



XVII Biennial IASC-Conference 'In Defense of the Commons: Challenges, Innovation, and Action' Lima, Peru, July 1-5, 2019

A Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue @IASC-Conference

'Practice to policy impact of forest and nature conservation, governance and equity on indigenous community' [id: 483]

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Final Proposal

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A round table multi-stakeholder meeting is organized by the theme on Governance, Equity and Rights (TGER) of the Commission on Environmental, Economic and Social Policy (CEESP) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) at the International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC) Conference, Lima.

For further details about CEESP and TGER, kindly refer <https://www.iucn.org/commissions/commission-environmental-economic-and-social-policy/our-work/governance-equity-and-rights>



INTRODUCTION

How does national and global practice to policy impact multilevel governance in different natural resources – pastoral land, protected areas, community land and forests, and mountains among others? How conservation policies, in particular, at the global and national level interact and influence marginal indigenous and traditional local communities, including women, on multiple scales?

This proposed multi-stakeholder dialogue titled 'Practice to Policy Impact of Nature Conservation, Governance, Equity on Indigenous Communities' will focus on the relation between indigenous as well as traditional communities, natural resources and the diverse governance tiers important to promote conservation. In doing so, it will aim to highlight the relationship between local communities (men, women, youths), the state, including the government departments indigenous institutes, social movements, civil societies, funding agencies and other private institutions including the role of decentralised local governments. Our panel aims to throw light on the less discussed issue about how some multilevel governance offers favourable conditions than others for nature conservation by indigenous communities.

METHODS

Panellists will share their experience, review, raise concerns and suggest solutions on the topic using the results from field-based implementation projects to research publications in diverse range of natural resource governance.

A round table meeting format is proposed for this multi-stakeholder dialogue. A more detailed program and design will be formulated before the event. Each panellists will bring geographical and issue-based diversity to the table.

DISCUSSIONS

Among proposed and confirmed panellists, one of them, Fikret Berkes, will share how some multilevel governance offers more favourable conditions than others for nature conservation by indigenous communities. Specifically, commenting on recent changes of international conservation policies, such as UNDRIP 2007, and how the recognition of the human rights of indigenous peoples has made a difference in their ability to conserve lands and resources, with examples from Canada. Another panellist, Yolanda Lopez-Maldonado, will share a case study of the groundwater system in Yucatan, Mexico, a place where groundwater and natural wells, locally called cenotes, from the Mayan word 'dzonot' which means sinkhole, is the only source of freshwater for the population and where the inhabitants have to deal with pollution problems, salt intrusion and biodiversity loss and resource degradation.



Peru over the past 45 years has undergone a very slow and sporadic process, that is still incomplete, of recognizing Amazon native communities as such, while granting land titles to them over local areas of their traditional territories, with property rights over only tillable land areas, not those classified as for forestry or protection use. Although the communities are granted use concessions over their forests, these come with restrictions and regulatory requirements. From an anthropological point of view, Thomas Moore will share his experience on how the Peruvian Government has been actively setting aside natural protected areas for strict conservation, without taking into account that these areas in the Amazon Basin are traditional indigenous territories, creating tensions among the indigenous peoples affected. He proposes official recognition of TICCA¹, territories of life, as an alternative.

Diego Hopkins will raise legal and economic questions regarding the importance of economic valuation of forests and the impact for indigenous communities and national accounts. The objective is to highlight the economic, environmental and social synergies of conservation through the implementation of payment for ecosystem services projects, and pinpoints the barriers these schemes have to overcome in Latin America. Silvana Baldovino will use the Manu National Park (MNP) as a case study to argue on how adoption of policies or management tools those are not in accordance with reality generate conflicts and end in the struggle between conservation and indigenous communities. On one hand, the MNP must comply with conservation objectives in a context of constant threats from illegal and extractive activities. On the other hand, the MNP has also to consider the situation of indigenous peoples and their development, this is a permanent challenge, mainly due to the high degree of restriction within the park which generates stress between strict conservation approaches and indigenous people's lifestyles.

