

Speakers' Profiles

Welcome
and
Moderator:

Ms. **Rohini Kohli**, *Lead Technical Specialist, National Adaptation Plans, Global Support Programme UNDP*



Rohini Kohli works as Lead Technical Specialist, National Adaptation Plans, in the Nature, Climate and Energy team at UNDP. Since 2013, she has been engaged in providing technical support to partner countries to advance their efforts on integrating climate change into national and sub-national development planning processes through NAPs and NDCs. In this role, she manages UNDPs portfolio of global projects which include the “NAP Global Support Programme” and “Integrating Agriculture in National Adaptation Plans Programme” in coordination with UNEP and FAO. She also contributes oversight to UNDPs country level national adaptation plan programmes.

Rohini has worked for over 15 years on issues related to poverty, environment, gender and climate change, with a focus on data, policy and planning. She has contributed to Asia-Pacific Human Development Reports – including on climate change “2012 One Planet to Share” and on gender “2010 Power, Voice and Rights”.

Audience
Engagement:

Mr. **Krib Sitathani**, *Country Coordinator, Climate Promise Initiative, UNDP*



Krib Sitathani is a Country Coordinator for UNDP’s Climate Promise Initiative in the Nature, Climate and Energy team of UNDP. He is currently based in UNDP’s Bangkok Regional Hub and providing technical advisor and resource person to Afghanistan, Malaysia, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Thailand, and Timor-Leste to support their enhancements of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

Prior to joining UNDP BRH, Krib was a Project Manager with UNDP Thailand Country Office since 2015. As part of the team, he provided support for implementation of climate mitigation, adaptation, and finance.

Krib holds a Bachelor of Engineering in Environmental Engineering from Chulalongkorn University, Thailand and a Master of Science in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri-Rolla, U.S.A.

Inspirational Talk: Ms. Chandra Tripura, *Founder, Hill Resource Centre, Bangladesh*



Chandra Tripura is a young enthusiastic human rights activist and social entrepreneur from the Tripura Indigenous Peoples' of Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh. She has done her Masters in Sociology and Social Policy from Dhaka University. She is a professional dancer and choreographer, and highly dedicated to protecting and promoting indigenous culture. She has started defending Indigenous Peoples' rights, culture and tradition through dance performance from the year 2008 and co-founded Bangladesh indigenous Cultural Forum in 2010. Currently she is playing the role of General Secretary and Artistic Director in the organization. She has

introduced how indigenous dance can be a strong tool of advocacy for protecting and establishing indigenous peoples' rights in Bangladesh.

In 2017, she joined CHT Headman Network, a capacity building and leadership development organization of the traditional and customary leaders in CHT, and its two wings- Women Headman-Karbari Network and CHT Youth Headman-Karbari Network as Coordinator. She has been actively working on the issues indigenous women and youth through engaging with Hill Women's Federation and Bangladesh Indigenous Women Network for about 7 years and attended many national, regional and international training and conferences on Indigenous Peoples' rights, women's rights, SDG's, environment and climate change etc. She is a member of council of leaders of the Asia Young Indigenous Peoples Network based in Philippines and country representative of Asia Indigenous Youth Platform based in Chiang Mai, Thailand. Her social enterprise, Hill Resource Center (HRC), established in 2017 is a multi-purpose initiative to contribute towards culture and development in the CHT.

Stream Presenter:

Mr. Yusuke Tahishi, *Regional Technical Specialist, Climate Change Adaptation, UNDP*



