

Environmental Heroes Come to Eugene



Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide

The world's leading grassroots advocates are traveling to Eugene to work with the **Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (ELAW)** to chart a greener future. They will collaborate on efforts back home to help communities speak out for clean air, clean water, and a healthy planet. ELAW is hosting visitors from more than 30 countries for the 2015 ELAW Annual International Meeting (March 1 - 5) followed by the 33rd Annual Public Interest Environmental Law Conference (March 5 - 8, www.pielc.org). Learn more about these inspired partners and ELAW staff in the following profiles.



Mayan communities in southern Belize have been fighting for decades for the right to protect and manage their ancestral lands.



Juan Picolotti **ARGENTINA**

Juan is the Academic Secretary for the Board of Environmental Rights in the Córdoba Bar, Adjunct Faculty at the University Nacional de Córdoba on the subject of Natural Resources, and a member of the World League of Environmental Lawyers.

Keely Boom **AUSTRALIA**

Keely is a mother, a lawyer, and an Aboriginal Australian woman. She is the Executive Officer of the Climate Justice Programme, which uses the law to expose environmental and human rights issues relating to climate change.



Jeff Smith **AUSTRALIA**

Jeff is the Executive Director of the Environmental Defenders Office (EDO NSW) in Sydney. He is responsible for organizational leadership, governance and business management, and external relations. He has been at EDO NSW since 2002. He is a Solicitor of the Supreme Court of NSW with a Masters of Law from Sydney University.

Mauro Figueiredo **BRAZIL**

Mauro works for APRENDER, based in Florianopolis. APRENDER works to guarantee access to information and participation of communities in managing protected areas. Mauro works as a consultant for national and international NGOs. In 2013, he joined a group of experts



to draft a bill that establishes a policy for conservation of the Brazilian Marine Biome.



Raul Silva Telles do Valle **BRAZIL**

Raul is an environmental lawyer based in Florianopolis with a MSc in Economic Law from the University of São Paulo. He has worked for more than 14 years at Instituto Socioambiental, defending indigenous peoples' land rights, as well as addressing issues tied to water, energy, forests, and protected areas.

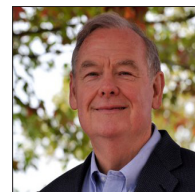
Samual Alain Nguiffo **CAMEROON**

Samuel directs the Center for Environment and Development (CED) in Cameroon's capital, Yaounde. A lawyer by training, Samuel has devoted himself to the task of stopping the liquidation of the region's forests for short-term profit. Samuel won the Goldman Environmental Prize in 1999.



Nchunu Justice Sama **CAMEROON**

Nchunu is the Executive Director of the Foundation for Environment and Development (FEDEV), a non-profit organization founded in 2002 that focuses on the use of legal tools for environmental protection, sustainable development, and the implementation and development of environmental law.

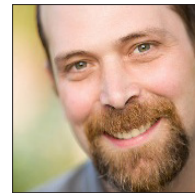


Calvin Sandborn **CANADA**

Calvin is the Legal Director at the Environmental Law Centre and has practiced environmental law for over 25 years. He has served as counsel for West Coast Environmental Law, the Farmworkers Legal Services Project, and the Forest Practices Board of British Columbia. He has extensive experience in both environmental litigation and successful lobbying for environmental reform.

Anna Johnston **CANADA**

Anna works as Staff Counsel at West Coast Environmental Law. Her work focuses on developing and advancing law reform proposals and practical solutions related to environmental assessment law and federal environmental law rollbacks.



Andrew Gage **CANADA**

Andrew, Staff Counsel with West Coast Environmental Law, explores ways in which large-scale greenhouse gas polluters might be held liable for climate-related damages. In addition to his climate work, Andrew provides environmental legal assistance and is lead author of the Environmental Law Alert blog.

