



Rights in Environmental Governance: Explaining their Emergence, Examining their Effectiveness

Yale University, April 26th & 27th, 2013

1. INTRODUCTION

On April 26th and 27th, 2013, the Yale/UNITAR workshop “Rights in Environmental Governance: Explaining their Emergence, Examining their Effectiveness” convened twenty scholars and practitioners to discuss the role and influence of rights in modes and systems of environmental governance around the world. The workshop was organized by the Governance, Environment & Markets Initiative (GEM) at Yale and the United Nations Institute of Training and Research, with support from the Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy, the Tropical Resources Institute, the Global Institute for Sustainable Forestry, and the Edward J. and Dorothy Clarke Kempf Fund of the Macmillan Center for International and Area Studies at Yale.

The introductory session of the workshop entitled “The Rights Revolution in Environmental Governance: Progress, Problems & Prospects” was open to the Yale community. It featured an interactive panel discussion co-moderated by Professor Ben Cashore, Director of GEM and Dr. Achim Halpaap, Associate Director of Training and Head of the Environment Unit at UNITAR. Panelists included Lalanath de Silva, Director of the Access Initiative, World Resources Institute, Prof. Jona Razzaque, University of the West of England, Faculty of Law and Business & Member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law, Dr. Anne Larson, Senior Associate, Centre for International Forestry Research, Dr. David Boyd, University of Victoria, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance, and Ms. Jane Cohen, Human Rights Watch.

During the subsequent working sessions, participants reflected on the emergence and effectiveness of the right to a healthy environment and on the rights of forest-dependent communities around the world. The workshop also started to identify key research questions and new concrete initiatives for understanding these rights and enhancing their contributions to environmental justice and sustainability. Key outcomes of the workshop included proposed elements of a research agenda on rights and environmental governance, the genesis of a new collaborative research project to assess levels of implementation of environmental rights worldwide, and a discussion on the concept of a new tool-kit on the constitutional recognition of the right to a healthy environment. Following conclusion of substantive discussions, the workshop featured a planning discussion for a 3rd Yale/UNITAR Conference Environmental Governance and Democracy that will focus on the interface of human rights, environmental sustainability, and climate change and is scheduled to take place in mid-2014.

2. WORKSHOP THEMES

The Yale/UNITAR workshop was organized in order to foster a better understanding of the processes through which rights gain traction and affect outcomes in systems of environmental governance. It sought not only to advance knowledge in this area, but also to assist practitioners and communities working on these issues on the ground. To this end, the Yale/UNITAR workshop brought together scholars and practitioners to catalyze new thinking and strategic action on the pathways through which the diffusion and effectiveness of rights in environmental governance may be enhanced.

The Yale/UNITAR workshop focused on two principal themes:

1. *Explaining the Emergence of Rights in Environmental Governance Systems and Arrangements:* There is an extensive body of scholarship documenting the advent of rights-based norms, institutions, and practices in different modes and systems of environmental governance around the world, including international treaties and regimes, domestic laws, courts, administrative processes, non-state market-driven systems, and non-governmental projects and arrangements. There is comparatively little research however on the explanations that can account for these phenomena. Participants at the workshop were urged to consider the varying role of ideas, identities, and interests in the diffusion of rights in environmental governance (or lack thereof), the role of actors and institutions across multiple scales in accelerating or hindering diffusion, and the implications of these processes for the durability and effectiveness of rights in different contexts.
2. *Examining the Influence of Rights on Environmental Governance and Outcomes:* Most of the existing literature focuses largely on the legal, ethical, and policy implications of rights for environmental governance. Further theory-development and empirical research is required to understand the different ways in which rights matter for environmental governance processes and outcomes at multiple scales (local, national, regional, and international) and across sectors (governmental, inter-governmental, commercial, and non-governmental). Participants at the workshop were requested to reflect upon the factors and mechanisms that can best explain whether, how, and to what extent rights may influence the evolution and effectiveness of systems and regimes for environmental governance, with a particular focus on the causal and constitutive pathways through which rights may shape outcomes in particular contexts.

