



# MARIANA MATA LARA

Environmental Project Manager

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

I am a passionate and experienced Environmental Researcher and Manager with a keen interest in the marine and coastal areas. I have built a solid background in different places across Europe and the Americas developing skills in scientific writing and project management, policy and socioeconomic analysis, environmental health assessments, conservation management strategies, and visual communication.

## EXPERIENCE

### Environmental Project Manager

#### Geonardo Environmental Technologies (2016–present)

- Responsible for proposal development, implementation, coordination and communication & dissemination of EU funded projects (Horizon 2020, EMFF programmes) specifically in the areas of Marine & Coastal Management, Blue Growth and Science Education.
  - **Coordination of AQUA-LIT project** ([www.aqua-lit.eu](http://www.aqua-lit.eu))  
AQUA-LIT focused on co-developing together with aquaculture stakeholders from the Mediterranean, the North Sea, and the Baltic Sea, a toolbox of innovative ideas and solutions to tackle marine littering at sea. The toolbox is available [online](#) and as an [app](#).
  - **Implementaiton team, CoastObs project** ([www.coastobs.eu](http://www.coastobs.eu))  
CoastObs is a 4-year EU H2020 funded project that aims at using satellite remote sensing to monitor coastal water environments and to offer validated products to users including monitoring of seagrass and macroalgae, phytoplankton size classes, primary production, and harmful algae as well as higher-level products such as indicators and integration with predictive models. I was in charge of all the dissemination and e-training coordination.

### Lecturer

#### Mexico Sostenible (2016–2018)

Course coordinator and lecturer

- Co-coordination, content creation & lecturer of the online course on Integrated Coastal Zone Management focused on Latin America.

### Researcher

#### National Laboratory of Coastal Resilience (2015–2016)

Research Associate

- Development and management of the research project: "*Social alienation and environmental decline in a coral reef: Challenges to coastal management in the Mexican Caribbean*".

### Consulting

#### Global Ghost Gear Initiative (GGGI) (2021–present)

- Member of the advisory working group to review the best practice framework on marine litter from the aquaculture sector being developed by the GGGI.

#### The Fishing Industry Association (FIA) (2021–present)

- Member of the external technical working group (e-TWG) to review the proposal procedures, documents and related worksheets of the FIA Responsible Sourcing Policy (RSP) pillar looking at Marine litter and Fishing Gear in Papua New Guinea.

#### Agro Oceánica y Asociados S.C.P. (2012)

- Environmental Impact Advisor. Monitoring and reporting the damage of the seabed located in the seafront of Hotel Gran Porto Real, Riviera Maya, Mexico.

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## EDUCATION

### Formal education

**M.Sc. Environmental Sciences, Policy & Management (MESPOM)** (2013-2015)

Triple diploma from the universities:

- Central European University, Hungary (*graduated with distinction*)
- University of Manchester, United Kingdom
- Lund University, Sweden

**Spec. Marine Biodiversity & Conservation** (2012-2013)

- Sea Education Association, USA
- University of Boston, USA

**B.Sc. Sustainable Management of Coastal Zones** (2008-2012)

- National Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), Mexico

### Non-formal education

**Blue Growth Summer School** 2017

- Ghent University, Belgium

**Marine Management and Conservation** 2017

- Research stay at the Center for Blue Economy, Middlebury Institute of International Studies (MIIIS), USA

**Enriched air (NITROX) diver** 2017

- Credential ID 1706EV6490

**Freediver AIDA2** 2017

- Credential ID 1706EV6490

**Greening the economy: Sustainable cities** 2016

- Coursera. Credential ID L4K4VWWZSNEL

**Protected Areas Management** 2015

- Summer school at the San Juan Island National Historical Park, National Park Service, USA.

## SKILLS

Communication (oral & written)	● ● ● ● ●
Critical & creative thinking	● ● ● ● ●
Public Relations	● ● ● ● ●

Photography [www.maml-photography.com](http://www.maml-photography.com)

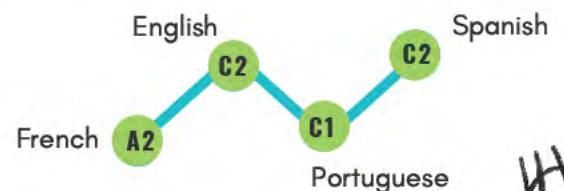


Drone, underwater and land filming

Example of videos:

- [French Atlantic Coast](#) video
- [Adriatic coast](#) case study video
- [Galician coast](#) case study video
- [Dutch coast](#) case study video

## LANGUAGES



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## OTHER EXPERIENCES

### **Surfrider Porto Chapter Management** (2020 - present)

- Part of the management team for Surfrider Porto. The Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches, for all people, through a powerful activist network ([surfriderporto.com](http://surfriderporto.com)).

### **Nakawe's international team member** (2017-2018)

- Nakawe is a nonprofit organization which aims to lead projects destined to mitigate environmental problems of national and international scope. The main aim is to be an international reference in the defense of sharks.

### **Sailor** Atlantic Ocean, 2013

- Crew of the tall ship Corwith Cramer in a 5 week sailing trip across the Sargasso Sea (piloting, operations and research team member).

### **Marine Protected Area Volunteer**

Coco's Island National Park, Costa Rica, 2010

- Volunteer in Cocos Island, CR, getting involved in species monitoring, management consultant, and Spanish-English translator, among others.

## INTERESTS

- Underwater and aerial photography & videography
- Outdoor activities such as hiking, bodyboarding, & diving
- Sharks conservation
- Science communication

**LET'S COLLABORATE!**