Ezio Costa Cordella **CHILE**

Ezio is the Executive Director of Fiscalía del Medio Ambiente (FIMA), based in Santiago. He has served as an attorney



on behalf of the public interest on cases tied to the human right to a healthy environment, the protection of rivers, biodiversity, and more. He also teaches environmental law and conducts research at the Universidad de Chile.



Jingjing Zhang

CHINA

Jingjing represents pollution victims in lawsuits and promotes public participation through her work with the Center for Legal Assistance to Pollution Victims (CLAPV). In 2005, she was the first Chinese lawyer to join the ELAW network. She has an MPA from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and now works on cases addressing environmental consequences of Chinese overseas investments.

Caidan Cao

CHINA

Caidan has been working with international organizations for the past five years to promote the value of public interest law. Currently, Caidan works as an environmental lawyer, focusing on environmental issues at national, regional and international levels, including environmental justice, consumer rights, access to information, and corporate social responsibility.



Sebastián Rubiano-Galvis

COLOMBIA

Sebastián conducts research on land use, forest policy, and regulations in tropical ecosystems. His masters thesis in geography analyzed small-scale gold mining in the northern Colombian Amazon. He teaches environmental law at the University of the Andes in Bogota, where he conducted research at the Center for Socio-Legal Research and coordinated the legal clinic.

Ana Lucia Maya Aguirre

COLOMBIA

Ana is a member of the Group of Legal Experts of the International Network for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net). She has over eight years of experience working on international, legal, human rights, and environmental issues. Currently, she is a Fulbright Fellow and LLM student in Energy & Environment at Tulane University.



Manolo Morales

ECUADOR

Manolo is Executive Director of ECOLEX, a nongovernmental organization located in Quito. ECOLEX has partnered with ELAW to challenge the conversion of Choco forests into oil palm plantations and help communities prevent mining industry abuses. Manolo received a doctorate in law and became a licensed attorney in 1994.

Maria Isabel Dominguez S.

ECUADOR

Maria's passion for environmental law began with work in Ecuador's Environmental Ministry. She is now an attorney with ECOLEX, a nongovernmental organization based in Quito. Maria helps indigenous communities understand and defend their rights to manage natural resources.



Mohamed Nagi

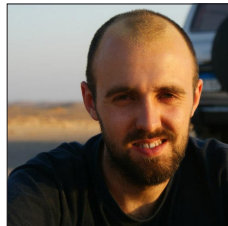
EGYPT

Mohamed founded the Habi Center for Environmental Rights in 2002. The Habi Center specializes in environmental rights and the right to water. Currently, the Habi Center is working to build a local network of public interest environmental lawyers in Egypt.

Does Vandousselaere

EGYPT

Does is a city planner who works as a researcher at the Habi Center for Environmental Rights. Does is completing an interactive monitoring guide to help communities collect information on companies and use basic legal tools to hold violators accountable. He also works to advance the right to water.



Michael Zschiesche

GERMANY

Michael is the Director of the Environmental Law Division of the Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU) in Berlin. UfU hosted the 2014 ELAW Annual International Meeting. Michael supports building strong organizations in Germany and abroad.

Fabian Stolpe

GERMANY

Fabian works in the department of Environmental Law and Public Participation at the Independent Institute for Environmental Issues (UfU) in Germany. He specializes in public participation and civil rights in environmental issues, sustainable bioenergy in Vietnam, and Environmental Impact Assessments.



Estuardo Noack

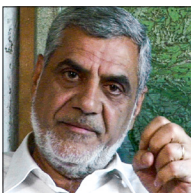
GUATEMALA

Estuardo is a Civil Engineer with expertise in water and water sanitation projects for rural communities. He is on the Board of Alianza de Derecho Ambiental y Agua (Environmental Law & Water Alliance) where he is helping to evaluate Guatemala's implementation of the United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation in Developing Countries (UN-REDD).

