



## Eighteenth RRI Dialogue on Forests, Governance & Climate Change

### Status of Community Land Rights and the Role of Climate Finance on the Eve of the Paris Agreement

#### SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

##### **Charles Victor Barber**

*Director, Forest Legality Alliance And Government Relations, Forests Program, World Resources Institute*

Dr. Charles “Chip” Barber is currently Director of the Forest Legality Alliance and Government Relations in the Forests Program of the World Resources Institute (WRI), a global policy research institution focusing on environment and sustainable development issues. At WRI, Chip manages the Forest Legality Alliance, a public-private partnership focused on combating illegal logging and associated trade, and manages relations with governments and intergovernmental institutions for the WRI-hosted Global Forest Watch initiative. Prior to joining WRI in March 2014, Chip served since 2009 as Forest Chief in the Conservation and Water Office at the U.S. Department of State, where he led and coordinated U.S. multilateral and bilateral relations concerning forest policy. From 2005 to 2009, he worked with the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) on multilateral environmental affairs. He has also worked as a consultant for IUCN, The Nature Conservancy, the World Bank, Asian Development Bank, UNDP, UNEP, NRDC, UN University, and other organizations. From 1989 to 2001, he was an Associate and Senior Associate with WRI. His past work has encompassed coral reefs and biodiversity as well as forests, with a particular focus on Southeast Asia, where he lived and worked for 11 years. Dr. Barber received his Ph.D. in Jurisprudence and Social Policy, J.D. and M.A. in Asian Studies from the University of California, Berkeley. His doctoral dissertation focused on the politics of community forestry in Indonesia during the Suharto era. He is fluent in Bahasa Indonesia.

##### **Ilona Coyle**

*Tenure Analyst, Rights and Resources Initiative*

Ilona is the Tenure Analyst in RRI’s Global Programs, where she is responsible for Tenure Tracking initiatives and contributes to RRI’s Realizing Rights thematic activities. Prior to joining RRI, Ilona was a consultant with the Environmental Law Institute (ELI), where she specialized in natural resource management in fragile states. She is lead author of a forthcoming Flagship Report for the African Development Bank entitled From Fragility to

Resilience: Managing Natural Resources in Fragile States in Africa (2015). She served as a U.S. Peace Corps volunteer in Togo, and she is an attorney, with a J.D. from Pace University School of Law and a bachelor's degree in political science from American University. Ilona speaks English and French.

**Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim**

*Co-Chair, International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change*

Born in Chad, Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim is an indigenous woman from the Mbororo pastoralist community of Chad. She is the Coordinator of the Indigenous Women and Peoples Association of Chad (AFPAT), a community based organization. Hindou is a member of the Executive committee of the Indigenous Peoples of Africa Coordinating Committee (IPACC), where she is a representative of the Congo Basin Region, with a background in indigenous peoples' rights and environmental protection with the three Rio Conventions (Biodiversity, Climate Change and Desertification) with multiple responsibilities. She has written many publications, consultations, articles and documents in these areas. Hindou is an expert on the adaptation and mitigation of climate change as it relates to Indigenous Peoples, traditional knowledge on the adaptation of pastoralists in Africa, and women and climate change in Africa. She is also a policy board Member of the United Nations Indigenous Peoples Partnership (UNIPP) and also member of Reseau Climat & Development and RPP Chad National committee. She is the chair of recruitment and Co-Chair of the Pan-African Alliance Climate Justice (PACJA). She has organized 4 international workshops in the past 3 years on scientific and traditional knowledge; she has also conducted a 3D participatory mapping project with UNESCO, IPACC, CTA, CI and the government of Chad.

**Niranjali Manel Amerasinghe**

*Climate Finance Associate, World Resources Institute*

Niranjali ("Nira") is a Climate Finance Associate in the Sustainable Finance Center. She is an international environmental lawyer with expertise in climate change, human rights, forest governance, and coal finance. Niranjali leads WRI's international policy work related to the Green Climate Fund and supports work to strengthen the capacity of national institutions to meet international standards and access finance. Her work focuses on ensuring that climate finance is used effectively and does not cause harm to people and the environment.

