



Women For Forests

April 4, 2018

Presented as part of WECAN International's series of free, online Education and Advocacy Trainings for Women for Climate Justice!
www.wecaninternational.org/pages/international-climate-justice-calls



Wanda Culp (Tlingit artist and forest defender, and WECAN Tongass Coordinator, Alaska, US)

Wanda "Kashudoha" Loescher Culp is an Indigenous Tlingit activist, advocate, and hunter, fisher and gatherer of wild foods, born and raised in Juneau, and living in Hoonah, Alaska. She is the mother of three children, and is recognized as a storyteller, cultural interpreter, playwright, and co-producer of the film *Walking in Two Worlds*. As of 2016, Wanda has united with WECAN as a Regional Coordinator, revitalizing initiatives to protect the Tongass Rainforest and the traditional rights and lifeways of the regions Indigenous peoples.



Mary Lou Malig (Global Forest Coalition, Campaigns and Communications Coordinator and Researcher, Philippines)

Mary Louise Malig is an activist researcher, policy analyst, campaigner from the Philippines and now currently based in Bolivia. She has written on the issues of trade particularly the World Trade Organization (WTO), climate change, agriculture and the green economy. She is co-author of the book, *The Anti-Development State: The Political Economy of Permanent Crisis in the Philippines* and a contributing author to the volume on Southeast Asia of the seven volume series of SEI and UNEP, *Civic Entrepreneurship: A Civil Society Perspective on Sustainable*

Development and author of a number of other papers. A link below directs you to other examples of her publications and articles. Mary Lou was Trade Campaign Coordinator of Focus on the Global South and also served as one of the Campaign Coordinators for the anti-corporate globalisation network, *Our World is Not for Sale (OWINFS)*. From 2010 to 2014, Mary Lou worked as staff in Asia for the international peasants' movement, *La Via Campesina*, She has coordinated campaign teams at several WTO Ministerials and General Councils (Cancun 2003; Hong Kong 2005; Geneva 2006 & 2009, Bali 2013, Buenos Aires 2017) She is currently Research Associate and Campaigns Coordinator with the Global Forest Coalition.



Nina Gualinga (Kichwa woman leader of the community of Sarayaku, Ecuador)

Nina Sicha Siren Gualinga is a young indigenous woman leader from the Kichwa community of Sarayaku in the Ecuadorian Amazon. Since she was eight years old, she has been actively involved local, national and global advocacy efforts in defense of indigenous rights and territories in the Amazon and for climate justice. In 2011, she represented Sarayaku youth at the final hearing before the Inter-American Court on Human Rights in San Jose, Costa Rica where Sarayaku won their historic victory against the Ecuadorian government for violating their rights and territory for oil drilling. In 2014, she joined global calls to keep oil in the ground at the People's Climate March, and has represented her community at several United Nations COP climate talks. In 2016 and again in 2018, she joined a historic indigenous women's march uniting indigenous women of 7 nationalities in defense of rights and territories. Nina splits her time between Sarayaku and Sweden, where she is a law student. Most recently, she is a co-Founder of HAKHU Amazon Design, working to support efforts of Shiwiar, Kichwa and Waorani women to defend their territories, through sustainable sales of their hand-made designs.



Neema Namadamu (Founder of Hero Women Rising, SAFECO, and WECAN Democratic Republic of Congo Coordinator)

Neema Namadamu is a visionary peacemaker from Bukavu, South Kivu Province in Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo, where she advocates for peace, women's rights, rights for persons with disabilities, rights for Indigenous pygmy peoples, and Rights of Nature. She is Founder and Director of SAFECO, the Synergy of Congolese Women's Associations and Maman Shujaa: Hero Women of the Congo, through which she has established a media center for Congolese women to make their voices heard on the range of issues affecting their country. Neema also serves as WECAN International's Coordinator in the Democratic Republic of Congo. As WECAN DRC Coordinator, Neema leads workshops and trainings with local women to address deforestation, build women's leadership, support Traditional Ecologic Knowledge, and protect the rich ecosystems of the Itombwe rainforest. In June of 2012 Neema was selected as one of three World Pulse journalists for their annual Live Tour of the U.S., where she spoke before the U.S. Department of State, the Clinton Global Initiative, and was interviewed by CNN.



Clare Dubois (Founder of TreeSisters, US)

Clare is an Earth loving social entrepreneur and inspirational speaker who worked internationally for 18 years facilitating groups, coaching business leaders and creating behaviour change processes within the personal growth sector. She founded TreeSisters after a car crash that delivered a life changing message – she was told that the tropics needed to be reforested within 10 years – that women were the missing piece in the climate change crisis – and that feminine consciousness needed to be reinstated, or – 'it's over'. A free radical and unlikely leader, Clare is an Earth loving social entrepreneur and

inspirational speaker. TreeSisters is a quickly-growing women's crowd-funding campaign to direct the brilliance, creativity and generosity of women towards the reforestation of the tropics.



Ayana Young (Restoration ecologist and Founder of For The Wild, California, US)

Ayana Young is a lover and protector of wild nature, an restoration ecologist, and a podcast host. She was studying Ecology at Columbia University when the Occupy Wall Street movement began. Amid the triumphant madness of Zuccotti Park, she created the Environmental working group to help orient the movement to the realities of a suffering planet. From there she moved West to her beloved Cascadian bioregion, starting an organic farm and wild foods cartel on an Oregon mountaintop. In Portland, she had the fortune of learning from the great herbalist

Cascade Anderson Geller before her passing. Ayana is currently studying Restoration of Natural Systems at the University of Victoria in British Columbia, while building an ecological research center in northern Mendocino county specializing in regrowing the great Redwood Forests Ayana hosts For the Wild Podcast. The show features in-depth interviews with visionary thinkers and indigenous voices probing the convergent challenges—and unfolding solutions—of the Anthropocene.