

2015 ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellows



CAMBODIA, Kesa LY, Fisheries & Coastal Management

Mr. Kesa Ly boasts over a decade of experience managing research programs on topics ranging from food security, climate change, and hydropower and water resources for academia and development organizations alike. He has served as a Mekong-Power Research Fellow in 2011 and as an ASEAN-Canada Junior Research Fellow in 2012.

Through the ASEAN-US Science and Technology Fellowship, he hopes to advance his skills and knowledge of government decision making and policy analysis by working in Cambodia's Ministry of Environment. He also looks forward to expanding his professional network in the region.

Mr. Ly holds dual-master degrees in Agronomy from the Royal Academy of Cambodia (2006) and Development Studies from the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Switzerland (2012). He also holds a post-master degree in Climate Change from the UNESCO-IHE in the Netherlands (2014).

CAMBODIA, Soriya YIN, Biodiversity

Born and raised in a farming community in the rural Svay Rieng Province, Dr. Yin Soriya is now a senior lecturer and researcher at the Royal University of Phnom Penh where he teaches public policy analysis, program evaluation, ecotourism, and sustainable development courses. In addition to his research projects, he has worked as an advisor for the University of Minnesota, the United Nations, the World Wildlife Fund, and the Asian Development Bank.



Through the Fellowship, Dr. Yin hopes to contribute his knowledge and analytical skills to Cambodia's Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries to help them make well-informed policy decisions. He also looks forward to learning firsthand about ASEAN and to expanding his network with other experts in the region.

Dr. Yin has a B.A. in Education from the Institute of Foreign Language (2000), M.A. in Tourism Development from the Royal University of Phnom Penh (2003), and Ph.D. in Natural Resource Science and Management from the University of Minnesota in the United States (2012).



INDONESIA Akhmad RIZALI Biodiversity

Dr. Akhmad Rizali brings nearly 15 years of experience researching and teaching in the fields of entomology, agro-ecology, bio-geography, and landscape ecology. He has worked as an assistant lecturer at his alma mater, Bogor Agricultural University, and at the University of Brawijaya. For the past few years, he has also been active with the PEKA Foundation, a biodiversity conservation NGO in Indonesia, conducting research on insect diversity in the forests of Indonesia.

Through the Fellowship, Dr. Rizali hopes to draw upon his experiences translating research into policy action to conserve areas of West Kalimantan and more effectively transform knowledge and data from scientific discoveries into practical policies and more informed decision making.

Dr. Rizali has a B.Sc. in Plant Protection (2000) and M.Sc. in Entomology (2006), both from Bogor Agricultural Institute, Indonesia, and a Ph.D. from the University of Goettingen in Germany (2011).

2015 ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellows



INDONESIA, Vanny NARITA, Biodiversity

Currently a researcher with the Center for Pharmaceutical and Medical Technology, Dr. Vanny Narita has conducted research and worked on the development of vaccines and has provided policy recommendations on food, energy, water, and health issues. Previously as the Head of the Molecular Biology Laboratory at the National Consortium of Vaccines and Medicines, she managed research activities including bio-pharming and infectious disease biosensors, including on dengue and hepatitis B. In 2006, she received an award from Indonesia's former President Yudhoyono recognizing her dedication to dengue research.

Through the Fellowship, Dr. Narita hopes to learn more about the science-based decision making process and its implementation by policy makers. She also looks forward to learning from the other Fellows and being part of a program that will help inform ASEAN's strategic priorities on science, technology and sustainable economic growth for the ASEAN Economic Community.

Dr. Narita received her dual-major B.Sc. in Biochemistry and Biology (1997) and Ph.D. in Biochemistry, Cellular, and Molecular Biology from the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, USA (2002).

INDONESIA, Wiratni BUDHIJANTO, Energy Security

Currently a faculty member at the Chemical Engineering Department of Gadjah Mada University, Dr. Wiratni Budhijanto has over ten years of experience conducting waste-to-energy research. Her work has led to the design of a bio-Liquefied Natural Gas plant to process municipal solid wastes and to the development of an affordable and energy-efficient fish preservation system using *chitosan*, a waste product derived from the shrimp industry.



