# REGIONAL KNOWLEDGE EXCHANGE: "REDD+ FINANCING" 25 - 27 MAY 2016, Bangkok REDD+ PARTNERSHIP





#### **Bios of Presenters**

Anura Sathurusinghe
Conservator General of Forest
National Programme Director
Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme (Sir Lanka)

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- Presently employed as the head of the Forest Department, Sri Lanka Conservator General of Forests
- Also serves as the National Programme Director Sri Lanka UN-REDD Programme
- Member of the National Committee on UNESCO International Biosphere Reserves and Board member of the Postgraduate Institute of Agriculture and Board Member of the State Timber Corporation
- Area of specialty Community Forestry and Forest Restoration
- Work experience in the Forestry sector more than 30 years
- Positions held (Forest Department)
  - Head of the Research & Education Division of Forest Dept.
  - Head of the Social Forestry & Extension Division of F.D
  - Director Sri Lanka Forestry Institute
  - District Forest Officer
- Project Director ADB funded Participatory Forestry Project 1993 2000
- Project Manager Sri Lanka Australia Natural Resources Management Project
- Education: Master's in Forestry and Post graduate Diploma in Forest management

Ben Ridley
Asia-Pacific Head, Public Policy – Sustainability Affairs
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Ben is a primary enabler to embed sustainability into the bank's activities in the Asia Pacific region through the design and delivery of business, operational and stakeholder initiatives. Ben is responsible for facilitating transaction-level

environmental and social due diligence, and in helping clients develop their strategy and capacity to address key environmental and social challenges. With a background in ecology and environmental management, Ben has 20 years' experience as a sustainability professional, including 15 years as project consultant on behalf of clients in multiple sectors. Ben is, inter alia, an Advisory Board member of ASrIA – an engagement platform for responsible investment in Asia – and is also a member of WWF-Hong Kong's Conservation Advisory Committee.



## Ben Vickers Regional Technical Adviser, UN-REDD Prgrogamme/FAO (Thailand) Ben.Vickers@fao.org

Ben is currently working as the Regional Technical Advisor of the UN-REDD Programme for the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO). He studied forest management, to Masters level, at Aberdeen and Oxford Universities in the UK. He has lived and worked in Asia for most of the last 18 years, based in Nepal, India,



Viet Nam and Thailand. After working with forestry and rural development projects for German Technical Cooperation (GIZ) and the Netherlands Development Agency (SNV), he joined the Center for People and Forests (RECOFTC) in 2008 and has since then worked at the regional level on programme development and advisory services in the field of forests and climate change, particularly REDD+. He joined FAO in 2012.

#### Bruno Guay Technical Specialist EE, CO/RSCPA (Panama) bruno.guay@undp.org

Bruno Guay is with the UN-REDD team since January 2014 supporting countries in the development of national REDD+ financial architecture. Bruno will be based in the UNDP regional office in Panama.



Prior to joining the UN-REDD team, Bruno worked with the World Bank's Forest Carbon Partnership Facility (FCPF) on the design and operation of the FCPF's Carbon Fund. The Carbon Fund is designed to pilot performance-based payment systems for large scale programs that reduce greenhouse gas emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+). Between 2009 and 2012, Bruno Guay was technical adviser to the government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, a position supported by the UN-REDD program. He has also worked as consultant for private firms involved in reforestation projects for the Clean Development Mechanism and as climate change analyst for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

Bruno has served on the advisory committee of the Verified Carbon Standard's REDD+ Nested and Jurisdictional Initiative. His scientific papers on REDD+ have appeared in Forest Policy ad Economics, Climate Policy, as well as in numerous OECD publications. He speaks French, English, Spanish, and Italian. A Canadian national he has studied in Chile, and lived and worked in Panama, France, the Democratic Republic of Congo and the United States. Bruno Guay holds a Masters in Environmental Policy from McGill University, Montréal.

#### Diana Lourdes Almoro Regional Coordinator for Asia Pacific, UNEP Finance Initiative (Thailand) diana.almoro@unep.org

Diana Almoro is Regional Coordinator for UNEP Finance Initiative (UNEP FI), a global partnership between UNEP and the financial sector. Based in Bangkok, she oversees the relationship of the Geneva-based UNEP FI with its financial institution members in Asia Pacific. This entails promoting the sustainable finance agenda among banks,



insurance companies and institutional investors and facilitating dialogues with key stakeholders from government and with other development partners. Particularly for the REDD+ and Sustainable Land Use Workstream of the Initiative, she supports awareness-raising among private sector finance institutions about the opportunities and risks of REDD+ activities and provides inputs into consultations with UN REDD partner countries and private sector actors.

Diana has been working in the development community for close to 15 years, learning from and contributing to the agendas on local community development, financial inclusion, local governance and social accountability. Prior to joining UNEP, she worked with the German International Cooperation (GIZ), World Bank, UNDESA and non-government organisations in her home country, the Philippines. She holds a Masters in International Development and Environmental Analysis from Monash University, Australia.

