

**Personal data**

<i>Name</i>	<b>Sandra Méndez Fajardo</b>
<i>Academic degree</i>	PhD in Engineering from the Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá /Colombia
<i>Nationality</i>	Colombian
<i>Date of Birth</i>	4 <sup>th</sup> April 1976
<i>Civil status</i>	married
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**Professional background and key qualifications**

**More than 20 years of professional experience as Project Manager, Senior Expert and Scientist** in solid waste and resource management in Colombia. Special expertise in design of social-technical systems, stakeholder engagement and systems approach in policy development, community empowerment and adoption of technologies related to sanitation and municipal solid waste management, including Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), CDW, special wastes, and organics and their relation to urban organic gardens.

**20 years of professional experience as University Professor** in the fields of Solid Waste Management, Project Sustainability, and Systems Thinking

**Several years of experience in workshop design and moderation**

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**Higher Education**

- 2012 - 2016** *PhD in Engineering*. Title: Systemic decisions for the sustainable WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) management in developing countries [Supervisor: Prof. Rafael A. González Rivera Universidad Javeriana, Colombia, Co-Supervisor: Prof. Claudia R. Binder, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology, Switzerland] at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá/Colombia.
- Visiting Doctoral Student* at Swiss Federal Laboratories for Materials Science and Technology (Empa) St. Gallen/Switzerland, Technology and Society Lab in 2014 and 2015 financed through the Sustainable Recycling Industries Programm (SRI) of the State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (seco) of Switzerland (total 11 months)
- Short-term researcher* at Ludwig-Maximilian University of Munich, Germany in 2015 financed by the DAAD
- 2004 - 2006** *MSc in Civil Engineering* with emphasis in environmental sciences and solid waste management, at Universidad de Los Andes, Bogotá/Colombia
- 1994 - 2000** *BSc in Civil Engineering* at Pontificia Universidad Javeriana, Bogotá/Colombia

## Awards

<b>2017</b>	<b>Pontificia Universidad Javeriana</b> Bogotá / Colombia	Doctoral Thesis awarded with highest honors "Systemic decisions for more sustainable WEEE management in developing countries"
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## Employment and Cooperation Record

<b>From 2020</b>	<b>Skat Foundation</b> Switzerland	<i>Associate specialist</i> as an expert on integrated solid waste management
<b>From 2021</b>	<b>Pontificia Universidad Javeriana</b> Bogotá / Colombia	<i>Lecturer</i> of the course Project Sustainability, Specialisation in Social Management, Faculty of Education.
<b>From 2018</b>	<b>Ecopartner Ltd. &amp; Skat Consulting Ltd. &amp; Skat foundation</b> Switzerland	<i>Senior Expert</i> in systemic design of policies and solutions for sustainable waste management in developing countries
<b>2017</b>	<b>World Resources Forum Association</b> St Gallen / Switzerland	<i>Senior Expert</i> in the elaboration of a guideline for the systemic design of policies on WEEE management in developing countries
<b>2001 – 2016</b>	<b>Pontificia Universidad Javeriana</b> Bogotá / Colombia	<i>Professor</i> in Solid Waste Management, Environmental Impacts Assessment, Sustainable Development and Systems Thinking, within the Departments of Civil Engineering and Systems Engineering  <i>Expert</i> in projects on resource management, design of policies and regulations for the Ministry of Environment of Colombia  <i>Coordinator</i> of engineering and interdisciplinary projects focusing on social and sustainable development, resource management, and community empowerment in Bogotá, Amazonas and Putumayo, Colombia  <i>Advisor</i> in environmental policy and strategic plan within the University and for the development of environmental regulations on National level
<b>2000 - 2001</b>	<b>Water and Sewage Company of Bogota (EAAB)</b> Bogotá / Colombia	<i>Consultant</i> in the systematization of the organizational processes for the implementation of SAP R3

## Mayor Projects

- From 2022** Technical advisor and international co-ordinator of the project "FE-SOR Don Bosco Colombia", with the Don Bosco Youth Foundation, Switzerland, Plataforma Repic.
- From 2020** Coordinadora y asesora internacional de "Terraza Verde Colombia en Usme, Bogotá, Colombia"; capacitadora y asesora en gestión sostenible de residuos municipales en Bolivia; asesora en el proyecto piloto "Circularidad en la gestión de residuos orgánicos comerciales en Turrialba, Costa Rica". Proyectos de la Fundación Skat bajo la alianza Sufosec, en alianzas locales con Parroquia San Marcelino Champagnat Usme, Prosofi (Universidad Javeriana) en Colombia, Helvetas Bolivia, y ACEPESA en Costa Rica.
- From 2021** Expert in the project "ResCuE - Responsible and Sustainable e-waste Management in Cuenca/Ecuador". Repic Platform.
- 2019 - 2022** Project manager "Sustainable management of organic municipal waste in the Municipality of Pérez Zeledón, Costa Rica". Repic Platform.
- 2014 - 2015** Senior researcher in the national WEEE (Waste of Electronic and Electrical Equipment) policy development in Bogota/Colombia
- 2012 - 2014** Senior researcher in the project "Harvesting of rain water in the Javeriana University's campus"
- 2013** Senior researcher in the project "Exploratory case study of solid waste management in the Javeriana University's campus"
- 2010** Advisor in the revision of the "Environmental and Sanitation Regulations (RAS), Title F, Solid Waste Management", and Title J, Technological Alternatives in Water and Sanitation for the Rural Sector" for the Ministry of Environment.
- 2007 - 2009** Junior researcher in the project "Design of strategies for the appropriation of sanitary technologies in indigenous communities in the Amazon, Colombia"