Jeanette de Noack

GUATEMALA

Jeanette has worked as an environmental lawyer for over a decade, specializing in water law in Guatemala and throughout Central America. She is co-founder of the Alianza de Derecho Ambiental y Agua (Environmental Law & Water Alliance) and an active member of ELAW's Mesoamerican Legal Strategy Group -- a regional coalition of lawyers working to protect the Mesoamerican Reef and the surrounding area.



M.C. Mehta

INDIA

Since 1984, M.C. has been a tireless crusader for environmental justice, convincing the Supreme Court of India that the Constitutional Right to Life includes a right to a healthy environment. M.C. has won judgments banning leaded gasoline and cleaning the air in India's metropolitan areas, protecting India's immense

coastline from industrial aquaculture, and abating the discharge of industrial effluents to India's holiest rivers. He won a 1996 Goldman Environmental Prize.



Rahul Choudhary

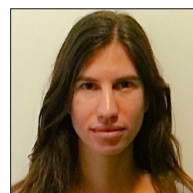
INDIA

Rahul is an environmental and human rights lawyer with the Legal Initiative for Forest & Environment (LIFE), based in Delhi. Rahul helps communities challenge environmental clearances for illegal projects in forests, national parks, and sanctuaries. He has taken cases on behalf of communities, non-profits, and activists to the National Green Tribunal, the High Court, and the Supreme Court.

Nur Amalia

INDONESIA

Nur is the Chair of the Executive Board of Pelangi Indonesia, a global environmental think tank that seeks to form a society that self-governs and secures the quality of its natural resources and environment while pursuing socio-economic well-being that is equitable and democratic.



Dana Tabachnik

ISRAEL

Dana is a 2015 LL.M. Degree Candidate at Columbia University. She is former Director of the Economy & Environment Department at Adam Teva v'Din, also known as the Israel Union for Environmental Defense. Her focus is sustainable development in the extractive industries.

Diana McCaulay

JAMAICA

Diana is an environmental activist and writer. She is founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Jamaica Environment Trust (JET), where she has made a difference for nearly 24 years. She is pleased when young people tell her she has opened their eyes, and she is inspired by natural places.



Ruth Mwongeli Nzioka

KENYA

Ruth graduated from the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology in Kenya with a Bachelor of Laws degree and a diploma from the Kenya School of Law. She is an advocate for sustainable development and respect for the environment in her community, a task that she says runs beyond litigation.

Apollo Mboya

KENYA

Apollo is Chief Executive Officer at the Law Society of Kenya and Commissioner of the Law Reform Commission for Kenya. He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya with experience in international treaties and agreements.



Benson Owuor Ochieng

KENYA

Benson is the founder and Director of the Board of the Institute for Law and Environmental Governance (ILEG). He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya and was appointed Joint Secretary to the Taskforce on Wildlife Security. He teaches environmental law, policy, and diplomacy at the University of Nairobi's Centre for Advanced Studies in Environmental Law and Policy.



Fernando Ochoa Pineda MEXICO

Fernando is the Executive Director and co-founder of Defensa Ambiental del Noroeste (DAN), a non-profit organization working to protect gray whale and whale

shark breeding grounds, and the natural environment of northwest Mexico. DAN is collaborating with communities to challenge ill-advised development projects and activities that would have dire consequences for the region.

Ximena Ramos Pedrueza Ceballos MEXICO

Ximena is Staff Attorney at the Southeast Office of the Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA). She is a former ELAW volunteer and received an LL.M. in Environmental and Natural Resources Law from the University of Oregon School of Law. She specializes in constitutional and administrative litigation to protect the right to a healthy environment.



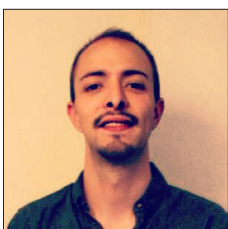
Alejandra Serrano MEXICO

Alejandra is the Regional Director in the Southeast office of the Mexican Center for Environmental Law (CEMDA), which promotes sustainable coastal planning

and better practices for the protection of coral reefs, mangroves, and rainforests. She works to protect human rights and the environment in the Yucatan Peninsula.

