



MEGAflorestais



MegaFlorestais 2023 – Participant Biographies

Country Delegates

Brazil

Garo Batmanian (Virtual)

Dr. Garo Batmanian is Chief Forester of the Brazilian Forest Service. Before his work with BFS, he served as WWF-USA's Regional Program Director for Latin America and the Caribbean before becoming the first CEO of WWF-Brazil. Garo founded and chaired Forest Stewardship Council Brazil, leading development of national standards for natural forest management in the Amazon. Prior to this, he spent over 18 years working for the World Bank.

Canada

Glenn Hargrove

Glenn Hargrove is an Assistant Deputy Minister of the Canadian Forest Service at Natural Resources Canada, leading federal policy, science and program work across the forest sector. Prior to this role, he held several senior positions at Natural Resources Canada, as well as FPInnovations, a nonprofit R&D organization for the forest sector.

Maureen Whelan

Maureen Whelan is the Manager of International Affairs for the Trade, Economics and Industry Branch of the Canadian Forest Service. As part of her extensive career with CFS, she has represented the agency at numerous international convenings, including serving as Vice Chair of the UN Forum on Forests 13 Bureau.



MEGAforestais



China

Liu Yuying (Virtual)

Yuying Liu serves as Deputy Director General of the International Cooperation Center for the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of the People's Republic of China.

Li Bo (Virtual)

Bo Li is a Program Officer at the International Cooperation Center for the National Forestry and Grassland Administration of the People's Republic of China. Bo has extensive research experience in the Chinese forestry sector.

Republic of Congo (Brazzaville)

Rosalie Matondo

Rosalie Matondo has been Minister of the Forest Economy for the Republic of the Congo since 2016. She is an accomplished agronomist who has previously served as a teacher and researcher at the National School of Forest Administration in Brazzaville; prior to her appointment as Minister, she led the ROC's National Program of Afforestation and Restoration.

Roger Mbété

Roger Mbete is the Wildlife and Protected Areas Advisor for the Ministry of the Forest Economy of the Republic of the Congo. He also sits on the faculty of Marien Ngouabi University in Brazzaville, where he conducts research on wildlife conservation and ecotourism.



MEGAforestais



Félicité Brigitte Mayinguidi

Félicité Brigitte Mayinguidi is the Chief of Mission in the Office of the Minister of Forest Economy of the Republic of the Congo. A journalist by trade, she joined the Ministry as Communications Attache when she was appointed by the Minister in 2016.

Indonesia

Bambang Supriyanto

Bambang Supriyanto is Director General of the Social Forestry and Environmental Partnership within Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Forestry; he is also vice-chairperson of the FAO Asia-Pacific Forestry Commission and has held several other leadership positions in the Ministry. He obtained a PhD in Management of Land and Forestry and a Master's degree in Forest Policy and Planning at the University of Ghent-Belgium and a post-doctoral degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, USA. Since 2018, he has been an active member of the Steering Committee of the Forest Farm Facility in FAO.

Apri Dwi Sumarah

Apri Dwi Sumarah is Head of Enterprise Development, Community Based Forest Concession at the Indonesian Ministry of the Environment and Forestry. He specializes in land mapping, Earth observation, and natural resources management, for which he holds a Master's degree from the University of Twente in the Netherlands.



MEGAforestais



Peru

Luis Alberto Gonzáles Zúñiga Guzmán

Luis Alberto Gonzáles Zúñiga Guzmán is Executive Director of Peru's National Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR). In this position, he has been dedicated to increasing the transparency and traceability of forest products to strengthen SERFOR's position in the fight against illegal logging and reduce the country's deforestation rate.

Philippines

Larlyn Faith Aggabao

Larlyn Faith Aggabao is Chief of the Forest Geospatial Data Infrastructure Section of the Forest Management Bureau, within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines. He has conducted research on the intersection of climate change, forestry, and community livelihoods for the World Bank Program on Forests and the University of the Philippines, Los Baños.

