



INDO-PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY FORUM

1-4 AUGUST 2022

KURUMBA, MALDIVES





August 2022

2022 INDO-PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY FORUM

Dear Forum Participant,

Welcome to Kurumba Maldives, Republic of Maldives.

The Maldives National Defence Force and the United States Indo-Pacific Command are pleased to co-host the 2022 Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum (IPESF), in partnership with the Australian Defence Force, New Zealand Ministry of Defence, and the Arizona State University's Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory.

While environmental stewardship, climate change, and regional security cooperation are not new concepts, the nexus between environment, climate change, and security is an emerging theme of increasing prominence. The Forum's program over four days provides a valuable opportunity to comprehensively explore environmental security challenges and solutions through multiple lenses including defence and civilian.

The relationships you build here can affect meaningful environmental security outcomes into the future. Fostering a strong civil-military community of practitioners will have a multiplier effect in building resilience and capacity across Asia and the Pacific. Enhancing mutual trust, collaboration and alignment on shared environmental security challenges will help underpin cohesion and partnership between states.

Please take full advantage of your time at the Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum and enjoy all that the Maldives has to offer.

With warmest regards,

MAJOR GENERAL ABDULLA SHAMAAL
Chief of Defence Force
Maldives National Defence Force
Maldives

GAVIN L. GARDNER
Brigadier General, U.S. Army
Director, Logistics and Engineering



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Information Paper.....	05
Opening Session	07
Agenda.....	08
Bio: Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef	09
Bio: Brigadier General Gavin Gardner	10
Bio: Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Zubair	11
Day 1 - Climate Security Challenges and Defence Force.....	13
Agenda.....	14
Introduction to the Session.....	15
Session 1: Climate Security, Challenges for the Defence Sector and Responses.....	16
Session 2: Climate Change Security Challenges and Sri Lanka Navy's Contribution.....	17
Session 3: Situating Defense Within Whole-of-Government Climate Security Risk Management.....	18
Session 4: Climate Change Challenges for Defence Forces	19
Session 5: New Zealand's Defense Climate Change Policy	20
Session 6: Working Group Three-Year Plan Introduction.....	21
Working Groups Three-Year Plan Development Links	22
"Ice Breaker" Invitation.....	23
Day 2 – Small Island Nation Concerns.....	25
Agenda.....	27
Introduction to the Session.....	28
Session 1: Opportunities and challenges of protected areas in the Maldives.....	29
Session 2: Open Knowledge Kit: Providing Solutions to Gender, Jobs, and Climate Challenges	30
Session 3: 5-Step Namoonaa Sustainable Waste Management Model and Island Council Engagement....	31
Session 4: Experiences in implementing the "Guardians" Youth Environmental Education Outreach and Training Program in Samoa and Tokelau	32
Session 5: Forest and Land Fire Management in Indonesia to Curb Carbon Emissions.....	33
Session 6: Exploring women's socio-economic security in a rapidly changing climate: Case studies from the Republic of Maldives	35
K.Huraa Site Visit Plan.....	36
Day 3 – Ocean and Water Security.....	37
Agenda.....	39
Introduction to the Session.....	40
Session 1: The Oceans-Climate-Security Nexus in the Indo-Pacific Island Nations: Broadening the Security Agenda	41
Session 2: Best Practices in IUU fishing/maritime pollution response in Maldives	42
Session 3: Science, management, and potential futures for the Great Barrier Reef and Planet	43
Session 4: Scaling up the Development of Human Capital in the Coral Triangle The Role of Women in the Protection of Marine Bio-Diversity, Food Security, and Blue Economy	44
Session 5: Addressing Cross Border Disputes, Poaching, Ocean Pollution, and Overfishing in the Indo- Pacific Region.....	45
Session 6: Global Coral Reef Habitat Maps and Reef Conservation- Allen Coral Atlas.....	46
Country Group Project Development Session.....	48
"Official Dinner Invitation"	49



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Day 4 – Introduction to Climate Change Impacts and Solutions.....	51
Agenda.....	53
Introduction to the Session.....	54
Session 1: Introduction to COP 26 in Context and Climate Change (video).....	55
Session 2: Climate Change Policy in the Maldives.....	56
Session 3: Environmental Litigation as a Solution to Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience.....	56
Session 4: Bhutan’s Climate Vulnerability and It’s Threats to Women, Economics, and Politics	57
Session 5: COP 26 and Climate Change Perspective (video)	58
Session 6: Integrating the Military into Climate Adaptation Solutions.....	59
Session 7: Building Clean, Healthy, and Climate Resilient Cities and Seas in the Indo-Pacific.....	60
 Closing Ceremony.....	 63
Agenda.....	64
Bio: Mr. Gabriel Grau	65
Bio: Ms. Aminath Shauna	66

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2022 IPESF (MALDIVES) INFORMATION PAPER

SUBJECT: 2022 Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum (IPESF), Malé, Maldives

1. Purpose: To provide stakeholders with the concept, background, description, and objectives of the 2022 IPESF that will be held in the Maldives 1-4 August 2022.
2. Environmental Security and U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM): Environmental security can be broadly defined as countering vulnerabilities caused by the abundance or scarcity of environmental resources and/or degradation. Security related to water, waste, energy, food, biosecurity, climate change and other non-traditional threats fit within this definition and can harbor greater security challenges if left unattended.

The annual IPESF is the cornerstone of USINDOPACOM's Environmental Security Program that engages regional militaries and civilian agencies on these topics and our mutual environmental stewardship obligations.

3. 2022 IPESF – Malé, Maldives:

The Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) and United States Indo-Pacific Command (USINDOPACOM) are hosting the 2022 IPESF in Malé, Maldives 1-4 August 2022.

The 2022 PESF will emphasize the following themes:

- 1) Climate Security and Challenges for Defence Forces.
- 2) Oceans and Water Security.
- 3) Small Island Nation Concerns
- 4) Women, Peace, and Security
- 5) COP 26 in Context and Climate Change

The IPESF will include presentations, panel sessions, and group activities to share lessons learned and best practices among environmental security stakeholders, as well as develop actionable plans to address environmental security challenges through project development and workgroup development workshops.

4. Points of Contact: To learn more about the IPESF or if you have any questions leading up to the event please reach out to the following individuals:
 - Mr. Christopher Sholes (christopher.sholes@navy.mil or +1 808 477 9420)
 - Hannah Thompson (hannah.thompson@redhorsecorp.com or +1 415 314 5530)

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Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Opening Session



OPENING SESSION AGENDA

(Monday, 01 Aug 2022)

DAY
1

Time	Event
0730-0830	REGISTRATION <i>Participants are requested to complete registration by 0820, and be seated by 0825</i>
0830-0835	Arrival of Official Party to Seminar Venue
0835-0840	Recitation of Holy Quran
0840-0850	Welcome Remarks by Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef Vice Chief of Defence Force, Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF)
0850-0900	Remarks by Brigadier General Gavin Gardner Director of Logistics and Engineering, USINDOPACOM
0900-0915	Inaugural Remarks by Vice President of Maldives His Excellency Faisal Naseem
0915-0930	Group Photo
0930-1000	REFRESHMENTS (Official Party will depart, Participants to be seated by 09:55)



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef

Vice Chief of Defence Force

Maldives National Defence Force

Biography



Brigadier General Abdul Raheem Abdul Latheef was appointed as the Vice Chief of Defence Force of Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) on 11th December 2018 by His Excellency President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih.

Born on 17th of April 1964, BG Abdul Raheem completed his schooling from Majeediyya School prior to his enlistment in the MNDF on 18th February 1985. Testament to his leadership abilities, he had been a prefect and house captain at the school in addition to being the Regimental Sergeant Major of the School Cadet Corps.

BG Abdul Raheem started his military career in the Signals and successfully completed a Radio Technical Course in the United States in which he attained the first place. BG Abdul Raheem rose through the ranks of the Signals to hold the appointment of Second-in-Command and contributed immensely to the development of the service.

BG Abdul Raheem is a graduate of the Sri Lanka Defence Services Command and Staff College. Furthermore, he has accomplished various trainings including the MNDF NCO Cadre Course, Signals Young Officer and Mid-Career Course in Pakistan and Defence Management Course at the College of Defence Management in India. BG Abdul Raheem is also an alumnus of the Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS), Hawaii, having completed the Advanced Security Cooperation Course at the center and attended various regional seminars and conferences.

During his distinguished military career BG Abdul Raheem has held numerous Command and Staff appointments, including Commandant of MNDF Senahiya Hospital, Commanding Officer of Defence Intelligence Service, Director General of Military Intelligence, Deputy Director General of National Counter Terrorism Center, Commanding Officer of Special Protection Group, Commander of MNDF Southern Area Command, Commanding Officer of Military Police, Acting Commandant of Service Corps and Principle Director – C4 Systems and Civil Military Cooperation, IHQ MNDF.

BG Abdul Raheem held appointment at a number of prominent boards and committee at the MNDF including the apex Advisory Council to the Minister of Defence and the Chief of Defence Force. He also served as the Official Spokesperson of the MNDF for over a period of four years.

In recognition of his dedicated services BG Abdul Raheem has been decorated with over 17 service medals and ribbons, including the Presidential Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Long Service Medal, Dedicated Service Medal, Defence Force Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, 3rd November Medal and the Centenary Medal.

BG Abdul Raheem is married to Aminath Dhihshana and blessed with a son.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

Brigadier General Gavin J. Gardner

Director for Logistics & Engineering (J4)
U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

Biography



Brig. Gen. Gavin J. Gardner assumed the duties of Director for Logistics & Engineering (J4), U.S. Indo-Pacific Command in June 14, 2022. The J4 is responsible for the planning, coordination, and integration of strategic Logistics and Engineering in support of operations across the Indo-Pacific region.

Brig. Gen. Gardner is a third generation Army brat and an Army Logistician. He was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps branch, detailed to the Armor Corps in 1992. He earned a three-year Army ROTC Scholarship and is a Distinguished Military Graduate from the University of Georgia with a Bachelor's of Business Administration Degree in Production and Operations Management in 1992.

He earned a Master's of Science in Logistics Management from the Florida Institute of Technology in 2002, and a Master's of Arts in National Security and Strategic Studies from the U.S. Naval War College in 2014.

Brig. Gen. Gardner's assignments include: Tank Platoon Leader, D Company, 2d Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 3d Brigade, 3ID, Vilseck, Germany, 1993-1994, deploying for Operation Intrinsic Action, 1993. Executive Officer and Tech Supply Officer, B Company, 26th Forward Support Battalion, 3d Brigade 3ID, Vilseck, Germany, 1994-1995. Logistics Planner, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, 1996-1997. Commander, B Company, 215th Forward Support Battalion, 1CD, Fort Hood, 1997-1998. Observer Controller, "Timberwolves" Maneuver Task Force Training Team & "Adlers" Logistics Training Team, Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC), Germany, 1998-2001. Training Developer and Writer, Ordnance Center and School, Fort Lee, 2003. BDE S4, 3d Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4ID, Fort Carson, 2004-2005, deploying for OIF, 2005-2007. Support Operations Officer and Executive Officer, 64th Brigade Support Battalion, 3d Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 4ID, Fort Carson, 2005-2008, deploying for OIF 2007 and OIF 2009. G5 Logistics Planner, Deputy G4, Deputy Chief of Staff, 4ID, Fort Carson, 2008- 2010, deploying for OIF 2009. Commander, 100th Brigade Support Battalion, 75th Fires Brigade, 1ID, Fort Sill, 2010-2012. Chief of Sustainment/G4, 4ID, Fort Carson, 2012-2013. Support Operations Officer, 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), Fort Bragg, 2014-2015, deploying to OEF/OIR. Commander, 82d Airborne Division Sustainment Brigade, 82d ABN, Fort Bragg, 2015- 2017. J4- Director of Logistics for U.S. Forces-Afghanistan (USFOR-A), Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, 2017-2018 for OFS. Director, Commanding General's Initiatives Group and Commanding General's Executive Officer, Army Materiel Command, Redstone Arsenal, 2018- 2020. Commanding General of the Joint Munitions Command, Rock Island Arsenal, 2020-2022.

