2024 UN PUBLIC SERVICE FORUM AND AWARDS CEREMONY

WORKSHOP 5

Enhancing Global Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change

Speaker Biographies

Organiser: Ministry of the Interior and Safety (MOIS)

Moderators and Facilitators



Dr. Yong-kyun Kim, Deputy Minister of Safety and Prevention Policy Office, Ministry of the Interior and Safety

Dr. Yong-kyun Kim has held the position of Deputy Minister for Safety and Prevention Policy of the Ministry of the Interior and Safety(MOIS) since April 2024. Before being Deputy Minister, he served as Director General for Disaster Management Policy and Director General for

Disaster Response of MOIS. He also has career experience in international organizations. He worked as Head of the UN ISDR Global Education and Training Institute. He also completed an educational training course at the Federal Emergency Management Agency(FEMA). He holds a master's degree in Public Administration from Harvard University and a Ph.D. in Technology Policy from Yonsei University.



Dr. Yoon-kyung Oh, Head of Department of Disaster, Risk & Safety Management, Korea Institute of Public Administration

Dr. Yoon-kyung Oh is a senior research fellow at KIPA with a major research interest in disaster management policy and urban governance. She has served as the policy advisor to the Minister of the Interior and Safety. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Southern California with a focus on public management.



Jun-haeng Heo, Distinguished Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Yonsei University

Professor Jun-haeng Heo is a Distinguished Professor at Yonsei University. He has a variety of career experiences in water management and civil engineering. He served as President of the Korean Society of Civil Engineers, Chairperson of the Korea Institute of Hydrological Survey Inc., National Organizing Committee Chair of the XVIIth World Water Congress, Chairperson of the UNESCO Center

for Water Security & Sustainable Management, and President of the Korea Water Resources Association. He received a Ph.D. in Civil & Environmental Eng. from Colorado State University, USA. He holds an MA in Civil Eng. and BA in Civil Eng. from Yonsei University.



Professor Jaewang Seok, Dean, Department of Security and Disaster Management, Konkuk University

After graduating from Yonsei University (BA, MA) and Sungkyunkwan University (Ph.D), he is currently a professor at Konkuk University and the head of the Security and Disaster Safety Convergence Research Institute. He is the chairman of the Korean Safety Policy Association and the Chairman of the Civilian Committee on Climate Crisis Disaster Response, and is making efforts to manage disaster conflicts, apply

innovative technologies, and improve the safety culture.

Session I: Climate Crisis - Challenges and Opportunities in Disaster Risk Management and Resilience Building



Ms. Tiffany Anderson, Chief of Staff, Federal Emergency Management Agency Region 10

Tiffany Anderson serves as the Chief of Staff for FEMA Region 10. The FEMA Region 10 team delivers emergency management programs and support to the States of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon, Washington and 271 federally recognized tribes. Ms. Anderson started her career with FEMA in 2005, working on individual assistance and housing programs in hurricane impacted communities. Over the years, she

has contributed to policy, doctrine, and program implementation at the national, regional, and local level. Ms. Anderson holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Willamette University and is committed to building excellence across the emergency management community.



Dr. David Green, Director for S&T Innovation, Transition & Integration Systems, Green Resilience Insights

Dr. David Green is the Director for S&T Innovation, Transition & Integration Systems at Green Resilience Insights and Senior Technical Advisor to the Western Fire Applications Center and Earth Fire Alliance. He is the former program manager for NASA's Earth Science Applied Sciences Wildfires and Disaster Risk & Resilience program areas. He and his team promoted the use of Earth observations

derived from space-based instrumentation to improve prediction of, preparation for,

response to and recovery. David was the satellite applications lead for the NASA-ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR), Cyclone Global Navigation Satellite System (CYGNSS) and Time Resolved Observation of Precipitation structure and storm Intensity with a Constellation of Smallsats TROPICS. He has Chaired the Committee on Earth Observation Satellites (CEOS) Disasters Working Group and led the and the Group on Earth Observation (GEO) Flood, Fire and Tsunami Communities of Practice. David joined NASA after 11 years as Deputy Goal Lead, Program manager and Senior scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), National Weather Service where he focused on transition of research to operations, eco-forecasting, health, energy and coastal hazards and served as the tsunami program manager for nearly four years. Prior to joining NOAA, he was a research fellow at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and has worked in the private sector as well. David is a member of the American Meteorological Society where he serves on the Data Enterprise and Education Committees and American Geophysical Union where he has been on the Natural Hazards Committee. David earned a Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from the University of Toronto and Cambridge University and holds two master's degrees: one from the University of Pennsylvania in Chemical Physics and one from the University of Maryland in International Management Science, Technology and Commerce.