Jhun B. Barit

Jhun B. Barit is Officer-In-Charge of the Environmental Forestry Section of the Forest Management Bureau, within the Department of Environment and Natural Resources of the Philippines. He is a forestry researcher affiliated with the University of the Philippines, Los Baños and Kookmin University in Seoul, South Korea.



MEGAforestais



Sweden

Herman Sundqvist

Herman Sundqvist has served as Director General of the Swedish Forest Agency (Skogsstyrelsen) since 2016. Prior to that position, he worked as Head of Forest Management at Sveaskog, the Swedish state-owned forestry company, and sat on several boards in the forest industry, including as Chairman of the Swedish Forestry Association. Herman has a PhD from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences. He lives in Luleå, northern Sweden.

Magnus Viklund

Magnus Viklund is Head of the Policy Analysis Unit of the Swedish Forest Agency (Skogsstyrelsen). He has been with Skogsstyrelsen since 2004, where he has held various management positions in northern Sweden. Magnus holds a Master Forester's Degree from the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences.

United States of America

Randy Moore

Randy Moore is Chief of the U.S. Forest Service, leading a workforce of more than 25,000 permanent employees who work with states, tribes, and others to sustainably manage 193 million acres of national forests and grasslands. Prior to serving as Chief, he served as Pacific Southwest Regional Forester, preceded by scientific and leadership roles in Hawaii, Wisconsin, Missouri, and North Dakota during his 43-year career with the Forest Service.

Angela Coleman

Angela Coleman serves as the Associate Chief of the USDA Forest Service after more than 30 years with the agency. Prior to this role she was Forest Service chief of staff beginning in 2015. Associate Chief Coleman also served numerous



MEGAflorestais



leadership roles including associate deputy chief, Business Operations, and associate deputy chief, Research and Development. Before that, she served as deputy regional forester for the Pacific Southwest Region. She also served for seven years as regional communications director for the Southern Region in Atlanta.

MegaFlorestais Secretariat

Herman Sundqvist – Director General of the Swedish Forest Agency (bio above) and *MegaFlorestais Co-chair*

Leslie Weldon – Retired, Acting Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer, U.S. Forest Service and Senior Advisor, *MegaFlorestais*

Leslie Weldon has been Acting Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the U.S. Forest Service since 2022. Prior to this role, she served as Chief Executive for Work Environment and Performance at USFS, leading an agency transformation to improve the agency's employee experience and mission results. She has spent 37 years with the Forest Service, working her way up from a summer forest monitor in Washington State to the executive leadership position she holds today.

Sally Collins – Co-Chair of *MegaFlorestais* and Former Associate Chief for the U.S. Forest Service

Sally has a 40-year history managing forests, from the local level (Forest Supervisor of Deschutes National Forest for 8 years) to the Associate Chief in Washington DC for 8 years. She also served as the first Director of the Office of Environmental Markets in US Dept of Agriculture (2008-10), set up to pursue new innovative markets for forestry and agriculture, such as water and carbon markets. She currently serves on the Forest Trends Board with whom she is working (with the USFS) to encourage large-scale partnerships that can enhance funding and support to reduce the risk of catastrophic fires. She is also an RRI Fellow. She has Co-Chaired *MegaFlorestais* since its inception in 2005.



MEGAforestais



Solange Bandiaky-Badji – RRG President

Dr. Solange Bandiaky-Badji is Coordinator of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI) and President of the Rights and Resources Group (RRG). Bandiaky-Badji previously led RRI's strategy for engagement in Africa with a focus on tenure rights reform. She also spearheaded RRI's Gender Justice thematic program and ensured the implementation of a global gender strategy on women's tenure rights. Before RRI, she was with PartnersGlobal, where she led programs on access to justice, security sector reform, and peace-building. She has also worked as a regional expert on gender and climate change for the Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) and the UNDP/ BDP Gender Team in New York.

