

Alumni Seminar 2014

September, 1-5, 2014, San Luis Potosi, Mexico

Fourteen years after the international agreement on the Millennium Development Goals, the UN is now actively involved in bringing countries together in order to debate the so-called post 2015 agenda. This is running parallel to designing the Sustainability Development Goals. The ITT ENREM Alumni are experts in this field. With a double-degree in "Environment and Resources Management" (ENREM), they are qualified graduates from Germany and Latin America that are aware of key issues related to sustainability.

From September 1- 5, 2014, 37 graduates and Alumni from the Center for Natural Resources and Development (CNRD) took part at the Alumni Seminar "The post-2015 UN Development Agenda and the environmental sustainability after 2015" in San Luis Potosi, Mexico. With a special focus on the Latin American and Caribbean region, they worked together on projects and research concepts to bring the post 2015 agenda forward. The participants had the chance to learn more about the post-2015 UN Development Agenda, to extend their professional and scientific network and to present their projects and research areas at the international conference "Natural Resources and Sustainable Development Goals for Latin America". At this conference, well-known experts in the field of resources management, such as Dr. Vilma Morales Quillama from the Ministry of Peru, Karen Sudmeier-Rieux from the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Richard Modley from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) and many more, shared their knowledge and expertise regarding the environmental and socio-economic challenges in this region.

After having participated at the online phase from April-July 2014 on the DAAD platform Alumniportal Deutschland with an abstract submission at the end, the best candidates were chosen by a scientific committee and invited to the Alumni Seminar and the conference in San Luis Potosi. The selected Alumni graduated in the master programs ENREM (Environment and Resources Management), TERMA (Technology and Resources Management in the Tropics and Subtropics) and / or received funding through the CNRD network (Center for Natural Resources and Development).

The week started with a general presentation of the participants followed by intensive trainings on scientific paper writing, project implementation, self-marketing and more.

On the next day, besides having the chance to meet current ENREM students in Germany via videoconference and to exchange experiences with them, the Alumni were supervised and guided in individual working groups to bring their research articles and projects forward. The international conference started with an opening ceremony on Tuesday night. The following days, the Alumni could also contribute to the conference with a presentation of their projects and a poster exhibition on their research areas.

On Thursday, several excursions were organized. The participants had the opportunity to either visit the mining town Monte Caldera or the Tropic of Cancer and semiarid landscapes nearby. The last day was designated to an evaluation of the ongoing Alumni activities at ITT and to learn more about the desires and ideas of the graduates regarding future networking activities. Having spent one week of extensive trainings and networking, the Alumni went back home with new, valuable impressions and contacts. They have not only met previous study colleagues, but also guest lectures, experts, civil society representatives and decision makers from the region.



Conference Hall in San Luis Potosi



Lars Ribbe welcomes the Alumni to the seminar



Alumni poster presentation



Networking during the CNRD conference