Gerardo Tallavas MEXICO

Gerardo has been working in environmental law since 2011. He specializes in administrative and environmental law, infrastructure and environmental projects development, administrative litigation, advice on environmental issues, environmental compliance, and environmental audit.

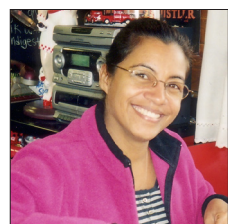


Raquel Gutierrez Najera MEXICO

Raquel is the founder and Executive Director of the Instituto de Derecho Ambiental (IDEA). She is a professor at the University of Guadalajara, where she has conducted research on environmental law since 1986. Raquel received a 2009 Ecological Merit Award from Mexico's Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources.

Lottie Cunningham Wren NICARAGUA

Lottie is the president of the Center for Justice and Human Rights of the Atlantic Coast of Nicaragua. She works to defend the territory of indigenous/ afro-descendants. Currently, she advocates for indigenous women to gain access to land, to create economic independence, and reduce domestic violence.



Aresio Valiente López PANAMA

Aresio is a Kuna attorney, musician, poet, writer, and dancer. He is Executive Director at the Center for Popular Legal Assistance (CEALP) and on the law faculty at the University of Panama. Aresio serves as legal advisor for the Indigenous Peoples Congress and for the Kuna General Congress -- the autonomous governing body of the Kuna people.



Jennifer Ramos PHILIPPINES

Jennifer is an environmental lawyer based in Pagadian City. She volunteers and works with several environmental NGOs nationwide. She received a masters, with

a focus on climate change, at Australian National University in 2012. She is currently working on climate justice cases.

Oksana Imetkhenova RUSSIA

Oksana is a teacher at the Department of Ecology, Health and Safety at the East Siberia State University of Technology and Management in Ulan-Ude, where she also studies law. She volunteers at the Buryat Regional Organization for Lake Baikal to advance protection of the world's oldest and deepest lake, and the surrounding natural forests.



Tracey Davies SOUTH AFRICA

Tracey Davies joined the Centre for Environmental Rights as an attorney in April 2013, shortly after her return to South Africa from the UK, where she spent five years working in criminal and commercial litigation in London. Tracey heads the Centre's Corporate Accountability & Transparency Programme.

Catherine Horsfield SOUTH AFRICA

Catherine Horsfield was admitted as an attorney of the High Court in 1998. From 2002 to 2011 she practiced as a partner in a litigation and commercial practice. Drawn to impact litigation in the public interest, Catherine resigned her partnership in 2011 and joined the Centre for Environmental Rights where she heads the Centre's mining program.



Rugemeleza A.K. Nshala TANZANIA

Rugemeleza is a leader and a visionary. He joined colleagues in 1994 to found the Lawyers' Environmental Action

Team (LEAT), based in Dar es Salaam. LEAT was the first organization of lawyers in the Great Lakes region of Africa dedicated to defending the environment and the rights of communities.

Irene Francis Fugara TANZANIA

Irene works at the Dar es Salaam-based Lawyers' Environmental Action Team. She works on issues tied to pollution, land rights, and gender. She received her Bachelor of Laws from the University of Dar es Salaam in 2012.



Jamal Kafumbe TANZANIA

Jamal is Legal Program Officer at the Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT). He trains communities on environment and land rights, organizes workshops and seminars, conducts research, and publishes policy briefs. He received his Bachelor of Laws in 2011 at the University of Dar es Salaam.

Elifuraha Laltaika TANZANIA

Elifuraha is the founder and Executive Director of the Association for Law and Advocacy for Pastoralists (ALAPA), based



in Arusha. He is a Fulbright alumnus and advocate of the High Court of Tanzania. He holds a Master of Laws from the University of Oregon School of Law, a Master of Laws from the University of Kwazulu-Natal (South Africa), and a Bachelor of Laws from the University of Dar-es-Salaam (Tanzania).