Prior to joining WRI, Niranjali directed the Climate & Energy Program at the Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL). She has extensive experience with international climate negotiations, including forest and land-use (such as REDD+), legal form and compliance, and the intersection of climate change and human rights. In the context of climate finance, Niranjali has worked to improve accountability, and environmental and social protections, in the Green Climate Fund. Her work at CIEL also involved leading the development of legal strategies to shift financial flows away from fossil fuel investments.

Niranjali has an LL.M in International and Comparative Law from the George Washington University Law School, and an LL.B from the University of Bristol.

**Arvind Khare**

*Senior Advisor, Rights and Resources Initiative*

Arvind is a natural resources management specialist with more than twenty years of experience in the non-profit, corporate and public sectors. During this period he made significant contributions to the critical examination of poverty-environment linkages, initiated a number of innovative rural development projects and was involved in social risk assessment of development investments in India. His work has also involved the development and analysis of policies in infrastructure, forestry, tribal development, social development and watershed sectors for the state and central governments of India, infrastructure financial institutions, private and public sector enterprises, non-government organizations, bilateral and multilateral development institutions. He chaired the External Advisory Group of the World Bank on Forest Sector Strategy Implementation from 2005-2006. Arvind speaks fluent English and Hindi.

**Josh Lichtenstein**

*Independent Consultant*

Biography Forthcoming

**Joseph Bobia Bonkaw**

*National Coordinator, Réseau Ressources Naturelles (RRN)*

Joseph is the national coordinator of the Natural Resources Network (RRN), a governance, advocacy and monitoring platform consisting of 260 member NGOs in 26 provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. RRN works to promote the rights of local and indigenous populations in order to ensure that these rights are taken into account in all decisions regarding natural resources that affect the lives, spaces, traditional practices of these populations. As of today, RRN monitors and watches over all ongoing reforms in the DRC for the recognition of the rights of local and indigenous populations.

**Michael Wolosin**

*Managing Director of Research and Policy, Climate Advisers*

Michael Wolosin is one of Climate Advisers' Managing Directors shaping research and policy work on reducing emissions from global deforestation. He also serves as the firm's Director of Science and Research Methodology. Michael previously led the Nature Conservancy's efforts to strengthen U.S. policies to conserve tropical forests, bringing the organization's on-the-ground experiences around the world to bear in the U.S. policy process through new multi-stakeholder coalitions and direct outreach.

Before this he was a Policy Fellow at the Pew Center on Global Climate Change, where he authored and edited a number of climate policy briefs.

He did his doctoral research in forest ecology at Duke University, studying light competition and growth using advanced remote sensing and statistical techniques, and is co-author of a number of peer-reviewed papers published by top academic journals.

**Kate Horner**

*Director of Forest Campaigns, Environmental Investigation Agency*

Kate Horner has worked extensively with developing country and indigenous organizations. Previous to her position with the Environmental Investigation Agency she has served as international trade analyst for the global environmental network, Friends of the Earth. Kate has worked extensively to promote environmental protection within bilateral and multilateral trade agreements.

**Kennan W. Rapp**

*Senior Social Development Specialist, Forests & Landscapes Climate Finance Team, Partnerships and Knowledge Unit, Climate Change Group Policy and Finance Department, The World Bank*

Kennan W. Rapp is a Sr. Social Development Specialist with the Carbon Finance Unit in the Climate Policy and Finance Department (CPF). His main responsibilities include coordinating on strategic environmental and social assessments (SESA) and related environmental and social sustainability issues for the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the BioCarbon Fund.

**Luis Felipe Duchicela**

*Adviser for Indigenous Peoples, The World Bank*

Luis Felipe, an Ecuadorean national, holds a Master's degree in Public and Private Management from Yale University with emphasis in Finance, Corporate Strategies and Economic Analysis and also has a degree in Architecture and Regional Planning from the Universidad Central del Ecuador in Quito. He brings 36 years of experience from the private, government and nonprofit sectors throughout Latin America and the world.

