



Participants

Tenure Facility

Learning Exchange

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the
**TENURE
FACILITY**



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Astolfo Aramburo Vivas

Astolfo is from Buenaventura, Colombia. He is Project Coordinator for the Tenure Facility initiative in the country. Astolfo is a lawyer with the Process of Black Communities and a member of the National Council of Afro-Colombian Peace (CONPA), where he is part of the team that monitors implementation of the Havana Peace Accord. For more than a decade, he has been deeply involved in the struggle to achieve collective title for Afro-descendant communities in Colombia.



Silvana Baldovino

Silvana is the Director of the Biodiversity and Indigenous Peoples Program at the Peruvian Environmental Law Society (SPDA). She is a lawyer with more than 18 years' experience in the areas of law pertaining to the environment and Indigenous Peoples. She designs and implements public policies and strategies, with emphasis on sustainable biodiversity conservation achieved through innovative solutions, indigenous land titling, mediation and conflict resolution. Silvana is a member of the Forestry and Wildlife Court of Peru, the Commission on Environmental Law, and the Commission of Environmental, Economic and Social Policy of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). She serves on the Consulting Committee for the Implementation of the Third Rural Land Titling Project of the Peruvian Ministry of Agriculture and Irrigation and the Consulting Committee for the Comparative Study on the Design and Implementation of Tenure Reforms in Forestry Lands of the Center for International Forestry Research. Silvana is Program Director of the current Tenure Facility initiative in Peru.



Solange Bandiaký-Badji

Solange Bandiaký-Badji is the Director for Africa and Gender Justice Programs for the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). She leads the development of RRI's strategy for engagement in Africa with a focus on tenure rights, building more synergies around new strategic analyses, and giving actors a more strategic understanding of trends, issues, options, and gender in Africa. She also spearheads RRI's Gender Justice Thematic Programs and ensures the implementation of the global gender strategy on women's tenure rights. She holds a PhD in Women's and Gender Studies from Clark University in Massachusetts and an MA in Environmental Sciences and in Philosophy from Cheikh Anta Diop University in Senegal. She worked as the Regional Expert on gender and climate change for the Africa Adaptation Programme (AAP) and the UNDP/ BDP Gender Team in New York. Solange has published work on gender in relation to natural resource management, decentralization and local governance, and forest and land reforms.



Sanjay Bavikatte

Sanjay is Executive Director at The Christensen Fund, a private foundation that buttresses the efforts of people and institutions who believe in a biodiverse world infused with artistic expression. The Fund works to secure ways of life and landscapes that are beautiful, bountiful and resilient. It recognises that most of the planet's remaining biocultural diversity is concentrated in the lands and communities of the world's Indigenous Peoples. It backs the efforts of these communities as they pursue their own development paths, valuing their heritage while working to adapt to new opportunities and threats. Sanjay was the Co-Founder of Natural Justice: Lawyers for Communities and the Environment. He has a PhD in public law from the University of Cape Town.



Shaan Bhargava

Shaan is Director of Special Projects at The Hans Foundation, which aids poor people in India. Shaan runs an initiative called Shivansh Farming, which identifies high-impact, almost-free solutions for millions of small-plot farmers around the world. Most farmers in developing countries are caught in never-ending debt cycles from purchasing expensive, and often toxic, farm inputs. The Foundation promotes techniques for farmers to quickly revive the natural fertility of their soil using only materials a farmer can freely access, such as leaves, grass, manure, weeds, water, and neem. Much of the work is inspired by ancient farming principles that have sustained civilization for thousands of years. The Hans Foundation aims to train millions of farmers to use these simple techniques to enhance their food security, improve nutrition, and overcome poverty.



Omaira Bolaños

Omaira is Director of the Latin America Program at the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). She holds a PhD in Anthropology from the University of Florida. Omaira has 23 years' experience working throughout Latin America on Indigenous Peoples' and Afro-descendant communities' collective tenure rights, sustainable development, gender justice, watershed management, community forestry, forest policy, community-based conservation, applied research, and capacity building. She has conducted research on Indigenous Peoples' struggle for land rights in the lower Amazon of Brazil, gender issues in community forestry in Bolivia, and community-based conservation approaches in Ecuador and Colombia. She has promoted a regional platform for addressing women's land rights and advising social movements regarding strategic advocacy to improve policy reforms for Indigenous Peoples', local communities', and women's tenure rights. In the past seven years, she has worked to prioritize and support the Afro-descendant movement in consolidating their collective tenure rights in the region. She joined RRI in 2009.

Ashwini Chhatre



Ashwini is a member of the faculty at the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad. He has an undergraduate degree in economics and a PhD in political science from Duke University. In between, he spent 11 years working with local communities and social movements on democratic governance of natural resources in India. He was the Giorgio Ruffolo Post-doctoral Fellow in Sustainability Science at Harvard University during 2006-07, and has been serving as a faculty member in the Department of Geography, University of Illinois since 2007. His research investigates the intersections of democracy with environment and development, with a more recent focus on rural livelihood dynamics in rainfed systems across different agro-ecological and socio-political contexts. He has co-authored one book and published articles in Science, PNAS, Annual Review of Environment and Resources, Conservation Biology, Journal of Peasant Studies, World Development, and other journals.

Salim Cissé

Secretariat, High Council for Agriculture Ministry of Agriculture Mali



Ibrahima Coulibaly

Ibrahima Coulibaly is a founder and President of the National Coordination of Farmers' Organizations (CNOP) of Mali, a member of the Association of Professional Farmers' Organizations of Mali (AOPP), and a member of the Regional Committee of the Network of Farmer Organizations and Producers of West Africa (ROPPA). He has been heavily involved in the implementation of Mali's new Agricultural Orientation Act and has sought to recognize the right to food sovereignty. Ibrahima helped to lead the Tenure Facility pilot initiative in Mali.



