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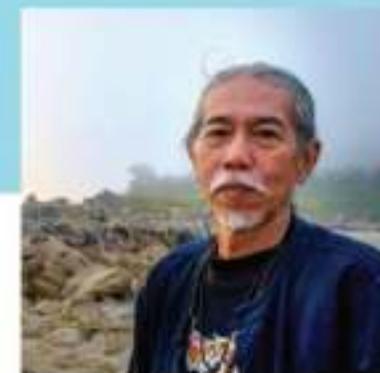
HRC51 SIDE EVENT

Protecting the Frontline:

Good Practices for Supporting Environmental Human Rights Defenders

5 OCTOBER 2022 | 9:00 - 10:00 CEST
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Soo-Young Hwang



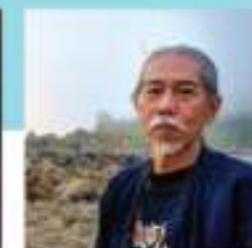
Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme



Protecting the frontline:

Good Practices for
Supporting Environmental
Human Rights Defenders

Protecting the frontline: Good practices for
supporting environmental human rights
defenders



Protecting the Frontline:

Good Practices for Supporting Environmental Human Rights Defenders



SPEAKERS



H.E. Amb. Tine Mørch Smith 

Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN in Geneva



Kelly Billingsley 

Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States to the Human Rights Council



Alfred Brownell 

Lead Campaigner and Founder, Green Advocates



Andrew Anderson 

Executive Director, Front Line Defenders



Soo-Young Hwang 

Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme



H.E. Amb. Shara Duncan-Villalobos 

Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargée d'affaires of Costa Rica to the UN in Geneva



Therese Arnesen 

Human Rights Officer, Environment and Climate Change, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



Mitzi Jonelle Tan 

Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP); and organizer with Fridays for Future International and Fridays for Future Most Affected Peoples and Areas



Marc Limon 

Executive Director, Universal Rights Group

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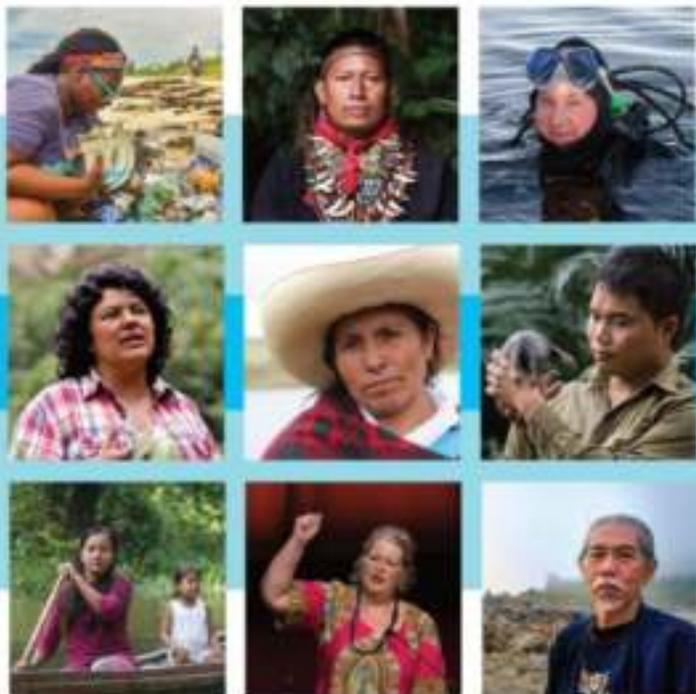


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Welcome and Introduction



**H.E. Amb. Tine
Mørch Smith**



Permanent Mission of Norway
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Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN in Geneva

