



# FLYWAY YOUTH FORUM 2020

## eProgramme

CONNECTING THE FLYWAY YOUTH  
LEADERS OF TOMORROW

Virtual Sessions  
#flywayyouthforum

November 28 & 29  
December 5 & 6

#### ORGANIZERS



#### SPONSOR



# Welcome!

## Welcome to Flyway Youth Forum!

We are happy to have you to participate in the first ever Flyway Youth Forum. It is a youth event organized by the [East Asian–Australasian Flyway Partnership](#) (EAAFP) and [Youth Engaged in Wetlands](#) (YEW) that aims to connect youth leaders, scientists, activists, artists, and conservationists in the East Asian–Australasian Flyway through a series of intensive virtual workshops, platform exchanges, and networking activities. The theme of this event is “Connecting the Flyway Youth Leaders of Tomorrow”.

## Content

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- Welcome Page
- Event tools
- Objectives
- Theory of Change
- Programme
- Speakers’ & Trainers Introduction
- FYF Advisory Board
- Acknowledgement
- Inquiries



# Participant's Journey

Together with more than 80 youth, you should now have received an invitation to log in to the Whova platform, where you can find different functions including agenda, community session, surveys etc. You can get access to Whova Platform by mobile app and Web app.


First of all, please go to the agenda session, where you can find the session description and the Zoom link of the sessions. As there would be breakout groups, we highly recommend you **register and log in to Zoom to participate in the sessions fully**. Please note that every session has its unique Zoom links.

Please note that all the sessions timeslots are indicated in Korea Standard Time (GMT + 9). Because of trainers and speakers all over the world, the sessions could be several hours apart on the same day and every day the time slots are different. **We strongly suggest you add the sessions to your calendar so that you are marked with the right time zone and time slot.**


In between sessions, we would like to invite you to continue discussion and network with other youth participants via the **Whova community board**. You can also create your meeting, chat with individual participants. During the sessions, you will have chance to actively involve in the discussions during the breakout discussion. Check out the announcement board every day for any updates of the events.

### Official Event App

- Explore the **professional profiles** of event speakers and attendees
- Send **in-app messages** and **exchange contact info**
- **Network and find attendees** with common affiliations, educations, shared networks, and social profiles
- Receive **update notifications** from organizers
- Access the **event agenda**, GPS guidance, maps, and parking directions at your fingertips



Download Whova and take your event mobile.



Get Whova from the App Store or Google Play.  
Please sign up for the app with your social media account or email

The event invitation code is:

**fy12020**

You will be asked for an event invitation code after installing Whova

# Participant's Safeguarding

We want to have a safe space for Flyway Youth Forum for young people who joined the event. The following points are how we keep you safe in the Flyway Youth Forum:

- Only organizing team has right to get access to person information of the participants
- All the sessions were by invitation only
- Facilitators and moderators would paid attention in every session
- Zoom recording is made for each session for monitoring.

We would also advice the participants to:

- Set Online platform privacy (e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Zoom)
- Always treat others with respect and dignity
- Report any mis-conduct behavior including cyber bullying, hate speech and harassment to the organizing team at [flywayyouthforum@gmail.com](mailto:flywayyouthforum@gmail.com).
- We look forward to the inspiring, engaging and energetic forum with you!

# FYF Objectives



## **NETWORKING and EXCHANGE IDEAS**

- Connect young people engaged in conservation of wetland and migratory waterbirds
- A series of presentations prepared by the youth participants to learn from each other's actions
- Through discussions, Q & A sessions, interactive tools during training workshops, youth can reach out and build connections with each other.



