

Gonzalo Merediz was born in Mexico City in 1968. He is biologist from the National University of Mexico with a master degree from the State University of New York. Since 1992 he focuses his professional efforts in conservation in the Mexican Caribbean, working for Amigos de Sian Ka'an, one of Mexico's most important NGO. Gonzalo led population ecology research projects with different animal species, especially crocodiles. He collaborated with Mayan communities in sustainable development projects and environmental education. He promoted the establishment of five protected areas in the Yucatan, the elaboration of their management plans, and in the design of other policy and planning tools. He is experienced in fundraising for many conservation projects. During the last years, Gonzalo has led the most extensive multiinstitutional research effort to understand the Karstic hydrology of the Yucatan. The information is used to promote water conservation and management policies. In May 2005 received the Whitley Award in recognition and support of the community work. Gonzalo is Amigos de Sian Ka'an Executive Director.