Kevin Currey

Kevin is a Program Officer for CLUA's Global and Mexico and Central America Initiatives. Kevin has worked with CLUA since 2013, first as a Ford Foundation Program Analyst, focused on expanding community land and forest rights and promoting climate change policies that benefit low-income rural communities, and later as a consultant supporting CLUA's Global and Mesoamerican work. Kevin has also consulted for the United Nations Development Programme, advising on the creation of its biodiversity strategic plan and developing new work on sustainable development in the Amazon. He began his career in rural Kenya, working with communities to address conflicts with large carnivores. Kevin holds a master's of environmental management degree from the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, where he studied the anthropology of development and conservation, and an undergraduate degree from Yale in environmental studies. He is based in New York.



Julio Cusurichi Palacios

Julio is President of the Native Federation of the Madre de Dios River and its Tributaries (FENAMAD). He was a recipient of the Goldman Prize for his strong advocacy on behalf of Indigenous Peoples, especially those in voluntary isolation that are threatened by logging and illegal commerce. Julio's role as an indigenous leader of the Peruvian Amazon has led him to take on several roles in national organizations, such as the Interethnic Association for the Development of the Peruvian Rainforest (AIDESEP), regional organizations such as FENAMAD, and local organizations such as the Comunidad Nativa EL Pilar. Additionally, he has been the Assistant Director for Citizen Participation and Native Communities of the regional government of Madre de Dios. Julio's work focusses on claiming indigenous rights in the Amazon and highlighting the challenges indigenous communities face, such as lack of legal protections for their territories, imposition of extractive activities, and environmental problems generated by the lack of public policies.



Kailash Chandra Dandapat

Kailash is the Executive Secretary of Jagruti in Kandhamal, as well as is the President of Antaranga, a youth federation facilitated by 10 civil society organizations in Kandhamal. He has a diploma in rural development from St. Francis Xavier University, Canada, and more than 35 years' social development experience in the NGO sector. Kailash's experience includes development planning and programme management, capacity building, advocacy and coordination, encompassing a range of sectors such as livelihoods, health, education, microfinance, tribal development and gender.



Vijayasingh Ronald David

Also known as V.S. Roy David, Roy is an activist and organizer from the Coorg District of Karnataka. He began his career working with tenants to implement the Land Reforms Act during the emergency in the South Kanara District. Though he paid a heavy price, 99% of the tenants got their lands. Roy's left hand was severely cut, and he narrowly escaped from death at the hands of landlords. In the late '70s, he worked in the Bombay slums building a people's organization called PROUD (Peoples Responsible Organization of United Dharavi). Returning to Coorg District from Bombay, Roy worked with rural communities under threat of eviction and founded the Coorg Organization for Rural Development (CORD). Since 1984, Roy has focused on Adivasi livelihood rights and cultural identity. He organized Adivasis and NGOs to stop the Taj Group of hotels from building a resort in Nagarhole National Park. This was accomplished by filing a successful public interest litigation case in both the Supreme Court and the Karnataka High Court. Later, Roy began work at the national level with Adivasi groups from across India, leading to the creation of the National Adivasi Alliance (NAA). The NAA and other networks pressured the government to pass the Forest Rights Act in 2006. His efforts helped secure thousands of hectares of forest and revenue for Adivasis. Currently, Roy focusses on securing community forest rights, community forest governance, and land conflicts suffered by Adivasis and Dalits. He has also taken up child rights and is in charge of the Child Help Line-1098 in the Kodugu District.



Bibhore Deo

Bibhore has been anchoring Vasundhara's thematic work on the community forest rights and habitat rights of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups since 2014. He works with communities, administrations, CSOs and other stakeholders engaged in implementing the Forest Rights Act of 2006. His focus is on action research to develop frameworks and strategies for effective implementation of the law. Bibhore has been a campaigner for the training and orientation programs of National Resource Centre within SCSTRTI, set up by the Tribal Department, Tata Institute of Social Science, Administrative Staff College of India and other institutions. He has anchored the preparation of training manuals on forest rights for the National Resource Centre in SCSTRTI under the aegis of UNDP-Ministry of Tribal Affairs as well as other organizations.



Boubacar Diarra

Boubacar is the Coordinator of the Steering Committee for HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation in Mali, an organization that works to ensure that the agricultural heritage of Mali is protected through safeguarding land and forest tenure and promoting sustainable agricultural practices. A project manager and technical adviser with substantial experience in the field of land tenure and in the Sahel region, Boubacar has also worked as the Sahel Regional Facilitator for RRI and as the Regional Coordinator of NGOs in Mali's Koulikoro region. Boubacar previously served as the Tenure Facility Pilot Project Coordinator in Mali.



Anne-Sophie Gindroz

Anne-Sophie is the RRI Facilitator for South East Asia and is based in Indonesia. She also provides support for the Tenure Facility initiatives in Indonesia and Mali. Before joining RRI, she worked as Country Director in Mali and Laos for HELVETAS Swiss Intercooperation for 10 years. She has also worked for the SDC, the European Commission, the ICRC, and Swisscontact. Anne-Sophie has been engaging in the Aid and Development Effectiveness process, focusing in particular on creating an enabling environment for civil society. She has also been advocating for the resource rights of communities challenged by extractive industries and industrial plantations. Anne-Sophie has a law degree and holds a master's degree in development studies.

Satish Gogulwar

Satish is the founder, trustee and convener of Amhi Amchya Arogyasathi (AAA), a civil society organization established in 1984 and dedicated to the self-help and self-governance movement. AAA began its work in 1996 in Korchi Taluka, where it supported the formation of a women's self-help group, gramsabha Empowerment and Reduction in Child Mortality and Malnutrition. Following the passage of the Forest Rights Act of 2006, AAA began in 2010 to empower gramsabha through community forest rights. AAA initiates the process of forming a Mahagramsabha Korchi and assists the gramsabha in the preparation of a forest management plan for its forest and a biodiversity register, as well as account keeping and to increase women participation.



