



Christoph Steiner

Personal Data

Date of Birth: 11 July 1973
Marital Status: married
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Education

2007 University of Bayreuth, Germany

Dr. rer. nat

- Institute of Soil Science and Soil Geography
- Dissertation Title: Slash and Char as Alternative to Slash and Burn – soil charcoal amendments maintain soil fertility and establish a carbon sink
- Advisors: Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Zech, University of Bayreuth, Institute of Soil Science and Soil Geography and o. Univ. Prof. Dipl.Ing.Dr.DDDr.h.c. Winfried E.H. Blum, University of Natural Resources and Applied Life Sciences (BOKU), Vienna
- Scholarship of the Austrian Academy of Sciences
- magna cum laude

1999 – 2001 University of Goettingen, Germany

Master of Science in Agriculture

- Tropical & subtropical studies, nature conservation, agricultural ecology, social economics, environmental & resource economics
- Thesis: "The Drill: an Endangered Species and a Natural Resource in Korup Project Area, Cameroon"
- Graduated with honors

1993 - 1998 University of Salzburg, Austria

Master of Science in Biology

- Zoology and Botany, Vegetation Geography
- Graduated with honors

Experience

Since January 2008 University of Georgia
Athens, USA

Research Associate at the Department of Biological and Agricultural Engineering

- Biorefining and Carbon Cycling Program (www.biorefinery.uga.edu)
- Research in the area of charcoal utilization in soils with experimental work relating to char characterization, BioChar studies in soils, relationship between pyrolysis process and char production, etc.
- Development of strong partnerships with groups outside UGA and outside the US (e.g. Cornell University, EMBRAPA, Brazil, and National Bamboo Research Center, China).
- United Nations Climate Change Conference, Bali, Invited speaker by the UNCCD

2001 – 2004

University of Bayreuth, Germany

Manaus, Brazil

Project coordinator

Studies on the Human Impact on Forests and Floodplains–SHIFT ENV 45:

- Managing logistics for studies on shifting cultivation, nutrient cycling and charcoal use in agriculture.
- Coordinating laboratory and field activities, two project vehicles, two long-term employees, up to ten short-term employees and students.
- Planning research and preparing results for publication

Recent Publications:

STEINER C, GLASER B, TEIXEIRA W G, LEHMANN J, BLUM W E H AND ZECH W (2008) Nitrogen Retention and Plant Uptake on a Highly Weathered Central Amazonian Ferralsol amended with Compost and Charcoal. *Journal of Plant Nutrition and Soil Science*, in press.

STEINER C, TEIXEIRA W, LEHMANN J, NEHLS T, MACEDO J, BLUM W, ZECH W (2007) Long term effects of manure, charcoal and mineral fertilization on crop production and fertility on a highly weathered Central Amazonian upland soil. *Plant and Soil*, 291: 275-290

STEINER C, DAS K C, GARCIA M, FÖRSTER B and ZECH W (2007) Charcoal and Smoke Extract Stimulate the Soil Microbial Community in a Highly Weathered Xanthic Ferralsol. *Pedobiologia* [doi:10.1016/j.pedobi.2007.08.002](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.pedobi.2007.08.002)

2004 - 2006

Athens, GA, USA

Research and representation EPRIDA carbon cycle

- Set up a pot experiment do study ECOSS as nitrogen fertilizer
- Representation of slash and char projects and charcoal and Terra Preta research
- Worldwide presentation of soil charcoal amendments as carbon sink – India, China, Brazil, Europe and the USA.
- Delegate (clean energy delegation) and soil science expert of the International Fund for China's Environment (IFCE)

1991 – 2001

Germany & Austria

Environmental lecturer

self-employed

Developed and presented informative slide shows and talks about the ecology of different habitats.

October 2000

World's Fair Hannover (EXPO 2000), Germany

Invited Speaker

- Moderated a panel for international forestry
- Explained and discussed the differences of forest habitats among climatic regimes, their implications for sustainable wood utilization, and human threats to their survival.

2000

Korup National Park, Cameroon

Conservation Biologist

- Assessed the conservation status of *Mandrillus leucophaeus* in Korup Project Area
- Developed and introduced a method to anonymously estimate the off take of wildlife
- Published the results in the book "The drill: an Endangered Species and a Natural Resource in Korup Project Area, Cameroon"
- Presented the results and led discussions about the threats to the Drill's survival at the University of Göttingen, Germany
- Research results published in "African Primates"

Languages

German as native language, fluent English, good Portuguese and Spanish

Special skills and considerations

Computer skills (SPSS, Sigma Stat, Sigma Plot, Photoshop, Corel Draw, Microsoft Office), public speaking and panel moderation, teaching multiple age groups and ethnic backgrounds in the local language, giving interviews for newspapers, radio and television (BBC, Amazon Sat, ORF, ARTE), scuba diving, alpinism.

Research and Educational Field Excursions

1999 Collected information concerning the conservation of species and habitats in eastern Africa and Madagascar

Visits to the following Research stations: Organisation for Tropical Studies (OTS) Makerere University in Uganda, SECAP and TAFORI in Tanzania (Usambara Mountains), Kirindi in West-Madagascar.

Also included time in the following national parks in **Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Madagascar**: Lake Bogoria, Kilimanjaro, Lake Manvara, Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater, Tarangire, Mahahinga, Bwindi, Queen E. N. P., Kibale-Rainforest, Perinet Reserve and Ranomafana

1996 Three weeks in the **Libyan desert**

1995 Botanical excursion, Organisation for Tropical Studies (OTS) La Selva research station **Costa Rica**

- Two month study hosted jointly through OTS and the University of Salzburg
- Excursions included visits of almost all national parks including dry forests in the north, evergreen tropical lowland rainforest on the west and east coast as well as mountainous ecotypes, including cloud forest, elfin forest, paramo and volcanic deserts.

1992 Two months in **Brazil** and **Venezuela** (Pantanal, Amazon, Andes, Instituto Nacional de Pesquisas da Amazonia (INPA), Manaus)

1991 Three weeks in **Siberia** on the river Jenisey (Kransnojarsk – Dudinka)