Brig. Gen. Gardner's awards and achievements include: one Joint Meritorious Unit Award, one Valorous Unit Award, and two Meritorious Unit Commendations, the Legion of Merit (2 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Bronze Star Medal (1 Oak Leaf Cluster), the Meritorious Service Medal (6 Oak Leaf Clusters), the Combat Action Badge, and Parachutist Wings.



MASTER OF CEREMONY

Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Zubair

Managing Director

Sifainge Welfare Company Pvt Ltd (SIWEC)

Maldives National Defence Force

Biography



Lieutenant Colonel Ahmed Zubair joined the Maldives National Defence Force in January 1997. He graduated with a Bachelor of Commerce (Defence Studies) Degree from General Sir John Kotelawala Defence University, Sri Lanka, in 2002 and completed Officers Commissioning Course at Sri Lanka Military Academy in 2003. He was commissioned in November 2008.

Following the completion of MNDF Basic Training, he reported to the MNDF Office of the Chief of Staff as a Finance Assistant where he worked for four years before leaving for the Commissioning Course. While serving as a Finance Assistant, he completed Certificate, Advance Certificate and Diploma in Management. Soon after the Commissioning Course he was assigned as a training instructor at the Defence Institute for Training and Education (DITE). In his tenure at DITE he instructed in the Basic Course, Special Task Force, Non-commissioned Officer Cadre and many other training programs.

During the Indian Ocean Tsunami of 2004, he was posted as the Commander at Forward Coordination Center (FCC) at Gaafu Dhaalu, the largest atoll of the Maldives. After completing the term at FCC once again LTC Zubair was assigned to the Office of the Chief of Staff (now known as Integrated Headquarters) as a Project Coordinator, and as an Assistant Administrative Officer. Before being posted as Assistant to the Principal Director, Directorate of Operations and Training, he also served as the Staff Officer to the Vice Chief of Defence Force. He held the post of Chief Executive Officer of Sifainge Cooperative (Soldiers Welfare Program) before being posted to his current appointment, Managing Director of Sifainge Welfare Company Pvt Ltd. He also serves as a resource personnel to the MNDF Counter Terrorism Cell.

LTC Zubair Completed Young Officers Training and Junior Command at Infantry School and War College, MHOW, India, respectively and attended the Regional Disaster Management Course at Sri Lanka organized by the British High Commission. Apart from these he has attended many other disaster management seminars and workshops locally and abroad. He holds a masters degree majoring in counter terrorism from the Naval Post Graduate School (NPS), Monterey, California, and a Masters in Business Administration from Webster University, St. Louis, Missouri. He is also a graduate of United States Army Command and Staff College, Fort Leavenworth, Kansas.

During the resettlement campaign of Indian Ocean Tsunami 2004 victims of Raa Kandholhudhoo, LTC Zubair played a key role in organizing and implementing the campaign on ground. For his dedicated service, up to date his awards include the Defence Force Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, SAARC Medal, Independence Medal, Presidential Ribbon, Long Service Ribbon, Dedicated Service Ribbon, Defence Force Service Ribbon, Good Conduct Ribbon (thrice), Special Duty Ribbon, Achievement Ribbon and Ribbon for Skill.

LTC Zubair and his wife Razeena, the Finance Controller at Ministry of Finance and Treasury, are blessed with a daughter and two sons, Zaaya, Zakwan and Zayaan.

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Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Day 1

Climate Security Challenges and the Role of Defence Forces



AGENDA

(Monday, 01 Aug 2022)

DAY
1

Time	Event
1000 - 1010	Introduction to the session <i>Mr. Stephen Frano, USINDOPACOM Climate Change Impacts Program Manager</i>
1010 - 1030	Climate Security, Challenges for the Defence Sector and Responses <i>Minister of Defence Uza. Mariya Ahmed Didi</i>
1030 - 1050	Climate Change Security Challenges and Sri Lanka Navy's Contribution <i>Admiral Piyal De Silva, Sri Lanka Navy (Retd)</i>
1050 - 1110	Situating Defense Within Whole-of-Government Climate Security Risk Management <i>Ms. Shiloh Fetzek, Associate Fellow International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS)/Senior Fellow at Center for Climate and Security</i>
1110 - 1130	Climate Change Challenges for Defence Forces <i>Brigadier General Todd Ashurst (AUS)</i>
1130 - 1150	New Zealand's Defense Climate Change Policy <i>Ms. Tilly Hampton, NZ MOD Policy Analyst</i>
1150 - 1230	Climate Security and Defence Forces Panel Session <i>Mr. Stephen Frano to Moderate</i>
1230 - 1330	LUNCH BREAK (<i>Buffet Lunch at Vihamanaa</i>)
13:30-13:40	Working Group Three-Year Plan Introduction <i>Mr. Christopher Sholes, USINDOPACOM Environmental Security Program Manager</i>
13:40-15:00	Working Group Three-Year Plan Development session #1 <i>Networking Group: Col Mike Goodyer, Australian Defence Force</i> <i>Education Working Group: Ms. Jessica Givens, ASU</i> <i>Policy Working Group: Ms. Amy Ching, NZ MoD</i> <i>Mitigation Working Group: Col Melvin Ibarreta, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command</i>
1500-1530	BREAK then MOVE TO NEXT SESSION
1530-1650	Working Group Three-Year Plan Development session #2 <i>Networking Group: Col Mike Goodyer, Australian Defence Force</i> <i>Education Working Group: Ms. Jessica Givens, ASU</i> <i>Policy Working Group: Ms. Amy Ching, NZ MoD</i> <i>Mitigation Working Group: Col Melvin Ibarreta, U.S. Indo-Pacific Command</i>
1650-1700	Administrative Notes by MC
2000 - 2130	Ice Breaker <i>Hosted by Chief of Defence Force Major General Abdulla Shamaal</i>



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

MODERATOR

DAY 1 - Climate Security Challenges and the Role of Defence Forces

Mr. Stephen Frano

Program Manager

USINDOPACOM Climate Change Impacts

Biography



Stephen Frano is an employee with Valiant Integrated Services and works as the Climate Change Impacts (CCI) Program Manager at the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian assistance. He leads the CCI team responsible for establishing a robust INDOPACOM capability to anticipate and respond to the security impacts of climate change. The CCI program is dedicated to working across the DOD, interagency, and partner nations to increase resilience, reduce fragility, and enhance climate security for the Indo-Pacific region.

Stephen joined the INDOPACOM Strategic Partnerships Office in April 2013 as the Public Private Partnerships Program Manager where he supported far-ranging efforts in such areas as environmental security, disaster risk reduction, energy grid resilience, and cyber security. Prior to that Stephen worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Coastal Management focused on capacity building activities for coastal community resilience and programming for Hawaii and U.S. Territory Coastal Zone Management Programs. Stephen also worked for the Territory of American Samoa, Department of Commerce focused on environmental planning and permitting for pollution prevention and hazard mitigation.

Stephen obtained his bachelor's degree in integrated science and technology from James Madison University and his master's degree in environmental management from Duke University. Stephen earned his Project Management Professional certification and was an AILA Fellow with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in 2020.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

SESSION 1 : Climate Security, Challenges for the Defence Sector and Responses

Uza. Mariya Ahmed Didi

Minister of Defence

Biography



Mariya Didi is the incumbent Minister of Defence of the Republic of Maldives, a former Member of Parliament and a leading human rights activist.

She was sworn in as the Minister of Defence on 17th November 2018 by His Excellency President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih. She holds the distinction of being the first female in the history of Maldives to be appointed Minister of Defence.

Mariya Didi has a Bachelor's degree in Law (LLB) (Hons) and a Master's degree in Law (LLB) (Hons) from the University of Aberystwyth, Wales, United Kingdom. She completed her professional qualifications in England and is among the first two Barristers to be called to the Bar of England and Wales, and is a Barrister of the prestigious Gray's Inn, England, having done her pupillage at Albion Chambers, Bristol. Mariya believes that her studies laid the foundations that in order for a country to become a nation of laws and enjoy all

freedoms that come along with it, democracy and the rule of law have to be introduced, nurtured and allowed to flourish

A woman of many superlatives, Mariya Didi is also the first female lawyer of the Maldives. She is one of the few female members of parliament the world over, who has succeeded in sitting in Parliament for 4 Consecutive terms. As an elected Member of Parliament, Mariya Didi sat in the Drafting Committee of the 2008 Constitution. In 2007, she was awarded the International Women of Courage Award by the US Secretary of State in recognition of her contribution to democracy and human rights in the Maldives

Mariya Didi is the first and the only woman so far to be elected as Chairperson of a major political party in the Maldives. She was elected as Chairperson of Maldivian Democratic Party (MDP), the largest political party in the Maldives. It was under her chairmanship that the party won the first ever multiparty democratic presidential elections held in the Maldives in 2008.

Mariya Didi is married to Mr. Mohamed Amir. She is blessed with one daughter and two sons.

The role of Minister of Defence is to lead the accomplishment and realization of the Vision and Mission of the Ministry of Defence, and to supervise the institutions and agencies assigned to the Minister's mandate, in furtherance of the policies and goals of the Government.

Abstract

As a low-lying island nation with an overwhelming dependency on tourism and fisheries, climate and environment security issues present critical national security challenges for the Maldives. Climate change is a systemic pressure that not only creates new threat vectors, but exacerbate existing issues ranging from cross-border terrorism, human and narcotics trafficking, IUU fishing and vast array of other symbiotic threat actors. The defence sector of Maldives is at the forefront of tackling climate security issues by providing critical civil defense services, emergency response, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief. Further, as strategic lead times contract and the security environment becomes increasingly complex, climate and environmental issues present significant challenges for operational effectiveness, contested logistics, long-term capability development and force sustainment. Maldives is engaged in mitigating these challenges through better interagency coordination, whole-of-society engagement and closer defence cooperation engagement with regional and international partners.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

SESSION 2 : Climate Change Security Challenges and Sri Lanka Navy's Contribution

Admiral Piyal De Silva(Retd), WWV & Bar, RWP, RSP, VSV, USP, ndu

Biography



Admiral Piyal De Silva was the 23rd Navy Commander of the Sri Lanka Navy and the former ambassador of Sri Lanka to Afghanistan. He has held many key appointments in the navy during his 37 years of Naval career. He is an experienced counter terrorism, counter narcotic, counter smuggling and disaster management practitioner.

