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Biography

Ragnhildur Sigurdardottir received B.S. degrees in biology and geology from University of Iceland, a masters of forest science degree from Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and masters of philosophy and masters of science and doctorate degrees in ecology from Yale University. Her current affiliation is with the Reykjavik Academy, Reykjavik Iceland. Raga has an expertise on nature conservation issues in Iceland. Since year 2000, she has been working on different research projects and within the interface between academia, NGO's, management and policy.

Raga has prior affiliations with the Environmental Agency of Iceland, was on the faculty of the Agricultural University in Iceland as the director of its Wetland Center, a project manager at the University Centre of South Iceland, and has been a visiting scholar at University of Washington, Seattle.

Raga has been a PI and or served on steering and management committees for several international research projects funded by the European Commission, by the US National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Icelandic Research Council. She has furthermore, been on the board of several different associations and NGOs in Iceland, including being the chairman of the Fulbright Alumni Board for its first 8 years, the chairman of the governmental scientific committee on genetically modified organisms, appointed by the environmental minister of Iceland, been an adviser to the environmental minister of Iceland. Raga was a co-founder and manager of the Audlind Nature Heritage Fund in 2008, which has wetland protection and wetland reclamation as main objectives.

Raga's current research projects are in conservation biology, policy, natural resource management ecosystem ecology and on the interaction of humans and nature and the sustainability of human land-uses on current and historical time scales.