## **YOUTH VOICES and DIALOGUE**

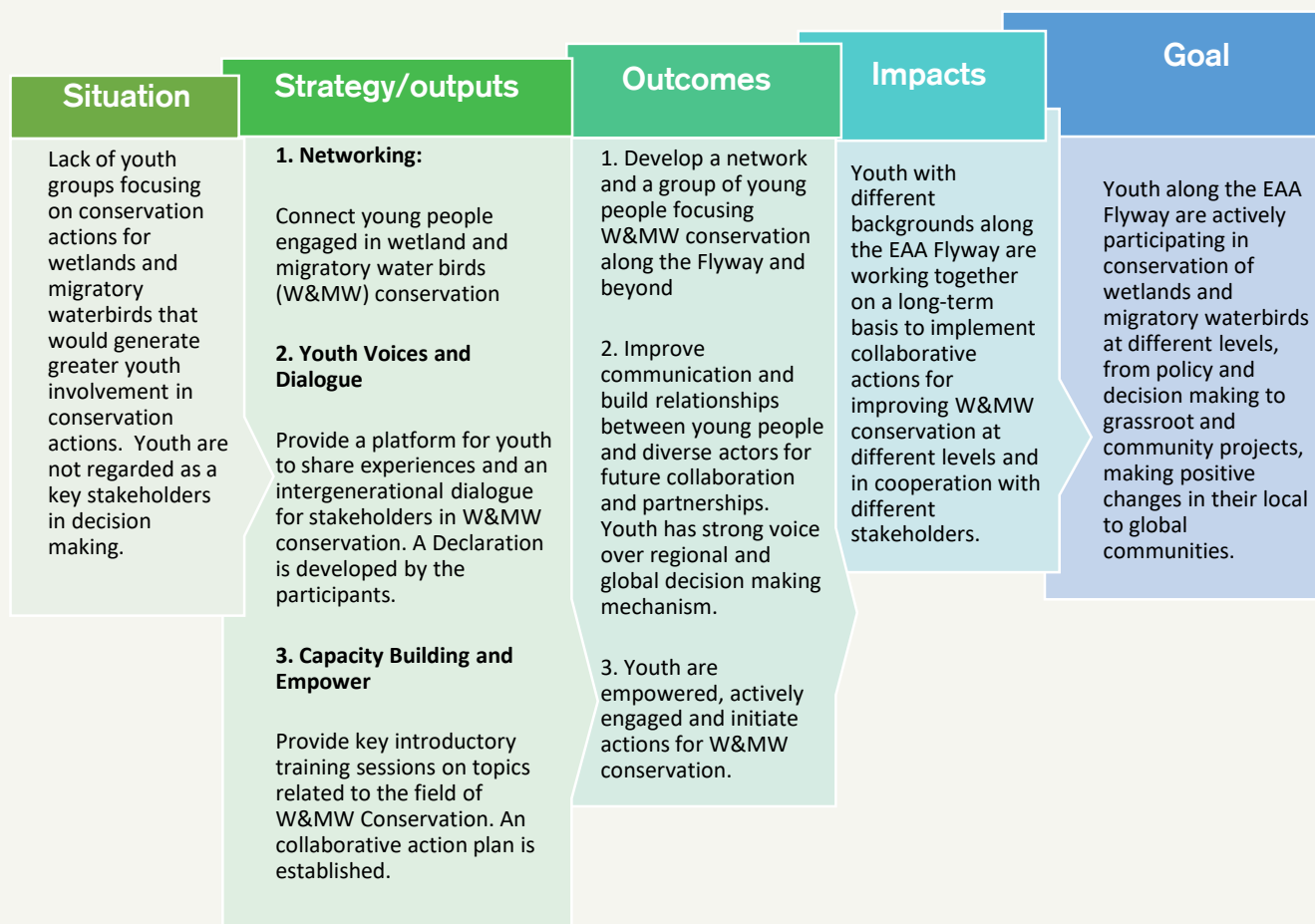
- Provide a platform for youth to share experiences and a Flyway Youth Café with diverse actors in the field of conservation.
- Develop a Youth Declaration is developed by the participants.



## **CAPACITY BUILDING and EMPOWERMENT**

- Provide key introductory training sessions on topics related to the field of wetland and migratory waterbird Conservation.
- Action planning session to provide a starting point for future coordinated actions by youth

# FYF Theory of Change



# FYF Programme

	TIME (KST-GMT +9)	TOPIC	ZOOM ID
Day1 (November 28)	14:00-18:00	Opening Ceremony & Youth Speaker's Sessions	885 6487 9265 Password: 269634
Day 2 (November 29)	9:30-12:00	Youth Advocacy in Global Policy Agendas	836 5049 6947 Password: 582724
	17:00-19:00	A Voice for Our Wetlands Communications, Science, and Storytelling	812 4985 7120 Password: 157939
Day 3 (December 5)	9:30-12:00	Local Community Engagement	893 2300 7246 Password: 613318
	14:00 - 16:00	Field Researching and Monitoring	845 2899 5296 Password: 463066
	17:00-19:00	Environmental Justice & Engaging Marginalized Youth	821 3493 3536 Password: 362682
Day 4 (December 6)	17:00-21:00	Flyway World Café, From Discussion to Action reflection session, Closing Ceremony	891 1469 0514

# FYF Programme: Day 1

**Day 1 (28 November 2020, Sat)**

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)**

## **Opening ceremony and Youth Voice**

Activities	Time
Opening ceremony:	14:00 - 14:20
Key Note speakers:	
• Ms. Martha Rojas Urrego (Secretary General, Ramsar Convention Secretariat)	
• Dr. Jane Goodall (Founder, Jane Goodall Institute)	
• Mr. Doug Watkins (Chief Executive, East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership)	
Music performance	
“Migratory birds” by singers from Myanmar	
Introduction	
Introduction of Flyway Youth Forum	14:20 - 14:30
Introduction of EAAFP	14:30 - 14:40
Presentation of YEW	14:40 - 14:50
Wetlands and Migratory waterbirds 101	14:50 - 15:10
Break	15:15 - 15:30
Youth Presentations	15:30 - 16:15
• Mr. Takuma Satoh (Youth Ramsar Japan)	
• Mr. Jord Earving Gadingan (Sa Ngalan ng Lawa, Philippines)	
• Mr. Vandandorj Sumiya (Wildlife Science and Conservation Center of Mongolia)	
• Mr. Chairunas Adha Putra (Wild Heritage of Sumatra Foundation Indonesia)	
Q & A session	
Break	16:15 - 16:30
Youth Presentations:	16:30 - 17:15
• Mr. Pyaephyo Aung (Nature Conservation Society – Myanmar)	
• Ms. Yuu Takaku (Team SPOON – Japan)	
• Mr. Hugo Ferreira (Power of Wetlands – France)	
• Ms. Frankie Turk (RE-PEAT – Netherlands)	
Q & A session	
Recap and summary	17:15 - 17:35



# FYF Programme: Day 2

**Day 2 (9:30-12:00 nn, 29 November 2020, Sun) Morning Session**

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)**

**Capacity Building Workshops (Compulsory)**

## Youth Advocacy in Global Policy Agendas

### Background:

We believe that no environmental cause can move forward without addressing deep social issues that are damaging to minorities, and/or poor people. We recognize that conservation projects often do not lead with inclusiveness of minorities and marginalized communities. We also recognize that in many places, these minorities and marginalized communities are Indigenous, Black and People of Color, as well as women, children, and youth. Finally, we recognize that indigenous communities have been stewards and protectors of the same lands and waters we want to protect as activists or conservationists.