Saitoti Parmelo TANZANIA

Saitoti is a Programme Officer for Environment and Climate Change at the Association for Law and Advocacy for Pastoralists (ALAPA). Prior to joining ALAPA, Saitoti conducted research on human-wildlife conflicts, forest conservation, and livestock marketing.

Montana Duangprapa THAILAND

Montana serves as an advocacy officer at ENLAWTHAI Foundation, based in Bangkok. ENLAWTHAI has worked to control pollution at the MapTaPhut petrochemical facility, and helped clean up a lead contaminated creek in Kanchanaburi Province, the only water source for hundreds of ethnic Karin villagers.



Gonca Yilmaz TURKEY

Gonca co-founded the Denge Ecological Life Foundation, based in Istanbul, and has plans for an environmental law center. She works on problems related to hydropower and coal plants, and is involved in litigation on a large dam project. She has practiced law for ten years.

Frank Tumusiime UGANDA

Frank is the Coordinator and Senior Research Fellow for Advocates for Natural Resources Governance and Development (ANARDE). He is also a senior partner at Frank Tumusiime & Company Advocates, a law office that specializes in strategic public litigation in the natural resources sector.



Irene Ssekyana UGANDA

Irene is the National Coordinator of Greenwatch and the Chairperson of the Civil Society Coalition on Oil and Gas (CSCO), a coalition of civil society actors working on petroleum development issues in Uganda. She has educated communities in oil-bearing sites in Uganda's Albertine region on different aspects of oil and gas governance to enable them to effectively participate in Uganda's oil resource dialogue.

Sofiya Shutiaik UKRAINE

Sofiya is a lawyer at the Lviv office of Environment-People-Law. She is drafting an environmental impact assessment tool to prevent environmentally dangerous projects and working to ensure that plans for fracking and the extension of a nuclear power plant agreement do not threaten communities.



All over the world, people are calling for a greener future. People want to breathe clean air and drink clean water. They want to protect our global climate. They want their children to enjoy a clean, healthy, natural environment.

ELAW is helping people around the world speak with strong voices and win victories for the environment. ELAW gives local lawyers the legal and scientific tools they need to:

1. Prevent pollution and challenge environmental abuses
2. Protect our global climate
3. Strengthen and enforce laws protecting the environment
4. Help citizens speak out for communities and the environment

At ELAW, we believe that grassroots attorneys working in their home countries are the key to building a sustainable future. That's why we always work with committed local partners.

Advocates in more than 70 countries know they can call on us for the help they need. Every year, citizen lawyers call on us for help with hundreds of efforts to protect communities and the environment. By empowering grassroots lawyers, we help win victories and build a worldwide corps of strong advocates for the environment.

The key to ELAW's success is working with courageous, committed advocates around the world. We are thrilled to welcome these ELAW partners to Eugene, where we will learn from them, and they will inspire us to build a greener future.



Bern Johnson
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ENVIRONMENTAL LAW ALLIANCE WORLDWIDE

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DIRECTOR OF
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AND CHINA
PROGRAM



Killian Doherty
LAW ASSOCIATE

Be part of the solution. Donate to ELAW! <https://secure.donationpay.org/elaw>

The Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide thanks the many local businesses, organizations, and individuals who have contributed to our efforts this year and made our 2015 ELAW Annual International Meeting possible. Special thanks to our field trip leader Paul Engelmeyer for introducing our visitors to ecosystems and local conservation efforts on the Oregon Coast. Special thanks also to the University of Oregon's American English Institute for providing Director's Distinction Scholarships to dozens of ELAW partners around the world to improve their English. Finally, many thanks to Todd Cooper and his colleagues at Eugene Weekly for working with us to make a great insert!



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