



**Workshop on Waves of Change:
Advancing the Blue Economy Across Asia and the Pacific**

PRESENTERS



YUEBIN ZHANG

***Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist
Regional Cooperation and Integration and Trade Division (CCRC)
Climate Change and Sustainable Development (CCSD), ADB***

Yuebin Zhang has over 30 years of experience in development and poverty reduction and has been deeply involved in regional cooperation and integration (RCI) since 2003. He joined Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s East Asia Department in 2006 and is now Principal Regional Cooperation Specialist in the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department, with responsibilities for monitoring the implementation of ADB's RCI operational plan, managing RCI funds, supporting the operations of regional and sectoral departments, ensuring quality of RCI projects, and coordinating with development partners. Before joining ADB, Mr. Zhang had worked in the International Department of the PRC's Ministry of Finance. He also served as Advisor to the People's Republic of China (PRC)'s Executive Director at the World Bank Group; and worked in International Finance Corporation as a staff member.



JONATHAN MCCUE

***Maritime Strategy and Regional Cooperation Specialist, Cowater
International New Zealand Ltd.***

Jonathan McCue, Director of Sustainable Seas Ltd., is a chartered coastal scientist, with 36 years consultancy experience across all Pacific nations in the fields of marine environmental planning and evaluation of governance systems, design and implementation of coastal developments, climate change adaptation, and Blue Economy related programs. With global mandate, his expertise lies in offering team leadership skills to nations in the Asia and Pacific region on institutional strengthening and capacity building for projects to support the delivery of Blue Economies, Marine Spatial Planning (MSP), integrated coastal zone management (ICM), protected area management, and forestry (mangrove) policy related projects. He has worldwide experience of working for all international donors, government and non-government organizations (NGOs) and has contributed to Regional Blue Economy design projects, including the UK's Blue Planet Fund project and the Atolls Blueprint project (in 2024) for Kiribati, Marshall Islands, and Tuvalu.



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JONATHAN TURNER

Co-Founder and Director at NLA International

Jonathan Turner is a senior business transformation and operational systems leader, with more than two decades experience converting strategy into repeatable delivery. As Co-Founder and Director at NLA International, he is mainly responsible for designing operating models, governance routines, and performance systems that allow complex Blue Economy programs to move from diagnostic analysis to stable, measurable implementation. His work spans fisheries governance, maritime domain awareness, port and coastal operations, and donor funded institutional reform—grounding national policy ambition in feasible, scorable, and auditable execution plans. He is recognized for building delivery frameworks that enable complex, multistakeholder programs to maintain momentum from inception to completion, ensuring results are delivered on time, within budget, and to agreed quality standards.



ALVIN LOPEZ

Principal Operations Coordination Specialist, CCRE, CCSD, ADB

Alvin Lopez is currently Principal Operations Coordination Specialist (Environment) in the Climate Change and Sustainable Development Department at ADB, where he also leads ADB's Nature Solutions Finance Hub. Mr. Lopez has served ADB in various roles, including sector focal in Cambodia for ADB's Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development (AFNR) sector where he spearheaded program development and implementation of ADB investments in water resources management, agriculture, irrigation, fisheries, ocean health, and natural capital. Notably, he led the preparation of the coastal and marine fisheries project in 2023. From 2010, he led ADB's programs in the People's Republic of China (PRC) and Mongolia, focused on river basin restoration, water resources management, environmental policy, soil pollution and contaminated site management, restoration of coastal and inland wetlands, biodiversity, and the promotion of the PRC's green development agenda, including eco-compensation. Prior to ADB, Mr. Lopez has served prominent roles in international organizations such as UNDP, Wetlands International, IUCN, WWF.



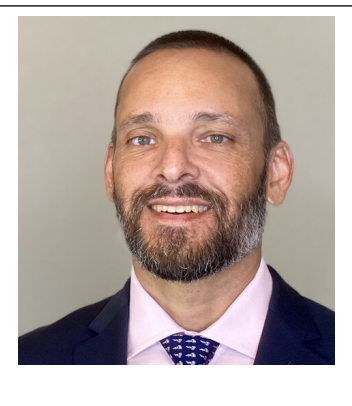
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ROEL HOENDERS

***Head, Climate Action and Clean Air, Marine Environment Division,
International Maritime Organization***

Roel Hoenders oversees IMO's regulatory agenda on the decarbonization of maritime transport and the reduction of air pollution from ships. Prior to this, Mr. Hoenders worked in the IMO Secretariat as technical officer supporting governments with ratification and implementation of IMO's environmental instruments. He has also worked as legal and policy officer on defining EU renewable energy and clean air policies in the European Commission's Directorate-General for Environment, and on promoting sustainable shipping in the European Maritime Safety Agency (EMSA). His experience also includes managing sustainable transport infrastructure projects in the MENA region at the European Commission's Development Cooperation Directorate and advising on ESG and government relations at the European Sea Ports Organization (ESPO) and DHL Netherlands. Mr. Hoenders holds a law degree, with specializations in international environmental and maritime law, complemented by postgraduate studies in environmental sciences and business sustainability.



R. DUNCAN MCINTOSH

***Senior Regional Maritime Specialist, Sectors Department 1, Transport Sector
Office, ADB***

R. Duncan McIntosh designs regional strategies for ports connectivity, maritime trade efficiency, and green ports and shipping in the Asia-Pacific region. Prior to joining ADB, he served as the Oceanography Officer at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme, where he directed the Pacific Islands Global Ocean Observing System and coordinated the Pacific regional hub of the Global Ocean Acidification Observing Network. Mr. McIntosh previously taught Marine Affairs at the University of Rhode Island, developed climate services at the University of Hawaii, served as a NOAA Coral Reef Management Fellow, and single-handedly sailed across the Pacific Ocean. He holds a Ph.D. in Marine Affairs from the University of Rhode Island, a master's in meteorology and physical Oceanography from the University of Miami, a bachelor's in physics from Vanderbilt University, and a conjoint appointment as Senior Lecturer at the University of Newcastle, Australia.



