

## Curriculum Vitae PATRICK CHESNEY

### PERSONAL DETAILS

Full name: Patrick Ewart Kent CHESNEY

Nationality: Guyanese

Marital status: Married, two children

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### PROFILE

My career developed out of a broad base of general agriculture to one that is increasingly focused on topical developmental issues such as food security, biosafety, ecosystem services, environmental sustainability, and sustainable livelihoods. I have cumulative experience in: project formulation and management, drafting public policy, promoting the role of tropical forests in climate change mitigation, payment schemes for ecosystem services, management of biodiversity and agro-biodiversity, diagnosis and design of agricultural, horticultural and agroforestry systems, field and laboratory research in multiple cropping systems, tree-crop interactions, plant genetic resources management, biotechnology of tropical food plants, biodiversity conservation and organic agricultural production systems. I have lectured University graduate students in Parks and Protected Areas; and undergraduate students in agroforestry and rural development, biology, zoology, molecular biology and biotechnology; supervised Masters and Undergraduate research theses and carried out national and international consultancies in the areas of food production and plant genetic resources. In addition, I have attended international fora, including the conference of parties for the Rio Conventions; served on State Boards, and edited papers for peer-reviewed journals.

### SKILLS BASE

- Science diplomacy
- Familiarity with topical issues in climate science, biodiversity conservation, and forest utility (e.g. ecosystem services), general agriculture, horticulture, agroforestry, sustainable forest management, biosafety
- Proven leadership and human resource management skills
- Proven competence in scientific research
- Carries out own statistical analyses on biological data
- Tertiary level lecturer in parks and protected areas, molecular biology, biotechnology, agroforestry, horticulture and general agriculture
- Exemplary team builder and leader
- Rapid adaptability to new problem-solving and new locations
- Comfortable in the field, laboratory and office
- Languages: English, Spanish (fluent)
- IT: MS Word, Excel, Windows, web-based packages
- Licence driver of on-road and off-road vehicles

## **PROFESSIONAL CAREER**

### **Assistant Resident Representative (ARR) / Programme, United Nations Development Programme, Guyana March 2014 to present**

#### **ARR/Programme responsible for:**

- Managing the Environment, Extractive Industry and Energy Programme including continued monitoring of implementation
- Leading the Environment, Extractive Industry and Energy Programme team in strategic planning and in identifying new programme areas while ensuring consistency with UNDP/CPD priorities and creative responses to emerging challenges and opportunities
- Ensuring the strategic direction of the Environment, Extractive Industry and Energy Programme to include all aspects under the Programme and linking to other Programme areas
- Supporting UN Joint Programming/Delivering as One; the UNDP South-South and Triangular Cooperation Agenda; and development objectives towards improved livelihoods and elimination of inequality through effective governance of natural resources
- Management of the CO Environment and Energy Programme and supervision of the Environment and Energy Programme Team
- Creation of strategic partnerships and support to the resource mobilisation strategy
- Provision of top quality policy advice services to the Government and facilitation of knowledge building

### **Chief Technical Advisor (CTA), Guiana Shield Facility (GSF), UNDP Guyana December 2010 to February 2014**

#### **CTA of GSF responsible for:**

- Operational management of all technical, logistical and administrative processes
- Formulation of work plans, all reports and budgets
- Budget management in UNDP Atlas
- Fundraising and donor relations
- Interface between UNDP senior management and national governments, donors and beneficiaries
- Updating of regional priority setting process for biodiversity conservation and sustainable development
- Building consensus and support for a regional platform for conservation and sustainable development

#### **Key Achievements:**

- Development of the GSF as a flexible regional delivery mechanism for the conservation and sustainable development of the Guiana Shield ecoregion
- Guiana Shield Priority Setting Platform for decision support with respect to wise use of natural resources
- Strengthening of governance of indigenous territories and livelihood enhancement in Colombia
- Strengthening of national capacity for forest-based climate ecosystem services in Brazil, Guyana and Suriname

- Strengthening of partnerships with international, regional, national and local institutions for better management of natural resources.
- Creation of the Guiana Shield Knowledge Centre

**Project Manager, Guiana Shield Initiative (GSI) Project, UNDP Guyana  
August 2007 to November 2010**

***Project Manager, GSI Project, responsible for:***

- Operational management of the regional GSI project
- Maintenance of project management systems, field office and creation of a team based participatory work environment
- Meeting the administrative, managerial and financial reporting requirements of the EU/UNDP as set out in the various policies and guidelines
- Maintenance of strong project management systems
- Supervises the work of implementing agencies
- Promotion of broad-based stakeholder and community involvement in the GSI project
- Management of the project resources

***Key achievements:***

- Formulation and testing of a Guiana Shield ecoregional EO monitoring system for ecosystem services at three pilot sites
- Resuscitation of the PSW as an ecoregional priority setting platform for conservation and sustainable development
- Identification of hosting arrangements for the long-term sustainability of the Guiana Shield Initiative
- Mobilisation of financial resources for a successor Guiana Shield Facility (GSF)