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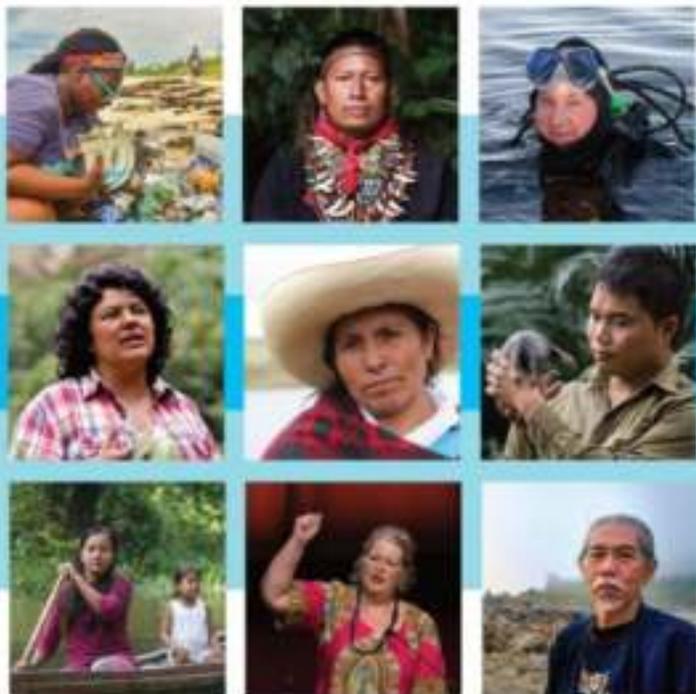
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**H.E. Amb. Shara
Duncan-Villalobos**



Deputy Permanent Representative and
Chargée d'affaires of Costa Rica to the UN in Geneva

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Kelly Billingsley



Deputy Permanent Representative of the
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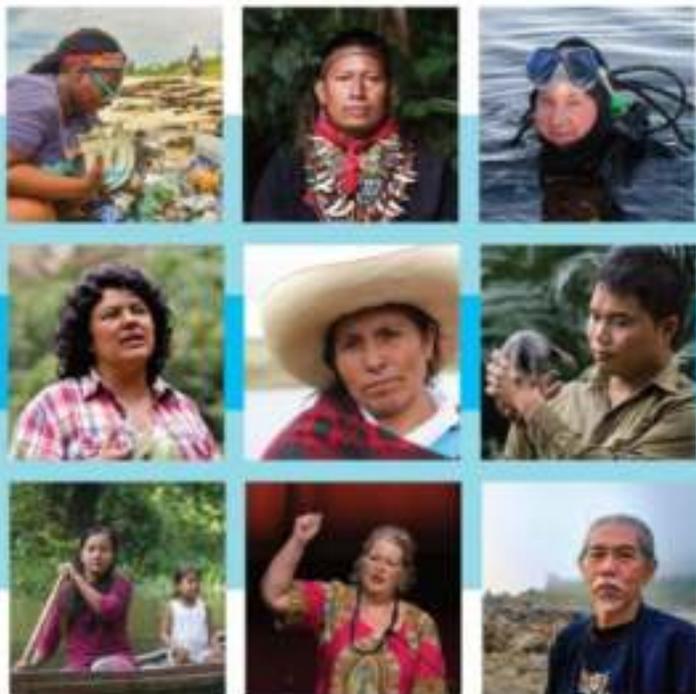
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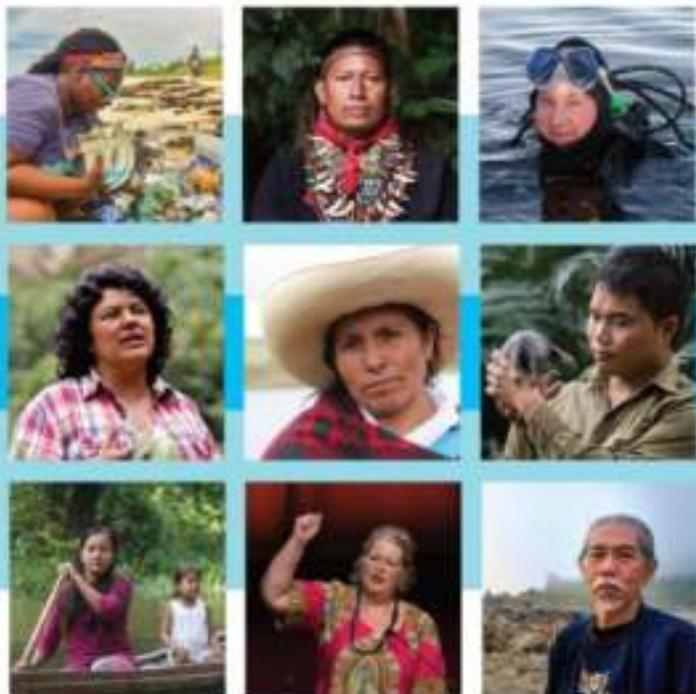


