



Virtual Event



7th ASIA-PACIFIC
CLIMATE CHANGE
ADAPTATION FORUM



Enabling Resilience for All: The Critical Decade to Scale-up Action

8-12 March 2021



Speaker Profiles



#APAN2020



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Speaker 



Abia Akram
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
National Forum of Women with Disabilities (NFWWD)

With a personal experience of physical disability, Abia Akram has been engaged in the activities of the Disability Movement since 1997. In the struggle of giving voice to women with disabilities, she has been lobbying with parliamentarians, UN High Level representatives focusing on developing advocacy strategies to raise awareness, network, and build capacity and at the UN level in relation to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Inclusive Development. She also has coordinated efforts of including persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Also, she has established the National Forum of Women with Disabilities, Independent living Centre with Special Talent Exchange Program (STEP), Ageing and Disability Task Force, Commonwealth Young Disabled People' Forum, Disabled People's International (DPI)'s Global Network of Emerging Young Women and recently assigned the responsibility as Global Chair, Global Youth Council UNICEF (NY), Co-Coordinator, Asia Pacific Women with Disabilities United and Coordinator, South Asia Disability and Development Initiative (SAADDI) Project. She acquired the British Chevening Scholarship and did her post-graduation in Gender and International Development from the University of Warwick (UK).



Abid Qaiyum Suleri
Executive Director
Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI)

Dr. Abid Qaiyum Suleri has been the head of SDPI since 2007. He is a member of different policy-making forums and advisory boards, including the Prime Minister's Economic Advisory Council, National Advisory Council of Planning commission of Pakistan, Pakistan Climate Change Council, the advisory board of CAREC (Central Asia Regional Economic Cooperation) Think-Tank Network and the permanent organizing committee of South Asia Economic Summit. He is also the Co-Chair of the Board of Climate Action Network South Asia and the lead expert for the World Economic Forum's "Transformation Mapping" initiative from Pakistan. He also served on three judicial commissions (formed by the Supreme Court of Pakistan, Islamabad High Court, and Lahore High Court) on environmental issues. He was a member of the Board of Management of Pakistan State Oil (PSO), where he chaired the PSO Board's Audit and Accounts Committee. Dr. Suleri represented Pakistan in various official delegations, including at UN conferences. Furthermore, he is also editor-in-chief of the SDPI peer-reviewed journal "Journal of Development Policy, Research and Practice". Dr. Suleri earned his PhD in food security from the University of Greenwich (UK) in May 2000.



Afsara Binte Mirza
Junior Research Officer
International Centre for Climate Change and
Development (ICCCAD)

Afsara Mirza is currently working as a Junior Research Officer at the International ICCCAD. Her research interest lies in climate justice and Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities sustainable lifestyles leading to climate change adaptation and mitigation. Previously, she was working as a Results and Knowledge Management Intern at the Strategic Planning Unit of UN Women' Headquarters in New York. In 2019, she completed her undergraduate degree from Elizabethtown Collage in Economics and International Studies.

**Ahmed Waheed**

Director
Climate Change Department,
Ministry of Environment, Maldives

Ahmed Waheed is the Director of the Climate Change Department at the Ministry of Environment of Maldives. His main tasks include resilience and adaptation planning related works, and contributes to formulate and mobilize resources to implement nationwide resilience building initiatives and programs. With more than seven years of experience in the climate change sector, he participated in various climate change forums, meetings and negotiations as one of the members of the national team. He has also contributed to the formulation of various policy documents such as the National Climate Change Policy Framework, Climate Change Bill (draft), and preparation of communications under the UNFCCC process such as National Communications, Nationally Determined Contributions, among others. Earlier, he also worked in the Water and Environmental Health sections of the Ministry of the Environment. Ahmed Waheed holds Bachelor's Degree in Science and Master of Science Degree in Sustainability, Environment and Change.

**Aiping Chen**

Director
Global Center on Adaptation (GCA), China Office

Aiping Chen, current Regional Director of the GCA China Office, has been working on climate change for the past 14 years. Prior to the GCA, Chen had served the secretariat of the UNFCCC for 13 years and accumulated rich knowledge and experience on climate change mitigation, adaptation, capacity building and finance, especially on the intergovernmental processes. The latest role of Ms. Chen at UNFCCC was directly supporting the Executive Secretary's engagement and involvement in the UN management system, including advising the United Nations Secretary-General (UNSG) on climate change issues for the outreach activities to relevant stakeholders. Ms. Chen holds a Master's Degree in Engineering and is currently a Guest Professor of the Renmin University in China.



Alejandro Jiménez Hernández

International Consultant on Adaptation to Climate Change

Alejandro Jiménez Hernández has been working worldwide for international environmental and humanitarian organizations for over 20 years. Throughout his career, he has been engaged with networks of sustainable development practitioners, assisting civil society organizations, local governments and institutions, in the formulation of project proposals, capacity building and the implementation of ecosystem management, land-use planning and climate adaptation activities. Through his work, Alejandro has accumulated a broad experience in assessing climate risk using a diversity of tools and developing Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) options to enhance climate resilience. Originally a biologist focused on tropical ecology and natural history, Alejandro holds a Master's degree in Geography from the University of Costa Rica, as well as a title as a Specialist in Environmental Impact Assessment from the University of Valladolid - Spain. Currently he's an active member of IUCN's Commission on Ecosystems Management (CEM) for Mesoamerica and works as an international consultant on EbA.



Alexandre Meybeck

Senior Technical Advisor - Forest, Trees and Agroforestry (FTA) Research Program
Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR)

Alexandre Meybeck is working as Senior Technical Adviser for the FTA Research Program of the CGIAR (or Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) at the CIFOR. He has been Senior Adviser on agriculture, environment and climate change to the Assistant Director General in charge of the Agriculture and Consumer Protection Department of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations where he created and coordinated the FAO/UNEP Sustainable Food Systems programme. He has worked extensively on issues related to sustainability, food security and nutrition at both national and international levels authoring a various publications on climate change and agriculture, sustainable food systems, sustainable diets. He is the lead author of the FAO-FTA co-publication Addressing forestry and agroforestry in National Adaptation Plans – Supplementary guidelines. Prior to joining FAO he served in the French Ministry of Agriculture as head of the Environment and Rural Areas Unit and head of the Environmental Strategies and Climate Change Unit, in which capacity he coordinated the preparation of the first French climate change adaptation plan for agriculture, forestry and fisheries.

**Alvin Chandra**

Programme Management Officer
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Alvin Chandra hails from the Fiji Islands, and brings with him over 15 years of experience in climate change and international development. Much of Alvin's work has focused on loss and damage, innovative finance, market, technology, and digital solutions in favour of joint adaptation and mitigation actions. He has worked for several UN organizations, development agencies and the private sector, including the UNEP, UNFCCC, GCF, Oxfam and UNDP-GEF). Much of his recent work has been in Europe, Asia and Pacific Islands. At the Green Climate Fund (GCF), Alvin provided technical advice to countries in the formulation of adaptation and readiness projects in the Asia-Pacific region. He has technically advised parties on loss and damage issues, working on comprehensive risk management and mobility and climate finance solutions. Alvin holds a PhD in climate sciences and agriculture from the University of Queensland (Australia). He has served as a lead author for the UNEP Global Environment Outlook 6 and expert reviewer for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Special Reports on Ocean and Cryosphere, and Climate Change and Land.

**Anaa Hassan**

Assistant Director
Ministry of Environment, Maldives

Anaa Hassan is an Assistant Director at the Ministry of Environment, Maldives. She joined the Climate Change Department on December 2017. Her responsibilities include assisting the department in mobilizing and tracking climate relevant support and in fulfilling the reporting obligations to the UNFCCC. She is also the Mitigation Technical Coordinator for the 'Maldives Third National Communication'. Prior to her current post, she authored the MRV and Climate Finance Chapters of the Maldives First Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC, which was published in Nov 2019. She has a Masters Degree in Environment, Development and Policy from the University of Sussex (UK) and currently pursuing a PhD from the University of Melbourne (Australia).

**Anand Patwardhan**

Professor
School of Public Policy, University of Maryland

Anand Patwardhan is a Professor in the School of Public Policy at the University of Maryland, College Park. He was a Professor at the Shailesh J Mehta School of Management, Indian Institute of Technology-Bombay and a Visiting Professor at the Nicholas School of Environment, Duke University. Anand has a BTech (Electrical Engineering) from IIT-Bombay and a MS (Civil Engineering) and PhD (Engineering and Public Policy), both from Carnegie Mellon University. Anand has worked extensively in the area of climate policy at the national and multilateral level, focusing on mitigation and adaptation responses to climate change, and the assessment of vulnerability and adaptation. He has also worked on broader issues of science, technology and innovation policy, including the diffusion and adoption of clean technology. He is currently the Co-Chair of the Science Committee for the World Adaptation Science Program at the UNEP. He has been a member of the Scientific Advisory Panel for the Global Environment Outlook (GEO), and a member of the Scientific and Technical Advisory Panel (STAP) of the Global Environment Facility (GEF). He was a coordinating lead author for the Fourth and Fifth Assessment Reports of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and a coordinating lead author and co-chair of the Executive Committee of the Global Energy Assessment.

**Andreas Hofmann**

Project Manager - Tourism for Sustainable Development
Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Andreas Hofmann has an educational background in Asian Politics from SOAS University (UK) and a PhD in Tourism from the International Centre for Research in Events, Tourism and Hospitality (ICRETH) (UK) and practical stints at the Swiss tourism company Kuonni (now DER Tourism) in Zurich (Switzerland) and Vientiane (Laos). He is currently working at Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)'s HQ on tourism as a development instrument with a special focus on destination resilience as well as digital capacity building.

**Ania Grobicki**

Deputy Director - External Affairs
Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Dr. Ania Grobicki is the Deputy Director of External Affairs at the Green Climate Fund (GCF). She is a chemical engineer who worked for a major oil company, and subsequently completed a PhD in biochemical engineering at Imperial College London. She thereafter worked in academia and consulting, on water, environment and development issues, before becoming the coordinator of the CGIAR (or Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research) Challenge Program on Water and Food. Subsequently, for six years she headed the Global Water Partnership (a worldwide network of water organizations) as its Executive Secretary, based in Sweden, and then served as the Deputy Secretary General and Acting Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. Ania has written a number of publications on water and development-related issues, most recently as Coordinating Lead Author for the freshwater chapters of the 6th Global Environmental Outlook. Concerned by the major changes occurring in both global and local water cycles, for the last 10 years she has focused on the links between water and climate, including water-related disasters, prior to joining GCF in 2019.

**Anika Terton**

Policy Advisor -Resilience program at the International
Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)

Anika Terton is a Policy Advisor with the IISD's Resilience program. Her areas of focus include national adaptation planning (NAP) processes, integrated climate change planning and ecosystem-based adaptation (EbA). Anika's area of expertise includes undertaking research, policy analysis, and engagement activities with most of her work focused on understanding the risks and opportunities that climate change and variability poses to developing countries. Much of Anika's most recent work has been on integrating EbA into NAP processes, realizing linkages between the NAP process and National Determined Contributions (NDCs) and understanding national policy processes that have been established under the three post-2015 global agendas (Paris Agreement, Agenda 2030, Sendai Framework) and the value and benefits of aligning these climate-relevant planning processes.



Animesh Kumar
Deputy Chief
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction
(UNDRR), Asia-Pacific

Dr. Animesh Kumar is the Deputy Chief of the UNDRR, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, based in Bangkok. He currently also serves as the Officer-in-Charge of the regional office. In this capacity, he coordinates disaster risk reduction policy, and inter-governmental, multi-stakeholder and UN mechanisms in the region. Before joining this position, Dr. Kumar held the same position in the UNDRR Regional Office for Africa, based in Nairobi. In his previous positions, Dr. Kumar worked in other UN entities in Africa and Asia, including on a UN secondment to the Government of Ethiopia as their Policy Advisor on DRR and climate change. Dr. Kumar has led risk assessments in multiple countries, including a series of food security atlases in India and risk profiles in Ethiopia. He has served on various committees including on risk insurance, science and technology, urban and city resilience, business resilience, etc. and has several publications to his credit. Dr. Kumar is a Geographer, and holds an MPhil and PhD in adaptation and sustainability.



Anne-Marie Trevelyan
Minister of state for Business, Energy and Clean Growth
of UK and UK International Champion on Adaptation and
Resilience for the COP26 Presidency

Rt Hon Anne-Marie Trevelyan was appointed as Minister of State (Minister for Business, Energy and Clean Growth) at the Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (UK) on 8 January 2021. Anne-Marie Trevelyan was appointed as the UK International Champion on Adaptation and Resilience for the COP26 Presidency on 7 November 2020. Previously Anne-Marie was the Secretary of State for International Development from February to September 2020. She was Minister of State for the Armed Forces from 17 December 2019 to 13 February 2020, and Minister for Defence Procurement from 27 July 2019 to 16 December 2019. Anne-Marie was first elected as Member of Parliament (MP) for the Berwick-upon-Tweed constituency at the 2015 general election. A chartered accountant by trade, Anne-Marie sat on the House of Commons' Public Accounts Committee from July 2015 to May 2017 and December 2018 to July 2019. She has previously served as the Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Secretary of State for Defence.



Anthony Socci

Senior Lead - International Resilience and Adaptation Policy
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of
International and Tribal Affairs (OITA)

Dr. Anthony Socci is the Senior Lead for international resilience and adaptation policy at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's OITA in Washington, DC. For nearly a decade, Dr. Socci has helped coordinate and facilitate several international efforts aimed at building urban and local government capacity to adapt to climate changes, become more resilient and develop more sustainably, in developing countries. More specifically, Dr. Socci worked with a host of international partners to facilitate the implementation of the principles of the Durban Adaptation Charter (DAC), a pledge on the part of nearly 1000 elected local/urban government officials to take local action to build urban resilience and adapt. Later, as a member of the GAN (Global Adaptation Network Steering Committee), Dr. Socci worked with the GAN to facilitate the delivery of actionable, demand-driven information to regions and communities in developing countries through a process referred to as "adaptation learning exchanges." Most recently, Dr. Socci, along with the GAN and other international partners, introduced the EPIC (Educational Partnerships for Innovation in Communities) model to local governments and universities in developing country cities. Dr. Socci holds a master's degree in Geology and a Ph.D. in Geology/Climate/Earth systems.





Antoinette Taus

Founder
Communities Organized for Resource Allocation (CORA)

Antoinette Taus is an award-winning actor, singer, host, humanitarian and Goodwill Ambassador for the UNEP. Long a fixture in the entertainment industry in the Philippines, she has spent much of her life in the media spotlight and is recognized as one of the most influential role models of the youth of her generation. Today, Antoinette collaborates with global media groups, such as National Geographic, FOX, Discovery and CNN, on projects centered on important social and environmental issues, and the solutions to create a better world for all. Antoinette founded CORA, a non-profit organization to help foster action for sustainable development through volunteerism. Antoinette is also the founder of The Sustainable Planet—business for good centered on improving the lives of indigenous peoples and those living in poverty in the Philippines through livelihood programs and biodiversity friendly enterprises. Antoinette passionately advocates for the United Nations "Sustainable Development Goals", She is dedicated to empowering the youth to take the lead in the transition to a future centered on the betterment of people and the planet, without leaving anyone behind.



Arlene B. Arcillas

City Mayor
City Government of Santa Rosa, Laguna, the Philippines

Arlene B. Arcillas is the City Mayor of the City of Santa Rosa, which is also known as the Lion City of the Philippines. Prior to this, she also served as City Mayor from 2007 to 2016, and as Representative of the First District of Laguna from 2016 to 2019. She graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology, Major in Ecology, at the University of the Philippines, Los Banos, Laguna in 1993. She ensures to incorporate, create, as well as support various programs and other related activities related to the environment during her administration as City Mayor. Her excellence in public service is widely recognized. Most notable of which is the Presidential Lingkod Bayan Award in 2011. Conferred by the Civil Service Commission and the Office of the President of the Republic, it is the highest award in the country given to individuals with extraordinary contributions that had a nationwide impact on public interest. Under her administration, the City of Santa Rosa practices participatory governance. This allows the local government to hear and feel the challenges that people face on a day-to-day basis. Be it about health, transportation, electricity, business, disaster-resiliency, or other equally important issues, the local government recognizes that all these are interlinked and are affected by the changing climate.



Armen Rostomyan

Senior Programme Specialist
Asian Institute of Technology Regional Resource Centre for
Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP)

Armen Rostomyan is a Senior Programme Specialist (Remote) at the AIT RRC.AP in Thailand. He has over 20 years of experience working as a programme manager; capacity development specialist and lead-trainer in the fields of Disaster Risk Reduction, Climate Change Adaptation, Humanitarian and Sustainable Development, Human and Institutional Capacity Development and Strengthening Civil Society Organizations. He worked as a programme manager and trainer based both in HQ/ Secretariats, Regional Offices as well as in the Field Offices of various International Organizations such as: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR), United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Bank (WB), Habitat for Humanity International, Aga Khan Foundation (AKF-AKDN), and Amnesty International Secretariat in UK, being responsible for development, management and implementation of various humanitarian and development programmes in 23 countries of Europe, Asia, and Africa regions.



Arun Bhakta Shrestha

Regional Programme Manager - River Basins and
Cryosphere programme
International Centre for Integrated Mountain
Development (ICIMOD)

Dr. Arun Bhakta Shrestha is a Senior Climate Change Specialist and Programme Manager for Regional River Basins and Cryosphere programme of International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) based in Kathmandu. He has a PhD in Earth Sciences from the University of New Hampshire, the USA, and a Master's degree in Hydraulic Engineering from Minsk, former USSR. Before joining ICIMOD, Dr. Shrestha worked for the Department of Hydrology and Meteorology, Nepal. His main areas of expertise include climate change, glaciers and glacial hazards, glacial lake risk mitigation, atmospheric environment, and hydrological modelling. Dr. Shrestha is on the editorial panel for *Advances in Climate Change Research* (Elsevier) and Review Editor *Cryosphere Sciences* (Frontiers in Earth Sciences). He is one of the editors of the Hindu Kush Himalaya Assessment and one of the Coordinating Lead Author of the Chapter on climate change in the Assessment.



Arthur Webb

Chief Technical Advisor - Tuvalu Coastal
Adaptation Project (TCAP)
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Pacific

Dr. Arthur Webb is a Chief Technical Advisor (Coastal Adaptation) on the Tuvalu Coastal Adaptation Project (TCAP) and Coastal Adaptation Specialist at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Pacific Office. Arthur's has over 30 years' experience in the Pacific Islands and his earlier technical and research work involved coastal vegetation systems and agroforestry in the equatorial atolls of the Central Pacific and later this extended to near-shore sediment physical and biogeochemical process in sub-tropical marine systems – the subject of his Post graduate study. Arthur was Coastal Processes Adviser within the Pacific regional geoscience agency (SOPAC) for 10 years and Program Manager / Deputy Director for 7 years. Roles which saw him manage and work with teams implementing Project's and work across 17 Pacific Island Countries and Territories. Arthur was a Lead Author on the IPCC 5th Assessment Report - Chapter 29 (Small Islands) and was a co-author of the 2010 paper "The dynamic response of reef islands to sea-level rise: Evidence from multi-decadal analysis of island change in the Central Pacific". Arthur maintains research relationships with several Universities and remains actively involved in atoll shoreline processes and climate change impact science and has authored and co-authored many other related reports and papers.



Åsa Hedén

Head - Regional Development Cooperation Asia and
the Pacific
Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok

Åsa Hedén is currently the Head of Regional Development Cooperation, Asia and the Pacific at the Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok. Previously she was Director, Department for Asia Middle East and Humanitarian Assistance at Sida Headquarters. She is a development and management specialist with over 20 years of experience from both bilateral and multilateral development work. Åsa Hedén has extensive knowledge of human rights and democracy, environment and cooperation with the private sector. She has worked in China, Asia, Latin America and Africa. She has a long experience of Partner Driven Cooperation from her work with PDC in both Asia and Africa. She has served as the Head of Development Cooperation in Beijing for six years. She has furthermore worked for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in Paris during three years.

**Ashok Khosla**

Chairman

Development Alternatives (DA) Group and TARAlife

Ashok Khosla chairs the Board of the DA Group. Headquartered in New Delhi and set up in 1983, the DA Group was the first social enterprise to address the issues of sustainable development by creating business-like approaches for eradicating poverty and regenerating the natural resource base. He chairs TARAlife, the network of enterprises to create jobs and deliver basic needs in rural India. He served for ten years as Co-Chair of the UN's International Resource Panel. He was President of the International Union for IUCN from 2008 to 2012 and President of the Club of Rome from 2005 to 2012. He became the first Director of the Indian Government's first Environment agency in 1972 and then Director of Infoterra in the United Nations Environment Programme from 1976 to 1982. He has had several official assignments in India and internationally, such as Special Advisor to the Brundtland Commission (WCED), Chair of the '92 NGO Forum at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, and Special Advisor to the Secretary General of the Rio+20 Conference. He has served on the Boards of several international environment and conservation organizations. He studied at Peterhouse, Cambridge University and in the Physics Department of Harvard University.

**Akiko Yamamoto**

Regional Team Leader (Asia and the Pacific) - Nature, Climate, and Energy (NCE) Team
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

As an engineer and a governance expert, Dr. Akiko Yamamoto has been working on various environmental management issues in the developing country context in the past 25 years, with a strong emphasis on water and ocean governance. With her current role, Akiko provides strategic and technical leadership and coordinates UNDP's policy and programming support to its client governments in the Asia and Pacific region on issues related to Nature, Climate and Energy. Akiko ensures that UNDP provide its support to the governments in an integrated and holistic manner for its support to be more catalytic and transformative in realizing the low-carbon, climate resilient, and inclusive development pathways. Akiko also worked as a consultant for the World Bank, the International Lake Environment Committee Foundation, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, and for the Ministry of Environment in Japan. Akiko also served as a UN Volunteer in Namibia. She holds a Ph.D. in Environmental Management and Policy and a Master's degree in Environmental Engineering from the Johns Hopkins University in USA, a post graduate study certificate in Environmental Economics from the University of Turin in Italy, and a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from Tohoku University in Japan.



Aslam Perwaiz

Deputy Executive Director (DED)
Asian Disaster Preparedness Center (ADPC)

Aslam Perwaiz is DED of ADPC. He is a results-driven manager with a mix of leadership and technical expertise in developing, managing and delivering high-impact programmes all of which in the context of economic analysis, sustainable development, environment, disaster risk reduction and climate resilience. Holding a Master's degree in Statistics with acquired expertise on disaster risk management, he is currently leading program development, funds acquisition, and oversight on progress monitoring and reporting for more than six thematic areas including climate resilience, risk governance, urban resilience, health risk management, preparedness for response and recovery, and geospatial information. He has been involved in various initiatives of APEC and served as an expert and resource person for the Small and medium enterprises (SME) disaster resilience, business continuity planning and SME digital resilience Online-to-Offline (O2O) projects. Among other notable initiatives, he mentors the ADPC's private sector engagement "iPrepare Business" facility and post-disaster needs assessment initiative "Ready4Recovery". Prior to joining ADPC, he worked with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), World Wildlife Fund (WWF) and the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) in India.

Speaker **B****Bambang Susantono**

Vice President - Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Dr. Bambang Susantono is the Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development of the Asian Development Bank (ADB). He is responsible for ADB's knowledge management through direct oversight of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department and Economics Research and Regional Cooperation Department. He supervises the development of ADB's flagship publications and reports on Asia's Key Development Indicators, Asia Development Outlook, and Economic Indicators. He coordinates ADB's multi-sector operations research to support its investments through technical assistance programs from multiple donor trust funds across energy, transport, urban, water, finance, education, and health sectors. He provides strategic leadership on ADB's commitment to the global sustainability and climate change agenda through mainstreaming of environment, climate change and disaster risk, governance, regional cooperation and integration, social and gender equity, rural development and food security, across ADB's respective business lines. Prior to this, he was the Acting Minister, and Vice-Minister of Transportation of Indonesia, and Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development at the Office of Coordinating Ministry for Economic Affairs. He chaired several research institutes and taught in universities. He holds a PhD in Infrastructure Planning, and has Master's degrees in Transportation Engineering, and City and Regional Planning from the University of California Berkeley. He earned a Bachelor's degree in Civil Engineering from the Bandung Institute of Technology.

**Ban Ki-moon**

8th Secretary General of the United Nations and lead of the Global Commission on Adaptation

Ban Ki-moon served two consecutive terms as the Secretary General of the United Nations (2007-2016). At the time of his appointment at the UN, he was the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea. Currently, he is the Distinguished Chair Professor and Honorary Chairman at the Institute of Global Engagement & Empowerment at Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea. In April 2019, Ban Ki-moon was elected as the Chairman of Presidential National Council on Climate and Air Quality (NCCA). In April 2018, he was elected as the Chairman of Boao Forum for Asia. In January 2018, Mr. Ban, along with former President of Austria Mr. Heinz Fischer, were inducted as Co-Chairs of the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens in Vienna, Austria. He was also elected as Chairman of IOC Ethics Committee in September 2017. In February 2018, he was elected and has been serving as the President of the Assembly & Chair of the Council of Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). Mr. Ban received a bachelor's degree in international relations from Seoul National University in 1970. He earned a master's degree in public administration from the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University in 1985.

