



# **PARALLEL SESSION 3.4**

SHIFTING LANDSCAPES - REAL AND FIGURATIVE: UNDERSTANDING HOW ALTERED LAND USE IS DRIVING DISEASE EMERGENCE





#### | BACKGROUND

From urban growth to natural resource extraction and agricultural intensification, anthropogenic land use change is leaving an indelible mark on the planet. Globally, from 2000 – 2012, net forest cover loss totaled 1.5 million square kilometers, 32% of which occurred in tropical rainforest ecosystems. This radical alteration in our natural environment is contributing to an acceleration in the pace and diversity of vector-borne and zoonotic disease emergence, as humans, their livestock, and wildlife are placed into increasingly greater contact. This session will provide a forum for exploration of the mechanics of land use change-associated zoonotic disease emergence and novel, practical solutions to address this challenge.

## | OBJECTIVES

- Understanding the various pathways that are transforming landscapes—from agricultural intensification to extractive industries and infrastructure development—as economically driven
- Enhanced understanding of the mechanisms through which land use change enables infectious disease emergence and/or re-emergence, including inter-related factors of biodiversity and human population change dynamics
- Reviewing the data on how various land use scenarios—including fragmentation of wildlife habitats—are linked to both vector-borne and non-vector-borne zoonotic disease transmission dynamics
- Highlighting proven models for addressing land use-associated disease emergence





#### Speaker

## Chadia Wannous

Coordinator and Senior Advisor

Towards a Safer World Network for Pandemic Prepardness (TASW) Sweden

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Chadia Wannous Coordinator and Senior Advisor Toward A Safer World Network for Pandemic Preparedness (TASW) Dr. Chadia Wannous is the Coordinator of the Toward A Safer World Network for Pandemic Preparedness (TASW), which aims to contribute to increased societal resilience in the face of pandemics and other comparable threats to health through sharing of knowledge and best practices in Promoting Multi-Sector and Whole of Society Approaches to Pandemic Preparedness. Dr. Wannous has served in the UN system as Senior Policy Advisor for the past decade to optimize UN work on global initiatives related to pandemic preparedness and response. Most recently in 2015-2017 Dr. Wannous worked at the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) in Switzerland, coordinating the implementation and advocacy for the health components of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the Science and Technology Partnership. Prior to this Chadia served as a Senior Policy Advisor to the UN Secretary General Special Envoy on Ebola in West Africa (2014-2015) and the UN System Influenza Coordination (2011-2014). Previous experience also includes working as a Technical Officer at the WHO Regional Communicable Disease Surveillance and Response sub-unit based in Thailand, and then as a Senior Advisor to the UN Resident Coordinator in Egypt and as the Regional Coordinator for the UN System Influenza Coordination (UNSIC) in the Middle East and North Africa region. In these roles Chadia led strategic planning and technical support to countries for the development and implementation and testing of pandemic preparedness and response plans and for strengthening partnerships and alliances at country, regional and global levels. Dr. Wannous is a public health professional with a doctorate degree in International Health and Development and more than twenty-five years of experience in program management, coordination, and research with particular focus on emergency preparedness and response and risk reduction of health threats.

