Woman sitting on a chair

Auto-generated description

**LUZ GRACIELA MORALES DE CALZADILLA**

Managing Director

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**Luz Graciela Morales de Calzadilla**, is a Civil Engineer specializing in hydraulics, graduated from the Federal University of Santa Maria Rio Grande do Sul in Brazil, has a Master's Degree in Planning from the Autonomous University of Mexico (UNAM), a Master's Degree in Advanced Studies in Physical Geography, Climatology and Surface Hydrology from the Scientific and Medical University of Grenoble, France, and Post-graduate Specialization in Hydraulics from the Polytechnic Institute of Grenoble, France.

He has extensive administrative and technical experience in the area of meteorology and hydrology, which includes the execution of important data rescue projects, modernization, expansion of the network of meteorological and hydrological stations and development of Differentiated Climate Services to different socioeconomic sectors of the country.

With the creation in 2021 of the Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology of Panama, Engineer Ovigildo Herrera Marcucci (IMHPA), was appointed through a professional merit competition as its first general director, a position she currently holds.

With his experience and dynamism, he has led this young institution to strengthen its capacity and personnel structure, as well as to the formation of alliances with key national and international actors. Within the framework of the strategy led by Engineer Calzadilla, the IMHPA promotes services in order to provide climate information that facilitates informed decision-making at a personal and institutional level, especially to the country's productive sectors. In the broadest sense, these climate services – some of which are 24 hours a day – include attention to the requirements of agrometeorological, climatic, hydrological, and meteorological data. Its technical management includes the operation of a network of 227 weather stations, 91 hydrological stations, a weather radar and 11 atmospheric discharge detection stations.

Its performance and commitment resulted in the IMPHA collecting more than one million meteorological, hydrological, and climatic data for the year 2023, including temperature, precipitation, humidity, atmospheric pressure, and flows, among other variables.

Its credibility has led to positioning the IMHPA before the media at the national level, as a reference for reliable news, which open and close their news spaces with bulletins and weather conditions. This has managed to position the IMHPA at the service of the community as a high-level technical institute and official voice of the state in the topics of Meteorology, Climatology, Agrometeorology and Hydrology.

In international affairs, she currently holds the position of Vice President of the WMO Regional Association IV that includes North America, Central America, the Caribbean, Colombia and Venezuela; she is the Permanent Representative of Panama to the World Meteorological Organization (WMO); Director for Panama before the Regional Committee on Hydraulic Resources of the Central American Integration System (CRRH-SICA); and Director for Panama before the Conference of Directors of the Meteorological and Hydrological Services of Ibero-America (CIMHET).

Prior to occupying the position of general director of the Institute of Meteorology and Hydrology of Panama, engineer Calzadilla held important positions of great relevance for the professional development of Panamanian women, such as Manager of Hydrometeorology at the Electric Transmission Company, S.A., Project Director at Panam Development Corporation and Head of the Department of Maintenance of Hydraulic Works at the Institute of Hydraulic Resources and Electrification (IRHE).

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