



Invitation & Registration

HEKS/EPER Land Forum 2020
in cooperation with IUCN & University of Bern

Strengthening Governance and Land Tenure Rights as a Response to Climate Change

Wednesday, 28 October 2020, 14:00 – 16:30
Virtual Zoom Meeting
Registration until 21 October 2020



UNESCO Chair on Natural and Cultural Heritage
for Sustainable Mountain Development,
University of Bern

In partnership with
UNESCO World Heritage, Swiss Alps Jungfrau-Aletsch
Centre for Training and Research, University of Bern, Department of Geography

Strengthening Governance and Land Tenure Rights as a Response to Climate Change

Indigenous peoples, local communities and family farmers play a critical role in stewarding and safeguarding the world's lands and forests. Lands and forests managed by indigenous peoples and local communities have lower deforestation rates, a higher carbon storage potential and a higher biodiversity than other lands, including protected areas. This was recently acknowledged in the Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES 2019). In addition, the IPCC Special Report on Climate Change and Land (IPCC 2019) found that strengthening the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities is a critical solution to the climate and environmental crisis. Indigenous peoples and local communities manage over half of global lands but have legal rights to only 10 percent. And when they stand up for their rights to protect the environment, forests and biodiversity they face criminalization and violence (IDS/ACT, 2019). On the contrary, where their rights are protected, indigenous peoples and local communities provide alternative economic models without trade-offs between the environment and development. Their traditional knowledge and holistic view of nature enables them to feed the world (FAO 2017), to protect forests and carbon sinks, and to maintain global biodiversity.

Against this background the Land Forum 2020 aims to:

- Deepen the understanding of the linkages between access to land, the role of traditional, local knowledge and ecosystem integrity as a climate change solution.
- Explore ways on how to further strengthen land rights, land governance systems and traditional, local knowledge to tackle the environmental and climate crisis.

Schedule (all times in CET)

- 13:30 Check-in participants
- 14:00 Welcome Notes
- 14:10 Video Testimonials from Guardians of the World's Lands and Forests
- 14:15 **Key Note Speech**
- **Dr. Marta Guadalupe Rivera-Ferre**, Director of the Chair Agroecology and Food Systems, Universitat Central de Catalunya
 - Dr. Rivera-Ferre focuses her research on the interactions between agriculture, food, society and the environment, with emphasis on adaptation to climate change and food security. She is lead author of the UN panel of experts IAASTD and IPCC (AR5 and AR6).
- 14:45 **Examples from the field**
- Enhancing the effective engagement of local stakeholders for land restoration within the Sahel (**Chris Magero**, IUCN)
 - Natural resource management and local land governance in the rangelands of the Serra do Espinhaço, Brazil (**Uli Ide**, HEKS/EPER)
 - Future of the commons in Switzerland, (**Karina Liechti**, CDE/University of Bern)
- 15:30 Break
- 15:45 **Group Sessions – Discussion on ways to go forward**
- 16:15 Closing

Moderation: **Radhika Murti**, Director Global Ecosystem Management Programme, IUCN

Language: English

Zoom Link will be sent upon registration

Registration: until 21 October 2020 ([Link](#))

For more information and registration please contact:

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