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Therese Arnesen



Human Rights Officer, Environment and Climate Change,
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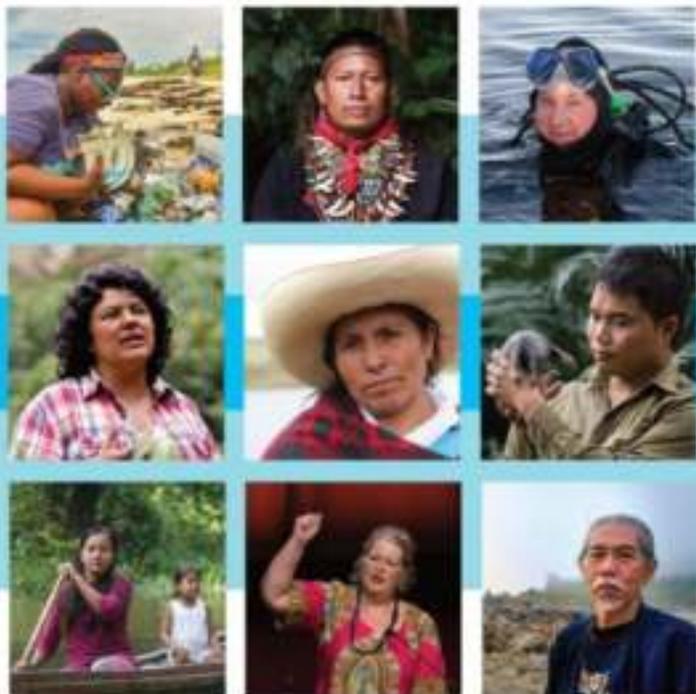
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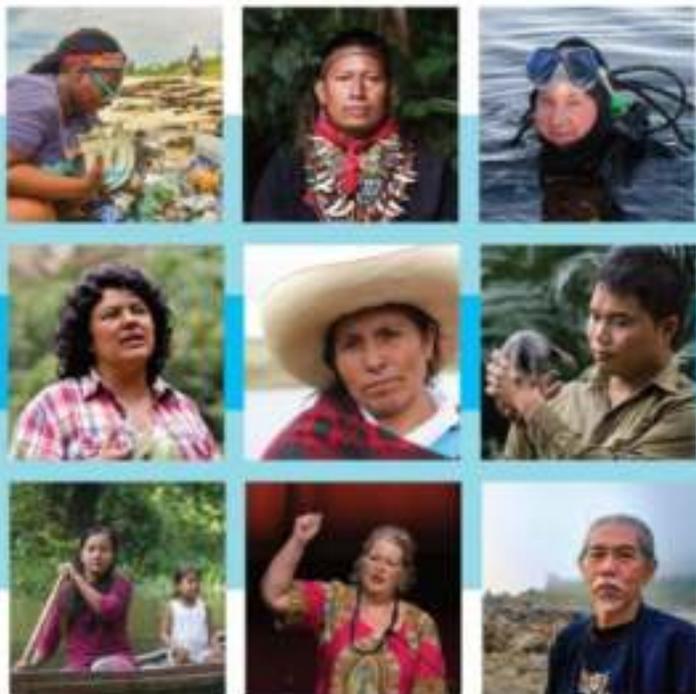


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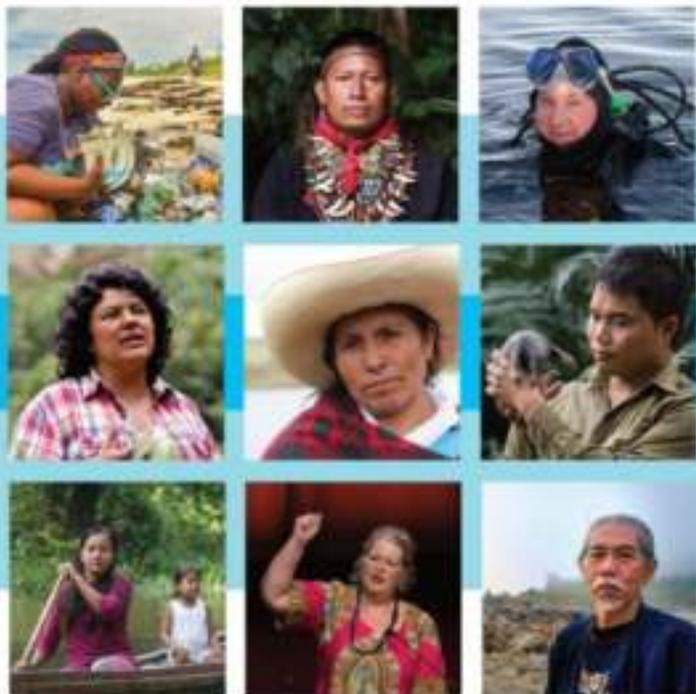
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5 OCT 2022 | 9:00 - 10:00 CEST