**Barbara Buchner**

Global Managing Director - Climate Finance program
Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)

Dr. Barbara Buchner is the Global Managing Director of CPI, and Executive Director of its widely renowned Climate Finance program. Named one of the 20 most influential women in climate change, Barbara advises leaders on climate, energy, and land use investments around the world. Barbara directs the Global Innovation Lab for Climate Finance, (the Lab) and its sister programs in Brazil and India. The Lab's public-private approach solicits, shapes, and tests cutting edge climate finance instruments that resolve financing barriers hindering alternative energy, adaptation, and land use projects. Instruments from the Lab have mobilized over 2.3 billion US dollars for sustainable development in developing countries in six years. She is also the lead author on CPI's Global Landscape of Climate Finance which has set the benchmark for climate finance tracking. She is on the Advisory Board of the Barilla Center for Food and Nutrition (BCFN) Foundation, a member of the Finance Sector Expert Group for the UNFCCC's Race to Zero and Race to Resilience, and a member of the One Planet Lab.



Batjargal Zamba
Special Envoy of Mongolia on Climate Change

Dr. Batjargal Zamba is currently serving as the Special Envoy of Mongolia on Climate change, National Focal Point of Mongolia for the UNFCCC covering as well the coordination of activities related to the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and GCF. He was the Minister of the Environment of Mongolia from 1990 to 1996 and Director-General of the National Agency for Meteorology, Hydrology and Environmental Monitoring from 1996 to 2001 and Ambassador of Mongolia to Japan from 2001 to 2005. For the period 2005-2011 he was working in New York as the Representative of the UN specialized Agency-World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to the United Nations. After retirement from the United Nations Dr. Batjargal Zamba worked as a visiting research fellow from 2011 to 2013 at the Research Institute for Humanity and Nature (RIHN) in Kyoto, Japan. He was also an advisor at the Office of the President of the United Nations Environmental assembly (UNEA) of UNEP in Ulaanbaatar (2014-2016).



Ben Vickers
Forest and Land Use Senior Specialist
Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Ben Vickers has 25 years of experience in the fields of forestry and rural development. Since obtaining a MSc in Forestry from the University of Oxford, he has lived in Nepal, Viet Nam, India and Thailand, working throughout Asia, and with short term assignments in the Pacific and sub-Saharan Africa. Since 2007 he has focused on supporting the integration of the forest sector into national climate change mitigation and adaptation policies and strategies, in particular through REDD+ (or Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation). From 2012 he coordinated the work of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) on REDD+ in the Asia-Pacific region, including through the UN-REDD Programme, the Forest Carbon Partnership Facility of the World Bank, and the development and initiation of projects under the Green Climate Fund. In February 2021 he joined the GCF's Compliance and Risk Management team as the Land Use, Forests and Ecosystems Senior Specialist.



Bijan Khazai
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Hotel Resilient Certifications

Dr. Bijan Khazai is co-founder and CEO of Hotel Resilient. He earned his Master's and Doctorate degrees in Earthquake Engineering from University of California Berkeley. After a postdoc at Columbia University (New York) he joined the faculty at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology in Germany from 2007-2017, where he led the working group "Vulnerability and Risk" and was appointed Vice-Chair of the trans-disciplinary research field "Geosphere and Risk". He also served as a senior research fellow of the Willis Research Network (Willis Re, London) and as Principal Investigator of the Global Earthquake Model Integrated Risk Modeling Platform. Dr. Khazai has also led teams of consultants and scientists as Project Manager in many international consulting and research projects on disaster risk management on behalf of the World Bank, UN organizations, NGOs, and the municipal governments of Istanbul, Metro Manila, Mumbai, Dhaka, Kathmandu, Amman, Algiers and Dar es Salaam. In 2016, Dr. Khazai led an international consortium of universities and private sector partners, to develop standards for Multi-hazard Disaster Risk Management for hotels and resorts under the Global Initiative on Disaster Risk Management. This eventually led to the founding of Hotel Resilient in 2020, a scientific benchmarking and hotel advisory company based in Germany.



Binaya Raj Shivakoti
Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Binaya Raj Shivakoti is a Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES). Currently, he is engaged in designing capacity building approaches for climate change adaptation mostly focusing on local level resilience building. He is also promoting indigenous and local knowledge for climate change adaptation as well as local level disaster risk reduction and climate change integration. He has over ten years of professional experience in inter-disciplinary research and implementation on adaptation, disaster management, water resources, agriculture, forest and ecosystem management in several countries in Asia. He holds a doctorate in environmental engineering from Kyoto University, Japan, masters in agriculture systems with integrated watershed management specialization from Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand and bachelor in agriculture science with economics specialization from Institute of Agriculture and Animal Science, Tribhuvan University (Nepal).

**Bremley Lyngdoh**

Founder & CEO
Worldview Impact Foundation

Dr. Bremley Lyngdoh, Founder & CEO of Worldview Impact Foundation, is a Climate Change and Sustainable Development professional with over 20 years experience working with Governments, IGOs, NGOs and the Private Sector developing a range of innovative projects in Asia, Africa and South America aimed at producing ecologically sound and economically viable activities that contribute directly to reducing rural poverty, and generating productive sustainable livelihoods for vulnerable local communities. His strength lies in building strategic partnerships with various stakeholders. Through his previous assignments working with the United Nations and the World Bank, he has gained expertise in the effective monitoring and evaluation of field-based programmes. He developed climate change adaptation projects combining integrated agroforestry, regenerative farming, sustainable tourism, and renewable energy technologies. Bremley established Spring Valley Farm in Shillong, Meghalaya supported organic farmers in northeast India. Bremley received post graduate degrees from Columbia University in the USA, the London School of Economics in the UK, the University of Geneva in Switzerland and the Intercultural Open University in the Netherlands. He has a dual Ph.D. in Sustainable Development from the Azteca University in Mexico and the Central University in Nicaragua. He is the Founder and CEO of EcoFriend World, the Co-Founder of the Global Youth Action Network and Co-Chairs the United Nations CSD Education Caucus.

**Buena Bernal**

Journalist
Channel NewsAsia (CNA)

Buena Bernal is a correspondent for international broadcaster CNA. She is based in the Philippines, an archipelago that is one of the most climate-vulnerable countries on the planet, where she has reported on its surrounding oceans in crisis, its denuded forests and river basins, its endangered bats, as well as the effect of rapid overdevelopment in world-renowned tourist island Boracay's wetlands, among others. She started in journalism as a multimedia reporter for local news site Rappler, producing both video and long-form text reports with a special focus on labor, migration, health, the justice system and other development issues. In her media career focusing on the underreported, she has immersed in the daily lives of a wide spectrum of Filipino labourers including deep sea fishermen of sashimi-grade tuna, tobacco farmers, sugar plantation workers, garment factory workers as well as in the lives of at least 11 different groups of indigenous peoples across the three main island groups of the Philippines. She believes people-centred journalism can be a tool to help address cyclical social problems.




Speaker 

Camille Pross
Research Associate
Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Asia Center

Camille Pross is a Research Associate at the SEI, working with the Gender, Environment and Development research cluster. Her work revolves around the themes of disaster risk reduction, climate action and environmental defenders, promoting an intersectional human rights-based approach to research, policy and programmes. She recently contributed to two United Nations Women report, the first one monitoring gender-responsiveness and disability inclusion in regional disaster risk reduction strategies, and the second one assessing the impacts of climate change on human rights and gender equality in Asia.



Carlyne Yu
Climate Risk Management Specialist
Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System for
Africa and Asia (RIMES)

Carlyne Yu is the Team Lead for Risk Knowledge Applications at the RIMES. She is also the Project Director for RIMES' Component of the World Bank Climate Adaptation and Resilience (CARE) for South Asia, a regional project that aims to contribute to an enabling environment for climate resilient policies and investments in select sectors and countries in South Asia. Carlyne has more than 10 years of experience working with weather and climate information providers and users from various sectors. In particular, she works with the National Meteorological and Hydrological Services (NMHS), agriculture and disaster management agencies in ensuring enhanced access and application of weather and climate information in planning and decision-making among farmers and/or local communities. Carlyne's main area of interest is in using information and communication technologies (ICT) to provide platforms for "translating" and presenting weather and climate data into more understandable sector-specific information and services useful for climate-resilient sectoral planning and decision-making across different levels.



**Charlotte Benson**

Principal Disaster Risk Management Specialist
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Charlotte Benson has over 30 years' experience working on economic aspects of disaster risk management in developing countries, including on macroeconomic analysis of the impact of disasters, disaster risk reduction, disaster risk financing, and the integration of disaster risk management into development policy, planning and practice. Her work at the ADB includes the development and coordination of ADB's disaster risk management policies and strategies and support to ADB's operational departments in designing and implementing disaster risk management projects and programs, including disaster risk financing initiatives. Before joining ADB in 2013, Charlie worked as a disaster risk management consultant for 15 years with various organizations, including the World Bank, ADB, UNDP and United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR). Prior to that, she was a Research Fellow at the Overseas Development Institute, London, for 6 years and a Research Assistant at the Relief and Development Institute, London, for 4 years. Charlie holds a BSc (Econ) (First Class Honours) and an MSc, both in Economics, from the London School of Economics and a PhD in Development Studies from the University of London.

**Charlotte Hicks**

Senior Technical Officer
United Nations Environment Programme World
Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP-WCMC)

Charlotte Hicks helps to provide technical support and capacity building to project partners and stakeholders on biodiversity and climate change policy and actions, including Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and forest Degradation (REDD+) and ecosystem-based adaptation. Current work includes developing tools to support more effective design and implementation of EbA, support to REDD+ countries on environmental and social safeguards, and strengthening monitoring and evaluation of EbA and other NbS. Charlotte's academic background is in international relations, political science and Chinese studies. She has worked in non-government and government organizations in conservation, sustainable development and policy advice in Australia and the Asia-Pacific region, including in China, Lao PDR and Thailand.

**Chompunut Songkhao**

Environmental Official
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (MoNRE)

Chompunut Songkhao graduated with a master's degree in environmental science. She is an Environmental Official and working in policy and strategy section under the Climate Change Management and Coordination Division (CCMC), in the Office of Natural Resources and Environmental Policy and Planning (ONEP) of the MoNRE in Thailand. Chompunut was assigned to responsible for Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) more than 5 years. She has experience and interest in CCA and biodiversity. Now, she is one of the team members of formulations and implementation on Thailand's National Adaptation Plan (NAP).

**Chris Dickinson**

Ecosystems Management Senior Specialist
Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Dr. Chris Dickinson is a Senior Specialist on Ecosystems Management at the GCF where he is responsible for the development of strategies, policies and technical documents focused on ecosystem management and investment. He comes with over 25 years' experience in tackling the challenges of maintaining productive ecosystems and landscapes whilst enhancing food security, maintaining water provisioning services and building climate resilience. He has worked at all levels with national governments and communities gaining extensive experience in developing nature-based solutions for supporting livelihoods and green economies. This has extended across an array of ecosystems – stretching from boreal forests and steppes in Mongolia, diverse tropical forests and coastal ecosystems in Greater Mekong Basin, to the vibrant landscapes in East Africa. His career has encompassed a diverse range of positions including with UN Agencies, including UNDP, and non-government organizations, including World Wildlife Fund and SNV – the Dutch Development Organization. Chris served as the Thematic Head of Sustainable Landscapes and Deputy Director of Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)'s Investment and Policy Solutions Division. Moreover, he has previously worked as UNDP Deputy Director of the Forest Sector Transformation Unit in Ethiopia. Chris holds a PhD degree in Tropical Forest Ecology from University of Birmingham (UK).

**Christopher Bartlett**

Special Adviser on climate change
Ministry of Climate Change, Vanuatu

Dr. Christopher Bartlett has been living and working in the Pacific Islands since 2002. He is a freelance climate and environmental expert. Dr. Bartlett was the Country Director/ Senior Technical Adviser at Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Vanuatu from 2010 to 2018. Currently, he is also the Network and Biodiversity Conservation Advisor at the Nguna-Pele Marine & Land Protected Area Network since 2002. His extensive work with communities, civil society, private sector and governments in the Pacific have shaped his current action research interests. These include innovative and science-based solutions and strategies for dealing with change in the Pacific, including climate change. After his PhD at James Cook University, he joined Nobel Laureate Elinor Ostrom's lab at Indiana University to investigate the emergence of networks of community based MPAs and taboos. Dr. Bartlett makes frequent consulting, speaking and training trips around the world.



Christmas Uchiyama

Programme Officer - Knowledge Management and Scientific Affairs
Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

Christmas Uchiyama received her MSc in Sustainability at the United Nations University (UNU) Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability, where she focused on community ecosystem services valuation and mapping of perceived landscape values in the Malampaya Sound Protected Landscape and Seascape, Philippines to determine local communities' recognition of ecosystem services. Her research familiarized communities and local governments on the concept of nature's contribution to human well-being and socio-ecological resilience. In her present role, she manages projects under APN's Capacity Development Programme and Collaborative Research for Early-Career Scientists Small Grants Programme, exposing her to a range of cross-cutting issues related to global change and sustainable development, and allowing her to utilize and strengthen her networking, science communication, and science-policy interfacing skills. In keeping with her keen interest in research, Ms Uchiyama conducts desktop research and analysis at APN Secretariat, and is currently a PhD student in Agricultural Science (majoring in forest resources) at Kobe University, Japan.



Clara Landeiro

Regional Manager Asia-Pacific
Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)

Clara Landeiro is managing CTCN activities in Asia and the Pacific. She has over 20 years' experience providing technical and policy advice on environment, climate change and sustainable development issues. Prior to joining CTCN, she worked for over 10 years as UNDP's climate change and sustainable development technical specialist and advisor, supporting governments, development partners and a wide range of stakeholders to increase capacity for low carbon resilient development in developing countries. Before joining the UN, she worked extensively in academia in the USA and Portugal, helping bridge science-policy gaps to strengthen environmental governance and sustainable development. Clara holds a PhD in Environmental Planning from the University of California at Berkeley, USA, and an Environmental Engineering Degree from the Technical University of Lisbon, Portugal.



Cristi Marie C. Nozawa

Executive Director
The Samdhana Institute

Cristi Marie C. Nozawa is the Executive Director of The Samdhana Institute since 2016 and is Samdhana Fellow. She is an Adviser for the Global Greengrant Fund (GGF) for Southeast Asia. She led the final negotiations with the World Bank for the Dedicated Grant Mechanism -Indonesia in 2016-17. She was Regional Director for Asia of BirdLife International from 2007-2016 (until 2012 based in Tokyo, Japan, and established the Singapore office from 2014 to 2016). She was a member of the Executive Committee of the IUCN's World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) as Regional Vice-Chair for Southeast Asia. She was on the management committee of the East Asia Australasia Flyway Partnership (EAAFP) in Incheon, South Korea. As Executive Director of Haribon Foundation in the late 80s/early 90s, she oversaw the management of the first Debt for Nature Swap in the Philippines and supported the advocacy for the establishment of the Foundation for Philippine Environment (FPE), the first CSO-led grant-making organization. She also was a member of the first National Steering Committee of the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Small Grants Programme in the Philippines. She holds a postgraduate degree from the University of London.



Cristina Martinez

Senior Specialist on Environment and Decent Work
International Labour Organization (ILO)

Dr. Cristina Martinez is the Coordinator for Green Jobs, Just Transition and the Climate Action 4 Jobs Initiative. She works at the ILO Regional office for Asia-Pacific in Bangkok and she is part of the ILO Green Jobs Global Team. Previously she worked at the following organizations: (i) the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as an Education Specialist (skills and Employment); (ii) the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) where she held positions as Advisor of the Knowledge Sharing Alliance at the Secretary General Office and Senior Policy Analyst at the OECD Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Local Development (CFE); and (iii) Western Sydney University as an Associate Professor. She is also an Adjunct Fellow, Dean's Unit, School of Social Sciences and Psychology, Western Sydney University, affiliated with the Humanitarian and Development Research Initiative (HADRI).



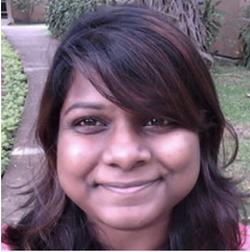
Cristina Romanelli
Programme Officer - Biodiversity,
Climate Change and Health
World Health Organization (WHO).

Cristina Romanelli is a Programme Officer for the Biodiversity, Climate Change and Health at the World Health Organization (WHO). Cristina is an environmental scientist with almost 20 years of post-graduate experience in interdisciplinary research, policy evaluation and development, multi-stakeholder engagement, capacity-building, and high-level scientific and policy advice in both research and regulatory-compliance settings. Her current work focuses on strengthening the science-policy interface at the nexus of global environmental changes (notably including biodiversity loss and climate) and human health with an emphasis on nature-based solutions, sustainable and healthy food systems, and integrated approaches to health for a healthy and green recovery from COVID 19.



Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio
Action Track Co Manager - Global Commission on Adaptation
World Resources Institute (WRI)

Cristina Rumbaitis del Rio is the Action Track Co-Manager for the Global Commission on Adaptation. Previously she was the Regional Programme manager for Action on Climate Today, a £23 million UK AID supported climate change programme that seeks to mainstream resilience into planning and budgeting at the national and sub-national level in India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bangladesh and Afghanistan. She managed an implementation team of approximately 40 people across the programme locations. Cristina was a Senior Associate Director at the Rockefeller Foundation in New York from 2007-2015, where she developed and managed initiatives regarding building resilience to climate change, water management, small scale fisheries, and preservation of ecosystems and the services they provide to humankind. She managed a grant portfolio of over \$100 Million. Cristina was a post-doctoral fellow at Columbia University's Earth Institute. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University and a Doctorate in Ecology from the University of Colorado.


 Speaker 


Dharini Priscilla
Program Manager
Grassrooted Trust



Dharini Priscilla has a BSc in psychology and works as a Programme Manager of The Grassrooted Trust, an organisation that focuses on sexual and reproductive health and rights in Sri Lanka. She works with marginalised communities in Sri Lanka, including the LGBT (or Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender) community, people living with HIV, sex workers and survivors of gender-based violence. She mainly focuses on conducting awareness workshops and knowledge-sharing sessions around the country about HIV, gender-based violence, harassment in the workplace, and cyber-exploitation and violence. She also travels around the country and talks to youngsters about the value of core principles such as consent, empathy, respect, trust and self-esteem in creating healthy relationships with ourselves and others. She also engages in creative content development especially for children and adolescents to spark meaningful conversations about gender, relationships and sexuality.



Datin Sunita Rajakumar
Founder and Chairperson
Climate Governance Malaysia



Datin Sunita Rajakumar is a professional independent director and a strong advocate of the importance of governance in general and risk management in particular. She founded Climate Governance Malaysia which is the country chapter of the World Economic Forum's Climate Governance Initiative, is a Fellow of the Institute of Corporate Directors Malaysia, promotes gender diversity on boards with the 30% Club, a member of the Global Advisory Board of Nottingham University's School of Business and the Advisory Panel of the UN Global Compact Malaysia's Sustainability Center of Excellence, and is a workstream lead for the CEO Action Network, an industry led initiative to increase sustainability and climate resilience. She is Chair of Caring Pharmacy and independent director of Bursa-listed Dutch Lady Milk Industries, MCIS Insurance (a member of the Sanlam group) and Zurich General Insurance, as well as trustee of 5 charitable foundations.





David Jackson

Director - Local Development Finance Practice
United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)

David Jackson has over 30 years of experience in Local Development. He started his career as an urban planner in London in 1980s and later on ran a consulting company supporting local development in over 10 African and Asian countries. The beginning of his career at UNCDF was in the 1990s in Mozambique, where he designed and piloted a national system of local government finance for capital investment that was taken to scale by government. Since 2006, he worked as Decentralisation Advisor to the Government of Indonesia and UNDP. In 2009, he became Head of UNCDF Asia and Pacific office where he designed the Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility, a global mechanism that enables local governments in the least developed countries to access climate finance for resilient investments. In May 2013, he was appointed Director of UNCDF's Local Development Finance Practice in New York. In this position he manages portfolio of local development finance programmes with a focus on fiscal decentralization, infrastructure development, climate resilience grants, municipal finance and private sector investments.



Dechen Tsering

Regional Director and Representative
United Nations Environment Programme Regional office for
Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP)

Dechen Tsering was appointed as the Regional Director of UNEP in Asia and the Pacific in March 2017. She has held management and leadership positions with the UN and has over 30 years of experience in national government and intergovernmental organisations. She has been actively involved in intergovernmental negotiations as a key negotiator for least-developed countries and contributed to the establishment of the Least Developed Countries Fund and the Least Developed Countries Expert Group. She also has experience in the management of complex development projects. Previously, she was director of the Finance, Technology and Capacity-building Programme at the UNFCCC. In that position, she supported international co-operation on mobilisation of finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity building to enable countries to take enhanced action on climate change. Prior to that position, she was the deputy regional director of UNEP in Asia and the Pacific. She holds a PhD in forest economics and policy from the Federal Institute of Technology, Zurich. She also has a master's degree from Georgetown University and undergraduate degrees from the University of California, Berkeley.



Demetrio Innocenti

Manager - Simplified Approval Process, Project Preparation Facility, and Enhancing Direct Access Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Demetrio Innocenti joined the Green Climate Fund (GCF) in 2014 and he is currently serving as the GCF Manager of the Simplified Approval Process (SAP), the Project Preparation Facility (PPF) and the Enhancing Direct Access (EDA) pilot programme. Demetrio previously worked with the UN World Meteorological Organization (WMO) and the United Nations Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), where he implemented several climate and disaster risk reduction projects and programmes (2008-2014). From 2002 to 2008 he served in Somalia, with a pioneering World Bank community-driven adaptation programmes, and several countries in South East Asia (Laos, Philippines, and Vietnam) where he was employed by the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), private consulting firms, and non-governmental actors such as CARE International and Oxfam.



Desiree Llanos Dee

Founder
Tofu Creatives

Desiree Llanos Dee is a committed listener, curious learner, and an innovative social artist. She is the co-founder of Tofu Creatives, a design firm dedicated to harnessing creativity to effectively communicate complex issues. As an artist, her works have been exhibited and featured in Berlin, London, California, and Manila. Over the years, she has been working on climate and development issues as a policy adviser, strategist, communications expert, campaigner, and storyteller. As a German government scholar recipient (DAAD), she finished her Masters on Climate Policy from the University of Potsdam and specialized in climate-risk communication. In previous positions, she has served as chief-of-staff to a Commissioner in the Climate Change Commission of the Philippines, Climate Justice Campaigner and Project Lead for Greenpeace Southeast Asia. She has embarked on epic journeys to share stories of courage and hope, campaigning on climate justice. She has worked with clients such as UN agencies, Asian Development Bank, International Committee of the Red Cross, Greenpeace and other development bodies on different campaigns.



Dhrupad Choudhury

Chief, Scaling Operations
International Center for Integrated Mountain
Development (ICIMOD)

Dhrupad Choudhury has been working among marginalized mountain communities of the Himalayas for over two decades, initially as a researcher and later as a development practitioner. His special areas of interest are managing transformations in shifting cultivation, with special focus on tenurial and access regimes, climate change adaptation and resilience building. He worked on aspects of livelihoods security and approaches for enhancing adaptive capacities and resilience of mountain communities to socio- economic and climate change impacts. As the Regional Programme Manager for ICIMOD's Adaptation to Change Regional Programme, his work included fostering multi-stakeholder partnerships and engagement with policy makers for strengthening adaptation and resilience building at different scales. As the Chief of Scaling Operations, he is responsible to upscale ICIMOD's interventions across all Regional Programmes through stakeholder engagement. As a member of the Technical Support Group he contributed in drafting the Scheduled Tribes and Other Forest Dwellers (Recognition of Rights) Bill in India, enacted as an Act of the Parliament in 2007. Furthermore, he developed participatory approaches for inclusive adaptation planning and community engagements with local governments to enhance voices of the marginalised people.



Dinravay Khorn

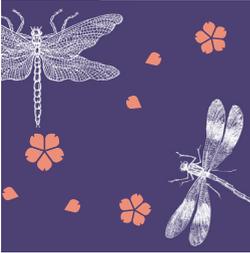
Gender Specialist and Advisor
Ministry of Women's Affairs (MoWA), Cambodia

Dinravay Khorn is the Gender Specialist and the Technical Advisor to Ministry of Women's Affairs on Gender and Climate Change. Khorn Dinravay has over 30 years of professional work experiences with diverse institutions such as the Royal Government of Cambodia Ministry, UNDP in Cambodia, International NGOs such as Oxfam GB and Action For Disability Development (ADD). Ms.Khorn professionally and expertise include, Gender equality and Gender mainstreaming, Sustainable livelihoods for the rural poor, Climate Change, result-based program and project management, Community-based organization, Policy and Research Coordination. Master on Public Administration in Cambodia and Postgraduate Diploma in Accounting and Auditing for Development Countries in the UK.