De Silva graduated with a Master of Business Administration in Human Resource Management and Master of Science in Military Science and National Security Strategic Study. Further, he has attended the National Defence Course. He has received specialized training on Deep Sea Salvage Diving and Explosive Ordnance Disposal Diving. He is a Chartered Member of the Chartered Institute for Personnel Management, Sri Lanka. Being a strategic leader, he has used his knowledge and skills in many sectors in the navy and the country producing both tangible and intangible results.

De Silva has taken his own initiatives to improve the Maritime Information Center at the Navy Headquarters, Colombo and Integrated Maritime Border management system in Sri Lanka to reinforce Maritime Domain Awareness. He has been instrumental in developing Vessel Board Search & Seizer training course, Ship in box simulator training and disaster response simulator in the Sri Lanka Navy. He is a marine environment conservationist as well.

Currently he is serving as the consultant on marine & energy cluster for Hayleys Advantis Company and Special Advisor to Sri Lanka & IORA countries for EU- CRIMARIO II project.

Abstract

The marine ecosystems of Sri Lanka are also subjected to gradual deterioration.

Defense forces have a pivotal role to play in the disaster management cycle by taking part through mitigation, response and recovery. Civil-military responses for disasters are a very effective approach in many countries when it comes to resource and skill utilization in order to achieve synergy.

Sri Lanka Navy is contributing immensely for the protection and conservation of the marine environment through its green and blue drive including many activities. The mangrove restoration project in Jaffna District and the declaration of Naval Dockyard as a "green and blue domain" are two successful activities among the initiatives that demonstrate the Sri Lanka Navy's contribution to ecosystem sustainability.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

SESSION 3 : Situating Defense Within Whole-of-Government Climate Security Risk Management

Ms. Shiloh Fetzek

Associate Fellow, International Institute for Strategic Studies

Biography



Shiloh Fetzek is an Associate Fellow at the International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and a Senior Fellow at the Center for Climate and Security in Washington, DC. She was previously a researcher in the Defence and Military Analysis Programme at the IISS, the Head of the Climate Change and Security Programme at the Royal United Services Institute (RUSI), and a Senior Research Associate for Environment, Climate Change and Security at International Alert. She also contributes to the UN Climate Security Mechanism's work on preventing violent extremism, among other programming areas. As a security analyst, the aim of her work is to advance nuanced understandings of the climate security nexus and catalyse preventative responses, particularly from the security community.

Abstract

Climate change is a complex security challenge that requires a higher degree of coordination, information-sharing, and communication within and across government and inter-governmental institutions. As more countries recognize and address the security dimensions of climate change, defense will increasingly work alongside other branches of government to protect citizens, the national interest and national security. This presentation will speak to ways that security communities and governments in the Indo-Pacific can strengthen and build new processes and institutional infrastructure to address the security dimensions of climate change. It will highlight the essential role that defense plays within national and regional responses to climate hazards and climate-related impacts on the strategic environment. It will also emphasize the importance of governments prioritizing preventive measures rooted in development and diplomacy. Examples from countries within and outside of the region will illustrate a range of governance approaches being taken to preserve stability and prosperity in a climate-changed future.



SESSION 4 : Climate Change Challenges for Defence Forces

Brigadier Todd Ashurst

Director General Support

HQJOC, Australian Army

Biography



Brigadier Ashurst graduated from the Royal Military College Duntroon in 1992 into the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineer Corps. Brigadier Ashurst has held a variety of corps and non-corps staff, logistic, and training appointments. Highlights include S4 (DQ) 1st Brigade, instructing at the Royal Military College and the Australian Command and Staff College, and Director General Logistics – Army. He has commanded in multiple logistic, arms corps, or supporting arms units at platoon and company level. Significant command appointments include: Commanding Officer and Chief Instructor of the Army School of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering (2009-2011); Commander of Joint Logistic Unit – Victoria (2014-2016); and as the final Commander of Task Group Afghanistan (2020-2021).

Brigadier Ashurst spent 12 months deployed to the United Nations Truce Supervision Organisation (UNTSO) serving as a Military Observer and subsequently as an Operations Officer in the Headquarters of Observer Group Golan (2001-2002). He also deployed to most Australian operational areas as the inaugural Staff Officer Grade One Logistic Operations in Army Headquarters responsible for the planning of logistical mounting, sustainment and remediation of Army force elements (2007-2008), working closely with Joint Operations Command. Brigadier Ashurst has served as the Principal Staff Officer- Operations (J3) at the Australian National Headquarters (JTF 633) coordinating all Australian Defence Force operations in the Middle East, for which he was awarded a Deputy Commander Joint Operations Commendation (2012). His most recent deployment as the Chief Combined Joint Operations (CCJ3) for the NATO Resolute Support Mission (RS) in Afghanistan saw him dual hatted as Commander of Task Group Afghanistan (2020-2021), leading Australia's withdrawal from the NATO mission. In his CCJ3 role he coordinated the RS mission's daily operations, Afghan operational level military engagement, and the coalition retrograde.

Brigadier Ashurst is a Distinguished Graduate of the United States Army War College (2018) where he read for a Master of Strategic Studies. He holds a Master of Arts from Kings College London, a Bachelor of Professional Studies from the University of New England, a Graduate Diploma of Logistic Management, and an Associate Diploma in Personnel Management. He is a graduate of the Joint Services Command and Staff College in the United Kingdom (2005) and a Graduate of the Australian Institute of Company Directors (2017). He has served as a Non-Executive Director (2018-2020) to the Board of the Army and Air Force Canteen Service (AAFCANS). Additional appointments have included Honorary Aide-de-Camp for the Governor General of Australia in the Australian Capital Territory (2019- 2020), and Head of Corps for the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (2020).

Brigadier Ashurst commenced his duties as Director General Support (J1/4) at Headquarters Joint Operations Command in late November 2021. He is married to Jane and they have two pre-teen daughters. His interests now include netball, rugby, cycling, military history, and he owns a set of golf clubs.

Abstract

The Indo-Pacific region has experienced some of the most damaging disasters in recent decades, with alarming consequences. At the same time, the climate in the region has been changing. Temperatures have been higher, on average, and also more variable and more extreme. Weather and rainfall has also been more variable and more extreme.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

The security impacts of Climate Change have been referred to as a threat multiplier. This is a very real security risk that all Defence Forces must understand, adapt to and mitigate. Engaging regularly with other armed forces, provides opportunities to share climate change adaptation and mitigation lessons, builds capacity and connectedness in our region. In our Indo-Pacific region, relationships between people matter. Shared interests matter. Government to government, military to military, people to people. Strengthening alliances and partnerships in our region is a critical element to transition to a secure, resilient and net-zero Indo-Pacific.

SESSION 5 : New Zealand's Defense Climate Change Policy

Tilly Hampton

Policy Analyst, International Branch
Ministry of Defence

Biography



Tilly is a Policy Analyst in the International Branch of the New Zealand Ministry of Defence.

The International Branch leads policy advice and analysis on New Zealand's deployments, Defence relations, and offshore security issues to Ministers, Defence principals and partner agencies. Her areas of responsibility include defence engagement with the Pacific, and the defence and security impacts of climate change.

Tilly joined the Ministry of Defence in June 2018. Prior to starting with the Ministry, Tilly interned at the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research in Geneva.

Tilly holds a Masters of International Relations and Diplomacy with Distinction from the University of Canterbury, a Bachelor of Laws and a Bachelor of Arts (Politics and French language) from the University of Otago.

Abstract

This presentation will explore the New Zealand Ministry of Defence's experience in integrating a response to climate change as part of Defence policy.

The 2018 Boe Declaration by Pacific Islands Forum countries and territories, including New Zealand, reaffirmed that climate change presents "the single greatest threat to the livelihoods, security and wellbeing of the peoples of the Pacific".

The accelerating impacts of climate change will have fundamental effects on global security, but are being felt early and deeply in the Pacific region, of which New Zealand is part. Climate change is causing more extreme weather patterns and increasing numbers of climate-related natural disasters, and is most acutely affecting states less equipped to respond. The direct human security impacts of climate change will increasingly intersect with and exacerbate national security challenges. For some Pacific countries the threat is existential.

Since 2018 New Zealand's Defence Policy has formally recognised the importance of climate change. Most recently, New Zealand's Defence Assessment 2021 recognised climate change as one of the two most significant long term trends affecting New Zealand's security. This presentation will expand on these and other examples of how New Zealand Defence has developed policy to meet the challenges of climate change. It will also underscore the importance of integrating gender perspectives into climate change work, recognising that women are often disproportionately impacted by climate change and hold great potential to contribute to solutions.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
1

SESSION 6 : Working Group Three-Year Plan Introduction

Mr. Chris Sholes

Environmental Program Manager

U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

Biography



Chris Sholes is the Environmental Security Program Manager within the USINDOPACOM Engineering Division. His duties include overseeing environmental compliance for bilateral exercises (e.g. Talisman Saber), and planning the Pacific Environmental Security Forum and international environmental workshops. He also monitors environmental impact assessments developed by the service components and coordinates projects with State of Hawaii offices and others on environmental matters. His previous experience includes project management of various environmental remediation projects throughout Hawaii and the Pacific including soil and water remediation and UXO clearance in Saipan, Guam, Japan and Korea, Palmyra and other remote islands. He has five degrees including two from the London School of Economics in International Relations and Economics and an MS in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a certified contracts manager (CPCM) and certified project manager (PMP) from the respective US national

certifying organizations.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

Working Groups Three-Year Plan Development



Networking Group



Education Working Group



Policy Working Group



Mitigation Working Group



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*Maldives National Defence Force
requests the pleasure of your company at the
Icebreaker Session
of Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum 2022.*

Date: 1st August 2022 (Monday)

Time: 2000 - 2130hrs

Attire: Casual

Venue: Kalhuthukalaa Koshi

R.S.V.P: 9999006

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Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Day 2

Small Island Nation Concerns

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AGENDA

(Tuesday, 02 Aug 2022)

DAY
2

Time	Event
0900 - 0905	Administrative Remarks
0905-0915	Introduction to the Session <i>Brigadier General Wais Waheed</i>
0915-0935	Opportunities and challenges of protected areas in the Maldives <i>Ms. Muhsina Abdul Rahman, Senior Conservation Officer – Maldives Ministry of Environment</i>
0935-0955	Open Knowledge Kit: Locally Led Solutions to Gender, Jobs, and Climate Challenges <i>Ms. Celina Agaton, Founder of Open Knowledge Kit</i>
0955-1015	5-Step Namoonu Sustainable Waste Management Model and Island Council Engagement <i>Mr. Gordon Jackson, RECYCLE Program Manager and Ms. Azhoora Ahmed, INSPIRE Program Manager</i>
1015-1035	Experiences in implementing the “Guardians” Youth Environmental Education Outreach and Training Program in Samoa and Tokelau <i>Mr. Schannel Sagele van Dijken, Government and Partnerships Director for Conservation International Asia-Pacific Field Programs</i>
1035-1105	BREAK
1105-1125	Forest and Land Fire Management in Indonesia to Curb Carbon Emissions <i>Brigadier General Tedja Ekaputra and Ms. Damayanti Ratunanda, Secretary Director General of Law Enforcement, Ministry of Environment and Forestry</i>
1125-1145	Exploring women’s socio-economic security in a rapidly changing climate: Case studies from the Republic of Maldives <i>Ms. Aishath Azfa</i>
1145-1230	Small Nation Concerns Panel Session <i>Brigadier General Wais Waheed to Moderate</i>
1230-1330	LUNCH BREAK (<i>Buffet Lunch at Vihamanaa</i>)
1330-1400	Mobilize to Site Visit, K. Huraa
1400-1630	Island Site Visit
1630-1730	Mobilize back to Kurumba Maldives



MODERATOR

DAY 2 - Small Island Nation Concerns

Brigadier General Wais Waheed

Commandant Marine Corps

Maldives National Defence Force

Biography



Brigadier General Wais Waheed was born on 1st October 1969 in Male' the capital of the Republic of Maldives. After completing his secondary education He joined the Maldives National Defence Force on 19th June 1989, and was commissioned 08 years later. He did his initial military training from the Sri Lankan Military Academy. General Wais Waheed was appointed as the Commandant of Marine Corps on 1st February 2018 and it was an additional duty to his current appointment of Commanding Officer to the College of Defence and Security Studies. Recently he was appointed as the Commander of Southern Area.

