Speakers

On February 20, 2018, Mr. Ban Ki-moon was elected as the President of the Assembly and Chair of the Council of the Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI). His leadership enables the Institute to help its Members to successfully adopt the green growth model of development, which is in line with the work he spearheaded at the United Nations.

In addition to leading GGGI, Mr. Ban serves as the Chair of Korea’s National Council on Climate and Air Quality since April 2019 and Chair of the Boao Forum for Asia since April 2018. Along with the former President of Austria Mr. Heinz Fischer, he serves as Co-Chair of the Ban Ki-moon Centre for Global Citizens in Vienna, Austria since January 2018. Mr. Ban is the Chairman of the International Olympic Committee Ethics Commission since September 2017, and he is the Distinguished Chair Professor and Honorary Chairman at the Institute of Global Engagement and Empowerment at Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea. Mr. Ban also serves as Deputy Chair of The Elders since 2017, an independent group of global leaders established by President Nelson Mandela.

Prior to the current appointments above, Mr. Ban served two consecutive terms as the Eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations (UN) from 2007 to 2016, during which time he worked to build bridges, to give voice to the world’s most vulnerable and marginalized people, and to bring transparency and effectiveness to the UN. He successfully initiated global action to combat climate change that culminated in the adoption and rapid entry into force the landmark Paris Climate Change Agreement in 2016. He worked closely with member states to shape the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to establish UN Women, the latter of which advances global gender equality and women’s empowerment. He also led major efforts to strengthen UN peace operations, protect human rights, improve humanitarian assistance, prevent violent extremism and revitalize disarmament activities.

Prior to leading the UN, Mr. Ban was Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Republic of Korea. His 37-year career as a diplomat included postings in New Delhi, Washington D.C., and Vienna, as well as key responsibilities for a variety of portfolios, including as the Foreign Policy Advisor to the President, the Chief National Security Advisor to the President, the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Deputy Minister for Policy Planning, and the Director-General for American Affairs. Mr. Ban contributed significantly to issues relating to inter-Korea relations and WMD proliferation by serving as Vice Chair of the South—North Joint Nuclear Control Commission and Chairman of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization.

Mr. Ban holds a bachelor’s degree in International Relations from Seoul National University and a master’s degree in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.
Christian was born and raised in Latin America. Highly impressed by the experience of hyperinflation in the 80s in Argentina, Christian studied Latin American Studies in the University of Cologne (Germany). He then started his more than 20 years of experience in the field of development cooperation at Oxfam Australia. There he got in touch for the first time with the fate of the PICs and their struggle to deal with the heavy impact of the effects of climate change. In 2003 he joined GIZ, where he built an extensive experience in developing, planning, obtaining funding, as well as implementing complex international development projects. In the 2000s he worked for GIZ in Georgia and Colombia. After that he oversaw several comprehensive intra-organizational processes at headquarter level. In his last job he managed the introduction of a worldwide environmental and social standards procedure in GIZ. Christian is now based in Fiji as the Project Manager of the NDC Hub, as well as the Project Coordinator of the Pacific component of the Global Programme Human Mobility in the Context of Climate Change.

Professional Social media links:
Website: https://pacificndc.org

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Ravinesh is a renewable energy planner with national, regional, and international experience working in the energy sector on several projects including on enabling environment type projects, such as policies, legislations, regulations, and technical standards as well as infrastructure type projects specifically; solar, wind, biomass, biogas, hybrid systems both for off-grid and grid-connect applications. Highly experienced in project planning and design, project management, coordination and implementation, monitoring, evaluation and learning, stakeholder liaison and community consultations. A passionate adaptative specialist contributing towards sustainable development in the Pacific.

