

A VIRTUAL EVENT

NATURE FOR LIFE

24-25
28-29
09

Putting Nature at the Heart of Sustainable Development and Green Recovery



9.24: SDG DAY

9.25: BUSINESS & FINANCE DAY

9.28: GLOBAL AMBITION DAY

9.29: LOCAL ACTION DAY

Meet the Speakers

Session 4.3 | TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2020, 1 PM - 2:30 PM EDT
LOCAL ACTION, GLOBAL IMPACT



HOST & MODERATOR

KRISTEN WALKER

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL

Kristen Walker Painemilla is Senior Vice President and Managing Director of the Center for Communities and Conservation at Conservation International, leading Conservation International's efforts on social and environmental governance. Her work focuses on ensuring that CI and the broader conservation community implement a people-centered approach to conservation, honoring our commitments to indigenous peoples, local communities and women, while safeguarding our planet for future generations.



SPEAKER

LOLA CABNAL

DIRECTOR FOR PUBLIC POLICY, ASSOCIATION AK'TENAMIT

Lola Cabnal is the Director for Public Policy at the Ak'Tenamit Association, a community-based, non-profit organisation that supports community development in Q'eqchi Maya villages in Guatemala, from access to education and healthcare, to natural resource management and micro-enterprise efforts. She is also the indigenous representative to the executive board of UN-REDD, a UN platform on forests & climate composed by 65 countries. Ms. Cabnal is an internationally-renowned defender and advocate of the rights of Indigenous Peoples. She has also experience in the design, execution and evaluation of community development projects, as well as on designing environmental policies, programs and laws in the areas of Climate Change, Biodiversity and Gender – at the local, national and global levels.



SPEAKER

GEORGE ORTSIN

COUNTRY PROGRAM MANAGER, SGP-GHANA/COMDEKS/SATOYAMA INITIATIVE

George Ortsin is a natural resource management practitioner with a doctorate degree in Project Management. He is the National Programme Coordinator for the Global Environment Facility Small Grants Programme since 2004 in Ghana and has focused on supporting community and smallholder farmers' investment in innovative climate smart agroecology, biodiversity conservation, knowledge exchange and the remediation of degraded mining areas, promotion of community investments in alternative livelihoods enterprises in the GEF focal areas. He is also involved in practical training programmes for natural resource practitioners, rural community resource managers, government institutions in the natural resource sector and non- governmental/community based organisations involve in environmental resource management.



SPEAKER

NONETTE ARROYO

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, TENURE FACILITY

Nonette joined the Tenure Facility as an Executive Director in October 2017, where she set up the foundation's operational infrastructure in Stockholm, procuring necessary services to build and implement systems for a 'fit for purpose' organization. Nonette is a lawyer-practitioner, and a specialist in Indigenous Peoples, natural resources and land rights in South East Asia. Her work in Indonesia, Philippines, South East Asia and Pacific regions, spans for over 25 years. Nonette has set up several non-governmental organisations focus on defending and strengthening Indigenous Peoples and women's legal rights and has helped design and implement funding portfolios for local communities and Indigenous Peoples. Her work integrates grounding principles for holistic rights-based approaches where land rights is a necessary pre-requisite for effective community-based natural management programs funded by bilateral and multilateral institutions as well as private foundations. Nonette is Filipina, she has a bachelor's degree in commerce, a master's in law, and is a member of the Philippine Integrated Bar. When she is not working, Nonette enjoys being in nature.



SPEAKER

IDRISSA ZEB

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR/STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBER
NATURAMA/DGM BURKINA FASO NATIONAL AND GLOBAL
STEERING COMMITTEE**

Idrissa Zeba is an environmentalist and economist from Burkina Faso. He is the Executive Director of Naturama, an organization based in Ouagadougou and partnering with Birdlife International and IUCN, which aims to contribute to the conservation and sustainable use of natural resources in Burkina Faso in order to support and improve the livelihoods and development of local communities. He is Chair of the Dedicated Grant Mechanism for Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (DGM) National Steering Committee of Burkina Faso and Co-Chair of the DGM Global Steering Committee. He holds a degree in Sustainable Environment and Development.



SPEAKER

KOBIE BRAND

REGIONAL DIRECTOR, ICLEI AFRICA & GLOBAL DIRECTOR, ICLEI CITIES BIODIVERSITY CENTER

Ms. Kobie Brand has more than 25 years of practical and managerial experience in Environmental Management and Urban Development. Her expertise ranges from biodiversity, climate change, coastal management, to urban sustainability and planning. She is responsible for the strategic direction, growth, partnerships, programmes and scope of work for ICLEI in Africa. Kobie also leads ICLEI's biodiversity and nature-based solutions work globally in her capacity as Director of the Cities Biodiversity Center, embedded in ICLEI Africa.

