

Maritta R. von Bieberstein Koch-Weser

Maritta Koch-Weser has a distinguished career spanning three decades in international development, as anthropologist and environmentalist. She has field experience in Latin America, South & East Asia, Sub-Saharan Africa, and in parts of the Middle East, Eastern Europe, and countries of the Former Soviet Union. She has led major environmental & social assessment tasks, as well as investment programs in the agriculture, forestry, mining, 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, combining academic, advisory, and board engagements.

Since 2001, Earth3000 has contributed towards innovative international initiatives, among them the social entrepreneurship oriented **Global Exchange for Social Investment**, presently chaired by Dr. Koch-Weser and originated in 2002 by the Davos World Economic Forum.

Earth3000 is linked to various sustainability oriented academic programs and advisory boards in Germany and abroad. A major thrust is the build-up, led by Dr. Koch-Weser, of a new program on Contemporary History of Amazonia at the Institute of Advanced Studies, at the University of Sao Paulo.

In her earlier career, Dr. Koch-Weser worked for some 20 years at the **World Bank**, where she was closely associated as **social scientist** with instituting environmental and social policies. She was responsible for the implementation of major sustainable development programs, holding **successive senior management positions in Environmentally & Socially Sustainable Development** for the Central Policy, Asia, and Latin America & Caribbean programs.

She subsequently 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, and a 2010 Honorary Doctorate from Oxford Brookes University.

During her early post-doctoral career, she taught Anthropology and Latin American Studies at George Washington University in Washington D.C., and carried out extensive field work in Brazil.

January 2011

mkochweser@earth3000.org; www.earth3000.org