Marcelo Guerra Pérez

Marcelo is the President of the General Congress of the Bugle Territory. Since 2015, he has served as President of the National Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples in Panama (COONAPIP). Born in the Comarca Ngäbe-Buglé, Marcelo has been involved in the struggle for indigenous land rights since he was a youth. He served as a technician, and later as undersecretary of the COONAPIP. As President, Marcelo has made significant improvements to the administration of COONAPIP and enhanced the organization's national reputation in the fight for recognition of Indigenous Peoples' territorial rights.

Shri Siyaram Halami

Shri is President of the Gond Adivasi Jat Panchayat of 90 villages in Korchhi Taluka, District Gadchiroli, Maharashtra. He is a member of the Gond Tribe. Shri was the main promoter of the formation of the Taluka Gramsabha Federation known as Mahagramsabha Korchhi District Gadchiroli Maharashtra. Under his guidance 87 gramsabha became members of Mahagramsabha and successfully auctioned their tendu leaves jointly in 2017 and 2018 at Korchhi.



Tajamul Haque

Tajamul is an agricultural economist, author, and specialist in land tenure reform, sustainable agriculture, and economic development. He is Chair of the Centre for Agricultural Policy Dialogue in New Delhi, Distinguished Professor at the Council for Social Development in New Delhi, and Chair of both India's Expert Committee on Land Related Issues in Island Development and Expert Committee for Appraisal of Infrastructure Projects at the Ministry of Environment. He has a PhD in Economics from Patna University and has completed post-doctoral training at Iowa State University. He has served as Chair of India's Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices, National Fellow at the Indian Council for Agricultural Research, Director of the Council for Social Development, Director of the Centre for Agrarian Studies, and Senior Scientist at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute. Tajamul is a consultant to international organisations such as FAO, ILO, Landesa, and the World Bank.



Sangeetha Hariharan

Sangeetha is the Coordinator of the Tenure Facility initiative in India. She has a master's in business administration from New Delhi Institute of Management and completed graduate studies in information management at the University of Maryland-College Park. She previously worked for a leading global law firm.

Terri Henry



Terri is the Secretary of State for the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and chair of the Indian Law Resource Center's board of directors. In 2017, she began serving a three-year term as a member of the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. Terri has dedicated her career and life to advancing the human rights of indigenous peoples and to achieving justice for indigenous women domestically, regionally, and internationally. She serves as the co-chair of the National Congress of American Indians Task Force on Violence against Women and, in that role, has helped to submit a number of joint written statements to the UN Human Rights Council and its special procedures, including the Special Rapporteurs on the rights of indigenous peoples and on violence against women, the Working Group on discrimination against women in law and practice, and the Universal Periodic Review of the United States, as well as the Commission on the Status of Women.



Ali Kaba

Ali is Program Manager and Senior Researcher at the Sustainable Development Institute (SDI), a Liberian non-governmental organization working to transform decision-making processes in relation to natural resources. He coordinates SDI's Community Land Protection Program activities and supervises the organization's Early Warning System (EWS). The Early Warning System provides communities with information and support to enhance community capacity to negotiate with national and international investors. Ali worked extensively with the Liberian Land Commission and helped draft the country's new Land Rights Policy. He also worked on Liberia's development agenda: National Vision 2030. Ali is an author and holds a master's degree in international development from the Korb School of International Studies in the USA.



Dewi Kartika

Dewi is the Secretary General of KPA, the Agrarian Reform Consortium in Indonesia. KPA is a non-governmental organization engaged in land rights, especially fighting for the implementation of agrarian reform in Indonesia and strengthening women's leadership in relation to the struggle for land and control of agrarian resources.



Tuntiak Katan

Tuntiak is an indigenous leader of the Shuar Nation of Ecuador and Vice Coordinator of the Indigenous Organizations of the Amazon Basin (COICA). He is an environmentalist with expertise in applied ecology, environmental administration, biology of conservation, and management of natural resources. In addition, he has conducted extensive research over the past 18 years on the Shuar culture and language. Tuntiak has worked extensively on social, cultural, and environmental projects involving the 11 cultures of the Amazonian region of Ecuador as well as the Indigenous Peoples of Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, and Colombia. He is a member of and works for the Inter-Provincial Federation of Shuar Centers which are located throughout indigenous Shuar territories. Using his expertise in linguistic, anthropological, and environmental sciences, Tuntiak is dedicated to investigating, documenting, and advocating for Amazonian languages and cultures, while implementing development strategies congruent with the vision of Indigenous Peoples and rooted in their cultural and environmental rights.



Arvind Khare

Arvind is a natural resources management specialist with more than 30 years' experience with the non-profit, corporate, and public sectors. He was the first chair of the Board of Directors of the Tenure Facility. Arvind is the past Executive Director and co-founder of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), where he is currently a Senior Director. Throughout his career, Arvind has contributed to the critical examination of poverty-environment linkages, initiated innovative rural development projects, and participated in social risk assessments of development investments in India. An alumnus of the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad, he is currently based in Washington, DC.



Shri Ranendra Kumar

Shri is a writer. A former State Civil Service Officer, he has served the government as a Revenue Officer, Development Officer, District Development Officer, State Director of Tourism, Director of Sports & Youth Affairs, and Director TRI. As a writer, his experience spans editorial books, encyclopedias, novels, stories and story collections, poetry, and magazine articles. Shri is the winner of the Best Story of the Year Award of 2005.



Eleni Kyrrou

Eleni is Senior Social Development Specialist at the European Investment Bank (Luxembourg). She is a development practitioner with a background in social development and urban development policy and planning, with 20 years' experience across most of the global south. Eleni has worked for civil society organizations, research institutions, and multilateral/international agencies in the context of urban development and urban governance; access to housing for low-income population groups at scale; participatory resettlement and relocation of informal settlers; relief aid; and post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation. She has a particular interest and experience in promoting socially just development; rights-based approaches to development; collaborative/participatory planning; and gender in development.