Palais des Nations, Room XXV & Online

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AGENDA

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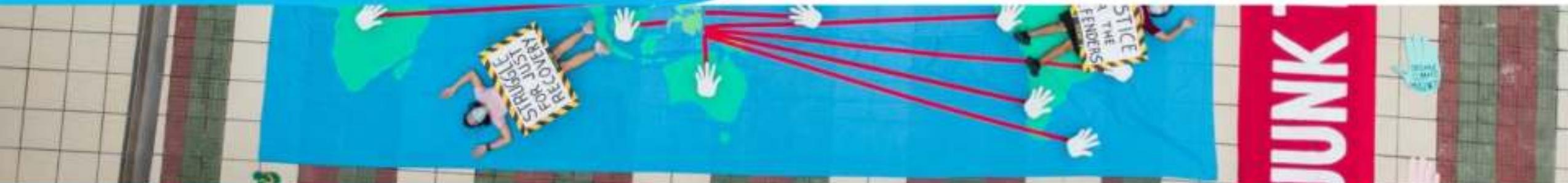
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Palais des Nations, Room XXV & Online

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Andrew Anderson



Executive Director, Front Line Defenders



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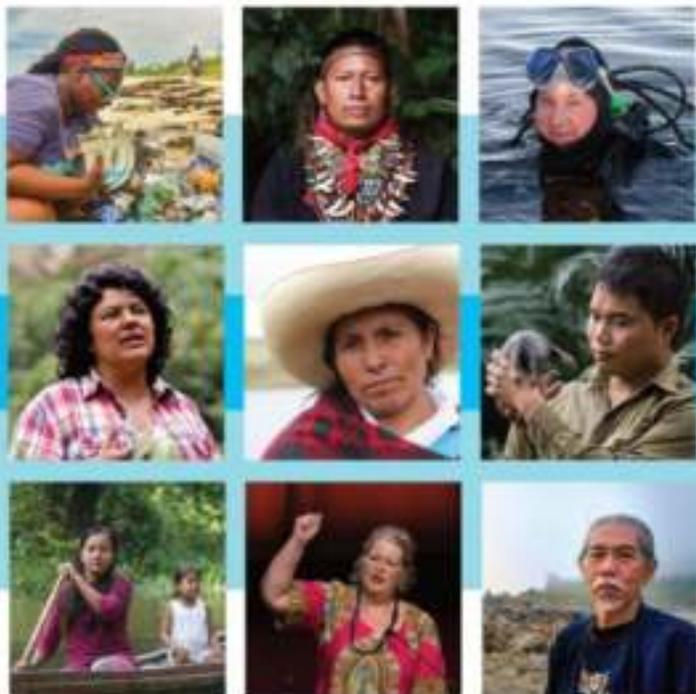


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Launch of the report and microsite



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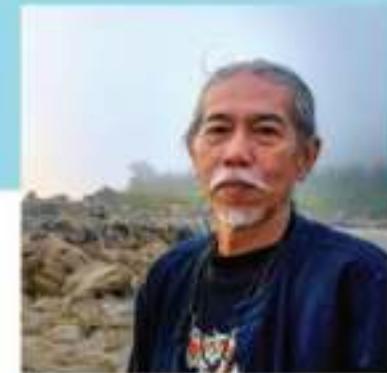
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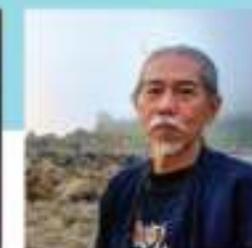
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Methodology

The report and microsite were built with the active participation of EHRDs and organisations that support them.

