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BIOGRAPHY

Henry Jiménez has completed the Agricultural Engineering studies from the National University of Colombia and the Valle University, completed his MSc at Clemson University, USA and has any other water resources and land management related courses in Russia, Japan, Egypt and USA. He is a Professor at engineering undergraduate programs and water resources management and sustainable development graduate programs at the Valle University, he is the Member of the Soil and Water Resources Research Group. He has over 50 publications and textbooks, also participated in different conferences and meetings and has been a member of different technical societies related to water resources, hydrology, climate, agricultural engineering and watershed management. He has been serving in the Colombian Education Ministry in order to evaluate the fulfilment of quality requirements for graduate and undergraduate programs. He has served as a Consulting Expert for Environmental Authorities and for the Watershed Management Agency.

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USE OF SATELLITE AND REMOTE SENSING TECHNOLOGY IN WATER RESOURCES AND LAND MANAGEMENT IN COLOMBIA

In the management of water resources and in the development of land in Colombia, aspects related to the monitoring, study, management and regulation of water and land have been improved with the use of satellite information and remote sensing technology. In terms of monitoring, progress is recognized through the implementation of monitoring networks using sensors, equipment and technology, which allow for real-time information on the conditions of the atmosphere, the level of the rivers and bodies of water. As well the rapid changes that occur in the use of the territory, with the existence of satellite information has been managed to improve the quality and availability of the cartography of most of the territory of the country. The information related to the knowledge of the territory and of the water resources, is employed in the decision making, such as the establishment of different programs and activities. Also, this spatial information becomes basic in the establishment of water resources management plans, watershed management plans and other lands planning and management instrument development. The impacts that occur in the Colombian territory, due to the variability and the climatic change, together with the great changes and pressure on the lands, are becoming stronger and it is necessary to improve the control, planning and governance of the land and water resources. Among the aspects that are necessary to improve in the country are: capacity of the government to attend and address the development requirements throughout its territory, training campaigns at all levels in the society with regard to the management of its natural resources, to complete and improve the level of technology use and coverage and to give a better use to the monitoring and information systems.