Nicanor Alvarado will bring activist and practitioners' point of view from the Peruvian Amazon. He will share about indigenous peoples' social movements from the Majas-Rio Blanco conflict in the Piura region and another from the Awajún-Wanpis peoples of Amazonas region, Cajamarca. How do the Peruvian state grant rights to oil and mining companies without FPIC (Free, Prior and Informed Consent) consultation with indigenous and local communities? The social protest, though peaceful left several people of wounded, dead, tortured, and criminalized by the state attached to the concessionaire company. Purabi Bose will highlight how multilevel forest governance scenario plays a role in rehabilitation of hunting-gathering Baiga adivasis, a particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs), living inside Achanakmar Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh, Central India. She will also share about the role of tourism in nature conservation for Batwa tribes in Bwindi Impenetrable National Park, Uganda.

¹ The territories and areas conserved by indigenous peoples and local communities



SOCIETAL RELEVANCE

We aim to bring global partners - from practitioner/activists working with Indigenous and tribal people to academicians, lawyers, think-tank and conservation policy experts - to share a platform highlighting how multilevel governance impacts human rights and conservation.

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Based on further inputs from the panellists, a round table design and program schedule will be developed, and we may have additional questions to be put on the table. It includes – should sacred natural sites or “territories of life” become part of national and international protected area networks?, what are the pros and cons of doing that?, what safeguards might be needed for indigenous and local communities to contribute to national and international protected area networks? Why is it important to give a monetary value to the forests? Is this implying ‘commoditization’? What is the role of forests for measuring economic welfare? How important are forest to assess the sustainability of economic performance? Is it possible to fight poverty through conservation?

DESIGN

A roundtable technique will be used for this multi-stakeholder dialogue, which will allow everyone to have an equal voice. We will have a facilitator to ease the procedure of this dialogue event, do time management and to focus between the panellists as well as engage our audience.

Most likely, we will audio record the entire dialogue event, which will help scribes to record the process and decisions, if any. The idea of the panel is to engage our audience. In order to do so, we will confront on issues from our diverse range of panellists along with inputs from the audience.



CONFIRMED PANELLISTS

Nicanor Alvarado is an activist committed to the defense of the most basic rights of the Andean Amazonian ancestral peoples and in turn originally from the Marañón basin. He has been involved in organizations and movements in defense of Mother Earth in the Incafor case (1993) San Ignacio, Cajamarca, of the construction of the peasant patrols in the Cajamarca, Amazonas and Piura regions, defense of the river basin headwaters in the Rio Blanco conflict (2004-2010), Piura, with the Awajún and Wampis peoples in the so-called Baguazo (2008 -2009), with the Kañaris people (2009-2010), Lambayeque and Guardian de la Laguna in the conflict Conga (2012-2014), Cajamarca. Nicanor holds a Phd *cum laude* from Zaragoza University, Spain.

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Silvana Baldovino is a lawyer specializing in environmental and indigenous peoples and has expertise on biodiversity conservation and its sustainability promotion through innovative solutions, indigenous land titling and mediation and conflict resolution. She is Director of the Program of Biodiversity and Indigenous Peoples of the Peruvian Society of Environmental Law (SPDA), Lima. Currently, she serves as a member of the Forestry and Wildlife Court of Peru, the Commission on Environmental Law and CEESP of IUCN, the Consulting Committee for the Implementation of the Third Rural Land Titling Project of the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation as well as for the Comparative Study on the Design and Implementation of Tenure Reforms in Forestry Lands of the Center for International Forestry Research.

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Fikret Berkes is Distinguished Professor Emeritus at the University of Manitoba, Canada. He studied for his B.Sc. and Ph.D. at the McGill University, Montreal, Canada. His research is in the area of interconnected human-environment systems, community-based management, resilience, and indigenous/traditional ecological knowledge. He has authored some 250 peer-reviewed journal papers and chapters, including eleven books. He has participated in the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment; the UNDP Equator Initiative in conservation-development; and the Indigenous and Local Knowledge Task Force of IPBES. His honors include the IUCN International Union for Conservation of Nature CEESP; Inaugural Award for Meritorious Research (2016); IASC Elinor Ostrom Award for Senior Scholar (2015); and the ESA Ecological Society of America Sustainability Science Award (2014) for the book Sacred Ecology. He is a founding member and past President of IASC.

