

## **SPEAKERS BIOS**

### **Irum Ahsan**

Irum Ahsan completed her legal education from the London School of Economics and Political Science. Before joining ADB's public sector legal team, she practiced as a contentious and non-contentious legal counsel in Pakistan, in addition to teaching law. At ADB she has been working on multi-sector projects for inclusive growth in Southeast Asia and East Asia. She has worked on several environmental improvement projects in these regions, especially China. She is currently implementing a project in the South Asian region on environmental adjudication and enforcement. She organized South Asian judicial conferences on Environmental Justice in Pakistan, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal and presented her work at the Law, Justice and Development week, World Bank, Climate Change and Rule of Law Conference in UK Supreme Court, Rule of law and SDGs Conference in Delhi, World Environmental Congress in Rio. Aside from these, she is also an advocate for gender consciousness and for women's rights.

### **Judge Kathie Stein**

Judge Kathie Stein was appointed as an Environmental Appeals Judge on the EPA Environmental Appeals Board in 1996.

Her Honour is a graduate of Georgetown University Law School in 1979 and graduated from Oberlan College in 1974.

She has extensive experience at the Federal level both at private law practice, State government and NGO (the Environmental Defence Fund). She has also conducted extensive Judicial training throughout Asia, Central and South America.

### **Judge Mary Kay Lynch**

Ms Lynch has nearly 30 years experience in environmental law and has extensive litigation experience in the private and public sector. She represents EPA in the Natural Resource Damage case involving the Deepwater Horizon Oil Spill. She was appointed as a Judge to the Environmental Appeals Board in 2015.

She graduated Summa Cum Laude and Scholar of the College from Boston College and from the University of Georgia Law School Cum Laude and was the Executive Editor of the International Law Journal.

### **Judge Chay Chandaravan**

Judge Chandaravan is a judge of the Court of Appeal. He has worked in the legal system in Cambodia for over 16 years as a court clerk, judge of the Court of First Instance and since 2009 at the Court of Appeal of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

He has a Bachelor of Laws from Cambodia and a Master of Laws from the National University of Singapore. In addition he holds Diplomas in Accounting, Public Administration and of the Judicial Profession.

Since 2014, Judge Chandaravan has been assisting Vishnu Law Group on the development of a draft EIA Law and the Draft Environment and Natural Resources Code. He has presented at many workshops and meetings on the contents of the draft Environmental Code.

**Attorney Sam Long**

Attorney Sam Long holds Bachelor and Masters Degree in Law (from the Royal University of Law and Economics) and a Bachelor Degree in Sociology (from the Royal University of Phnom Penh). He has been working with Vishnu Law Group since 2012.

In addition to duties of representing clients in court matters, he has been part of the drafting team for both the draft Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and the Draft Environment and Natural Resources Code.

He has also presented at many Regional, National and Special Workshops on these draft Law.

**Matthew Baird**

Matthew Baird has been an environmental lawyer in Sydney since 1991. He has had extensive experience in environmental and planning law. He appeared in a number of important climate change and natural resources cases in Australia.

He has been working for the past seven years in the ASEAN Region in environmental law. In particular he has advised on environmental crime and enforcement, public participation and Environmental Impact Assessment.

In Cambodia, since 2013, he has been working with Vishnu Law Group as part of the drafting team for both the draft Law on Environmental Impact Assessment and the Draft Environment and Natural Resources Code.

**Ma. Celeste Grace A. Saniel-Gois**

Ms. Saniel-Gois is currently a Senior Legal Operations Officer at the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) of ADB. She provides technical, analytical, and coordination support for OGC's operational work, particularly on the Law and Policy Reform Program of OGC.

Ms. Saniel-Gois has been with ADB for over 19 years. Before joining OGC, she was part of the urban sector team, administering regional TAs on urban infrastructure projects, and was the core Secretariat of ADB's Urban Community of Practice. She also administered ADB's Urban Financing Partnership Facility, which supported urban infrastructure projects. Prior to this, she was part of the gender and development (GAD) team of ADB, serving as the coordinator for the multidonor Gender and Development Cooperation Fund

Ms. Saniel-Gois holds a master's degree in Social Services and Development from the Asian Social Institute, Manila; academic credits for master in Women and Development at the University of the Philippines, and a Bachelor's degree in Communication Arts at St. Scholastica's College, Manila.

**Ms. Maria Cecilia T. Sicangco**

Ms. Sicangco joined ADB as Legal Associate for Law, Justice and Development, and is currently a Knowledge Management Specialist for Legal and Policy Reform. Prior to joining ADB, she was a Fellow at the International Development Law Organization headquartered in Rome, Italy. She holds a Bachelor of Laws degree (cum laude) from the University of the Philippines, and a Master of Laws degree from New York University where she was the Starr Foundation Global Scholar, Hauser Scholar, and Thomas M. Franck Scholar in International Law. She is qualified as an Attorney and Counsellor at Law in the State of New York (USA) and the Republic of the Philippines.

**Gregorio Rafael P. Bueta**

Grip has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from the Ateneo de Manila University. He earned his Juris Doctor Degree from the same institution and was the recipient of the St. Thomas More Most Distinguished Award for his graduating class. Grip is currently a Consultant with the Asian Development Bank as a Legal and Policy Specialist working on environmental justice with the judiciaries, as well as, legal and regulatory reforms in South Asia. Prior to joining ADB, he headed the Strategic Initiatives Management Office in the Office of the President of the Philippines focusing on environment and climate change related government policies and programs. As a private legal practitioner and independent consultant, Grip is an advocate for environmental rights and justice, protection of biodiversity, promotion of human rights, development of good governance, and integrity in the public service. He has written several published works on environment and natural resources law and human rights, among others. Grip has also worked with the United Nations Development Programme, the Philippine Judicial Academy, the Ateneo School of Government, and various NGOs and private companies.