

## **New Root Capital Staff**

Six new staff members joined the Root Capital team in the past few months. In the Cambridge office, we're proud to welcome Director of Marketing & Communications Sara Aviel; Finance and Office Assistant Stella Klemperer; Accounting Manager Jennifer Neira; and Investment Officer Luis Miguel Ormeno. In our field offices we are excited to have Investment Officer German Ampuero on board in Peru and Evelyn Rodas in Guatemala.

### **German Ilich Ampuero Bejarano, Investment Officer**



Prior to joining Root Capital, German Ampuero worked in the field of microfinance as a Loan Analyst at Scotiabank and at the Banco del Trabajo. He has extensive experience in financial analysis and project evaluation, having also worked at Derrama Magisterial, a financial services company for teachers, and at the Banco Santander Central Hispano, a large global bank. Mr. Ampuero holds a BA in Economics from San Marcos University in Perú.

### **Sara Aviel, Director of Marketing & Communications**



Prior to joining Root Capital in 2007, Ms. Aviel was a Strategic Innovations Advisor at Mercy Corps, responsible for facilitating corporate partnerships and long-term strategic initiatives. Previously she led the advocacy and communications strategy for a consortium of 13 NGOs in advance of the first presidential elections in Afghanistan. Ms. Aviel was also a lecturer at Yale College and worked for CARE in Afghanistan and throughout Africa. She speaks Spanish and has a MBA, as well as a MA and BA in political science, all from Yale University.

### **Stella Klemperer, Finance and Office Assistant**



Stella Klemperer graduated from Brown University in 2006 with a B.A. in Development Studies and Economics. While at Brown, she was president of her campus chapter of Oxfam America and an active member of United Students for Fair Trade. Ms. Klemperer joins Root Capital after a year-long fellowship in Amazonian Ecuador where she worked with the Kallari Association, an indigenous artisan cooperative.

**Jennifer Neira, Accounting Manager**



Ms. Neira recently completed a Master of Public Policy & Administration with a Certificate in Latin American Studies from the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She has experience working abroad with a nonprofit business incubator in Cuenca, Ecuador where she assisted programs supporting entrepreneurship, small business development, and tourism in rural indigenous communities. Prior to completing her graduate work, she worked in the Trust Accounting & Reporting Department at Investors Bank & Trust for five years. Ms. Neira holds a B.S. in Business Administration from Bryant University with concentrations in finance and international studies and studied abroad in Granada, Spain. She speaks Spanish and German.

**Luis Miguel Ormeno, Investment Officer**



Prior to joining Root Capital, Luis Miguel Ormeno worked for several years on conservation and development initiatives in the Amazon and Andes regions of his native Peru and in Guatemala's Maya Biosphere Reserve. His work focused on helping communities improve their harvest and processing techniques; tap better markets for their existing products; and develop new products for export. Mr. Ormeno holds an MA in Sustainable International Development from Brandeis University. He is fluent in Spanish and English.

**Evelyn Rodas, Monitoring Assistant**



Evelyn Rodas graduated from San Carlos University in Guatemala as an agricultural engineer with a focus on agriculture production systems. Previously she worked for the community development organization, Asociación Patronato Vivamos Mejor Guatemala, as a field extension technician and for the Swedish Cooperative Center where she served as a project coordinator. Prior to joining Root Capital, Ms. Rodas worked for Manos Campesinas, a small coffee producer association financed by Root Capital, where she was responsible for internal control systems and third party certifications.