BG Wais Waheed is a graduate of Army Staff College, Bangladesh where he was awarded with Master of Defence Studies from the Bangladesh National University. Among the other military education he had attended include International Counter Terrorism Fellows Program at National Defence University, USA, Young Officer's Infantry Course and Basic Staff Course in Pakistan and Infantry Advance Course in USA. Asia Pacific Enhanced Peace Operations Logistics Planning Seminar in Mongolia, Regional Lessons Learned Workshop in Indonesia, Pacific Area Senior Officer Logistics Seminar (PASOLS) held in Thailand and China, PASOL planning group workshop held in Malaysia and Australia, PASOLS project development committee meeting held in New Zealand and US, Regional Course on Disaster Management in Thailand, MPAT Tempest Express Events held in Cambodia and Singapore, Pacific Armies Management Seminar (PAMS) held in Malaysia, and 10th International Research Conference (IRC) held in Sri Lanka are among the notable seminars, conferences and meetings the General has attended. He is also a fellow of Asia Pacific Center for Security Studies (APCSS) and Near East South Asia Center for Strategic Studies (NESA).

During his ongoing tenure of service he has held various command and staff appointments including the Administrative Officer of the Office of the Chief of Staff, Second-in-Command and Commanding Officer of Catering Service, Second-in-Command of Support Battalion II and Assistant Commanding Officer of Special Protection Group, and as Principal Director, Directorate of Logistics and Engineering. He was also a member of the Disaster Management Relief Committee, formulated by the government after the destructive Tsunami which hit the Maldives in 2004.

BG Wais Waheed is married and blessed with three sons and a daughter.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

SESSION 1 : Opportunities and challenges of protected areas in the Maldives

Ms. Muhsina Abdul Rahman

Senior Conservation Officer

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology

Biography



Muhusina has a Masters in Marine Science and Management from Macquarie University, Sydney. She joined the Ministry in 2007, and is currently leading the works of protected areas and Biosphere Reserves in the Ministry. She is a member of the IUCN World Commission on the Protected Areas and has contributed to several programs related to Environment at national level.

Abstract

With global and international targets for designation of protected areas, SIDS face a unique challenge for achieving the targets. Maldives has established 79 protected areas and is still working towards designating more areas. The management of these areas remains the biggest challenge as we are expanding the portfolio of protected areas to off-shore Large Marine Protected Areas (LMPA) and other effective area based conservation measures (OECM). The presentation aims to explore and present the opportunities and challenges of the Maldives, in the areas of protected areas designation and management. With common challenges of limited resources in term of finance, human resource and technology, the SIDS has the opportunity to learn from each other in terms of LMPA management and explore resource and technology sharing with other sectors such as fisheries management, coast guard, maritime security and explore avenues such as Remote Monitoring and Surveillance of protected areas.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

SESSION 2 : Open Knowledge Kit: Locally Led Solutions to Gender, Jobs, and Climate Challenges

Ms. Celina Agaton

Founder of Open Knowledge Kit

Biography



Celina Agaton is the Filipino-Canadian Co-Founder of Open Knowledge Kit. She regenerates supply chains in Indigenous, remote communities and creative industries to support governance, climate adaptation, gender, and micro to medium enterprise. She improves research methods for faster, more accurate and verifiable methods with free and open source geospatial tools and Youthmappers to create local data employment with mostly non-technical cross-sector women to address data, wage and investment gaps across gender, climate and jobs. She leads initiatives for World Bank, CGIAR and APEC-Canada and is a Subak Climate Action Fellow.

Open Knowledge Kit empowers local communities with 2-17 times higher local wages and the stewardship of their own economic, climate, and social prosperity. 10 data collection, mapping and analytics tools provide continuous, and consistent data to strengthen prioritization, coordination and monitoring across sectors. The mapping program informs more equitable supply chains across tech, sustainable agriculture, tourism and creative industries

Abstract

Of the \$137 billion invested a decade after Super Typhoon Haiyan and the Sendai Framework, only 4 percent was invested in mitigation, and the lack of coordination and tangle of overlapping multilateral efforts creates chaos to already traumatized communities.

This session presents key shifts to continuous local data collection, analytics and monitoring methods to empower local and international stakeholders to make more informed decisions based on improved prioritization, cross-sector coordination and monitoring capabilities. New local data employment programs remotely train mostly non-technical women at 2-17 times local minimum wages using free and open source software and locally available low-cost equipment to produce faster, more accurate, verifiable data and climate change risk modeling at 70-1000 percent lower costs. This addresses critical climate, pandemic, gender and MSME data gaps to deliver a realistic and inclusive pandemic recovery while providing critical employment to marginalized communities



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

SESSION 3 : 5-Step Namoonaa Sustainable Waste Management Model and Island Council Engagement

Gordon Jackson

Recycle Manager
Soneva Namoonaa

Biography



Gordon designed the Namoonaa Sustainable Waste Management Model and accompanying frameworks. As the Recycle Manager, Gordon works with island councils to develop island-specific solutions, while working with atoll councils to consult on technical and strategic matters towards atoll-wide systems for sustainable waste management. Gordon holds a Masters in Engineering, and he has been experimenting with improving waste management practices in the Maldives since 2012.

Azhoora Ahmed

Inspire Manager
Soneva Namoonaa

Biography



Azhoora is the President Soneva Namoonaa, Soneva's NGO. As the INSPIRE Manager, she oversees all community engagement activities, including zero waste workshops, competitions, the Shore to Open Water Series, and so much more. Azhoora holds a Masters in Tourism, Hotel and Event Management. She represented Maldives in the 2002 Asian Games, held three female swimming national records, and received the Maldives Olympic Committee Athlete of the Year Award. As an ocean lover, she embodies ocean stewardship.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

Abstract

Working in the outer atolls of the Maldives, Soneva Namoonā NGO has partnered with seven islands in Baa Atoll and thirteen islands in Noonu Atoll through the Atoll Council, co-creating systems for sustainable waste management which are showing very promising results. The human centric model sees Island Councils and communities embark on a journey that begins with household waste segregation and leads to the end of open burning through establishing segregation and collection systems. The model focuses on primary and secondary segregation that is relevant and manageable for each unique community; coordinated and well-communicated collection systems; improved and effective equipment and user-friendly waste management spaces.

The Namoonā toolkit includes a progress framework that is used to assess an island's waste management baseline and provides an outline of clear steps towards sustainability. The model emphasises the importance of community engagement and encourages islands to collaborate on a financially efficient coordinated collection service, given the complex logistics associated with a small island nation. In a recent collection from seven island – the first of its kind in the Maldives – a local supply boat transported over 50 tons of recyclables for selling to recycling partners in the capital, covering all the costs in the process.

This model of waste management provides a sustainable alternative to the open burning of waste practiced in most islands. It proves that recycling is possible in small-island nations if islands are empowered with the right tools and skills, and it has the potential to be adopted in remote communities everywhere

SESSION 4 : Experiences in implementing the “Guardians” Youth Environmental Education Outreach and Training Program in Samoa and Tokelau

Schannel van Dijken

Marine, Government and Partnerships Director
Conservation International

Biography



Aotearoa-New Zealand born and raised to Samoan mother and Dutch father, Schannel (aka Sagele) calls west Auckland and Samoa home. Guided by curiosity and heritage, he is a National Geographic Explorer and Marine Biologist working as Marine, Government and Partnerships Director for Conservation International Asia-Pacific Field Program. He has worked in over 15 countries across diverse projects and environments, from Antarctica to Europe, Asia and throughout Pacific. For the past 11 years while based in Samoa, he has been working at the Pacific regional scale intimately involved in local, national and regional multi-stakeholder environmental initiatives. He has demonstrated leadership, sustainability, and environmental management experience honed at working from grass roots level and building local civil society capacity, to high level engagements, working best with people to co-develop strategies and solutions that are grounded in culture and kinship and weaved at the intersection of traditional knowledge, science, education, tech, and policy. Trusted environmental practitioner, Schannel is a passionate Pacific advocate, Polynesian voyager (double-hulled traditional voyaging canoe), divemaster and waterman. He has spent significant time on the ocean exploring nature and people across Oceania, from Aotearoa New Zealand, to Papua, to Hawaii to US and Mexico, Cocos & Galapagos and many Pacific Islands in-between. When he is not in the field, or in online meetings, he enjoys spending time with his family, playing any type sports and exploring the world of tech, blockchain, and cryptocurrency.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

Abstract

The Pacific Island nations of Oceania are reliant on their marine and coastal resources for food, shelter, and wellbeing. There is an overwhelming need for greater awareness of the impacts of climate change on island communities, as well as the critical adaptation and mitigation approaches and their benefits. Within many island states, school curricula have yet to fully integrate relevant science-based subject matter on climate change and effective teaching methodology for impact and long-term retention. Subsequently, this hinders the ability of current and future generations to understand and adapt to climate change and its impacts.

The oral presentation will share experiences of developing and implementing the “Guardians” Program, an experiential environmental education initiative that aims to translate policies and science into culturally relevant on-the-ground training and education to local communities and schools. Targeting youth 8-12 years of age, teachers, and wider community, the Guardians program is a multi-modular environmental and cultural curriculum, co-developed with local and regional partners including the Samoan Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, Ministry of Environment and Ministry of Education, Sports and Culture; and covers different aspects of marine and coastal ecosystem health and management. As of 2022 in Samoa, the program has taught over 800 students, trained over 14 educators and 33 schoolteachers as experiential environmental trainers. In 2022 the teaching modules are being integrated into the Samoa National Education Curriculum and program methodology scaled into Tokelau. Over the next few years, the approach will refine and scale to Timor-Leste and other islands across Oceania.

