

Land rights — combating climate change and advancing peace and gender equality

Key Participants



Elisabeth Backteman, State Secretary to the Minister for Rural Affairs (Sweden)

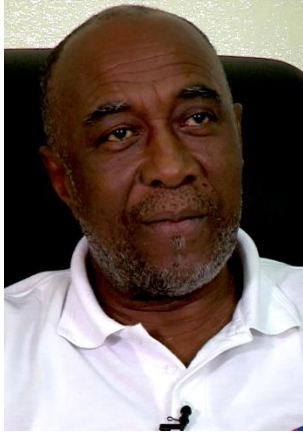
Elisabeth is State Secretary to the Minister for Rural Affairs of Sweden, Sven-Erik Bucht. She is also the Chair of the Swedish FAO Committee. Before joining the ministry, she served as Operational Manager and Financial Manager of the Swedish Migration Board. Previous positions held include Chair of the Swedish Centre for International Youth Exchange, Political Adviser to Prime Minister Göran Persson and Deputy Director in the Ministry of Finance and First Auditor in the Swedish National Audit Office. Elisabeth graduated from the Public Sector Management Programme at the Swedish Institute of Management, Stockholm School of Economics and has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, History of Economics and Economics from Stockholm University.



Silvana Baldovino, Program Director, Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA) (Peru)

Silvia earned her law degree at the University of Lima, where she specialized in Environmental Law. She has ample experience working with indigenous communities, land rights and biodiversity conservation. She currently serves as Director of the Conservation Program in the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA, in its Spanish acronym), where she leads several projects related to indigenous communities, land restoration and rights, environmental justice, protected natural areas, and the strengthening of legislative and financial tools for environmental conservation, among others. She also serves as a Representative of the Forestry and Fauna Tribunal of the Organismo de Supervisión de los Recursos Forestales y de Fauna Silvestre (OSINFOR), where she works on cases of appeals against OSINFOR resolutions.

Silvana is a member of the Environmental Law and the Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy committees of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN). She is also a member of the advisory councils of national and international organizations, such as the Tercer Proyecto de Titulación Rural de Tierras (PTRT3) and the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFR).



Dr. Cecil T.O. "Othello" Brandy, Chairman of the Liberia Land Commission (Liberia)

Before his appointment as Chairman of the Land Commission, Cecil, who holds a PhD in Agricultural Extension from the University of Missouri and a Master of Science Degree in Agricultural Finance and Farm Management from the University of Texas, served as Lead Consultant to the Governance Commission (GC) of Liberia on Land from 2007 to 2009. At the GC, he provided supervision, direction, and guidance to the Commission's land reform program with the key objective of establishing the Land Commission he now heads.

In 2006, Cecil was appointed National Coordinator of the Food and Agriculture Policy and Strategy Project, a post he held for a year before joining the Governance Commission. While serving in this capacity, he directed and coordinated national efforts under the auspices of the Ministry of Agriculture, and in collaboration with the FAO, IFAD, the World Bank, and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), to develop a comprehensive national agricultural policy for Liberia.



Ben Bowie, Partner, TMP Systems (US)

Ben has been a partner with TMP Systems since 2014. He currently leads TMP's initiative to quantify and manage ESG risks in emerging markets. Since joining in 2012, he has completed a review of options for enterprise-anchored energy production in rural areas of emerging market economies; an evaluation of shared service models for Indonesian geothermal development; and contributed to TMP's key sustainable land use initiatives, including The Landscape Fund and Dryad.

Previously, he was an independent consultant for a range of institutions, including the ODI, the European Commission, and companies in the extractive industries. Among other notable achievements, he conducted an analysis in 2010 which correctly predicted that "peak oil" would subside due to improvements in extraction technology. Ben lives in London and received his MSc in Asian Politics from SOAS, University of London and his BA in Social and Political Sciences from Cambridge University.



Paula Caballero, Global Director, Climate Program, World Resources Institute (US)

Before joining WRI in August 2016, Paula was the Senior Director of the Environment and Natural Resources Global Practice of the World Bank Group where she oversaw a portfolio of over USD 7 billion that responded to an array of development issues in productive landscapes and forests, fisheries and aquaculture, pollution and environmental health, environmental economics, and environmental safeguards.

Paula has a long trajectory in development having worked for the Colombian government at various moments, most recently as Director for Economic, Social and Environmental Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In this capacity, she contributed to policy development on a range of sustainable development issues working closely with both national and international counterparts. Paula was lead negotiator for Colombia for the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. She is widely recognized as the lead proponent of the Sustainable Development Goals, and was awarded a Zayed International Prize for the Environment in 2014 for her contribution to “environmental action leading to positive change”. Earlier in her career, she served with the Energy and Environment Unit for Latin America & Caribbean at UNDP. She has also worked with NGOs, academia, media, and the private sector.