3. WORKSHOP OUTCOMES & FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS

Elements of a Research Agenda on Rights and Environmental Governance

The participants identified a number of key research questions and gaps that will be further developed into a briefing paper and released at a later stage.

Discussions on the emergence of rights in environmental governance suggested that further qualitative research – which employs, for example, process-tracing methodology – would be valuable in better understanding the causal mechanisms and pathways through which rights emerge in, or are diffused to new jurisdictions. Such research should also take into account broader structural factors that may facilitate the emergence of rights in particular contexts, such as the litigation support structure, the nature of a legal system, or the mobilization

opportunity structure. Participants also highlighted the importance of studying cases of non-diffusion and what they can reveal about the causal mechanisms that underlie diffusion as well as potential strategies for triggering diffusion in challenging contexts. Finally, the causes of diffusion were recognized as being important for understanding and hypothesizing about the effectiveness of rights in the long-term. Of particular interest in this regard is research that can identify whether and how initially modest commitments to environmental rights may become effective.

Discussions on the effectiveness of rights in environmental governance focused on the need for further research to understand the *distinctive* role and influence of rights in environmental governance. This could include notably case study research that compares processes of change, empowerment, and mobilization in environmental governance with variations in the legal recognition of environmental rights. This sort of research could provide a better understanding of the role of rights vis-à-vis other processes of change and disentangle the necessary and sufficient conditions that make these rights effective. Another important research area could explore factors that may hinder the effectiveness of rights in particular contexts and the potential pathways and solutions for ensuring that rights matter. Interactions between rights and other regulatory systems across scales and issue areas were seen as being particularly important for understanding their potential for supporting durable and significant processes of change, with a particular focus on whether environmental rights can serve to enhance the promotion and protection of human rights in areas that go beyond the environment. Finally, participants highlighted the need to understand the causal relevance of the status and definition of these rights as well as to refine our understanding of the causal processes and impacts that should be studied by scholars.

These discussions also uncovered some broader research questions about the interface of rights and environmental governance. One theme concerns the relationship between the environmental movement and the social movements that support human rights and the rights of Indigenous and forest-dependent communities, including any tensions, synergies, and misunderstandings that may arise in particular contexts. Participants particularly highlighted the importance of grappling with the ethical challenges associated with defining environmental rights in ways that exclude or negatively affect groups that are not defined as rights-holders in a particular context. Another important theme concerned the theories and methods that should be used to study rights in environmental governance. Only further research can reveal whether the causal mechanisms associated with the recognition and protection of human rights apply with equal force to environmental rights.

Environmental Rights Index

Mr. Sébastien Jodoin (Yale / GEM) introduced the idea of initiating a collaborative research project to provide in-depth qualitative data on the recognition and protection of a variety of environmental rights (including the right to a healthy environment, rights to access information, participation, and justice in environmental matters, resource rights, and measures of environmental health and justice). This data would be aggregated into an Environmental Rights Index that could be used as a data-set by scholars as well as a tool for advocacy by NGOs. Many participants expressed their interest in collaborating on this project and the GEM Initiative will seek to move forward over the summer and fall of 2013.

A Tool-Kit on the Right to a Healthy Environment

Dr. David Boyd (Polis Project at the University of Victoria) introduced a project that he is leading with Mr. Sébastien Jodoin (Yale / GEM) to develop innovative guidance and collaborative strategic action to support and accelerate the diffusion of the right to a healthy environment around the world. The project seeks to replicate the model adopted by previous campaigns for global policy change, specifically the efforts of the coalition of states and NGOs supporting the ratification and implementation of the *Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court* and the *Land Mines Ban Campaign*. Both campaigns have been remarkably successful in leading states to ratify and implement these treaties through a combination of strategically managed processes of policy learning and normative pressure. The project will thus seek to bring together leading experts and organizations working at the intersections of human rights and the environment to develop a series of tool-kits and related materials aimed at domestic activists, policy-makers, and practitioners interested in having their countries recognize the right to a healthy environment in their laws or constitutions. Dr. Boyd and Mr. Jodoin will continue to update the participants as the project evolves, with the aim of building upon, rather than duplicating, the work of the UN Independent Expert on human rights and the environment.

