

WEBINAR: ENSURING RESILIENCE, ACCELERATING PROGRESS – EXAMINING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

10 June, 10-11:00am (KST)

Speakers Biography



Mr. Tae Hoon Moon
Chairman
National Council for Sustainable
Development, Republic of Korea

Tae Hoon Moon has been serving as a steering committee member of the Presidential Commission on Sustainable Development and now the Chairman of the National Council for Sustainable Development for the Republic of Korea. He also serves as the President of the Korea Environment Policy and Administration Society and the Co-Chairperson of the Council for Sustainable Development in the Gyeonggi-do province.

His major areas of research include environmental policy, sustainable development, urban growth management, and system dynamics. He is currently a Professor, Department of Urban Planning & Real Estate at Chung Ang University, Korea. He obtained his Ph.D. in Public Administration and Policy from the State University of New York (SUNY) at Albany.



Ms. Mia Seppo
United Nations
Resident Coordinator,
Bangladesh

Mia Seppo joined the United Nations Country Team in Bangladesh as the United Nations Resident Coordinator in October 2017. With broad expertise and experience including in post-conflict and peace keeping contexts, with managing support for complex elections and in humanitarian crises and responses, Mia has served the majority of her career in senior managerial roles within the UN - working in Tajikistan, Sierra Leone and Malawi as well as in UN HQ in New York with the UNDP Regional Bureaus for Africa and for Europe & CIS. Mia launched her UN career in 1996 with a focus on governance and human rights issues.

Prior to joining the UN, Mia worked for civil society and think tanks, including the Finnish Committee for European Security. Mia is a Finnish national and holds a master's degree in Social Sciences from the University of Helsinki, Finland.



Mr. David Smith
United Nations Global
Sustainable Development Report
2019, Jamaica

Co-author and Member of the
International Panel of Scientists

Director, Centre for
Environmental Management,
Coordinator, Institute for
Sustainable Development

David Smith (Jamaica) is Coordinator of the Institute for Sustainable Development at the University of the West Indies (UWI) and Director of the Centre for Environmental Management, and the Caribbean Chair for the Sustainable Development Solutions Network. The institute focuses on research in Sustainable Development Governance and Policy, Disaster Management and Environmental Management. Dr. Smith was an expert reviewer for the IPCC Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events (SREX).

He served on the Board of the Caribbean Conservation Association for five years and was President in 1995. From 1994 to 2000 he was a Regional Councilor of IUCN-The World Conservation Union and the Chair of the Business Committee of IUCN's Council as well as a member of the steering committees of the IUCN commissions on Species Survival, Protected Areas, and Communications and Education. He oversaw the development of the Jamaican Protected Areas System Plan and contributed to the National Forestry Management Plan. He has consulted on small business management and the design of environmental financing mechanisms in Jamaica, Uganda, Guyana and Trinidad and Tobago.



Mr. Jean D'Aragn
Officer-in-charge
United Nations Office for
Sustainable Development

Jean D'Aragn has 20 years of international development experience in research, policy capacity building, and monitoring and evaluation related to sustainable development in America, Europe, Africa, Asia, and Oceania. He worked at the UN-Habitat headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya and the UN DESA United Nations Centre for Regional Development in Nagoya, Japan on climate change, natural disaster risk and vulnerability reduction, urban planning and governance.

Jean has also been called upon to undertake assignments as Early Recovery Advisor and Early Recovery National Coordinator with the same and other UN agencies such as UNDP, in various geographical contexts, including disaster-hit regions of the Philippines and Vanuatu or in Cameroon, where he developed and coordinated programmes combining food security and poverty reduction with youth job creation and empowerment, particularly in the Far North Region of Cameroon, which is severely affected by Boko Haram's insurgency, not to mention land use agro-pastoral conflicts, which are exacerbated by increases in drought and flooding associated with the adverse effects of climate change.

Prior to joining the UN, Jean was a Senior Programme Officer at the International Development Research Centre (IDRC - Canada), leading research on the interlinkages between urban poverty reduction, livelihood and food security, environmental protection and resilience building, supporting their integration into territorial planning policies, codes, regulations, and plans. He also taught and lectured in different universities in Brazil, Portugal, France and in Canada, particularly at McGill University, where he has earned his Ph.D.



Mr. Sanjaya Bhatia
Head
UNDRR Office for Northeast Asia
and Global Education and
Training Institute
(UNDRR ONEA &GETI)

Sanjaya Bhatia is the Head of the Office of UNDRR Office for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) for Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon, Republic of Korea, where over the past two years he has guided the training of over 2000 government officials. Before taking this position Sanjaya Bhatia worked as a head of the International Recovery Platform (IRP) - Secretariat at Kobe, Japan where he led the development of the Guidance Notes on Recovery and supervised a capacity building program for national and local governments, along with other knowledge management functions. He trained over 850 government officials in that period.

Earlier as the Focal Point Disaster Resilient Schools and Hospitals with the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) of the World Bank he was instrumental in development of the “Guidance Notes on Safer School Construction” and the “Guidance Notes on Integrating DRR in Health Sector Projects” and financing of projects on safe schools and hospitals. He has worked with the Government of India, the World Bank, and the United Nations in the field of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for over 25 years.