## Gabriel Eickhoff Managing Director, Forest Carbon (Lao PDR) g.eickhoff@forestcarbon.com

Gabriel has been working on carbon forestry projects in Southeast Asia and Africa since 2006. He specializes in market-driven solutions to sustainable development, including the design of national, provincial and project-level initiatives on Reducing



Emissions from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD+) and new advances in High Carbon Stock (HCS) approaches to sustainable commodity supply chain management in the Indonesian sustainable agro-industry sector. As Managing Director of Forest Carbon Partners he specializes in a host of business development, and technical services with clients ranging from individual emission reduction project designs to innovations in regional and national market-driven initiatives for sustainability in the agriculture, forestry and other land use sector (AFOLU). Gabriel and his partners have led over 100 technical contracts on REDD+ and carbon forestry in over a dozen countries in Southeast Asia and Central Africa since 2009.

## Gabriel Kissinger Principal, Lexeme Consulting (Canada) gabrielle@lexemeconsulting.com

Gabrielle Kissinger is Principal of Lexeme Consulting, based in Vancouver, Canada. She is a consultant to UNEP on the UN-REDD Programme, working with specific UN-REDD countries to identify more compatible fiscal policies, new policies and



measures that can be promoted to reduce deforestation and degradation driver pressure on forests, and strategies to promote compatible investment by the private sector in REDD+. Gabrielle'e background in working at the intersection between science and environmental policy— offering multi-disciplinary solutions based on sound science, economics and political viability. Consulting services focus primarily on global land-use and climate change, finance, REDD+, agriculture, and business solutions to sustainability. Services include strategies for linking science into policy and decision-making, convening and negotiation, government affairs, research and due diligence. She has almost 25 years of experience working at the interface between government policy and land use pressures, finding solutions at local, sub-regional, national and international scales.

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- Member, Philippine Delegation to the UNFCCC 21<sup>st</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Paris, FRANCE (Nov.30-Dec.14, 2015), 20<sup>th</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE PARTIES United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
- Lima, PERU (Dec.1-12, 2014)
  - Resource Speaker and Panelist, 2014 Global Landscapes Forum, UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE - SBSTA 41
- Bonn, GERMANY (June 4-15, 2014)
  - Vice Chairperson FMB Gender and Development (GAD) Focal Point System
  - Team Leader, FMB Citizen's Charter Team
  - Member, BAC-TWG (Regular TWG and FAPs Consultancy-Individual)
  - Member, National Wildlife Management Committee (CITES)
- EDUCATION
  - University of the Philippines at Los Baños (UPLB), B.S. Forestry (1990-1994)
  - New Era University, Bachelor of Laws [Ll.B.] (2004)
  - Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP), Graduate Certificate Course on Corruption Prevention (2010), Master in Public Management
  - Polytechnic University of the Philippines, Master in Business Administration (MBA), Major in Marketing (under thesis)

Michael Brady
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Working with national and international staff, and outside specialists, Michael oversees several forestry projects in East Asia, and West and East Africa. A central theme is to work with private sector clients to develop viable forest plantations on degraded lands. Key program goals are to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, improve sub national enabling environments, and strengthen business cases for sustainable forest management by industry and SMEs.

Current projects focus mainly on plantation forestry and include, among others: strengthening community enterprise partnerships with plantation firms in Indonesia; improving wood supply chains for processing mills in Vietnam; guiding environmental and social impact assessments and management system development for plantation projects in Indonesia and Papua New Guinea; recommending plantation development strategies for biomass fuels, carbon credits and wood supply in Kenya, Ethiopia, Indonesia and Sierra Leone; and supporting stakeholder engagement planning and concession licensing for industrial and community plantation developments in Lao PDR, Indonesia and China.

Michael has worked for over 30 years throughout Southeast Asia on forest management, ecosystem restoration and environmental impact analysis. He has held various private, public and academic positions in sectors including forestry, pulp and paper, oil and gas, and mining.

Dr. Brady has a BSc in biology, an MSc in forest management and a PhD in tropical forest science. He is a registered professional biologist.

VILMA P. GOROSPE
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Assistant Director Vilma P. Gorospe obtained her Bachelor of Science in Commerce, Major in Accountancy from the University of Santo Tomas in 1978 and her Master's Degree in Public Administration from the Polytechnic University of the Philippines in 2001. She is a Certified Public Accountant.

She started her career in government at the Department of Budget and Management in 1980 where she worked her way up the ladder of the organization from Budget Analyst to her present position as Assistant Director of the Budget and Management Bureau for Food Security, Ecological Protection, and Climate Change Management Sector.

In her official capacity, she participated in various trainings and seminars both locally and internationally, particularly in the USA and South Korea.