Resource Advisors

Andrea Johnson – Climate and Land Use Alliance

Andrea Johnson has spent twenty years working on the technical, social and political aspects of conserving tropical ecosystems, cleaning up supply chains, and defending the rights of forest communities. She is currently based in Costa Rica and works at CATIE, one of Central America's pre-eminent institutions for research and training, while also serving as a consultant and advisor to the Climate and Land Use Alliance (CLUA)'s Global and Mexico and Central America Initiatives. As a consultant she has overseen private sector forestry operations and supported strategic planning for non-profits and foundations. Prior to this position, Andrea managed research in Indonesia, Peru, and the Panama Canal zone on topics ranging from orangutans and community conservation efforts to transnational civil society advocacy and on-farm reforestation strategies.

Arvind Khare – Independent Advisor and Analyst

Arvind Khare has devoted a major portion of his career to understanding the linkages between the prevalence of poverty and access to resources by attempting to find innovative and practical solutions in the non-profit, corporate and public sectors. As a co-founder and former Executive Director of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), he made significant contributions to the critical examination of



MEGAforestais



poverty-environment linkages. During his work with RRI and his preceding career at the World Bank, Arvind 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, NGOs, bilateral and multilateral development institutions.

Chris French – U.S. Forest Service

Chris French currently serves as Deputy Chief of the National Forest System for the USDA Forest Service. In this role, Chris is responsible for policy, oversight and direction for natural resource and public service delivery programs across the 193 million acres of National Forests and Grasslands in 44 states and territories that make up the National Forest System. Prior to his current position, Chris served in a variety of leadership positions on ranger districts, national forests, and at the national headquarters. Chris began his career in Arizona on the Coronado National Forest and has worked in recreation, fire, fuels, wildlife, NEPA, forest planning, and wilderness.

David Lytle – U.S. Forest Service

Dr. David Lytle was recently appointed Deputy Chief for Forest Service Research & Development (R&D) in May of this year. This position follows a range of senior roles in the U.S. Forest Service, most recently Director of Forest and Rangeland Management & Vegetation Ecology. From working as a research scientist within Forest Service R&D and The Nature Conservancy and as a Science Center Director with the US Geological Survey, to taking on management roles as State Forester of Ohio and a Director within the National Forest System, Dave's career has been defined by the challenge of how to best produce, interpret, and apply science for the benefit of people and ecosystems.

Don Roberts – Nawitka Capital Advisors Ltd.

Don Roberts is President and CEO of Nawitka Capital Advisors, a strategic consultancy for companies in the renewable energy, clean technology, and forest products sectors. Prior to founding Nawitka, he was a Vice Chair of Investment Banking with CIBC World Markets Inc. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Forest



MEGAforestais



Resource Management at the University of British Columbia and has advised several government, industry, and NGO groups, including a stint on the RRG Board of Directors from 2008-2017.

Doris Capistrano – *ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate* **Panel 4:**
The Contribution of Land Tenure and Customary Rights to Forest Conservation.
Change

Dr. Doris Capistrano is Senior Advisor of the ASEAN-Swiss Partnership on Social Forestry and Climate Change (ASFCC) and a Senior Fellow of the Southeast Asia Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA). She has held numerous positions in research and program management, including Director of Forests and Governance at the Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR). She has a PhD in Food and Resource Economics from the University of Florida. Dr. Capistrano has been involved in a number of international initiatives. She was Chair of the Founding Board of Directors of the Rights and Resources Initiative, was a Council member of the International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) and a member of the Editorial Board of the International Journal of the Commons. She is Chair of the Board of Trustees of RECOFTC, the Center for People and Forests.

Fabiola Muñoz Dodero – *former Minister of the Environment and Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation of Peru*

Fabiola Muñoz Dodero has held cabinet-level positions in the Government of Peru, as Minister of the Environment and Minister of Agriculture and Irrigation. From 2014-2016, she served as the Director of the Peruvian Forest and Wildlife Service (SERFOR). Prior to her government appointments, she advised WWF Peru and the European Union's Peru Forest Sector initiative on issues including community forestry and the fight against illegal logging. An attorney, Fabiola holds a law degree from the Pontifical Catholic University of Peru.