Myrna Cunningham, Chairperson, Center for Autonomy and Development for Indigenous People (CADPI) and board member, Tenure Facility (Nicaragua)

Myrna is a Miskita feminist and indigenous rights activist from the community of Waspam, located on the banks of the River Wangki in Nicaragua, and the first Miskita woman doctor. She is a board member of the Tenure Facility, and the Chairperson of the Center for Autonomy and Development of Indigenous People (CADPI). She served as Chair for the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues until 2012. She studied medicine and surgery at the National Autonomous University of Nicaragua and holds an honorary doctorate from the National Autonomous University of Mexico.



Julio Cusurichi Palacios, President, Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and its Tributaries (FENAMAD) (Peru)

Julio is President of the Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and its Tributaries (FENAMAD, in its Spanish acronym), and the recipient of the Goldman Prize for his strong advocacy on behalf of Indigenous Peoples, especially those in voluntary isolation that are threatened by logging and illegal commerce. His role as an indigenous leader of the Peruvian Amazon has led him to take on several roles in national organizations, such as the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDSEP, in its Spanish acronym), regional organizations such as FENAMAD, and local organizations such as Comunidad Nativa EL Pilar. Additionally, he has been the Assistant

Director for Citizen Participation and Native Communities of the regional government of Madre de Dios. His work has focused on claiming indigenous rights in the Amazon and highlighting the challenges indigenous communities face, such as the lack of legal protections for their territories, the imposition of extractive activities, and the environmental problems generated by the lack of public policies.



Boubacar Diarra, Tenure Facility Pilot Project Coordinator for Helvetas (Mali)

Boubacar is the Coordinator of the Steering Committee for HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation in Mali. HELVETAS works to ensure that the agricultural heritage of Mali is protected through safeguarding land tenure and forest tenure, as well as promoting sustainable agricultural practices. He is currently a project leader for HELVETAS Mali's pilot project with the Tenure Facility.



Carin Jämtin, Director-General of Sida (Sweden)

Carin assumed the role of Director-General of Sida in May 2017. Prior to that she was a member of the Swedish Parliament, a role she served since 2014.

Carin has a long history in Swedish development cooperation, including roles as the Minister for International Development Cooperation from 2003-2006 and as Deputy Secretary General at the Olof Palme International Center. During Carin's first year as Minister for Development, the parliament decided unanimously on a new long-term development policy, "Shared responsibility—Policy for Global Development," which aims to contribute to equitable and sustainable global development. As Minister for Development,

Carin highlighted issues of gender equality and women's rights.



Eleni Kyrou, Senior Social Development Specialist at the European Investment Bank (Luxembourg)

Eleni is a development practitioner with a background in social development and urban development policy and planning, with 20 years of work experience across most of the global South. She currently serves as Senior Social Development Specialist for the European Investment Bank.

Eleni has worked for civil society organizations, research institutions and multilateral/international agencies in the context of urban development and urban governance; access to housing for low income population groups at scale; participatory resettlement and relocation of informal settlers; relief aid, and post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation. She has a particular interest and associated experience in promoting socially just development; rights-based approaches to development; collaborative/participatory planning; and gender in development. She is multilingual, with proficiency in English, Greek, Spanish, French, German and Portuguese.



Ulrika Modéer, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation (Sweden)

Ulrika is the State Secretary to Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate, Isabella Lövin. As State Secretary, her areas of responsibility include international development cooperation, Sweden's policy for global development and international climate policy.

She previously served as Team Manager of the Environmental and Foreign Policy team at the Green Party Parliamentary Secretariat from 2011–2014. She also served as the International Manager at Diakonia from 2004–2006 and as the Head of the Latin American department from 2001–2003.



Per Pharo, Director of the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI)

Per is the Director of the Government of Norway's International Climate and Forest Initiative (NICFI) and Deputy Director General at the Norwegian Ministry of Environment. Previously he worked at McKinsey and the Norwegian Ministry of Defense in Oslo. He holds a Candidatus Philologiae in history from the University of Oslo and a BA in international and US politics and history from Augustana College, South Dakota.



Nonette Royo, Executive Director, Tenure Facility (Sweden)

Nonette is a lawyer, activist and author working on natural resources management and the empowerment of Indigenous Peoples. In the last two decades, Nonette has pioneered various civil society initiatives in public interest law and environmental justice in the Philippines, Indonesia and, particularly in the last five years, in mainland Southeast Asia. In the Philippines, she co-founded an organization for legal and policy research and advocacy on Indigenous Peoples' rights, and another one on women's rights. Until recently, Nonette also served as Vice President for Research and Social Outreach of Xavier University. In Indonesia, Nonette assists environmental advocacy and social justice movements. This includes facilitating the establishment of various NGO networks and multi-stakeholder coalitions in key forested and bio-diverse locations. Nonette also helped develop the Indigenous People's Support Fund, which focuses on nurturing local indigenous organizations' visions to protect the last contiguous bio-diverse landscapes in the region.