What can we do to promote environmental justice in wetland conservation?

The purpose of this workshop is to establish a first step in gaining consciousness about the issues around environmental justice and to explore what each one of us can do or is already doing to work towards inclusive wetland conservation.

We want to come together to unlearn biases and damaging behavior towards marginalized youth in the context of environmental activism, conservation and protection of wetlands. We come together to learn new tools to be more inclusive.

### Training objectives:

- Gain an overall understanding of how to advocate for wetlands and migratory birds
- Have a clear understanding of what is “advocacy” and learn the basics of advocacy and its different forms
- Examples of Youth advocacy work for different global agendas
  - Youth and the Post-2020 Framework - What is the post-2020 Framework ; Youth in the Post-2020 Framework
  - Youth and the SDGs - what are the SDGs ; examples linking actions to the SDGs
  - Youth and climate change
- Be able to identify different ways to advocate
- Building the context for the Youth Declaration at the end of the Forum

### Trainer:

Elise Allély-Fermé, Youth Engaged in Wetlands



# FYF Programme: Day 2

**Day 2 (17:00-19:00 PM, 29 November 2020, Sun) Afternoon Session**

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)**

**Capacity Building Workshops (Compulsory)**

## **A Voice for Our Wetlands-Communications, Science, and Storytelling (Effective Campaign)**

### **Background:**

Wetlands have given life to the world around us, giving us water to drink, safeguarding us against disasters, giving us sources of livelihood, but the inconvenient truth is that we aren't doing so much to protect and conserve it, in fact we tend to neglect and forget it. We do not give wetlands a proper voice compared to our beloved oceans, forests, and mountains where hundreds of documentaries, campaigns, and stories are made to raise its awareness. Left to fade— there is no other time than today to make a positive difference and use the tools we have today to give our wetlands the voice and empowerment it deserves.

A conversation on conservation is a communications workshop that integrates the use of art and science in developing an effective campaign and lobbying project in order to raise awareness and to properly communicate the conservation of wetlands in regard to different potential stakeholders around the world.

### **Training Objectives:**

- Differentiate the audiences and stakeholders in developing campaigns for conservation projects
- To understand the different forms of lobbying through advocacy
- To learn the basics of the art of storytelling and how it could be used in conservation projects
- To learn the important factors needed to make an effective story and campaign
- Introduction to science communication and the different examples that could be used in delivering
- To develop a wetlands campaign and lobbying project based on real cases and scenarios happening around the world
- To practice presenting a pitch of a campaign project based on the developed wetlands campaign

### **Trainers:**

- Gab Mejia (YEW)
- Sacha Dench (CMS ambassador)



**Gab Mejia**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Communications & Outreach Lead



**Sacha Dench**

United Nations Ambassador for the  
Convention on Migratory Species

# FYF Programme: Day 3

**Day 3 (9:30-12:00nn, 5 December 2020, Sat) Morning Session**

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)**

**Capacity Building Workshops (Compulsory)**

## Local Community Engagement

### Background:

Since 2017 Foro para el Desarrollo Sustentable A.C (FORO) has been working together with the Nacional Commission on Natural Protected Areas of Mexico (CONANP in Spanish), developing the Resiliencia Project (funded by PNUD-GEF), to design the Adaptation to Climate Change Program (PACC in Spanish) for several federal natural protected areas in México, along with many other public and private institutions. FORO was in charge to implement one adaptation action from Pantanos de Centla Biosphere Reserve PACC. This action consisted in the ecological restoration of mangroves, one of the most representative ecosystems in this region. From 2019 a participatory ecological restoration process in mangroves of Pantanos de Centla was developed within El Palmar and Tembladeras communities. The project's main lessons so far are the following: 1) every action during planning, implementing and monitoring phases of restoration process has to be consulted and concerted within local communities; 2) local trainings are recommended to increase local participation of young, women and is useful to increase awareness on biodiversity conservation; and 3) project success depends on relations of confidence between community, academics and government institutions.

### Training objectives:

- Introduce the concepts of community-based conservation and participative ecological restoration.
- Describe the importance of the role of local communities in wetlands conservation.
- Share tools and methods on how to approach/engage with local communities effectively for a participative project.
- Share the experience of the successful local community engagement and youth involvement for the conservation of wetlands.

### Trainers:

Raul Alejandro Betancourth Buitrago,  
(Foro para el Desarrollo Sustentable A.C.)  
Pilar Angélica Gómez Ruíz,  
(CONACYT-Universidad Autónoma del Carmen)



# FYF Programme: Day 3

**Day 3 (14:00-16:00 pm, 5 December 2020, Sat) Morning Session**

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)  
Capacity Building Workshops (Selective)**

## Field Researching and Monitoring

### Background:

Wetland and migratory waterbird conservation measures are supported and based on scientific studies. The first step for understanding the importance of wetlands, its ecological, economic and social values is via research and monitoring. The more we know, the better we could be informed with scientific support and direct people to effective site management and policymaking. Monitoring is essential for detecting changes and evaluating the effectiveness of a conservation measure or policy. Youth involved in field research and monitoring might typically be the initial experience of engaging in nature conservation. The workshop will introduce the basics of field research and monitoring on wetlands and waterbirds, in terms of ecological and social aspects.