UN-Related Initiatives & Activities

Prof. John Knox, the UN Independent Expert on human rights and the environment, outlined the terms of his mandate and described opportunities for workshop participants to provide him with research and analysis during his term. Ms. Cristina Zucca, UNEP Division of Environmental Law and Conventions, highlighted key initiatives being undertaken to foster the environmental rule of law, including the Bali Guidelines, and highlighted opportunities for collaboration in this area. Dr. Achim Halpaap, UNITAR, summarized UNITAR's activities in the areas of environmental rights and governance, including a joint collaboration with UNEP on the implementation of the Bali Guidelines, a planned e-learning course on human rights and the environment, and the 2014 3rd Yale/UNITAR Conference on Environmental Governance and Democracy.

Planning for the 2014 Yale / UNITAR Conference on Environmental Governance and Democracy: Human Rights, Environment & Climate Change

Dr. Halpaap outlined the status of plans for the 3rd edition of the UNITAR/Yale Conference on Environmental Governance and Democracy, scheduled to take place in mid-2014. He also indicated that the Conference is expected to support the mandate of the UN Independent Expert on Human Rights and the Environment. He then invited participants to provide advice and explore opportunities for collaboration. Participants discussed and provided suggestions concerning a number issues currently being considered, such as conference objectives, conference outputs, partners and participants, selection criteria, publication of results, methodological issues, location, and identification of good practices. UNITAR and GEM will develop a concept note for the Conference by mid-June and share it with interested participants for feedback.

ANNEX I: WORKSHOP AGENDA

Friday, April 26th, 2013

12:00 – 13:30 Opening Discussion Panel: “The Rights Revolution in Environmental Governance: Progress, Problems & Prospects”
(Burke Auditorium, Kroon Hall)

Chairs: Prof. Benjamin Cashore, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Dr. Achim Halpaap, United Nations Institute of Training and Research

Mr. Lalanath de Silva, Director, The Access Initiative, World Resources Institute

Prof. Jona Razzaque, University of the West of England, Faculty of Law and Business & Member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law

Dr. Anne Larson, Senior Associate, Centre for International Forestry Research

Dr. David Boyd, University of Victoria, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance

Ms. Jane Cohen, Human Rights Watch

13:30-14:00 Break

14:00-15:30 Explaining the Emergence of the Right to a Healthy Environment
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

“The Transnational Origins of Constitutions”
Prof. Emiliana Versteeg, University of Virginia, School of Law

“Survival of the Greenest: A Statistical Analysis of Constitutional Environmental Rights”
Joshua Gellers, PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, University of California – Irvine

15:30-16:00 Break

16:00-17:30 Explaining the Emergence of Community Forest Rights
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

“The Emergence of Community Forestry and Associated Rights: Reflections from Case Studies in Latin America and Africa”

Dr. Reem Hajjar, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow, Rights and Resources Initiative and University of British Columbia

“Rights in a Changing Climate: The Transnational REDD+ Readiness Phase and the Rights of Indigenous and Local Communities”

Mr. Sébastien Jodoin, Trudeau Scholar & SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

17:30-18:00 Walk to Bentara

18:00 – 20:00 Group Supper at Bentara

Saturday, April 27th, 2013

8:30 – 9:00 Breakfast
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

9:00 – 10:30 Examining the Effectiveness of the Right to a Healthy Environment
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

“Constitutionalisation of rights: influence of the right to a healthy environment in shaping the governance landscape of Asia”
Prof. Jona Razzaque, University of the West of England, Faculty of Law and Business & IUCN Commission on Environmental Law

“The Effectiveness of Constitutional Environmental Rights”
Dr. David Boyd, University of Victoria, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance

10:30 – 11:00 Break

11:00 – 12:30 Examining the Effectiveness of Community Forest Rights
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