- **Three regional consultations**, one for Africa, one for Asia-Pacific and one for Latin America and the Caribbean, each with the participation of over 30 EHRDs and support organisations at the local and national levels;
- **One global consultation** with 30 participants, including experts and international civil society organisations that work to support EHRDs;
- **A global survey**, that was made available in English, French and Spanish, which received responses from 32 organisations at the national and local levels;
- Over 20 **individual and focus groups meetings** with EHRDs, experts and support organisations from across the world; and
- Desk-research.



What we mean by 'support' for EHRDs

Practices designed to maintain a safe and enabling space for EHRDs, help them address the various threats to their human rights and work, and maintain their individual or collective wellbeing (including physical, psychosocial and economic), according to their own specific contexts and needs.

Common traits:

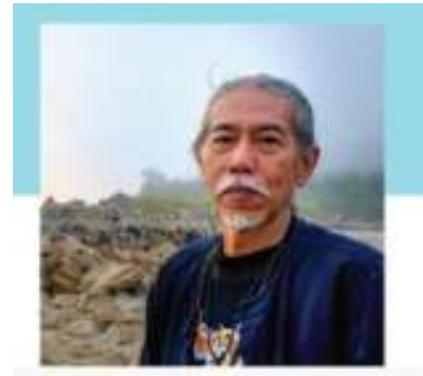
- Provided by external actors, but also by peer defenders and EHRDs' communities.
- No 'one-size-fits-all:' Defenders' social, economic, political, and cultural context, as well as overlapping identities and experiences determine the risks.
- Support changes with time, to adapt to EHRDs' evolving circumstances.
- Good practices are guided by EHRDs (i.e., meaningful participation) and focus on their empowerment (access to information is key).
- Not one single activity: complementarity and coordination are crucial.



Good practices at a glance

Three main ways in which support strategies contribute to achieving a safe and enabling space for EHRDs:

- 1. Primary prevention.** Building and/or maintaining strong institutions for the protection and defence of the environment and the human rights that depend upon it (including safeguards to the right to defend human rights);
 - Strong human rights and environmental protection standards with enforcement mechanisms;
 - public participation and access to information;
 - supportive and respectful stakeholders (including the general public)



Good practices at a glance

- 2. Addressing (preventing or responding to) particular situations** that affect (violate or prevent the effective enjoyment of) EHRDs' human rights, including the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment; and
 - Reducing vulnerabilities, increasing resources
 - Proactively monitoring threats and implementing security strategies with a preventative focus
 - Responding to threats
 - Offering emergency support
- 3. Securing access to justice and reparation** for and non-repetition of violations and abuses to the human rights of EHRDs, including to their right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment.



GOOD PRACTICES TO SUPPORT ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

Explore good practices implemented to support environmental defenders through our global database

Type of Good practice Implementing Actor Groups in Focus Location



Advancing Climate Justice



Agenda Propia: Telling stories to raise the visibility of EHRDs



Alianza Ceibo: legal empowerment for indigenous communities



Amnesty Tech – increasing digital protection and securing accountability for digital attacks

Microsite

- Global Map

Or use our map below to search good practices by country



Microsite - Country focus

Colombia



International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal People of the Tropical Forests

The International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of the Tropical Forests is a network of organizations that...



Agenda Propia: Telling stories to raise the visibility of EHRDs

Agenda Propia is an independent media co-creative journalism organization that specializes in indigenous peoples and...

Eco-Schools

The Foundation for Environmental Education operates Eco-Schools, a global sustainable school program. The objective of...



Collective and holistic protection to defenders in difficult contexts – PBI

Since 1981, Peace Brigades International (PBI) has provided protection, recognition and support to human rights...

People Defenders of the Planet: A Guide to State Obligations for their Protection

In 201, AIDA, with the support of the Mott Foundation, published a guide to clarify and promote the obligations of...



Advancing Climate Justice



URG

Biodiversity Zones: creating safe spaces for the people and the environment

Microsite Good practice example: Colombia



Type of practice: Capacity-building, collective protection, Capacity-building, human rights implementation, Capacity-building, physical protection, Political organising, Programme, Psychosocial support, Sustainable livelihood/income generating project, Technical assistance

Type of implementing actor/Author: Civil society organisation

Name of implementing actor/Author: Comisión Intereclesial de Justicia y Paz (CIJP), with the support of Peace Brigades International - Colombia

Groups in focus: Rural or peasant communities

For almost 40 years, CIJP has been organizing and empowering violence-affected Afro-Colombian, indigenous, and mestizo communities and organizational processes in the Colombian departments of Chocó, Cauca, Valle del Cauca, Meta, and Putumayo, to secure the realization of their human rights, including their rights to life and a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment.