In addition, Citizen Science is a growing channel, not only for gathering data but also for reaching out and educating the general public (Kobori, et. al., 2016). The session is not on youth-focused citizen science, but to enhance youth-led citizen science which contributes to conservation.

### Training Objectives:

- Basic introduction on field research on wetlands and waterbirds monitoring (ecological and social aspect)
- How to develop a project on field studies and monitoring
- How to deliver project outputs in effective ways
- To showcase the experience of conducting field studies and monitoring
- To showcase and share Citizen Science activities lead by Youth

### Trainer:

Prof. Richard Fuller (University of Queensland)



# FYF Programme: Day 3

## Day 3 (17:00-19:00, 5 December 2020, Sat) Afternoon Session

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)**  
**Capacity Building Workshops (Selective)**

## Environmental Justice & Engaging Marginalized Youth

### Background:

Environmental Justice is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (EPA), and the right of all people to live in a healthy and clean environment. Minorities around the world have seen their neighborhoods and communities disproportionately affected by environmental degradation by unfair government policies and practices or under the influence of other groups of power.

We believe that no environmental cause can move forward without addressing deep social issues that are damaging to minorities, and/or poor people. We recognize that conservation projects often do not lead with inclusiveness of minorities and marginalized communities. We also recognize that in many places, these minorities and marginalized communities are Indigenous, Black and People of Color, as well as women, children, and youth. Finally, we recognize that indigenous communities have been stewards and protectors of the same lands and waters we want to protect as activists or conservationists.

What can we do to promote environmental justice in wetland conservation?

The purpose of this workshop is to establish a first step in gaining consciousness about the issues around environmental justice and to explore what each one of us can do or is already doing to work towards inclusive wetland conservation.

We want to come together to unlearn biases and damaging behavior towards marginalized youth in the context of environmental activism, conservation and protection of wetlands. We come together to learn new tools to be more inclusive.

### Training objectives:

- Understand what is meant by “environmental justice” in different aspects, and why it is crucial to successful conservation
- Reflect upon and share personal experiences on environmental injustice, intersectionality, and privilege and learn together in an atmosphere of trust and respect
- Promote a process of learning and un-learning
- Understand the ways youth, women, and indigenous peoples are marginalized in matters of the environment, and their contributions as agents of change
- To learn practical tools and steps that we can use and take toward meaningfully inclusive wetland conservation

### Trainer:

Josefa Cariño Tauli (Sefa) – Global Youth Biodiversity Network



# FYF Programme: Day 4

## Day 4 (17:00-21:00, 6 December 2020, Sun) Afternoon Session

**\*All time zone indicated as Korea Standard Time (KST)  
(Compulsory)**

### FLYWAY WORLD CAFÉ

In the context of the Flyway Youth Forum, through this “World Café” inspired session, we hope to provide a space for an **initial dialogue on the question of intergenerational partnerships for the conservation of wetlands and migratory species**. As the first dialogue of this type specifically for wetlands and migratory birds, the purpose of this exchange is to explore the following question:

***What are the enabling conditions for youth engagement at different levels of wetland governance?***

The Flyway World Café is scheduled at the end of the forum as a way for participants to build on what they have learned from the first two days, hearing from youth-led organisations and groups and capacity building sessions, and to build constructive discussions on the topic. Guests from other organisations will also be invited to participate in the World Café session in order to have a more diversified group of participants for the breakout discussions to stimulate this intergenerational exchange.

Speakers from the **Ramsar Convention on Wetlands**, the **Ministry of the Environment of Japan**, a **wetland centre** (TBC) and the **research sector** will talk about their current work in relation to youth engagement and the opportunities for further engagement. Through these presentations, we will gain insight into youth engagement activities and initiatives at the international, national and local level as well as in the research sector.

Building on these presentations, after a Q/A Session with the Speakers, Forum participants, speakers and guests will be invited to go into break out groups to explore the dialogue question at the international, national and local level in small breakout groups. All participants will then return from the discussion groups to report on their discussions. The Facilitator will then wrap up the session with the key take away messages.

#### **Facilitator:**

Mika Tan, ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity





# Keynote Speakers



Keynote Speaker  
Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on  
Wetlands

Martha Rojas Urrego is the Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

Her commitment to conservation, sustainable development and social equity are running themes throughout her career from grassroots level to the highest levels of international policy making.

Before joining the Ramsar Convention on 22 August 2016, she was Head of Global Advocacy and Acting Deputy Secretary General of CARE International, a development and humanitarian organization, where she led local to global policy work on fighting poverty, development and humanitarian aid, with a strong focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Between 1994 and 2008, Martha Rojas Urrego worked for the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), first as a Senior Biodiversity Policy Advisor and then in 2002 as Head of Global Policy. In the latter position she coordinated IUCN's global policy work, leading the Union's engagement with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), and the World Trade Organization (WTO). She managed the UN Representation and EU policy function in both CARE and IUCN.

Prior to joining IUCN Martha Rojas Urrego was Executive Director of National Parks of Colombia and represented the Government in several multilateral environmental agreements. She also worked for the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Natura Foundation in Colombia.

She is a Colombian and French national.

# Keynote Speakers



Dr. Jane Goodall is considered to be the world's foremost expert on chimpanzees, Goodall is best known for her 60-year study of social and family interactions of wild chimpanzees since she first went to Gombe Stream National Park in Tanzania in 1960.