Rukka Sombolinggi, Secretary General, Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN) (Indonesia)

Rukka is the first female Secretary General of the Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN)—the world's largest Indigenous Peoples organization. Rukka is a Torajan from the highlands of Sulawesi, a starfish-shaped island the size of Florida. Her people have gained notoriety for their [elaborate funeral rituals](#) and the way they have built a local tourism industry while preserving their culture. She is known for her fiery oratory and her longtime dedication to the indigenous rights movement. Her parents hosted a meeting in 1993 that is often cited as its genesis in Indonesia. Before joining AMAN in 1999, Rukka worked for JAPHAMA (Jaringan Pembelaan Hak-hak Masyarakat Adat), a network of Indigenous Peoples' defenders—one of the main groups that convened the first congress of Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia in March 1999 during which AMAN was established.



Victoria Tauli-Corpuz, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (Philippines)

Victoria is an indigenous leader from the Kankanaey Igorot people of the Cordillera Region in the Philippines. She is a social development consultant, indigenous activist, civic leader, human rights expert, public servant, and an advocate of women's rights in the Philippines.

She was the former Chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (2005-2010). As an indigenous leader, she got actively engaged in drafting and adoption of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007.

She helped build the Indigenous Peoples' movement in the Cordillera as a youth activist in the early 1970s. She helped organize Indigenous Peoples on the community level to fight against the projects of the Marcos Dictatorship such as the Chico River Hydroelectric Dam and the Cellophil Resources Corporation.

She is the founder and executive director of Tebtebba Foundation (Indigenous Peoples' International Center for Policy Research and Education). Victoria has founded and managed various NGOs involved in social awareness raising, climate change, the advancement of Indigenous Peoples' and women's rights. She is an expert for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights and has served as the chairperson-rapporteur of the Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations. She is also the indigenous and gender adviser of the Third World Network and a member of United Nations Development Programme Civil Society Organizations Advisory Committee.



Mikhail Tarasov, Global Forestry Manager, IKEA (Sweden)

Mikhail is the acting IKEA Global Forestry Manager. He leads the forestry agenda and the matrix of forestry specialists to secure compliance of IKEA wood-based products with international norms and increase the use of wood from IKEA More Sustainable Sources. He also manages the partnerships with WWF and regional partners to advance responsible forestry in IKEA priority regions.

Prior to this position, Mikhail was the IKEA Greater China and Asia Pacific Forestry manager. Before joining IKEA, he worked for the Finnish forest industry. Mikhail has over thirteen years of experience in sustainable forestry and supply chain management covering Russia, Scandinavia, Asia Pacific and South America. He holds a PhD in forest ecology.



Darren Walker, CEO, Ford Foundation and Board Member, PepsiCo (US)

Darren is President of the Ford Foundation, the US' second largest philanthropy, and for two decades has been a leader in the nonprofit and philanthropic sectors. He led the philanthropy committee that helped bring a resolution to the city of Detroit's historic bankruptcy and chairs the US Impact Investing Alliance.

Prior to joining Ford, he was Vice President at the Rockefeller Foundation where he managed the Rebuilding New Orleans Initiative after Hurricane Katrina. In the 1990s, as COO of Harlem's largest community development organization, the Abyssinian Development Corporation, Darren oversaw a comprehensive revitalization program of central Harlem, including over 1,000 new units of housing. He had a decade-long career in international law and finance at Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton and UBS. He is a member of the Commission on the Future of Riker's Island and serves on the boards of Carnegie Hall, New York City Ballet, the High Line, the Arcus Foundation and PepsiCo.

Educated exclusively in public schools, Darren received the "Distinguished Alumnus Award," the highest honor given by his alma mater, the University of Texas at Austin. In 2016, *TIME* magazine named him to its annual list of the "100 Most Influential People in the World." He is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations, the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the recipient of thirteen honorary degrees and university awards.



Andy White, Coordinator, Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) (US)

Andy is Coordinator of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). He also serves as President of the Rights and Resources Group, the nonprofit coordinating mechanism of the RRI Coalition based in Washington, DC. Prior to co-founding RRI in 2005, Andy served as Senior Director of Programs at Forest Trends and Natural Resource Management Specialist at the World Bank, as well as worked as a consultant to the International Food Policy Institute, Save the Children Federation and the Inter-American Foundation. He has worked extensively in

Haiti, Mexico and China. As Coordinator of RRI, he advises policy research, advocacy, and engagement in Asia, Latin America, and Africa and leads initiatives and networks to advance RRI's mission. His research and publications have focused on forest tenure and policy, forest industry and trade, as well as the role of forests, communities and institutions in climate change. Andy has a PhD in forest economics, an MA in anthropology from the University of Minnesota, and a BS in forestry from Humboldt State University.