With the support of CIJP, the communities design and implement collective protection strategies centered on the preservation of their environment and territories, to secure their physical, psychosocial, and collective wellbeing.

Location: Latin America



Countries: Colombia

Fundraising campaign for Afghanistan's Environmental Defenders

Microsite

- Good practice example:
Afghanistan



Type of practice: Awareness-raising, Emergency grant, Financial mechanism / funding, Humanitarian aid, Visibility raising - campaign

Location: Asia/Pacific Group (APG), Central Asia

Type of implementing actor/Author: Non-Governmental Organisation

Name of implementing actor/Author: Conservation X Labs



Groups in focus: Climate activists, Women, Youth

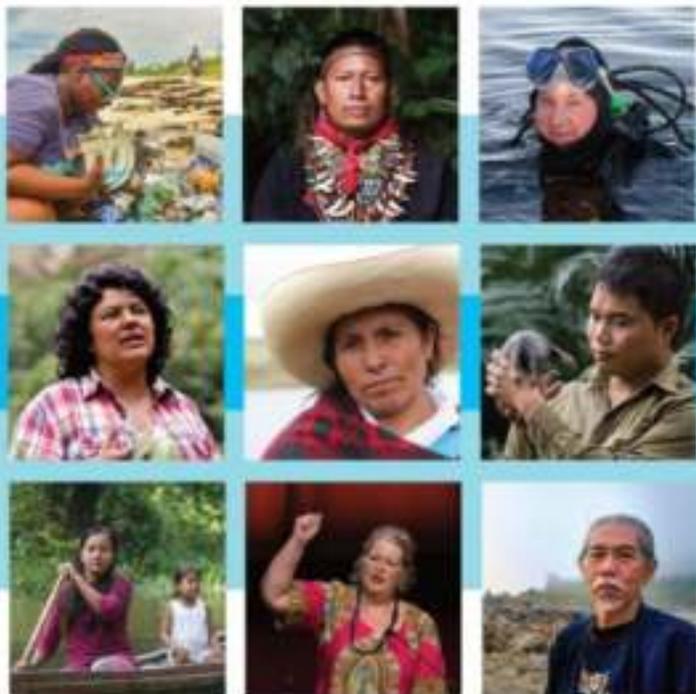
Countries: Afghanistan

Conservation X Labs is an NGO that works to address mass extinction by focusing on its drivers -rather than symptoms – and therefore improve the protection and health of the ecosystems.

After the changes in the Afghan government occurred in 2021, Conservation X Labs began working for the security of Afghan environmental defenders at-risk, due to collaboration with international organizations.

Protecting the Frontline:

Good Practices for Supporting Environmental Human Rights Defenders



5 OCT 2022 | 9:00 - 10:00 CEST
Palais des Nations, Room XXV & Online

>>> tiny.cc/HRC51ProtectEHRDs

AGENDA

Welcome and Introduction

- H.E. Amb. Tine Mørch Smith, Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN in Geneva
- H.E. Amb. Shara Duncan-Villalobos, Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargée d'affaires of Costa Rica to the UN in Geneva
- Kelly Billingsley, Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States to the Human Rights Council

A call for solidarity: why and how to support environmental defenders

- Therese Arnesen, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights

Voices from the ground: support that works

- Alfred Brownell, Green Advocates
- Mitzi Jonelle Tan; Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP); and organizer with Fridays for Future International and Fridays for Future Most Affected Peoples and Areas

Key aspects to consider when offering support to environmental defenders

- Andrew Anderson, Executive Director, Front Line Defenders

Launch of the report and microsite 'Supporting the defenders of the planet: Good practices to support environmental human rights defenders across the world'