She is the founder of the Jane Goodall Institute and the Roots & Shoots programme, and she has worked extensively on conservation and animal welfare issues. She has served on the board of the Nonhuman Rights Project since its founding in 1996. In April 2002, she was named a UN Messenger of Peace. Goodall is also honorary member of the World Future Council.



# Speakers



**Yuu Takaku**

Team SPOON  
Japan



**Frankie Turk**

RE-PEAT Collective  
Europe



**Vandandorj Sumiya**

Wildlife Science and Conservation Center  
Mongolia



**Hugo Ferreira**

University of Aveiro  
Portugal



**Takuma Satoh**

Youth Ramsar  
Japan



**Chairunas Putra**

WHIS: From Nature to People  
Indonesia



**Pyae Phyo Aung**

Nature Conservation Society  
Myanmar



**Jord Gadingan**

Sa Ngalan ng Lawa  
Philippines

# Speakers



**Yuu Takaku**

Team SPOON  
Japan

Team SPOON aims at the society that "people value the world of Black-faced Spoonbills flying in peace, and pass it on to the next generation."

Migratory birds fly across the sea to various areas, and people have also exchanged our culture across the sea. Migratory birds tell us that nature and culture are connected across oceans and borders. Black-faced spoonbills are endangered migratory birds which fly in East Asia.

SPOON was established in Tokyo in 2015, and by now there are about 400 SPOON members who have the ring in Japan as well as people in East Asian and other countries.



**Frankie Turk**

RE-PEAT Collective  
Europe

Frankie Turk will be representing the youth-led collective RE-PEAT. Frankie is a 25 year old climate justice advocate who is deeply engaged with the topic of peatlands. After studying a combination of Film theory and Environmental sciences at university, she is interested in approaching complex issues from an interdisciplinary angle. Along with the other members of RE-PEAT, Frankie is fascinated by the way that peatlands connect different disciplines, from hydrology, to policy, from folklore to soil science to food. The peatland challenge can be reduced to the question of "how do you transform something that, by many, is perceived as a wasteland, into a valuable and respected ecosystem?", and RE-PEAT holds that the answer to this can only be found when approached holistically. The RE-PEAT collective thus have three main approaches to their work - collaboration, education and process of re-imagining.



**Vandandorj Sumiya**

Wildlife Science and Conservation Center  
Mongolia

Vandandorj Sumiya is an ecologist, with bachelor and master's degree from the National University of Mongolia, and started his research career from the Institute of Meteorology, Hydrology and Environment, Mongolia. He continued his study at the University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney, under the prestigious Australian Government scholarship Australia Awards for his second master's degree in climate change and ecosystem services. After his master's degree study at the UNSW, he returned to Mongolia and joined Wildlife Science and Conservation Center of Mongolia, and also he was selected as a Research Fellow at Leiden Conservation Foundation in 2017. Since then, he has been coordinating a wetland research and conservation project in Khurkh and Khuiten River Valleys in north-eastern Mongolia, a core breeding habitat for White-Naped Crane, a vulnerable species by IUCN. Mr. Vandandorj has a wide range of research experience from arid land to wetland and from entomology to climate change. So far has published four research articles in international peer reviewed journals as the first author.

# Speakers



Hugo Ferreira, known as the flamingo boy, studied Biology and Geology and holds a Master's degree in Ecology from University of Minho. Due to a lack of opportunities in his field, he ended up working in a Hotel in the South of Portugal. Nevertheless, he did not give up on his childhood dream and kept looking for other opportunities. He ended up as European volunteer at the Tour du Valat Wetland Conservation and Research Institute (France). Despite starting with algae and macroinvertebrates communities there he found a new passion in birds. Some of the species he worked with were the Greater Flamingo, Eurasian Spoonbill, and Glossy Ibis. He shared his work by video and photos with it being awarded several prizes and distinctions. Now, he is a PhD student at the University of Aveiro in collaboration with Tour du Valat. His project aims at assessing the processes influencing population dynamics of a migratory bird species throughout the annual cycle, and in doing so, gather a comprehensive overview of the mechanisms beyond the inter-individual variation in migration tendencies. His model species is the Eurasian Spoonbill (*Platalea leucorodia*) and the study will be focusing on the dynamics of the spoonbill colony in Camargue (South of France).



Takuma Satoh is from Japan who started to be involved with the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands since he was a junior high school student. He participated in an environmental education program called KODOMO Ramsar, where he gained experience more about wetlands and the convention. He currently represents an NGO called Youth Ramsar Japan as a university student, where he plans projects, manages workshops, and applies for grants at Youth Ramsar Japan. He is the Finance and Fundraising Lead for Youth Engaged in Wetlands and one of the co-founding members. His favourite wetland animal is the water shrew.



Chairunas Adha Putra has been fascinated by wild birds since youth at his first-year college in 2009. His passion led him to establish long term monitoring for migratory shorebirds on the east coast of northern Sumatra. He works on field surveys, community development, raising public campaigns, and also works with the government and local people to conserve migratory shorebirds that are facing habitat changes and illegal killings.