Prior to joining the Bank, Luis Felipe was the Executive Director of the Amazon Conservation Association, a DC based NGO which focuses on biodiversity conservation and sustainable livelihoods in the Amazon regions of Peru and Bolivia where he travelled extensively. Prior to that he served as the Regional Director for Rainforest Alliance, first in Central America and Mexico, and then in Ecuador and the Andean Amazon Region (Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and Bolivia), where he was in charge of promoting Best Management Practices and Sustainable Livelihoods in Agriculture (coffee, cocoa, bananas and other crops), Forestry (Timber, Brazil nut and other NTFP's) and Tourism in fragile ecosystems of these countries. He also worked on several USAID-funded projects where he promoted sustainable agricultural production and exports from the Chapare region of Bolivia and then directed cocoa production in the Ecuadorean Amazon. Luis Felipe was also the first National Secretary of Indigenous Affairs of Ecuador in 1994, under the Presidency of Sixto Duran-Ballen, and managed to create the first multimillion dollar fund exclusively for Indigenous Peoples and Afro-Ecuadorean development with World Bank and IFAD funding. A substantial part of his professional career was initially in the private sector, mainly in Chiquita Brands, where he acquired experience in agro-exporting operations and business management in several countries of Central and South America. In Chiquita Brands Luis Felipe also worked in the Environmental Affairs division where he was in charge of conceptualizing and implementing a new model of housing and community development for the company's 14,000 workers in Central America. Luis Felipe is of Quechua descent and belongs to the Puruha nation in the Chimborazo province in the Andean Highlands of Ecuador.

In his position as Adviser for Indigenous Peoples at the World Bank, his main responsibilities are: (i) to provide policy and technical advice on deepening the Bank's and its client countries' engagement with indigenous peoples (IPs) and other ethnic minorities groups; (ii) to support Bank teams in planning and implementing activities to improve IP and ethnic minority group operational work and safeguard measures. Provide guidance on implementation of the bank's IP policy (OP 4.10); (iii) to participate in the process of updating and

consolidating the Bank's social safeguard policies, particularly in issues related to IPs and ethnic minority groups; and (iv) to represent the Bank at important IP meetings and fora, including those organized under the auspices of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues.

**Juan Carlos Altamirano**

*Senior Economist, World Resources Institute*

Juan-Carlos is a Senior Economist at the World Resources Institute's Economics Center. He collaborates with the Food, Forests, and Water Programs, the Global Climate Program and the Governance Center. He is working on Cities and adaptation for the Vulnerability and Adaptation Initiative. He provides economic analysis for the Open Climate Network and the Water Team.

Juan-Carlos previously worked as senior researcher and lecturer. He was a researcher on the Mining, Minerals and Sustainable Development at the International Institute for Environment and Development. Juan-Carlos also functioned as Research Leader of a project on modeling Swiss Sectoral Climate Change Policies at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology at Lausanne. Prior to joining WRI, he held the 'David W. Pearce' special lectureship on Environmental Economics at the Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico.

Juan-Carlos is an Economist from Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Mexico. He also holds a MSc. on Environmental and Natural Resources Economics from University College London and a PhD. on Environmental Sciences (with focus on Climate Change Economics) from Wageningen University, The Netherlands.

**Tapani Oksanen**

*Senior Partner, Chairman of the Board, Indufor*

Tapani Oksanen, Senior Partner, Chairman of the Board, holds master's degrees in forest products' marketing (MSc For) (1981) and social economics of forestry (MSc Agric & For) (1985) from the University of Helsinki.

Tapani Oksanen has 30 years of experience with forest and development issues from policy and planning to field-level implementation in Latin America, Africa, Asia and Russia. During his career, he has worked for the UN Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) based in Honduras and Peru, the Finnish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the World Bank based in Washington, D.C. Most recently he has dealt with forest governance, forest and land tenure and land rights, and complex developmental evaluations.

**Edwin Vásquez Campos**

*General Coordinator, COICA*

Leader and leader of the Huitoto indigenous people of the Loreto, Putumayo, region of Peru, Edwin has dedicated his life to the defense, promotion and implementation of the rights of indigenous peoples.