Cristiam Camilo Guerrero Lovera

Cristiam is a political scientist with expertise in conflict resolution, transitional justice, and territorial rights of Afro-Colombian communities in the Caribbean. A researcher at the Observatory of Ethnic and Peasant Territories (OTEC) at the Pontifical University of Javeriana, he contributed to the 'Study on the Territorial Rights of Black Communities' published in 2017 by OTEC, the Black Communities' Process (PCN) and Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). Cristiam also helped to develop the Tenure Facility initiative: Collective Land Title of Afro-descendant Ancestral Territories in Colombia. At OTEC, he coordinates the updating of the Geographical and Qualitative Information System on Afro-Colombian community councils without collective title, and he compiles good practices in titling. In addition, Cristiam accompanies the indigenous communities of the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta and the community councils of the Montes de María in their land-restitution and territorial-defence processes.

Manuel Martinez Villagra



Manuel is the Coordinator of the project 'Strengthening the territorial security and organizational capacity of the Indigenous Peoples of Panama.' Led by the National Coordinating Body of Indigenous Peoples in Panama (COONAPIP), this initiative is funded by the Tenure Facility. He belongs to the Ngäbe people. He has worked to defend the territorial rights of his community and the Indigenous Peoples of Panama since 1986. Manuel has a degree in Agricultural Engineering and more than 15 years' experience in rural development. He has worked with many international and national organizations, including the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the Ministry of Government (MINGOB). Manuel was Project Coordinator for the Tenure Facility pilot project in Panama, completed in 2017.



Trupti Mehta

Trupti is a Trustee and Executive at Action Research in Community Health and Development (ARCH-Vahini). She has been working the land and property rights of poor Adivasi communities since 1980. After working, together with her colleagues, for proper rehabilitation for the affected families of the Sardar Sarovar Project, from 1988, she has been engaged with tribal families of Shoolpaneshwar Sanctuary in Dediapada of Narmada district regarding their land and forest rights. She joined the national campaign for the passage of Forest Rights Act 2006 (FRA) and, after the enactment of the Act, she and her husband, Ambrish Mehta, have been working for good implementation of the FRA, both for individual forest land rights and community forest resource rights.



Charo Mina-Rojas

Charo is an Afro-Colombian human rights defender with more than two decades of experience in activism at the national and international levels. She is the National Coordinator of Advocacy and Outreach for the Black Communities' Process and a member of the Afro-Colombian Solidarity Network. She was extensively involved in the Havana peace process, serving on the Gender Committee of the Ethnic Commission. The Commission's advocacy led to the landmark achievement of an Ethnic Chapter within the Peace Accord, which contains protections for Indigenous and Afro-Colombian Peoples, including for their gender-based human rights. Charo was the first Afro-descendant woman to present herself before the United Nations Security Council, which she did in October 2017 in the expanded debate of the Council on Women, Peace and Security.



Augusta Molnar

Augusta is Secretary of the Tenure Facility's Board of Directors. She is a cultural anthropologist. Augusta focused her career on forest and mountain communities, their tenure and rights, resources, and livelihoods. She retired from the World Bank in 2006, having served as a project manager for land, forest, agriculture, and indigenous peoples grants and loans in Mexico and Central America and as a social specialist on forestry projects in South and Southeast Asia. She is a co-founder of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI), and retired as RRI's Senior Director of Country and Regional Programs in 2014. Augusta currently is Chair of the Board of The Mountain Institute.

George Monippally

Father George is a social activist working among tribal and other deprived sections of society in remote tribal areas of Jharkhand. He is associated with Bharat Jan Andolan, a national-level people's organisation. He is also an active member of the Campaign for Survival and Dignity (CSD) a forum of people's organizations and movements that spearheaded the campaign for the Forest Rights Act of 2006 and the democratization of forest governance.

Nachiket Mor



Nachiket is the National Director of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation in India. He oversees the foundation's efforts to improve family health, sanitation, financial inclusion, and agriculture. Nachiket works closely with India's central and state governments, local and global nonprofits, community groups, researchers, and the private sector to help India achieve its ambitious health and development goals. Prior to this, he worked for the ICICI Bank from 1987 to 2007 and was a member of its Board of Directors from 2001 to 2007. From 2007 to 2011, he served as the founding President of the ICICI Foundation. Nachiket is a Yale World Fellow and has an undergraduate degree in physics from the University of Mumbai; a postgraduate diploma in management from the Indian Institute of Management at Ahmedabad; and a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Pennsylvania, with a specialization in finance from the Wharton School.



Samar Bosu Mullick

Samar, also known as 'Sanjay', is the founder and President of the Jharkhand Jangal Bachao Andolan (Jharkhand Save the Forest Movement). The movement began in 2000 with the objective of restoring the collective ownership rights of the village community over its ancestral forest. The Movement is now engaged in implementing the Forest Rights Act of 2006. In the past, Sanjay was a leading member of some fora of the All India Front for Forest Rights Struggles. Presently, he is a member of All India's Convening Committee. Sanjay is also a member of the Group of Conveners that leads the Jharkhand Van Adhikar Manch (Jharkhand Forum for Forest Rights). He was a faculty member of the Xavier Institute for Social Service (XISS) from 1984 to 2004. He has written extensively on tribal autonomy, identity, and land and forest rights issues.



Abdon Nababan

Abdon is a leading indigenous authority on the rights of Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia. He formerly served as the Secretary General of Indigenous Peoples' Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN), and now serves on the National Council of AMAN, representing Sumatra region. Abdon was the Coordinator of the Steering Committee at the Network for the Defense of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (JAPHAMA). He serves as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Yayasan Setara/NTFP, Chairman of the Council of Forest Watch Indonesia (FWI), and Advisor at the Samdhana Institute. A Toba Batak from North Sumatra, Indonesia, Abdon has led successful campaigns to earn greater recognition for Indigenous Peoples' rights, with a special focus on land and forest rights. He is the 2017 winner of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, the so-called Asian Nobel Prize.