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

Sanjaya Bhatia is the Head of the Office for Northeast Asia (ONEA) and Global Education and Training Institute (GETI) for Disaster Risk Reduction in Incheon, Republic of Korea, where he has guided the training of over 18,000 government officials globally.

Before taking this position Sanjaya Bhatia worked as head of the International Recovery Platform (IRP) - Secretariat at Kobe, Japan where he led the development of the Guidance Notes on Recovery and a capacity building program for national and local governments. Earlier he worked as the Focal Point for Disaster Resilient Schools and Hospitals with the World Bank where he was instrumental in financing of projects on safe schools and hospitals.

He has worked with the Government of India (Indian Administrative Service), the World Bank, and the United Nations in the field of disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation for over 30 years. He holds a degree in law and a master's degree in Public Administration from New York University.



Professor M. Jae Moon, Professor of Public Policy and Management / Director of the Institute for Future Government, Yonsei University

Professor M. Jae Moon is currently Underwood Distinguished Professor of Public Policy and Management and Director of the Institute for Future Government at Yonsei University. He is currently a member of the Presidential Committee on Digital Platform

Government and External Advisory Group for Digital Technology for Development for the Asian Development Bank as well as an expert member of Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI). He has been an elected Fellow of National Academy of Public Administration (NAPA). He also co-chairs the Organizing Committee for Seoul Metropolitan City. He was selected as one of world's 100 most influential people in Digital Government. He received an Order of Service Merit-Red Stripe from the Government of the Republic of Korea for his contribution to the public sector innovations.

Session II: Inclusive Governance and Community-based Resilience



Dr. Taehyun Kim, Senior Research Fellow, Korea Environment Institute

Dr. Taehyun Kim is a Senior Research Fellow at the Korea Environment Institute with a Ph.D. in Urban Planning and Engineering from Yonsei University. Specializing in urban resilience and carbon footprint analysis, he has conducted extensive research on urban planning, climate change adaptation, and disaster prevention. Dr. Kim has served as a visiting scholar at Texas A&M

University and the University of Arizona, contributing significantly to academic journals and books. His work aims to integrate sustainable urban development practices with environmental policies, enhancing urban resilience and sustainability.



Dr. Seong Yun Cho, Director of Incheon Safe City Research Center, Incheon Institute

Dr. Seong Yun Cho is a Research Fellow and Director of the Incheon Safe City Research Center of the Incheon Institute. He holds a Ph.D. in Urban Studies from Portland State University and a master's degree in Urban Planning and Urban Design from the University of Michigan Ann Arbor.



Dr. Yeongbae Yoon, Research Fellow, Ulsan Research Institute

Dr. Yeongbae Yoon has an interest in climate change and climate change adaptation, and disaster risk assessment and strengthening disaster resilience. He was responsible for the certification of Ulsan Metropolitan City as the UNDRR Resilience Hub and Ulsan Metropolitan City's disaster resilience assessment. He was also in charge of research projects such as Ulsan Metropolitan City's Safe

City Masterplan and Establishment of Disaster Prevention Measures for Safe City Ulsan.



Mr. Damon Coppola, Principal, Shoreline Risk

Damon Coppola is a disaster risk management expert with over 20 years of experience. As principal of Shoreline Risk, Mr. Coppola has supported the development of an extensive array of local, national, and international disaster risk management programs, policies, and guidance. Mr. Coppola promotes a progressive values-and equity-based approach that was recently featured at the 2023 APEC Senior Officials Meeting on Disaster Management. He has authored more than two dozen textbooks adopted at more than 300 universities

worldwide. Mr. Coppola serves as Senior Advisor for Disaster Risk Reduction at the Pacific Disaster Center.

Session III: Science & Technology Innovation for Responding to Landslides and Urban Floods

Professor Youngcheol Hwang, Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Sangji University

Professor Youngcheol Hwang earned his doctorate in civil engineering from Hanyang University and worked at the Korea Expressway Corporation Research Institute. He is currently a professor at the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Sangji University.

Professor Hwang has achieved notable results through the Rockfall and Landslide Prevention Research Group. Currently, his main areas of interest are landslide and slope stabilization technology.

Professor Youngcheol Hwang served as Vice President of the Korean Society of Civil Engineers and the Korean Tunnelling and Underground Space Association, and is currently serving as Vice President of the Korean Geotechnical Society.



