HRC52 SIDE EVENT

PROTECTING ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

20 March 2023 | 11:00-12:00 CET
Room XXII, Palais des Nations & YouTube

tiny.cc/GEN20Mar23
HRC52 SIDE EVENT

PROTECTING ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS

SPEAKERS

By order of intervention.

Yves LADOR
Representative of Earthjustice to the United Nations in Geneva

Clemente BAUTISTA
International Network Officer, Kalikasan People’s Network for the Environment & Asia Pacific Network of Environment Defenders

Summer KERN
NGO Observer to the Bureau of the Aarhus Convention, Justice and Environment

David BOYD
UN Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment

Peter LARSEN
Senior Lecturer and Associate Researcher, Environmental Governance and Territorial Development Institute and Department of Sociology, University of Geneva

Phil LYNCH
Executive Director, International Service for Human Rights

Tawonga CHIHANA
Coordinator, African Environmental Defenders Initiative, Natural Justice

Vadim NI
Chair, Board of Trustees, Socio-Ecological Fund

Vanessa TORRES
Deputy Director, Asociación Ambiente y Sociedad

Michel FORST
Special Rapporteur of the Aarhus Convention on Environmental Defenders

Eva HERSHAW
Data and Land Monitoring Lead, International Land Coalition

Soo-Young HWANG
Legal Officer, UN Environment Programme

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- Diana RIZZOLIO | Geneva Environment Network
- Yves LADOR | Earthjustice

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Take away for 2023, implementing HRC Resolution 40/11
Geneva Road Map: invitation to countries, IOs and CSOs to join the effort

Let’s make this Super Year for Nature, one that makes a difference for its defenders.
CALL FOR RELEASE FOR NILOUFAR BAYANI AND HER FELLOW ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATIONISTS

14 FEB 2023 | 15:00-15:45 CET | IEH & Online

tiny.cc/GEN14Feb23
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Coordinator, African Environmental Defenders Initiative, Natural Justice

Protecting Environmental Defenders

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GENEVA ROADMAP 40/11

EARTHJUSTICE

UNIVERSITÉ DE GENEVE

GENEVA ENVIRONMENT NETWORK
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Take away for 2023, implementing HRC Resolution 40/11
Protecting environmental defenders: Geneva Roadmap lessons & perspectives from the research community

Peter Bille Larsen, University of Geneva

HRC 52, Side event
Palais des Nations, 20.2.23
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Action goals</th>
<th>Progress?</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reverse the tide of marginalization and attacks against environmental actors</td>
<td>Attacks continue, many continue to be poorly documented</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reinforce <strong>environmental rights</strong>, enabling civic spaces and accountability</td>
<td>Growing policy attention, <strong>consolidated rights</strong> and new <strong>mechanisms</strong>, yet far way to go</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bridge initiatives and <strong>enhance cooperation</strong></td>
<td>Growing interaction between environmental and human, yet also disconnects between</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Break isolation and <strong>effective access to protection</strong></td>
<td>Diversity of situations leaving many below the radar</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Contribution from the research community

Research field
- Mining and environmental defenders
- Collaboration with International Institute for Law and Society in Peru, Ateneo University in Philippines, Moi University in Kenya financed by Swiss National Science Foundation

Policy advocacy
- Engagement with policy makers, sharing insights and knowledge (environment, security, human rights...)
- IUCN policy development & conservation NGOs at risk

Teaching and capacity building
- Capacity building among
- Environmental change makers
New mechanisms, recognition of issue and policy opportunities increasingly in place, yet ...

Not enough is being done and it is often done too late.

Next step taking a hard look at what works and what doesn’t in protecting defenders effectively.

Geneva Roadmap as regular space for exchange and lessons learned crucial: international Geneva has a role to play!
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Land, Environmental and Indigenous Human Rights Defenders

Increasing visibility for accountability

Eva Hershaw
Data and Land Monitoring Lead, ILC
Co-Chair of ALLIED

ALLIANCE OF LAND, INDIGENOUS AND ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDERS
INTERNATIONAL LAND COALITION
Addressing the Crucial Gap
The limits of official data

THE LIMITS TO OFFICIAL DATA ON ATTACKS AGAINST DEFENDERS AND WHY IT'S CONCERNING

6% Reported against SDG 16.10.1

94% Did not report against SDG 16.10.1

Killings of HRDs, from 2015 to 2019 according to OHCHR
Uncovering the Hidden Iceberg

Integrated data from five countries

PRIMARY TYPES OF ATTACKS DOCUMENTED

- 39% Threat
- 12% Arbitrary detention
- 11% Death threat
- 7% Defamation/Smear campaign
- 6% Forced displacement
- 5% Beatings or physical injury
- 5% Intimidation
- 3.8% Harassment
- 3.8% Judicial harassment
- 18.44% Other

137 KILLINGS
536 NON-LETHAL ATTACKS
Thank you

Eva Hershaw
e.hershaw@landcoalition.org
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WHAT'S NEXT?

genevaenvironmentnetwork.org

VIRTUAL
Unleashing the power of youth through Education: Sustainable solutions for a Better Future | RFSD2023
28 MAR 2023 10:00 - 12:00
Online | Webex
UNEP Europe Office, UNECE, GEN

SDG4