Shloka Nath

Shloka Nath is Head of Sustainability and Special Projects at the Tata Trusts. She focuses on climate, energy and environment work, implementing and funding sustainable and scalable solutions that help both people and nature thrive across India. She has a master's in public policy from Harvard University.



Samuel Nguiffo

Samuel Nguiffo is the Secretary General of the Center for Environment and Development in Yaoundé, which he created in 1995 with the aim of realizing sustainable management of Central Africa's forests. Samuel is a Cameroonian lawyer specialising in community rights and land tenure in Cameroon and the Congo Basin. He received a Goldman Environmental Prize in 1999 for his work to protect the tropical rainforests of Central Africa. Samuel currently sits on the Board of Directors at the Washington-based organization, Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). He is based in Cameroon.



Margareta Nilsson

Margareta is Head of Programs at the Tenure Facility. A forester by training, she began her career in Sweden as a local government ecologist before focusing on forestry and natural resource governance in the tropics. Margareta worked for three years in Costa Rica with CATIE, a regional institute for tropical agriculture and forestry. There she supported community forest management in projects in Honduras, Guatemala, Costa Rica and Nicaragua. Margareta is a co-founder of the Ecuadorian NGO Fundación Cambugán. After working on rural development, land tenure, and conservation projects in Asia and Latin America, she joined the Swedish Government's agency for international development cooperation, Sida. There, she provided Sida's core support to the Rights and Resources Initiative, the Forest and Farm Facility, the International Land Coalition and IUCN.



Sudhir Pal

Sudhir works with Manthan Yuva Sansthan to build and strengthen forest rights governance in Jharkhand State. He has been working to strengthen grassroots democracy in Jharkhand for the past two decades. His areas of focus include development, communication, PRI, PESA, Forest Rights Act, and land rights. Sudhir is a prolific writer and former Managing Editor. He has written six books on different aspects of governance.



Sankar Pani

Sankar is an environment lawyer with the National Green Tribunal and Orissa Highcourt in Odisha. He holds a law degree from Utkal University, a postgraduate degree in environmental biology, and a PG Diploma in environment law. Sankar's practice specialises in land rights, mining and industrialisation, environmental impact assessments, waste management, forest governance, tribal rights, human rights, corporate accountability, and transparency. He provides legal support to people's movements in their fight against corporations and helps communities to secure their land rights. In recent years he has focused on securing the forest rights of indigenous communities in Odisha, the right to information, environmental governance issues, and engaging with judicial and quasi-judicial institutions for upholding the legal rights of communities over their resources, territories, and lands.



Sandeep Pattnaik

Sandeep is a consultant to the National Center for Advocacy Studies (NCAS), in India. He is helping to build capacity for people-centered advocacy, conducting action research, and writing policy and legislative briefs on the rights of tribals, dalits, women, children and landless laborers over their land, forest and other natural resources. Sandeep has experience working with tribal governance issues in the central eastern belt of India, where he is conducting research and organizing public hearings regarding people displaced by mining, dams and industrial expansion. He is also conducting fact-finding studies on the forced eviction of Indigenous Peoples from their land and filing cases in non-judicial redress forums. Sandeep is a member of the steering committee of the International Campaign for the Ratification of the Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR). He has been supporting human rights defenders whose lives and health are at risk because of their peaceful and legitimate activities. Sandeep completed the Human Rights Advocacy Programme at Columbia University in 2007.



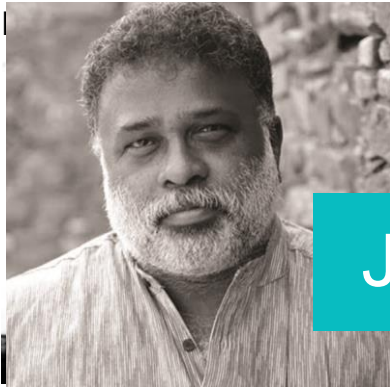
Françoise Piouparé

Françoise is a member of the Executive Committee of TENFOREST. She is an expert on the legal framework governing land tenure in Burkina Faso, gender-based approaches to community development, and climate change. Françoise is a civil society activist and human rights defender with extensive experience defending the rural land rights of local communities and women. She has over 15 years of experience in the field in Burkina, with a deep understanding of the rural environment and an ability to adapt to the different socio-cultural contexts throughout the country's rural areas.



Nityananda Pradhan

Nityananda Pradhan and other social experts formed a leading volunteer organization in Malkangiri district in 1993-94 called Partivartan. He completed his MRD, and has more than 20 years' experience promoting tribal self-rule, governance and better livelihoods in Malkangiri, which is dominated by tribes. His journey with Parivarttan began with vital work in areas of livelihood security, child rights, and community health for most vulnerable. Parivartan's focus is on strengthening people's organizations with a cluster model program, in order to establish people's rights and ownership over land, forest and other natural resources.



Jagdeesh Rao

Jagdeesh is Chief Executive of the Foundation for Ecological Security (FES), which promotes the judicious management of natural resources. Areas of interest and involvement include conservation of forests and water, land degradation, semi-arid and dryland ecosystems, decentralized governance of natural resources, political economy of commons, bioregional planning and land use studies.



Luisa Rios Romero

Luisa is a Regional Coordinator at the Peruvian Society for Environmental Law (SPDA). A forest and environmental engineer, with a specialization in forest business planning, she has extensive experience working with public and private institutions involved in environmental law, sustainable forest management and access, assessment, and non-timber forest resources. Previously for SPDA, she coordinated the Conservation Program. Luisa has lectured internationally, championing and advocating for the rights of environmental defenders and the scaling-up of the territorial rights of communities and Indigenous Peoples.