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Diego Hopkins is a PhD student in Environmental Economics at Imperial College London (2017-2020). He holds a Law degree from San Martin de Porres University (Peru), MSc. in Environmental, Economic and Social Sustainability from Autonomous University of Barcelona. Diego has worked for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Energy and Mines, and the Parliament of Peru, and conducted research projects in Spain, the Republic of Korea, Chile and United Kingdom. His recent article (2019) Analysing trade-offs in management decision-making between Ecosystem Services, Biodiversity Conservation, and Commodity Production in the Peruvian Amazon National Reserve published in Environment & Ecosystem Science Journal. He has been affiliated with IUCN CEESP since 2017.

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Yolanda Lopez-Maldonado is an indigenous scholar from Mexico with extensive experience in Social-Ecological Systems, Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK), community-based natural resource management, and social dimensions of conservation. She has advanced degrees in Human Ecology and Geography, PhD, Ludwig-Maximilians-Universität München. She has been a Young Research Scholar at The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Austria, and The Beijer Institute of Ecological Economics, The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Sweden. She was selected as a Delegate for the UNPFII 2017, UN New York, and by providing expert and technical guidance on Indigenous Peoples issues. She is currently a member of: IUCN WCPA Specialist Group on Cultural and Spiritual Values of Protected Areas, the Ramsar Culture Network.

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Thomas Moore is an US-born anthropologist, currently lives in Lima and Puerto Maldonado, Peru, who studied for his Masters and PhD at the New School for Social Research, New York. He has conducted research among the Harakbut and other Amazon indigenous peoples with a field presence since 1971 in Peru and most of the other Amazon Basin countries. He is a co-founder of the Eori Center for Regional Research and Development Promotion, based in Puerto Maldonado, Peru. Currently, he serves as a consultant on indigenous peoples' issues to the International Center for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT) in the USAID-NASA SERVIR Amazonia Program to make geospatial technology and images available for improved landscape management and conservation in six Amazon Basin countries. He also works as a volunteer with the ICCA Consortium to promote effective governance of indigenous peoples' territories of life.

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Raquel Neyra will be Spanish-English translator for Nicanor Alvarado. Her PhD thesis was about socio-environmental conflicts in Peru.

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CONFIRMED CEESP-TGER TEAM

Melanie Zurba, Canadian, is Chair of TGER. She has been an IUCN commission member since 2011 and is one of the original co-conveners of the IUCN Intergenerational Partnership for Sustainability. She is a cross-appointed Assistant Professor with School for Resource and Environmental Studies and the College of Sustainability at Dalhousie University. Her PhD is in Natural Resources and Environmental Management from the University of Manitoba. Melanie has worked collaboratively with Indigenous and marginalized communities in Canada and abroad on issues of land use, food sovereignty, wellbeing and health promotion, and co-management of species and protected areas. Her work has also contributed to public discussion on what 'reconciliation' means in Canada and how global policy frameworks affect community participation in the day-to-day management of the environment.

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Purabi Bose is an author, anthropologist, and a documentary filmmaker working with rural and indigenous peoples. She holds a PhD in forest and nature policy, Wageningen University, the Netherlands. She self-financed to produce films on topics like deforestation, palm oil, land tenure, eviction for wildlife conservation, women's rights and collective forest governance across tribal India; refer www.landingtogether.weebly.com. Currently, she is working on a book about 'Forests and Indigenous Peoples' with empirical research from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, India, Indonesia, and Uganda. She will present the key highlights of these findings as a keynote speaker for the theme of 'Forests for People' at IUFRO Conference in Curitiba, 2019. Purabi, as TGER deputy chair and as an IASC member, is leading this Multi-Stakeholder Dialogue at IASC2019 in Lima.

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