Through the Fellowship, Dr. Budhijanto hopes to learn strategies for ensuring scientific considerations and ideas are taken into account within the policy making process. She also hopes that the Fellowship will broaden her horizons, exposing her to people with different backgrounds and experiences from throughout the region.

Dr. Budhijanto received both her Bachelor's (1996) and Master's (1999) degrees, both from the Chemical Engineering Department, Gadjah Mada University, Indonesia. She received her Ph.D. in Chemical Engineering from West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, USA (2003).



MALAYSIA, Nofri Yenita DAHLAN, Energy Security

Currently a senior lecturer in the Faculty of Electrical Engineering at the Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM) in Malaysia, Dr. Nofri Yenita Dahlan focuses on power generation and clean energy technology. She heads up the Power System Planning and Operation Research Group and is a research fellow for Advanced Computer and Communication, working on power generation investment and energy efficiency. In recognition for her achievements in the field, she has been awarded a Certified Measurement and Verification Professional from the Association of Energy Engineers.

Dr. Dahlan looks forward to the training, professional development, mentoring and networking opportunities offered by the Fellowship, and she hopes to not only gain firsthand experience in the government policy and decision making process, but also to achieve her career goals beyond the lab and contribute her scientific knowledge and expertise to the national agenda.

Dr. Dahlan received her Bachelor's in Engineering with Honors (2001) from the Universiti Tenaga Nasional, Malaysia, and her M.Sc. (2003) and Ph.D. in energy economics from the University of Manchester, United Kingdom (2011).

2015 ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellows



MALAYSIA, Siti Zaharah SAKIMIN, *Energy Security*

Dr. Siti Zaharah Sakimin is a specialist in the field of pomology, the cultivation of fruit. Her research has been featured in the *Postharvest Biology & Technology Journal* and presented at the prestigious International Horticulture Conference (IHC) and International Mango Symposium.

Currently, serving as a senior lecturer at the Universiti Putra Malaysia, Dr. Sakimin has recently received the Vice Chancellor Teaching and Learning Innovation Award. Through the Fellowship, Dr. Sakimin hopes to improve her leadership and diplomacy skills while helping combine science and technology with policy development in Malaysia.

Dr. Sakimin completed her B.Sc. in Horticulture (2002) and Master's degree in Pomology (2006), both at the Universiti Putra Malaysia. She received her Ph.D. from the Department of Environment and Agriculture at Curtin University in Australia (2011) under a scholarship from Malaysia's Ministry of Higher Education.

PHILIPPINES, Paul J. Legaspi GERALDINO, *Biodiversity*

Currently an associate professor with the Department of Biology of the University of San Carlos in the Philippines, Dr. Paul J. Legaspi Geraldino has focuses on the study of molecular biology. He is the curator of the university herbarium and the head of the university cell and molecular biology laboratory. His current research includes identifying hidden bio-resources and determining their ecological functions and potential medicinal applications.



Dr. Geraldino hopes to contribute and gain new knowledge through the Fellowship, ultimately contributing to the improvement of policies pertaining to biodiversity conservation and sustainable resource management.

Dr. Geraldino received his B.Sc. in Biology (2001) and Master's degree in Marine Biology from the University of San Carlos, Philippines (2004) and his Ph.D. in Organismal Biology from Chungnam National University in Korea (2008).



MYANMAR, Ko MYINT, *Biodiversity*

Dr. Ko Myint is currently a lecturer in the Zoology Department at the University of Yangon. In addition to teaching, he researches biodiversity conservation, particularly focusing on the diversity of reptiles and amphibians. Previous research includes a focused study of sea turtles in Myanmar's Ayeyawady Delta under a research grant from the Nagao (Japan) Natural Environment Foundation and the Forest Resources Environment Development and Conservation Association of Myanmar.

Dr. Myint hopes the Fellowship will provide him the opportunity to improve his knowledge and expertise in the area of policy making and allow him to expand his network throughout the region.

Dr. Myint received his B.Sc. (2000), M.Sc. (2002), and Ph.D. from the University of Yangon (2007).