Nonette Royo

Nonette is the Executive Director of the Tenure Facility. She is a lawyer, activist, and author, specializing in the land rights of Indigenous Peoples and community-based natural resource management. She most recently led the Samdhana Institute in Southeast Asia. In the past two decades, Nonette has pioneered civil society initiatives in public interest law and environmental justice in the Philippines, Indonesia, and mainland Southeast Asia. In the Philippines, she co-founded an organization for legal and policy research and advocacy on Indigenous Peoples' rights, and another dedicated to women's rights. Until recently, Nonette also served as Vice President for Research and Social Outreach at Xavier University. In Indonesia, Nonette assisted environmental advocacy and social justice movements. Her work includes facilitating the establishment of NGO networks and multi-stakeholder coalitions in key forested and biodiverse locations. Nonette also helped develop the Indigenous People's Support Fund, which nurtures local indigenous organizations' visions to protect the last contiguous biodiverse landscapes in the region.



Geetanjoy Sahu

Geetanjoy is an Assistant Professor at the Centre for Science, Technology & Society, School of Habitat Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS), Mumbai. He earlier served as Post-Doctoral Associate at the Centre for Interdisciplinary Studies in Environment and Development (CISED), Bengaluru. He holds a PhD in Political Science from the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC), Bengaluru and a MPhil from Hyderabad Central University (HCU), Hyderabad. His research and teaching focusses on environmental policy and governance, analysis of judicial behaviour on environmental litigation, and the politics of interaction between state and forest rights groups over forest resource management. He is the author of the book "Environmental Jurisprudence and the Indian Supreme Court: Litigation, Interpretation and Implementation."



Ronald Salazar Chávez

Ronald is the Director of the General Office of Sanitation of Agrarian Property and Rural Cadastre in Peru. He is a lawyer, specializing in civil and commercial law, as well as land registry. Ronald has more than eight years' experience with the public sector in the titling of rural lands. Previously, he served as Regional Director of the Directorate of Land Titling and Rural Cadastre for the region of Cajamarca. He is a University Professor at the National University of Cajamarca and Antonio Guillermo Urrelo Private University. Ronald is also a national and international speaker on the titling of rural, peasant and indigenous lands.



Raymond Achu Samndong

Raymond is the Tenure Facility's Manager of Monitoring, Evaluation, Learning and Reporting. He has a PhD in International Environment and Development Studies from the Norwegian University of Life Sciences. His research focused on governance of natural resources and REDD+ programs in the Congo Basin. Raymond conducted field research on the impacts of conservation and development interventions on local peoples' rights, access to forests, local participation, and benefit sharing. In addition to other consultancies for international organizations, Raymond was the principal researcher for the Responsive Forest Governance Initiative.



Oscar Ivan Sanchez Gomez

Oscar is a lawyer specializing in public law with extensive knowledge of agrarian and ethnic rights. He is the Coordinator of the team responsible for the collective land titling of Afro-descendant communities at the National Land Agency of Colombia and has made significant achievements in this regard. He is a former advisor to the Bogota District Department of Health and has experience with municipal governments as well as tax and customs. He studied Post-conflict Land Policy at the University of Rosario.



Gerardo Segura

Gerardo is a member of the Tenure Facility's Advisory Board. He is Senior Rural Development and Natural Resources Management Specialist at the World Bank. Prior to joining the Bank in 2005, Gerardo coordinated the National Program on Community Forestry in Mexico under the Mexican Forestry Commission (CONAFOR) and the Ministry of Environment and Natural Resources (SEMARNAT) for more than 10 years. He also acted as Technical Secretary of the of the National Advisory Council on Forestry Affairs. Prior to this, Gerardo was Assistant Professor in Forestry Ecology and Sylvicultural at the Institute of Ecology of the National Autonomous University of México (UNAM). He holds a PhD and a MS in forest sciences from the University of Washington and a BA in biology/ecology from the Universidad Metropolitana, Mexico. During his years in the World Bank, Gerardo has worked extensively in operations and advisory services throughout Latin America, and more recently, in Africa. His areas of expertise include community forestry, carbon finance and forest tenure security.



Nitin Sethi

Nitin is Senior Associate Editor at the Business Standard in Delhi, India. His experience includes writing and editing with Scroll Media, The Hindu, The Times of India, and Down to Earth India.



Satyam Shrivastava

Satyam is Co-director of the Society for Rural, Urban and Tribal Initiative (SRUTI), where he is engaged in finance management, as well as issues related to natural resources (land, forest and water), education, and governance. Prior to working with SRUTI, Satyam worked on homelessness, urban poverty, and the rights of homeless children. His experience includes work with Centre for Equity Studies. Satyam was an active student union member while pursuing an MA and MPhil in Hindi at Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi University. His publications include subjects such as mining, forest, local governance, globalization, caste and education. He is interested in exploring research on the politics of caste.



Pedro Sitton

Pedro is the National Director of Indigenous Lands and Municipal Assets at the National Land Administration Authority (ANATI), in Panama. He is a lawyer and human rights activist, and has completed postgraduate, master's and doctoral studies in international law, foreign policy and international relations. Pedro is a member of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and Vice Chair of its confidentiality committee. He has been a delegate representing Panama in more than one hundred meetings within the framework of the United Nations System, IACHR, OAS, OMA, ICSID Permanent Court of Arbitration and The Hague Conference on International Law.



Rukka Sombolinggi

Rukka is the first female Secretary General of the Indigenous Peoples Alliance of the Archipelago (AMAN)—the world's largest Indigenous Peoples' organization. She is a Torajan from Sulawesi. Before joining AMAN in 1999, Rukka worked for JAPHAMA (Jaringan Pembelaan Hak-hak Masyarakat Adat), a network of Indigenous People's defenders—one of the groups that convened the first congress of Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia in March 1999 where AMAN was established.