From a young age, he began his leadership as President of the Federation of Native Communities of the Border - Putumayo, Peru from 1993 to 1994, then moved to hold the office of Member and Vice President in the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDESEP) from 1994 to 2002.

After this experience, for his management qualities and work representing the indigenous peoples of the Peruvian Amazon, he was appointed as leader of "Area Territories and Natural Resources" for the years 1998 to 2005, and this role he was also designated as a member of the International Coordinating Committee of the World Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Tropical Forests (Main Chang - Thailand) and also Vice President of the Climate Alliance: European Cities - Indigenous Amazonian Peoples.

Despite this work in the international arena, he has never ceased his relationship with his base of indigenous peoples, and so from 2005 to 2011 he was appointed president of the Regional Organization of Indigenous Peoples of the East (ORPIO) Loreto.

He is currently General Coordinator of the Coordination of Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA), for the period of 2013 to 2017, elected in the ninth congress of the organization held in the city of Villavicencio - Colombia, in December of 2013.

As the head of this international organization, he has a number of responsibilities and relationships with the international intergovernmental framework of the United Nations System, specifically linked to environmental issues, climate change, sustainable development and human rights as well as national states and nongovernmental organizations for the establishment and implementation of public policies for the conservation of the Amazon basin and the rights of the indigenous peoples in the region.

**Ultiminio Cabrera**

*Assistant Coordinator, COONAPIP*

Biography Forthcoming

**Thomas Andrew 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.

**Simon Counsell**

*Executive Director, Rainforest Foundation UK*

Simon Counsell has been involved in the environmental movement for more than 25 years, for most of which he was worked to protect the world's rainforests. After graduating in Environmental Science, he worked with Friends of the Earth for nine years, helping to shape FoE's rainforest campaign, including developing local and national consumer and public awareness campaigns, coordinating the FoE international forest campaign, and helping to establish the Forest Stewardship Council. He was Chair of the Board of Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland from 2006 to February 2012.

He left Friends of the Earth in 1995 and, after gaining a Masters Degree in Tropical Forestry and Land-use at Oxford University, became the Director of the Rainforest Foundation UK, a position he still holds. He has led international efforts to protect the rainforests and their inhabitants, especially in the Congo Basin region of Africa. He has travelled widely in South America and Central Africa, and appears regularly on radio, TV and in the press, where he is a passionate advocate for 'people focused' conservation. He believes that respect and recognition of human rights are inextricably linked to environmental protection.

**Brandon Wu**

*Senior Policy Analyst, ActionAid USA*

Brandon Wu is a Senior Policy Analyst at ActionAid, an international development and human rights NGO based in Johannesburg, South Africa with offices in over 45 countries. He is an experienced researcher, organizer, policy analyst and lobbyist. His work is focused on international climate justice, approaching the problem of climate change from the perspective of sustainable development and rights of impacted people. He works at the national and international levels to generate climate finance to support action in developing countries to adapt to the effects of climate change.

Brandon serves as one of two civil society representatives on the governing Board of the Green Climate Fund, a new multilateral institution expected to channel up to \$100 billion of climate finance per year. He also serves on the Board of Directors of Climate Action Network-International, a network of over 900 NGOs in 100 countries advocating for action to limit climate change while promoting equitable development worldwide.

Previously, Brandon worked at Public Citizen's Global Trade Watch and the U.S. Public Interest Research Group (now Environment America). He holds a Masters of Public Policy from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs, where he conducted primary field research on resistance strategies of Afro-descendant Colombian communities in response to economic development policies that negatively affect their rights to territory, self-determination, and the exercise of ethnic identity and cultural difference. He was also a lead organizer in an effort to unionize 4,500 graduate employees. He earned his B.A. in sociology from Yale University.

**Juan Martinez**

*Senior Social Development Specialist, Urban, Rural & Social Development (GPSUR), The World Bank*

Mr. Juan Martinez is Senior Social Development Specialist with the World Bank, currently working in East Asia and the Pacific (EAP) and Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) Regions. He has a wide range of experience in Task Team Leadership of Indigenous Peoples and Community Forestry Projects; including operational support on social development and social safeguards issues for FCPF, FIP and other World Bank Natural Resources Management Projects.