## Workshop and Course Design and Moderation

- 2022** Workshop "Towards an integrated and sustainable management of EEE and WEEE in Ecuador - Participatory design of strategies", designed and implemented with the University of Cuenca in the framework of the ResCue project.
- 2020-2022** Trainer and Senior Expert in the course "Sustainable Solid Waste Management" offered by the Skat Foundation to municipalities in Bolivia, Nicaragua, and Honduras. In partnership with Helvetas Bolivia, Habitar Nicaragua, and ACEPESA Costa Rica.
- 2020** Trainer and Senior Expert in the course "Sustainable Solid Waste Management" offered by the Skat Foundation to the Caritas Foundation in Bolivia.
- 2020** Advising the Government of Ghana to design the national policy for the management of WEEE, as part of the pool of consultants in the Project "GIZ e-Waste Ghana"
- 2019** Trainer and Senior Expert at the EWAM (eWaste Academy for Managers) in Costa Rica. 3 day workshop on "Building a roadmap for a regional strategy". Organized by UNU as part of the project "Strengthening of National Initiatives and Enhancement of Regional Cooperation for the Environmentally Sound Management of POPs in Waste of Electronic or Electrical Equipment (WEEE) in Latin American Countries" of ONUDI-GEF.

<b>2018</b>	5-day Course "WEEE Management: Cooperation and the systemic design of solutions". Universidad de Cuenca, CEDIA, Empa, Skat Foundation. Cuenca, Ecuador
<b>2014 - 2016</b>	Methodological support for the participatory design of the National Policy for WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment) Management in Colombia
<b>2010 - 2012</b>	Participatory design and implementation of the social program PROSOFI, involving Javeriana University community, USME population in Bogota, public organizations of USME, the USME Hospital, and other 2 universities of Bogota.
<b>2007 - 2009</b>	Participatory methodology to select and design technologies for the wastewater and solid waste management in the indigenous Ticuna community. The Amazon, Colombia
<b>2009</b>	Participatory methodology to evaluate and improve the composting plant for the five towns of The Sibundoy Valley, Putumayo, Colombia

### Countries of working experience

Colombia, Ecuador, Costa Rica, Bolivia, Nicaragua, Honduras, Ghana, Switzerland, Germany

### Memberships

ACIS - Association of Colombian Researchers in Switzerland (Member of the board 2021-2022)

ELAPDIS - Latin American School of Systemic Thinking and Design

### Languages

	Speaking	Reading	Writing
<b>Spanish</b>		mother tongue	
<b>English</b>	B2	C	C
<b>German</b>	B1	B1	B1

### Mayor international conferences in the last 6 years

<b>2020</b>	April	Key Note "Emerging Policy Development Strategies in Africa" en el lanzamiento del programa SRI de SECO en Sudáfrica
<b>2017</b>	September Geneva, Switzerland	World Resources Forum: Acelerating the resource revolution. Presentation: "Systemic polica design for a more sustainable WEEE management: The case of Colombia"
<b>2015</b>	August Berlin, Germany	59th meeting of the ISSS: Governing the Antropozenne. Presentation "Agent-Based Modelling on WEEE management: the case of Colombia"
<b>2014</b>	October Arequipa, Peru	World Resources Forum. Presentation: "Actor-Network Theory in decision making for WEEE management"

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| <b>2013</b> | October<br>Davos, Switzerland | World Resources Forum.<br>Presentation: "The Actor-Network Theory as a Strategy to Analyze and Design Sustainable Hazardous Waste Management Systems" |
| <b>2013</b> | October<br>Sardinia, Italy    | Solid Waste & Landfill Symposium Sardinia.<br>Presentation: "Solid waste management and the role of educational institutions: a school-context"       |

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### Mayor publications

- Main Author: **Chapter "Improving sustainability of E-waste management through the systemic design of solutions: the cases of Colombia and Ecuador"**. In Handbook of Electronic Waste Management. International best practices and case studies; Elsevier: Cambridge; pp 443-478, 2020
- Main Author: **"A practical guide for the systemic design of policies for WEEE management in developing countries"**. Sustainable Recycling Industries (SRI) Program, Switzerland. 2017
- Main Author: **Chapter "Actor-Network Theory on Agent-Based Modelling"**. Book Social Systems Engineering: the design of complexity. John Willey & Sons. 2017
- Main Author: **Actor-Network Theory on Solid Waste Management: A University case study.** International Journal of Actor-Network Theory and Technological Innovation. IGI Global. 1942-535X ed: v.6 fasc.4 p.13 - 25, 2014
- Main Author: **PROSOFI, an academic model to support the integral development of poor communities.** Revista Educación en Ingeniería ISSN 1900-8260 Vol. 8, N°. 15, pp. 69-82 January/June 2013