Cecilia Polansky



***Participatory natural resource inventory, mapping, training***

### English and French including French-to English translation

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**Professional experience since 1982:**

* *Indigenous forest management plan writing, mapping support*
* *Technical document translation French-English*
* *Timber and nontimber forest product inventory training, data collection, and analysis*
* *Environmental compliance documentation and evaluations*

**Degrees:**

Master of Science in Forest Resource Inventory - 2002 (University of Vermont)

Bachelor of Science in Forest Management - 1990 (University of Vermont)

Associate in Applied Science in Forest Technology - 1981 (State of Washington)

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| **2018**  ***4 weeks*** | **Cocoa agroforestry shade tree quantification** *(ACDI-VOCA/FIFES/ Climate Smart Cocoa)* Visited cocoa agroforestry fields to quantify and map timber shade trees for potential valuation as assistance to post-war farmers who need increased production. |
| **2016**  ***6 weeks*** | **REDD+ strategy document development** *(UNDP Congo-Brazzaville, under the direction of a consultant in charge of assembly and final content)* **Research and synthesis of Country documents** concerning REDD+ compliance, planning, and technical content for a multi-year integrated strategy |
| **2013 - July 2016** | **Technical specialist on environment, governance, documentation, and M&E (Niger and Burkina Faso)** *(USAID|REGIS-ER resilience project)* **Environmental documentation** for water quality assurance, environmental examination, mitigation planning, pesticide review; governance and local convention **natural resource management planning and mapping**; **monitoring and evaluation** database design and implementation; assurance of documentation archiving. |
| **2010 - 2012**  ***5 months*** | **Environmental compliance assessment (Senegal, Ethiopia, Niger)** *(for USAID-funded Agric Projects under CLUSA and International Resources Group)*Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Feed the Future projects; Initial Environmental Examinations for project proposals; and Environmental Review documentation for various USAID-funded projects. Wrote chapters on potential area- and ecology-based impacts for assessment of agriculture-based work: small irrigation, rice, livestock, valley development. Provided basis for environmental indicators in project targets; recommended means to achieve compliance through mitigation plans. |
| **2010 -2011**  *2 months* | **Forest inventory and management specialist (Sierra Leone)** *(for USAID PAGE project)*  Advised on inventory integrated into community forest management planning; trained team in plot data collection and processing; supervised fieldwork; wrote terms of reference for mapping and botanical collection; provided image-based maps |
| **2010**  *1 month* | **Forest management specialist (Mali)** *(for U.S. Forest Service International Programs)*  Participated on team to evaluate deforestation and solutions in rice irrigation resettlement scheme funded by MCC-Mali, for USAID Mali; recommended actions to improve access to fuelwood |
| **2009 - 2011**  *3months+* | **GIS and aerial photography utilization consultant (Republic of Congo)** *(for Winrock International under contract with ITTO) -* **Used data from high-resolution photography** for biomass inventory, wildlife conservation support, and forest exploitation monitoring.Proposed and executed scenarios to recuperate work with imagery from initial 2 year,s to calculate biomass/carbon. |
| **2006 - 2009**  *4 years* | **Community-based forest management and biodiversity (Senegal)** *(for Projet AG/GRN Wula Nafaa, BP 25-740, Dakar-Fann and Tambacounda)*   * Advised on content and analysis of Socio-economic studies; compiled, formatted, and translated technical presentations on project activities in forest, wildlife, fisheries |
| **2006**-**07**  *3 months* | **Forest inventory and management plan consultant (Senegal)** *(for USFS, USAID Agric/NRM)*   * Assisted US Forest Service in management plan guide and inventory advisory capacity |
| **2006**  *1 month* | **Forest management certification trainee and pre-assessment team member (Cameroun)** *(for Smartwood/Rainforest Alliance)*  **Received and utilized training in forest certification;** participated in pre-certification assessment in southern Cameroun; wrote a technical report. |
| **2006 -2009** | **Technical and documentation support provider (Senegal - French-speaking)**   * French and English translations, report and brochure design - Projet Wula Nafaa * Agricultural programs synopsis written for Catholic Relief Services |
| **1999 -2005**  *Full-time for 2 years;*  *Part-time for 3 years* | **Participatory forest mgmt specialist for CBNRM projects (Zambia)**  *(CLUSA-NRM, CARE Food Security Program; Zambia Trade/Investment; Provincial Forestry Action Program)*  **1. Forestry office management** for 2 years: Developed and supported field program with village-based facilitators, analyzed and integrated field data for 32,000 ha  **2. Capacity-building** for Forestry Department and facilitators included these topics:   * **Inventory methods and mapping** of results using participatory approaches that include input from villager forest users and SPOT imagery * **Village resource assessment** techniques combining local knowledge, user group input, inventory data to write mgmt plans & calculate allowable annual cut   **3**. Assessment of **Western Province** forestry issues/ potential for USAID intervention  **4.** Assisted in drafting Zambia’s National **Joint Forest Management Guidelines** booklet |
| **2003**  *1 month* | **Participatory inventory specialist (Senegal)** *(Senegal Agric/NRM Project, USAID/IRG)*   * **Assessed** informational and organizational prerequisites to inventory semi-arid *Combretum* and vène co-managed forest products in eastern Senegal * **Guided** sensitization, GPS, and mapping procedures for moving the field program ahead |
| **2001-2002**  *2 months* | **Inventory issues consultant (Guinea- Conakry)**  (*Projet Elargi de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles, USAID/Winrock) – 3 visits*   * Appraised work quality of sawyers, Forest Service, and University inventory crews * Recommended improved, adapted field and analysis methods to help user groups * Set up mapping office and provided **GPS field training** to forestry officers |
| **1996-2000**  *2 years* | **Researcher in forest fragmentation sampling and mapping methods**  *(Graduate thesis, University of Vermont)*   * Data collection and analysis using aerial photography **interpretation** with **GIS mapping** * Used index calculations to show trends in **forest cover change** 1941 to 1995 |
| **1992-1996**  *4 years* | Technical advisor to mapping and inventory unit (Benin)Projet de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles, Volet Amgmt Forestier, World Bank  * Integrated **sawyer input** for **forest surveys** on 300,000 ha of national forest * Trained **Forest Service field crews** in assembly and interpretation of photomosaics * Assured inventory and mapping **quality control** * Assembled multiple-use **forest management plan** with CLUSA-organized user groups * Produced **brochures and displays** of participatory forest mgmt steps and activities |
| **1991-1992**  *2 years* | **State Lands Forester**, Vermont **(USA)** State Agency of Natural Resources   * Independently completed multiresource inventories and timber cruises; marked boundaries * Worked with community-based Rails-to-Trails and Conservation Corps * Assessed forest health for national surveys; performed aerial surveys |
| **1988-1989**  *8 months* | **Forest health decline surveyor** (Northeast US) Crew leader, U.S. Forest Service   * Motivated and assisted field crew in identification of disease and decline indicators, physical sampling, location of old plots and installation of new plots for long-term forest health monitoring in remote northeastern forests |
| **1982-1986**  *3.5 years* | **Forest inventory trainer and field trip coordinator (Niger)** (*Peace Corps Service, USAID Forest and Land Use Planning Project)*   * Supervised data collection and training during national inventory * Planned fieldwork in remote Niger using satellite imagery and air photo interpretation * Coordinated and led short Peace Corps training programs on sahelian techniques for natural regeneration, reclamation of soils, windbreaks, nursery operations |
| **1987**  *2 months* | **Documentation and training advisor (Niger)** (*Forest and Land Use Planning Project, USAID)* Produced a **30-minute documentary** in French on natural forest management;contributed to establishment of a ministry-based **sahelian forestry library** |
| **1986**  *2 months* | **Interim project forester (Niger)** *CARE International*  Provided guidance for rural herd reconstitution project on agroforestry and gardening component, collaborating with AFRICARE |
| **1986**  *2 months* | **Project liaison facilitator (Niger)** *Forestry technical school at Kolo; USAID*  Identified ways to update training program to make it compatible with project needs; produced two 12-minute **instructional videotapes** of inventory techniques |
| **1979-1981**  *12months* | **Inventory, fire, and timber stand improvement field forester** (*U.S. Forest Service and private contracts in Idaho, Oregon, and Washington USA)*   * Conducted **survival and stand exams •** Surveyed roads **•** Ignited controlled burns; fought lightning fires • Planted trees **•** Thinned forest stands pre-commercially |

