

# ADVANCING THE RIGHTS OF PEASANTS AND OTHER PEOPLE WORKING IN RURAL AREAS THROUGH UNDROP : CHALLENGES AND GOOD PRACTICES IN LATIN AMERICA



\* United Nations Declaration  
on the Rights of Peasants and  
Other People Working in Rural Areas

Interpretation:  
English/ Spanish

**THURSDAY 18TH  
SEPTEMBER**

**14.00–15.00**

**Palais des Nations  
Building A  
Room Concordia 1**

#### Join us for:

- An insightful dialogue with the Chair-Rapporteur of the UN Working Group on the Rights of Peasants and other speakers,
- Testimonies of fisher peoples, Indigenous Peoples and peasants mobilizing for the implementation of UNDROP at every level,
- Concrete examples and good practices where States and courts have used UNDROP to safeguard rural people's rights



**RAISE**



**FIAN  
INTERNATIONAL**

**GENEVA  
ACADEMY**

Académie de droit international  
humanitaire et de droits humains  
Academy of International  
Humanitarian Law and Human Rights

## SIDE EVENT : CHALLENGES AND GOOD PRACTICES IN LATIN AMERICA ADVANCING THE RIGHTS OF PEASANTS & OTHER PEOPLE WORKING IN RURAL AREAS



**Across the world, rural people, workers and communities** – including fisher peoples, Indigenous Peoples, peasants, and pastoralists – are facing challenges and threats to their human rights and livelihoods. Despite their central role as custodians of biodiversity and the environment, and despite international recognition of their rights – particularly through UNDROP – these communities continue to experience historical and structural discrimination, dispossession, and marginalization.

**The transformation of local, community-based food systems** into export-oriented, industrial supply chains driven by corporate agribusiness, has undermined ecological sustainability and community resilience. Initiatives such as the Blue Economy and the 30x30 conservation agenda, together with large-scale agribusiness and aquaculture, extractive industries, have further privatized rural people's Commons: lands, waters, and ecosystems. **Fisher people from Panama will be in Geneva and will share their experiences with the public.**

At the occasion of the 60th session of the HRC, and the presentation of the report of the UN Working Group on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas on Global trends in challenges affecting UNDROP's rights holders, **this side event aims to:**

- shed light on the multifaceted challenges faced by rural communities in today's world
- explore how UNDROP can inform legal and policy frameworks at different levels to better protect rural communities, strengthen their rights, and advance social justice.
- highlight how peasant movements and rural organizations across Latin America are mobilizing at all levels to promote and implement UNDROP.

These initiatives demonstrate how organized communities – in collaboration with public authorities – are using UNDROP as a legal and political tool to defend their rights, influence policy, and secure access to land, water, and seeds. Concrete outcomes include emerging jurisprudence, legal reforms, and policy innovations directly inspired by UNDROP, showing its potential as a powerful instrument of protection and empowerment for rural peoples in other regions of the world.

### PANEL

- **Moderator: Sibylle Dirren**, Representative of FIAN International at the UN
- **Mr. Carlos Duarte**, Chair-Rapporteur of the UN Working Group on the Rights of Peasants and Other People Working in Rural Areas
- **Representative of SITRAMAR** (Sindicato de Trabajadores del Mar), member of the World Forum of Fisher Peoples, Panama
- **Professor Adriana Fillol Mazo**, University of Sevilla and Geneva Academy of international humanitarian law and human rights
- **Representatives of CLOC/La Via Campesina** from Cuba, Brazil and Colombia
- **Raffaele Morgantini**, Representative of CETIM at the UN