2015 ASEAN-U.S. Science and Technology Fellows



THAILAND, Jirawat PANPENG, Fisheries & Coastal Management

Born in a rural village in the coastal areas of Krabi province, Mr. Jirawat Panpeng is a doctoral student focusing on Climate Change and Sustainable Development in the School of Environment and Resources at the Asian Institute of Technology. His dissertation focuses on coastal communities' vulnerability to climate change. Mr. Panpeng also works with the National Economic and Social Development Board of Thailand on regional and spatial development planning and conducting on sustainable development in coastal zones.

Through the Fellowship, Mr. Panpeng looks forward to contributing to regional knowledge and to networking with other scientists working on climate change impact on coastal areas regionally.

Mr. Panpeng received his Bachelor's degree (1999) from the Faculty of Fisheries and his Master's degree (2007) from the Faculty of Economics from Kasetsart University. He is currently a doctoral candidate at the Asian Institute of Technology.

THAILAND, Worajit SETTHAPUN, Energy Security

Dr. Worajit Setthapun is currently the Acting Dean of the Asian Development College for Community Economy and Technology (adiCET) at the Chiang Mai Rajabhat University in Chiang Mai. In addition to managing academic programs and research, Dr. Setthapun also developed and now oversees the Chiang Mai World Green City and Smart Community, a model city powered entirely by renewable energy. In addition, She also serves as a consultant on renewable energy technology and policy projects for the Thailand's Ministry of Energy, Energy Regulatory Commission, and the DuPont Company.



Dr. Setthapun hopes the Fellowship helps her to expand her network and provides training on how best to link scientific findings with national policies to address communal energy problems more effectively and sustainably.

Dr. Setthapun received her Bachelor's degree (2000) in Chemical Engineering from King Mongkut's University of Technology Thonburi in Thailand. She received her Master's degree (2002) and completed her Ph.D. (2006) in Chemical Engineering on a Fulbright Scholarship, both at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, in the United States.



VIETNAM, DANG Vu Tung, Energy Security

Dr. Dang Vu Tung is a lecturer with the School of Economics and Management at the Hanoi University of Science and Technology where he teaches technology management, decision modeling, and project management. Over the past decade, he has also served as a consultant for several development projects focused on clean energy and commercial energy efficiency.

Dr. Dang hopes that through the Fellowship, he will be able to draw upon his expertise to help improve data-based policy making in Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology.

Dr. Dang obtained his Bachelor's degree in Electronic Engineering from Hanoi University of Science and Technology (1995), and Master's (1997) and Ph.D. (2001) in Industrial Engineering and Management from the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand.



VIETNAM, Duong Du BUI, Fisheries & Coastal Management

Currently the Deputy Director of the Water Monitoring Department at the National Center of Water Resources Planning and Investment (NAWAPI) under the Vietnam Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment, Dr. Duong Du Bui works on natural resource management policy, particularly focusing on water resources. He oversees the nation-wide monitoring and forecasting systems of water resources, which informs national water management policies. Prior to working with NAWAPI, Dr. Bui was Head of the Hanoi University of Natural Resources and Environment.

Dr. Bui hopes that as a Fellow he will be able to better understand policy and government decision making processes, as well as provide his expertise to aid the formulation and implementation of water policies in his host ministry. He also would like to help connect water researchers and policy-making communities and enhance science-policy links for sustainable water management in Vietnam under the context of climate change.

Dr. Bui completed his B.Sc. at the Water Resources University of Vietnam (2005) and his Ph.D. at the Tokyo Metropolitan University (2011).

VIETNAM, Nguyen Duc LUONG, Energy Security

Dr. Nguyen Duc Luong is currently a lecturer and researcher in the Department of Environmental Technology and Management at the National University of Civil Engineering (NUCE). His research areas include energy efficiency, renewable energy, air quality management, air pollution control, and climate change.



By participating in the Fellowship, Dr. Nguyen hopes to improve his understanding of government decision making processes in his fields of research. He also he looks forward to the opportunity to contribute his scientific knowledge and analytical skills in the field of renewable energy in Vietnam's Ministry of Science and Technology.

Dr. Nguyen has a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Engineering from NUCE in Vietnam (2005), Master's degree in Urban Environmental Management from the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand (2007), and a Ph.D. in Environmental Engineering from the Korea Institute of Science and Technology (2011).