SESSION 5 : Forest and Land Fire Management in Indonesia to Curb Carbon Emissions

Brigadier General I Gusti Tedjasukma Ekaputra

Expert Analyst Staff

National Resilience Institute

Biography



BG Tedjasukma Ekaputra, graduated from Indonesian Military Academy in 1990 as an Engineering Officer. He is a graduate of the Indonesian Army Command and General Staff College in 2006, US Army CGSC Fort Leavenworth in 2008, the Indonesian Joint Command and Staff College in 2014, and US Army War College, Carlisle Barrack in 2020.

BG Ekaputra was assigned to Expert Reviewers at Indonesian National Resilience Institute and he was promoted to be a general officer in August 2020. Previous assignments include service as Director of Institutional Matters of Indonesian Military Academy, Assistant Logistic Officer at Military Area Command XIV / Hasanuddin in Makassar, Director of Planning and Operation at Indonesian Peacekeeping Center, Director of Training at Indonesian Peacekeeping Center, and Commander of Engineer Construction Detachment 3, Military Area Command I/BB.

He had been deployed in Peace Keeping Operation in Former Yugoslavia as an Liaison Officer at UNPF and UNPREDEP 1996-1997, he deployed in DRC as Vice Commander of Indonesian Engineer Company at MONUC 2003-2004, and he served as UN International Staff as Deputy Chief Service Delivery at MINUSCA Central Africa.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

Ms. Damayanti Ratunanda

Deputy Secretary of DG Law Enforcement
Ministry of Environment and Forestry

Biography



DAMAYANTI RATUNANDA ST. MEngSc. is an acting Secretary Director General of Law Enforcement on Environment and Forestry at Ministry of Environment and Forestry of the Republic of Indonesia. Since 2015, she works as a program manager and has initiated programs focusing on the development of DG Law enforcement. Having 30 years of experience on environmental and forestry sector, her work focus on environmental financing, inspection, investigation, planning, and bilateral cooperation. She received her bachelor degree from Bandung Institute of Technology majoring in environmental engineer and masters degree from Melbourne University.

Abstract

At Glasgow Meeting on UNFCCC, 2021, Indonesia has submitted 2 important documents on Indonesian plan for Climate Change, there are Indonesian Updated National Determined Contribution (NDC) and Indonesian Long Term Strategy for Low Carbon and Climate Resilience 2050 (LTSLCCR). Those documents describe Indonesia commitment to reduce Green House Gas Emission and strategy to adapt to the impact of Climate Change. These important commitment has been announced by Indonesia.

However, Forest and land Fire become one of sensitive activity which contribute huge amount of Indonesia Emission. The biggest Forest Fire is in 2015 when it's burnt about 2,6 Million Ha of forest and land, it is not only contributed significant emission but also huge impact to public health and Indonesian economy. Therefore, starting from 2015, Indonesia has working hard and using all effort from multi stakeholder to permanently combat Forest and land fire. Under President command, we create team from national to village scale consist of Indonesian Military, Ministry of Environment and Forestry (MoEF), District Government and Public. The team is occupied with fire extinguishers, satellite information system (hot spot information) and communication system. It is found that by having these system, the forest and land fire has reduced significantly year by year.

Moreover, In 2019, to make sure that forest and land fire has permanently stop, Ministry of Environment, Indonesian Police and attorney General Office has a Joint decision for having integrated Enforcement for forest and land fire.

This session will show that the cooperation with multistakeholder has a resulted in a good effort to combat forest and land fire permanently in Indonesia.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
2

SESSION 6 : Exploring women's socio-economic security in a rapidly changing climate: Case studies from the Republic of Maldives

Ms. Aishath Azfa

PHD Candidate

The University of Melbourne

Biography



Aishath Azfa is a human geographer working in the areas of climate adaptation, development policy and planning, social inclusion, and gender. She has over 15 years' experience working in the development sector of the Maldives serving in both government and international development agencies including the United Nations, Asian Development Bank, the World Bank, and the Resilient Island Foundation (Netherlands). Some of her recent notable contributions to this sector include formulation of the environment related policies for the National Strategic Action Plan of the Maldives (2019-2023), formulation of the National Country Programme Strategy for the Maldives under the Global Environmental Facility (GEF) and design of the gender sensitive National Local Development Planning Methodology to guide local councils to formulate five-year local development plans. Azfa holds a master's degree in Sustainable Development from the University of Queensland and is currently pursuing her PhD in climate adaptation from the University of Melbourne. Her research focusses on the political economy of artificial islands and how it influences adaptive capacity among socially differentiated groups relocating to artificial islands.

Abstract

The Sixth Assessment Report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reaffirms current scientific understanding on the unprecedented rate at which global climate change is occurring. Small island states like the Maldives are particularly vulnerable, and communities are contending with the effects of climate change in their everyday lives. These include risks to accessing and sustaining livelihoods, threats to food, water and energy security, loss of natural habitats and biodiversity, and risks to physical safety due to increased frequency and intensity of extreme events and natural disasters. Moreover, rapid socio-economic transformation in the Maldives is changing the way people live, creating new forms of vulnerability and inequality between different social groups. The convergence of such socio-economic dynamics and risks associated with climate change induced events are observed to have a more profound impact among marginalized groups such as women, children, elderly, and people with disabilities who face distinct challenges in accessing resources and responding adequately, and timely, to a rapidly changing climate. Drawing on available data and through case studies, this session will explore some of the climate change related risks faced by women in the unique socio-economic and developmental context of the Republic of Maldives.



1. Reception Area

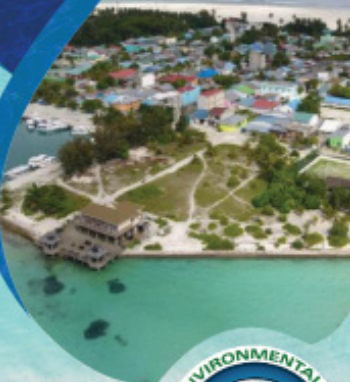
2. Area Affected by erosion

3. Power & Desalination Plant

4. Mangrove

5. Junkyard

6. Refreshment Area




SITE VISIT TO K.HURAA



Event Schedule

Location	1400-1430	1430-1500	1500-1530	1530-1600
Mangroves	Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D
Power & Desalination plant	Team D	Team A	Team B	Team C
Erosion Affected Area	Team C	Team D	Team A	Team B
Waste Management	Team B	Team C	Team D	Team A



MANGROVES



POWER & DESALINATION PLANT





EROSION AFFECTED AREA



WASTE MANAGEMENT



Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Day 3

Ocean and Water Security

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AGENDA

(Wednesday, 03 Aug 2022)

**DAY
3**

Time	Event
0900 - 0905	Administrative Remarks
0905-0915	Introduction to the Session <i>Mr. Chris Sholes, USINDOPACOM Environmental Security Program Manager</i>
0915-0935	The Oceans-Climate-Security Nexus in the Indo-Pacific Island Nations: Broadening the Security Agenda <i>Dr. Athaulla A. Rasheed, Australian National University</i>
0935-0955	Maritime pollution response in Maldives <i>Colonel Ibrahim Hilmy, Commandant, MNDF Coast Guard</i>
0955-1015	Science, management, and potential futures for the Great Barrier Reef and Planet <i>Dr. Adam Smith, Founder/CEO Reef Ecologic</i>
1015-1035	Scaling up the Development of Human Capital in the Coral Triangle The Role of Women in the Protection of Marine Bio-Diversity, Food Security, and Blue Economy <i>Ms. Rili Djohani, Executive Director Coral Triangle Center (CTC)</i>
1035-1105	BREAK
1105-1125	Addressing Cross Border Disputes, Poaching, Ocean Pollution, and Overfishing in the Indo-Pacific Region <i>Ms. Geethamali Chandrasiri, Assistant Director Sri Lanka Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources</i>
1125-1145	Global Coral Reef Habitat Maps and Reef Conservation - Allen Coral Atlas <i>Amanda Ellis, Senior Director Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory ASU</i> <i>Dr. Tries Razak, Research Fellow, Fisheries and Marine Science, IPB University</i>
1145-1230	Ocean and Water Security Panel Session <i>Mr. Chris Sholes to Moderate</i>
1230-1330	LUNCH BREAK (<i>Buffet Lunch at Vihamanaa</i>)
1330-1345	Country Group Project Development Introduction
1345-1500	Country Group Project Development Session
1500-1530	BREAK
1530-1645	Country Group Project Development Session Continued
1645-1700	Administrative Summary
1930-2100	Official Dinner <i>Hosted by Minister of Defence, Uza. Mariya Ahmed Didi</i>



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

MODERATOR

DAY 3 - Ocean and Water Security

Mr. Chris Sholes

Environmental Program Manager

U.S. Indo-Pacific Command

Biography



Chris Sholes is the Environmental Security Program Manager within the USINDOPACOM Engineering Division. His duties include overseeing environmental compliance for bilateral exercises (e.g. Talisman Saber), and planning the Pacific Environmental Security Forum and international environmental workshops. He also monitors environmental impact assessments developed by the service components and coordinates projects with State of Hawaii offices and others on environmental matters. His previous experience includes project management of various environmental remediation projects throughout Hawaii and the Pacific including soil and water remediation and UXO clearance in Saipan, Guam, Japan and Korea, Palmyra and other remote islands. He has five degrees including two from the London School of Economics in International Relations and Economics and an MS in Systems Engineering from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a certified contracts manager (CPCM) and certified project manager (PMP) from the respective US national

certifying organizations.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

SESSION 1 : The Oceans-Climate-Security Nexus in the Indo-Pacific Island Nations: Broadening the Security Agenda

Dr. Athaulla A. Rasheed

Australian National University

Biography



Dr. Athaulla Rasheed is a doctoral scholar from the Australian National University. His academic scholarship at the Department of Pacific Affairs of Australian National University covers developing frameworks for climate security in small island developing states and their implications for regional and international security.

Dr Rasheed also has extensively covered international peer-reviewed research on the Maldives and geopolitical competitions in South Asia, including the implications of climate security in Indo-Pacific island nations. He undertakes academic roles at ANU, and has academic and policy affiliations with the Pacific

Dr Rasheed has also formerly worked as a diplomat and foreign service officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Maldives. He has had long standing professional and academic expertise in the Maldives politics and governance.

Abstract

Island nations inherit a strategic responsibility in the Indo-Pacific security sphere as stewards of the ocean. However, security in island nations entails more than just adhering to the Indo-Pacific security agenda, upholding to rules-based cooperation and preventing single powers from expanding in their regional constellations. Rather, security in island nations involves addressing immediate and long-term threats to their sustainability and survival posed by climate manifestations. The ocean largely contributed to this climate security space. With their limited land surfaces, island nations form large ocean states. This illustrates the inevitable link between their challenges in the ocean and aim to achieve climate security against sea level rise.

The session will discuss how island nations have navigated their international engagements to promote multilateralism and integrated approaches to address climate security. I argue that climate security is an issue that transcends disciplines of the ocean, climate, and security. My discussion is built on a cross-disciplinary review of climate literature, which includes a rapid appraisal of island nations' statements in the ocean, climate, and security forums in recent decades. The ocean-climate-security nexus in the island nations present many threat factors. These multifaceted threat factors provide a compelling reason to consider a broader meaning of security, one that demands an integrate and multi-sectoral problem-solving agenda.



