

## Speakers' biographies

**Ana Gendron-Correa:** Doctor of Anthropology, Paris III - Institut des Hautes Études d'Amérique Latine (IHEAL - CREDA). Research topic: "Words and memory Kayambi. Dynamics of change in an Andean community" - Research area: Ecuador and Coordinator for the Progressio Ecuador Foundation in Europe.

**Patrick Laigneau:** Franco-Brazilian hydro-anthropologist. Trained as a hydrological engineer in France, he initially worked at the Rhone-Mediterranean-Corsica water agency and then at the Ministry of Water in Burkina-Faso. He then went on to study Anthropology and defended a joint thesis with the University of Porto Alegre in Brazil (in Anthropology) and AgroParisTech in France (in Environmental Sciences). He currently works as an independent consultant and researcher in concerted water management, mainly in France, Brazil, Burkina Faso and Vietnam. He is a member of the "Water, management and water security in the context of global change" research group at the State University of Rio de Janeiro (UERJ, Brazil).

**Fathalah Sghir:** Graduate engineer from the Institut agronomique et vétérinaire Hassan II in Morocco and graduated in Hydraulics from ENSEEIT in Toulouse, France. He held a number of positions at the Haouz Regional Agricultural Development Office, including as Head of the Irrigation Techniques Office, as District Irrigation Network Manager, as Network Operations Office Manager and Head of the Irrigation Network Management Department until November 2021. He currently acts as private consultant.

**Eric Gili:** History Professor at Collège de la Vésubie, France, Associate Researcher at the Centre for the Modern and Contemporary Mediterranean (CMMC) at Côte d'Azur University, Director of the AMONT association (Musée du Patrimoine de Saint-Martin-Vésubie), and Deputy President of the authorized trade association of the Nantelle's irrigation canal, Saint Martin Vésubie, France.

**Ester Gisbert Alemany:** Research Associate in the Department of Graphic Expression, Theory and Design at the University of Alicante, Spain. After obtaining a Master's degree in Social Anthropology at the University of Aberdeen, Scotland, where she was a research fellow on the "Knowing from the Inside, Anthropology, Art, Architecture and Design" project, she obtained her Doctorate in Architecture with a research project on the forces and forms of urbanization linked to tourism in the Mediterranean region. She is founder and partner of the Alicante-based landscape architecture studio Drassana. <https://cvnet.cpd.ua.es/curriculum-breve/es/gisbert-alemany-ester/9025>

**Patrick Caron:** Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, Doctor of Development Geography, and Director of the Montpellier Advanced Knowledge Institute on Transitions (MAK'IT). He joined the French Agricultural Research Centre for International Development (CIRAD) in 1988, where he was Director General of Research and Strategy from 2010 to 2016. He was appointed

Chairman of the High-Level Panel of Experts (HLPE) of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) in November 2015, a position he held until October 2019. He is the author of around 200 publications in international journals, books and conference proceedings.

**Marcel Kuper:** Senior researcher in water governance at CIRAD and currently director of the G-Eau research unit. He is interested in the actors, institutions and infrastructures of irrigation systems and waterscapes. He studies the contemporary dynamics of large-scale irrigation systems, community-managed irrigation systems and private irrigation, particularly in North and West Africa, South Asia and South America. <http://www.g-eau.fr/index.php/fr/cb-profile/1788-kuper-marcel>

**Caroline Lejars:** Agronomist and researcher in management science. She is Deputy Director of UMR G-Eau at CIRAD. Her research focuses on the analysis and development of water management strategies, in support of organizations and managers. <http://g-eau.fr/index.php/fr/cb-profile/1809-lejars-caroline>

**Hind Sabri:** Postdoctoral Researcher in Water Anthropology at the Université Côte d'Azur, FIAS (French Institutes for Advanced Study) and MAK'IT Fellow (Montpellier Advanced Knowledge Institute On Transitions), associated with the LIRCES Laboratory (Laboratoire Interdisciplinaire, Récits, Cultures et Sociétés- Université Côte d'Azur) and G-EAU (Gestion de l'Eau, Acteurs, Usages). <https://makit.edu.umontpellier.fr/residents/residents-fias/hind-sabri/>  
<https://www.fias-fp.eu/fellows/hind-sabri>

**Katiana Le Mentec:** Research Associate at the *French National Centre for Scientific Research* (CNRS) and the Centre for Studies on Modern and Contemporary China: Maison des Sciences de l'Homme/EHESS, Paris, France <http://cecmc.ehess.fr/index.php?2982>  
<https://msh.ulb.ac.be/fr/who/katiana-le-mentec>

**Ruth Meinzen-Dick:** Researcher at the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), USA. She has led numerous research programs. She is coordinator of the CGIAR program on collective action and property rights (CAPRI) and co-director of IFPRI's research theme on institution building and governance. Most of her research has been carried out in South Asia and sub-Saharan Africa, with a particular focus on how institutions and policies influence people's management of natural resources, especially land and water. She also studies gender issues in agriculture, with a particular focus on gender differences in the control of assets, and the impact of agricultural research on poverty. She is the author of over 150 peer-reviewed publications based on this research. <https://www.ifpri.org/profile/ruth-meinzen-dick>

**Elahi Salehi Rizi:** Doctorate in Comparative Literature from Université Côte d'Azur, France in 2017. After teaching French for two years at the University of Calgary, Canada, she made the decision to return to the scientific field. She is currently pursuing a Master's degree in Computational Linguistics at the University of Stuttgart, Germany.

**Amine Saidani:** Agronomic engineer from the National agronomic Institute of Alger (ENSA, Algeria) in 2010 and obtained his MSc in Irrigation and Water Management from IAV Hassan II (Morocco) in 2011. He worked as an independent consultant in the fields of agriculture and water in Algeria until 2019. Since then, he has returned to research. He is a doctoral student in water sciences under the joint supervision of IAV Hassan II (Morocco) and Institut Agro de Montpellier (France). His thesis is part of the Belmont 'T2GS' project, and his research focuses

mainly on water circularity in the oasis context in Algeria, with a multidisciplinary character.

**Hajar Choukrani:** Doctoral student in water sciences, currently enrolled at Institut Agro Montpellier (France) and Institut Agronomique et Vétérinaire Hassan II (Morocco). Her research unit is the UMR G-EAU of CIRAD (Montpellier, France). She trained as a rural engineer.

**Bibiana Bilbao:** Professor, Department of Environmental Studies, Simón Bolívar University - Caracas - Venezuela <https://cobracollective.org/staff/prof-bibiana-bilbao/>  
<https://makit.edu.umontpellier.fr/en/fellows/fellows-visiting-scientists/bibiana-bilbao/>

**Veronica Mitroi:** researcher in environmental sociology (INCA- CIRAD, Brazil)  
<http://www.g-eau.fr/index.php/fr/cb-profile/2221-mitroi-veronica>