



Gustavo Correa began his career as professor of mathematics at the Universidad del Valle in Cali, Colombia. In 1974 he was one of the founders of the Cali-based Foundation for the Application and Teaching of the Sciences (Fundación para la Aplicación y Enseñanza de la Ciencia, FUNDAEC). FUNDAEC came into being through collaborative efforts of physical and social scientists at the Universidad del Valle in the early 1970s, working with rural communities in areas around Cali.

During his time at FUNDAEC from 1974 to 1988 Gustavo designed and implemented projects and programs, taught and developed educational materials, and created administrative structures and processes for the institution's functioning. Additionally, he worked to grow FUNDAEC's administration, finances, research, and human and organizational resource development, collaborating with others to raise human resources capable of maintaining FUNDAEC's long term growth and continued development. He served as FUNDAEC's Director from 1988 to 2005, and from then on has served as a member of its Advisory Board.

In 2005, following 17 years of service as member of the Continental Board of Counsellors for the Americas, Gustavo was appointed to a position in the Bahá'í community that took him to Haifa, Israel, and in 2008, he was elected to the supreme governing institution of the Bahá'í Faith on which he served until 2018. In addition to his new duties, during this time he continued engagement with the fields of education, development, and organizational development.

Since returning to Colombia in 2018, Gustavo has continued as an advisor to FUNDAEC and other development and educational organizations. Together with colleagues he has taken up new projects. Among current efforts, he is working with Nur University in Bolivia to develop and deliver a master's level degree program to prepare innovators capable of envisioning, initiating, sustaining, and guiding social enterprises for education and development projects. And in March 2020, he mobilized the network of groups collaborating with FUNDAEC's Sistema de Aprendizaje Tutorial (SAT) and a related program to respond quickly to the problem of food insecurity resulting from COVID-19 in Colombia. Given its experience with FUNDAEC's educational programs, this network — well-versed in a philosophy of cooperation and unified action — was able within eight months to scale up to 1,500 people sustaining 800 small initiatives to produce food locally in response to the pandemic.

Gustavo holds a Master of Public Policy degree from Harvard University's Kennedy School, as well as a bachelor of science in mathematics from the Universidad del Valle.