SESSION 2 : Maritime pollution response in Maldives

Colonel Ibrahim Hilmy

Commandant Coast Guard

Maldives National Defence Force

Biography



Colonel Ibrahim Hilmy joined the Maldives National Defence Force on 25th April 1988. He is an Alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College (Wellington, India) and has obtained MSc in Defence and Strategic Studies from the University of Madras, India.

He is a Naval Executive branch officer specialized in Naval Communication and Electronic Warfare from Indian Navy and Pakistan Navy respectively. He is also an Alumni of Asia Pacific College and many more distinguished academic and operational cadres.

The Colonel has held several high-ranking staff and command appointments which include Staff Officer Personnel and Training at Coast Guard Headquarters, Assistant Director General Coast Guard, Principal Director of Department of International Defence Cooperation (Ministry of Defence) and Defence Advisor of Maldives to Pakistan.

He was holding the appointment of Commander, MNDF Central Area Command prior taking over as the Commandant of MNDF Coast Guard.

With a distinguished service of well over 33 years and counting, the Colonel has been awarded with a multitude of decorations, which include Presidential Medal, Distinguished Service Medal, Dedicated Service Medal, Defence Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal, 3rd November Medal, Centenary Medal, 17th SAARC Summit Medal and the Golden Jubilee Medal of Independence.

Colonel Hilmy resides in Malé with his wife and four children.

Abstract

Situated in the middle of the Indian Ocean astride major SLOCs, and with a heavy dependency on tourism and fisheries, Maldives is particularly vulnerable to maritime threats such as IUU fishing as well as oil and hazardous spills. Increased illegal encroachment by foreign fishing vessels pose significant environmental, socio-economic and security challenges. Similarly, recent large scale maritime disasters in the region such as that of MV Wakashio and MT New Diamond, and the grounding of bulk-carrier Navios Amaryllis in one of the most ecologically fragile regions of Maldives point to the urgency of preventing and preparing for large-scale events. Maldives adopts a comprehensive and multi-sectoral approach to address such threats at the local level, while advocating for and championing regional and global cooperation and collaboration.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

SESSION 3 : Science, management, and potential futures for the Great Barrier Reef and Planet

Dr. Adam Smith

Founder/CEO

Reef Ecologic

Biography



Dr. Adam Smith is the founder and chief executive officer of Reef Ecologic, an Australian-based company and social enterprise that provides research and monitoring, strategic advice, and capacity building to facilitate sustainable outcomes. He has led the organization to become a 3-star ecoBiz company, an Ecotourism Australia climate action business and a BCorp Best for the World Environment.

Reef Ecologic's tagline is "For a better planet" as everything they do is centered around making a positive environmental impact and empowering people. The organization is involved in the science of coral reef restoration throughout multiple locations. The projects are designed to support ecological and socio-ecological values of reefs and associated communities. Team members work with local communities to collect coral, grow it in nurseries before returning it to degraded sites to help restore the areas.

Adam also initiated the "International Coral Reef Leadership and Management Course", "Great Australian Shark Count", gave a TEDx presentation, Reef Revolution, and led the team that developed the "Whitsunday Reef Recovery and Underwater Art Project," and the "Museum of Underwater Art" with underwater sculptor, Jason de Caires Taylor. Adam and his team also actively promote environmental and restoration initiatives through public projects such as Underwater Museum, sculpture trails and citizen science. In order to reach larger audiences and to spread the message about ocean conservation. A recent global marketing campaign reached 184 million people.

Adam holds a BSc (Hons), PhD, and MBA, and has authored over 100 scientific papers, books, and reports. Between 1999 and 2014, Adam worked as director of the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park Authority, and he has held several voluntary board positions with the Australian Underwater Federation, Recfish Australia, Environment Institute of Australia and New Zealand (EIANZ), Reef Restoration Foundation, and Museum of Underwater Art. In his leisure time, Adam is a keen ocean sportsman, naturalist, freediver and kayaker.

Abstract

The Great Barrier Reef is constantly changing from natural and human influences. The pressures include cyclones, crown of thorns starfish, water pollution and marine debris, overfishing and climate change. Research by Australian universities, Australian Institute of Marine Science, environmental consultants and citizen scientists helps understanding reef habitats and biota and how they change over time. The management responses have been world class and include marine protected areas, protected species, site plans and reef restoration. Despite the best science and management the future of coral reefs in Australia and throughout the world looks poor. The session will discuss potential risks and solutions that may inspire local and global change.



SESSION 4 : Scaling up the Development of Human Capital in the Coral Triangle The Role of Women in the Protection of Marine Bio-Diversity, Food Security, and Blue Economy

Ms. Rili Djohani

Executive Director

Coral Triangle Center (CTC)

Biography



Rili Djohani has worked for over 25 years to improve the management and financial sustainability of marine protected areas and reduce the use of unsustainable fishing practices in Southeast Asia. She is the co-founder and Executive Director of the Coral Triangle Center (CTC), a learning center of excellence on coastal and marine resources management based in Bali which was established in 2010. The programs focus on strengthening local leadership and capacity through an integrated portfolio of Marine Protected Areas learning sites, customized training programs and learning networks, and facilitation of public-private partnerships in the Coral Triangle region.

Ms. Djohani held several senior positions in The Nature Conservancy (TNC) including Coral Triangle Program Director, Country Director Indonesia and Marine Program Director from 1995-2011. She was part of the core team to help establish the multi-national Coral Triangle Initiative for Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security (CTI-CFF). Ms. Djohani established the WWF marine conservation program in Indonesia from 1989-1993 surveying many potential MPA sites across the archipelago from Sabang to Merauke.

She holds a Master of Science degree in tropical marine ecology from the University of Leiden in the Netherlands and a Master of Science in tropical coastal zone management from the University of Newcastle Upon Tyne in United Kingdom. Ms. Djohani completed The Executive program (TEP)- strategic leadership at the top at Darden School of Business, University of Virginia (UVA) in the US in 2013.

Abstract

Even though the ocean covers approximately 70 percent of our planet, it is estimated that only 2% is strongly protected against the threats of pollution, overfishing, and climate change. More than ever, there is a need for global action and solutions that are effective and scalable, if we are to avoid a catastrophic global decline of coral ecosystems.

A growing number of countries and organizations support the global 30 x 30 initiative that aims to protect 30 percent of the oceans by 2030. To help with this target, CTC with partners is currently developing a roadmap to enhance the human capital in the Coral Triangle region. The region is an epi-center for marine biodiversity including Indonesia, Philippines, Malaysia, Timor Leste, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands, and this the roadmap is designed to scale-up and catalyze training and learning programs, and increase the institutional capacity towards the protection of 30 percent of the coastal and marine waters in the Coral Triangle region effectively by 2030 (ref: CBD post 2030 framework).

Women play a pivotal role in marine conservation and blue economy activities such as post harvesting fisheries activities and seaweed cultivation. Their engagement to ensure that coral reefs continue to provide livelihoods, food security, and other key services for future generations is pivotal. The multi-national "Coral Triangle Initiative on Coral Reefs, Fisheries and Food Security" (CTI-CFF) launched a Women Leaders Forum (WLF) in 2014 to strengthen the role of women leaders in protecting coastal and marine ecosystems in the Coral Triangle.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

The WLF, Coral Triangle Center and US Department of Interior implemented training and learning activities at both national and regional levels funded by USAID-RDMA with CTI-CFF and NGO partners from 2014-2019. These activities included twelve small grants programs at the field level across the six countries to advance and leverage effective protection of coral reefs, associated habitats and species in marine protected areas (MPAs). WLF expanded its program with the development of an Inter-Generational Leadership Learning Program providing a knowledge sharing platform for senior marine conservation women leaders who served as mentors to a younger generation of early career women. The WLF supported the development of a Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) policy for the Coral Triangle Initiative which was adopted by all six countries in 2021. Currently, Timor Leste and CTC are co-chairs for the CTI-CFF Women Leaders Forum.

Lessons learned from the WLF in the Coral Triangle region and CTC's women training and learning network programs in Indonesia can serve as examples for other multi-national initiatives to achieve broad-scale coral reef conservation and sustainable fisheries objectives in order to achieve the 30 x 30 target.

SESSION 5 : Addressing Cross Border Disputes, Poaching, Ocean Pollution, and Overfishing in the Indo-Pacific Region

Ms. Geethamali Chandrasiri

Assistant Director

Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, (DFAR)

Biography



Ms. Geethamali Chandrasiri, Assistant Director at the Department of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, (DFAR) which is the state department functions with the mandate of management, regulation, conservation and development of fisheries and aquatic resources, vested with the authority by the Fisheries and Aquatic Resources Act of Sri Lanka. She obtained her first degree in applied sciences from the university of Sri Jayewardanapura Sri Lanka, with fisheries management as a major subject stream and she has been recruited to the departmental executive service in 2016.

Since then, she has been serving her time in DFAR in a range of capacities in Fisheries Management Division, Fish Quality Control Division and currently she works as the Assistant Director at the Fisheries Investigation Division which is the wing operational for investigating and prosecuting IUU fishing and other fisheries related crimes. Her interest areas being fisheries management, international collaboration in fisheries management and fisheries law, she holds Diploma in Diplomacy and World Affairs from the Bandaranaike International Diplomatic Training Institute of Sri Lanka and reading for Master of Science in Aquaculture and fisheries management.

Abstract

This session will focus on the perspective and experience of in addressing ocean and fisheries related issues prevailing in the region, highlighting scenarios in which Sri Lanka is playing a significant role.

1. Managing cross-border disputes: the conflict over trawler-fishing in the Gulf of Mannar with India's Tamil Nadu State is Hotspot 7 in the Asia Pacific Fisheries Commission 2015 list. Sri Lankan efforts address the environmental, economic, humanitarian and political complications around the issue and dives into the technical vs political/diplomatic approaches.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

2. Sri Lanka/Australian collaboration in counteracting human smuggling on fishing vessels is another example of Sri Lanka's responsibilities to tackling regional fisheries-related issues. Australia financially supported the Sri Lanka vessel monitoring system (VMS) to connect 4,200 VMS transponders to combat human smuggling and IUU fishing. A success story.

3. Overfishing is another focus of Sri Lanka's DFAR. This session will include Sri Lanka's proposal to the IOTC on yellow-fin tuna stock rebuilding in the Indian Ocean and also discuss future approaches in countering IUU fishing and overfishing with advanced monitoring tools.

SESSION 6 : Global Coral Reef Habitat Maps and Reef Conservation - Allen Coral Atlas

Amanda Ellis

Senior Director

Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory ASU

Biography



Former UN Ambassador Amanda Ellis leads Global Partnerships for the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory at Arizona State University. Previously NZ Ambassador & Permanent Representative to the United Nations in Geneva, Ms. Ellis also served as NZ's inaugural Ambassador for Women and Girls, as well as Prime Minister's Special Envoy playing a key role in New Zealand's successful UN Security Council bid. She subsequently served as co-chair for the UN Security Council High Level Group on Humanitarian Access into Syria. Prior to that, as Deputy Secretary (International Development) in the New Zealand Foreign Ministry Ms. Ellis was the first woman to lead the Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) Programme, managing an annual budget of over \$0.6 billion.

