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Asia-Pacific Forestry Week, 2016  
Clark Freeport Zone, Pampanga, Philippines  
Stream 4: New institutions, new governance

**Scaling up Communities' and IP's Forest Resource Rights in the  
Asia-Pacific**

Organized by

**Rights and Resources Initiative**

**0900- 1500 hrs,**

**24<sup>th</sup> Feb, 2016**

**Holiday Inn, Clark Airbase**

**Overview**

Globally, a strong consensus has emerged on the centrality of recognition of forest rights for local communities and IPs as a core strategy for sustainable forest governance, reduction in deforestation, biodiversity and carbon conservation, local sustainable development and poverty alleviation, food security and reduction of climate vulnerability and reduction of land and forest conflicts. Local communities and Indigenous Peoples lay customary claim to most of the forests in Asia-Pacific; however, most governments have been slow in acknowledging these claims. Even in countries which have taken important steps towards recognizing rights of local communities and IPs, the actual implementation of rights recognition has been difficult and challenging.

**Objectives**

The objective of the three session dialogue is to learn from the experiences forest tenure reforms in critical countries in the Asia Pacific region, discuss key challenges in recognizing rights of indigenous people and local communities and to present The Tenure Facility, a new instrument for facilitating recognition of forest and land rights of IPs and local communities.

**Target Audience**

The target audience for the dialogue are a diverse set of stakeholders attending the APFC and the APFW: policymakers and senior officials of forestry sector, the forestry epistemic and knowledge communities; global and regional institutions; civil society and organizations representing IPs and local communities.

## Structure of Event

The Dialogue will comprise of three sessions. The first session titled *Scaling up Communities' and IP's Forest Resource Rights: Challenges and opportunities from India, Nepal, Indonesia and Philippines* will examine and assess the potential and challenges in recognizing customary tenure rights in forest areas at the global level and from India, Nepal, Philippines and Indonesia. The second session on *Challenges and Opportunities* will examine the key challenges facing the forest tenure reforms to recognize the rights of IPs and local communities. The third session on *"The International Land and Forest Tenure Facility (ILFTF)"* will introduce the tenure facility, the ongoing pilot project in Indonesia and the relevance of The Tenure Facility for the forest tenure reforms.

## Program

**0900-1030**

### **Session I**

#### **Scaling up Communities' and IP's Forest Resource Rights: Challenges and opportunities from India, Nepal, Indonesia and Philippines**

- Global Overview of Communities and IP land and forest Rights - *Andy White*, Co-Ordinator, RRI
- Forest tenure reforms challenges in Nepal: *Ghan Shyam Pandey*, Green Foundation
- Forest Tenure Reforms in Philippines- *Atty. Ingrid Gorre*
- Forest Tenure Reforms in Indonesia: *Sisilia Nurmala Dewi*, HuMa, Indonesia
- Undoing historical Injustices? India's Forest Rights Act: *Ms Madhu Sarin*, RRI Fellow
- Open Discussions

**1100-1230**

### **Session II**

#### **Scaling up Communities' and IP's Forest Resource Rights: Challenges and Opportunities**

**Chairperson: Jeffrey Campbell, FAO**

- Political Economy of Rights Recognition: *Norman Jiwan*, TUK, Indonesia
- Human Rights and Forest Rights of IPs and Local Communities- Women's perspective on Conflicts and Criminalization: *Siti Maimunah*, Sajogyo Institute, Indonesia

- Forest Based Industry and Community/IP Forest Right: *Kent Wheeler*
- Open Discussions

**1330-1500**

### **Session III**

#### **Scaling up Communities' and IP's Forest Resource Rights: The Tenure Facility**

**Chairperson: Ujjwal Pradhan, ICRAF**

- Introduction of The Tenure Facility: *Andy White*, Co-ordinator, RRI
- The Tenure Facility Pilot Project in Indonesia: *Yoga Saeful Rizal*, AMAN
- The Tenure Facility and The Indigenous People: *Joan Carling*, AIPP
- Open Discussions

#### **Wrap Up**

### **Speakers**

#### ***Andy White, RRI***

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.

#### ***Ghan Shyam Pandey***

Ghan Shyam Pandey, a community forestry activist and community leader from Nepal, former chairperson and current adviser of Federation of Community Forestry Users Nepal (FECOFUN) and coordinator of the Global alliance of Community Forestry (GACF). FECOFUN is the national level umbrella organization of 18000 community forestry users grouping in Nepal. These groups have members are more than 10 million peoples and managing 1.5 milion hectors of forest in Nepal. GAFF is global umbrella network of networks and federation of community forestry. Also the chairperson of Green Foundation Nepal which is working in forest, land and

water sectors in integrated approach with the local peoples. Also represent in different organization's board such as RRI, TFD. Holding BSc, LLB and Master Degree in Rural Development from Tribhuvan University Nepal.