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TERRY CHO

Senior Urban Development Specialist, Sectors Department 2, Water and Urban Development Sector Office, ADB

Terry Cho provides technical support in designing and implementing urban environmental management projects to various ADB project teams. In this capacity, he supports the assessment of wastewater and solid waste management at city and country levels, and the processing and implementation of investment and technical assistance projects. Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Cho worked as Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist at the World Bank, and Senior Investment Operations Specialist at the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB). He has over 25 years of experience in developing solid waste disposal, water supply, and wastewater treatment projects in Asia. Prior to joining the World Bank and AIIB, he held various roles in leading consultancy firms, including with Camp Dresser & McKee, as an international expert in waste management.



ANDREAS THERMANN

Senior Infrastructure Specialist, Green Finance Unit Hub, ADB

Andreas Thermann is senior infrastructure specialist at ADB's Green Finance Hub, which provides crosscutting support to ADB's developing member countries in Southeast Asia to accelerate green investments and advance innovative financing solutions in response to the region's climate, energy, and financing needs. Prior to this, he was an Environmental Finance and Partnership Specialist in ADB's Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department (SDCC) where he oversaw the Ocean Finance flagship program of ADB's Healthy Oceans Action Plan. He also worked on new financing instruments like bonds and debt swaps to mobilize private capital for environmental projects. Mr. Thermann has more than 15 years of professional experience in development finance, mainly at Germany's KfW Banking Group and the World Bank Group. He previously held different strategy positions and managed a varying portfolio of projects in the energy and financial sectors in India, Mongolia, and the People's Republic of China.



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MD. SAYED IFTEKHAR

Associate Professor, Griffith University, Australia

Md. Sayed Iftekhar is an applied and environmental economist with extensive experience in research, teaching, consultancy, and policy advice. He specializes in cost-benefit analysis, non-market valuation, impact assessment, mechanism design, and the sustainable management of natural resources, including water, land, energy, and the environment. He was the Secretary of the Australasian Agricultural and Resource Economics Society (AARES) from 2020 to 2022 and currently serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the Economic Analysis and Policy journal (Elsevier, Q1).



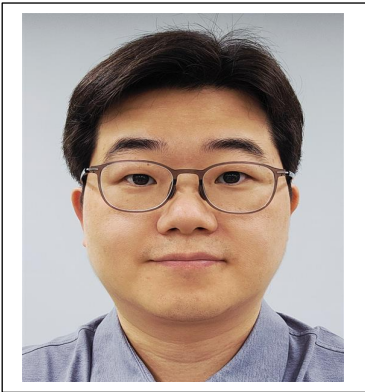
LAN LE

Environmental Economist, Agriculture, Food, Nature, and Rural Development Sector Office, SD2, ADB

Lan Le is responsible for designing and developing ADB investment projects and technical assistance on agriculture, forestry, coastal and marine ecosystems, and ocean plastic waste management. She has co-led the development of the ecosystem value database tool that is expected to support environmental project and policy designs across Asian countries. Lan Le holds a Doctorate Degree in Environmental and Natural Resources Economics at the University of Western Australia.



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BUMJUN SHIN

Chief International Cooperation Officer, Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries, Republic of Korea

Bumjun Shin has had an extensive career with the Ministry of Ocean and Fisheries of the Republic of Korea. He has led the Ministry in the 10th Our Ocean Conference and the 4th APEC Ocean-related Ministerial Meeting Preparatory Office. He has also served as the Deputy Director of the Ministry's International Cooperation Division; and Deputy Director, Smart Maritime Logistics Team / Future Strategy Team / Coastal Shipping Division / Fisheries Infrastructure and Aquaculture Industry Division / International Commerce and Trade Division, Ministry of Oceans & Fisheries. Mr. Bumjun Shin holds a Master of Law (International Law) from Zhejiang University.



JASON MIKA

Professor, Business School, Management and International Business; and Associate Dean, Faculty of Business and Economics, University of Auckland

Jason Mika's research, teaching, writing, and practice centers on Indigenous business philosophy in multiple sites, sectors, and scales, including Indigenous trade, tourism, agribusiness, and the marine economy. In 2015, Jason completed a PhD in Māori entrepreneurship at Massey University. In 2019, Jason was a Fulbright-Ngā Pae o Te Māramatanga senior scholar at Stanford University's Woods Institute for the Environment and the University of Arizona's Native Nations Institute. Jason is a member of the Academy of Management, Australian and New Zealand Academy of Management, and Te Apārangi Royal Society of New Zealand. Prior to academia, Jason was a management consultant and policy analyst in Māori economic development. Jason's research has influenced several areas of public policy, including trade, environment, and statistics. He holds a PhD From Massey University, a BMS (Hons) from the University of Waikato, and an MPP from Victoria University of Wellington.



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CERASELA STANCU
Sustainability Director, Envirostrat

Cerasela Stancu works with private sector and government organizations on sustainability solutions and integration of natural capital and ecosystem services in policy and business decisions, including performance measurement and disclosure. She is focused on investment for impact as a viable concept for landscape level solutions in New Zealand and working with interested parties on supporting actions at the nexus of water, food, and carbon.