**LANGUAGES:**

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| **ENGLISH**: Native language | **FRENCH:** FSI level 3+ (excellent) written and verbal |
| **Spanish**: Basic | **Hausa**, **Cinyanja, Wolof**: Limited |

**EDUCATION:**

**2001 Master of Science** in Natural Resources Biometry, University of Vermont, USA (GPA 3.9)

• ArcInfo and ArcView geographic information systems • Benefit-cost analysis

• Sample survey design • Advanced forest biometry

**1990** **Bachelor of Science** in Forest Management, University of Vermont (GPA 3.9)

• Environmental law • Pathology • Ecology • Forest Valuation

• Management and linear programming • Wildlife • Harvesting

**1981 Associate Applied Science**, Forest Technology, Green River College, Washington (GPA 4.0)

• Practical silviculture • Aerial photo interpretation • Surveying

**COMPUTER LITERACY**: Excel, Word, Access, SAS, Power Point, Photo editor, Publisher, ArcView

**OTHER BIODATA:**

**Membership:** Society of American Foresters, Green Mountain Division, secretary and historical archives 1998; Intl Society of Tropical Foresters; Episcopal Church; WWF; Dakar Women’s Group; American Translators Association (French to English)

**Awards:** Green River College Outstanding Student, 1981; Susan Whitmore writing award, Adams Academic, and Sigma Xi Academic Achievement awards, 1990; Outstanding Student Poster Award, SAF/Boise-Cascade Conference on Integrated Tools for Inventory 1998.

