

Speakers' Profiles

Opening Remarks:

Mr. **Carlos G. Dominguez**, *Secretary, Department of Finance, Government of the Philippines*



Carlos "Sonny" Dominguez has over 40 years of experience managing various organizations in the public and private sectors. He was a shareholder, and board chairman or member of over a dozen corporations across various industries such as power, agriculture, mining, banking, hospitality, real estate, and investment.

Notable positions held by Sonny were Cabinet Secretary of the Environment and Natural Resources and Agriculture during the Presidency of Corazon Aquino, past president of leading Philippine corporations such as the Philippine Airlines and the Philippine Associate Smelting and

Refining Corporation, and the former Bank of the Philippine Islands Agricultural Bank.

Sonny has a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Ateneo De Manila University and attended the Executive Management Program at the Stanford University.

Inspirational Talk:

Mr. **Yasuyuki Sawada**, *Chief Economist, ADB*



Yasuyuki Sawada is Chief Economist of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Director General of its Economic Research and Regional Cooperation Department. He is chief spokesperson on economic and development trends and lead the production of ADB's flagship knowledge products and support for regional cooperation fora.

Before joining ADB, Mr. Sawada was Professor of Economics at the University of Tokyo and has led numerous large-scale development policy evaluation projects for various institutions.

His key research areas are development economics, micro-econometrics, economics of disasters, and field surveys and experiments. Mr.

Sawada obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University.

Moderator:

Ms. **Preety Bhandari**, *Chief of Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management Theme, concurrently Director, Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department*



Preety Bhandari 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 UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. She has also worked as the Director of the Policy Analysis Division at TERI (The Energy and Resources Institute) in India.

Stream

Presenter:

Mr. **Arghya Sinha Roy**, *Senior Climate Change Adaptation Specialist, ADB*



Arghya Sinha Roy has been more than 17 years of experience in disaster and climate resilience related issues. He joined ADB in 2012 and has been involved in several initiatives on disaster risk management and climate change adaptation, including design of investment projects in risk-sensitive urban development, infrastructure resilience, strengthening community resilience and post-disaster recovery and reconstruction.

Prior to joining to ADB, he worked from 2004-2012 at the Asian Disaster Preparedness Center on strengthening capacities of countries in Asia and the Pacific on disaster risk management.

Arghya has degree in civil engineering and master's in urban and regional planning.

Panellists: Mr. **Takahashi Kazuaki**, *Director, Climate Change Adaptation Office, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment of Japan (MoEJ)*



Takahashi Kazuaki 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.

Ms. **Mariyam Anaa Hassan**, *Assistant Director, Climate Change Department Ministry of Environment and Energy, Government of Maldives*



Anaa Hassan is an Assistant Director at the Ministry of Environment, Maldives. She joined the Climate Change Department at the Ministry on December 2017. Her main responsibilities include assisting the department in tracking support received for adaptation/mitigation actions in the country. She is also the Mitigation 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 Master's Degree in Environment, Development and Policy from the University of Sussex (UK) and currently pursuing a PhD from

the University of Melbourne (Australia).

Ms. **Kisa Mfalila**, *Lead Regional Environment and Climate Specialist for Asia and the Pacific, International Fund for Agriculture Development (IFAD)*



Kisa Mfalila is responsible for managing environment and climate risks and impacts of the APR portfolio at the strategic and operational levels, and in mobilizing green financing to build climate resilience in operations.

Prior to joining IFAD, she worked with the World Bank and the African Development Bank in managing environment and climate risks and impacts of operations in the Africa region. Kisa is an environmental engineer by training.

Mr. **Amit Prothi**, *Regional Director, Asia and Pacific, Global Resilience Cities Network*



Amit Prothi is Regional Director (Asia Pacific) at the Resilient Cities Network, a grantee of the Rockefeller Foundation, that collaborates with nearly 100 global cities to protect vulnerable communities from climate change and other physical, social and economic challenges. In a career spanning nearly 25 years, and across 12 countries,

Amit has worked with The World Bank, Asian Development Bank, and numerous government and private sector entities on thematic topics that relate directly to urban resilience, including urban policy, land use planning, flood management, disaster risk reduction, housing, and community development. Recently, he

managed the preparation of resilience strategies across several Asian cities including Seoul and Chennai.

**Closing
Remarks:**

Ms. **Clare Shakya**, *Director, Climate Change Research Group, International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)*



Clare Shakya has 30 years of experience in climate, energy and forestry. She spent 15 years with DFID where she led Asia and Africa Division's climate change response.

Her research focuses on governance and finance arrangements that are politically astute and learn iteratively about what works to deliver real change. She is responsible for the oversight of the propositional research of IIED's climate change group, working with the people who have less voice and power in climate decision making, to co-create solutions that shape pathways and drive action for a just and sustainable future.