**Dipayan Dey**

Chair (Research & Planning)
South Asian Forum for Environment (SAFE)

Dr. Dipayan Dey has a doctorate degree in restoration ecology with twenty-five years of comprehensive experience in taking ahead community-based sustainable climate initiatives in South Asia. He had successfully led collaborative action-research with several UN Organs, World Bank, Global Development Network (GDN), Japan Social Development Fund, GIZ, IUCN, British Ecological Society, APN, among others, towards conservation planning and management at community-ecosystem interface. Presently, he is heading the research and planning division of SAFE, a regional civil society organization, working on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the South Asian ecoregion that entails policy and action research mostly on transboundary environmental issues nested in multilateral policies. His policy research on right-based neo-economic conservation paradigm of 'Biorights' has been accredited in the 4th TEEB report of UNEP and as well by the Planning Commission of India in its 12th plan document. He is an active member of National Water Mission, National Renewable Energy Council, National Council for Sustainable Development & Climate Change and National Natural Resource Management Group, Govt. of India and has around 57 peer reviewed publications and 5 books to his credit.

**Donald Kerslake**

Community Representative
Saoluafata Village Mangrove and Marine
Protected Area, Samoa

Loau Donald Kerslake is currently a judge in the District Court of Samoa and presides over Criminal and Civil Matters. He is also the Principal Judge responsible for the Youth Court. Before being elevated to the bench, Judge Kerslake was a partner with Meredith & Kerslake Law Firm for 5 years after serving the Government of Samoa for over 10 years in the Attorney General Office. He left the Attorney General's Office as an Assistant Attorney General responsible for Civil Division. At the community level, Judge Kerslake holds the matai (chiefly) title Loau from the village of Saoluafata and is actively involved in the village governance as part of the alii & faipule (village council). Previously, he contributed to the development of the village by assisting with the management of projects which would benefit the residence of Saoluafata (e.g. projects focusing on sustainable management and protection of the marine protected area and mangrove ecosystem). Judge Kerslake has experience in environmental law and was required to act as counsel on behalf of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment of Samoa in many occasions. Judge Kerslake has a LLM in International Human Rights Law from the University of Essex, UK as well as a Post Graduate Diploma of Government (Project Management) from Victoria University in Australia.

Speaker **E**



Edna Odhiambo
Country Lead Kenya
Climate and Development Knowledge Network (CDKN)

Edna Odhiambo is a climate change lawyer with a decade of experience in advancing resilience and sustainability through mainstreaming of climate change into policy and regulatory frameworks. She has served as a consultant across diverse sectors including government, corporate, non for profit and academia. Edna has offered advisory in several sectors: Energy (carbon offset projects, renewables, clean cooking) Finance (climate finance, green incentivization), Agriculture (climate-smart agriculture for grain value chains), Transport (non-motorized transport, electric mobility), and Planning (aligning sub-national development plans to national climate change goals). Her love for research and writing has led her to lecturing Climate Governance at the University of Nairobi, School of Law and also serves as Country Lead, Kenya for the Climate Development Knowledge Network Program. She is a Fulbright Scholar and holds a masters in Environment and Natural Resources Law from the University of Oregon. She is currently Principal Investigator for a research grant from the Volvo Research and Educational Foundations to explore minibus electrification in African Cities and was recognized as a Young Leader in Sustainable Transport 2019. Edna is an Advocate of the High Court allowing her to practice law in Kenya.

**Elizabeth Maruma Mrema**

Executive Secretary
Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)

Elizabeth Maruma Mrema was the Director of the Law Division and worked with UNEP for over two decades. Previously, she was also the Deputy Director of the Ecosystems Division, in charge of coordination, operations and programme delivery from 2012 and for one year; also serviced as Acting Director to the same Division. In 2018, she was also the Acting Director of the Corporate Services Division where she led the management of the human resources, financial operations and management and other administrative functions for the entire Organization. In 2009 she had been appointed as the Executive Secretary of the UNEP Secretariat of the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), Acting Executive Secretary of the UNEP ASCOBANS and Interim Executive Secretary of the UNEP Gorilla Agreement (Bonn, Germany) and held that position until 2012 and thereafter she joined the Ecosystems Division (Nairobi, Kenya). She was a Senior Legal Officer and Chief of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements (MEAs) Support and Cooperation Branch in the Division of Environmental Conventions (DEC), and later a Principal Legal Officer and Chief of the Biodiversity/Land Law and Governance Branch in the Division of Environmental Law and Conventions. Elizabeth worked also with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the United Republic of Tanzania and left as a Counsellor/Senior Legal Counsel.

**Eloise Burnett**

South East Asia Manager
Carbon Trust, Singapore

Eloise Burnett is the South East Asia Manager of Carbon Trust's Singapore Office. She manages the UK Government's ASEAN Low Carbon Energy Programme working across the region to drive energy efficiency and green finance. She is focused on growing the Carbon Trust's work and impact in Asia. Eloise has been working on programme delivery in the sustainability field for 10 years and has notable experience working in the field of energy efficiency and renewable energy.



Emani Kumar
Deputy Secretary General and Executive Director
ICLEI South Asia

Emani Kumar has been the Executive Director of ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability) South Asia since its founding in 2005. He was also appointed as Deputy Secretary General of ICLEI in the year 2013 and is the First Asian to occupy the position in ICLEI. Since Feb 2016, Kumar also heads the Asia LEADS Partnership (ALP) Program. With degrees in Environmental Management from Bradford University (UK), Environmental Planning from School of Planning, CEPT (India) and Civil Engineering from Delhi University (India), Emani has more than twenty-five years of professional experience on issues related to climate change policy and planning, local governance, renewable energy and energy efficiency, social accountability, systems management and auditing. He has worked with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and also with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA). Apart from overseeing the organization's strategic development, he also coordinates various multi-year and small-scale projects and research work supported by various agencies. As ICLEI's Deputy Secretary General, Emani Kumar works with all the offices in Asia, to ensure cohesion in implementation of ICLEI's agendas and spearhead advocacy activities in the region.



Emily Dwyer
Co-Director
Edge Effect

Emily Dwyer is the Co-Director of Edge Effect, a specialist diverse SOGIESC (also known as LGBTIQ+) humanitarian and development organisation. Edge Effect provides research, training, policy, design, CSO strengthening and other services to ensure that the rights, needs and strengths of people with diverse SOGIESC are addressed in humanitarian and development programs. Emily has worked for aid organisations since 2004, including four years in Afghanistan with Sayara and United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (UNOCHA), before taking on regional and headquarters management roles in Bangkok and Washington DC for Internews and United States Institute of Peace (USIP), and in Australia with Oxfam. Prior to 2004, Emily was a journalist in Australia and Southeast Asia. She produced and presented radio programs for the Australian Broadcasting Corporation and community radio stations, and worked as a freelance foreign correspondent for the BBC, ABC, CBC and other major broadcasters.



Espen Ronneberg

Climate Change Adviser
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme
(SPREP)

Espen Ronneberg is the Climate Change Adviser for the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Samoa since October 2006. Prior to joining SPREP, between 2000 and 2006, he worked as Inter-regional Advisor for Small Island Developing States in the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. Between 1992 and 2000 he worked as an adviser for the Government of the Republic of the Marshall Islands, eventually becoming Minister Counsellor at the Permanent Mission to the UN. Having been involved in climate change negotiations from 1992, he has also taken part in many other international negotiations. He has also worked on several practical climate change related projects in Marshall Islands and Maldives, and provided advice to the Small Island Developing States on climate change and sustainable development. From 1997 to 1999 he served as VicePresident of the Conference of the Parties to the UNFCCC at Kyoto and Buenos Aires. From 1998 to 1999 he served as Co-Chairman of the UNFCCC working group on compliance.

Speaker **F**



Farayi Madziwa

Team Leader - Readiness Program for Climate Finance Adaptation Fund

Farayi Madziwa has been working at the Adaptation Fund for the past 6 years where he is team leader of the readiness program of the Fund, which seeks to enhance the capacity of developing countries to access climate finance and develop and implement adaptation projects that build resilience at the local level. Farayi embraced his passion for capacity-building over two decades ago when he supported sustainability and climate smart practices in the agriculture and food security industry as a senior economist under Zimbabwe's Ministry of Agriculture, and later through various roles in the government, private sector and NGOs in South Africa in which he managed various projects on climate change, conservation and sustainable development. Farayi enjoys interacting with people of different cultural backgrounds, lively discussions about the politics of today, wildlife and general outdoor life.



Farzanah Chowdhury

Managing Director (MD) &
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
Green Delta Insurance Company Limited

Farzanah Chowdhury, Chartered Insurer, MD & CEO of Green Delta Insurance Company, is the first and youngest female CEO in the industry and is recognized by UN Global Compact as a Local SDG Pioneer in 2016 for Women's Economic Security for her initiatives through Nibedita - a comprehensive insurance scheme for women. Among her many accolades, the prestigious Public Trust Award from CII (UK) for building public trust in financial services and insurance and "Woman Leader of the Year" in the "Asian Insurance Industry Award 2019", "Honorable Mention for Excellence in Sustainability 2020" by the World Economic Forum are mentionable one. With the aim of empowering marginal population, women and youth by ensuring their economic security through financial inclusion is propellant to world's development for its multifaceted social impacts, Farzanah has materialized the concept of "insurance for everyone" through her pioneer contributions and innovative initiatives in Retail & SME insurance, Micro Insurance, Agriculture Insurance, Livestock Insurance. It was under her stewardship that Green Delta Insurance joined hands with the Government of Bangladesh contributed in the Shastho Shurokha Karmasuchi (SSK) project, which has ensured health coverage of more than 650,000 people under the poverty level.



Fatema Rajabali

Associate Programme Officer
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC)

Fatema Rajabali is a climate change adaptation specialist with over 15 years' experience. She has focuses in the intersection between the science-policy-practice interface to enhance resilience in social-ecological systems. At the UNFCCC, Fatema Rajabali coordinates a portfolio of climate change adaptation projects for the Nairobi Work Programme. She also leads on the biodiversity and climate change adaptation thematic work. Fatema's recent work has focused on: integrating climate information services in sub-Saharan Africa; analyzing the political economy of climate change adaptation; and the implementation of research uptake strategies to inform decision-making processes.



Fononga Vainga Mangisi-Mafileo

Knowledge Management and
Communications Advisor
Pacific Community (SPC)

Dr. Fononga Vainga Mangisi-Mafileo is the Knowledge Management and Communications Advisor with the Pacific Ridge to Reef Programme at the Geoscience, Maritime and Energy Division at the SPC. Dr. Mangisi-Mafileo is a member of the of the UN CBD Secretariat's Informal Advisory Committee for Communications Education and Public Awareness and a Steering Committee member of the GEF/UNDP/UNESCO-IOC International Waters Learning Exchange and Resource Network to strengthen transboundary water management globally by collecting and sharing best practices, lessons learned, and innovative solutions to common problems across the GEF International Waters portfolio. She holds a PhD from Keio University in Japan on Media and Governance, and her thesis focused on capability-based approach to valuing communication technologies and innovations in developing regions of Asia-Pacific. She holds post graduate qualifications in Ridge to Reef Sustainable Development from James Cook University in Australia and she is pursuing a Masters of Environmental Law with Melbourne University on opportunities for ecosystem-based harmonization of International and Domestic law for sustainable development in the Pacific.



Francesca Zoppi

Sustainable Development Specialist
ASviS- Alleanza Italiana per lo Sviluppo Sostenibile

Francesca Zoppi has a distinguished and progressive career of over 12 years across Sustainable Development at the international level in the public and private sector, including the United Nations, International Organizations, Governments, Non-Governmental Organizations, and at the field level in the India Sub-Continent, China, Africa and Latin America. For the past years, she has supported the engagement of the United Nations' mandate in matters concerning the implementation, follow up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and related processes. She holds a Master of Arts in International Diplomacy from the Diplomatic Academy of London, together with different professional certifications from the London School of Economics, the School of Oriental and African Studies of London and Columbia University in New York among others. Driven by her passion for sustainability and supporting people, she collaborates with entities to educate, engage and share her technical knowledge with the public audience on sustainability and sustainable actions do be done driving changes delivering impacts to create a sustainable future for all, leaving no one behind.



Frank Rijsberman

Director General
Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Dr. Frank Rijsberman leads the GGGI in supporting governments transition towards a model of economic growth that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive. With over 30 years' experience addressing the challenges of environmental sustainability and poverty reduction with leading international organizations and philanthropic foundations, Dr. Rijsberman was initially appointed as the Director-General of the Institute, on October 1, 2016 and re-appointed for a second term starting October 1, 2020. In his role, Dr. Rijsberman engages with senior international stakeholders to drive the green growth agenda and help mobilize finance for climate action and sustainable development. As an advocate for sustainable development, Dr. Rijsberman is focused on supporting GGGI Member and partner governments to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement and achieve their Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) targets. He holds a PhD degree in water resources management and planning from Colorado State University (US) and a MSc and BS in Civil Engineering from Delft University of Technology (Netherlands).



Fredolin Tangang
Professor
The National University of Malaysia

Professor Fredolin Tangang is a professor of climatology and oceanography and the Chairperson of the Department of Earth Sciences and Environment, Faculty of Science and Technology, the National University of Malaysia. He has served the University for 34 years. He obtained his PhD in 1997 from University of British Columbia (Vancouver, Canada), where he researched and developed a model to forecast the El Nino –Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon. He was the Vice-Chair of the Working Group I of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) for the Fifth Assessment Cycle (AR5). He is also a fellow of the Academy of Sciences Malaysia and an Adjunct Professor at the Ramkhamhaeng University Center for Regional Climate Change and Renewable Energy (RU-CORE) (Bangkok, Thailand) since 2018. He also serves as a member of the Scientific Advisory Team (SAT) of the CORDEX, a programme under the World Climate Research Programme (WCRP) and Scientific Steering Committee of the Monsoon Asia Integrated Studies for Sustainability – Future Earth (MAIRS-FE). His research focuses on climate change and climate variability over the Southeast Asia region. He is currently the leader of CORDEX Southeast Asia.

**Frida Lager**

Research Associate
Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Frida Lager's current work focuses on the topic of transboundary climate risk and climate adaptation: how the impacts of climate change occurring in one place can affect people and systems far away, through risk transmission via international trade, investments, infrastructure, shared and connected ecosystems as well as the movement of people and ideas. Her research focuses on gathering evidence and data for a better understanding and recognition of the nature and magnitude of transboundary climate risks and how they might be addressed by adaptation planning and policy. She is currently engaged in particular with the concept of "Just Adaptation", or "Just Resilience" calling attention to and framing the question of what - in a globally interdependent system - does justice mean for how we approach and "do" adaptation. Frida is a Research Associate at the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI). She has a professional experience as a consultant in physical planning, environmental and social impact analysis, complex systems analysis and risk assessment and management. Her education is in the transdisciplinary sciences of Social-Ecological Resilience for Sustainable Development (MSc) and Human Geography and Environmental Science (BSc).


Speaker **G****Gen'ichiro Tsukada**

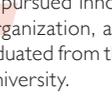
Secretariat Director
Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)



Gen'ichiro Tsukada joined in August 2019 the Director of the Secretariat. He is seconded from the Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan, and has over twenty years of experience in the field of environmental administration, including waste management, environmental risk assessment, international cooperation, and water resource management. His experience includes overseas assignments – in Indonesia for three years as a long-term expert for Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA); and for several months in the Netherlands as a researcher of the National Personnel Authority, Government of Japan. Mr Tsukada received his bachelor's degree in urban engineering at the University of Tokyo in 1996.

**Gina McCarthy**

National Climate Advisor
U.S. White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy



Gina McCarthy will serve as the first-ever National Climate Advisor to head the newly formed White House Office of Domestic Climate Policy. She served as the 13th Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency and is currently the President and CEO of the Natural Resources Defense Council. Prior to her current role with the NRDC, McCarthy was a professor at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health and currently serves as chair of the board of directors of the Harvard Center for Climate, Health, and the Global Environment. Throughout her career, McCarthy has advised five administrations of both Democratic and Republican Massachusetts governors on environmental matters, and she served as Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection prior to being appointed by President Obama to head up the EPA's Air Office. As EPA administrator, she pursued innovative global collaborations with the United Nations and the World Health Organization, and on global efforts to address pollution. Born and raised in Boston, McCarthy graduated from the University of Massachusetts Boston and earned a Master of Science at Tufts University.





Giuseppe Busini

Minister Counsellor – Deputy Head of Mission
Delegation of the European Union to Thailand

Giuseppe Busini took up duties as Deputy Head of the European Union (EU) Delegation to the Kingdom of Thailand in September 2018. Mr Busini has worked in the EU External Relations service for more than 20 years, covering inter alia South Caucasus, Iran, Central Asia, the Gulf Cooperation Council and India. Before his appointment to Bangkok, he was responsible for the EU's relations with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the ASEAN Regional Forum. Mr Busini holds a master degree with honours in Political Science and a PhD in International Relations and Contemporary History, both obtained at the University of Perugia in Italy.



Glenn Banaguas

Founder and President
Environmental and Climate Change Research Institute (ECCRI)

Glenn Banaguas is a multi-awarded prolific scientist and diplomat, and one of the leading experts on environment, climate change, and disaster risks in Asia. He analyzes conundrums brought by climate change and extreme events using scientific models, data and spatial statistics, applies participatory mechanisms; and recommends science-based policy solutions. He is the Advisor/Consultant of international organizations (e.g. UN, GGGI, USAID). He is also the EU-Asia Expert Panel Member for climate diplomacy and environmental security, U.S.-ASEAN Fellow for Science and Technology for Climate Change and Sustainable Energy, and Trustee of Statweather Institute. He is the Founder and President of Environmental and Climate Change Research Institute, which has trained more than 1000 group of stakeholders through the program "Climate Smart and Disaster Resilient Philippines: A Track-Risk-Impact-Policy (TRIP) to Resiliency and Sustainability". He is the Founder of Asian Science Diplomacy that trains scientists and engineers to communicate science and integrate it into the policy. He studied Climate Change and Energy from Harvard Kennedy School (Harvard University) and Sustainability Leadership from Yale Center for Environmental Law and Policy (Yale University).

**Grace Balawag**

Deputy Program Coordinator
Tebtebba (Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for
Policy Research and Education)

Grace Balawag joined policy advocacy work for Indigenous Peoples under Tebtebba at the global and regional levels, in relation to climate change, biodiversity, sustainable development, and human rights, especially indigenous peoples' rights. She is currently the Deputy Program Coordinator of the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Program of Tebtebba – Indigenous Peoples' International Centre for Policy Research and Education. Tebtebba is a non-government organization (NGO) with Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations, based in the Philippines, but working globally. She also assists in coordinating the Global Indigenous Peoples' Partnership on Climate Change, Forests and Sustainable Development, which has been primarily organized by Tebtebba with 17 Indigenous Peoples (IP) and NGO partner organizations based in 13 countries across Asia, Africa, and Latin America. She is an indigenous woman, from the Kankanaey – Igorot indigenous peoples from Northern Philippines.

**Gratia E. Dkhar**

Lead Associate, Agroecology and Training
North East Slow Food and Agrobiodiversity Society
(NESFAS)

Gratia E. Dkhar leads the Agroecology team at NESFAS, working with and for the indigenous communities of Meghalaya and Nagaland in the REC funded project, "No one shall be left behind initiative". She engages custodian farmers, women and youths in exploring the biodiversity based indigenous food systems to contribute to a healthier and more resilient environment through their agroecological practices. She is involved in building partnership between diverse communities for action and advocacy through platforms of local festivals, participatory workshops and exchange visits. She facilitates training in Agroecology Learning Circles (ALCs), Community Seed Banks, Community Gardens, School Gardens and Urban Farms, combining existing indigenous knowledge with contemporary innovation for best practices in soil, seed and pest management. Dkhar holds a master's degree in Life Sciences from Jawaharlal Nehru University.



Speaker **Hak Mao**

Director - Department of Climate Change
The General Secretariat of the National Council for
Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment,
Cambodia

Dr. Hak Mao graduated a Bachelor on Forestry Science at the Royal University of Agriculture in 2003. In 2008, he was awarded a Master of Science on Marine Environment and Ocean Management at World Maritime University in Sweden. Luckily, in 2015 he was awarded another higher degree-Ph.D. on A Design of Low Carbon Development Action in Cambodia towards 2050 and pursued as research fellow until mid 2016 in order to develop a National Strategy on a Design of Low Carbon Development Action in Cambodia towards 2050. He has a strong and extensive experience on climate change. In addition, he has also participated in climate change negotiations for Conference of Parties on Climate Change. Besides, he has engaged with marine and coastal management and development nationally and internationally, notably the promotion of the development of blue economy and the implementation of maritime law—Law of the Sea and the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships (MARPOL). He has worked as a part time lecturer at the Paññāsāstra University of Cambodia for more than three years. He is currently Director of the Department of Climate Change, the General Secretariat of the National Council for Sustainable Development, Ministry of Environment.

**Hiroyoshi Sasagawa**

State Minister of the Environment
Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoE)

Hiroyoshi Sasagawa started his political career in 2007 as a member of Gunma Prefectural Assembly. Since 2012, he was appointed as a member of the House of Representatives and has been served for various committees such as education, security, audit, disaster management, environment, judicial affairs and agriculture. He has been the State Minister of the Environment under the Suga Cabinet since 2020.

**Hussain Rasheed Hassan**

Minister of Environment
Ministry of Environment, Maldives

Dr. Hussain Rasheed Hassan is the Minister of Environment since November 2018. He is responsible for the conservation of the natural environment, water resources and energy sources in the Maldives. Previously, Dr. Hussain worked with the joint opposition coalition, in his capacity as a Deputy Leader of Republican (Jumhooree) Party of the Maldives. Dr. Hussain served as a Minister of State for Fisheries and Agriculture under President Mohamed Nasheed, as well as President Dr. Mohamed Waheed Hassan (from November 2008 to November 2013), with the mandate of overseeing the management and development of the fisheries sector in the Maldives. He has served in various government posts at the Ministry of Fisheries and Agriculture and the Ministry of Human Resources, Employment and Labour; before being elected as a Member of the People's Special Majlis (a special plenary of the Maldives parliament), which was convened in June 2004 to amend the Constitution of the Maldives. Dr. Hussain completed his undergraduate studies at the Australian Maritime College in the field Fisheries Sciences and Management. He completed his Masters, with distinction, in the field of Fisheries Economics before going on to attain a Doctorate of Philosophy in International Production and Trade in Principle Market Tunas, from the University of Portsmouth, UK.



Speaker



Ian Noble

Emeritus Professor - Climate Change Institute
Australian National University, Canberra



For 25 years, Ian Noble was a research scientist at the Australian National University where he focused on the interactions between people and their landscapes. He led several international science co-operations and assessments on fire management, forests, biodiversity and climate change and has had multiple roles in the IPCC and other assessments. This work led to increasing engagement in the interface between science and policy. In 2002 he joined the World Bank with the challenge to incorporate both mitigation and adaptation to climate change into the Bank's \$100 billion per year of loans and grants to developing countries. Since retiring from the Bank in 2011, he has continued to advise governments, Development Banks, UN organizations and the private sector on adapting to climate change. He currently serves as a Senior advisor to the Global Centre on Adaptation. Professor Noble has a Ph.D. in Ecology from the University of Adelaide. He has been acknowledged for his contributions to the IPCC's Nobel Peace Prize and received an Australian Centenary Medal for his contributions to ecology. He is a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Technology Sciences and Engineering.



Inu Pradhan Salike

Assistant Professor
Tribhuwan University



Dr. Inu Pradhan Salike is working at the Department of Architecture in the Institute of Engineering Pulchowk Campus of the Tribhuwan University. Her subject of interest lies in Climate change, Urban Disaster Management and Risk management of Cultural heritage. She has guided student research in similar topics and also worked in Centre for Disaster studies in Institute of Engineering. She has experience working with different agency like ADB, Unhabitat, UNESCO, UNDP-Nepal departments of Nepal government in the analysis of Risk Data, Vulnerability assessment of Kathmandu Valley, etc. She is also an executive member of ICOMOS Nepal and worked with Department of archaeology-Nepal to analyse the reconstruction of Cultural heritage after 2015 earthquake. She has contributed on behalf of Center for disaster studies in Damage assessment data collection of affected districts during 2015 earthquake for Shelter cluster of Nepal jointly with ACTED initiative.



**Irène Lake**

Director for the International Project Office for CORDEX
Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI)

Dr. Irène lake is the Director for the International Project Office for CORDEX since 2016. The office was installed in 2014 to coordinate and support the regional downscaling efforts in the CORDEX/WCRP community. After a Masters in Gothenburg she moved on to Stockholm University for a doctoral degree in Oceanography dealing with deep-water overflow from Arctic to the Atlantic. Thereafter Irène started a position at the SMHI working with oceanographic models, warnings and ice service, followed by system managing, project leading, product managing and marketing managing. The marketing focused on International projects and cooperation like serving as Programme Manager for the Baltic Operational Oceanographic System (BOOS) Modelling Programme (and before that chair for the preceding modelling cooperation), member of the BOOS steering group and merging observations and modelling programmes, representing Swedish in EuroGOOS and other cooperative organisations and strategic planning of participation in international groups and projects. The current position involves, besides the networking and coordination and outreach, a large portion of capacity exchange where the cooperation with the CORDEX Asia domains is well established.