**DOCUMENTS AND PUBLICATIONS:**

ARTICLES

* **2004**: Polansky, C. and J. Heermans. Developing forest management plans with high-tech tools and traditional knowledge in Zambia. *Journal of Forestry,* **101** (5) 46-51.
* **2003**: Polansky, C. Participatory Forest Management in Africa: Lessons Not Learned. *Intl. Journal of Sustainable Development and World Ecology*, **10** (2003) 109-118.
* **1996**: Polansky, C. Utilization of Human Experience in lieu of Raw Statistics in Estimating Tree Volumes in Benin, West Africa. Statistical methods course (Univ. of Vermont) and Student poster presentation 1998 at Boise-Cascade/USFS Integrated Tools for Inventory in 21st Century. 10 pages.

MEDIA PRESENTATIONS

* **1995, 2003, 2008: Brochures and slideshows for Benin, Zambia, Senegal forestry programs (Eng/French).**
* **1985-87: Scripts in French for two 12- minute, and one 30-minute, videotaped productions of Sahel forestry** themes: inventory plot methods and natural forest mgmt. Acted as producer.

MANUALS

* **2008:** Guide d’Elaboration du Plan d’Aménagement Forestier Participatif. USAID-Wula Nafaa Program. BP 25-740, Dakar-Fann, Senegal. 46 pages.
* **2002-06**: Guide to Low-Cost Forest Resources Inventory in Dry Tropical Forests of Africa. USAID/ Washington, Lusaka; Winrock Intl. 84 pages. [www.ladyforester-tech.org/PptyInvManualPage.html](http://www.ladyforester-tech.org/PptyInvManualPage.html)

TECHNICAL REPORTS

* **2015-16: Water Quality Assurance Plan for USAID|REGIS-ER (Niger and Burkina Faso); PERSUAP pesticide review**
* **2013-16: Editing and formatting of numerous technical reports and manuals for conservation agriculture, gardening, NRM, and health topics and periodic reports for USAID|REGIS-ER**
* **2014: IEE amendment and EMMP for USAID|REGIS-ER agriculture and irrigation activities**
* **2009: 2ème Atelier USAID-Wula Nafaa Réflexion sur les Chimpanzés 23 Avril 2009 à Kédougou. Compilation of reports, maps, data, workplans into working document. 39 pgs. USAID-Wula Nafaa Program, Senegal.**
* **2009: Inventory data analysis program for local sawtimber forests based on Access. USAID-Wula Nafaa.**
* **2007: (In English and in French) Recommendations concerning inventory of timber, fuelwood, and nontimber products and charcoal species regeneration for Areas of Wula Nafaa Intervention in Eastern and Southern Senegal. USAID-Wula Nafaa Program. BP 25-740, Dakar-Fann, Senegal. 57 pages.**
* **2005: Mapping and Inventory Results for Nyamphande Natural Resource Management Area Directly Addressing Issues of Timber and Nontimber Forest Products (Data Collection 2003-2004). 60 pages - tables, graphs, recommended follow-up activities.**
* **2004: (with John Heermans) Overview of the Forestry Sector in Western Province, Zambia. USAID Mission/ Zambia Trade and Investment Enterprise, Lusaka. 60 pages.**
* **2002: Report of Field Encroachment Census results for Chiulukire Local Forest. 8 Pages with graphs, tables, and recommendations for followup actions.**
* 2002: Potentially Commercial Nontimber Forest Products: Submission From CLUSA-Natural Resources Management Programme, Chipata, Zambia.
* 2002: Edited Beekeeping and Comb Collection Training Module for co-operative honey program in Zambia.
* **2001: Mise en Ordre et Suivi du Plan de Coupe et d’Activités de Cogestion dans les Forêts d’Intervention du Projet Elargi de Gestion des Ressources Naturelles, Guinée. USAID/PEGRN, Conakry. 25 pgs.**
* **2001: Preliminary Quantification And Valuation Of Traditional Charcoal Producing Operations – Mini Case Study For Chiulukire Local Forest. CLUSA and Zambia Forestry Department, Chipata. 10 pages.**
* **2001: Compiled document on Non-Timber Forest Product Markets in Katete. CLUSA/ Zambia Forestry Dept.**
* **2000: Forest Inventory in the Context of Co-Management of Guinea’s Forêts Classées. Technical mission report. USAID/PEGRN, Conakry. 31 pages.**
* **2000: Scenarios for revenue-sharing in jointly-managed Chiulukire Local Forest. CLUSA/USAID discussion paper. 5 pages.**
* **2000: How stratification reduces sampling variance. USAID/CLUSA/CARE contract, Zambia. 8 pp.**
* **1997: Cost-Benefit Analysis of Forest Inventory. Cost-Benefit course, Univ. of Vermont. 10 pages.**
* **1995: Sommaire de l’Inventaire Quantitatif de la Forêt Classée de Toui-Kilibo (Summary of the Quantitative Inventory of the National Forest of Toui-Kilibo), Benin. PGRN/World Bank project. 30 pp**
* **1995: Polansky, C. Réflections sur l’Inventaire Forestier au Benin (issues and needs). PGRN, 4 pages.**
* **1991: Ecological Study and Management Plan for Brechin Woodlot, Vermont. 30 pages.**