“Formalizing indigenous commons: The role of ‘authority’ in the formation of territories in Nicaragua, Bolivia and the Philippines”
Dr. Anne Larson, Senior Associate, Centre for International Forestry Research

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00 Closing Session on Innovative Research & Collaboration on Rights and Environmental Governance
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

Chairs: Prof. Benjamin Cashore, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Dr. Achim Halpaap, United Nations

Institute of Training and Research

“The Mandate of the United Nations Independent Expert on Human Rights and the Environment”

Prof. John Knox, Wake Forest, School of Law and United Nations Independent Expert on Human Rights and the Environment

“The Work of the United Nations Environmental Programme on Human Rights and the Environment”

Ms. Cristina Zucca, Legal Officer, United Nations Environment Programme

“Developing a Tool-Kit for the Right to a Healthy Environment and an Environmental Rights Index”

Dr. David Boyd, University of Victoria, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance and Mr. Sébastien Jodoin, Trudeau Scholar & SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

“Opportunities to Contribute to GEM / CLUA Project on the Promotion of Community Forest Rights and Governance”

Mr. Sébastien Jodoin, Trudeau Scholar & SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Mr. Michael Stone, PhD Candidate, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies

15:00 – 15:30 Break

15:30 – 17:00 Meeting to plan a workshop on human rights and climate change at COP-19 and the 2014 Yale / UNITAR Global Conference on Human Rights and the Environment
(Room 319, Kroon Hall)

ANNEX II: BIOGRAPHIES OF WORKSHOP PARTICIPANTS

Dr. David Boyd, University of Victoria, POLIS Project on Ecological Governance

Dr. David R. Boyd is one of Canada's leading experts in environmental law and policy and an Adjunct Professor in the School of Resource and Environmental Management at Simon Fraser University. He has advised the governments of Canada, Sweden, and Iceland on environmental and constitutional issues, served as a special advisor on sustainability to Prime Minister Paul Martin, and co-chaired Vancouver's Greenest City Action Team with Mayor Gregor Robertson. He is a member of the IUCN's Commission on Environmental Law, the Global Network for the Study of Human Rights and the Environment, and ELAW—the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide. Boyd is the author of several bestselling and award winning books as well as more than 100 publications related to environmental law and policy. His books include *The Right to a Healthy Environment: Revitalizing Canada's Constitution*, *The Environmental Rights Revolution: A Global Study of Constitutions, Human Rights, and the Environment*, *Dodging the Toxic Bullet: How to Protect Yourself from Everyday Environmental Health Hazards*, *David Suzuki's Green Guide* (co-authored with David Suzuki), and *Unnatural Law: Rethinking Canadian Environmental Law and Policy*.

Ms. Lindsay Buchanan, MEM Candidate, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Research Assistant with the GEM Initiative

Lindsay Buchanan is an MEM Candidate at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, where she is focusing on the role of land and property rights in sustainable landscape management, and is a co-leader of the Yale Coalition for Agriculture, Food, and Environment. This past summer, she interned with UNEP in its Division of Regional Cooperation where she partnered with The World Bank and the UN REDD Programme to develop case studies of innovative community-based land management initiatives. Before coming to Yale, she received a B.A. in Anthropology at Washington University in St. Louis and subsequently worked as the Program Director for the No Impact Project in New York City.

Prof. Benjamin Cashore, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies and Director of the GEM Initiative

Benjamin Cashore is a Professor of Environmental Governance & Political Science at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, where he serves as the Director of the Governance, Environment, and Markets Initiative and the Director of the Program on Forest Policy and Governance at the Global Institute of Sustainable Forestry. He currently chairs the International Taskforce on Forest Governance of the International Union of Forestry Research Organizations (IUFRO) and serves on numerous editorial boards, including those of the Journal of Natural Resources Policy Research, Business and Politics, the Journal of Forest Policy and Economics, and the Journal of Sustainable Forestry. He is recognized worldwide as a leading academic authority on non-state market-driven environmental governance, the impact and opportunities of globalization and internationalization on domestic and local environmental policy, and comparative environmental policy. His work has won a number of awards and distinctions including the International Studies Association's Sprout Award for the best book on international environmental policy and politics. Prof. Cashore is also actively engaged in bringing analysis and research to bear on environmental policy deliberations at the global, national and regional scales across developed, emerging economy, and developing countries. He regularly