# Speakers



**Pyae Phyo Aung**

Nature Conservation Society  
Myanmar

**Pyae Phyo Aung** is the Executive Director of Nature Conservation Society-Myanmar (NCS), he has over 12 years of experiences in nature conservation and involved in other international conservation agencies (Ramsar Conservation, International Union for Conservation of Nature-IUCN and BirdLife International) for the migratory birds, flyway program and wetlands conservation in Asia region. He coordinates conservation of the Critically Endangered Spoon-billed Sandpiper in Myanmar as a Country Representative of the Spoon-billed Sandpiper Task Force under the umbrella of the East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership-EAAFP, involved in designation the Gulf of Mottama, Nanthar Island, and Mayyu estuary as Ramsar Sites and Flyway Network Sites, in collaborated with several agencies, particularly in research, advocacy, stakeholders engagement and capacity building process. He led and initiated to develop of the National Spoon-billed Sandpiper Action Plan (2014-2016) and (2017-2020) for Myanmar. He represented as Oversight Panel members of the Ramsar Conservation, for the Communication, Education, Participation, and Public Awareness (CEPA) program for the contracting parties of the Convention (2016-2018). Currently, he is acting as an NGO National Focal Point of (CEPA) in Myanmar related to the Ramsar Convention and Sub-Regional Representative of World Wetland Network in the Asia Region.



**Jord Gadingan**

Sa Ngalan ng Lawa  
Philippines

Jord Earving Gadingan is a community worker. Organizing works and democratization of arts and sciences are his thing and has been playing inside the Taal Volcano Protected Landscape since 2018. He has reviewed boring environmental compliance documents and attended numerous stressful meetings in the protected area. He thought conservation work is Animal Planet-ish (sad face). He prays that sciences try to appeal to the non-nerds sometimes. He co-designs in *Sa Ngalan ng Lawa*, a citizen science initiative.



# Trainers



**Josefa Tauli**

United Nations Convention on  
Biological Diversity,  
Youth Constituency



**Gab Mejia**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Communications & Outreach Lead



**Elise Allely**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Network Lead



**Bidhya Sharma**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Knowledge & Capacity Building Lead



**Angelica Gomez Ruiz**

Universidad Autonoma Del Carmen,  
CONACYT Fellow Researcher



**Richard Fuller**

University of Queensland Australia,  
Professor



**Sacha Dench**

United Nations Ambassador for the  
Convention on Migratory Species



**Raul Betancourth**

Foro para el Desarrollo Sustentable,  
A.C.

# Trainers



**Elise Allely**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Network Lead

**Elise Allely** is a young water professional passionate about water, the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Her turning point which led her down the path of wetland conservation, was her experience working with the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in Switzerland, delving into the world of wetland-related international governance. From there, Elise went to share her passion for wetlands through environmental education working with children and the wider public at the Natural Regional Park of the Cotentin and Bessin Marshes in France. As a Research assistant with the Australian Rivers Institute, Elise supported an ecological monitoring project of conservation projects in Australia, focusing particularly on Ramsar sites. She recently completed a Master of Integrated Water Management with the International WaterCentre in Australia. For her Master's thesis, she focused on researching the role of Ramsar Sites in environmental water management. Today, as the lead of Youth Engaged in Wetlands, she coordinates a group of committed young professionals from around the world to shape this growing youth movement and steer it towards reaching its objectives. Elise is also the Youth representative for the World Wetland Network. In 2018, she led and contributed to the active participation of youth at Ramsar's 13<sup>th</sup> Conference of the Parties, which led to the establishment of Youth Engaged in Wetlands.



**Bidhya Sharma**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Knowledge & Capacity Building Lead

**Bidhya** from Nepal is currently a PhD student at Department of Geography, McGill University looking at Greenhouse gas emissions from peat use in horticulture. With her first degree in Nepal, she did her MSc in Wetland Science and Conservation from Bangor University in 2018. Sharma is a 2017 Chevening Scholar awarded by Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK. She loves art, history and science and enjoys travel, fiction and outdoors. Coming from Nepal, mountains are the absolute love of her life. Sharma leads the Knowledge and Capacity building team which aims to bring together the youths involved in wetlands and building up network and knowledge sharing.



**Richard Fuller**

University of Queensland Australia,  
Professor

I am a Professor at the University of Queensland. I study how people have affected the natural world around them, and how some of our destructive effects can best be reversed. To answer these questions, the lab group works on pure and applied topics in biodiversity and conservation, spanning the fields of migration ecology, conservation planning and urban ecology. Much of our work is interdisciplinary, focusing on the interactions between people and nature, how these can be enhanced, and how these relationships can be shaped to converge on coherent solutions to the biodiversity crisis. We have devoted much of the last 10 years to understanding why East Asian-Australasian migratory shorebirds have declined so rapidly and what can be done to reverse those declines. Find out more about our work at [www.fullerlab.org](http://www.fullerlab.org) and [www.facebook.com/fullerlab](https://www.facebook.com/fullerlab)

# Trainers



**Sacha Dench**

United Nations Ambassador for the  
Convention on Migratory Species

Sacha Dench is an Australian-born biologist who graduated from the University College of London and the current United Nations Ambassador for the Convention on Migratory Species. She is the founder of [Conservation Without Borders](#) an international organization that looks out for migratory species and issues that most need help. She is a conservationist, adventurer, and a motivational speaker having presented TED talks about her work in conserving different wildlife species across the world. She has worked for international conservation organizations in communications for more than 15 years.



**Gab Mejia**

Youth Engaged in Wetlands,  
Communications & Outreach Lead

**Gab Mejia** is a Filipino conservation photographer, and emerging environmental storyteller. He is an international award-winning photographer and a National Geographic Explorer covering stories on nature, the climate crisis, and indigenous people. He has published stories from the receding glaciers of Patagonia for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, to the critically-endangered dwarf buffalos for the World Wild Fund for Nature Philippines (WWF) and for the United Nations Development Programme Philippines (UNDP). He is the co-founder and Communications and Outreach lead of Youth Engaged in Wetlands, the global youth network advocating for the conservation of wetlands and natural-climate solutions around the world. He is a Jackson Wild Media Lab Fellow and a Nikon Asia Ambassador having presented stories in TEDx. Mejia is also a weekly writer for an environmental column in The Manila Times, and is currently pursuing a civil engineering degree in the University of the Philippines as he aspires to become an environmental engineer integrating his career in the arts and sciences.



