



Mariana Rivera Torres

Associate Facilitator | Consensus Building Institute, Inc.

Tel. (520) 528-0498 | E-mail mrivertorres@cbi.org

PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Mariana brings five years of experience as a facilitator in participatory community development and collaborative planning process. She is a firm believer in collaborative approaches to promote social, economic, and environmental wellbeing. Mariana has a rich background in domestic and international social and environmental issues, including transboundary water governance, climate adaptation, river restoration, water and sanitation, and environmental conservation.

EXPERIENCE

- 2020- present **Consensus Building Institute** San Francisco, CA
Associate Facilitator
Facilitate and assist with complex, multiparty water policy processes with a primary focus on water planning and conflict resolution.
- 2018- present **Center for Climate Change Adaptation Science and Solutions** Tucson, AZ
Research Assistant
Provided research, planning, and facilitation support for the Colorado River Conversations workshop and scenario-planning workshop series. Conducted research on U.S.-Mexico conflict and collaboration in the Colorado River Basin to inform meaningful engagement with Mexican stakeholders. Prepare materials for reports, presentations, and submission to peer-review journals for publication.
- 2018-2020 **Watershed Management Group** Tucson, AZ
Community Outreach and Education Fellow
Provided organizational and facilitation support for community engagement strategies focused on water conservation, river restoration, and climate resilience. Developed and facilitated curriculum for schools, teachers, and community groups.
- 2018-2019 **Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy** Tucson, AZ
Research Assistant
Facilitated a participatory process to design and implement green infrastructure projects in low-income communities in Tucson. Collaborated with local NGOs, public artists, University of Arizona faculty and students, and high school students and staff. Supported research on green infrastructure and equity.
- 2015-2017 **United States Peace Corps** Guatemala
Volunteer and trainer
Completed a three-month pre-volunteer service training program; coordinated and facilitated inter-institutionally at state, county, and community levels to

strengthen environmental and public health policies and practices in public schools; organized and co-facilitated a suite of collaborative processes – including monthly workshops with school principals, teachers, parents, women groups, government officials, and NGO representatives. Topics included: water and sanitation, food security, biodiversity and conservation, gender equity, ecotourism and conservation, project design management, and leadership. Participated in the Project Advisory Committee, designing and facilitating trainings for new Peace Corps Volunteer.

2018-2019 **Northwestern University, Global Engagement Studies Institute** South Africa
Research Assistant
Collaborated with local leaders in developing a social entrepreneurship project addressing HIV/Aids awareness. Gained a deeper understanding of community development work

EDUCATION

2018-2020 **University of Arizona** Tucson, AZ
Master of Science in Water, Society & Policy

2011-2015 **Georgetown University, School of Foreign Service** Washington, DC
Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service, International Economic Development

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

National Peace Corps Association: Member
American Water Works Association: Member
Environmental Peacebuilding Association: Member

LANGUAGES

Spanish (Native), English (Fluent), and French (Advanced)

SELECTED WATER RESOURCES PROJECTS

Colorado River Conversations Project, Arizona (Researcher/Facilitator) // Provide research, planning, and facilitation support for three scenario-planning workshops and a multi-day conference. Conduct research on U.S.-Mexico conflict and collaboration in the Colorado River Basin to inform meaningful engagement with Mexican stakeholders. Prepare materials for reports, presentations, and submission to peer-review journals for publication. The [project](#) is led by the University of Arizona's Center for Climate Adaptation Science and Solutions. It is focused on developing an interdisciplinary science-based conversation to contribute ideas for future management of the river and provide an informational foundation for the renegotiation of the 2007 Interim Guidelines.

Growing Water Smart, Arizona (Facilitator) // Facilitated a multi-day workshop, led by the Sonoran Institute and Lincoln Institute of Land Policy's Babbitt Center. The [workshop](#)

included diverse stakeholder groups across Arizona, dedicated to help communities integrate water and land use planning to promote sustainability and resilience.

Recharge the Rain, Arizona (Facilitator) // Collaborated with Watershed Management Group and Arizona Project WET, working with fourteen schools to promote climate adaptation and community resilience through water harvesting and green infrastructure projects. Developed and implemented educational curriculum on water conservation, climate resilience, and river restoration for local community groups.

PRESENTATIONS AND LECTURES

CLE Law of the Colorado River. Scottsdale, Arizona, 2020. Panel presentation, "Recent Trends in the U.S.-Mexico Colorado River Relationship."

Colorado River Conversations Conference. Tucson, Arizona, 2019. Panel presentation, "Evolving Approaches to U.S.-Mexico Water Management."

Science and Diplomacy Conference. Tucson, AZ, 2019. Panel presentation. "Hydrodiplomacy in the U.S.-Mexico Border Region"