Iris Caluag

Youth Meaningful Youth Engagement Specialist
Asia Development Bank(ADB) Youth for Asia

Iris Caluag is the Meaningful Youth Engagement Specialist for ADB Youth for Asia. She mainstreams the practice of meaningful youth engagement in the design of youth-participatory programs, engagement initiatives and knowledge generation. She recently led a research team to develop a global roadmap for funders on promoting meaningful youth engagement in youth employment programs, for the Youth Employment Funders Group. Previously, Iris has worked with global retailers to promote transparency and accountability in their supply chains, which includes upholding sustainability and gender equality in their operations. She has also developed global strategic frameworks that underpin youth engagement in youth economic empowerment programs and collaborated with regional and global stakeholders to research and integrate youth contributions into the Sustainable Development Goals. As a member of the UNEP South East Asia Youth Environment Network (SEAYEN), Iris spearheaded a youth-led capacity building and leadership program for youth leaders to support integrated water resources management in their countries and engaged national government agencies to promote and support youth-led initiatives on the environment and climate change. She also served as the National Youth Adviser for SEAYEN for the Philippines. She holds a degree in Environmental Planning and Management and is specializing in development policy.



Isabelle Louis

Deputy Regional Director
United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for
Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP)

Isabelle Louis has more than 25 years of global, Asia Pacific regional and national level experience in sustainable development and natural resource management as well as in office operations, programme management, multi-stakeholder engagement and multidisciplinary team management. She has been Deputy Regional Director at the UNEP, Asia Pacific since September 2014. She coordinates the UNEP's work programme in the region pursuant to the organization's mandate to support the UN Member States in the region on issues related to the environment, sustainability and the Sustainable Development Goals. She facilitates UNEP's strategic partnerships in the region. Before joining UNEP, she was Regional Director of WWF International's Asia Pacific Programme.



Issa Barte
Co-founder
For the Future

Issa Barte is a 24 year old Filipino artist and the Co-Founder of For the Future, a Filipino-focused non-profit project fueled by art and storytelling. She explores human connection and emotion, and integrates these into her advocacy in working with indigenous communities and the youth. Barte is a multiple TEDx speaker sharing stories of the youth at work and the Filipino hope. She has been locally published and internationally featured for her work. She is also a Filipino Climate Leader for the Climate Reality Leadership Corps.



Speaker **J****Jayathma Wickramanayake**

United Nations Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth
United Nations

Jayathma Wickramanayake was appointed as the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth in June 2017 at the age of 26. In this role, Jayathma works to expand the UN's youth engagement and advocacy efforts across all four pillars of work – sustainable development, human rights, peace and security and humanitarian action – and serves as a representative of and advisor to the Secretary-General. Originally from Sri Lanka, Ms. Wickramanayake has worked extensively on youth development and participation, and has played a key role in transforming the youth development sector in her home country. Prior to taking up her post, Ms. Wickramanayake was instrumental in creating the movement for civic and political engagement of young people, especially young women in Sri Lanka named "Hashtag Generation". Previously, she advocated for global youth development on an international level including as the first ever Sri Lankan Youth Delegate to the United Nations and as the youth lead negotiator and member of the International Youth Task Force of the World Conference on Youth 2014 where she played a critical role in mainstreaming youth in the Post-2015 Process and in the establishment of World Youth Skills Day.

**Jennifer Debrum**

Coordinator - Republic of the Marshall Islands
Ridge to Reef Project
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Jennifer Debrum is a Marshallese national who currently works for the UNDP as a project Manager and coordinator for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI) STAR Ridge to Reef Project. The project is funded by the Global Environmental Facility and directly implemented by the UNDP. Ms. Debrum previously worked with the Marshall Islands government as the national coordinator for the Joint National Action Plan for Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction.



Jennifer Katanyoutanant

Independent artist and producer

Jennifer Katanyoutanant works with interactive mediums like VR, installation, and food to facilitate communication and co-create systems of sharing and exchange. Recent fascinations include food systems research through sensory interactions, playable critical thought, and virtual spaces for shifting power imbalance. Past projects explored ecological manifestations of the Youtube recommendation algorithm, diverse creative communities in emerging technology, and cultivating remote intimacy through food and web performance. Past commissions and residencies include: Ars Electronica, Goethe Institut, British Council, Kone Foundation's Saari Residency, ZKM + Akademis Shloss Solitude's Web Residency, ORTung Hingersee, Prince Claus Fund, Art Gene UK, and Oculus Launch Pad



Jessica Hitt

Managing Director - Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE)
EcoAdapt

Jessica Hitt is a Scientist at EcoAdapt, manages the Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange (CAKE) Program, and provides research and programmatic support to a wide range of projects and research efforts. Jessica has been with EcoAdapt since 2009 and has broad experience training and building the capacity of adaptation practitioners, developing communities of practice, and facilitating adaptation knowledge exchange. In addition, Ms. Jessica Hitt currently serves on the U.S. National Adaptation Forum's Program Committee, the California Adaptation Forum's General Advisory Committee, the Interagency Land Management Adaptation Group, and on UNEP's Global Adaptation Network (GAN) Steering Committee. Prior to joining the EcoAdapt team, she worked in the Climate Change Program at the World Wildlife Fund. Jessica graduated from the University of California, Santa Barbara with a degree in Environmental Studies.

**Jessica Troni**

Head - Climate Change Adaptation Unit
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Jessica Troni has more than 20 years of experience in environment and development policy and has worked on climate change adaptation programming in the UN for the last 12 years. She heads up the Climate Change Adaptation Unit in United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Headquarters in Nairobi and has under her oversight all programming related to the international climate funds (Green Climate Fund, Least Developed Countries Fund and Adaptation Fund), in Ecosystems Division. She served as a UNDP Regional Technical Adviser for Adaptation for the East and Southern African Region between 2007 and 2014 and for the UK Department for International Development Headquarters from 2003 to 2007 as the adaptation policy lead and as the UK representative in the EU delegation to the UNFCCC for 4 years. Jessica started her career as an Overseas Development Institute Fellow, posted in Zanzibar as a junior economist in the Commission for Lands and Environment from 1995 to 1997. Jessica holds a MSc degree in Public Policy and Management and MSc Degree in Environmental and Natural Resource Economics.

**Joanna Post**

Programme Officer
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC) Secretariat

Joanna Post has been working as a Programme Officer with the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) secretariat since 2014. She is the lead officer for research and systematic observation leading negotiations and optimizing international collaboration in this area. She is also secretariat focal point on ocean and climate change matters, including with UN-Oceans. Prior to joining the secretariat, Dr. Post was communication manager for a number of national and international scientific research and educational programmes and projects in both the UK and Germany. She holds a Ph.D. in environmental science from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.



Jobel Group
Artists
Jobel Art for Earth

Jobel Art for Earth is an international artistic organization founded in 2000, with branches in Italy, South East Asia and Canada. It is committed to produce creative contents, cultural events, and educational projects in order to raise awareness and engage the broad society about sustainability, spreading information and best practices. Working both globally and locally, it supports governments, UN Agencies, NGOs, the private sector, educational organizations, and local communities to address messages related to sustainable visions through the language of Art. To this end, in 2018 it launched the "SmarTalk Rome" festival, in collaboration with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and the Italian Ministry of Environment. In 2019 it performed at the 6th Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok, in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), UNESCO, the Embassy of Italy in Thailand and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA). In the same year, it was invited by the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) to open with a live performance the Ministerial Meeting at the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) among the UN Headquarters General Assembly Hall (New York).



Joel Rogers

Noam Chomsky Professor of Law - Political Science, Public Affairs, and Sociology
University of Wisconsin-Madison

Joel Rogers directs COWS, the national resource and strategy center on high-road development that also operates the Mayors Innovation Project, State Smart Transportation Initiative (with Smart Growth America), and ProGov21. Rogers has written widely on party politics, democratic theory, and cities and urban regions. Along with many scholarly and popular articles, his books include *The Hidden Election*, *On Democracy*, *Right Turn*, *Metro Futures*, *Associations and Democracy*, *Works Councils*, *Working Capital*, *What Workers Want*, *Cities at Work*, and *American Society: How It Really Works*. Joel is an active citizen as well as academic. He has worked with and advised many politicians and social movement leaders, and has initiated and/or helped lead several progressive NGOs (including the New Party [now the Working Families Party], EARN, WRTP, Apollo Alliance [now part of the Blue Green Alliance], Emerald Cities Collaborative, State Innovation Exchange, and EPIC-N (Educational Partnership for Innovation in Communities Network)). He is a contributing editor of *The Nation* and *Boston Review*, a MacArthur Foundation Fellow, and identified by *Newsweek* as one of the 100 living Americans most likely to shape U.S. politics and culture in the 21st century.



**Johanna Nalau**

Co-chair of the Science Committee for the World Adaptation Science Programme
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dr. Johanna Nalau is an award-winning adaptation scientist. Her research focuses on understanding climate adaptation decision principles and what role adaptation science does and can play in decision- and policy-making. She is an Australian Research Council DECRA Fellow at Griffith University leading an Australian first project on the development and feasibility of adaptation heuristics. The project aims to uncover such key principles, interrogate their feasibility as decision guides, and provide more robust advice on how to invest and pursue effective and successful adaptation to climate change that enables benefits to the environment, society and security. Dr. Nalau is Lead Author in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) 6th Assessment report in Working Group II (Chapter 15 Small Islands), Managing Editor of the Journal of Climate Risk Management, and Co-chair of the Science Committee of the World Adaptation Science Program. She also leads the Adaptation Science Research Theme at Cities Research Institute at Griffith University that focuses on bringing together the university's key thinkers on adaptation. She was awarded Griffith University Young Outstanding Alumni Award 2019 for the Sciences Group, and the Queensland Young Tall Poppy Science Award 2020.

**Jonathan Ensor**

Senior Research Fellow
University of York and Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Jonathan Ensor is a social scientist with research interests in processes that can lead to increasingly equitable human development. This work cuts across the fields of development studies, human geography and environmental governance. He has a particular focus on community-based climate change adaptation and the governance of food and agriculture at different scales. Recently, this has translated into work on reconciling social science insights with the application of physical science to real-world problems, including the potential of participatory planning and social learning processes as a means of accounting for power and social justice in 'resilient' development. Jonathan has a background in human rights development practice that informs his work and his research interests remain applied and, as such, frequently interdisciplinary. Jonathan is Co-Editor of the journal Climate and Development.



Joost Beckers

Senior Scientist
VanderSat

Joost Beckers is specialized in hydrology, flood modelling and climate risk assessment. He has a background in physics (PhD 1999) and 20 years of experience in water-related research and consultancy. Between 2007 and 2020, Joost worked for the research institute Deltares, on consultancy projects for governments and IFIs in the Netherlands, United States, China, Australia, Indonesia, Azerbaijan and Myanmar. These projects dealt with hydrologic modelling, climate change, flood risk and flood early warning. In 2020, Joost joined VanderSat, a remote sensing company in the Netherlands, to help clients better use of satellite data for water management.



Josaia Jirauni Osborne

Deputy Executive Director and Programme Manager
Pacific Islands Association of Non-governmental
Organisations (PIANGO)

Josaia is the Deputy Executive Director and Programme Manager of PIANGO. He has been supporting PIANGO's members in 24 Pacific Islands and Territories in strengthening their capacity, policy advocacy activities and research. He has also represented PIANGO at regional and international fora. Within the climate change and DRR space, Josaia is managing a project on climate induced displacement in Kiribati - a project that is supported by Commonwealth Foundation and is jointly implemented with the Kiribati Association of NGO (KANGO). He has also coordinated and led PIANGO's joint research with its members in Tonga, Fiji, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands on "Tracking the progress towards Localisation". Currently, he is coordinating the regional Technical Working Group (TWG) on Localisation which seeks to further the localisation agenda in the region. The TWG on Localisation comprises of members from national, regional and international organisations whose work focuses on DRR and Climate Change in the Pacific. The TWG is part of the Pacific Resilience Partnership which administers the Framework for Resilient Development in the Pacific (FRDP). Josaia was also involved in the COVID-19 response and in the development of his village. He graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Tourism and Management plus a Post Graduate Diploma in Development Studies from the University of the South Pacific.



Joshua Wycliffe
Permanent Secretary
Ministry of Waterways and Environment, Fiji

Joshua Wycliffe has many years of expertise on International Development, Public Service, Environment, Local Government, and Infrastructure. He has spearheaded transformational programs across government functionaries in multiple countries in different continents. He engaged in the modelling and implementation of environmentally and economically resilient community solutions internationally. Joshua is the Permanent Secretary, for the Ministry of Environment of Fiji and holds a diverse portfolio of Government portfolios including Environment, Local Government and Urban Development. Previously, he also worked with the Governments of Australia, New Zealand, India, and the SADC. He contributed in establishing sustainability programs through Private and Public Partnerships (PPP) model. He developed Microenterprise development and capacity building enterprise and business units that ensured household economic sustainability, education, and community employment. Joshua sits on several boards (globally). His passion is to develop climatically and economically resilient community solutions involving newer technologies, and to create and sustain government options that can foster employment, build capacity and develop innovative outcomes



**Joy Amor Bailey**

Urban Climate Change Resilience Specialist
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Joy Amor Bailey is an Urban Climate Change Resilience Specialist with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) - administered Urban Climate Change Resilience Trust Fund (UCCRTF) which supports cities in eight countries by improving urban planning, designing climate resilient infrastructure and investing in projects and people. She is involved in a diverse range of projects including those on water supply and sanitation, flood forecasting and early warning system, coastal management, air quality improvement, e-mobility, post-disaster reconstruction, microfinance, disaster risk financing, and community-led projects. Prior to joining UCCRTF, Joy has worked in South Asia, Southeast Asia and Pacific regions on climate change adaptation and mitigation, project preparation and implementation, stakeholders' engagement, capacity development, and environmental and social safeguards. Her previous assignments included those funded through ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability), Clean Air Asia, United States Agency for International Development (USAID), World Bank, The Rockefeller Foundation, European Commission, Cities Development Initiative for Asia (CDIA), and the German International Cooperation (GIZ). Joy is a chartered urban planner, and in 2008 earned her MSc in Environmental Change and Management from the University of Oxford.

**Joyashree Roy**

Bangabandhu Chair Professor
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Joyashree Roy is the inaugural Bangabandhu Chair Professor at Asian Institute of Technology,(AIT),Thailand. She is also with the Department of Economics, Jadavpur University (now on lien). She is the Founding advisor of the Global Change Programme and Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF) Project at Jadavpur University. She was the national fellow of the Indian Council of Social Sciences Research (ICSSR). She was Ford Foundation Post Doctoral Fellow at LBNL, Berkeley, USA. She was in IPCC-2007 Nobel Peace Prize winning panel. She is Coordinating Lead Author in Fifth as well as Sixth assessment cycle of WGIII, of IPCC. She has been a chapter author of Global Energy Assessment. She is in the winning team of Prince Sultan Bin Aziz award for water. She has published more than 125 peer reviewed journal articles, authored and edited books. Her research interests are: Economics of Pollution and Climate Change, Modeling energy demand, Economy-wide modeling exercises for deriving policy implications, Water quality demand modeling, Water pricing, Sustainable development, Natural resource accounting, Valuing environmental services, Developmental and environmental issues relevant for informal sectors, Coastal Ecosystem service evaluation, Bangladesh economy and energy policy.

**Joyce Msuya**

Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations and
Deputy Executive Director United Nations Environment
Programme (UNEP)

Joyce Msuya is the Deputy Executive Director of UNEP. Previously, she served as Acting Executive Director, overseeing UN Environment's portfolio in 33 countries and administering nine Multilateral Environmental Agreements on critical environment issues. She has more than 20 years of extensive experience in international development strategy, operations, knowledge management and partnerships, across Africa, Asia and Latin America. She has served also as Adviser to the World Bank's Vice President, East Asia and Pacific Region in Washington, D.C. From 2014 to 2017, Ms. Msuya served as the inaugural World Bank Special Representative and Head of the World Bank Group Office in the Republic of Korea, where she established and developed office operations and deepened the Bank's partnership with the country. She has held a series of high-level positions at the World Bank Group, including the World Bank Institute's East Asia and Pacific Regional Coordinator in China, Principal Strategy Officer at the International Finance Corporation (Manufacturing, Agribusiness and Services) and Special Adviser to Lord Nicholas Stern, World Bank Senior Vice President and Chief Economist. A microbiologist from Tanzania, Ms. Msuya began her career at the World Bank as a public health specialist for Africa in 1998.



Juan M. Pulhin
Professor and UP Scientist III
University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB)

Dr. Juan M. Pulhin is a Professor and former Dean of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources, University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), Philippines. He also holds the highest rank of UP Scientist III since 2011 in recognition of his scholarly outputs and international scientific standing. He was a four-time Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo and a Visiting Scholar at the Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. Professor Pulhin is also a member of the National Academy of Science and Technology, Philippines and the Regional Coordinator for Asia of the International Association for the Study of the Commons (IASC). He is also an Invited Expert of the Capacity Development Committee of the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN). Professor Pulhin is a recipient/co-recipient of numerous national and international awards foremost of which was his contribution to the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize Award shared by the members of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) with former U.S. Vice President Al Gore. He earned his PhD degree in Geographical Sciences from the Australian National University.





Julie Greenwalt
Consultant
Go Green for Climate

Julie Greenwalt is an expert on climate change, sustainable cities and nature-based solutions. She has worked on enhancing climate action in a wide range of countries. In 2019, she started Go Green for Climate and has worked on projects ranging from the development of an adaptation finance facility in Indonesia to supporting community development and climate change adaptation work in Nigeria. She has previously worked for the Global Center on Adaptation, Cities Alliance, UN-Habitat, UNEP and UNDP. Recent publications that she has led or contributed to include: Building Resilience With Nature: Maximizing ecosystem-based adaptation through National Adaptation Plan processes (2021); Enhancing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) through Urban Climate Action (2020); Adapt Now: A Global Call for Leadership on Climate Resilience (2019), and the Global Research and Action Agenda on Cities and Climate Change Science (2018). She is currently the co-chair for the Global Environmental Outlook (GEO) for Cities report and was previously the co-chair of the Cities and Climate Change Science conference organizing committee. Julie has a master's degree in Urban Planning from Columbia University (New York) and a bachelor's degree in International Relations, Philosophy and Spanish from Tulane University (New Orleans).



Jyotsna Mohan
Regional Coordinator
Asia Development Alliance (ADA)

Jyotsna Mohan holds a Ph.D degree from the school of social science , Jawaharlal Nehru University , New Delhi. She worked as Asst Prof. in Statistics and Social Science before joining the civil society sector. She has been working on policy advocacy for various socio-economic and environment issues for past 15 years and has been associated with the beyond 2015 campaign since its inception with specialization on governance, accountability, linking human rights with development and democracy. She has authored various reports on development and finance, in south-south cooperation, G20 issues apart from representing the country and the region (Asia) at various regional and global platformers representing a strong civil society voice from the global south. She has been working as a regional coordinator- Asia for Asia Development Alliance, a regional CSO platform for national CSOs in Asia. As a regional coordinator, she has been documenting CSO-government engagement mechanism in the SDGs of Agenda 2030 process for the last 6 years , apart from collecting and documenting various country reports to see the challenges, gaps and opportunities in SDGs implementation, review and monitoring process. Currently she is representing Asia as an Organizing Partner in the UN NGO Major Group.

Speaker **K**



Kalpana Giri
Senior Program Officer
Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and
the Pacific (RECOFTC)

Kalpana Giri is Senior Program Officer at the international non-profit organization RECOFTC. As a forester and social environmental specialist, she integrates and implements gender equality and social inclusion approaches in RECOFTC policy and capacity building initiatives for equitable and sustainable forest management. Currently, Kalpana leads a three-year Weaving Leadership for Gender Equality initiative, known as WAVES, cultivating gender champions in forest landscapes in Asia and deepens their influence and impact. Before joining RECOFTC, Kalpana worked as a researcher and advisor with local communities, think-tanks, donor agencies and women's networks. She has a PhD in forestry from the University of Natural Resources and Life Sciences, Austria. She is married and is a mother to a doting son



Kavita Naidu
Consultant
Edith Cowan University

Kavita Naidu is an international human rights lawyer from Fiji working in feminist climate justice. She works with grassroots women in all their diversity from Asia and the Pacific to build a feminist climate justice movement. Kavita has published a number of articles and presented widely on the gendered impacts of the climate crisis, feminist activism, economic justice and COVID-19. Kavita also represents the Women & Gender Constituency at UNFCCC. Recently, she joined Progressive International as a Council member to work with activists, academics and political leaders from around the world to help shape a new progressive international order centered on all people's well being.

**Kazuaki Takahashi**

Director - Climate Change Adaptation Office
Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment
Japan (MoEJ)

Kazuaki Takahashi joined the Ministry of the Environment in 1998. He has served for more than 20 years in various roles in the Ministry including chemical management and mercury management based on the Minamata Convention on Mercury at Office of Mercury Management, Environmental Health Department. He was involved in interim storage of soil and waste generated from decontamination works at Fukushima Regional Environment Office, as well as aquatic environment conservation at Water Environment Division, Environment Management Bureau. He has been the Director of Climate Change Adaptation Office since April 2019.

**Kazuhiko Takemoto**

Visiting Professor
United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study
of Sustainability (UNU-IAS)

Kazuhiko Takemoto is a visiting Professor at the UNU-IAS. He is also President of Overseas Environment Cooperation Center (OECC) and Project Professor of the University of Tokyo, Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI). Prof. Takemoto developed policies on international environmental cooperation and global environment, in particular, climate change and biodiversity as Vice-Minister for Global Environment Affairs (2008-2010) and as a Director-General of Environmental Management Bureau (2005-08). He served for CBD/COP10 as its Alternate President (2010), OECD/EPOC as Vice Chair (2004-07) and UNFCCC/COP3 as Special Assistant to its President (1997). He is a Council Member of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA). He holds a PhD in environmental engineering from The University of Tokyo and a Master of International Public Policy degree from the School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS), Johns Hopkins University.

**Kazuhiko Takeuchi**

President

The Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Prof. Kazuhiko Takeuchi is President of the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) since July 2017. Within the Tokyo Metropolitan University, he served as a Lecturer at the Faculty of Science, an Associate Professor at the Faculty of Agriculture, a Professor at the Asian Natural Environmental Science Center, a Professor at the Graduate School of Agricultural and Life Science and as Director and Professor at the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (IR3S). He was Vice-Rector and Senior Vice-Rector at United Nations University from 2008 to 2016 and as an Assistant Secretary-General at the United Nations from 2013 to 2016. He has served also as a Senior Visiting Professor at United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS). He took up the position as Project Professor of the Institute for Future Initiatives (IFI) at the University of Tokyo in April 2019. He has served, inter alia, as Acting Chair of the Central Environment Council, and Chair of the Nature Conservation Committee of the Central Environment Council, Government of Japan, Editor-in-Chief of the journal Sustainability Science (Springer Nature), and Distinguished Chair, Wangari Maathai Institute for Peace and Environmental Studies, University of Nairobi. He graduated from the Department of Geography, the University of Tokyo. He obtained M.Agr. and PhD from the Graduate School of Agriculture, the University of Tokyo.

**Keiko Yoshikawa**

Deputy Director

National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

Keiko Yoshikawa works for the Center for Climate Change Adaptation (CCCA) of the National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES). CCCA, specified in the Climate Change Adaptation Act (enforced in December 2018), is responsible for the collection, organization, analysis and provision of information about the climate change impacts and adaptation and the provision of technical advice to local governments. Qualifications: P.E.Jp, Environment.

**Ken O'Flaherty**

COP26 Regional Ambassador to Asia Pacific and South Asia

Ken O'Flaherty is the COP26 Regional Ambassador for South Asia and the Asia-Pacific region. He has recently returned from a posting in Rome, where he worked closely with the Italian government ahead of our joint bid for the UK to host COP26. He has experience in a number of Foreign Office Departments, and has previously served in the British embassies in Tokyo and Paris as well as the former UK Representation to the European Union. Ken has worked on a wide range of issues throughout his career from climate change and energy to economic, EU cooperation, security, counter-terrorism and migration issues.

**Kirsten Mandala**Manager - Disaster Risk Reduction and
Climate Change Program
Mercy Corps, Timor-Leste

Kirsten Mandala currently manages a portfolio of disaster risk reduction and climate change programming for Mercy Corps in Timor-Leste, building the resilience of vulnerable communities to ecological hazards and the adverse impacts of climate change in both rural and urban settings. Kirsten has worked with Mercy Corps since 2015. Before joining the team in Timor-Leste, she provided support to corporate and foundation-funded programs in India, Nepal, China, Mongolia, Myanmar, Indonesia and Timor. Prior to Mercy Corps, Kirsten worked on peacebuilding programs with civil society organizations in Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo. Kirsten holds a BA in Political Science, a Master of Public Administration focused on Global Leadership and Management, and is currently pursuing a Master of Science focused on Global Energy and Climate Policy.