**Josefa Tauli**

United Nations Convention on  
Biological Diversity,  
Youth Constituency

**Josefa Cariño Tauli** is an Ibaloi-Kankanaey Igorot indigenous youth from the Cordillera Region in the Philippines. She currently represents Indigenous and local youth on the Steering Committee of the Global Youth Biodiversity Network (GYBN), the official youth constituency of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD). As a member of GYBN, Sefa has been advocating for the meaningful and effective participation of youth and the recognition of indigenous peoples' issues within the biodiversity policy space since 2018. She has actively contributed to the network's policy advocacy work as part of the official youth delegation to CBD meetings and in its participation in the development of the next strategic plan for biodiversity: the post-2020 global biodiversity framework. She is currently a graduate student, focusing her research on biocultural diversity conservation in her home region. Through her research, she hopes to contribute to the body of knowledge we can use to tackle the inextricably interconnected threats to biological and cultural diversity. Sefa is a former indigenous fellow under Conservation International's Indigenous Leaders Conservation Fellowship and Co-chair of "Youth for Territories of Life", the youth group of the global ICCA Consortium.

# Trainers



**Angelica Gomez Ruiz**

Universidad Autonoma Del Carmen,  
CONACYT Fellow Researcher

**Angelica** is a young researcher from Bogotá, Colombia. She is biologist and has a Master's Degree in Biological Sciences from Universidad Nacional de Colombia. She is Doctor of Science from the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México. Currently, she is a CONACYT fellow researcher and teacher at Universidad Autónoma del Carmen (UNACAR) located in Campeche, Mexico. Ecological restoration of tropical ecosystems is her main research topic and she has been working for more than 15 years on it. Recently, she has been more involved and interested in coastal ecosystems like mangroves and participative restoration processes developed with local communities. She was recognized as Certified Ecological Restoration Practitioner (CERP), by the Society for Ecological Restoration in 2018, due to her trajectory and knowledge in the field of ecosystems restoration. She has several academic publications including scientific articles, book chapters and technical reports. Some of the topics that she has been studied are functional plant groups, positive plant interactions, assisted migration as a strategy to face climate change and ecosystem services. She is the general coordinator of a national network of ecological restoration in Mexico, called REPARA.



**Raul Betancourth**

Foro para el Desarrollo Sustentable,  
A.C.

**Raul** is a young professional from Colombia. He has experience on designing, planning and implementing participative sustainable development projects. He currently works on food security and mangrove participative restoration projects as a social facilitator with communities from the Pantanos de Centla Biosphere Reserve on south-east México. He holds a bachelor degree on Sociology from the National University of Colombia and a MSc. in Natural Resources and Rural Development from El Colegio de la Frontera Sur (México). Alejandro has collaborated with Foro para el Desarrollo Sustentable A.C NGO and the United Nations Development Programme in disaster risk reduction and adaptation to climate change based on ecosystem projects. He has also worked on consulting for the Small Grants Programme (UNDP) for agroforestry landscape planning and co-founded Pukté, Gestión Territorial y Desarrollo Sostenible A.C (NGO). He is a passionate on wildlife, agroecology and the countryside way of living.



# World Café Panelist



**Prof. Nick Davidson**

EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee Chair

Prof. Nick Davidson is an adjunct professor in the Institute of Land, Water and Society of Charles Sturt University, and the Chair of the EAAFP Technical Sub-Committee. As the Deputy Secretary General of the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands from 2000 to 2014, he played a senior advisor role in the Secretariat of the Ramsar Convention with overall responsibility for the Convention's global development and delivery of scientific, technical and policy guidance and advice and communications. He has long-standing experience in, and a strong commitment to, environmental sustainability supported through the transfer of environmental science into policy-relevance and decision-making at national and international scales.



**Tomoko Ichikawa**

Wildlife Division, Japanese Ministry of the Environment  
Deputy Director for Wetland Conservation

Tomoko has devoted herself in the conservation of migratory waterbirds and wetlands for over 20 years. She cares deeply about migratory birds and their plight, since she started her career as a ranger at Yatsuhigata Flyway Network Site in Japan. She has experiences in NGOs, governments, and an inter-governmental organisation, and obtained her sound understanding on the importance of the involvement and empowerment of local stakeholders in wetland conservation.

Tomoko has a strong faith in engaging young people in awareness and conservation activities and has excellent mentoring skills, often inspiring the youths to work in conservation. She played an important role as coordinator of the Youth Session at the first Asian Parks Congress in 2013, and has been working tirelessly to inspire new generations about the wonders of birds and their migrations as the chair of the Wetland Guide Chiba, a volunteer group that guide citizens in wetlands.