### ***Adv. Ingrid Gorres***

Ingrid Rosalie L. Gorre is currently a Senior Program Officer of The Asia Foundation-Law and Human Rights Unit. She is also an incoming Member of the Board of Trustees of the Legal Rights and Natural Resources Center – Kasama sa Kalikasan/Friends of the Earth-Philippines. She has been an advocate for indigenous peoples' rights, environment, and human rights for the past twenty years and has conducted several researches and written articles on indigenous peoples' rights and the environment. She has represented indigenous peoples communities in cases against large-scale mining companies and other development aggressors. She is a graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Law and was a Fellow of the Columbia University Human Rights Advocates Program.

### ***Sisilia Nurmala Dewi***

Sisilia Nurmala Dewi is the Head of Advocacy and Campaign in HuMa, an Association towards Community and Ecological Law Reform in Indonesia. Graduated from Law Faculty of University of Indonesia, she gained experience working on community land and forest tenure, natural resources management, human rights compliance by extractive private sector, as well as REDD+ safeguards, in which she conducts researches, provides legal analysis, training and advocacy, campaign and media outreach, as well as international negotiation. With HuMa, she currently works extensively on the implementation of Constitutional Court Ruling No. 35 year 2012 on Customary Forest considered as "a major step forward" on forest tenure reform in Indonesia.

### ***Madhu Sarin***

Madhu Sarin is a RRI Fellow based in India who has worked since the 1980s on rural development planning, participatory and sustainable natural resource management, and gender justice and women's empowerment. She has been combining grassroots work with advocacy for policy changes at the state and national levels. Madhu has written extensively on these issues and is one of the most cited authors on Gender and Forestry and forest rights. She was a member of the Technical Support Group constituted by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs for drafting India's Forest Rights Act and is also actively associated with the National Campaign for Survival and Dignity. In addition to being on the governing board of several NGOs in India, such as Vasundhara, Aga Khan Rural Support Programme, India (AKRSPI), and Social Uplift Through Rural Action (SUTRA), she has also served on the boards of the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED), UK and RECOFTC, Bangkok. She has an extensive understanding of issues relating to forests, tribal resource rights, and forest governance in India and globally.

### ***Norman Jiwan***

Norman Jiwan is the executive director at Perkumpulan Transformasi untuk Keadilan Indonesia/TuK INDONESIA (Transformation for Justice Indonesia). TuK INDONESIA

specializes in human rights, social and ecological justice, and sustainable management of natural resources. He has experiences in the field of standard-setting and multi-stakeholder processes in particular the Roundtable on Sustainable Palm Oil (RSPO). He holds professional training certificates in research, journalist, fire prevention, teaching, human rights & indigenous peoples in the international system, sustainable forest management certification, and sustainable palm oil certification.

### ***Siti Maimunah***

Siti Maimunah is a researcher in Sajogyo Institute in Indonesia, a research institute founded in 2005 and work on agrarian issues. Siti specifically pursues the issue of the impact of extractive industries, especially mining and the impact to the minority groups, including indigenous peoples and women – and their struggles.

### ***Joan Carling***

Joan Carling is an indigenous activist from the Cordillera, Philippines. She has been working on indigenous issues at the grassroots to international levels for more than 20 years. Her field of expertise includes human rights, sustainable development, environment, and climate change, as well as on the principles and application of Free Prior and Informed Consent (FPIC). She has been also been actively engaging in international bodies, processes and mechanisms such as with International Financial Institutions, the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), REDD+ related mechanisms, UN agencies, and mechanisms relating to human rights and sustainable development in advancing the issues and concerns of indigenous peoples in Asia. She has been elected twice as the Secretary General of the Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), starting in 2008 and has been representing AIPP's 47 member-organizations in 14 countries. Ms. Carling also wrote and edited several AIPP publications and materials relating to human rights, climate change and REDD+, sustainable development, indigenous women among others. Ms. Carling was appointed by the UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) as an indigenous expert- member of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues (UNPFii) for 2014-16.

### ***Kent Wheeler***

Dr. Kent Wheeler has nearly 30 years' experience managing international forestry business operations, including six years resident in Tokyo, four years in Shanghai, and one in Dubai. Early in his career, Dr. Wheeler earned a B.S. in accounting and worked as a Certified Public Accountant with Arthur Anderson & Co. He later returned to graduate school, earning a doctoral degree (Ph.D.) in marketing at the University of Texas at Austin. Combining his training in accounting and marketing, Dr. Wheeler joined the forestry company Weyerhaeuser, where he served in various operating, management, and business development roles for 26 years, with a heavy emphasis on Weyerhaeuser's international operations. He has also worked for two startup operations managing plantations in Indonesia, China, Ghana, South Africa, and Nicaragua.

## ***Yoga Saeful Rizal***

Yoga Saeful Rizal or Kipli is the Head of Mapping Unit of Aliansi Masyarakat Adat Nusantara (AMAN), an indigenous organization with more than two thousands member communities living across Indonesian archipelago with total population around 15-17 millions. Kipli facilitates and consolidates the indigenous mapping, with currently 6,8 million hectares of indigenous territories' maps submitted to the government. He is also part of the LandMark, a global platform for mapping on Indigenous Peoples and local communities.