**Kisa Mfalila**

Lead Regional Environment and Climate Specialist for Asia and the Pacific (APR)
International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)

Kisa Mfalila is the Lead Regional Environment and Climate Specialist for Asia and the Pacific (APR) portfolio at the strategic and operational levels at the IFAD. She is responsible for managing environment and climate risks and impacts and in mobilizing green financing to build climate resilience in operations. She leads and coordinates a team of specialists to deliver on environmental sustainability, climate adaptation and mitigation outcomes and works as a technical lead in designing and implementing projects. Prior IFAD, she worked in the World Bank, where she managed climate risks and impacts in operations within the Southern Africa Country Management Unit. She was also a Team Leader for the design and implementation of climate, environment and natural resources management operations and worked with the private sector in establishing their Environmental and Social Management Systems (ESMS). Kisa also worked as a Principal Environmental Specialist with the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Tunis, where she managed environmental and social risks and impacts of agriculture and natural resources portfolios in the Africa region. Her work with Multilateral Development Banks started eight years before joining the AfDB where she worked with the World Bank in Washington, D.C. managing environment and climate risks and impacts of large and complex water resources management projects. Kisa is an environmental engineer by training having obtained a Master of Science degree in Environmental Engineering and Sustainable Infrastructure from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH) in Stockholm, Sweden and a Master of Science Degree in Engineering Management from the George Washington University in Washington, D.C., USA.

**Klaus Schmitt**

Principal Advisor

Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
(GIZ)

Dr. Klaus Schmitt has a PhD in Vegetation Ecology from the University of Bayreuth (Germany) and an MSc in Forestry from the University of Munich (Germany). He has more than 30 years of experience in managing development cooperation projects in Africa and Southeast Asia. The focus of his work has been on integrated natural resource management, biodiversity conservation and climate change adaptation. He has extensive experience with coastal zone management in the Mekong Delta (Vietnam) where he linked nature-based solutions and resilience with co-management by local communities. This approach, which started with a pilot in 2009, has since been scaled up to the entire Mekong Delta. Dr. Schmitt is currently working as Principal Advisor for the GIZ project Ecosystem-based Adaptation in 2 River Basins in the Philippines.

**Koko Warner**

Manager - Vulnerability Subdivision

United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC)

Dr. Koko Warner manages the climate impacts and vulnerability subdivision where she guides the UN climate secretariat's adaptation knowledge hub, helping scale up adaptation action, and the Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples Platform. Dr. Warner is an IPCC lead author for the Special Report on Climate Change and Land, and 5th Assessment Report on climate impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. Previously, she was a founder and Executive Director of the Munich Climate Insurance Initiative and head of research on environmental migration and social resilience at UN University in Bonn. The International Council of Science named Dr. Warner one of the top 20 in the climate change debate. She is a visiting fellow at the University of Pennsylvania's Perry World House.



Kotchakorn Voraakhom
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Landprocess and Porous City Network

Kotchakorn Voraakhom is a landscape architect from Thailand who works on building productive green public spaces that tackle climate change in urban dense areas and vulnerable communities. She created the first critical green infrastructure for Bangkok, the Chulalongkorn Centenary Park. Her complete design works also include, Thammasat Urban Farm Rooftop, a 36-acre urban farm rooftop featuring the biggest urban farming green roof in Asia, and the first bridge park across the river in any world capital, Chao Phraya Sky Park. Voraakhom was awarded from UN climate change for Winners of the 2020 UN Global Climate Action Awards, Women for Results. She was featured in the 2019 "TIME 100 Next" list, one of 15 leading women fighting against climate change from TIME Magazine, BBC 100 Women 2020, and the "Green 30 for 2020" by Bloomberg. She is Chairwoman of the Climate Change Working Group of the International Federation of Landscape Architects (IFLA World). Voraakhom received her Master's in landscape architecture from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design and teach there as a design critic in Spring 2020. Currently, she is also a TED Fellow and an Echoing Green Fellow.



Kristie L. Ebi
Professor - Department of Global Health
University of Washington

Kristie L. Ebi, Ph.D., MPH has been conducting research and practice on the health risks of climate variability and change for nearly 25 years, focusing on understanding sources of vulnerability; estimating current and future health risks of climate change; designing adaptation policies and measures to reduce risks in multi-stressor environments; and estimating the health co-benefits of mitigation policies. She has supported multiple countries in Central America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and the Pacific in assessing their vulnerabilities and implementing adaptation policies and programs. She has been an author on multiple national and international climate change assessments, including the fourth U.S. National Climate Assessment and the IPCC Special Report on Global Warming of 1.5°C. She has edited four books on aspects of climate change and has more than 200 publications.

Speaker



Lan Mercado

Co-Director - Global Strategy and Feminist Futures
Oxfam, Asia

Lan Mercado is the Oxfam's Co-Director for Global Strategy and Feminist Futures and, concurrently, is the Regional Director for Asia. She is an activist, a humanitarian and development worker with over 30 years of international experience working with civil society groups, environmental movements, and women's rights organizations. In the Philippines, she is a convenor and founding member of EveryWoman and Baigani, and is a member of the board of the Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism where she once worked on the environment desk.



Le Hoang Anh

Senior Official
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development (MARD),
Vietnam

Le Hoang Anh is a Senior Official of the Department of Science Technology and Environment at the MARD of Vietnam with more than 20 years experiences, she is a hydrologist, holding a Master of Science in Hydroinformatics and Knowledge Management at International Institute for Infrastructure Hydraulic and Environmental Engineering (IHE), Delft, The Netherlands. Her current work is integrating research results into implementation plan and contributing to the agriculture's policy-making process in the context of climate change. She is agriculture' NDCs focal point for Vietnam and a climate's negotiator at UNFCCC. She is very active in UNFCCC negotiations, focusing on agriculture's Mitigation, Adaptation, Loss and Damage and working with development partners for international knowledge transfer, experience sharing and policy updates at all levels. Since May 2017, she's be selected by the Bureaux of IPCC Working Groups I, II and III, and the Co-chairs of the TFI, to be a Lead Author for Climate Change and Land: an IPCC Special Report on climate change, desertification, land degradation, sustainable land management, food security and greenhouse gas fluxes in terrestrial ecosystems.

**Linda Anne Stevenson**

Head - Knowledge Management and Scientific Affairs
Deputy Head - Development and Institutional Affairs
Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

Dr. Linda Anne Stevenson is the Head of Knowledge Management and Scientific Affairs and the Deputy Head of Development and Institutional Affairs at the APN Secretariat. With over 18 years of experience in APN, she manages over sixty national and regional projects annually across a broad range of disciplines and works closely with researchers and decision-makers in Asia and the Pacific. She has significant experience in scientific capacity building that includes developing capacity of early-career researchers; plans dialogues that cross the science-policy interface; and engages with international organisations including UNFCCC via SBSTA and the Nairobi Work Programme (NWP), IPCC and IPBES. Most recently she headed an activity that culminated in the publication of a Special Issue in Elsevier Environmental Research in 2020 of 15 APN projects entitled Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation and Vulnerability: Asian Perspective. She has over eight years of lecturing experience in Japanese universities on “Global Environmental Systems” and holds a doctorate degree in Applied Chemistry and Chemical Engineering from the University of Strathclyde, UK.

**Lis Mullin Bernhardt**

Programme Officer -Climate Change Adaptation Unit
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Lis Mullin Bernhardt is an international development and environment professional who has been working at the environment/policy interface since 2002, serving at UNEP’s headquarters since 2016. She has extensive experience in the area of global environmental change, freshwater issues and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), having served for seven years in the UN’s inter-agency coordination mechanism for water; UN-Water; including in New York during the establishment of the 2030 Agenda. Lis has been in UNEP’s Climate Change Adaptation Unit since November 2019 and currently serves as the Coordinator of the Global Adaptation Network, an initiative that shares key adaptation knowledge and information around the world.

**Lok Mani Sapkota**

Program Officer

Regional Community Forestry Training Center for Asia and the Pacific (RECOFTC)

Lok Mani Sapkota is a Program Officer at RECOFTC. He supports collaboration in changing climate on landscape level in the Asia-Pacific region through the entry point of community forestry. He has first-hand experience working with communities living in and near forests who are vulnerable to climate change. Currently, he works on solutions that build forest communities' resilience by securing their land and resource rights and strengthening their capacity to manage and benefit from natural resources, equitably and sustainably. Before joining RECOFTC, Lok worked at Environment, Culture, Agriculture, Research and Development Society, Nepal (ECARDS Nepal). As a climate change expert, he supported more than a hundred local communities in Nepal to develop and implement climate change adaptation plans, linking them to government programs. Lok has also worked for the Government of Nepal as a forestry expert and published on community-based climate change adaptation and community forestry. Lok has a Master of Science in Natural Resources Management from the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok.



Loren Legarda
Deputy Speaker
House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines

Loren Legarda, a former Senator, is Deputy Speaker of the Philippine House of Representatives. She authored several landmark laws during her three terms in the Philippine Senate for climate change adaptation and environmental protection, namely, the Clean Air Act; Clean Water Act; Ecological Solid Waste Management Act; Environmental Awareness and Education Act; Renewable Energy Act; Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act; Climate Change Act; the People's Survival Fund Law; and the Expanded National Integrated Protected Areas System Act, among many other vital pieces of legislation. Her inspiring advocacy for good environmental governance has received global recognition and appreciation. She was named among the Global Leaders for Tomorrow by the World Economic Forum; a Laureate and among the Global 500 Roll of Honor of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); and recognized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) as a Hero of Resilience. Deputy Speaker Legarda is a Global Champion for Resilience of the UNDRR, a National Adaptation Plan Champion of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), a Commissioner of the Global Commission on Adaptation (GCA), and the Climate Vulnerable Forum Ambassador for Parliaments. Now on her fourth term as a legislator, she represents the Lone District of Antique in the Philippine House of Representatives.



Lorenzo Galanti

Ambassador of Italy
Embassy of Italy – Bangkok

H.E. Lorenzo Galanti was born in Stuttgart (Germany) in 1968. Starting a diplomatic career in 1993 at the Department of Cultural Affairs, he complied with national military service in Air Force in 1994 and, once back at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1995, he took up his post in the Press and Institutional Communication Service. From 1997 to 2001 he served as First Secretary at the Italian Embassy in Damascus. In 2001 he moved to the Embassy in Dakar, acting as Counsellor and Deputy Head of Mission until 2005. Returning to Rome in 2005, he was assigned to the Directorate General for Human Resources, Budget and Innovation until 2007, when he was appointed as Head of the Office of the Secretary General. In 2010 he moved to Washington, DC where he took up the position of First Counsellor. After returning to the Ministry in 2014, he was appointed as Head of the Office of the Under Secretary for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Sen. Benedetto Della Vedova, carrying out in this role numerous missions to Asian Countries. Promoted Minister Plenipotentiary in 2016, in 2018 he was appointed as Ambassador to the Kingdom of Thailand, accredited also in the Kingdom of Cambodia and Lao P.D.R.



Louise Mabulo

Founder
Cacao Project

Louise Emmanuelle d.G. Mabulo is a chef, farmer, and entrepreneur. She is the Founder of The Cacao Project, which cultivates resilient and Climate-smart livelihoods, positioning farmers for sustainable success in San Fernando, Camarines Sur, Philippines. Mabulo is a National Geographic Young Explorer, a featured honouree for Forbes Asia's list '30 Under 30', a Young Champion of the Earth under United Nations Environment Programme, an honouree of Tatler's 'Generation T', and was awarded Outstanding Young Farmer of the Year in 2018. She is a recipient of the Friend Of Humanity Award under Friendship Ambassadors Foundation New York, Social Entrepreneur award from the University of Connecticut, Champion for Sustainability Award from the Economic Times India, and on Straits Times '30 Under 30 to watch for' Asia list. Mabulo has also hosted pop-up dinners that source local ingredients and highlight locally produced components of her menus. She was the host to the cooking show 'Simply Sarap', aimed at promoting cultural diplomacy under the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines. Mabulo strives toward empowering farmers and advancing climate action & environmental stewardship through her work.

**Luong Quang Huy**

Director - GHG Emission Reduction and Ozone Layer
Protection Division
Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Vietnam

Dr. Huy obtained his first degree in biophysics at Vietnam National University and higher degrees (MSc and PhD) in development and environmental sciences at the School of Environmental Sciences, University of East Anglia, Norwich, United Kingdom. His career is built upon research, development, and educational projects at national and international levels. He has experience in both academic and managerial positions in numerous projects in the last ten years and would like to focus his future career in working with national and local governments towards a more sustainable future. He currently holds the position of Director of GHG emissions reduction and ozone layer protection, Department of Climate Change, Vietnam Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment.

Speaker 



Maija Bertule
Senior Technical Advisor
UNEP-DHI Centre on Water and Environment

Maija Bertule has a degree in international development and environmental planning and over the past 10 years has worked in the field of sustainable development and water resources management. Maija's areas of expertise include climate change adaptation and resilience building, nature-based solutions for water management, integrated water resources management and strategic science and indicator use for improved water management. Maija is also part of UNEP's team supporting countries in their reporting on the SDG indicator 6.5.1 on integrated water resources management implementation.



Malia Talakai
Natural Resource Officer
Food and Agriculture Organization of
the United Nations (FAO)

Malia Talakai is a Natural Resource Officer and Gender Focal Point at the FAO Sub-regional Office for the Pacific Islands based in Apia, Samoa. She coordinates and manages the climate change portfolio for the Pacific and is lead technical officer on a number of climate change, emergency, and gender projects in agriculture to support Pacific Small Island Developing States. She was formerly the Deputy Lead Negotiator for AOSIS under the Chairmanship of the Government of the Republic of Nauru, where she led and supported the negotiations on adaptation and loss and damage under the UNFCCC. Malia has an education background in Anthropology and Law and holds a Ph.D from the Radbound University of Nijmegen.

**Marco, Toscano-Rivalta**

Chief of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR)

Marco Toscano-Rivalta is the Chief of the Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific of the UNDRR. Previously, he was the Chief of the UNDRR New York Liaison Office. In a previous position, as the Chief of Office of the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction, he served as the Co-Chair of the Bureau of the Third World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and supported the drafting and negotiations of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030. He has over 20 years of international experience and served with the UN and other international organizations, at the headquarters and in the field, in the areas of refugee and IDPs protection, humanitarian relief, promotion and protection of human rights, justice administration, sustainable development and disaster risk management. He holds a degree in law from the University of Bologna, Italy.

**Mario T. Tabucanon**

Emeritus Professor
Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

Dr. Mario T. Tabucanon has served AIT for more than 30 years as faculty, senior administrative and leadership positions. In his academic career, he established an outstanding reputation internationally for his contributions in the field of Industrial Systems Engineering and Management, especially for his impactful achievements in the development and applications of Multiple Criteria Decision-Making methodologies and modeling tools to solve a variety of sustainability-oriented problems. He has a long association with the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS). Throughout his professional career, he led the creation of various professional networks as well as academic and research entities including the International Society of Environmental and Rural Development (ISERD) in which he still serves as its Founding President.

**Marta Moneo Lain**

Regional Programme Officer - Climate Change Adaptation
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), Latin
America & the Caribbean Office

Marta Moneo currently works in ADB's Pacific Liaison Coordination Office in Sydney managing two major technical assistance programs, the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative and the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility. Marta has extensive experience in development policy, the Pacific region and climate change issues. She has over 10 years of experience in the Australian public service. She was the Senior Policy Advisor at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the Green Climate Fund and Australia's focal point for the Global Environment Facility. She holds a Master of International Law from the University of Sydney and a Master of Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University.

**Mary Kim**

Senior Programs Officer
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Mary Kim currently works in ADB's Pacific Liaison Coordination Office in Sydney managing two major technical assistance programs, the Pacific Private Sector Development Initiative and the Pacific Region Infrastructure Facility. Mary has extensive experience in development policy, the Pacific region and climate change issues, with over 10 years' experience in the Australian public service during which she was the senior policy advisor at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on the Green Climate Fund and Australia's focal point for the Global Environment Facility. She holds a Master of International Law from the University of Sydney and a Master of Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University.

**Masaaki Nagamura**

Fellow - International Initiatives
Tokio Marine & Nichido Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.

In his corporate role, Masaaki Nagamura interacts with various international initiatives related to natural disasters, climate change and sustainability at Tokio Marine. On disaster risks, he has been assisting the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC)'s Finance Ministers' Process (FMP) by serving as Sherpa for the Asia-Pacific Financial Forum's Disaster Risk Financing and Insurance (DRFI) Workstream, since January 2015. On climate change, he serves the Financial Stability Board's Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD) as a returning member since January 2021. He was a Task Force member between January 2016 and July 2017. He is actively promoting the implementation of the TCFD recommendations in the Japanese business sector as a steering committee member of the TCFD Consortium of Japan. At Tokio Marine, he functioned as Division Head of Corporate Social Responsibility between August 2011 and March 2018, a governmental relations expert on international insurance regulatory issues between 2004 and 2011, and was stationed in the U.S. city of Chicago as an Account Executive between 1997 and 2004, serving Japanese industrial clients in the U.S. Midwest. He joined Tokio Marine & Fire Insurance in 1986, after graduating from Waseda University in Tokyo.



Masataka Watanabe

Institute Professor
Chuo University

Dr. Masataka Watanabe is an Institute Professor at the Research and Development Initiative, Chuo University in Japan, and is serving as a chairman of the UNEP-Global Adaptation Network. He participated in the Sub-Global Assessment of UN Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), in particular, the evaluation of ecosystem services in Changjiang (Yangtze) river basin including the estuary in the “Western China Ecosystem Assessment”. He is currently developing the GCF project on “Resilience Building and Adaptive Solution in Mongolia” which includes the implementation of adaptation measures to the climate change. He is leading the project on Metrics and Validation of GHG Emission/Absorption in Mongolia using satellite data of GOSAT which helps many countries, non-Annex I parties in particular, on biennial reports of the GHG inventory and Global stocktake in 2023 and 2028. He received B.E./M.E. from Kyoto University and received a PhD from MIT. He has authored more than 120 peer-reviewed international journal articles.



Matthias Jurek

Programme Management Officer
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Matthias Jurek manages flagship projects and initiatives related to sustainable mountain development focusing on climate change adaptation, ecosystem management, environmental governance and use of earth observation. He spearheads several initiatives in mountain regions including the Andes, Central Asia, Caucasus and East Africa. Matthias graduated in law at the University of Vienna, specializing in international law and relations with a focus on environmental issues. He previously worked with UN Environment’s collaborating centre GRID-Arendal, EURAC Research and served in the Legal Office of the Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs. He has furthermore worked for various NGOs and think tanks on security, peace and disarmament, as well as other institutions.



Mikko Ollikainen
Manager
Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat

Mikko Ollikainen joined the Adaptation Fund Board Secretariat in 2009 and has served as Manager since April 2017. Before taking on managerial duties, he functioned in various technical capacities, most recently as a Senior Climate Change Specialist, helping build the Fund's portfolio of projects and programmes through coordination of quality review. In addition to overall management of the Fund, Mikko spearheads the implementation of the Fund's medium-term strategy and resource mobilization. Prior to joining the Secretariat, Mikko worked in the World Bank Carbon Finance Unit as a Carbon Finance Specialist and Deal Manager, particularly on forest-related projects in the BioCarbon Fund. Mikko also brings five years of development field experience from China, Indonesia and other Asian countries, including a two-year assignment in the reconstruction programme following the 2004 Asian Tsunami in Banda Aceh, Indonesia with the World Bank, as well as the Country Representative and Project Coordinator for an environmental private consultancy in China. Mikko holds a M.Sc. degree in ecology and biodiversity research from the University of Turku, Finland, and a postgraduate diploma in international trade from the University of Tampere, Finland. He speaks Finnish, English, and Mandarin.



Mohamed Nasheed

Speaker of the People's Majlis
Former President of Maldives, Government of Maldives

Mohamed Nasheed, a former human rights activist, led a campaign of non-violent civil disobedience that pressured Maumoon Gayoom, Asia's longest-serving ruler, to relax authoritarian controls and allow political pluralism. In 2008, Nasheed was elected president, sweeping away 30 years of one-man rule. Arrested, imprisoned and tortured in the Maldives on numerous occasions for his political beliefs, Nasheed was named an Amnesty International 'Prisoner of Conscience,' and is widely credited for playing an instrumental part in bringing freedom and democracy to the Maldives. During his time in office and after that, Nasheed has played a prominent global role advocating for action to curb greenhouse gas emissions that threaten his nation. In 2009, to highlight the Maldives' vulnerability to rising sea levels, Nasheed famously held a meeting of his cabinet underwater. Nasheed also implemented policies to turn the Maldives into the world's first carbon-neutral country. President Nasheed was recognized by many for his incredible work on promoting human rights, democracy and environmental protection. In November 2016, President Nasheed was appointed to the Board of Directors of Freedom Now.



Mohammad Naciri

Regional Director
UN Women, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)

Mohammad Naciri has been recently appointed as the Regional Director of UN Women for Asia and the Pacific. From 2015 to 2018, he was the Regional Director of UN Women in the Arab States. From 2012 to 2015, Mohammad Naciri was the Deputy Regional Director for UN Women in the Arab States. Mohammad has extensive experience in the region and in gender and development issues. Prior to joining UN Women, Mohammad was the Deputy Country Director of UNDP in Yemen, where he supported the country in the formulation of its Gender Strategy and the Gender Responsive Budgeting process. He has worked in Kuwait, Iraq, Syria, Lebanon and Cambodia, dealing with issues from human trafficking to ethnic cleansing. A national of Morocco, Mohammad holds a master's degree in Public Administration and International Development from the Harvard University, as well as a master's degree in Social Anthropology from the University of Oxford. He also has a Master's degree in Business Administration from the Arab Academy for Science and Technology in Alexandria-Egypt.



Mohammed Angawi

Programme Management Officer
United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for
West Asia (UNEP ROWA)

Mohammed Angawi works on climate change policy and projects in the 12 countries of the West Asia region. He supports member countries in their adaptation efforts by implementing country-specific projects such as National Adaptation Plans (NAPs) and regional initiatives like the Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI). These efforts aim to enhance know-how on adaptation, strengthen institutional frameworks, and raise awareness on vulnerability and risk across the region, with the ultimate goal of increasing societies' resilience to the impacts of climate change. Prior to joining UNEP, Mohammed worked at the Global Green Growth Institute, the Islamic Development Bank and the private sector, where he was involved in a wide range of climate change, air quality, waste and other environmental projects. Mohammed has a BS in Mechanical Engineering from Boston University and a master's in international urban and Environmental Management from RMIT University.



Mokhlesur Rahman

Executive Director
Center for Natural Resource Studies (CNRS)

Dr. Mokhlesur Rahman is currently working on restoration of refugee impacted landscapes in Cox's Bazar, building social-ecological resilience and climate smart livelihood activities in coastal and wetland areas of Bangladesh adopting natural-based solution (NbS) approaches. He pioneered in demonstrating the effectiveness of NbS in wetland and fisheries management 1994. He provided consultancies with UNDP, USAID, DFID, Worldfish, World Bank, IFAD, IUCN, UNHCR on wetlands, forest, environmental governance, DRR and CCA. He is a Member, Ecosystem Commission of IUCN, and a Review Editor of IPBES (Environmental Governance for Asia and the Pacific- 2016-2018). He taught Environmental Management at North South University, Bangladesh (2015-2017). Dr. Rahman through CNRS has made some achievements viz. i) documented effectiveness of NbS in Bangladesh, ii) established the first national wetland sanctuary in Bangladesh, iii) demonstrated ways and means of restoring stream and riparian ecosystems in Refugee-impacted landscapes, iv) Consensus building tool in multiple resource systems (wetlands, forests, coast). Dr. Rahman did masters in zoology/ fisheries from Dhaka University in 1979 and an MA on participation, power and social change from IDS, University of Sussex, UK and PhD on "community perception and adaptation to climate change in coastal Bangladesh" from Curtin University, Australia in 2014.



Mozaharul Alam

Head and Climate Change Coordinator - APAN Secretariat
United Nations Environment Programme Regional Office for
Asia and the Pacific (UNEP ROAP)

Mozaharul Alam started his professional career as a young researcher with Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS) in 1992. He also served the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of Bangladesh as a National Project Coordinator and undertaken inclusive process and successfully formulated National Adaptation Programme of Action (NAPA). In 2009, he has joined the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) as a Regional Coordinator, Climate Change for Asia and the Pacific Office, where he provides strategic and technical guidance to design and implementation climate change actions. He has attended climate change negotiations for more than two decades and has coordinated adaptation group of G77 and China during 2007 to 2009. He has worked as Lead Author for Working Group II for IPCC Fifth Assessment Report. He received an international fellowship award by International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) under Climate Change Programme for three years in 2006.