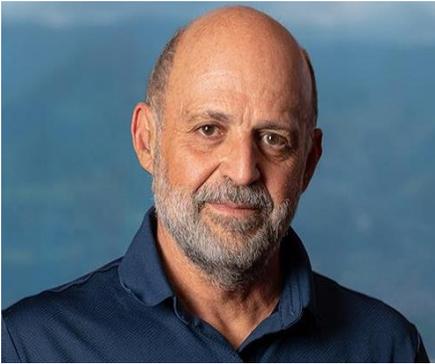


SPEAKER

RAZAN AL MUBARAK

MANAGING DIRECTOR OF EAD AND CANDIDATE FOR IUCN PRESIDENCY ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCY, ABU DHABI (EAD)

H.E Razan Khalifa Al Mubarak has devoted her career to environmental conservation. She is the Managing Director of the Environment Agency-Abu Dhabi (EAD), the largest environmental regulator in the Arabian Gulf, with a crucial role in conservation and the promotion of sustainable development in the Emirate of Abu Dhabi. She is also the Managing Director of the Mohamed Bin Zayed Species Conservation Fund – one of the world's largest philanthropic endowments supporting species conservation in over 200 countries, the Chairperson of the International Center for Biosaline Agriculture (ICBA) and is the Managing Director of Emirates Nature in association with WWF. She serves as a board member of many of Abu Dhabi's interconnected environmental influencers and stakeholders, such as the Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation, and the Abu Dhabi Food Control Authority. In addition, she is an Advisory Board member of the the Emirates Diplomatic Academy, Panthera, and the Women in Sustainability, Environment and Renewable Energy Initiative (WiSER). In recognition of her global role in the field of environment and sustainability, in 2018, she was selected by the World Economic Forum as one of the top 100 young sector leaders who contribute to building a more sustainable future for humankind.



SPEAKER

CARLOS MANUEL RODRIGUEZ

CEO AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT FACILITY

Lawyer by profession, politician by choice, and conservationist at heart, Carlos Manuel Rodriguez was elected as CEO and Chairperson of the Global Environment Facility by its governing body, the GEF Council, in June 2020. The Costa Rican Environment and Energy Minister was a pioneer in the development of Payment for Ecosystem Services initiatives and strategies for forest restoration, ocean conservation, and de-carbonization, and is an internationally recognized expert on environmental policy, multilateral environmental negotiations, and financing for nature conservation. Rodriguez has held various technical and political positions over the past 30 years: Director of Costa Rica's National Parks Service and founder of many environmental NGOs and tropical research institutes, he was also an expert negotiator in UNFCCC, CBD, and UNCCD, and participated in negotiations for the creation and implementation of the GEF and the Green Climate Fund. After his second tenure as Minister, he was Vice-President for Global Policy at Conservation International.



SPEAKER

JOSEFA TALUI

STEERING COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVE OF LOCAL AND INDIGENOUS YOUTH GLOBAL YOUTH BIODIVERSITY NETWORK

Josefa Cariño Tauli is an Ibaloi-Kankanaey Igorot indigenous youth from the Cordillera Region in the Philippines. She currently represents indigenous and local youth on the Steering Committee of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN), the official coordinating platform for youth participation in the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). As a member of GYBN, Sefa has been actively advocating for the meaningful and effective participation of youth and the recognition of indigenous peoples' issues within the biodiversity policy space. Sefa is a former indigenous fellow under Conservation International's Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship and Co-chair of "Youth for Territories of Life", the youth group of the ICCA Consortium.



SPEAKER

KARMA TSHOSAR

DEPUTY PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN TO THE UN; CONSUL GENERAL OF THE KINGDOM IN NEW YORK, UN/KINGDOM OF BHUTAN

Assumed current post in August 2017. Prior to this, he served as the Chief of the Division for Social and Humanitarian Affairs, Multilateral Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. He also served as the Deputy Chief of Mission at the Royal Bhutanese Embassy in Dhaka, Bangladesh from 2010-14. He holds a masters degree in public policy with specialization in international relations from the Australian National University, Canberra.



SPEAKER

SARAH MASTON

SENIOR SOLUTION ARCHITECT, MICROSOFT PROJECT 15

Sarah Maston is a senior solution architect at Microsoft. She works with our partner ecosystem to build global scalable IoT solutions on Azure. She specializes in process architecture and data solution architecture. She is the founder of Project 15 from Microsoft (aka.ms/Project15) and the inventor of Project Edison, a safety notification solution accelerator for safe schools and workplaces, for which she won the Microsoft Polaris Award. In her 20 year career, she has architected many data warehouses out in the world including those at Monster.com, CouchSurfing.com, and Boston Medical Center. Prior to joining Microsoft, she won an Excellence & Eminence Award at IBM for the invention of the Nutrition Graph and an Outstanding Innovation Award for the invention of Simple Data Pipe.