



# 10 Years of Impact

## Double Degree Master's Program "Environment and Resources Management – ENREM" Focus Latin America

The double degree master's program "ENREM" between the ITT at the TH Köln and the Multidisciplinary Postgraduate Program for Environmental Sciences (PMPCA) at the Autonomous University of San Luis Potosi (UASLP) started in 2008 as a joint initiative from the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the German Federal Ministry for Economic Co-operation and Development (BMZ) and the Mexican National Council on Science and Technology (CONACyT).



Photo 1  
Symposium PMPCA  
30 August 2018 in SLP  
(Photo by Sandra Avendano)

Photo 2  
Final exam conducted via video  
conference ENREM Student 2016-2018  
(Photo by PMPCA)

Photo 3  
Workshop – Alumni – Student Intake 2018  
in SLP, 31 August 2018  
(Photo by PMPCA)

Photo 4  
Graduation ceremony  
ENREM 2016-2018  
(Photo by TH Köln)

### 10 successful years in a few figures

- 157 graduates until October 2018
- 25 students currently participating in the program
- 18 countries
- 64 % female
- 65 % of the students have a background in Natural Science and Engineering
- 87 % of the final oral examinations are conducted via videoconference
- 56 % of the graduates choose a professional career in the private or public sector
- 90 % of the students enrolled in the program have received scholarship from CONACyT and/or DAAD-EPOS

### To mark this success, ENREM celebrated its 10th anniversary with the following events:

- Symposium "International expansion of Mexican postgraduate programs" celebrated on 30 August at the PMPCA in San Luis Potosi with the participation of CONACyT, DAAD, speakers of other universities, graduates and students. The aim was to exchange best practices from other postgraduate programs (joint and double degree) and show possibilities of how to connect with Mexican and German industry.
- Two networking workshops between ENREM alumni, current ENREM students and the coordination departments took place between 30 and 31 August 2018 at PMPCA and on 11 October 2018 at ITT, in order to promote the exchange of experiences between the alumni and the students, as well as to discuss the opportunities and challenges of ENREM for the next generations.

### 10 years of ENREM explained in the words of the students

Boram Moon, South Korea: "As the first non-Latin/German student of the ENREM Program, I would say it was a unique experience to study environmental issues in Latin America with friends from different countries of this beautiful continent. Because I was looking for a master's program which combined environmental studies with Latin America, ENREM was a perfect match for me. Especially, studying at ITT allows us to meet students from all over the world. Since ENREM is a multi- and interdisciplinary program, you can access different areas at both universities, not only theoretical studies but also practical studies. Thanks a lot ENREM (ITT and PMPCA), it was a tough time studying for two master's degrees but it was worthwhile."

Marcella Sobisch, Germany: "The two years as an ENREM-student have widened my horizon not only through the master's contents but also through approaching Latin American perspectives to the sustainable use of resource and environmental protection. The most valuable particularity of the program has been to share with people from different backgrounds, which



have become my closest friends and continuously contribute to my development. This includes both fellow students but also professors, who have been very supportive regarding both personal and professional guidance. Studying in Mexico and developing a thesis in Guatemala have gifted me with experiences I hope to channel in future work in the field of development cooperation."

Viridiana Gallegos, Mexico: "It is very enriching for me, to work in such different and complementary environments such as Mexico and Germany. The skills I have developed are very broad because I had to adapt to the different strategies each university has, and at the same time, to work together with students from all over the world. It was essential to understand their way of making decisions and how each of us are used to solving problems. This experience has developed my openness to new challenges and personal growth. I am very grateful for these two years of work, satisfaction and support."

By Mauricio Barriga and Sandra Avendano