

# Gael Sola

Forest monitoring 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.

- **Viet Nam:**

- Provide technical support to the forest department and its technical bodies, in collaboration with international organisations (UNDP, JICA) to develop and improve forest monitoring systems,
- 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 forest activities in six provinces,

- **South and Southeast Asia:**

- Provide **training** and technical backstopping on forest monitoring to government bodies and research institutions (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.

- **Conduct training, develop guidelines** and training materials for field work, data exploration and data analysis on 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.

2009 **Technical assistant, Groupe énergies 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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2006–2010 **Master of forest science, AgroParisTech-ENGREF**, France.

- **Sustainable** management of **tropical** and temperate **forests**.
- Forest and **climate change** mitigation (MDP, REDD).
- **International policy, economy** and **sociology** applied to **natural resources** management.

### Masters Thesis

Title Formal and informal wood supply chains in two forest areas of Madagascar East Coast (CIFOR-HELVETAS)

Supervisors Professor Jean-Laurent Pfund

**Description** A deep dive into the harsh reality of the illegal wood commodity chains in and around forest protected areas, revealing the importance of timber logging for local communities around protected areas and quantifying the distribution of revenues from the forest to the main markets.

## Languages

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French	★★★★★	English	★★★★☆	Vietnamese	★★☆☆☆
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## Computer skills

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Basic	SQL, HTML, SAS
Intermediate	Geographic Information Systmes (QGIS, ArcGIS), PYTHON, L <sup>A</sup> T <sub>E</sub> X, OpenOffice, Linux, Microsoft Windows
Advanced	R SOFTWARE for data analysis, statistics, modeling, geospatial analysis and reporting (reports, dashboards), MS Office

## Interests

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- Nature, Hiking, Photography	- Music & Music festivals
- Cooking	- Sport

## Publications

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Author, co-author

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**Sola, G.**, Picard, N., Saint-André, L., and Henry, M.: *Summary of the manual for building tree volume and biomass allometric equations: from field measurement to prediction*. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement, Rome, Montpellier (2012)

Contributed

**Sola, G.**, Picard, N., Saint-André, L., and Henry, M.: *Summary of the manual for building tree volume and biomass allometric equations: from field measurement to prediction*. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and Centre de Coopération Internationale en Recherche Agronomique pour le Développement, Rome, Montpellier (2012)