



Maritta R. von Bieberstein Koch-Weser

Maritta Koch-Weser has a distinguished career spanning four decades in international development, as anthropologist, environmentalist, and social entrepreneur.

She has field experience in Latin America, South & East Asia, and in parts of Sub-Saharan Africa, the Middle East, and Eastern Europe. She has led major environmental & social assessment tasks, and investment programs in the environment, agriculture, forestry, mining, renewable energy, and urban-industrial sectors.

Maritta Koch-Weser is **Founder and President of Earth3000**. As a non-profit organization founded in 2001, Earth3000 supports strategic innovations in governance for environment and development. In this context she shares responsibilities in a number of Supervisory and Advisory Boards of NGOs, Companies, and Academia (www.earth3000.org).

Since 2009 Dr. Koch-Weser has also lead the **“Amazonia em Transformação: História e Perspectivas”** program at the **Institute of Advanced Studies of the University of São Paulo, Brazil**. She spearheaded work on the establishment of the world’s first **Rainforest Business School**, and is now a member of its **Scientific Council**.

In her earlier career, Dr. Koch-Weser worked as social scientist and in managerial positions for some 20 years at the **World Bank**, in Washington DC, as **Director for Environmentally and Socially Sustainable Development for the Latin America and Caribbean Region**, and earlier as head of **Asia Environment Programs**, and as **head of the World Bank’s central Environmental Assessments and Programs Division**.

Subsequently, Dr. Koch-Weser served as **Director General of IUCN -The World Conservation Union**, the foremost global environmental umbrella organization.

Maritta Koch-Weser holds a 1975 Ph.D. from the Universities of Bonn and Cologne, Germany. She taught Anthropology at George Washington University, and received a 2010 Honorary Doctorate from Oxford Brookes University, UK. At the 2012 Rio+20 she received the “Joao Pedro Cardoso” Environmental Medal of Sao Paulo State. She works in German, English, Portuguese, Spanish, and French. She is married, with 3 children.