advises non-governmental, business, and governmental organizations about their role in fostering sustainable solutions, including the Forest Products Association of Canada, the World Wide Fund for Nature, GTZ, the Nature Conservancy, and the Association of Southeast Asian National Forest Law Enforcement and Governance Learning Network.

Ms. Jane Cohen, Human Rights Watch

Jane Cohen is a researcher in the Health and Human Rights Division at Human Rights Watch, where her work focuses on human rights violations around development and environmental issues in Asia and Africa. Cohen has investigated the worst lead poisoning epidemic in history, taking place in Nigeria, and Japan's inadequate response to the Fukushima nuclear plant explosion. In China, she researched the acute and long-term health consequences of a generation children continuously exposed to toxic levels of lead. In addition to her work on environmental health, Cohen has conducted extensive research on the lack of access in China to effective drug dependency treatment as well as human rights abuses related to anti-narcotics policies. Prior to joining Human Rights Watch, Cohen worked on public health issues in China.

Ms. Neth Dano, ETC Group

Neth Dano is a Programme Manager of the Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group) based in Davao City, southern Philippines. She is a seasoned researcher who has done in-depth analysis and published work on various issues in agriculture, plant genetic resources and climate change in developing countries, particularly in Southeast Asia. ETC Group is an international NGO headquartered in Ottawa with offices in North Carolina, Mexico City and Davao City. For more than 30 years, ETC (formerly, Rural Advancement Foundation International, RAFI) has conducted extensive research, publication and advocacy on food and agriculture governance, genetic resources, genetic engineering, nanotechnology, synthetic biology, geoengineering and other emerging issues that pose challenges to developing countries. ETC coined the terms "biopiracy" and "Terminator Technology" that have become buzzwords in debates in access to and control of biological and genetic resources. Neth has worked in policy advocacy, information and lobbying at the Southeast Asia Regional Initiatives for Community Empowerment (SEARICE) from June 1993 to July 2004, while at the same time acting as its Executive Director from January 1998 to June 2004. She joined Third World Network (TWN) as Associate from September 2005 to June 2009. She gained substantial experiences in policy advocacy and lobbying on issues surrounding food and agriculture governance, intellectual property rights, access to genetic resources, community rights and genetic engineering through her years of engagement with peoples' organizations, governments, inter-governmental bodies and other non-government organizations on these issues in numerous conferences, negotiations and interactions as participant and as resource person. Neth earned her Bachelors' degree in Development Studies (*cum laude*) from the University of the Philippines in October 1987. She dabbled with Law in the same university for a semester in 1989, but ended up completing her Master's degree in Community Development in 1994.

Joshua Gellers, PhD Candidate, Department of Political Science, University of California – Irvine

Josh Gellers is a Ph.D. Candidate in the Department of Political Science, Assistant Director of the Focused Research Group in International Environmental Cooperation, and 2012-13 Public Impact Fellow at UC Irvine. He holds a B.A. in Political Science from the University

of Florida, M.A. in Climate and Society from Columbia University, and M.A. in Political Science from UC Irvine. Josh has served as a researcher for the Global Roundtable on Climate Change, Center for Research on Environmental Decisions, and Earth Institute at Columbia University. He has published work in International Environmental Agreements, Journal of Environmental Law and Litigation, and Review of Policy Research, and has won the 2013 Graduate Student Paper Award from the Environmental Studies Section of the International Studies Association. His dissertation utilizes mixed methods to explain the global emergence of constitutional environmental rights and includes a comparative case study of Nepal and Sri Lanka. Josh is an Honorary Fellow at the Southasia Institute of Advanced Studies in Kathmandu, Nepal.

