

Rio Doce Panel Members' Biographies

The IUCN Rio Doce Panel is comprised of international and national experts, who bring diverse technical skills, academic qualifications and local knowledge needed to serve on this Independent Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel. All of the Panel members were selected through a competitive application process.



Yolanda Kakabadse is Chair of the Rio Doce Panel. She has held numerous international and regional posts. In 1992, she coordinated civil society participation in the Earth Summit. She was President of IUCN from 1996 to 2004, Ecuadorian Minister of Environment from 1998 to 2000, and President of WWF International from 2010 to 2017. She is also founder of Fundación Futuro Latinoamericano, an organisation dedicated to promoting sustainable development in Latin America through conflict prevention and management, where she still serves as Chair of the Advisory Board. Ms Kakabadse has received numerous honorary orders and awards, including the “Golden Ark Order” (1991), the “Global 500 Award” of UNEP (1992), the Zayed Prize (2001) and a Doctor in Science (ScD) Honoris Causa from the University of East Anglia (2008). A native Ecuadorian, she lives in Quito, Ecuador.

Luiza Alonso, PhD, is a sociological researcher who focuses on organization and implementation of social programs for low-income population and social movements. Her major scientific work in the past 10 years has been the relationship between health, environment and social justice. As a professor and consultant, she encourages researchers to share scientific knowledge and professional experiences among themselves as well with community members, government agencies, and non-government organizations and general public. She is an advocate of citizen science. She is also a member of FUMDHAM, an IUCN member. She holds Brazilian and Spanish nationalities..



Francisco Barbosa, PhD, is affiliated with the Federal University of Minas Gerais, where he teaches and conducts research. His main areas of expertise are freshwater ecology, limnology and integrated water resources management with applied work and research focused on mitigation measures of mining impacts. A great part of his career has been spent in the Rio Doce valley, where he is involved in many long-term monitoring research projects. More recently, he has focused on bioremediation as a solution for mining impacts, as well as promoting biodiversity assessments and conservation in mining areas. A Brazilian, he lives in Belo Horizonte, Brazil.

Luis E. Sánchez, PhD, is a Professor of Mining Engineering at Escola Politécnica, University of São Paulo, Brazil, where he has been a faculty member since 1990. His teaching activities cover topics, such as Environmental Impact Assessments and Sustainability in Extractive Industries. Recent research has focused on ecosystem services in environmental and social impact assessments, mine closure planning and biodiversity offsets. He has also been involved with the International Association for Impact Assessment (which is an IUCN Member) since 1992, serving in several committees, a Board member from 1998-2001, and as President from 2012-2013. In addition, he has published on environmental impact assessments, cumulative impact assessments, and prepared “Good Practice Guidance” on limestone quarries and mine closure, among others. With dual Brazilian and Spanish citizenship, he lives in São Paulo, Brazil.



Maria Cecilia Wey de Brito, Msc, has worked for more than 30 years on socio-environmental issues. Currently with the EKOS Brasil Institute, she has worked for both governmental and non-governmental organisations, as well as business, on biodiversity conservation and sustainable use projects. In addition, she has led multidisciplinary teams composed of different sizes and backgrounds. Her professional work has covered relevant issues, such as priority areas for biodiversity, protected areas management, forest restoration, sustainable business, agriculture, climate change and integrated water resource management. Previously she represented the Brazilian Ministry of Environment at the 2008 IUCN World Conservation Congress in Barcelona, and more recently, she contributed to a report on protected areas and other conservation measures by local governments, as well as undertook several assessments of World Heritage Sites in Brazil. A Brazilian citizen, she is based in São Paulo, Brazil.

Peter H. May received his PhD in Resource Economics and Master’s in Regional Planning from Cornell University. Full Professor of the Department of Development, Agriculture and Society of the Federal Rural University of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil (1991-today), he is author and editor of a number of books in the areas of ecological economics, agroforestry, payment for ecosystem services and environmental policy, including *The Subsidy from Nature*, *Pricing the Planet* and *Natural Resource Valuation and Policy in Brazil* (Columbia University Press) and *Economia do Meio Ambiente: Teoria e Prática* (Elsevier). Peter is a Past President of the International Society for Ecological Economics-ISEE and founder and former President of the Brazilian Society for Ecological Economics-ECOECO. He previously served as Program Officer (Rural Poverty and Resources) at the Ford Foundation’s Brazil office and as Forestry Officer (Non-Wood Forest Products) at the FAO in Rome. He was a Visiting Scholar at the Earth Institute of Columbia University, Center for Sustainable Development from 2016-18, and has been a member of the TEEB Advisory Board since 2007, as well as a contributor to the TEEBAgrifood Foundations report.





Fernando V. Laureano, PhD, is a geologist with research interest in Earth surface processes and sediment dynamics. He is a professor in Pontifical Catholic University of Minas Gerais where he teaches Historical Geology, Environment Impact Assessment as well as other disciplines relate to sustainability and sustainable development. He has coordinated or integrated multidisciplinary teams for environmental studies and assessments of several mining and infrastructure projects. Fernando has experience in debating public policies on the administration and use of natural resources, been part of the Council for Environment Policy of Minas Gerais (COPAM), of the River Basin Commission, Paraobeba River Watershed, Minas Gerais State, and the Municipal Council of Environmental Development, Betim, Minas Gerais State.