Muhammad Musa
Executive Director
BRAC International

Dr. Muhammad Musa is the Executive Director of BRAC International. He comes with an extensive background in leading humanitarian, social development, and public health organisations at national, international, and cross-cultural settings. Previously, he served as the Executive Director of BRAC Bangladesh, where he successfully upheld BRAC's mission to eliminate poverty and inequality. Under his leadership, BRAC launched the Humanitarian Crisis Management Programme in Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh, in August 2017, which has given BRAC a strong foundation to stand beside people in crisis anywhere in the world. Prior to joining BRAC, he worked with CARE International for 32 years. Twenty of those years were spent working in Ethiopia, Uganda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, India, and Bangladesh. He also worked as the Asia Regional Director for CARE International for five years. He has been successful in bringing convergence of philanthropic approaches and entrepreneurial methodologies to create sustainable development programming that achieves impact on poverty at large scale. He holds a Master's in Public Health from the Johns Hopkins University, USA, and a post-graduate diploma in Maternal and Child Nutrition from the Netherlands. He completed his Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) at Chittagong Medical College, Bangladesh.



Muhammad Irfan Tariq
Director General
Climate Change Department, Pakistan

Muhammad Irfan Tariq joined Government of Pakistan in 1991. Presently Tariq is serving as Director General (Environment & Climate Change) in Ministry of Climate Change. He is serving as National Focal Point for United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and has been involved in the climate negotiations since the Rio Summit. He is also serving as Member of Executive Board of Clean Development Mechanism of UNFCCC. Further, he is serving as Vice Chair of the Working Group-II of Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC).

Speaker 

Nadya Yuti Hutagalung
Environmental Advocate and TV Presenter

Nadya Hutagalung is a sustainability icon and household name on television across Asia. Nadya spoke at her first conservation forum in 1996 and has used her platform to be one of the most established environmental advocates ever since. In 2006, she founded Green Kampong, a resource for Green Living. In 2014, she launched the Let Elephants Be Elephants campaign with a documentary to reduce the demand for ivory in Asia on National Geographic and Nat Geo Wild. In 2015, she addressed the United Nations General Assembly to mark World Wildlife Day in New York alongside Chelsea Clinton and was the Global Ambassador for WWF's Earth Hour for seven years. Nadya served on the board of the Green School for 5 years. In 2019 Nadya launched a campaign in collaboration with Pangaia to raise awareness and funds for the Sumatran Elephants and Orangutans. 2020 saw Nadya start We The Good, a campaign focusing on Migrant Workers, Mental Wellbeing & Individuals and Families at Risk. Nadya serves as advisor to The Contentment Foundation which provides scientifically evidenced, philosophically grounded practices that promote safe, healthy school climates. Nadya strongly believes that our inner wellbeing directly relates to moving from apathy to empathy and into action.



Nambi Appadurai

Director - Climate Resilience Practice
World Resources Institute (WRI)

Dr. Nambi Appadurai currently serves as the Director of the Climate Resilience Practice of World Resources Institute (WRI) India. He has about 20 years of experience in the development sector. His overarching research interests intersect the areas of climate risk management, adaptation, environmental policy, institutional development and governance. Nambi has a wide range of research and project management experience at the national, sub-national and international levels. His international career includes stints with the World Bank, the CGIAR and the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment program. In the past, Nambi served as a member of the Official Indian delegation to UNFCCC Conference of Parties' meetings and participated as an expert member of several scientific committees constituted by various Ministries of Government of India and state governments. He has a doctoral degree in Public Policy from the Maxwell school of Citizenship & Public Affairs of Syracuse University, New York and post-graduate degrees in Development Studies from Cambridge University, U.K and in Public Management from University of Madras. He has published widely on development and environmental issues and won several awards in the fields of social research and environment.



Nanki Kaur

Regional Programme Manager - Adaptation and
Resilience Building
International Centre for Integrated Mountain
Development (ICIMOD)

Nanki Kaur is a public policy expert with over 18 years of experience in climate-resilient development. She works with local, national, and international policymakers to design and implement policy, institutional and financial frameworks to support inclusive investment in climate-resilient development. She has experience working with government, civil society, and private sector partners. Her skills include, effective leadership, programme management, policy analysis, strategic communication, business development, training and capacity building, and facilitating collaborative action-research programmes. Her current work focuses on climate finance, climate resilient social protection systems, and climate resilient business models. Kaur has worked with the International Institute for Environment and Development, the Overseas Development Institute and The Energy and Resources Institute to deliver policy research programmes on climate change, natural resource governance, and pro-poor development in Asia and Africa.

**Naoya Tsukamoto**

Director

Asian Institute of Technology Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP)

Dr. Naoya Tsukamoto is the Director of the AIT-RRC.AP, which aims to assist countries to advance their environmental and sustainable development goals through capacity-building, knowledge sharing, policy advice, and research on Climate Change, Air Pollution, and Waste and Resource Management. In his professional career, he has served as a Senior Environment Engineer for the World Bank, the Head of Japanese Delegation to the IPCC/AR4, the Vice-Chair and a board member of the Adaptation Fund Board, a member of the Adaptation Committee of UNFCCC, the Secretary-General/Principal Researcher for the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), and the Project Director under the United Nations University Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS).

**Neera Shrestha Pradhan**

Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist

International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

Dr. Neera Shrestha Pradhan is working with ICIMOD as a Senior Water and Adaptation Specialist. Dr. Pradhan brings more than 20 years of experience as programme manager and subject specialist in the field of river basin management, ecosystem and community-based adaptation, disaster risk resilience, environmental management and impact assessment, and freshwater conservation and management. She is also involved with UNFCCC/NWP's Lima Adaptation Knowledge Initiative (LAKI) in bridging adaptation knowledge gaps in the HinduKush Himalayan region. Before joining ICIMOD, she worked with WWF Nepal, IUCN Nepal, and IUCN Asia Regional Office. Some of her major achievements include securing UNFCCC's Momentum for Change 2014 Lighthouse Activity Award for community-based flood early warning system and support the Government of Nepal for the declaration of first four high altitude wetlands as Ramsar site. She holds a PhD Degree from the University of Chinese Academy of Sciences; MSc from Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand; and a BE in Civil Engineering from the National Institute of Technology, Durgapur, India. She has published several scientific peer-reviewed papers, journal articles, and book chapters, and was one of the lead authors of a chapter on Disaster Risk Reduction and Building Resilience of the HinduKush Himalaya Assessment.

**Neha Rai**

Climate Finance and M&E Specialist
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO)

Neha Rai is a climate finance and adaptation M&E expert, with more than 15 years of experience in climate governance. She is currently working with FAO, focusing on enabling private sector investments in agriculture and land use for NDC/ NAP implementation and providing M&E expertise on UNFCCC's enhanced transparency framework process. Over the years she has gained, significant experience of mainstreaming climate risks understanding into both public and private sector operations. Her work with country governments focused on climate finance relevant country programming and generating policy-oriented evidence for improving access and quality of climate finance. Neha has previously worked as a Senior Researcher with the Climate Change Group of IIED in the UK on climate finance and M&E issues. She was involved also on environmental and social impact assessments, and energy and waste management issues in India, where she worked for a Canadian consultancy called SENES. She has also worked as a research fellow at UNU-MERIT in the Netherlands and subsequently as a Research Fellow at the Sussex Energy Group, working to understand water energy inter-dependencies. Neha has two master's degree: an MSc in Public Policy (with a focus on Sustainable Development) from the Netherlands and an MSc in Urban and Regional Planning from India.

**Nguyen Van Anh**

Director

Center of Help for Indigenous value promotion And
Sustainable Environment (CHIASE)

Nguyen Van Anh has more than 20 years of experience in development work. This includes large experiences in various areas such as agriculture, forest, natural resource management, value chain analysis, climate change resilient livelihoods development, policy and advocacy. He participated in development, management and implementation of more than 30 projects and programs in Vietnam focusing on sustainable livelihoods, climate change adaptation and women empowerment, especially for Ethnic minority women. Currently, he is managing different projects of CHIASE organization including: EmPower – Women for Climate Resilient Societies serves: The project is implemented in Bac Kan and Lao Cai provinces in Vietnam focusing on women use renewable energy to increase adaptive capacity and enhance climate-resilient livelihoods. Promoting Forest Land Rights for Ethnic Minority in Vietnam: The project is implemented in Nghe An province in Vietnam with the objective of Ethnic minority people successfully claim their land rights, due to a more participatory land allocation process. Livelihood Improvement and Sustainable Natural Resource Management for Ethnic minority communities: The project is implemented in Bac Kan province, Vietnam with the objective of improved income for poor ethnic minority communities. Cho Don Women's Economic Collaboration for Development: The project is implemented in Bac Kan province in Vietnam with the objective of women empowerment in economic development.



Niall O'Connor
Centre Director
Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Asia Centre

Niall O'Connor became director of SEI's Asia Centre in March 2016. Niall has a wealth of experience, having worked in NGOs, governments and in academia. Over the last 15 years, he has led senior leadership and management positions in Western, Eastern and Southern Africa. This included six years as Country Director in Gambia and Senegal for Concern Universal (a UK based international NGO), before joining WWF in 2008. At WWF, he served first as the Regional Representative of WWF Madagascar & West Indian Ocean until 2010, before moving into the regional position of Dir. PO Performance and Development Africa. In August 2011, Niall started as the Regional Director for WWF Eastern and Southern Africa, demonstrating his strong leadership and management skills for this challenging position in WWF's biggest Programme Office. In the world of academia, way back in 1998, Niall oversaw the establishment and development of the Agroforestry Research Unit for the Government of The Gambia, developing research programmes for agroforestry systems in sub-Saharan Africa's agro-ecological zones.



Nityalila Saulo
Founder
Tofu Creatives

Nityalila Saulo is the co-founder of Tofu Creatives, a design firm dedicated to harnessing creativity to effectively communicate complex issues. With over a decade of experience in the digital design and social media management industry, she has established herself as a trusted creative collaborator, a social media content producer, and a brand strategist for many entrepreneurs, artists, designers, and startup companies. She has a degree in interior design and a passion for technology. She is an active member of organizations such as DAKILA – Philippine Collective for Modern Heroism, a group of artists, musicians, and individuals who use art and music for advocacy; and an Ambassador of Yabang Pinoy. She is an educator of Baybayin for Filipinos around the world to reconnect with their roots and culture. She has embarked on epic journeys, campaigning on climate justice and peace. She has walked from Manila to Tacoban in 2014, to commemorate Supertyphoon Haiyan. In 2015, she joined the People's Pilgrimage – a 1,500 kilometer walk from Rome to Paris to bring the interfaith message to the climate talks in Paris. She has also joined the Peace March in Japan from Tokyo to Hiroshima, advocating for peace.



Nicola Willey
UK Regional Director - South East Asia Science and
Innovation Network
British High Commission, Singapore

Nicola Willey took up her appointment as the Regional Director for the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's Science and Innovation Network in Singapore in August 2015. She is responsible for promoting science and innovation cooperation between the UK and South-East Asian countries. Previously, Nicola spent 3.5 years in Beijing as the Head of the FCO's China Climate Change and Energy Network. She also served as the Private Secretary to the Deputy Prime Minister and participated in the UK's delegation to the UN Convention on Climate Change negotiations. Nicola trained at the FCO's Language Centre and reached Extensive level Mandarin. She studied geography at Oriel College, Oxford.



Noshaba Zafar

Director - Gender Equality and Social Inclusion
Mercy Corps

Noshaba Zafar has two postgraduate degrees in Social Work & Gender Studies. She has been working in the Development and Humanitarian sector from the last 18 years across Asia region and Middle East. As the Director Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI), she is leading the GESI team and providing technical support in integration of GESI First Approach in BHAKARI (Building hope along the Karnali River basin) program design, implementation and monitoring & evaluation, in remote mountain areas of Nepal. She has intensive experience in developing gender transformative program models at regional and global level. She has worked in diverse and sensitive contexts in more than 15 countries, directly working in the field to ensure gender responsive emergency program design and implementation.



Nur Masripatin

Senior Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Forestry
Ministry of Environment and Forestry, Indonesia

Dr. Nur Masripatin is a Senior Advisor to the Minister of Environment and Forestry of Indonesia since 2018. She completed her term as the Director General of Climate Change (DGCC) of the Ministry of Environment and Forestry in 2018 and the National Focal Point (NFP) of Indonesia for UNFCCC after COP-24. During her tenure as the DGCC, she was also the National Focal Point for UNFCCC, IPCC, AATHP and AWGCC. Before taken up the assignment as the DGCC she held multiple leadership roles, including the Deputy for Governance and Institutional Relations of REDD+ Agency (BPREDD+), Director of R & D Centres at the Forestry Research and Development Agency, Secretary of FORDA, and Director of the Centre for Forest and Forest Product Standardization. She was also the National Coordinator for Asia-Pacific on Forest Genetic Conservation and Management (APFORGEN), the Coordinator of ASEAN Regional Knowledge Network on Forest and Climate Change (ARKN-FCC), the Coordinator of Safeguards Information System (SIS-REDD+) development in Indonesia; and the Lead Author of Indonesia REDD+ Readiness Strategy and the FCPF –REDD+ Readiness Plan. She has engaged in climate change negotiations and has been the REDD+ Lead Negotiator in UNFCCC meetings for many years. She obtained her PhD Degree at the University of Canterbury, New Zealand in 1998.



Nurul Quadir

Former Additional Secretary
Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the
Government of Bangladesh

Dr. Nurul Quadir was the Additional Secretary of the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of Bangladesh. He was responsible on matters regarding climate change. He participated several Conference of Parties and was the coordinator of the Bangladesh Climate change Negotiation Team. He is teaching in the Department of Environmental Science and Management at North South University (Bangladesh). He is the alternate member of the CDM Executive Board of UNFCCC, an interim Board member of the Least Developed Countries Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Initiative for Sustainable Development (LDC-REE) of LDC group and a member of the election Committee of the LDC group under UNFCCC. He was a member of the Executive Committee (Ex Com) of the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) for Loss and Damage associated with Climate Change Impacts under UNFCCC from the Asia and the Pacific Group. Previously, he additionally worked as the Assistant Secretary, the Deputy Secretary and the Joint Secretary in several other ministries such as the Ministry of Agriculture; of Food; of Women and Children Affairs; of Commerce and Economic Relations. He has a PhD in Environmental Sustainability (with a focus on Agriculture) from the University of Wales (UK) and he pursued a master at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) (Thailand) and focused his thesis on Urban Environment Management.

Speaker 



Osamu Mizuno

Principal Fellow
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Osamu Mizuno is a Principal Fellow at Institute for IGES since 2018. Prior to joining IGES, he worked at the Regional resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP) at the Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Thailand, the UN Secretary General's Advisory Board on Water and Sanitation (UNSGAB) at the UN headquarters in New York, the Ministry of the Environment, Japan (MOE), the Global Environment Facility (GEF) in the World Bank, the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe (REC) in Budapest, and the United Nations University (UNU-IAS) in Yokohama. He completed both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Environmental Engineering at Kyoto University, Japan. He also obtained a master's degree in Public Administration at the John F. Kennedy School of Government, Harvard University. His professional career mostly involved promoting environmental policies and projects and establishing international cooperation, especially focusing on climate change adaptation.



Ovais Sarmad

Deputy Executive Secretary
United Nations Climate Change secretariat (UNFCCC)

Ovais Sarmad joined the UNFCCC on 1 September 2017. Mr. Sarmad advises the Executive Secretary on a range of issues relating to the inter- governmental affairs and strategic planning of the UNFCCC process. He provides oversight to the overall operations of the UNFCCC covering human and financial resources as well as organizational development. Previously he served as Chief of Staff/Chef de Cabinet at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Geneva. Mr. Sarmad worked in several management and policy capacities in IOM over a period of 27 years. Prior to IOM, he worked in the private and public sectors in London, where he qualified as a Chartered Management Accountant (ACMA) and Chartered Global Management Accountant (CGMA). He graduated from Osmania University in Hyderabad, India, as a Bachelor of Commerce.



Oyun Sanjaasuren
Director
External Affairs of Green Climate Fund (GCF)

Dr. Oyun Sanjaasuren is the Director of External Affairs of GCF, where she leads the fund's work on resource mobilization, partnerships, communications and advocacy. Dr. Oyun served as the first President of the United Nations Environment Assembly, the Governing Body of UN Environment (2014-2016), and has been an active advocate for sustainable development, climate change and water security. She also served as Chair of the Global Water Partnership and also an Advisory Board member of the Future Earth. Previously, Oyun served consecutive terms as a Member of Parliament in Mongolia including as Minister of Environment and Green Development and Minister of Foreign Affairs. She also a founder of the Zorig Foundation, a leading Mongolian NGO that advances democracy, social and human right and supports youth leadership and education. Oyun has a Ph.D in Earth Sciences from University of Cambridge.

Speaker **P**



Paola Sherina A. Alvarez

Finance Assistant Secretary, Spokesperson and Head of Communications
Department of Finance, Philippines

Atty. Paola Sherina A. Alvarez is currently the Assistant Secretary for International Finance and Special Projects and the official Spokesperson and the Head of Communications at the Department of Finance. As an Assistant Secretary, she handles sustainable and climate finance, as well as disaster risk finance. She also manages special projects, such as the Inter-Agency Task Force on Marawi Rehabilitation and the Inter-Agency Task Force on Infectious Diseases (IATF-COVID-19). She sits as the Secretary of Finance's alternate in different international platforms, such as the ASEAN DRFI-TWG, APEC, SEADRIF, and the Coalition of Finance Ministers for Climate Action. As the Head of Communications, she provides the overall direction and guidance on the content of the communication materials published across digital and traditional platforms. She graduated with a Juris Doctor of Law degree from Ateneo de Manila University.



Pasang Dolma Sherpa

Executive Director
Center for Indigenous Peoples' Research & Development (CIPRED)

Pasang Dolma Sherpa is the Executive Director of CIPRED. She has been working with Indigenous Peoples, Women and Local Communities for the recognition of the indigenous peoples' knowledge, cultural values and customary institutions that contributed for sustainable management of forest, ecosystem, biodiversity. She has already served as the Co-Chair of International Indigenous Peoples' Forum on Climate Change, the Co-Chair of Facilitative Working Group of Local Communities and Indigenous Peoples' Platform (LCIP) of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and served to the board of UN-REDD, Participant Committee of FCPF, World Bank. Presently, she is the Chair of Specialist Group on Indigenous Peoples' Customary and Environmental Laws and Human Rights (SPICEH) of CEESP-IUCN as well as representing in different networks and institutions both at national and international levels.



Patrick Jasper
Deputy General Manager
National Bank for Agriculture and
Rural Development (NABARD)

Patrick Jasper has a Masters' Degree in Agriculture from the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University with Specialisation in Seed Science & Technology with additional certification in Climate change and Green Finance. He has 20 years of experience in Rural Development, Rural Finance, Microcredit, Farmers Producers Organizations, as well as Domain expertise in Climate Change Adaptation & Mitigation, Ecosystem Based Adaptation, Low Emission Pathways and Renewable Energy through the various activities of NABARD. As a National Implementing Entity (NIE) for three important funding arrangements, viz. Adaptation Fund (AF), National Adaptation Fund for Climate Change (NAFCC) and Green Climate Fund (GCF), NABARD aims at channelizing national, international, and private finances towards adaptation and mitigation interventions in India. At present, NABARD is implementing 40 climate adaptation and mitigation projects supported under AF, GCF and NAFCC. Patrick has contributed to NABARD's activities in Natural Resource management and soil water conservation through Watershed Development, Tribal development and other EBA activities. NABARD has covered just over 1 million ha under watershed development across the country benefitting about 0.5 million beneficiaries



Paul V. Desanker
Manager - Adaptation Division
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC)

Paul V. Desanker is a Manager in the Adaptation Division of the secretariat of the UNFCCC, and oversees the work on support to the LDCs, National Adaptation Plans (NAPs), and Loss and Damage under the Convention and Paris Agreement. He has extensive experience working on issues related to adaptation to climate change, ecological modeling, remote sensing, integrated assessment, and has served as the Coordinating Lead Author of the Third Assessment Report of the IPCC. Prior to his current position, he served as a member and Chair of the LDC Expert Group, and was an Associate Professor of Geography at Penn State University after working as a Research Assistant Professor at University of Virginia, in the USA. Paul holds a Masters degree in Mathematics and a PhD in Forest Biometrics from Michigan Technological University, USA.



Pema Gyamtsho

Director General

International Centre for Integrated Mountain
Development (ICIMOD)

Dr. Pema Gyamtsho has Cabinet-level leadership experience in environmental management in government and at ICIMOD. He served the Royal Government of Bhutan for over three decades in areas deeply relevant to ICIMOD. He worked on the science-policy-practice interface in sectors like natural resources management and planning; rural development; agriculture; forestry; livestock and food production; rangeland management; livestock development; participatory approaches; research and extension institutional building; climate change and environmental protection; biodiversity conservation; and organic farming. When he was Minister of Agriculture and Forests, he led over 4000 personnel working in agriculture, livestock, forestry and environment sectors. He was involved and often led the enactment of over 60 pieces of legislation to the grassroots level where he oversaw the formation of over 400 farmers' groups and cooperatives. Between 2002 and 2006, he served at the ICIMOD, by initially leading efforts in policy and partnerships and later its regional rangeland management work. Dr. Gyamtsho holds a PhD in Natural Science from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.



Peter King

Senior Policy Advisor
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Dr. Peter King has been an avid environmentalist for more than 50 years. In 2005, he took early retirement from ADB to become a Senior Policy Advisor for IGES Bangkok Regional Centre. Dr. King started his career in the Soil Conservation Authority in the state of Victoria and became the Land Studies Coordinator in Victoria's first Ministry for Conservation. He spent some time at the Environment and Policy Institute, East-West Center in Hawaii, and then set up his own environmental consulting company. Following some successful work for the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as a consultant in the period 1984-88, he started work with the ADB in March 1991 as an Environment Specialist in the Office of Environment. He established a sound reputation as ADB's leading natural resources management ("green") expert, with personal responsibility for over 50 loan and TA projects. In 1998, he was awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (Environmental Science) degree from Murdoch University in Perth, with a thesis entitled "Integrated Economic and Environmental Planning at the Sub-national Level in Asia." In 2005, he took early retirement from ADB and is currently a Senior Policy Advisor for the Institute of Global Environmental Strategies, heads the Asian Environmental Compliance and Enforcement Network secretariat, is a member of the Climate Change Asia Coordination Group, and is Team Leader, Adaptation Project Preparation and Finance on the USAID Adapt Asia-Pacific project.



Phurba Lhendup

Head - Climate Change and Disaster Risk Resilience
Asian Institute of Technology Regional Resource Centre for
Asia and the Pacific (AIT RRC.AP)

Phurba Lhendup leads the team in providing capacity building and knowledge sharing services to the stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific regions on Climate Finance, Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation, and Disaster Risk Reduction. Before joining AIT RRC.AP, he worked for the WWF in Bhutan and Cambodia for over 10 years managing projects and programmes related to Conservation, Eco-tourism, Climate Change, Freshwater, and River Basin Management. Prior to that he served as a Government Official for 11 years in Bhutan under the Department of Forests and Park Services working for protected area management.



Preety Bhandari

Director - Climate Change and Disaster Risk
Management Division
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Preety Bhandari is the Director of the Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Division of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCD) at the ADB. She has over 30 years of experience in environment, climate change and sustainable development, having worked on projects across Asia. In her current role at ADB, Ms. Bhandari is responsible for providing policy and strategic direction to ADB's initiatives on climate change and disaster risk management, including mobilizing concessional financing from multilateral funds. She also has an oversight on climate financing from ADB's own resources including through investments in private sector. Prior to joining ADB, she was heading the Finance, Technology and Capacity Building Program of the secretariat of the UNFCCC. She has also worked as the Director of the Policy Analysis Division at TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) in India.

Speaker 



Radhika Murti

Director - Global Ecosystem Management Programme
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Dr. Radhika Murti is the Director of Global Ecosystem Management Programme at the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), based at the Headquarters in Switzerland. In this position, Radhika has the management and oversight of IUCN's work on ecosystem based approaches, agriculture and the Red List of Ecosystems assessment tool. Most recently, she has led the design and consultation processes for developing IUCN's global standard on Nature based Solutions. Originally from Fiji Islands, Radhika has a background in Forestry science, conflict management and social learning.



Rajarshi Dasgupta

Senior Policy Researcher
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Dr. Rajarshi Dasgupta is a senior policy researcher in the domain of Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services. He holds diverse research interests in the field of landscape ecology and planning, including Ecosystem-based Disaster Risk Reduction (Eco-DRR), spatial quantification of ecosystem services, environmental scenario analysis, participatory conservation, and social forestry. Previously, he has worked in multiple technical and administrative capacities, involving government, NGO and academia. In particular, he has worked extensively with mangrove communities in India, Bangladesh, Philippines and Myanmar. He is an Environmental Engineer by training and received his PhD from Kyoto University in Global Environmental Studies. He has also served as a Lead Author (LA) for IPBES Asia-Pacific Regional Assessment Report (2015-2018), the Sustainable Use of Wild Species assessment (2018-21), as served as a contributing author to the ongoing IPCC AR-6 (WG-II).