Dr. Reem Hajjar, Banting Postdoctoral Fellow, Rights and Resources Initiative and University of British Columbia

Reem is a Banting Postdoctoral Research Fellow at the University of British Columbia and the Rights and Resources Initiative. Her research and teaching interests focus on community-based forest management as a tool for poverty alleviation and promoting sustainable landscapes in developing countries. In recent work she has looked at power imbalances, challenges communities face in maintaining forest-based enterprises, bottom-up approaches to community forestry initiatives, promoting community forestry as part of national REDD+ strategies, and community and smallholder forest certification. Her current postdoctoral work includes studying the role of secondary-level institutions in advancing small-scale and community forestry under REDD+ and FLEGT (Ghana and Mexico), and the factors that contribute to the legitimacy of such institutions. She has a Ph.D. in Forestry from the University of British Columbia, and an MA in Conservation Biology from Columbia University.

Dr. Achim Halpaap, Associate Director Training Department and Head of Environment Unit, United Nations Institute of Training and Research

Achim Halpaap is the Associate Director of the Training Department and Head of the Environment Unit at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). Prior to his appointment at UNITAR, Dr. Halpaap was Head of Section, Chemical and Waste Management Policies, at the Environmental Policy Directorate of the Bayer Corporation, Germany in 1990. He has served as a lecturer in the International Studies Department of the University of Oregon, where he developed and taught an interdisciplinary graduate level course on Global Environmental Issues. Additionally, he has served as the Director of the UNITAR/Yale Environmental and Democracy Initiative from 2006-2008, served as a member of the Executive Committee for the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management, and chaired the Inter-Organization Program of the Sound Management of Chemicals in 2001-2002. He is currently Chair of the International Coordinating Group on Pollutant Release and Transfer Registers and a member in the United Nations Environment Management Group. Dr. Halpaap is the author of several peer-reviewed publications concerned with international chemical risk governance, international environmental policy, and democratic environmental governance. He has extensively lectured on these topics in various international, national and academic fora.

Mr. Sébastien Jodoin, Trudeau Scholar & SSHRC Doctoral Fellow, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Coordinator of the Law, Rights, and Environmental Governance program of the GEM Initiative

Sébastien Jodoin is currently completing a PhD in environmental studies (law, public policy and governance) at Yale University, for which he holds a Trudeau Doctoral Scholarship and a SSHRC Doctoral Fellowship. His research seeks to understand law in the context of its relationship with policy-making processes, new and evolving forms of governance, and the manifold forces associated with globalization. His fields of interest include transnational and comparative law, human rights, environmental governance, international and regional trade, economic, social, and environmental crimes, and torts. Sébastien has worked with the Centre for International Sustainable Development Law, the Canadian Centre for International Justice, Amnesty International Canada, and the United Nations International Criminal Tribunals for Rwanda and the former Yugoslavia. He holds degrees in common law and civil law from McGill University, a master's in law from the London School of Economics and a master's in international relations from the University of Cambridge, and is a member of the Law Society of Upper Canada. Sébastien has received numerous awards and honours, including a Public Interest Law Articling Fellowship from the Law Foundation of Ontario, a John Humphrey Fellowship in Human Rights from the Canadian Council on International Law, and a Fellowship in International Criminal Law from the International Bar Association. Sébastien recently received the 2012 Public Scholar Award from the Yale Graduate School of Arts & Sciences for conducting research "that engages and betters the world at large."

Prof. John Knox, Wake Forest, School of Law and Independent Expert on the Right to a Healthy Environment for the UN Human Rights Council