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Vanda, a Samoan national, is one of the Technical Advisors for the Pacific NDC Hub but based at the Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) in Apia, Samoa. She has a Master of Science (Renewable Energy) from Murdoch University, Australia and a Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Teaching from the University of Newcastle, Australia. Vanda has more than 10 years' experience in mitigation needs assessment and methodologies and joined SPREP from Samoa’s Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (Renewable Energy) where she had worked for six years. Vanda leads SPREP’s work on the Pacific NDC Hub and to address identified needs and priorities of Pacific Island Countries to enhance and successfully implement their NDCs and specifically to achieve objectives of the project. In addition, she will assist in the further development of the Pacific NDC Hub for its third phase, including financing agreements, work plans and regional training and workshops.

Green growth achievements in your career or of your organization:
Key green growth achievements in Vanda’s career are her significant contribution to Samoa’s first NDC submission in 2015 as well as the development of Samoa’s Nationally Appropriate Mitigation Actions (NAMA) plan.

Hope to achieve at #GGGWeek2021:
At the GGGWeek2021, Vanda looks forward to knowing more about working together to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

Professional Social media links:
Website: https://www.sprep.org/
Amit is a solutions-focused professional with 10+ years of experience in a range of policy, planning, project management, and water management fields, including water resources and waterways management, groundwater assessment and development, strategic and corporate planning, natural, project development and implementation, MEL, and climate-resilient infrastructure (grey-green) planning and implementation. He has worked in urban-rural and remote regions of the Pacific operating within and across government, non-government and private sectors at community, local, national, and regional levels and continuously advocates for using innovative approaches that embrace grey-green hybrids to address current climate impacts. Amit has an MSc in Water Management from the IHE Delft Institute for Water Education.

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Mr. Amit Singh
Climate Change Project Development Specialist, The Pacific Community (SPC)

Daniel is the Country Representative for GGGI in Fiji, Kiribati, Tonga, and Vanuatu. In this role, Daniel manages and supports respective country teams to deliver programs of work designed to achieve national development goals and climate actions. He is also responsible for engaging with GGGI Member country governments and cultivating new business opportunities and partnerships that support the sustainability and scale-up on in-country programs. Daniel holds an MA in International Development and an MBA in Information and Media.

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Mr. Daniel Muñoz-Smith
Country Representative for Kiribati, Fiji, Tonga, and Vanuatu, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

Rebecca has an MSc in Environmental Policy and Regulation from the London School of Economics with a strong interest in sustainable development. For the past three years she has been working for the Regional Pacific Nationally Determined Contribution Hub (NDC Hub) with a focus on monitoring and reporting on the NDC Hub’s activities.

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Ms. Rebecca Eldon
Advisor, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
Tutii is the Executive Director for Palau’s Energy Administration under the Ministry of Public Infrastructure and Industries. He is also the Chair of the Pacific NDC Hub Steering Committee representing the Pacific sub-region of Micronesia. Tutii is an avid supporter of and experienced professional in Pacific climate action having advanced Palau’s journey as part of the NDC Hub as its focal point. Under Tutii’s guidance as the Chair, the NDC Hub has achieved significant milestones in a very short period of time since its inception.

Professional Social links:

Mr. Tutii Chilton
Executive Director, Palau Energy Administration, and Chairperson of the Regional Pacific NDC Hub Steering Committee

Noim is a sustainable energy and climate change professional with several years of working experience on climate transparency, sustainable/low carbon energy strategies, climate change policy, and greenhouse gas risk management. He has worked with governments, private sectors, and academia and UN agencies. He contributed as Lead Author of IPCC Working Group III – Mitigation of Climate Change (2014).

Green growth achievements in your career or of your organization:
A key green growth achievement in his career is transparency in greenhouse gas accounting.

Hope to achieve at #GGGWeek2021:
At the GGGWeek2021, Noim looks forward to seeing a balance of mitigation and adaptation climate actions.

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Dr. Noim Uddin
Senior Officer MRV and NDC Enhancement, Global Green Growth Institute (GGGI)

About GGGI
Founded to support and promote the mainstreaming of green growth, GGGI programs and projects target economic growth that is environmentally sustainable and socially inclusive. Headquartered in Seoul, Republic of Korea, GGGI has 40 members with operations in over 35 countries.