Richard Friend
Associate Professor
University of York

Richard Friend is an Associate Professor in Human Geography in the Department of Environment and Geography (University of York, UK) and serves as the university's Research Theme Champion for Risk, Evidence and Decision-making. Working at the interface of research, practice and policy in international development he has over 20 years professional experience in Asia including leading urban climate resilience projects in Thailand and Vietnam. He has a particular interest in how efforts at building resilience to climate change and shocks can also reduce poverty, and improve wellbeing and equity.



Richard McNally
Climate Change and Business Advisor - Dutch Fund for
Climate and Business, SNV
SNV – The Dutch Development Organisation

For the past 20 years, Richard McNally has been working for international organisations, including the World Bank, FAO, UNDP, DFID, SNV and WWF providing strategic direction, knowledge leadership, business development and managing the design and delivery of over 20 projects and funds, across Asia and Africa. Over the past decade he has increasingly been working with the private sector and financial institutions to help scale up impact. Richard has been based in the South East Asia region for the past 14 years and has deep knowledge of the countries in this region, as well as East and West Africa. Richard is a member of the World Bank FCPF Technical Advisory Panel and is an International Sectoral Expert for the GCF. He has a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics and a Master's degree in Ecological Economics from Edinburgh University.



Richard Munang
Regional Climate Change Coordinator
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dr. Richard Munang is the Africa Regional Climate Change Coordinator at the UNEP. He is responsible for guiding the actualization of UNEP's climate resilient development strategy for Africa in a manner that ensures human wellbeing. He is also the UNEP Ecosystem Based Adaptation (EbA) for Food Security Focal Person currently coordinating and guiding the roll-out of the UNEP-Africa Ecosystems Based Adaptation for Food Security Assembly (EBAFOSA) in over 40 countries. Previously he was the Policy & Programme Coordinator for the UNEP/UNDP Africa Climate Change Adaptation Development programme. Dr. Munang holds a PhD in Environmental Change & Policy from the University of Nottingham in the UK and an Executive Certificate in Climate Change and Energy Policy from Harvard University Kennedy School of Government.



Rico Hizon

Senior Anchor and Director for News Content
Development
Cable News Network (CNN) Philippines

Rico Hizon is a multi-awarded broadcast journalist. He is currently a senior anchor and director for news content development at CNN Philippines. He is the award-winning news anchor of CNN Philippines' evening primetime general news program "The Final Word" and the weekly business and finance program "The Exchange". Previously, he worked for the CNBC Business News and the BBC World News. During his time with the BBC World News, Rico anchored the business news program, Asia Business Report and general news-based show Newsday live from Singapore and London, every weekday morning. On Newsday, Rico reported on the latest political and social issues from the people who make the news, and also a thorough viewpoint from more than 200 BBC correspondents around the world, and its impact on the global scene. His anchoring and reportorial responsibilities has also given him the honor to moderate and host several top global events such as organized by the UN, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Asian Development Bank, and events such as Clinton Global Initiative, World Economic Forum, the British Chamber of Commerce Award, the ASEAN Business and Investment Summit. Hizon studied at De La Salle University.



Roberto Leva

Investment Specialist - Trade & Supply Chain Finance
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Roberto Leva works on increasing the banking sector capacity in multiple south-Asian countries by managing banking relationships for the ADB trade and supply chain finance program (TSCFP). TSCFP provides coverage for import/export transactions enhancing the credit capacity of the banks in the ADB developing member countries via credit guarantees and risk participation agreements. Prior to joining ADB, Roberto started his career in J.P.Morgan, where he was responsible for achieving financial targets within the Global Trade and Loan Products department and managed multiple global projects related to product and processes implementations. Since 2016 Roberto chairs the working group for Sustainable Trade Finance of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) banking commission, for which he is part of the Executive Committee representing ADB. The group develops tools and best practice standards to promote sustainability across the trade finance industry.



Robert Watson

Head - Scientific Advisory Group
UNEP's synthesis report: Making Peace with Nature

Sir Robert Watson – Report Lead (USA) is one of the most influential environmental scientists worldwide. In addition to Chairing or Co-Chairing numerous national and international assessments, he has served as a Senior Scientific Advisor in the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the White House, the World Bank, and UK Defra. He has received many awards for his contributions to science, including the Asahi Glass Blue Planet Prize and the UN Champion of the World for Science and Innovation. Some of his past Chair and co-Chair positions on assessments include the IPCC 3rd Assessment Report, IPCC WGII 2nd Assessment Report, IPBES, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (MA), International Assessment of Agricultural Science & Technology for Development, Global Biodiversity Assessment (GA), multiple International Scientific Assessments of Stratospheric Ozone, and the UK National Ecosystem Assessment.



Roland Treitler

Senior Advisor
Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)

Roland Treitler has more than 20 years experience in Integrated Water Management and Adaptation, of which the last 15 years is with international development cooperation. Currently, he is working on a part-time position for the German Gesellschaft fuer Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) in Thailand. Beside GIZ, he teaches as a guest-lecture at the Asian Institute of Technology Environmental Governance and Economics for master students and consults European companies in Asia. He has managed for GIZ the first EbA project in the water sector in Thailand from 2013 – 2017. Before that he had integrated Ecosystem-based adapatation patterns into the National Water Master Plan in Afghanistan (2011 – 2013). He has working experience in the water sector in East-Africa, Middle East, Asia and South-East Asia. He has developed a concept of a nature-based crypto currency. He invented an evaluation method that valuates ecosystem services independently from the economic environment, which makes ecosystem and their services comparable locally, regionally, and even globally. In 2016, ECOSWat, an EbA project managed by him, won the first Pioneer Drone Award. He has published several articles about water and adaptation economics in international magazines. He has studied International Policy at the University of Vienna.



Rose Mwebaza

Director
Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN)

Dr. Rose Mwebaza is the Director of CTCN and brings 20 years' experience providing policy advice on a wide range of climate change, environment and sustainable development issues. She has previously served as a Chief Natural Resources Officer at the African Development Bank, and held leadership positions within the UN Development Programme. Dr. Mwebaza was a Lecturer at Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda, for 10 years, serving as the Head of Department for Commercial Law, and Deputy Dean of the Law School. She holds a PhD in Environment and Natural Resource Governance from Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia; a Master's Degree in International Comparative Law from the University of Florida, U.S.A and a Bachelor of Law Degree (LL.B, Hons.) from Makerere University, Kampala, Uganda.



Rojina Manandhar

Programme Officer - Adaptation Division
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
(UNFCCC) Secretariat

Rojina Manandhar is a Programme Officer in the Adaptation Programme at the secretariat of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) in Germany. She leads the work under the Nairobi Work Programme on Impacts, Vulnerability, and Adaptation to Climate Change and more recently emerging work on the local communities and indigenous people's platform. A major part of her work covers the provision of information and knowledge on climate change impacts and vulnerability assessments, and adaptation planning and practices, as well as fostering collaborative partnerships with governments, experts and relevant organizations in scaling up adaptation action in countries at all levels. Over the past 12 years, Manandhar has worked on the scientific, technical, and policy aspects of impacts, vulnerability, and adaptation to climate change, and in particular the science-policy-practice interface in South Asia, North America, and Europe. She holds a BSc in Environmental Science from St Xavier's College, Kathmandu University, Nepal; a Master of Environmental Management from Duke University, USA, under a Fulbright Scholarship; and an MBA from the University of Twente, Netherlands.

Speaker **S**



Saad Alfarargi
Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development
United Nations

Saad Alfarargi holds a BSc. in Political Science and M.Sc. Political Science from Cairo University, and a degree in International Relations from the London School of Economics. Between 1998 and 2012, Alfarargi served as the Ambassador, the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the UN, Specialized Agencies and other International Organizations in Switzerland. His previous professional activities include UN Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) Assistant Administrator of the UNDP and Regional Director for Arab States, New York; Assistant to Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt; Chief of the Presidential Bureau for Economic Affairs, Presidency, Cairo; Director-General for International Economic Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cairo; Ambassador, Permanent Representative of Egypt to the UN in Geneva; Specialized Agencies and other International Organizations in Switzerland; Chief of Cabinet of the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs and Special Political Adviser, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cairo; Special rapporteur for the United Nations Special Session on Disarmament; Expert for the United Nations Disarmament Centre. He has published articles on economic development, business and security, international order, peace and security, disarmament and world trade and is a regular commentator on national, regional and international affairs with emphasis on economic and social issues.



Saleem Huq

Director - International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)
Independent University Bangladesh (IUB)

Prof. Saleemul Huq is the Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) since 2009 and a Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Environment & Development (IIED) in London. He is also the Senior Advisor on Locally Led Action, Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) and the Advisor of Climate Change Programme at Brac. Before that Dr. Huq was the Director of the Climate Change Programme at IIED and founding Executive Director at the Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), he worked extensively in the inter-linkages between climate change (both mitigation as well as adaptation) and sustainable development, from the perspective of the developing countries, with special emphasis on least developed countries (LDCs). He has published numerous articles in scientific and popular journals, was a lead author of the chapter on Adaptation and Sustainable Development in the third assessment report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), and was one of the coordinating lead authors of 'Inter-relationships between adaptation and mitigation' in the IPCC's Fourth Assessment Report (2007). He has been named among the "World's 100 Most Influential People in Climate Policy for 2019" for making a positive difference by The Apolitical, a London-based public servants' networking group.



Sanjay Srivastava

Chief - Disaster Risk Reduction
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Dr. Sanjay Srivastava is presently the Chief of Disaster Risk Reduction at the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). He was the ESCAP Regional Adviser on Disaster Risk Reduction from Oct 2009 to June 2014; the Head of SAAARC Disaster Management Centre – New Delhi from 2007-2008; the Deputy Project Director of Disaster Management Support Programme at Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO); a Scientist/Engineer at ISRO HQ Bangalore since 1991; a faculty member (Physics) at Mahendra Morag Campus, Biratnagar, Tribhuvan University, Nepal (1985-1986). He is the recipient of ISRO's Team excellence award in 2008-09 for his contributions towards harnessing space technology applications for the benefits of rural poor. He has more than 100 publications on disaster risk reduction, including research papers in peer reviewed international journals, intergovernmental reports and books. Sanjay has been a lead author of ESCAP's flagship publication – Asia-Pacific Disaster Report since its inception in 2010.



Sarah Knibbs

Deputy Regional Director
UN Women, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (ROAP)

Sarah Knibbs has been working in the Asia Pacific region for the last 25 years, with a range of organisations including UN Women, UNFPA, DFID China, Save the Children Fund, VSO and the Khmer HIV/AIDS NGO Alliance (KHANA). Her work has focused on gender, violence against women, HIV, youth issues, and sexual and reproductive health and rights. Sarah joined UN Women in 2014. She was initially based at Cambodia Country Office and moved to the UN Women Regional Office for Asia Pacific in June 2020 where she is the Deputy Regional Director. Sarah is from the UK and studied History at Oxford for her first degree, later taking an MSc in Development Management specialising in Population and Reproductive Health at the University of Wales Swansea.



Savio Rousseau Rozario

Junior Research Officer
International Center for Climate Change and
Development (ICCCAD)

Savio Rousseau Rozario is currently working as a Junior Research Officer at the International Center for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD). Before joining ICCAD, he worked as a Research Assistant at the BRAC James P. Grant School of Public Health and at the International Center for Diarrheal Diseases Research Bangladesh. Besides, he is also pursuing his Master of Science (M.Sc.) degree in Disaster Management from the University of Dhaka after securing the first position in the admission examination. Savio completed his Bachelor of Science (B.Sc.) degree majoring in Environmental Science and Environmental Management from Independent University Bangladesh (IUB) with the prestigious distinction 'Summa Cum Laude' in the year of 2018 and holds a great interest in disaster risk reduction and management practices in terms of climate change impact.



Sean O'donoghue

Senior Manager - Climate Change Adaptation
EThekwin Municipality and University of KwaZulu-Natal



Dr. Sean O'Donoghue has a doctorate in marine pelagic ecology obtained from the University of KwaZulu-Natal (UKZN) in 2010. In March 2011, Sean joined eThekwin Municipality, or Durban, where he manages the Climate Protection Branch. A key focus of the Branch is Community Ecosystem Based Adaptation, providing work opportunities for Durban's indigent populations. Sean manages a number of research, inter-city and community partnership projects, and is working closely with C40, particularly the Cities Finance Facility, who are helping to develop a business case for the city to self-fund its community stream management programme, Sihlanzimvelo. Sean is an IPCC lead author for the Special Report on Oceans and the Cryosphere in a Changing Climate.





Sejal Patel

Researcher

International Institute for Environment and
Development (IIED)

Sejal Patel is an environmental economics researcher at the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED). Her work focuses on climate and environment finance, public policy and governance, particularly in relation to low-carbon climate-resilient development, and on the themes of supporting inclusive and equitable processes that bridge local priorities and voices with the national and international levels. Sejal is currently undertaking research on the blue and green economies and is also part of IIED's technical support to the LDC Group's Initiative for Effective Adaptation and Resilience. Prior to IIED, Sejal worked on these research areas at the think tank Overseas Development Institute (ODI). Sejal holds an MSc in Environmental Economics from the London School of Economics, and a BSc in Economics and Geography from University College London.



Senashia Ekanayake

Programme and Communications Manager
SLYCAN Trust

As the programme and communications manager at SLYCAN Trust, Senashia Ekanayake looks into the overall communications of the organization including but not limited to press and public-relations related activities, monthly newsletter, social media etc. She is also the Programme Manager for the 'Multi-actor-partnership on Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and InsuResilience'. Prior to joining SLYCAN Trust, Senashia was a Communications Officer at Climate Action Network South Asia.



Shailaja Narwade

Grassroots Leader, Farmer and Entrepreneur
Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP)

Shailaja Narwade is a grassroots leader, farmer and a serial entrepreneur associated with Swayam Shikshan Prayog (SSP) organisation and a member of the Huairou Commission's grassroots women's network. She is from Masala Village, Osmanabad district in Maharashtra (India). She owns more than two acres of land in which she grows organic crops and sells the surplus in the market. She is one of the Directors of the women-led Vijayalaxmi Farmers Producers Organisation in Osmanabad district and has multiple allied businesses like dairy, vegetables etc. Shailaja is an innovator of designing adaptive strategies for building economic resilience. One of the key strategies developed by her during the Covid-19 pandemic, was to conserve food and livelihood security, was to conserve local seeds, convert them into seed banks and sell them in the village as well as outside of it. She is recognised as a resilience expert and is invited as a resource person by Government officials and Universities to deliver lectures on organic farming, entrepreneurship and grassroots women's empowerment. Presently, she mentors about 500 grassroots women like her in the community.



Shamik Chakraborty

Lecturer - Faculty of Sustainability Studies
Hosei University

Shamik Chakraborty is a lecturer at the Department of Sustainability Studies, Hosei University, Japan. Prior to this, he has worked as a JSPS-UNU postdoctoral research fellow at United Nations University, Institute for the Advanced Study of Sustainability (UNU-IAS), Tokyo, and a visiting research fellow at the Integrated Research System for Sustainability Science (presently, Institute for Future Initiatives) at the University of Tokyo. As a human geographer, he is interested in studying human-environment interactions in coastal and river basin environments from a social-ecological systems point of view. He has worked with the concepts of social-ecological systems, indigenous and local knowledge in diverse ecosystems in Japan, India, Nepal, Bangladesh and the Philippines. He is currently involved with applying ecosystem services concept as an anthropocentric tool to understand the contact points of human society with diverse sets of benefits from the inland, river basin and coastal environments for biodiversity conservation, climate change mitigation and sustainable development. He has published his works in a number of international academic journals and edited volumes.



Simon Lucas
Resilience and Inclusion Team Leader
Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO),
Kathmandu

Simon Lucas leads the team responsible for UK work on Inclusion and Resilience in Nepal. This includes support for climate change and disaster risk reduction projects as well social protection and renewable energy and most recently COVID response and green recovery. Simon has over 25 years' experience in climate, energy and development projects around the world including Zambia, Botswana, Vietnam, Kenya, Uganda, India and Nepal as well leading work on adaptation for the UK government including UNFCCC negotiations. He holds a degree in development, masters in environment and a PHD in hydropower.



Siosinamele Lui
COSPPac Climate Traditional Knowledge Officer - Climate
Change Resilience Programme
Secretariat of the Pacific Regional
Environment Program (SPREP)

Siosinamele Lui is a Climate Resilience and Disaster Risk Reduction specialist, specializing in community based early warning and knowledge systems, resilience and adaptation to climate variability and change in the Pacific. An expert on the documentation and integration of traditional knowledge on weather and climate forecasting and responses in the Pacific Region and the current lead on the Climate Traditional Knowledge component for the Climate and Oceans Support Program in the Pacific (COSPPac) Project, an Australian Government funded project. She coordinates and supports National Meteorological Services in Niue, Vanuatu, Tonga, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Palau, Marshall Islands and Kiribati by providing technical advice on methodologies and ways to integrate climate traditional knowledge as a valid source of information to be included in national early warning systems. She is based at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Apia, Samoa. She holds a Master's Degree in Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University as well as a Bachelor's Degree in Geography and Tourism from the University of the South Pacific, Fiji.



Siripannee Supratya

Journalist
Freelance

Siripannee Supratya is a journalist focusing on matters concerning the environment, science, law, society and politics. Siripannee Supratya also works as a creative and a professional diver. She has been volunteering for the Local Whale watching Program since 2013. She is an avid photographer, and a traveler of seven continents.



Sivapuram Ventaka Rama Krishna Prabhakar

Research Manager
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Sivapuram Ventaka Rama Krishna Prabhakar is currently working with the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), Japan, as a senior policy researcher and research manager. He works on regional adaptation planning for addressing transboundary impacts of climate change, mainstreaming Climate Change Adaptation (CCA) and Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) into development plans and policies, risk insurance, adaptation metrics, adaptive policies and institutions, loss and damage, vulnerability assessments, and capacity needs assessments. He led several research and development projects on CCA and DRR in South and South-East Asian countries. Prabhakar obtained a PhD in Field Crop Management from Indian Agricultural Research Institute, India, and possesses more than 18 years of experience in participatory research and development with international and national research and development organizations, including IGES, Kyoto University, UNDP, NIDM, CIMMYT-RWC, IARI, and ICRISAT. A strong publication record with several peer-reviewed papers supports his work experience. He has been a Contributing Author to the Fifth and Sixth Assessment Reports of the IPCC Working Group II, Coordinating Lead Author for the UNEP Geo-6 report, and Lead Author for the HIMAP Report.



Siwakorn Odochao

Farmer - Coffee Producer
Lazy Man Coffee

Siwakorn Odochao grew up in the Karen village with nine brothers and sisters learning local wisdom and traditional knowledge. He finished a master's degree from Open University. He learned about global change with local roots and from ARI (Asean Rural Institute) in 2009. I believe that small scale farming can lead to sustainable development and beautiful living. In 2011, he started the Lazy Man Coffee to fight mono-cropping corn and introduce alternative farming to the people in the Karen village. I hope to direct the coffee market to Thailand and share the "slow down for the Earth" philosophy.



Soma Dutta

Senior Technical Advisor
ENERGIA (International Network on Gender and Sustainable Energy)

Soma Dutta is an independent consultant working on cross cutting issues of gender, poverty and development in the context of energy access. In the area of energy access, Soma has supported policy makers, practitioners, governments, NGOs and international organizations in project planning; socio-economic, institutional and policy analysis; and capacity building. She is a member of the Advisory Group and a Senior Technical Advisor of ENERGIA, the International network on Gender and Sustainable Energy. In ENERGIA, she set up and led the Scaling up Energy Access through Women's Economic Empowerment (WE) programme. Soma is a member of the Technical Working Group of the UN High Level Dialogue



Somkiat Prajamwong

Secretary-General
Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR)

Dr. Somkiat Prajamwong is the Secretary-General of Office of the National Water Resources (ONWR), leading organization to supervise and control water management policy in Thailand since 2017. The Office of the National Water Resources is leading an ambitious programme on mainstreaming Ecosystem-based Adaptation (EbA) in the water sector. He is also Vice-Chairperson of the Thai National Mekong Committee and the Secretary-General of Office of the Thai National Mekong Committee Secretariat. He has a long and distinguished career in the water sector over 30 years in Thailand. Prior to joining ONWR, he had been serving as a Director General of the Royal Irrigation Department or RID and played a key role in RID for several years. Indeed, he began his career in RID in 1981, where he held positions of increasing responsibility, particularly Deputy Director General and Director of Office of Project Management. He has experience in management, organisation development, strategic planning, especially in water management. Dr. Somkiat was awarded a Ph.D. in Agricultural and Irrigation Engineering from Utah State University in the United States and holds a Master Degree in Water Resources Development from Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Thailand.



Sophie De Coninck

Manager - Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility (LoCAL)
United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF)



Sophie De Coninck has 20 years of work experience in development, environment and climate change sectors with the UN, the EU, and the private sector. Since 2014, based in Dakar, Brussels and now Kampala, Sophie has been managing the “Local Climate Adaptive Living Facility” (LoCAL) hosted by the United Nations Capital Development Fund, which provides a standard and internationally recognized country-based mechanism to address climate change at local level, across 25 countries in LDCs, SIDS and Africa. Previously, Sophie worked (2010-2014) with the EU, where she managed the “Global Climate Change Alliance”, working closely with LDCs and SIDS across regions. In addition, Sophie worked for the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Kenya (2005-2010) with the Poverty-Environment Initiative and on engaging civil society and the private sector in UNEP’s work. Sophie’s former experience was as a policy researcher on land use planning, energy consumption and climate change, and housing and poverty for various ministries in Belgium (2003-2005) and in international private companies (1999-2003). Sophie has work experience with over 30 countries. She holds two master’s degrees, one in engineering and business administration and the other in environmental science and management from the University of Louvain (Belgium).





Srijana Shrestha
Under Secretary
Ministry of Forests and Environment, Nepal

Srijana Shrestha has been working in the Ministry of Forests and Environment (MoFE) since 2010. Her primary responsibilities are to lead the adaptation section of Climate Change Management Division of MoFE and co-ordinate the project, Building Capacity to Advance National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Process and Adapting to Climate-induced Threats to Food Production and Food Security in the Karnali Region of Nepal. She is the focal officer from MoFE, Nepal for Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) South Asia. She was associated during the preparation of the National REDD+ Benefit Sharing Plan, Emission Reduction Program Document (ERPD), and in the formulation of National Climate Change Policy (2019). Formerly, she was a Gender Focal Point for REDD-IC and worked as a team member for the Gender Assessment and development of the Gender Action Plan for the ERPD. She holds a Master's Degree in Forestry from Tribhuvan University, Institute of Forestry, Pokhara. She has received several Gender Training of Trainer and conducted Gender Integration Training for the ministry's national and sub-national level staff. She has also completed an international short course on Climate Change Adaptation in Food Security and Natural Resource Management organized by Wageningen Centre for Development Innovation.



Stefan Kohler
Senior Infrastructure, Resilience and
Project Management Advisor
United Nations Office for Project Services (UNOPS),
Bangladesh

Stefan Kohler has been the Country Manager for UNOPS Bangladesh since 2018 and recently taken on the role of Senior Infrastructure, Resilience and Project Management Advisor for the Bangladesh Multi-Country Office. Stefan has an academic background in Geotechnical Engineering, Law and Economics. He has 35 years' experience working in the development context in multiple countries, including small Island states, with a focus on infrastructure. His work has largely focused on the strategic development aspects of infrastructure related to planning, design, implementation, operations and maintenance of infrastructure, including the cross-cutting themes of asset management, sustainability, resilience, climate change and gender. He has worked in various sectors including government, NGO, private sector and international organizations across multiple sectors including health, education, WASH, and Power. From 2015 to 2018 he was Chair of the International Recover Platform. He has participated as speaker at numerous conferences and events on the topics of infrastructure and resilience.



Stewart Maginnis

Global Director - Nature-based Solutions Group
International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)

Stewart Maginnis is the Global Director for the Nature based Solutions Group in IUCN, a membership-based, international organization composed of States, Government Agencies, NGOs and Indigenous Peoples' Organizations. Since 2008, he and his team have developed and promoted Nature-based Solutions as a framework for harnessing ecosystem management as a solution to socio-economic challenges. Stewart Maginnis has worked in sustainable development and biodiversity conservation for 35 years, 15 of which were based Tanzania, Sudan, Ghana and Costa Rica. He led the development and promotion of "forest landscape restoration" (FLR) – one of the first "purpose-built" Nature-based Solutions - to which over 60 countries have committed more than 210 million hectares under the Bonn Challenge. He and his team at IUCN have worked over the last 12 years on defining and promoting the concept of Nature Based Solutions and supporting its application to climate change, food & water security and disaster risk reduction. They have just finalized a 2 year process to develop a global NBS standard. Stewart was educated at Oxford University and Queen's University Belfast and is the IUCN Global Director for Nature-based Solutions.



