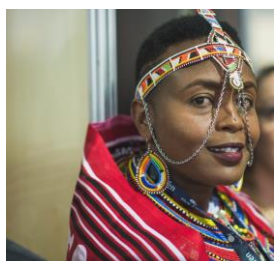


Speakers



Phoolman Chaudhary serves as a Member of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD. He presently also serves as Executive President of Asian Indigenous International Network (AIIN) and Consultant Advisor of Unison for People's Alliance (UPA) in Nepal, organizations who advocate for indigenous peoples rights and to building the capacity of indigenous peoples to address the challenges facing their respective communities. He has also served as an Indigenous Fellow with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) in Geneva, Switzerland. For over two decades, Mr. Chaudhary has been one of the key players of the indigenous peoples' movement in Nepal on the issues of indigenous peoples' rights. He hails from the Tharu community, the second largest indigenous community in Nepal. Likewise, He has worked with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) as a Senior Program Coordinator in Nepal. He also possesses 10 years' work experiences as a Theme Leader with the Nepal National Social Welfare Association.



Margaret Tunda Lepore is member of the Maasai peoples. Margaret plays a key role in advocating for the preservation of positive cultural practices in the Maasai community. She holds a degree in Development Studies from Busoga University in Uganda and a Master in International Studies from The University of Nairobi. Having lived and witnessed the challenges faced by minority communities in Kenya, she realized that these communities should be supported to ensure that their rights to land and natural resources are protected and their voices heard. She is currently collaborating with Slow Food to conserve and promote the red Maasai sheep, a local breed.



Yun Mane is an Indigenous Women from Mondulkiri in the North East of Cambodia. She graduated in law from the Royal University of Law and Economics, and holds Master's Degree from Cambodia University of Socialist. Ms Mane is attorney at law (lawyer). She is member of CIWWG, the former chair of the Cambodia Indigenous Youth Association (CIYA), Cambodia, Center for Human Rights, youth Council, Cambodia, and To Promote Kui Culture. Ms. Mane spent three and a half years working with the United Nations Development Program Regional Indigenous People Program, and two years as a Program Officer with the International Labour Organization to support Indigenous Peoples Project. She spent a few months in 2004 and 2007 in the United States raising funds to support indigenous people in Cambodia, their rights to land and education and efforts to promote and preserve indigenous culture in Cambodia.



Jesús Amadeo Martínez is a member of the Steering Committee, Senior Advisor of the Indigenous Council of Central America (CICA) and representative of the Salvadoran National Indigenous Coordinating Council (CCNIS). He belongs to the Lenca people living in El Salvador and Honduras. Exercising his career as a lawyer he also served as Chairman of the IDFAC Commission on Standards and Human Rights and FAO Focal Point for the Abya Yala Forum for Latin America and the Caribbean.



Tove Goldman has an M.Sc in Biology, an M.Sc in Human Ecology, and has for more than 20 years worked with international environment & development issues, both within Swedish civil society, the Swedish Ministry for Foreign Affairs and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency. She has lived in Kenya, India and Bangladesh and was for many years part of the Swedish delegation to the UNFCCC, including at COP21. She has also represented Sweden e.g. at the Boards of the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund, and is currently Sida's focal point for its support to IFAD's Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility.



Vital Bambanze is a former Senator (2010-2015) of Burundi and representative of the Batwa Indigenous Peoples in the Senate of Burundi. He is currently Director of Unite for the Promotion of Batwa (UNIPROBA), an organization created by the Batwa for the Batwa. Mr. Bambanze was one of its founding members in 1999. He holds a degree in African Languages and Literatures from the University of Burundi.



Pratima Gurung is an academic activist from Nepal. She is also associated as a faculty member at Padmakanya College, one of the single women colleges in Nepal. She has been instrumental in working on women, indigenous peoples, disability rights, and has been remarkable in bridging multiple identities with an intersectional lens. Pratima has been influential in raising the voiceless voices like youth, indigenous women, women with disabilities in Nepal, Asia, and globally. She also contributes as an expert of the Disability National Direction Committee, formed by the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizen, Nepal Government. Pratima Gurung is a founding member and currently General Secretary of Indigenous Person with Disabilities Global Network and president of National indigenous Disabled Women Association Nepal.



Yohannis Amador is an indigenous woman of the Zenú people, born on the northern coast of Colombia. She is a psychologist and specialist in international cooperation and project management for development. Since 2009, she is the coordinator of Seeds and IPAF projects of the AYNÍ Fund, a programme of the International Indigenous Women's Forum - FIMI. Working for the individual and collective rights of indigenous women in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Americas.



Claus Reiner is Country Director & Head, South-South Triangular Cooperation (SSTC) and Knowledge Centre, Latin America and the Caribbean Division of IFAD. He leads the IFAD Country Office in Brasilia, which is also IFAD's SSTC and Knowledge Centre. Moreover, he coordinates the thematic team on targeting in IFAD's Latin America and the Caribbean Division, and acts as focal point on indigenous issues. Mr Reiner works at IFAD since 2007. He holds a Masters' Degree in International Agricultural Development by the Humboldt University of Berlin, Germany. He did his Undergraduate Studies of Agricultural Sciences at the Technical University of Munich. Before joining IFAD, Mr Reiner worked as freelance consultant, with the specialisation of development economist and rural finance expert, on project design and implementation support, mainly in Asia, Near East and North Africa, and Sub Saharan Africa. At IFAD, he has lastly been responsible for the Fund's programme in the Southern Cone of Latin America (Argentina, Paraguay, Uruguay and Chile). Previously, he was responsible for IFAD's Mozambique and Angola portfolios, with which he also acquired his Portuguese language skills.



Myrna Cunningham, indigenous Miskita from Nicaragua, worldwide known indigenous rights activist, former chair of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues and current President of the Center for Indigenous Peoples' Autonomy and Development, Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua, Chair of the Pawanka Fund, the The Tenure Facility and the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean- FILAC. In 2014, Myrna Cunningham was nominated as Special Advisor to the President of the United Nations General Assembly to advice on the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples. She serves as the Chairperson of the Steering Committee of the Indigenous Peoples' Forum at IFAD, and as a Board Member of the Indigenous Peoples Assistance Facility.