**Manager, Policy and Projects, Conservation International (CI), Georgetown, Guyana  
March 2005 to July 2007**

***Manager, Policy and Projects, responsible for:***

- Design and management of conservation policy
- Maintenance of external relations with State and non-State entities
- Delivery of support to local communities engagement and protected areas design and management
- Management of external grants
- Mobilisation of resources to support field projects in biodiversity conservation
- Delivery of support to long term financing vehicle for protected areas

***Key achievements:***

- Policy support for set up of Guyana's first local community owned conservation area
- Donor resources for set up of additional protected areas
- Initiation of external grants programme for biodiversity conservation

**Head of Department & Research Scientist, National Agricultural Research Institute  
(NARI), Guyana  
August 1990 to March 2005**

**Head of Department and Research Scientist, responsible for:**

- Advise on and develop technologies and systems for sustained agricultural development
- Lead research in the fields of biotechnology, plant genetic resources, crop protection, horticulture and organic agriculture
- Budget management
- Design and implementation of strategic and annual work plans for research and development
- Supervise scientific staff
- Chair scientific seminar series

**Key achievements:**

- Set up and head the department of horticulture
- Set up and head the department of biotechnology, plant genetic resources and crop protection
- Generated research information on tropical fruits
- Research publications in peer-reviewed journals and farm news bulletins
- Ex-situ conservation of pineapple and cocoa germplasm

**KEY CONSULTANCIES**

- Organic food production systems
- Food security
- Cost of production studies for organic pineapples and cocoa
- National policy on biosafety, biotechnology and biosecurity
- National assessment on science and technology with respect to biotechnology
- Reclamation of gold mining landscapes
- Internal control system for certified organic crop production in indigenous communities

**EDUCATION**

<b>Institutions (Joint Ph.D. programme)</b>	Centro Agronómico Tropical de Investigación y Enseñanza (CATIE), Costa Rica and University of Göttingen (Germany)
<b>Date: from (month/year) To (month/year)</b>	September 1997 December 2000; [DAAD Scholar & IFS Grantee]
<b>Degree(s) or diploma(s) obtained:</b>	Ph.D. in Tropical Agroforestry Focus: Tree-crop interactions belowground

<b>Institution</b>	University of Puerto Rico, Mayagüez
<b>Date: from (month/year) To (month/year)</b>	August 1992 June 1994 [FAO Fellow]
<b>Degree(s) or diploma(s) obtained:</b>	M.Sc. in Horticulture Focus: Multiple-cropping systems

<b>Institution</b>	University of Guyana
<b>Date: from (month/year) To (month/year)</b>	September 1985 June 1990
<b>Degree(s) or diploma(s) obtained:</b>	B.Sc. in General Agriculture (academic work completed in 1989)

## **PROFESSIONAL POSITIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES HELD**

- Chairman, Scientific Advisory Group, EU/ACP Forestry Research Network Project
- Chairman, Technical Management Board – EU funded Linden Economic Advancement Programme (LEAP), Guyana
- Member, Guyana Forestry Commission Board
- Member, Ministerial Advisory Committee on Agricultural Diversification, Guyana
- Member, National Fisheries Advisory Committee, Guyana
- Member – Guyana Post-Bali (UNFCCC COP) Team
- Member, National Biodiversity Advisory Committee, Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana
- Member, National Biosafety sub-Committee, Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana
- Member, Access to Genetic Resources and Benefit Sharing sub-Committee, Environmental Protection Agency, Guyana
- Chairman, Guyana Organic Agriculture Movement (GOAM)
- Chairman, Guyana Organic Standards Committee, Guyana National Bureau of Standards (GNBS)
- Local Inspector for organic cocoa and organic pineapples; have worked with SKAL and ECOCERT using Regulations EEC 2092/91 and NOP
- Chairman, Guyana National Fruit Working Group

## **MEMBERSHIP IN PROFESSIONAL BODIES**

- International Society for Horticultural Science
- Caribbean Academy of Science
- Gamma Sigma Delta (Puerto Rican Chapter)

## **ACADEMIC / PROFESSIONAL AWARD**

- 1996 - Certificate of Merit, Agriculture Month Award for outstanding contribution to agriculture as a Worker Professional, Ministry of Agriculture, Guyana
- 1990 – Open Sports Award, University of Guyana
- 1990 – Best All Round Student, Faculty of Agriculture, University of Guyana

## **KEY PUBLICATIONS**

### **Book/Booklet**

- CHESNEY, P. (ed.) The Guiana Shield ecoregion: Conserving Forest Based Biocapacity for Green Development. CABI. In preparation.
- Vokaty, S., CHESNEY, P., DeMendonca, A., Kellman, V. 2005. Food security report for Region 10, Guyana. Linden Economic Advancement Programme, EU/Government of Guyana.
- CHESNEY, P. 2002. Report on the Technical Evaluation of the Feasibility of Producing Organic Cocoa at Selected Cocoa Orchards in Grenada. IICA, Trinidad & Tobago. 23p.
- CHESNEY, P. Organic Cocoa Farming in Guyana. Caribbean Organics and Fairtrade Conference, London, 21 March 2001. IICA, Guyana. 12p.
- Schlönvoigt, A., CHESNEY, P., Schaller, M., van Kanten, R. 2000. Estudios ecológicos de raíces en sistemas agroforestales en el CATIE. Versión 2.0. CATIE, Turrialba, Costa Rica. 60p.
- CHESNEY, P. 1998. Pineapple Germplasm Resources in Guyana. IICA TCA in Guyana. Georgetown, Guyana. 11p.
- Forde, B., CHESNEY, P. 1995. The Status of Plant Genetic Resources in Guyana. Fourth International Technical Conference on PGR, Leipzig, Germany, 17-23 June, 1996. 43p.