Previous roles include Lead Specialist in the Poverty Reduction and Economic Management Group of the World Bank Group where she led the project that created "Women, Business and the Law." She was Head of the Global Gender Group at the International Finance Corporation, and National Manager Women in Business at Westpac Banking Corporation. The author of two best-selling Random House business books, five research titles on gender and growth in the World Bank Directions in Development series, and the Gender Equality and Governance Index 2020, Ambassador Ellis is a founding member of the Global Banking Alliance for Women and the recipient of the TIAW Lifetime Achievement Award for services to women's economic empowerment. She serves on a number of boards, including the Global Governance Forum, The Institute for Climate and Peace, and serves as co-chair for the WE Empower UN SDG Challenge.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
3

Dr. Tries Razak

Research Fellow

Fisheries and Marine Science, IPB University

Biography



Dr Tries Blandine Razak is a coral reef conservation scientist. She is currently a Research Fellow in the Department of Marine Science, Faculty of Fisheries and Marine Science, IPB University, Indonesia and serves as an Advisor to the Governor of West Java Province on marine affairs and fisheries, Bandung, Indonesia. She received her PhD from the University of Queensland, Australia, her MSc in Marine Biodiversity and Systematics from Leiden University, Netherlands, and obtained her BSc in Marine Science from IPB University.

Tries' current research focuses on coral reef restoration in Indonesia, with the aim to improve the state of knowledge of coral reef restoration approaches and environmental conditions that will lead to successful programs across Indonesia. She also co-founded the Indonesian Coral Reef Foundation (Yayasan Terumbu Karang Indonesia, TERANGI) to raise awareness on coral reef conservation and management in Indonesia.

Abstract

Coral reef managers and decision makers at multiple scales need information, in near real time, to react to the increasing threats facing reefs. However, more than three quarters of the world's coral reefs have never been mapped and lack monitoring. To address this knowledge gap and to support, inform, and inspire critical actions to manage and protect coral reefs, the Allen Coral Atlas combines high resolution satellite imagery, machine learning, and field data to produce globally consistent benthic and geomorphic maps and monitoring systems of the world's coral reefs. The initiative's goal is to help stakeholders ranging from local communities to regional and national governments reach their conservation targets and improve their coastal resilience. The multi-disciplinary partnership is led by Arizona State University, in collaboration with Planet, University of Queensland, and the Coral Reef Alliance.

Baseline maps have multiple uses, including: sustainable coastal development, site selection of marine protected areas, planning of restoration activities, and reef fisheries management. In this presentation, we will demonstrate how the Allen Coral Atlas supports data-driven management, conservation, and restoration of coral reefs at local, national, regional, and global scales. We have developed online courses to facilitate increased use and impact of the Atlas, and are collaborating with networks of individuals and institutions who can be alerted when changes are detected (e.g., large-scale bleaching or sedimentation events).

- Country Project Development Session -



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

*Honorable Minister of Defence Uza. Mariya Didi
requests the pleasure of your company at the
Official Dinner
of Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum 2022.*

Date: 3rd August 2022 (Wednesday)

Time: 1930 - 2100hrs

Attire: Hawaiian Casual

Venue: Thila Restaurant, Kurumba Maldives

R.S.V.P: 9999006

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Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Day 4

Climate Change Impacts and Solutions

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AGENDA

(Thursday, 04 Aug 2022)

DAY
4

Time	Event
0900 - 0905	Administrative Remarks
0905-0915	Introduction to COP 26 in Context and Climate Change (video) <i>Ms. Sabra Noordeen, President's Special Envoy for Climate Change (video)</i>
0915-0935	Climate Change Policy in the Maldives <i>Mr. Mauman Abdul Rasheed, Assistant Director - Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology</i>
0935-0955	Environmental Litigation as a Solution to Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience <i>Ms. Lasantha Withanage, Head of Legal, Environmental Foundation (Guarantee) Limited</i>
0955-1015	Bhutan's Climate Vulnerability and It's Threats to Women, Economics, and Politics <i>Ms. Thinley Choden, CEO of Centre for Sustainability Studies Bhutan</i>
1015-1045	BREAK (Climate Central Sea Level Rise Map Video)
1045-1050	COP 26 and Climate Change Perspective (video) <i>Prince Zeid, President, and CEO of the International Peace Institute (video)</i>
1050-1110	Integrating the Military into Climate Adaptation Solutions <i>Mr. Stephen Frano, USINDOPACOM Climate Change Impacts Program Manager</i>
1110-1130	Building Clean, Healthy, and Climate Resilient Cities and Seas in the Indo-Pacific <i>Ms. Lauren Sorkin, Executive Director Resilient Cities Network, TPr. Zuhaila Ahmad Zubel, Director of Town Planning, and Ms. Nurul Fitrah Jaafar, Melaka Resilience Champion</i>
1130-1230	COP 26 / Climate Change Panel Session
1230-1330	LUNCH BREAK (<i>Buffet Lunch at Vihamanaa</i>)
1330-1410	Three- Year Plan Out Briefs by Working Group Leads
1410-1430	Environmental Security After-Action Review Elaboration Session
1430-1445	2023 Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum Proposal <i>Capt AML Amarasinghe, Sri Lanka Navy and Capt IHJ Buddhika, Sri Lanka Coast Guard</i>



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

MODERATOR

DAY 4 - Climate Change Impacts and Solutions

Ms. Khadeeja Naseem

Minister of State

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology

Biography



Ms. Khadeeja Naseem is currently the Minister of State for Environment, Climate Change and Technology in the Maldives. As State Minister, Ms. Naseem oversees the policies and work related to Climate Change and Energy. Prior to her appointment as State Minister, Ms. Naseem had worked on various developmental projects in the Maldives funded by the World Bank and the UNDP. She also has extensive experience in Climate Finance, and Disaster risk management. Ms. Naseem holds an undergraduate degree in Human Ecology from college of the Atlantic, USA and a Masters of Environment in Climate policy from the University of Melbourne, Australia.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

SESSION 1 : Introduction to COP 26 in Context and Climate Change (video)

Ms. Sabra Ibrahim Noordeen

President's Special Envoy for Climate Change

President's Office

Biography



Appointed under the Climate Emergency Act , H.E Sabra Ibrahim Noordeen is the first Special Envoy for Climate Change in the Maldives. Ms. Noordeen graduated from the University of London, United Kingdom, with a Master of Science in State, Society, and Development. She previously served as the Secretary, Foreign relations at the President's Office.

Abstract

COP26 in Glasgow, Scotland was filled with small victories, ambition and even bigger pursuit from small island states and other vulnerable countries to push for a separate financial facility for adaptation, and loss and damage. Yet, it was not enough to achieve the level of ambition needed to slow down the climate emergency. For long, the Maldives along with other small island states have been on the frontlines advocating on the existential threats caused by climate change. The climate data and analysis presented by the IPCC on their sixth assessment report provides further evidence that the impacts of climate crisis is not only threatening the environment, but also the way humans live. The world is observing these impacts not only in SIDS and other vulnerable countries, but in bigger developed countries too. As COP27 nears, it's crucial for countries to demonstrate a concerted effort to double-up on their financial commitments, to significantly reduce emissions, for more ambition to recognize the climate emergency as a security issue that not only threatens a country's sovereignty, but also human and ecological life.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

SESSION 2 : Climate Change Policy in the Maldives

Mr. Mauman Abdul Rasheed

Assistant Director

Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Technology

Biography



Mauman has a Masters in Global Environmental Studies from Sophia University, Tokyo. He joined the Ministry in 2013, and is currently leading the works of implementation of the Maldives Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) targets in the Ministry.

Abstract

The Climate change is primarily a development challenge with implications on security. However, it is important that climate change is addressed at appropriate fora in the UN (such as UNFCCC and IPCC.) Some countries have expressed security implications of climate change and they equally have expressed that they do not want to expand the mandate of UN Security Council. These concerns also stem from their view that the Security Council is not a representative body, and fear that it would undermine the UNFCCC as the primary forum for addressing climate change and the UNGA as the forum for addressing Sustainable development. Most developing countries prefer to address climate change through the frameworks provided by the UNFCCC (in particular, under the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities) and the UNGA (in particular, by framing climate change as a development challenge). At present the implications for developing countries by addressing climate change through a security lens are not understood well enough.

SESSION 3 : Environmental Litigation as a Solution to Environmental Sustainability and Climate Resilience

Ms. Lasantha Withanage

Head of Legal

Environmental Foundation (Guarantee) Limited

Biography



Lasantha Withanage is an Attorney-at-Law from Sri Lanka who is currently heading the Legal division of Environmental Foundation Limited (EFL), a premier nonprofit civil society organisation in Sri Lanka. EFL is mandated to conserve the environment through legal and scientific means. In addition to engaging in public interest litigation, conservation and research projects, advocacy and policy reforms.

She holds a Bachelor of Law degree from the University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and has experience as a Lawyer for over nine years. Moreover, she has been involved in environmental law-related work, including litigation, research, conservation, policy review and awareness work carried out by the organisation for the last four years



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

Abstract

Due to the country's population growth and increased demand for land and other infrastructures, previously protected aspects of the environment are lessening in the recent past. Environmental Foundation Limited (EFL) has taken an active role as a public service entity to ensure that the environment is protected for future generations. We present one of the successful ventures undertaken for environmental sustainability and climate resilience through environmental litigation.

Sri Lankan governments have identified coal power plants as an option to meet energy demand rather than seeking more sustainable and environmentally friendly sources.

In 2016, EFL filed a Fundamental Rights application in the Supreme Court objecting to the proposed Sampur Coal Power Plant due to discrepancies in the EIA and long term environmental and health impacts that a coal power plant will invariably cause. Further, EFL highlighted the fact that the project is contrary to the long-term power generation plan of the government. As a result, the government decided not to proceed with the project.

Norochcholai Coal Power Plant was built in three phases on the west coast of Sri Lanka. However, the operations and maintenance of the plant did not adhere to national environmental regulations and the power plant had severe operational and monitoring concerns, which impacted the communities' health, safety, and livelihoods near the plant. In 2017, partnering with the community, EFL filed a case in the Supreme Court on the ground of violation of fundamental rights, and the Supreme court ordered the regulators to develop a mitigatory plan within an Environmental Committee led by the Public Utilities Commission of Sri Lanka.

SESSION 4 : Bhutan's Climate Vulnerability and It's Threats to Women, Economics, and Politics

Ms. Thinley Choden

CEO

Centre for Sustainability Studies Bhutan

Biography



Thinley Choden is a social entrepreneur and consultant possessing a career portfolio in climate change, entrepreneurship and youth empowerment. Her work focuses on sustainability issues geared towards solution building and implementation. She is a trained Climate Reality Leader.

She is CEO of Centre for Sustainability Studies, a consultancy firm based in Thimphu Bhutan. She is also the founder/CEO of Bhutan Tours and Travels, a knowledge travel company and co-founder of Impact Bhutan, an investment platform. She is the Founding Curator of Global Shapers Thimphu Hub (a World Economic Forum youth initiative),. She serves as Bhutan Country Advisor for Give2Asia, a philanthropic giving platform based in the US. In 2008, she founded a successful non-profit, READ Bhutan, and currently sits on the Board.