John Knox is an internationally recognized expert on human rights law and international environmental law. In July 2012, the United Nations Human Rights Council appointed him to a three-year mandate as its first Independent Expert on the issue of human rights obligations relating to the enjoyment of a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. In that position, he is preparing a series of reports to the Human Rights Council on the relationship of human rights and environmental protection. His recent scholarship addresses a wide variety of issues, including the human rights obligations of corporations, the application of human rights law to climate change, citizen suits in international environmental law, and the extraterritorial application of U.S. law. In 2003, he was awarded the Francis Deák Prize, established by the American Society of International Law to honor a younger author who has made a "meritorious contribution to international legal scholarship." For four years, until 2005, he chaired a national advisory committee to EPA on the North American Commission for Environmental Cooperation, the first regional environmental organization in North America. More recently, he has provided *pro bono* assistance to environmental groups and to the Maldives, a small island state in the Indian Ocean. After graduating from Stanford Law School and clerking for Judge Joseph T. Sneed of the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco, John served as an attorney-adviser at the Department of State from 1988 to 1994. He spent four years in private practice in Austin, Texas and taught at Penn State for eight years before joining Wake Forest in 2006. He is married to Julie Winterich, who teaches at Guilford College, and they have three daughters, in sixth, ninth, and eleventh grades.

Dr. Anne Larson, Senior Scientist, Centre for International Forestry Research

Anne Larson began working with CIFOR while studying for her PhD and has held other consulting positions with a number of organisations, including GTZ, the Nicaraguan Forestry Institute (INAFOR), World Resources Institute, Ford Foundation, the Nitlapán Institute for Research and Development, and the World Bank. Before obtaining her PhD, Larson worked as a journalist, activist and lobbyist. Larson's current research focuses on gender and forests in Uganda and Nicaragua, specifically examining the obstacles to women's participation in decision making and in benefits from forests. She is studying tenure, forest use and forest product marketing from smallholder and indigenous forest management systems in Ecuador and Peru. Larson is also coordinating research on the governance of indigenous territories in Nicaragua and is advisor to a training course for territory leaders. She is involved in CIFOR's REDD+ research with specific emphasis on the relationship of REDD+ to forest tenure rights and gender.

Prof. Jona Razzaque, University of the West of England, Faculty of Law and Business & Member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law

Jona Razzaque, Associate Professor of Environmental Law, is a barrister and holds a PhD in law from the University of London. Prior to joining the UWE, she worked as a staff lawyer with the Foundation for International Environmental Law and Development (FIELD). She previously taught at the University College London, School of Oriental and African Studies and Queen Mary University of London. She has held visiting fellowship at Wuhan University, China. She is a member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Environmental Law* and serves as a member of the IUCN Commission on Environmental Law. She has researched widely on access to justice and participatory rights in environmental matters and her publications include Public Interest Environmental Litigation in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh (2004, Kluwer), Globalisation and Natural Resources Law (2011, Edward Elgar), Natural Resources and the Green Economy (2012, Brill) and Environmental Governance in Europe and Asia (2012, Routledge).

Mr. Lalanath de Silva, Director, The Access Initiative, World Resources Institute

Lalanath De Silva was a public interest litigator and advocate for over two decades. Pioneering the growth of public interest law in the area of the environment, he appeared in many of Sri Lanka's leading environmental cases on behalf of victims, communities and non-governmental organizations. He also worked for the Government of Sri Lanka for two years as the Legal Consultant to the Ministry of Environment and Forests. During that time he was responsible for drafting and enacting the bulk of Sri Lanka's environmental regulatory provisions. From 2002-2005 he served as a Legal Officer in the Environmental Claims Unit of the United Nations Compensation Commission (UNCC) in Geneva. Together with a small group of international lawyers, he helped process the largest war reparations claims handled by the UNCC to monitor, assess, restore and compensate for environmental damage resulting from the 1991 Gulf War. Lalanath joined the World Resources Institute (WRI) in 2005 as the Director of The Access Initiative (TAI) (www.accessinitiative.org). Since then he has been focusing on helping over 150 civil society groups in over 40 countries assess the status of access to information, public participation and access to justice in their countries. Through these assessments, civil society partners identify gaps in access laws, practices and institutions and undertake activities that will change the situation on the ground. Lalanath qualified as a lawyer from the Sri Lanka Law College and has a Master of Laws degree from the Law School, University of Washington, Seattle, USA.