Javier Kinney – *Yurok Tribe*

Javier Kinney has been Forest Carbon Manager for the Yurok Tribe in northern California since 2020. He served as the Tribe's Executive Director until 2019. The Yurok Tribe's forest carbon markets program has enabled it to repurchase and



MEGAforestais



restore more than 50,000 acres of its traditional homeland, including several critical watersheds and habitats for salmon and other native species.

Jeff Marsolais – U.S. Forest Service

Jeff has more than 28 years with the federal government and currently serves as the Associate Deputy Chief of State, Private, and Tribal Forestry, overseeing Fire and Aviation for the Forest Service. Prior to his move to this position in the Washington Office, he served for 2 years as Forest Supervisor of the Eldorado National Forest and also served as Forest Supervisor for the Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit. Marsolais has worked for the Forest Service since the early 1990s and has served on 7 different National Forests in California and Nevada, and also spent time with the Bureau of Land Management and with CalFire in Northern California.

Jennifer Eberlien – U.S. Forest Service

Jennifer Eberlien replaced Chief Randy Moore as Regional Forester for the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Region in 2021. As Regional Forester, she oversees 18 National Forests in California, covering 20 million acres, along with private forestry programs in Hawaii and the U.S.-affiliated Pacific islands. She has spent 31 years serving with USFS in a variety of forests across the U.S., and at the agency's headquarters in Washington, D.C.

Mac Cloyes – Blue Forest Conservation

Mac Cloyes is Blue Forest Conservation's Chief of Staff and Policy Director, where he leads conservation finance policy and advocacy. He joins Blue Forest from the USDA Forest Service, where he most recently worked on a team developing conservation finance policy and led an effort to expand agency partnership capacity. Previously, Mac managed the team that develops the Forest Service President's Budget and was an agency liaison to the Congressional appropriations committees.

Paul Hessburg – U.S. Forest Service

Paul Hessburg is Senior Research Ecologist at the U.S. Forest Service's Pacific Northwest Research Station. His work focuses on landscape restoration and resilience, helping stakeholders manage forests in the western U.S. in the context of changing climatic and wildfire regimes. Paul holds Adjunct and Affiliate Professor



MEGAforestais



positions at several universities, including the University of British Columbia. He earned a PhD in Botany and Plant Pathology from Oregon State University in 1984.

Peter Minang – CIFOR/ICRAF

Peter A. Minang is Principal Scientist and leader of landscapes governance research at the World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF). He has more than 30 years of experience in REDD+, landscape approaches, conservation, community forestry, environmental education, climate forestry, payments for ecosystem services, and development policy and practice in tropical forest landscapes. His current research interests include community-based approaches to ecosystem-based adaptation and resilience, the nexus between adaptation and mitigation to climate change, and the interface between environmental services and development and multifunctional landscapes. He has rich editorial experience publishing books and journal special issues in Climate Policy and COSUST.

Steven Koehn – U.S. Forest Service

Steven Koehn has served as Director of Cooperative Forestry for the U.S. Forest Service since 2014. This position follows a nearly 30-year career with the Maryland State Forest Service, which he led for 13 years as the agency's Director. Steven has also taught Forest Ecology and Forest Management at Johns Hopkins University.

Richard Barhydt – US Forest Service

Richard Barhydt is Director of the US Forest Service's Pacific Southwest Research Station, where he oversees USFS' research portfolio across California and Hawaii. Prior to his appointment by then-Chief Vicky Christiansen in 2020, Richard spent 15 years leading major research projects across a diverse array of disciplines, most notably at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). He held several senior research roles there, culminating in his position as Deputy Director for the Transformative Aeronautics Concepts Program for NASA's Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate, where he provided strategic direction and logistical support for a wide variety of missions. At USFS, he has overseen research projects that help land managers respond to climate change, wildfires, and invasive species.