Archana Soreng

Archana is a Research Officer in the Tata Institute of Social Science Forest Rights and Governance Project in Odisha. Originally from Odisha, she studied political science at Patna Women's College. In 2015, she was elected as the National Convener of Adivasi Yuva Chetna Manch, one of the thrust areas of All India Catholic University Federation (AICUF), a student's movement. Archana has pursued a master's in regulatory governance from Tata Institute of Social Science, Mumbai. She was also elected as the President of TISS Student Union in 2017-2018.



Andrew Taber

Andrew is a member of the Tenure Facility's Advisory Board. He is Team Leader for Social Forestry at Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO). Andrew manages FAO's work in social forestry around the world. Prior assignments include heading The Mountain Institute, an international NGO working with remote communities to conserve the environment, build prosperity, and support indigenous cultures in mountain regions. He has worked in the Americas, Asia, and Africa. Andrew's expertise spans climate change adaptation and mitigation, landscape conservation, forest management, sustainable development, and capacity building.



David Abouem A Tchoyi

David is a retired Superscale Senior Administrative Officer in Cameroon. In the Ministry of Territorial Administration, he has served as Director of Territorial Organisation, Secretary General, and Inspector General. In Cameroon's government, David has also served as Secretary General of the Ministry of Planning and Regional Development, Secretary General of the Ministry of the Economy and Planning, Governor of the North West and South West regions, Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research, Secretary General of the Prime Minister's Office, and Secretary General of the Presidency of the Republic. He has been a Main Technical Adviser to the United Nation Development Program's good governance programme, and a consultant to many national and international organisations on issues of decentralisation, public administration and good governance. He has been deeply involved in promoting bilingualism in Cameroon and at the request of the Government has conducted studies on civic education and national integration. David has served as the Tenure Facility Focal Point in Cameroon.



Stanley N. Toe

Stanley is the Executive Director of the Liberia Land Authority. He has a master's degree in Public Administration, and previously held senior positions at Liberia's former Ministry of Planning and Economic Affairs (MPEA), the Public Utilities Section, the Liberia Telecommunications Corporation (LTC), and other agencies. He joined the Liberia Land Commission in 2010, where he held positions of increasing responsibility. In June 2017, the Board of Commissioners of the newly established Land Authority, appointed Stanley as the Land Authority's first executive director. In this position, he has conducted research and activities to support land reform in Liberia through implementation of the Land Rights Policy.



Alain Traoré

Alain is a geographer and specialist in rural land tenure with more than 25 years' experience in project management within development, civil society, and academia. An expert in sustainable resource management, non-violent conflict management, and participatory project planning, he has helped communities, government, and local producers to strengthen their capacity to plan and implement projects seeking to recognize community tenure rights. Most recently, Alain has contributed to the implementation of the law on rural land tenure in Burkina Faso by supporting the development of several local land charters. He has also supported tenure recognition projects internationally in Burkina, Mali, and Guinea.



Shweta Tripathi

Shweta is Co-director of the Society for Rural, Urban and Tribal Initiative (SRUTI), where she is deeply engaged in natural resource (land, forest and water), education, governance, gender, and health issues. Previously, Shweta worked on communalism, homelessness, and urban poverty. Her experience includes work on secularism with ANHAD and the rights of homeless children with the Centre for Equity Studies. Shweta was an active student union member while pursuing an MA and MPhil in Hindi at Mahatma Gandhi International Hindi, and has worked extensively on the politics of educational institutions. Her publications focus on land, forests, domestic labour, globalization, gender, and education. She is interested in exploring research on and building further advocacy around land rights and agrarian reforms within the development paradigm.



R. Venkataramanan

Venkat is the Managing Trustee of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and is responsible for managing and overseeing all Tata Trusts, which are public charities. Tata Sons, the parent company of the Tata group, India's largest conglomerate, is the principal shareholder of the Tata Trusts. Venkat is a science graduate and lawyer. He has an MBA from Sri Satya Sai University and graduated from the Advance Management Program at Harvard Business School. Venkat has more than 20 years' experience in finance, business support and strategy. Previously, Venkat was Head of Business Support at the Qatar Foundation, a non-profit based in Doha. He also worked in Videsh Sanchar Nigam Limited, Mumbai (VSNL), now known as Tata Communications and the Gujarat State Finance Corporation.



Jorge Luis Ventocilla

Jorge is the Tenure Facility's Focal Point in Panama, supporting initiatives led by National Coordination of Indigenous Peoples of Panama (COONAPIP). He is a biologist, educator, and author, with a master's degree in wildlife management. Jorge has extensive experience as a forest ranger and head of environmental conservation programs at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. His current professional work focuses on education and communication about environmental issues and Indigenous Peoples, as well as interpretation of scientific projects in tropical biology. Jorge is a member of the steering committee of the Center for Latin American Studies, which has received a National Award for Environmental Excellence.



Julie T. B. Weah

As Executive Director of the Foundation for Community Initiatives (FCI) in Liberia, Julie advocates for the rights of women to own land and have equal participation in the governance and management of natural resources in Liberia. She is a former Coordinator of the NGO Coalition of Liberia, a network of over 20 Liberian NGOs working in the forestry sector. The Coalition participates in the negotiations to develop a FLEGT Voluntary Partnership Agreement with the European Union to combat trade in illegal timber. Julie is Vice President of the African Women Network for Community Management of Forest (REFACOF). She works closely with the African Community Rights Network (ACRN) and the National Multi-stakeholder Monitoring Committee of the Liberia VPA process. She recently completed Africans Rising's Activist in Resident Program, as well as the Women Land Rights Visiting Professional Program organized by Landesa. As a member of the Land Rights Working Group in Liberia, she contributes to local and national land reform processes. The Working Group was active in the campaign on community and women land rights in Liberia which pushed for passage of the Land Rights Act (LRA).



