



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Climate Change Expert, Dr. Ana Barros, to Visit Costa Rica on Behalf of ECPA Senior Fellows

Washington, D.C., July 29, 2015 – [Dr. Ana Barros](#), a Senior Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA) Fellow, will be traveling July 29 through August 4, 2015 to Costa Rica to participate in meetings and events in San Jose and northern Costa Rica, including the July 30<sup>th</sup> Water Workshop Seminar at the Universidad Técnica Nacional ([UTN](#)). Her other meetings concern Costa Rica's ongoing efforts regarding water management and climate change. These meetings will involve actors such as Costa Rica's Ministerio de Ambiente y Energía ([MINAE](#)), Sistema Nacional de Áreas de Conservación ([SINAC](#)), Fundación Para El Desarrollo De La Cordillera Volcánica Central ([FUNDECOR](#)), and local rural communities. Senior ECPA Fellow Dr. Barros works at [Duke University](#) as a professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering.



[The Senior ECPA Fellows](#) program is a network of high-level technical experts in the fields of climate change and energy who travel between countries in the Western Hemisphere to consult with governments or other institutions. The program is sponsored by the [U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Western Hemispheric Affairs](#) and is administered by [Partners of the Americas](#). There are currently [9 Senior ECPA Fellows](#) who participate in these international exchanges. The main areas of focus for the program are: energy efficiency, renewable energy, energy infrastructure, energy poverty and access, sustainable forestry and land use, and climate change adaptation.

Dr. Barros is an expert in adaptation. Her primary research areas are in environmental physics and engineering, and optimal management of natural resources and their supporting landscapes. During her fellowship in Costa Rica, Dr. Barros will meet with officials from [MINAE](#) to review water and climate change related issues in Costa Rica. She will also meet with [SINAC](#) managers to discuss current and future climate change and water management projects. At the July 30<sup>th</sup> Seminar to be held at UTN, Dr. Barros will present on the topic of *Extremos Climáticos, Recursos Hídricos y Adaptación* ("Extreme Weather, Water Resources, and Adaptation"). A trip to rural communities in northern Costa Rica, to [Ciudad Quesada](#) will allow Dr. Barros to hear current conditions from the viewpoint of locals, especially from the Unión de Acueductos Norte Norte (UANN), to provide them advice regarding water management and climate change adaptation, and present to them the ways in which other communities are adapting to climate change. Her meeting with [FUNDECOR](#) will concern their Agua Tica project and ways to successfully measure its impact.

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[Partners of the Americas](#) is an international network that promotes social and economic development in the Americas through leadership, voluntary service, and development programs. Its mission is to connect individuals, volunteers, institutions, businesses, and communities to serve and to change lives through lasting partnerships. Partners envisions an interconnected hemisphere that maximizes the social and economic potential, and leverages the full diversity, of the Americas.