### **Book Chapter**

- CHESNEY, PEK. 2012. Shoot pruning and impact on functional equilibrium between shoots and roots in simultaneous agroforestry systems, pp. 87-112. **In:** Martin Kaonga (ed.) Agroforestry for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services – Science and Practice. In-Tech. 164p.

### **Journals:**

- Chesney, PEK; Simpson, LA; Cumberbatch, RN; Homenauth, O; Benjamin, F. 2010. Cowpea yield performance in an alley cropping practice on an acid infertile soil at Ebini, Guyana. The Open Agriculture Journal 4:80-84
- CHESNEY, P. 2008. Nitrogen and fine root length dynamics in a tropical agroforestry system with periodically pruned *Erythrina poeppigiana*. Agroforestry Systems. Agroforest Syst 72:149-159 – IFS supported; Top cited article by the Editorial Board of Agroforestry Systems <http://www.springer.com/life+sci/forestry/journal/10457> and the British Library Direct [www.worldwidescience.org](http://www.worldwidescience.org)
- CHESNEY, P and N. Vasquez. 2007. Dynamics of non-structural carbohydrate reserves in pruned *Erythrina poeppigiana* and *Gliricidium sepium* trees. Agroforestry Systems 69(2):89-105
- CHESNEY, P.E.K. 2007. Preliminary characterisation and evaluation of cocoa on-farm genetic diversity in the North-west region of Guyana. Ingenic Newsletter 11:2-5.
- CHESNEY, P; Wessel-Beaver, L and Maynard, D. 2004. Both traditional and semi-bush tropical pumpkin can be intercropped with beans or cowpeas. HortScience 39(3): 525-528.
- CHESNEY, P; Nygren, P. 2002. Fine root and nodule dynamics of *Erythrina poeppigiana* in an alley cropping system in Costa Rica. Agroforestry Systems 56:259-269
- CHESNEY, PE; Schlönvoigt, A; Kass, D; Vlek, P; Murach, D. 2001. Respuestas de las raíces finas y la acumulación de nitrógeno en el follaje de *Erythrina poeppigiana* después de podas parciales o completas. Agroforestería en las Américas 8(30):48-57 – IFS supported
- CHESNEY, PE; Schlönvoigt, A; Kass, D. 2000. Producción de tomate con soportes vivos en Turrialba, Costa Rica. Agroforestería en las Américas 7(26):57-60 – IFS supported
- CHESNEY, PE; Schlönvoigt, AM; Kass, DCL; Murach, D; Vlek, PLG. 2000. Evaluating N-fixing

- living stakes for organic tomato (*Lycopersicon esculentum*) production in Costa Rica. IUFRO Congress, 7-12 August 2000, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. (Poster) – IFS supported
- CHESNEY, P. 1999. Efecto de la poda apical de *Erythrina poeppigiana* y *Gliricidia sepium* sobre la longitud de raíces finas, nódulos y uso de carbohidratos radiculares en el rebrote. *Agroforestería en las Américas* 6(23):77
- Schlönvoigt, A; CHESNEY, P. 1999. Prácticas agroforestales para la producción orgánica de tomate. In *Actas del Congreso Internacional para la Producción de Hortalizas Orgánicas*. Antigua, Guatemala. p. 79-80.
- Schlönvoigt, A; Kass, D; Jiménez, F; Siles, J; CHESNEY, PE. 1999. Perspectives for organic crop production in the Tropics, American Society, Annual Meeting, Salt Lake City, 31 Oct-4 Nov. p. 65.
- Chesney, P., L. W. Beaver, G. Elmstrom and D. Maynard, 1994. Short and long vine pumpkins intercropped with beans and cowpeas, *HortScience* 29 (5): 521.
- Chesney, P. and A. Cedeño, 1994. The potential effects of postharvest calcium chloride dips and lipid wax on rind breakdown in the chironja, *HortSci*. 29:459 (Abs).
- Chesney, P.E. and L. W. Beaver, 1993. Viney and bush type pumpkin intercropped with bean and cowpea, *Memorias de la Sociedad Puertorriqueña de Ciencias Agrícolas*, Dec. 3, Corozal, P.R., p. 7 (Abs.).
- Chesney, P.E., A. Cedeño-Maldonado and E. Orengo, 1993. Postharvest calcium chloride dips, lipid wax and chironja rind breakdown. *Memorias de la Sociedad Puertorriqueña de Ciencias Agrícolas*, Dec. 3, Corozal, P.R., p. 32 (Poster).

#### REVIEWER

- International journal articles for Agroforestry Systems  
<http://link.springer.com/journal/10457>