Prof. Stephen Stec, Central European University

Stephen Stec is currently an adjunct professor at the Monterey Institute of International Studies. He also teaches international environmental law, environmental governance, and environment and security at Central European University and is a fellow of the Institute for East European Law and Russian Studies at Leiden University. As a consultant to UNEP, he is lead author for a guide to the Bali Guidelines on Rio Principle 10 (under preparation). He is a leading authority on the Aarhus Convention, having participated in the treaty negotiations and co-authored *The Aarhus Convention: An Implementation Guide* (UN: 2000, 2d ed. 2013).

Mr. Michael Stone, PhD Candidate, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Coordinator of the Forest Governance program of the Governance, Environment & Markets Initiative at Yale

Michael Stone is a PhD student in the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies where he is the Coordinator of the Program on Forest Governance within the Governance, Environment and Markets Initiative. He has written and researched substantially about the role of legality verification in supply chains between Asia and the European Union or the United States. His dissertation is a comparative study of forest management in the United States, Sweden and China focusing on the relationship between forest structure and land tenure. He holds a B.A. in International Relations and Chinese Language and Culture and an M.S. in Forestry from Michigan State University. He was previously a Fulbright Fellow at the Center for Chinese Agricultural Policy in Beijing.

Prof. Emiliana Versteeg, University of Virginia, School of Law

Mila Versteeg joined the University of Virginia School of Law in 2011. Her research and teaching interest include comparative constitutional law, public international law and empirical legal studies. Versteeg earned her B.A. in public administration and first law degree from Tilburg University in the Netherlands in 2006. She earned her LL.M. from Harvard Law School in 2007 and a D.Phil. in socio-legal studies in 2011 from Oxford University, where she was a Gregory Kulkes Scholar at Balliol College and recipient of an Arts and the Humanities Research Council Award. Prior to joining the Law School, Versteeg was an Olin Fellow and lecturer in law at the University of Chicago Law School, where she taught comparative legal institutions. Versteeg previously worked at the U.N. Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute in Turin and at the Southern Africa Litigation Centre in Johannesburg. In the spring of 2009, she was a Hauser Global visiting researcher at New York University Law School. In the spring of 2010, she was a visiting scholar at the Center for Empirical Research in the Law at Washington University in St. Louis.

Ms. Alisa Zomer, MEM Candidate, Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies; Research Assistant with the GEM Initiative

Alisa Zomer is an MEM Candidate at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, where she is focusing on environmental governance, law, and public policy. Prior to Yale, Ms. Zomer was a research assistant and program coordinator with the World Resources Institute and worked on a range of issues and initiatives relating to access to information, public participation, and access to justice in environmental matters. She holds a B.A. in international affairs and international environmental resources from George Washington University, for which she was a recipient of a Presidential Scholarship.

Ms. Cristina Zucca, Legal Officer, United Nations Environment Programme

Maria Cristina Zucca is a legal officer at the United Nations Environment Programme (Division of Environmental law and Conventions), based in Nairobi, Kenya. She works on a wide spectrum of environmental law and policy issues, at national and international levels. She focuses on various streams of activities, including: capacity building programmes for legal stakeholders, including the judiciary; technical assistance and knowledge products to support the development of national policies and legislation in the field of environment; continuous development of environmental law, including emerging issues and policy and legal responses; advisory and secretariat services to intergovernmental processes in the context of UNEP and multilateral environmental agreements. One of the themes she focuses on is the relationship between human rights and environment, through various projects and activities. She is also involved in the follow-up to Rio+20 especially through the lenses of the contribution of justice, governance and law to environmental sustainability. Sectoral themes she has focused on in recent years include the connection between climate and air pollution, and chemicals. She has previously worked for the Multilateral Fund, an international financial mechanism that facilitates the implementation of the Montreal Protocol for the protection of the ozone layer. Prior to joining UNEP, she worked on environmental law issues in the private sector, research institutions and the Italian Ministry of Environment, and her responsibilities ranged from advising external parties on compliance with environmental legislation, supporting legislative drafting, designing and conducting trainings and other related activities. Cristina has a university degree in law and a master's degree in international legal studies.