- Marc Limon, Executive Director, Universal Rights Group

Closing

With support from

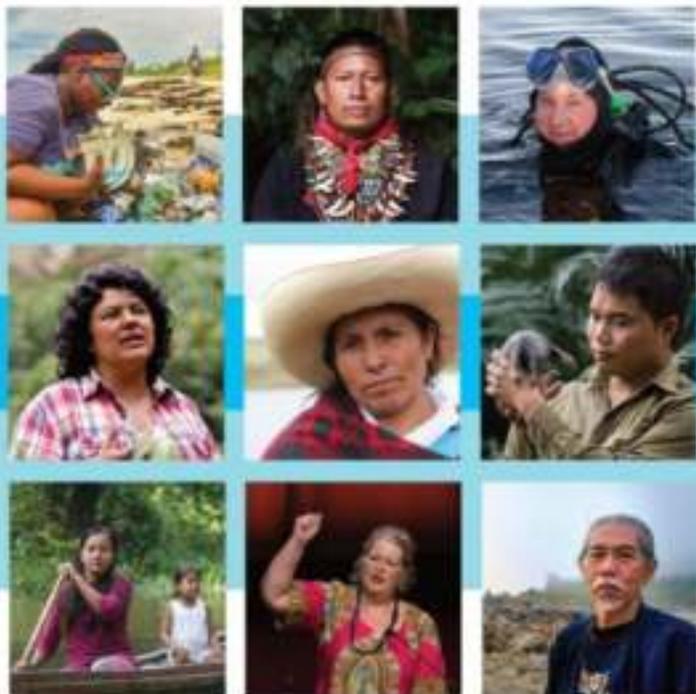


UNIVERSAL RIGHTS GROUP



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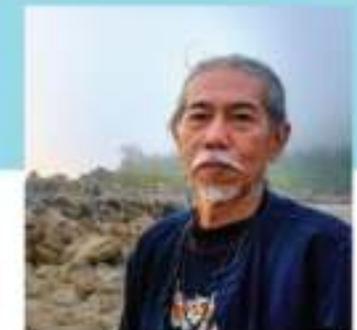
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Closing Remarks



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5 OCT 2022 | 9:00 - 10:00 CEST
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THANK YOU FOR JOINING!



H.E. Amb. Tine Mørch Smith 

Permanent Representative of Norway to the UN in Geneva



Kelly Billingsley 

Deputy Permanent Representative of the United States to the Human Rights Council



Alfred Brownell 

Lead Campaigner and Founder, Green Advocates



Andrew Anderson 

Executive Director, Front Line Defenders



Soo-Young Hwang 

Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme



H.E. Amb. Shara Duncan-Villalobos 

Deputy Permanent Representative and Chargée d'affaires of Costa Rica to the UN in Geneva



Therese Arnesen 

Human Rights Officer, Environment and Climate Change, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights



Mitzi Jonelle Tan 

Youth Advocates for Climate Action Philippines (YACAP); and organizer with Fridays for Future International and Fridays for Future Most Affected Peoples and Areas



Marc Limon 

Executive Director, Universal Rights Group

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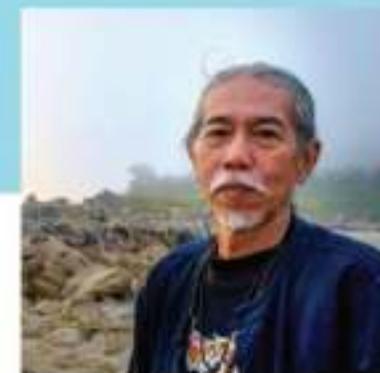
HRC51 SIDE EVENT

Protecting the Frontline:

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WHAT'S NEXT?

 genevaenvironmentnetwork.org



CONFERENCE
Briefing on the World Wildlife Conference | 19th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to CITES
18 OCT 2022 09:30 - 11:00
International Environment House II & Online | Webex
CITES, GEN

 Nature
 SDG14 | SDG15



CONFERENCE
Briefing on the 1st meeting of the Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee to Develop an International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastic Pollution (Plastic Pollution INC-1)
02 NOV 2022 13:30 - 14:45
International Environment House I, Room 3 & Online | Webex

 Chemicals and Pollution | Plastics
 SDG3 | SDG12



VIRTUAL
Strengthening Multilateralism through Science | From Science to Zero Pollution Actions
30 NOV 2022 10:00 - 11:30
Online | Webex
UNEP, Czech Republic

 Science
 SDG17



ENVIRONMENT @ 51ST SESSION OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Toxics and Human Rights, Indigenous Peoples, Right to Work and Climate Change, and more on the agenda.



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