

October 25, 2021,  
16:00-18:00 CST/ GMT-5

## Green Entrepreneurship: Innovative Business Models & Potential for Green Jobs Creation

### Speakers



H.E. Ban Ki-moon

President of the Assembly and Chair  
of the Council of the Global Green  
Growth Institute (GGGI)

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 of 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.



Ms. Kristin Deason

Representative, Caribbean, GGGI

Dr. Kristin Deason is GGGI's lead representative in the Caribbean, based in Saint Lucia, where she leads GGGI's programs in support of the Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States and its member countries. Previously, Kristin worked in GGGI's regional Pacific program based in Fiji. She has over 15 years of experience in renewable energy, sustainable transport, project management, and communications, with a focus on green growth initiatives and climate action in small island developing states.

Prior to joining GGGI, she worked on renewable energy projects with the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), the U.S. Army and Navy, the US Department of Energy, and the governments of Germany and the EU. She holds a Ph.D in Energy and Environmental Management from the George Washington University and a Bachelor's degree in Engineering from the University of Virginia.

Social links:

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GGGICaribbean>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/GGGICaribbean>

LinkedIn: <http://www.linkedin.com/in/kristindeason>



Mr. Juan Pablo Bustamante

Senior Officer, Project Preparation  
Facility Management at Global Green  
Growth Institute

Mr. Juan Pablo Bustamante is a Senior Officer of Project Preparation Facility Management at Global Green Growth Institute.



Ms. Laurah John

Program Officer, Eastern Caribbean  
Green Entrepreneurship Initiative,  
GGGI

Founder of a green enterprise in Saint Lucia – JUA KALI LTD. – focused on waste recovery and the circular economy. Launch of the Eastern Caribbean Green Entrepreneurship Initiative. Selection of the 1st cohort of Eastern Caribbean Greenpreneurs for the Incubator Training Program

Hope to achieve at #GGGW2021:

Share the work that is being done in the Caribbean to bring green entrepreneurship to the foreground. To uncover and explore opportunities for collaboration to further support green entrepreneurs/businesses.

Social media:

Twitter: [GGGICaribbean \(@GGGICaribbean\) / Twitter](#)

Facebook: [GGGI Caribbean - Home | Facebook](#)

Website: [Eastern Caribbean Greenpreneurs programmes \(oecs.org\)](#)

LinkedIn: [\(6\) Laurah John | LinkedIn](#)



Ms. Esther Bates

Senior Project Management Officer,  
Global Green Growth Institute

Esther is GGGI's Project Manager for the regional Pacific Green Entrepreneurs Network based in Suva, Fiji. Originally from the UK via Australia, Malaysia and Singapore, she has lived and worked in Fiji for five out of the last eight years on various projects involving entrepreneurship and financial inclusion.

Esther has technical expertise in supporting entrepreneurs through access to finance and coaching support, in particular in the Pacific, South and Southeast Asia and Africa. Beyond this, her experience spans innovation, results measurement, social performance, project and commercial management in NGOs, private and international organizations.

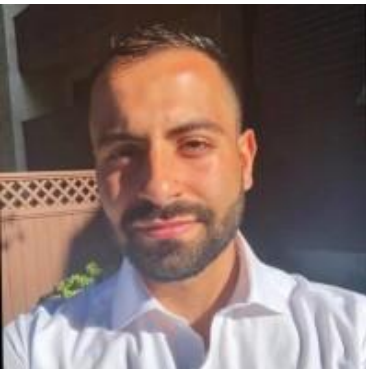
Esther holds a Masters degree in Public Administration (International Development), in addition to her Commerce degree and Graduate Certificate of Management.

Social media links:

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/in/estherkbates](https://www.linkedin.com/in/estherkbates)

Twitter: @EstherKBates

Website: <https://www.pacificgreenpreneurs.com/>



Mr. Abdullah Khair

Strategic and Global Partnerships  
Manager at Student Energy

Green growth achievements in your career or of your organization:

- 281 youth-led clean energy projects launched and supported and \$120,000 in funding by Student Energy to date
- This set to scale to \$3 million in 2023 and \$150 million in 2030 through Student Energy's latest UN Energy Compact, the Youth Solutions Movement
- 45,000+ young people across 130+ countries engaged in community engagement, skills development, career enhancement opportunities, research & data collection, and entrepreneurship training through 12 years of experience
- Over 50% of youth targeted and engaged through our programs are women, the majority of whom are in the Global South

Hope to achieve in #GGGW2021:

I hope to achieve commitment at-scale from decision-makers to empower and invest in the next generation of young entrepreneurs in this decade of action at GGGWeek.

Social links:

Website: [www.studentenergy.org](http://www.studentenergy.org)

@studentenergy on all platforms

LinkedIn: <https://ca.linkedin.com/in/abdullahkhair>



Dr. So-Min Cheong

Associate Professor, University of  
Kansas

Cheong's current research focuses on the social consequences of environmental disasters and climate change adaptation including oil spills, floods, and extreme heat. She is the author of numerous publications in top interdisciplinary environment, policy, and geography journals such as: *Nature Climate Change*; *Climatic Change*; *Ecology and Society*; *Environment and Planning*; *Transactions of the Institute of the British Geographers*; and *Marine Policy*. She has also worked on a number of commissioned reports for the Korean government, UNESCO, and WMO on the topics of coastal management, climate change adaptation, boundary issues, and disaster management. She is a lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) Sixth Assessment Report (AR6) and the IPCC Special Report on ocean and cryosphere (SROCC). Previously she served as an author of the IPCC SREX and AR5, and participated in IPCC scoping meetings for SROCC and AR6. Her recent awards include the National Academies Gulf Research Program grant, NSF CAREER award and the Korea Foundation Fellowship. Cheong received her PhD in geography from the University of Washington, where she also earned MA degrees in marine affairs and international studies. She earned her BA in English from Yonsei University in Korea, and was an exchange student at Reed College in Portland, Oregon. She was also a visiting professor at Yale, Stanford, NYU, and BRGM (French Geological Survey).

E-mail: [somin@ku.edu](mailto:somin@ku.edu)



Ms. Slendy Diaz

CEO of ACTIVIST

Green growth achievements in your career or of your organization:

Reduction of CO2 emissions in construction and tire industry, more than 12,000 educated in circular economy, eco design of products with 100% recycled content, reduction of waste generation, participation in more than 56 specialized events.

Social media:

Twitter: @slendydiazm

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/activistce>

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/ActivistCE>

Website: [www.activist.com.co](http://www.activist.com.co)



Mr. Juan Bautista Fernandez

Director of the Technological Center  
for Industrial Circular Economy of the  
Province of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Green growth achievements in your career or of your organization:  
Our entity accompanies industrial development and from the Center we generate support actions for industries and their value chain.

Hope to achieve in # GGGW2021:

Share applicable and achievable experiences for the continuous improvement of industrial activity.

Social media:

Twitter: @JuanBauFer, @uipba

Website: [www.swa-trabajosustentable.com](http://www.swa-trabajosustentable.com), [www.uipba.org.ar](http://www.uipba.org.ar)

## 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.

