Instituto de Estudios ambientales IDEA
Facultad de Ciencias Agropecuarias
Sede Palmira

UNIVERSIDAD NACIONAL DE COLOMBIA

Board of Directors
Endowment Fund
Palacký University Olomouc
Czech Republic

March 12, 2018

Letter of Recommendation

Dear Board of Directors,

By the present, I would like to provide a review and highlight the importance of the research project "*Tropical Dry Forest of an Interandean Valley at Colombia: Recovery Potential Facing Multiple Stressors in an Ecological Restauration Scenarios*". The Doctoral Student, Diana Patricia Alvarado Solano Mg. Eng. has been working on this Thesis during the last 5 years approximately, since she started her Master Thesis "*Spatial-Temporal dynamics of the tropical dry forest in Cauca Valley*". The doctoral thesis was written taking into account the knowledges gaps existing in the region related with the degradation of the ecosystem, climate change and ecosystem services. Even though Colombia is the second megabiodiverse country in the world after Brazil, regions subject to constant human intervention, as it is the inter-andean valley of Cauca River, are not been taking in consideration when conservation or restoration programs. In this manner, the preliminary outputs in the research represents an important contribution to change the scenario for the region and to highlight the important that the study area represents for the conservation of endemic species and for the adaptive mechanisms that as a society we must develop to cope with climate change.

Additionally, the results obtained in the initial stage of the research (during the master thesis) where socialized in two academic events of national and international relevance (VII Colombian Congress in Botany; I Symposium in Ecological Restoration in the Southwestern Colombian, both in 2015). Also, the results were published in two of the most important Colombian scientific journals that has recognition in Latin America (Acta Biológica Colombiana IF: 0.22, 20(3): 141-153, 2015, and Biota Colombiana, 18(S1): 9-34, 2017). It is important to mention that the participation in academic events and publications were not mandatory of the study plan in the Master Program. With this, I want not only to express the outstanding performance of Diana Patricia, also to recognize her commitment by setting and pursuing goals.

Grateful for your attention,

Best regards,

Joel Tupac Otero Ospina
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