Andy White

Andy is Coordinator of the Rights and Resources Initiative (RRI). He also serves as President of the Rights and Resources Group, the non-profit coordinating mechanism of the RRI Coalition based in Washington, DC. Prior to co-founding RRI in 2005, 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. As Coordinator of RRI, he advises on policy research, advocacy, and engagement in Asia, Latin America, and Africa. He also leads initiatives and networks to advance RRI's mission. His research and publications focus 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.



Kasmita Widodo

Kasmita is Head of the Customary Territory Registration Agency (BRWA) in Indonesia. BRWA provides a system for managing the process of documenting, registering, and verifying the territories of Indigenous Peoples in Indonesia. BRWA was established in 2010 by The Alliance of Indigenous Peoples of the Archipelago (AMAN), Participatory Mapping Network (JKPP), Forest Watch Indonesia (FWI), Sawit Watch and the Consortium for Supporting Community-based Forest Management Systems (KpSHK). Kasmita is also the Coordinator of the Working Group ICCAs Indonesia (WGII). ICCA's members are Indonesian NGOs that advocate for adoption of best practices for good governance of natural resources and conservation, protection of the environment, community mapping, land use and tenure, community benefits and rights, and the recognition of Indigenous People's land rights.



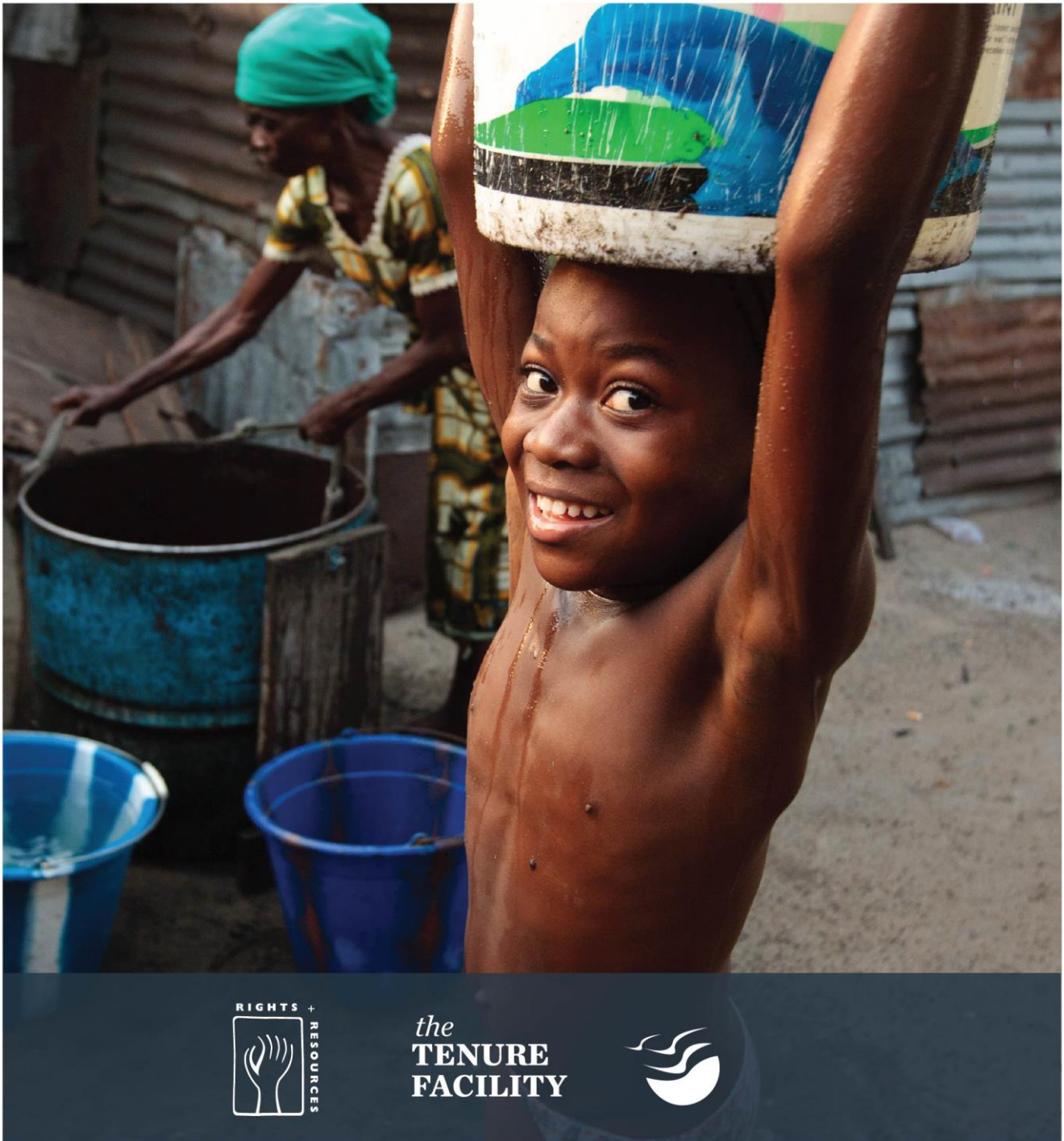
Rose Xaxa

Rose is a tribal woman and grassroots-level activist. She works in the predominantly tribal communities of Gumla and Simdega Districts of Jharkhand State. Rose has contributed towards empowering communities, especially women. Currently, she is helping communities file claims to their Community Forest Resource rights and spearheading community-based forest governance.



Blaise Yoda

Blaise is the Director of Rural Tenure at the Ministry of Agriculture in Burkina Faso, where he works with others in government and civil society to oversee the country's land reform process. He is an agronomist specializing in rural development, land issues, land use planning and project management. Blaise has extensive experience building legal capacity for farmers and communities engaged in the land reform process, land tenure policy, results-based management, and public administration.



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