

# Gael Sola

*Forestry and REDD+  
technical expert*

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*At the interface between countries technical experts and decision  
makers to improve forest management and protection*

## Experience

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### FAO - Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

- 2014–present **Forestry and REDD+ technical expert**, *UN-REDD Programme*, Viet Nam and South-Southeast Asia.
- Support the development of improved **forest monitoring** in Viet Nam:
    - Analyze historical national forest **inventories** and forest cover maps,
    - Pilot **updated methods** for (1) forest cover and cover change maps, (2) national forest inventory field manual and quality assessment/quality control,
    - Organize **participatory workshops** on monitoring systems for local forest activity in six provinces,
  - Provide **training** and technical support on forest **data analysis** and model development with **R** (Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Philippines, Thailand).
  - Support the design, implementation and update of **National Forest Inventories** (Bangladesh, Cambodia, Thailand).
- 2012–2014 **Forest inventory and biomass assessment expert**, *UN-REDD programme*, FAO HQ, Italy.
- **Develop allometric equations** to improve UNREDD countries **forest biomass** estimates, conduct training and develop guidelines and training materials for field work, data exploration and data analysis for developing tree biomass allometric equations (Vietnam, Cambodia, Zambia, Tanzania, Congo, DRC).

### Research Institutes / NGOs

- 2011–2012 **Research assistant**, *Centre de coopération internationale en recherche agronomique pour le développement (CIRAD)*, Republic of the Congo.  
Installation and monitoring of experimental sites, contribution to data analysis and scientific production.
- 2010 **Research assistant**, *Center for international forestry research (CIFOR)*, Madagascar, 6 months.  
Analysis of formal and informal wood supply chain from madagascar east cost.
- 2009 **Technical assistant**, *Groupe energies renouvelables, environnement et solidarités (GERES)*, Cambodia, 6 months.  
Wood supply and demand analysis on Phnom Chumriey area.
- 2008 **Research assistant**, *(CIRAD)*, Republic of the Congo, 6 months.  
Study of the nutrient losses by erosion and run off intensity on eucalyptus plantations.

## Education

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- 2010 **Ingeneer** , *The University of California*, Berkeley, *GPA – 8.0*.  
First Class Honours
- 2007–2010 **Bachelor of Business Studies**, *The University of California*, Berkeley, *GPA – 7.5*.  
Specialized in Commerce

## Masters Thesis

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Title	<i>Money Is The Root Of All Evil – Or Is It?</i>
Supervisors	Professor James Smith & Associate Professor Jane Smith
Description	This thesis explored the idea that money has been the cause of untold anguish and suffering in the world. I found that it has, in fact, not.

## Experience

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### Vocational

2012–Present	<b>1<sup>st</sup> Year Analyst</b> , LEHMAN BROTHERS, Los Angeles. Developed spreadsheets for risk analysis on exotic derivatives on a wide array of commodities (ags, oils, precious and base metals), managed blotter and secondary trades on structured notes, liaised with Middle Office, Sales and Structuring for bookkeeping.  Detailed achievements: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>– Learned how to make amazing coffee</li><li>– Finally determined the reason for PC LOAD LETTER:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Paper jam</li><li>- Software issues:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Word not sending the correct data to printer</li><li>· Windows trying to print in letter format</li></ul></li><li>- Coffee spilled inside printer</li></ul></li><li>– Broke the office record for number of kitten pictures in cubicle</li></ul>
2011–2012	<b>Summer Intern</b> , LEHMAN BROTHERS, Los Angeles. Rated "truly distinctive" for Analytical Skills and Teamwork.

### Miscellaneous

2010–2011	Spent some time finding myself. This was a courageous endeavour that didn't have a job title. It was quite important to my overall development though so I'm adding it to my CV. Also it explains the gap in my otherwise stellar CV.
2009–2010	<b>Computer Repair Specialist</b> , <i>Buy More</i> , Burbank. Worked in the Nerd Herd and helped to solve computer problems. Allowed me to become expert in all forms of martial arts and weaponry.

## Awards

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2011	School of Business Postgraduate Scholarship
2010	Top Achiever Award – Commerce

## Computer skills

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Basic	JAVA, Adobe Illustrator
Intermediate	PYTHON, HTML, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, OpenOffice, Linux, Microsoft Windows
Advanced	Computer Hardware and Support

## Communication Skills

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2010	Oral Presentation at the California Business Conference
2009	Poster at the Annual Business Conference in Oregon

## Languages

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English	<b>Mothertongue</b>	
Spanish	<b>Intermediate</b>	<i>Conversationally fluent</i>
Dutch	<b>Basic</b>	<i>Basic words and phrases only</i>

## Interests

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- Piano
- Cooking
- Running
- Chess
- Dancing