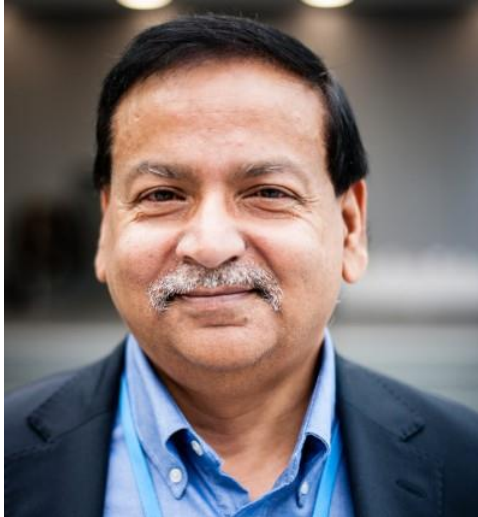
Yusuke Taishi is a Regional Technical Advisor on climate change adaptation in the Nature, Climate and Energy team of UNDP. He is currently based in UNDP's Bangkok Regional Hub and providing technical advisory support to countries in the Asia Pacific region on climate change adaptation. In his current 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 focusing on impact evaluation of

microfinance programs in India.

Panellists:

Prof. **Saleemul Huq**, *Director, International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD)*



Saleemul Huq is the Director of the International Centre for Climate Change and Development (ICCCAD) at Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) since 2009 and Senior Fellow at the International Institute for Environment & Development (IIED) in London. He is also Senior Advisor on Locally Led Action, Global Centre on Adaptation (GCA) and 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 has 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.

Mr. **Osamu Mizuno**, *Principal Fellow, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)*



Osamu Mizuno is a Principal Fellow at Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) since 2018. Prior to joining IGES, he worked at the Regional resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP) at 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 (MOEJ), 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 relating to climate change for both mitigation and adaptation, water pollution control, among others.

Dr. **Jon Padgham**, *Executive Director, Risk, Vulnerability, and Adaptation Program, START*



Jon Padgham is the Executive Director of START. Over the past 13 years at START, Dr. Padgham has led or co-led several science capacity development projects and programs in Africa and Asia that engaged early career researchers. His work includes strengthening analytical and communication skills for applying climate model projections to adaptation decision making, advancing understanding of climate change adaptation in drylands and urban food systems.

His experience in capacity development includes scientific writing, science communication across disciplines, persuasive communications of science to policy and other stakeholder communities, research and assessment methods, building links to global science assessments, and building mentorship bridges between junior and senior academics.

Prior to joining START, Jon worked at the World Bank and the US Agency for International Development on climate change adaptation initiatives. At the World Bank, he developed a study detailing where Bank investments are needed to build adaptive capacity in the agriculture sector. At USAID he managed adaption projects and helped to develop a guidance manual on climate change adaptation for that agency's field operations. Jon received a PhD in soil science from Cornell University in the US.

Ms. **Justina Aurea da Costa Belo**, *Professional Staff, National Directorate for Climate Change, Secretary of State for the Environment, Timor-Leste*



Justina Aurea d.C Belo is a Professional Staff at the National Directorate of Climate Change, under the Secretary of State for the Environment where she focuses on implementing Montreal Protocol projects while also supporting Timor Leste's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) processes.

She obtained her Master's degree in Environmental Science, specializing in Water Quality and Watershed Management from Oklahoma State University, USA and a Bachelor Degree in Environmental and Sanitary Engineering from Mapúa Institute of Technology, Philippines.

Ms. **Alicia G. Ilaga** *Director, Climate Resilience Agriculture Office, The Philippines*



Alicia G. Ilaga has 26 years of experience in developing, managing and directing livelihood, agricultural financing, biotechnology, climate change and countryside development programs. She currently serves as the Director of the Department of Agriculture's Climate Resilient Agriculture Office and its Balik Probinsya, Bagong Pag-asa Program. At the same time, Director Ilaga performs duties as the Department's Deputy Spokesperson.

Director Ilaga has also represented the Philippines in various international conferences. From 2010-2017, she worked as a Negotiator for

the Philippine Delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and became the Philippine Representative in the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Food Security meetings. She represented the country in the ASEAN Senior Officials and ASEAN Ministers for Agriculture + Fisheries meetings as well.

She obtained her Master's degree in Agricultural Economics from the University of the Philippines Los Baños in 1988 where she became an NFAC scholar and a Winrock Research Grantee. Meanwhile, she graduated Cum Laude with a degree in BS Agribusiness, also in UP Los Baños, during the year 1983.