
Education

- 2000 Ph.D. - University of London, United Kingdom**
School of Oriental and African Studies, London
The Political Economy Dimensions of Biodiversity Conservation
- 1988 M.A. - The Johns-Hopkins University, United States**
School for Advanced International Studies, Washington, D.C.
Latin American Studies and International Economics
- 1983 'Licenciatura', Universidade Nova de Lisboa, Portugal**
School of Social and Human Sciences, Lisbon

Languages:

Fluency in English, Portuguese and German and working knowledge of Spanish and French.

January 2019 – Present

United Nations Development Programme, Consultancy as Compliance Officer, Office of Audits and Investigations, New York

2018 - present

Researcher & Writer
Research Fellow at the University of Lisbon (School of Economics & Management)

Work Experience

2010 – 2018

Senior advisor at Urgewald a German environment and human rights organization (**Berlin, Lisbon and Washington, D.C.**). Work areas: Environmental and social safeguards at international financial and development institutions, REDD+, rights of indigenous peoples, extractive industries and natural resource management and the Human Rights Strategy adopted by the German Ministry for International Cooperation and Development (2011). From 2015 led work on German participation on the newly established Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank based in Beijing.

2010 – 2015

Member of the Independent Compliance Review Panel, appointed by the Board of Executive Directors of the **Inter-American Development Bank (Washington, D.C.)**. The Panel's role is to respond to requests by affected communities and independently investigate alleged violations of environmental and social safeguard policies. Participated in fact-finding missions in Paraguay, Panama and Mexico.

1990 – 2009

Senior Scientist, Environmental Defense Fund, (Washington, D.C. and Lisbon)

- Carried out investigative field research of internationally financed forestry, water and extractive industry projects in remote regions, mostly in Africa.
- Developed case studies in cooperation with local civil society organizations to help mitigate environmental and social impacts caused by specific investments and to advocate for stronger safeguard policies and their improved implementation in general.
- Built links between affected local communities and global decision-making centers by facilitating direct exchanges between their representatives and senior officials of international financial institutions, governments, parliamentarians in Europe and members of the US Congress.
- Participated in international consultative processes on the development of World Bank Group environmental policy especially as related to investments affecting forests with the goal of promoting community ownership and management of forests.
- Provided civil society leadership during inter-governmental negotiations on the financing of global environmental agreements under the Global Environment Facility (GEF). Helped obtain observer status for non-governmental-actors and the establishment of a monitoring and evaluation unit at the GEF.
- Worked in international coalitions to promote public policy reforms to achieve greater transparency and accountability of international financial institutions. Results of collective efforts included improved policies of information disclosure and the establishment of the World Bank's Inspection Panel and other grievance mechanisms.
- Participated in multi-stakeholder processes, such as the World Commission on Dams and the Extractive Industries Review, to promote the participation of indigenous peoples and local communities in decision-making that affects their livelihoods and lands. Both processes adopted "Free prior and informed consent" several years before the principle became enshrined in the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples in 2007.
- Monitored the REDD+ discussions within the context of the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility and the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Facilitated workshops on REDD+ for indigenous communities in Congo Basin countries.
- Pursued an active communications strategy through outreach to the media, writing and publications, contributions to academic research, providing evidence to European parliaments and testifying in the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

- Managed a small grants program to support local research and advocacy as part of a broader internationally coordinated strategy to promote public policy reforms at international financial institutions.

2000 - 2011

Consultancies: United Nations Research Institute for Social Development (**Geneva**), Heinrich Böll Foundation (**Berlin**), German Bilateral International Cooperation (**Bonn**), Fund for Peace (**Washington, D.C**), Luso-American Development Foundation (**Lisbon**), Seacology (**Berkeley**).

Main themes of work: Resource extraction and indigenous peoples, REDD+ policies and financing modalities, establishment of grievance mechanisms, identification of grass-roots initiatives and community leaders for grant-making.

2001 - 2005

Yale Stimson Fellow (2001, 2002, 2003 and 2005), **Yale University**.

Taught classes on international development and the challenges of environmental and social sustainability to multi-disciplinary group of students.

Guest lecturer/ speaker at

London School of Economics, University of London, Southern Methodist University, Yale University, Harvard Law School, Harvard Business School, Columbia University Law School, Georgetown University Law School, Iowa State University, Montclair State College, Fundação Getúlio Vargas, Universität zu Köln, Luso-American Development Foundation, Gulbenkian Foundation.

Other employment

Friedrich Naumann Foundation (Washington, D.C.),
Friedrich Ebert Foundation (Lisbon)
Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Lisbon),
Society for Threatened Peoples (Göttingen).

Formative Experience

Spent three years in East Timor in my late teenage years. Learnt first hand about the intricate relationship of remote rural communities to their land and developed a deep respect for indigenous knowledge.

Following military occupation by Indonesia, worked for more than two decades as a volunteer with East Timorese refugees and Church leaders to publicize human rights abuses and engage with European and US policy-makers.

Publications : Authored a book on international financial institutions and biodiversity, co-authored a book on East Timor. Wrote numerous book chapters and research papers as well as articles including in *The Harvard Human Rights Journal*, *The Yale Journal of International Affairs*, *The New Scientist*, *IWGIA Newsletter*, *Ethnies*, *The Ecologist*, *Multinational Monitor*, *D&C-Development & Cooperation*, *EPA Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *The Los Angeles Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Journal of Commerce*, *The Christian*

Science Monitor, The Guardian, Die Zeit, O Público, Sueddeutsche Zeitung, Handelsblatt.
(LINK).