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1001 Avenue of the Americas, 19th Floor
New York, NY 10018

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Carla Villamarín is pursuing her PhD at the Zuckerberg Institute for Water Research, BGU. Her research project is focused on nitrogen fixation and diazotrophic diversity in freshwater environments, at the local and global scale. She has an M.Sc. in Ecology and Conservation from Universidad San Francisco de Quito in Ecuador, where she studied the seasonal shifts in microbial diversity of riverbed sediments. In the past years, she had been working on freshwater ecosystems ecology, focusing on microbes and macroinvertebrates of tropical non-perennial fluvial systems. In my spare time I enjoy climbing, cooking and soccer. Her research focuses on the impact of seawater conditions on large scale desalination operations.