



STATE OF RIGHTS AND RESOURCES 2012-2013

FEBRUARY 5, 2013 – ROYAL SOCIETY – LONDON

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

**Fred Pearce** - *Journalist and author of The Land Grabbers*

Fred Pearce is an award-winning author and journalist based in London. He has reported on environment, science, and development issues from sixty-seven countries over the past twenty years. Environment consultant at *New Scientist* since 1992, he also writes regularly for the *Guardian* newspaper and Yale University's prestigious e360 website. Pearce was voted UK Environment Journalist of the Year in 2001 and CGIAR agricultural research journalist of the year in 2002, and won a lifetime achievement award from the Association of British Science Writers in 2011. His many books include *The Land Grabbers*; *The Last Generation: How nature will take her revenge for climate change*; *With Speed and Violence*, *Confessions of an Eco-Sinner*; *The Coming Population Crash*; and *When the Rivers Run Dry*.

**Thomas Griffiths** - *Coordinator - Responsible Finance Programme, Forest Peoples Programme*

Thomas Griffiths is an Oxford-trained social anthropologist who carried out field research for his doctorate on Amerindian livelihood strategies with the Uitoto people in lowland Colombia. He currently works as policy advisor to the Forest Peoples Programme on issues relating to International Financial Institutions, International Forest Policy and Community-based Natural Resource Management. As well as participating in international forest-related fora, he undertakes participatory field evaluations of development policies and projects. This grassroots work is used to inform policy analysis and provide information to indigenous and NGO networks engaged in policy debates at the national and international levels. With prior qualifications in ecology and protected area management, he also works with local communities in participatory mapping and natural resource management planning. He is fluent in Spanish and speaks Uitoto.

**Andy White** - *Coordinator, Rights and Resources Initiative*

Prior to helping create and establish RRI, 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 and supervises policy research, advocacy and policy engagement Asia, Latin America and Africa. 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. Andy is also the President of the Rights and Resources Group, the nonprofit coordinating mechanism of RRI based in Washington, DC.

**Li Ping** - *Senior Attorney, Landesa, China*

Li Ping is a senior attorney for Landesa's China team and one of the leading authorities on land-related law in China. He has assisted the Chinese government in drafting and implementing laws and regulations governing farmers' land rights, and provided consultancy to international development organizations in formulating policies on tenure security for farmers, land expropriation and resettlement. He has extensive land tenure experience, including forestland tenure, tenure security, land tenure law, eminent domain law, resettlement law and policy, regulatory takings, compensation valuation, land use law, land policy, and land-related institutional expertise in developing countries. He conducted numerous rounds of rural fieldwork throughout China, and has experience working with Chinese government agencies and academic institutions to reduce poverty through land reforms. He also has farming experience in China.

**Samuel Nguiffo** - *Director, Center for Environment and Development, Cameroon*

Samuel Nguiffo directs the Center for Environment and Development (CED) in Cameroon's capital, Yaoundé. A lawyer by training, Nguiffo has devoted himself to the task of stopping the liquidation of the region's forests for short-term profit. He is an elected member of the board of the Forest Stewardship Council, an international organization that brings together environmentalists and logging companies in order to promote standards for environmentally safer logging practices. He has also participated in CEO's Process - a World Bank initiative to bring the CEOs of logging companies, conservation organizations and representatives from developing countries together. The sole representative from Africa, Nguiffo speaks out for the rights of communities in tropical rainforest regions. Nguiffo is also a member of the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (E-LAW), a network of environmental lawyers from 50 countries.

**Maung Maung Than** - *Project Coordinator/Consultant (Capacity Building Program for Community Forestry in Myanmar), RECOFTC - The Center for People and Forests*

Dr. Maung Maung Than coordinates and consults for RECOFTC's Capacity Building Program for Community Forestry in Myanmar. His role includes facilitation and coordination for development of community forestry and capacity building within the country's Forest Department and civil society organizations, and participating in land issues of Myanmar, especially for the establishment of community forestry by rural people. He previously held the position of Project Coordinator/Technical Expert with Pyoe Pin program (DFID/SIDA), based within the British Council of Myanmar. Before that, he served as an environmental consultant to the United Nation Development Program-UNDP in Myanmar, and as a project manager for the Forest Resource Environment Development & Conservation Association-FREDA. Dr. Than holds an M.Sc in Natural Resources Conservation from the Asian Institute of Technology-AIT, Bangkok, Thailand and a Doctorate in Environment Science (forest ecology) from the Yokohama National University, Yokohama, Japan.

**Joji Carino** - *Coordinator of the IIFB Working Group on Indicators, Tebtebba*

Joji Carino is the Indigenous Policy Advisor and European Desk Coordinator for Tebtebba Foundation (Indigenous People's International Centre for Policy, Research and Education), Philippines. She is also Team Leader of the Indigenous Peoples' and Biodiversity Programme; Coordinator, International Expert Seminar on Indicators Relevant for Indigenous Peoples, the CBD and MDGs; and Coordinator, International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Biodiversity (IIFB) Working Group on Indicators. Joji has been an active campaigner and advocate for indigenous peoples' rights at community, national and

international levels over the past 25 years. She is an experienced environment and development educator, and an internationally recognized expert on cultural and biological diversity and international standards on natural resources and corporate accountability. Previously, she served as commissioner for the World Commission on Dams, and before that, executive secretary of the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests.

**Saskia Ozinga** - *Campaign Coordinator, Climate Change, Export Credit Agencies & Forest Peoples, FERN*

Saskia Ozinga is the founder and campaign coordinator of FERN. Born in Beverwijk, the Netherlands, she studied biology and healthcare at Wageningen University and the Hogeschool Utrecht. Since graduating, she worked as a teacher in environmental science at the Hogeschool Utrecht and for nearly ten years as a campaigner at Friends of the Earth Netherlands. She founded FERN in 1995. While at FERN she has facilitated various NGO coalitions on different topics related to forests and community rights, and written and published numerous books, articles and reports on themes like forest certification, effective advocacy, improving forest governance and forests and climate. She is/has over the past decades been a board member of various organisations, including Tropenbos International, Alliance for Sustainable Development and the Forest Peoples Programme.

**Jeffrey Hatcher** - *Director, Global Programs, Rights and Resources Initiative*

Jeff oversees and contributes to RRI's analytical, communications and network support programs. He also leads RRI's work in DRC. Prior to joining RRI, he worked as a consultant for the United Nations Food and Agricultural Organization's land tenure service, including with FAO's Sudan Land Program team working to implement land related provisions of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and developing land policy and law for South Sudan. He holds a BA in international relations and an MA in development studies. Jeff is fluent in English, French and Italian.