for the project: "Evaluation and Mitigation of Human-Wildlife conflicts in Ecuador" Universidad Andina Simón Bolívar
2013-2014	Manager at Wildsumaco Biological Station. Ecuador
2010-2012	Associate researcher. "Climate change strategy for Pichincha province in Ecuador - GIS ". PUCE

## INTERNSHIPS

- Acoustic and Functional Ecology Research Group. Max Planck Institute for Ornithology. Seewiesen - Germany.
- Centre Biologique pour la Gestion de Populations (CBGP) » Montpellier - France
- QCAZ - Mammalogy museum - PUCE. Quito - Ecuador

## MAIN COLLABORATIONS

### Humans for Abundance (Ecuador)

- Scientific partner, blog writer, and developer of projects for students in Mushullakta community

### Revista Endémico (CHILE)

- Author of articles for science communication on Endemicoweb
- Editor of science articles for the printed edition

### 500 científicas Ecuador

- Co-coordinator and social media manager

### Constructive Visions Book - A more sustainable future post-COVID

- The Future of Food - Chapter lead / The Future of Economy - Collaborator

## RESEARCH GRANTS

2018	Graduate Research Award: <b>Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)</b>
2018	Student award: <b>Bat Conservation International (BCI)</b> .
2018	Early career award: <b>National Geographic Society</b> .
2019	Travel Award: <b>Society of Conservation Biology (SBC)</b>
2019	Travel award: <b>British Ecological Society (BES)</b> .
2019	Graduate Research Award: <b>Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS)</b>
2020	Research award: <b>The Rufford Foundation</b>
2020	Kate Barlow Award: <b>Bat Conservation Trust</b>

## INTERNATIONAL COURSES

- 2022 Explorer - Educator Exchange - National Geographic Society
- 2021 Prácticas Narrativas - National Geographic Society
- 2019 Acoustic Communication Graduate Summer School. (SNAK, University of Southern Denmark)
- 2019 Conservation Photojournalism. Jaymi Heumbuch and Morgan Heim. (Oregon, USA)
- 2018 "Science-telling Bootcamp." The National Geographic Society (Argentina).
- 2017 "Multimedia Science Storytelling." (Organization for Tropical Studies)
- 2015 "Tropical Biology: An Ecological Approach." (Organization for Tropical Studies)

## INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES

- Animal Behavior Society Conference (**ABS, 2022**). In-person - Oral talk
- Association for Tropical Biology & Conservation meeting (**ATBC, 2021**). Online - Oral talk
- International Bat Research Conference (**IBRC, 2019**). Oral talk.
- International Congress for Conservation Biology (**ICCB, 2019**). Oral talk.
- Research Conferences (**UCR - Recinto de Golfito, 2018**). Oral talk.
- Latin-American congress of bats (**COLAM, Quito-2014**). Oral talk.
- I Mammals Latin-American congress. (**Guanajuato, 2010**). Oral
- Colombian Congress of Zoology (**Medellín, 2010**). Oral talk

## SCHOLARSHIPS

- (**The Company of biologists, 2020**). Short Term Research Grant.
- (**DAAD, 2018**). German Academic Exchange Service. Short Term Research Grant.
- (**FRANCE-ECUADOR 2012**). Embassy of France & SENESCYT. Full scholarship for M.Sc. degree.

## PUBLICATIONS

- Chaverri G., Sandoval-Herrera N., Iturralde-Polit P., Romero A., Chaves-Ramírez S., and Sagot M. (2021). The energetics of social signaling during roost location in Spix's disc-winged bats. *Journal of Experimental Biology*
- Iturralde-Pólit, P., Dangles, O., Burneo, S. F. and Meynard, C. N. (2017). The effects of climate change on a mega-diverse country: predicted shifts in mammalian species richness and turnover in continental Ecuador. *Biotropica*, doi:10.1111/btp.12467
- Unidad de Información Socio Ambiental, UASB. (2015). Los Murciélagos y la prevención de la Rabia. EcoFondo, MAE.

## WRITTEN COMMUNICATION ARTICLES

- Paula Iturralde (2020). Murciélagos en tiempos de COVID-19, un mamífero al que no le hemos hecho justicia. [Revista Endémico](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2020). Murciélagos y Refugios: Una muestra extraordinaria de ingenio y sociabilidad. [Revista Endémico](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Desafíos de la Comunicación Científica: preludeo al taller “Comunicación Ambiental” del ciclo Naturaleza Digital. [Revista Endémico](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Constructive Visions Collective: Esfuerzos desde la creatividad para no regresar a la normalidad. [Revista Endémico](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Biodiversidad en el Chocó Andino de Pichincha: bosques de Quito. [Fundación Futuro](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Conectamos bosques, personas e historias. [Fundación Futuro](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Los Guardianes del Bosque de Mashpi. [Fundación Futuro](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2021). Las torres de Jenga en la naturaleza. [Fundación Futuro](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2022). How Can I Create a Food Forest in My Home? [Humans for Abundance](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2022). How Can You Decrease Deforestation by Investing in Social Justice?. [Humans for Abundance](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2022). How Does Achieving Gender Equality Boost Forest Sustainability? [Humans for Abundance](#)
- Esteban Matheus & Paula Iturralde (2022). How Can We Relearn to Live With Nature in a Way That Allows for Abundance? [Humans for Abundance](#)
- Esteban Matheus & Paula Iturralde (2022). How Do We Instinctively Adjust What is Around Us to Fit our Purpose? [Humans for Abundance](#).
- Paula Iturralde (2022). What if We Rethink Soil and Its Role in Restoration? [Humans for Abundance](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2022). Balbuceo: un comportamiento compartido entre seres humanos y murciélagos. [Revista Endémico](#)
- Paula Iturralde (2022). El arte de la Mímesis: despistando a depredadores como mecanismo de supervivencia. [Revista Endémico](#)