Professor Changsam Jeong, Professor, Department of Smart Construction & Disaster Management, Induk University

Professor Changsam Jeong is currently a professor at Induk University. He also serves as Vice President of the Korea Water Resources Associations, Vice President of the Korea Federation of Water Science and Engineering Societies, Member of the Professional Committee of Korea Broadcasting System and MBC,

Chairman of the Committee of Public Relations of KSCE, and Head of a research institute of Korean Society of Hazard Mitigation



Professor Young Do Kim, Professor, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Myongji University

Professor Young Do Kim carried out numerous research and development projects. He published 55 SCI-level papers and 75 papers in domestic academic journals. He holds 17 patents and taught 33 master's and doctoral degree graduates. As a member of the Korean Society of Water Resources and the Korean Society of Civil Engineers, he served as Associate Editor of the journals, Chairman of the Exhibition Committee, and Chairman of the Academic Committee.



Professor Hong-gyoo Sohn, Professor, Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering, Yonsei University

Professor Hong-gyoo Sohn was a Senior Research Associate for the NASA-sponsored Radarsat Antarctic Mapping Project (RAMP) at the Byrd Polar and Climate Research Center, USA. Over the years, he has been engaged in various GIS and remote sensing projects focused on natural disaster modeling techniques, utilizing national databases, and developing damage identification techniques using geospatial imagery.

Currently, he serves as a Full Professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at Yonsei University, Korea. He served as an expert in the open-ended intergovernmental expert working group on targets and indicators of the Sendai Framework 2015–2030.



Professor Anthony Pennings, Professor, Department of Technology and Society, State University of NY, Korea

Dr. Pennings coordinates the ICT4D program at SUNY Korea and teaches courses in Sensing Technologies for Disaster Risk Reduction and ICT for Sustainable Development. He previously taught at New York University and Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand. He has researched technology economics and resiliency issues since the 1980s, when he was part of the National Computerization Policy Program at the East-West Center in Honolulu, Hawaii. When not in

Korea, he resides in Austin, Texas.

Session IV: Novel Approach for Climate Crisis



Mr. Jonathan Woodland, Head of Climate and Energy, British Embassy Seoul

Mr. Jonathan Woodland is Head of Climate and Energy at the British Embassy Seoul, leading bilateral UK-RoK cooperation, including: political engagement on Net Zero, technological cooperation on renewables and nuclear, and cooperation in support of targets set by the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. He is also responsible for relationships with the Green Climate Fund and Global Green Growth Institute. A career government official since

2009, Jonathan has worked variously with the UK Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Defence and Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. He is a graduate of the University of York and King's College London.



Dr. Inhyok Cha, Committee Member & Team Leader of Digital Twin TF, Presidential Committee on Digital Platform Government

Dr. Inhyok Cha is a distinguished professor and special deputy president of global cooperation at GIST, Korea. He advises over 10 ventures in AI, cybersecurity, bio-medical, and climate tech. He is a steering member of, as well as Team leader of Digital Twin TF at the Korean Presidential Committee on Digital Platform Government.

Dr. Cha was previously CEO of CJ Olivenetworks and CDO of CJ Group. He has held leadership roles at SK Telecom, Samsung SDS, InterDigital Inc., and Lucent Technologies Bell Labs. He holds a Ph.D. in Electrical Engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and an MBA from Drexel University. He published 50+ papers and holds 100+ US patents.



international relations.

Mr. Edward Anderson, Senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist, the World Bank

Edward Anderson, is a senior Disaster Risk Management Specialist within the Global Facility for Disaster reduction and Recovery. The leads the global program on Digital Earth Partnership, leveraging opportunities in new generation Earth Observation technologies and supporting skills and capacity development for digital tools in climate risk management. Edward holds Master's degrees in both aerospace engineering and international economics and





Vice President Jae In Nam is responsible for the Social Value Team Leader of the SK SUPEX Council Social Value Committee since January 2024. She served as Executive Officer of the SK SUPEX Council Investment Team, Executive Officer of the SK SUPEX Council Social Value Committee, Manager and Director of the SK Enmove, and Assistant Manager of the SK Innovation. She holds a bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Yonsei University.

Scholar Professor Eunsoo Silver Choi, Scholar Professor, aSSIST University / CEO, Intellivix

Dr. Choi Eunsoo had been a reporter specializing in economic management at Maekyung Media, Korea's No.1 media company, for 30 years, and is currently serving as an Al scholar professor at aSSIST University and as the CEO of Intellivix, a leading Korean vision Al company.

He is an expert in building a disaster prevention platform that prevents various disasters such as fire, theft, traffic accidents, floods, and typhoons with Vision AI. He founded KDX Data Exchange, Korea's No. 1 data exchange, and published 28 bestsellers, including 'future Tech rulers' and 'future content rulers'.