Ms. Choden is part of numerous globally prestigious and competitive programs like Acumen Global Fellow, Vital Voices GROW Women Entrepreneur, Draper Hills Fellow at Stanford University, EWC Innovation Fellows for Sustainable Development, Obama Delegate Entrepreneur at the Global Entrepreneurship Summit at Stanford (2017), SOCAP Fellow, Cordes Fellow, Asian Feminist Fellow at Ewha University in Seoul, ADB Youth Fellow in Kyoto, Asia Pacific Leadership Fellow and Degree Fellow at East-West Center in Hawaii.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

She holds an Executive Certificate in Strategic Decision Making from Wharton Business School, a MPA and a certificate on Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance from University of Hawaii, Manoa, and a BA in Economics from Beloit College, Wisconsin.

She loves staying actively healthy and traveling. She enjoys running, yoga and outdoor adventures/hiking/trekking.

Abstract

Though a net carbon sink country known for environmental leadership and forest management with 72.3% forest cover, Bhutan remains highly vulnerable to climate change. Located in the eastern Himalayan ecosystem, Bhutan is a landlocked mountainous country with elevation ranging from 150 meters to over 7300 meters above sea level. Historical records indicate an increase in annual temperatures of just under 1 degree centigrade over the last century with projections of temperature rise at 3.9 degrees centigrade, which is slightly greater than the global average of 3.7 degree centigrade by the 2090s under the highest emissions pathway. Such temperature increases will have significant impacts on the socio-political-economy given Bhutan's high reliance on hydropower, tourism and agriculture, which are all highly climate sensitive for a sustainable growth.

My presentation will deep dive into Bhutan's climate vulnerability and its threats to Women, Economics and Politics.

SESSION 5 : COP 26 and Climate Change Perspective (video)

ZEID RA'AD AL HUSSEIN

President and CEO

International Peace Institute

Biography



Zeid Ra'ad Al Hussein is the President and CEO of the International Peace Institute. He is the Perry World House Professor of the Practice of Law and Human Rights at the University of Pennsylvania. And he is the President of Octagonal Advisory LLC, a consultancy providing services for the advancement of human rights and is an Associate Tenant (as Academic Advisor) with Doughty Street Chambers, London.

He was the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights from 9/2014 - 9/2018 and his professional background is one of having been a practitioner-- a former senior diplomat. His knowledge is steeped in international politics, international human rights law, international criminal law, UN peacekeeping, post-conflict peace-building, international development, and counter-nuclear terrorism – stemming from twenty-four years of direct exposure to many of the world's most turbulent crises and serious security threats.

In 2019, he was appointed a member of The Elders, an independent group of global leaders working for peace, justice and human rights, founded by Nelson Mandela.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

SESSION 6 : Integrating the Military into Climate Adaptation Solutions

Mr. Stephen Frano

Program Manager

USINDOPACOM Climate Change Impacts

Biography



Stephen Frano is an employee with Valiant Integrated Services and works as the Climate Change Impacts (CCI) Program Manager at the Center for Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian assistance. He leads the CCI team responsible for establishing a robust INDOPACOM capability to anticipate and respond to the security impacts of climate change. The CCI program is dedicated to working across the DOD, interagency, and partner nations to increase resilience, reduce fragility, and enhance climate security for the Indo-Pacific region.

Stephen joined the INDOPACOM Strategic Partnerships Office in April 2013 as the Public Private Partnerships Program Manager where he supported far-ranging efforts in such areas as environmental security, disaster risk reduction, energy grid resilience, and cyber security. Prior to that Stephen worked for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Office of Coastal Management focused on capacity building activities for coastal community resilience and programming for Hawaii and U.S. Territory Coastal Zone Management Programs. Stephen also worked for the Territory of American Samoa, Department of Commerce focused on environmental planning and permitting for pollution prevention and hazard mitigation.

Stephen obtained his bachelor's degree in integrated science and technology from James Madison University and his master's degree in environmental management from Duke University. Stephen earned his Project Management Professional certification and was an AILA Fellow with the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in 2020.

Abstract

Often there is a gap in understanding of U.S. military programs and how they can support regional climate security requirements. This session will present the challenges for aligning military programs to address these issues and will use a case study to showcase opportunities to think differently about the potential for disaster preparedness and security related programs to meet climate adaptation objectives.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

SESSION 7 : Building Clean, Healthy, and Climate Resilient Cities and Seas in the Indo-Pacific

Ms. Lauren Sorkin

Executive Director

Resilient Cities Network

Biography



As Executive Director of the Resilient Cities Network, Ms Lauren Sorkin oversees global efforts to strengthen cities in the face of complex and interconnected challenges. Leading a team of professionals in London, Mexico City, New York, and Singapore, in collaboration with Chief Resilience Officers in over 40 countries, she drove the co-design process to launch the Resilient Cities Network as an independent city-led network organisation.

Ms Sorkin serves as an adviser and spokesperson on urban resilience, women's leadership, sustainable finance, climate risk, stakeholder engagement, and urbanisation trends. She is on the advisory boards of several sustainability-focused initiatives including Food Tank, the Singapore Sustainability Symposium, and Natural Capital.

Previously with the Asian Development Bank (ADB), Ms Sorkin led the bank's first-ever climate change investment plan before moving to the ADB's Vietnam office to mainstream climate risks and opportunities in the country's US\$7-billion portfolio. Before joining the ADB, she worked with the United States Agency for International Development to implement clean energy, climate change, and conservation projects in Asia, Africa, and South America. She has published work on biofuels, climate change, public speaking for social impact, infant mortality, and HIV/AIDS.

Ms Sorkin holds a Bachelor of Arts in International Relations from Tufts University, and a Master of Science in Environment and Development from the London School of Economics.

TPr. Zuhaila Ahmad Zubel

Director

Town Planning / Melaka Climate Resilience Officer

Biography



TPr. Zuhaila binti Ahmad Zubel graduated from Malaysia University of Technology in 2006. She started her professional practice as a Town Planner at ZMD Planning Consult for 3 years. In February 2009, she served as a Town Planner at Malacca City Council and in 2020 she was appointed as the Director of Town Planning Department. With outstanding achievements and her Excellency in Town Planning, she was rewarded her professional title as Registered Town Planner in early 2021.



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

Ms. Nurul Fitrah Jaafar

Melaka Resilience Champion

Biography



Miss Nurul Fitrah Jaafar graduated from International Islamic University of Malaysia and successfully accomplish her Bachelor (Hons.) of Urban and Regional Planning in 2018. With a vision to “contribute and give the best for community”, in January 2019 she started her professional practice serving in Melaka Historic City Council in the Town Planning Department, specifically on Resilience Development in Melaka City. Through the challenges, she was appointed as a Melaka Resilience Champion in 2019.

Abstract

After launching in June 2020, the Urban Ocean program shows how data and strategic global partnerships build intersectional plans to reduce plastic waste while advancing climate resilience and circular economy. Resilient Cities Network works to create city-led solutions that can be easily deployed and replicated so that policies or systems that work in Indo-Pacific can be shared and adapted quickly elsewhere. This session features Lauren Sorkin, Executive Director of Resilient Cities Network, and the Chief Resilience Officer of Melaka, Malaysia who will share about the climate and circular policies and programs that she has been leading in the city.

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Indo-Pacific Environment Security Forum 2022

Closing Ceremony



CLOSING CEREMONY AGENDA

(Thursday, 04 Aug 2022)

**DAY
4**

Time	Event
1445-1530	CLOSING CEREMONY
	Arrival of Official Party to Seminar Venue
	Closing Remarks by Mr. Gabriel Grau USAID Mission Director for Sri Lanka and the Maldives
	Closing Remarks by Ms. Aminath Shauna Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology
1530-1535	Participant Survey
1535-1600	Certificate and Photo Distribution



Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum

DAY
4

Mr. Gabriel Grau

USAID Mission Director for Sri Lanka and the Maldives

Biography



Mr. Gabriel Grau is USAID's Mission Director for Sri Lanka and the Maldives. Mr. Grau most recently served as the Deputy Mission Director for the USAID Mission to Afghanistan. In that role, he led Mission's staffing and program portfolios valued at \$1.6 billion with 210 total staff.

Prior to joining USAID Afghanistan, Mr. Grau served as USAID's Senior Development Advisor for the United States Central Command providing strategic advice and guidance on humanitarian, stabilization, and development policy in the Middle East and Central Asia regions. He ensured agency equities were incorporated into military plans and strategies and he grew and institutionalized USAID's presence at the Combatant Command.

Mr. Grau is a Senior Foreign Service Officer and has served with USAID for twenty-four years starting in D.C. and moving through Thailand, Bangladesh, Mozambique, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, Djibouti and Tampa. Mr. Grau also served in the Colombian Military Forces, deployed with the Multinational Force and Observers in the Sinai, Egypt.

Mr. Grau holds a Master's degree in Public Affairs from the University of Maryland and a Bachelor's degree from New Mexico State University in International Relations and International Business. He is fluent in Spanish and Portuguese and has a working knowledge of Japanese and French.



H.E Aminath Shauna

Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology

Biography



H.E. Aminath Shauna is the Maldives' Minister of Environment, Climate Change and Technology. Her portfolio includes, protecting the natural environment and its resources, action and advocacy on climate change, science and technology development, and the implementation of policies and regulations related to the provision of energy, telecommunications, water, and waste management. She also provides policy direction to the Ministry's affiliated agencies, namely, the Environmental Protection Agency, Utility Regulatory Authority, Communications Authority of Maldives, National Centre for Information Technology, Maldives Meteorological Service, and the Biosphere Reserve Office.

Prior to her appointment as Minister, Shauna served as Policy Secretary to H.E President Ibrahim Mohamed Solih where she was responsible for oversight of the implementation and coordination of government policies, as well as advising the President on policy issues.

During President Mohamed Nasheed's administration (2008-2012) Shauna served as Under Secretary at the Policy Office of the President's Office, where she was responsible for the management of all government policy matters, especially those pertaining to climate change. She was also responsible for management of the secretariat of the Climate Change Advisory Council, the expert body charged with providing climate change policy advice to the President. She led the national effort to realise its vision of becoming a carbon neutral country by 2020, steering the development of the Maldives' renewable energy investment plan. In addition, she headed the Monitoring and Evaluation Unit of the Policy Office where her primary responsibilities included working closely with Government ministries to oversee implementation of government policies.

Shauna started her career as a journalist at Minivan News in 2008, covering the Maldives' first multi-party, presidential elections.

Shauna was recognized by the World Economic Forum as a Young Global Leader 2020. She was elected president of the Maldivian Democratic Party's Youth Wing in 2010, serving a four-year term in which she institutionalized its role as a leader in policy formulation, campaigning, street activism and fundraising, using the power of art, music, and social media to ensure that the Party continued to be a voice for Maldivian youth. She has been supporting the MDP since 2008 in planning its campaigns, rallies and protests, and assisting the party at a strategic level in communications, international engagement and political party development.

Shauna has a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science, Environmental Science and Economics from Westminster College, Missouri, USA

Organizer of 2022 Indo-Pacific Environmental Security Forum (IPESF)
USINDOPACOM and Maldives National Defence Force