

Department of Environmental Science and Policy Seminar Series

Relocation of the Gardí Sugdup Community in Guna-Yala, Panama

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DATE: Friday, 10/04/2024 TIME: 10:30 am ROOM: UNGAR 230-E

Zoom: <https://miami.zoom.us/j/92964807674>



Abstract: Low lying islands in the Guna (Kuna) comarca are experiencing increasing flooding due to sea level rise. The Gardí Sugdup community initiated a resettlement plan to a mainland site over 10 years ago - a process that has been plagued with difficulties and challenges. Gardí Sugdup is considered to be the first community resettlement experience due to sea level rise in Panama and perhaps Latin America. We conducted a short survey and interviews with Gardí Sugdup residents in October 2023. The seminar will report some of our findings.

Bio: Daniel Suman's work focuses on the management of coastal areas, emphasizing mechanisms to increase institutional cooperation, capacity building, development of management plans, and reducing conflicts among resource users. His expertise extends to marine and coastal protected areas, as well as adaptation to climate change. While much of his work is centered in the Caribbean Basin and Latin America, he also engages in global projects. Daniel holds a Bachelor's degree in Chemistry and Latin American Studies from Middlebury College (1972), Master's degrees in Education and Latin American Studies from Columbia University (1978), a Ph.D. in Oceanography from Scripps Institution of Oceanography (University of California, San Diego), and a J.D. with a specialization in Environmental Law from the University of California, Berkeley (1991).

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