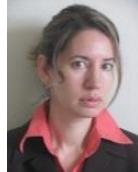




## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Adaptation and Urban Sustainable Design Expert Mariapaz Gutierrez to Visit Chile On Behalf of ECPA Senior Fellows



**Washington, DC, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014 –** Mariapaz Gutierrez, a Senior Fellow in the Energy and Climate Partnership of the Americas (ECPA), will be traveling May 19<sup>th</sup>-May 23rd to participate in meetings and events in Chile including advising the Chilean government on the Low Carbon Resilient Development (LCRD) program and its implementation. Senior ECPA Fellow Mariapaz Gutierrez is an Assistant Professor at the University of California, Berkeley.

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 10 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.

During her visit to Chile, Mariapaz Gutierrez aims to reestablish connections with the new directors at the Ministry of Housing and Urbanism (MINVU) and Secretaría Comunal de Planificación (SECPLAC) for the EcoBlock Housing Pilot workshop in Rapa Nui (pre-scheduled for end of June). The purpose of this May visit is to meet with the primary local stakeholder (Professor Enzo Sauma- Pontifical Catholic University of Chile (PUC) and the new directors at MINVU and Rapa Nui's SECPLAC to plan the workshop and prepare two collaborative grants through the US Department of State and NSF-Condecyt. During Gutierrez's ECPA visit to Chile last year the need for this follow-up workshop was determined as the first phase for a pilot study. The research will also involve two other colleagues at UC Berkeley, one of whom is ECPA Fellow and Professor: Dan Kammen.

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