Suil Kang

Technology Executive Committee Member
United Nations Framework Convention on
Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Since September 2004, Suil Kang has been working in the International Environmental Research Institute (IERI), Gwangju Institute of Science and Technology(GIST), Republic of Korea and is currently working as a Chief Supervisor. In the IERI, Suil has conducted many activities including collaborative R&D in the environmental monitoring and treatment, operation of capacity building programs and developing international collaboration activities, and policy works on climate change. Suil was on secondment to the Climate Technology Cooperation Team in Ministry of Science and ICT(MSIT) as an expert advisor and Green Technology Center(GTCK) as a Director of International Strategy Division from July 2016 to December 2019. Suil have been serving as a Technology Executive Committee(TEC) member under the UNFCCC since 2018. Suil holds a Ph.D. in Agriculture at Seoul National University, Republic of Korea and major field was Agricultural Chemistry, especially Biotechnology and Biochemistry.



Sunishma Singh
Resilience Officer
UN Habitat

UN-Habitat is the United Nations Programme for Human Settlements, and Sunishma Singh has been vastly involved in strengthening and improving urban communities affected by climate change. Sunishma is a Resilience Officer based at the Lami Town Council working with UN Habitat and the local informal settlements. The 25 year old has been engaging effectively with vulnerable communities, conducting comprehensive household surveys, managed a small team of enumerators, and liaised with the municipal council on a broad range of issues. Sunishma has participated in the 2019 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP25) as a youth representative for Fiji. The Forum was held in December 2019 in Madrid. She is also a part time GIS tutor at USP. Sunishma has just finished her Post Graduate Diploma in Climate Change and will be graduating in April from University of the South Pacific and is working towards her Masters in Climate Change now. My current job(s) are as follows: Resilience Officer, Part Time Geospatial Tutor, Youth Counselor at Ministry of Youth and Sports.



Supatchaya Techachoochert
Committee member
Green World Foundation

Supatchaya Techachoochert is a biologist and science communicators. She has been the Environmental Manager at Mae Fah Luang Foundation working on carbon sequestration of community forest and biodiversity at Doi Tung area, the royal development project. She is also a new committee member of Green World Foundation, where she has been volunteering for environmental activities since 2010. Besides, she is the co-founder of "Refill Station", a social enterprise and the first bulk store in Thailand to promote zero-waste lifestyle.



Suruchi Bhadwal
Senior Fellow
The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI)

Suruchi Bhadwal joined TERI in 2000. She has been working on climate impacts, vulnerability and adaptation domain. She was awarded a World Bank study on Addressing Vulnerabilities to Climate Variability and Change which targeted drought and flood prone catchments in India. A particular focus was given on the Godavari, Mahanadi and Pennar basins to understand the impacts on crops and water resources. She contributed to 'Adaptive Policy making' with the support of the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) and International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD). She has also worked closely with the PMs Council on Climate Change during the development of India's National Action Plan on Climate Change and on State Action Plans on Climate Change. She was part of the CARIAA initiative which looked at Himalayan Water and Agriculture Resilience. Led by ICIMOD, she led part of the initiative in Uttarakhand and Sikkim. She has contributed as a Lead Author for the IPCC AR4 WGII Report. She was also a Review Editor for the IPCC AR5 WG II Report and the IPCC Special Report on Extreme Events. Prior to TERI, she worked at the Centre for Atmospheric Sciences (Indian Institute of Technology Delhi). She has a master's degree in Environmental Sciences from Hisar.





Susan Gardner
Ecosystems Division Director
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Dr. Susan Gardner has over two decades of experience in science and environmental policy working for both the Mexican and United States governments. She was a senior official in the United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration focused on fisheries science and ocean conservation. Prior to this position, she was a senior official at the U.S. Department of State in the Bureau of Oceans and International Environmental and Scientific Affairs and worked for the Mexican Federal Government as an environmental scientist at the Centro de Investigaciones Biológicas del Noroeste. Dr. Gardner is a dual national of Mexico and the United States of America. She has a Doctoral Degree in Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences from the University of Washington, a Master's of Science Degree in Toxicology from North Carolina State University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Marine Science from Long Island University. Her research has generated over 30 publications including a book and book chapters on topics related to ecology, toxicology, fisheries management and species conservation.



Sushila Pandit
Program Manager
Mercy Corps

Sushila Pandit is a development professional working in climate resilience, disaster management and sustainable development for a decade in national and international portfolios. Currently she is working as a Program Manager in multi-country resilience project at Mercy Corps in Nepal. The project closely works with vulnerable communities for dual benefit of disaster management and economic incentives through nexus approach. Before joining Mercy Corps, she was working as Resilience Specialist at CARE in Nepal. She holds Master in Environment Science with specialization in climate change and have been awarded for her work in climate change both nationally and internationally.



Syeda Rizwana Hasan

Environmental Lawyer and Chief Executive
Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association (BELA)

Syeda Rizwana Hasan is a lawyer with the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. She is the Chief Executive of a reputed national Non-Governmental Organization BELA since 1993. She worked on promoting environmental justice in Bangladesh. She is responsible for the coordination of BELA's activities including research, awareness raising, public interest litigation (PIL) and advocacy. She contributed in writing the following publications: "Laws Regulating Environment in Bangladesh" and "Judicial Decisions on Environment in South Asia". Rizwana has filed PILs on various environmental issues most of which have received favourable orders/judgments. She is also a visiting faculty in the University of Asia Pacific, State University, Eastern University and North South University. She is the ex-Chairperson of the RDRS. She is a member of different national committees such as Friends in Village Development Bangladesh (FIVDB), Nijera Kori, Association of Land Reforms and Development (ALRD), Ecologically Critical Area (ECA) and Bangladesh Rural Advancement Committee (BRAC). She is also a member of the Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide and of the Environmental Law Commission of IUCN. She is a board member of South Asian Network for Development and Environmental Economics (SANDEE). Rizwana did her masters and graduation in law from the University of Dhaka with distinction.

Speaker **T**



Takayuki Hagiwara
Regional Programme Lead
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
(FAO), Asia and the Pacific

Takayuki Hagiwara joined FAO in 2003 and is working as the Regional Programme Lead at the FAO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific. He successfully led a FAO team to prepare the Pakistan GCF-FAO project - Transforming the Indus Basin with Climate Resilient Agriculture and Water Management, which was approved in July 2019. He has been working as a natural resources management specialist for over 25 years. During his career, he spent 17 years at the FAO Investment Centre where FAO provides technical assistance to World Bank and IFAD projects. He has prepared and implemented various projects in different areas including community-based natural resources management and livelihood development. He has conducted a number of trainings and published a farmer field school implementation guide based on his practical experiences in the field. He was the lead technical officer on the Sustainable Livelihood Development Project in Kenya's Mau Forest Complex, which received FAO's Edouard Saouma Award in 2013. He holds a master's degree from Yale University's School of Forestry and Environmental Studies.



Tamara Greenstone-Alefaio
Conservation Program Manager
Micronesia Conservation Trust

Originally from Vancouver, Canada, Tamara Greenstone-Alefaio has lived in the Micronesia region (the Marshall Islands and Pohnpei) for almost 20 years. She has a bachelor's degree in Cultural Anthropology and a master's degree in Education focused on Society, Culture and Politics. In the RMI she was an elementary school teacher, the director of a volunteer teaching program at the Ministry of Education, an adjunct lecturer in anthropology and psychology at the College of the Marshall Islands and the Manager for Continuing and Community Education at the University of the South Pacific, Marshall Islands Campus. Tamara has been working at the Micronesia Conservation Trust since 2016 where she manages the Conservation Program. She and the MCT team acquire and manage international and regional donor grants issuing subgrants to local NGOs and communities ensuring that conservation and climate finance can be accessed where it is needed the most. MCT also offers technical support to partners across the region as part of a shared commitment to the Micronesia Challenge. MCT is the smallest entity in the world to be accredited by both the Green Climate Fund and the Adaptation Fund.



Terence Hay-Edie

Programme Advisor
UNDP-implemented GEF Small Grants Programme (SGP)

Terence Hay-Edie is a Programme Advisor for the GEF SGP and Manager of the Global ICCA Support Initiative funded by the German Federal Ministry of the Environment. Since its inception in 1992, the SGP has provided cumulative funding of over \$800 million to civil society organizations in 133 countries worldwide to develop innovative nature-based solutions to address the inter-linked crises of biodiversity loss, climate change, and land degradation. He holds a PhD in Social Anthropology from the University of Cambridge.



Tetsuo Kuyama

Director of Bangkok Regional Centre
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Tetsuo Kuyama obtained his Master degree from Graduate School of Engineering, University of Tokyo. After serving as an engineer for the Nippon Koei Co., Ltd dealing with Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for development projects in both Japan and developing countries, he started working for Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) in Japan as a water expert. He has worked in Natural Resources and Ecosystem Services Unit of IGES for 12 years. Since 2018, he became Director of Bangkok Regional Centre as well as has managed Asia-Pacific Adaptation Information Platform (AP-PLAT) Capacity Building Coordination Office.



Tim Christophersen

Head of the Nature for Climate Branch
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

Tim Christophersen coordinates the work of the Nature for Climate Branch at the UNEP, including UNEP's role within the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration (2021-2030), a global programme aiming at preventing, halting and reversing the degradation of ecosystems worldwide, and the UN-REDD Programme, a collaborative initiative of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), the UNDP and UNEP to reduce deforestation in developing countries. He previously worked for the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the IUCN, the Danish Ministry of the Environment, and the European Commission. Tim is a German national and holds a Master's degree in forest engineering and conservation from Dresden University of Technology.



Tina Birmpili

Deputy Executive Secretary
United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
(UNCCD)

Tina Birmpili assumed her position as the Deputy Executive Secretary of the UNCCD on 1 October 2020. Before that she served as the Executive Secretary of the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer and its Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer. Birmpili had over 25 years of experience in policy analysis and implementation on sustainable development related issues and management at all levels of governance. She is a former Minister of Environment, Energy and Climate Change in Greece. Prior to joining the Ozone Secretariat in 2013, she served as Ambassador of Greece to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), in Paris. Throughout her career, which included assignments with the Athens Development Agency, the Open University of Greece and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in different capacities, she has been engaged in issues related to environment and sustainable development. Ms. Birmpili holds a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and a Master of Science (MSc) in Environmental Management and Economics from Imperial College of Science, Technology and Medicine, London.



Tishiko King

Community Organizer
Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network and Our Islands
Our Home campaign

Tishiko King is a proud Kulkalaig woman from the Island of Masig, Kulkalgal Tribe of Zenadth Kes. Tish is the community organiser at Seed Indigenous Youth Climate Network and Our Islands Our Home campaign. During her studies in Ocean Science on the Gold Coast, Tish became passionate and actively involved with grassroots environmental groups and rallies across Australia and overseas. With experience across different industries at CSIRO Oceans and Atmosphere and the exploration and minerals industry, Tish brings a diverse perspective of First Nations and environmental justice. Indigenous peoples are on the frontlines from the impacts and causes of climate change, and Tish believes that working towards a sustainable and just future for First Nations people, is a fundamental step towards solving the climate crisis.



Titi Soentoro

Board Member
Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development
(APWLD)

Titi Soentoro is an Indonesian women's rights advocate and dedicates herself to mainstream women's rights and gender considerations into policies related to environmental and social safeguards, information disclosure, consultation, and accountability mechanism of the international development and climate finance institutions (Asian Development Bank, World Bank, Asian Infrastructure and Investment Bank, and the Green Climate Fund) and other related international negotiations like the Conference of the Parties of the UNFCCC and its Inter-sessions, Asia-Pacific conferences on Financing for Development. Moreover, she capacitates grassroots women to the level that they can speak on behalf themselves on the issues/problems they are encountering to the decision makers at local and national level, and to defend their rights affected by massive development and climate projects. Since 2016 Titi is a Board member of APWLD. She is also actively involved in the Program Organizing Committee of APWLD's Climate Justice Program, contributes to its Feminist Participatory Action Researches related to women and climate change.



Tiza Mafira
Associate Director
Climate Policy Initiative (CPI)

Tiza Mafira is CPI's Associate Director. She leads a team of analysts to deliver robust studies on climate finance effectiveness and innovations for policymakers. Tiza is a public policy expert specializing in land use and climate finance. Tiza worked on improving land productivity through fiscal policy, a focus study on Indonesia's Village Fund, as well as a study that maps, for the first time, the flow, supply chain, and efficiency of oil palm in East Kalimantan. She is also part of a technical experts' team facilitating Indonesia's Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Finance in establishing an Environmental Fund Public Services Agency. Tiza is frequently invited to speak at major regional and international events. She is also the Executive Director of the Indonesia Plastic Bag Diet Movement, a community-based organization which advocates for policies and awareness to reduce single-use plastics. Tiza also worked as a corporate attorney in Jakarta specializing in natural resources and forestry law, and at the Office of the Special Staff of the President during President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono's term as a speech writer and climate change policy handler. She holds a Master of Laws from Harvard Law School and a Bachelor of Laws from Universitas Indonesia, with studies focusing on environmental law and climate change.



Tomohiro Kondo
Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs
Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoE)

Tomohiro Kondo joined the Ministry of the Environment in 2013 followed by his long career at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry for over 20 years. He has been the Vice Minister for Global Environmental Affairs since 2020.



Toshio Koike
Executive Director
International Centre for Water Hazard and
Risk Management (ICARM)

Toshio Koike is the Executive Director of the International Centre for Water Hazard and Risk Management (ICARM) under the auspices of UNESCO and a professor emeritus of the University of Tokyo (Japan). He was the chair of the River Council of Japan since 2015, leading discussions on important river-related matters to advise the Minister of Land, Infrastructure, Transport and Tourism of Japan. In his capacity as a council member of the Science Council of Japan under the Cabinet Office since 2017, he has contributed to addressing various issues through science by making policy and other recommendations to the private and public sectors nationwide. He earned his bachelor, master's, and doctoral degree in Engineering from the University of Tokyo, where he also worked as a research associate, lecturer and professor later on. He was also an associate professor and professor at the Nagaoka University of Technology (Japan). He has been the director of ICHARM since 2014. In 2019, he received the International Scientific Cooperation Award from the Chinese Academy of Sciences and the Friendship Award from the Chinese government and received GEO (Group on Earth Observations) 2020 Individual Excellence Awards in 2020.



Trupti Jain
Founder Director
Naireeta Services Private Limited

Trupti Jain endeavours to find the cause-effect relationship in challenges and innovations with a special focus on gender and the environment in India, cutting across both urban and rural settings. Throughout her work experiences in the non-profit organizations, institutions promoted by State Government (Ministry of Environment & Forest, Urban Development, Urban Housing, Rural Development, Education, Women & Child Development), International donors, and social enterprise, she has been successfully strengthening women's participation in climate change issues in India and South East Asia and Africa. Through the Naireeta Services she is creating gender centric climate change mitigating processes for inclusive development for both urban and rural poor women. She is a recipient of a series of global laurels, e.g. Maiden Eco-Hero by US Embassy, Commonwealth, Fulbright and LEAD (Leadership in Environment And Development). She is holding Masters in Sustainable Development after graduation in Environmental Engineering. She has more than 16 published research papers (cutting across state, national and international level) and more than 30 educational literatures.



Tshering Yangzom

Senior Environment Officer - Climate Change Division
National Environment Commission Secretariat (NECS)

Tshering Yangzom is leading the Adaptation Section in the Climate Change Division in NECS and responsible for Adaptation Projects such as Bhutan's Long-term Low Greenhouse Gas Emission and Climate Resilient Development Strategy (LTS), National Adaptation Plan (NAP) Readiness Project, Urban Ecosystem-based Adaptation and Bhutan's Ambient Air Quality and she is the Lead for Waste sector GHG inventory for Bhutan's Third National Communication and Biennial Update Report (BUR). She is also on the Roster of Experts for Review of National Communications. She has a Master's in Environmental Management and Development from the Australian National University (ANU). Prior to joining the Climate Change Division of the National Environment Commission, she worked at Local Government levels in the capital city -Thimphu, apart from Trongsa and Trashiyangtse districts. This work exposed me to the on-the-ground impacts of climate change and the options available to local jurisdictions to help adapt to those impacts. While many of the issues were unique to our Himalayan environment, others were common to cities and districts across the region.

Speaker 



Ugyen Yangchen

Lecturer

College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan and
Centre for Sustainable Mountain Agriculture (CSMA),
College of Natural Resources

Ugyen Yangchen started her career as faculty with Department of Agriculture at College of Natural Resources, Royal University of Bhutan from 2007. She completed her undergraduate from Sherubtse College, Bhutan as a life science student. Her masters was on Management of Development, Rural Development and Food Security from VanHall Larenstein University of Applied Sciences, The Netherlands. She headed the agriculture department from 2013 to 2016. She established the Centre for Sustainable Mountain Agriculture in 2018 and since then she is responsible for overall management of the Centre. Ms. Yangchen has wide knowledge and experiences in teaching interdisciplinary modules ranging from agriculture, development, gender and climate change. She was intensively involved in the review and development of curriculum for undergraduate programmes in sustainable development, agriculture and food science disciplines as well as Gender and development for Master's in development Practice programme. Ms. Yangchen has experiences in project management. Currently, she is managing Sustainable Development Smart Agriculture Capacity (SuNSpace) project (2019 – 2022), funded by

Speaker 



Valerie Kapos

Head of the Climate Change & Biodiversity Programme
United Nations Environment Programme World
Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC)

Valerie Kapos is the Head of the Climate Change & Biodiversity Programme of the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre. She leads the Centre's work on the impacts of climate change on biodiversity and the role of ecosystems, in climate change mitigation and adaptation – nature-based solutions. Particular foci are REDD+ and management of ecosystems other than forests for mitigation, and ecosystem-based approaches to adaptation (EbA). Before joining the UNEP World Conservation Monitoring Centre (UNEP WCMC), Valerie Kapos spent over 15 years doing field research in tropical forest ecology in Latin America and the Caribbean. She has published over 60 peer reviewed journal papers, and numerous (over 150) articles, technical reports, book chapters.



Veronica Pedrosa

Independent Broadcast Journalist

With more than 20 years' experience as a journalist and communicator, Veronica Pedrosa has played a key role at CNN, BBC World News, BBC World Service and Al Jazeera English, responding to breaking news, shaping coverage, managing and providing leadership to multicultural teams of journalists. Ms. Pedrosa is a communicator who is in demand to speak, host and moderate at international conferences, focusing on development, humanitarian issues, the environment and journalism. In the past, Ms. Pedrosa has worked with heads of state, high government officials, experts and philanthropists to produce informative debates on complex and controversial issues.



Vositha Wijenayake

Executive Director and Attorney-at-law
SLYCAN Trust

Vositha Wijenayake works as the Executive Director of SLYCAN Trust. She is an international lawyer specializing in public international law and has over a decade of experience in working on climate change, at national and international level. Vositha is a member of the National Expert Committee on Climate Change Adaptation of the Ministry of Environment of Sri Lanka, and has been a member of the Sri Lankan delegation to the UNFCCC negotiations since 2016, negotiating on issues related to compliance, climate change adaptation, loss and damage, gender, response measures and MRV. Vositha is also a consultant to the UNFCCC Secretariat, and has experience in working with other UN entities and international organisations and networks such as NAP Global Support Programme, Humane Society International, and Southern Voices on Adaptation. Vositha is a member of the Expert Group on Oceans and Climate Change of the UNFCCC, contributes to the work of the NAP Technical Working Group of the UNFCCC, a member of the High Level Consultative Group and co-chair of the Impact Working Group of the InsuResilience Global Partnership. Vositha holds an LLM in public international law and an LLB from University of London (UK), a BA (Hons) Degree from University of Kelaniya (Sri Lanka).



Speaker 



Wali Haider
Farmers Major Group Representative
Roots for Equity

Wali Haider has been a long term community educator, activist and researcher for mobilizing and organizing small and landless farmers since more than 20 years. His area of interests are development (development model/s), land rights, agrarian reforms, challenges related to agriculture and ecology, exclusion and inequality and political participation. Haider served as the Joint Director at the Roots for Equity, the Secretary to an alliance of small and landless farmers, namely the Pakistan Kissan Mazdoor Tehreek (PKMT) and the Secretariat Coordinator for Asian Peasant Coalition (APC). Currently Haider is the Focal Point for Farmers' Major Group at UNEP. He is also co-chair of Asia Pacific Regional Engagement Mechanism (APRCM) and is part of the steering group for global civil society engagement process of UN high level political forum. Haider obtained his MS in Environmental Studies from York University, Toronto, Canada. He is involved in organizing and mobilizing farmers to demand farmers' rights, particularly, the right to land, climate justice and food sovereignty.



Speaker 



Xiaojun Deng

Deputy Head of Knowledge Management
Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN)

Xiaojun Deng is the Deputy Head of Knowledge Management at the APN, an intergovernmental network with its Secretariat hosted in Kobe, Japan. Currently, Xiaojun is responsible for managing, monitoring and promoting knowledge generated from APN activities across the Asia-Pacific region and ensuring its effective reach, uptake and impact, particularly among researchers, practitioners and policymakers. He also coordinates the publication of the APN Science Bulletin, a flagship web-based peer-reviewed publication published by APN and launched in 2011. As a practitioner of open access publishing and open source initiatives, Xiaojun believes in the power of open, tailored, science-based knowledge backed by information technology in advancing efforts towards a sustainable future by individuals, groups and institutions at all levels. Before joining APN in 2011, Xiaojun was a public information consultant at the headquarters of UNEP in Nairobi, Kenya. He holds a master's degree from Shanghai International Studies University, Shanghai, China.

Speaker 



Yasuo Takahashi
Executive Director
Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Yasuo Takahashi studied civil engineering and got MA at University of Tokyo. He worked for the Ministry of the Environment for 36 years until 2019. During his career in the ministry, he covered various issues including water, air, waste management, climate change negotiation and domestic policy. From 2017, he served as the Vice-Minister for the Global Environmental Affairs, and attended the 6th APAN Forum in Manila in 2018. He took office as the Executive Director of IGES in November 2020.



Yihong Wang
Senior Investment Officer
Asian Development Bank (ADB)

Yihong Wang has over 16 years of experience in investment, financial analysis and equity research. At ADB, she has done both sovereign and nonsovereign projects in green and climate finance, environmental infrastructure, and agribusiness. Outside ADB, she worked at China International Capital Corporation and PricewaterhouseCoopers. Yihong holds a Master's in finance from London Business School.



Yossef Zahar
Affiliated Researcher
Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI)

Yossef Zahar is an SEI Affiliated Researcher focused on climate finance and the role of private finance in addressing communities' mitigation and adaptation challenges in developing Asia-Pacific. Yossef brings more than 15 years of experience in financial markets and broad investment and corporate finance experience and has served in a variety of roles in international financial institutions as well as an independent advisor. As a senior climate finance advisor, Yossef has designed and developed several blended finance structures with a regional scope in Asia-Pacific through the UNFCCC Green Investment Catalyst. He works with financial institutions, development partners and regulators, to accelerate green finance flows for developing Asia. Yossef holds a Masters in Finance from London Business School and has presided over LBS' Carbon Network, as well as serving on its board. He has provided pro bono financial and strategic advice for impact entrepreneurs.



Yuji Masutomi
Senior Researcher
National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES)

Dr. Yuji Masutomi is a senior researcher at Center for Climate Change Adaptation (CCCCA) in National Institute for Environmental Studies. Prior to joining CCCC on April in 2020, he was an associate professor at Ibaraki University. He obtained Ph.D. in global environmental studies from Kyoto University in 2007, and M.S. in physics from Nagoya University in 2001. His current research interest is climate change impact and adaptation assessment on agricultural sector from local to global scales. He is also engaging the development of AP-PLAT, which is the information platform on climate change adaptation for Asia-Pacific region.



Youssef Nassef

Director of the Adaptation Division
United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)

Youssef Nassef has led the adaptation workstreams under the UNFCCC since their inception. He possesses over 30 years of experience in diplomacy and international environmental policy, and is a seconded diplomat from the Egyptian Foreign Service. While assuming progressively higher levels of leadership at the UNFCCC, he led several initiatives on adaptation. These include the inception and support for National Adaptation Programmes of Action and National Adaptation Plans; the Nairobi Work Programme – an international knowledge hub for adaptation; and the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage. He recently created the Resilience Frontiers initiative which applies foresight for attaining post-2030 resilience. He holds a PhD in International Technology Policy and Management and a MALD in International Environmental Policy from the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, as well as a MA in Middle East Studies and a BSc in Computer Science and Physics from the American University in Cairo.



Yusuke Taishi

Regional Technical Advisor
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Yusuke Taishi is a Regional Technical Advisor on climate change adaptation in the Nature, Climate and Energy team of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). He is currently based in UNDP's Bangkok Regional Hub and providing technical advisory support to countries in the Asia Pacific region on climate change adaptation. In his current role, he has overseen a climate change adaptation portfolio of over US\$300 million cumulatively in 12 countries in the region over the last 10 years. He joined UNDP in 2008 and prior to that, he was working as a researcher in an economic research institute based in India focusing on impact evaluation of microfinance programs. He has degrees in economics and environmental sciences.

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