**Nick Crameri**

Ramsar Convention on Wetlands

Nick holds both a BA and BSc from Monash University majoring in international relations and geology respectively. He has also completed a Master of Environmental Management at the University of Tasmania with a particular focus on the impact of sea level rise on mangrove environments in low-lying atolls of the Pacific. Nick has worked as an environmental scientist for over seven years, with a focus on environmental management and the investigation and remediation of contaminated sites. These investigations involved working widely across Australia from the deserts of Central Australia to tropics of North Queensland. After assisting shorebird counts across Tasmania, Nick took a keen interest in wetlands conservation and protection having witnessed first-hand the threats to species, which rely heavily on Ramsar designated wetlands in Australia and across the world. This helped inspire Nick to join the Secretariat for the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands in 2019 to assist in wetlands conservation at the international level. Here he assists countries in the Asia/Oceania region designate new Ramsar Sites, tracks cases of ecological change and monitors small projects related to wetland conservation. Nick also loves the outdoors and in his free time enjoys surfing, hiking and scuba diving.

# Advisory Board



**Tomoko Ichikawa**

Wildlife Division, Japanese Ministry of the Environment  
Deputy Director for Wetland Conservation



**Suh Seung Oh**

RAMSAR Regional Centre - East Asia  
Executive Director



**Mark Raquino**

Global Youth Biodiversity Network  
Southeast Asia, Co-coordinator



**Chris Rostron**

Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust,  
International Engagement Manager



**Mika Tan**

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity,  
ASEAN Youth Coordinator



**Hyejeong Yang**

Gyeongnam Ramsar Environmental  
Foundation, International  
Cooperation Team

# Advisory Board



**Tomoko Ichikawa**

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**Suh Seung Oh**

RAMSAR Regional Centre - East Asia  
Executive Director

Mr. Suh Seung Oh currently serves as Executive Director of the Ramsar Regional Center - East Asia (RRC-EA). He is an experienced wetland practitioner and has been actively involved for many years in regional and global discussions on the implementation of the Ramsar Convention. He has been instrumental in the development and adoption of Ramsar Resolutions on the Ramsar Site Management Effectiveness Tracking Tool (R-METT) and Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention, among others. Mr. Suh is also presently a member of several international bodies such as the International Steering Committee for Asian Wetland Symposium 2021 and the Independent Advisory Committee for Wetland City Accreditation of the Ramsar Convention. He worked at the Gyeongnam Ramsar Environmental Foundation as Deputy Section Manager prior to joining the RRC-EA and holds a Master's degree in wetland ecology.



**Mark Raquino**

Global Youth Biodiversity Network  
Southeast Asia, Co-coordinator

Mark is working in community development and biodiversity conservation in a ridge to reef approach. Over the years, his conservation work has assisted local governments and communities establish protected areas and community conserved areas with complementing policies and management arrangements. He has also helped build capacity among indigenous communities, women and youth in raising awareness and taking leadership roles in protecting the environment.

Mark has a background in Biology, Professional Masters in Tropical Marine Ecosystems Management and Master of Science in Environmental Management. He serves as the Research and Development Coordinator in an NGO - Daluhay based in Baler, Aurora Philippines.

Mark is also one of Rainforest Trust Conservation Fellow and one of the ASEAN Youth Biodiversity Leaders coming from the Philippines. Currently, Mark serves as the co-coordinator for the Global Youth Biodiversity Network Southeast Asia.

# Advisory Board



**Chris Rostron**

Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust,  
International Engagement Manager

I have been working in wetland conservation and environmental CEPA activities for over 30 years, and am based at the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust (WWT), UK, working as the International Engagement Manager. The role includes supporting global networks of wetlands conservationists, particularly those engagement in CEPA activities. WWT is one of Ramsar IOPs, and runs wetland centres in the UK, as well as international conservation projects around wetlands, people and wildlife.

For the past 12 years I have worked closely with the Ramsar convention, supporting their CEPA programme, and actively engaging at their COPs, CEPA oversight panel and Standing Committees. It has been a great opportunity to influence and support global wetland conservation. At the last Ramsar COP I had the pleasure of working with the YEW group.

Currently I am working on the development of a global wetland school, delivery of a citizen science survey of the world's wetlands, and continuing to support wetland centres and NGOs worldwide."



**Mika Tan**

ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity,  
ASEAN Youth Coordinator

Mika Tan has been working with youth in the environmental scene for the past decade. Her expertise lies in youth empowerment, urban biodiversity, systems thinking, capacity building, public speaking, and facilitation. Currently, she is the Coordinator of the [ASEAN Youth Biodiversity Programme \(AYBP\)](#) at the ASEAN Centre for Biodiversity, crafting training and mentorship programmes to empower youth in the region for the benefit of nature and people.

Mika is also the Co-Founder of the Urban Biodiversity Hub ([www.ubhub.org](http://www.ubhub.org)), leading a team to develop a global platform that accelerates the integration of nature-based solutions in urban planning. As an interdisciplinary thinker, Mika holds a B.A. in Environmental Studies (Conservation Biology) from Middlebury College, USA, and is an inaugural Middlebury Social Entrepreneurship Fellow and a Loke Cheng-Kim Scholar. If she's not in front of her computer, Mika can often be found dancing, running, or exploring the outdoors. Connect with Mika at <https://www.linkedin.com/in/mikatan/>.



**Hyejeong Yang**

Gyeongnam Ramsar Environmental  
Foundation, International  
Cooperation Team

Ms. Yang is part of the International Cooperation Team of the Gyeongnam Ramsar Environmental Foundation with focus on supporting International Forum and Networking, and promotion of International Cooperation Projects on Education and Training related to environments. She's also in charge of supporting activities for awareness of wetland preservation for youth in the organization (The Youth Ramsar Environmental Press Corps, International Student's Swallow Camp, Asian Youth Wetland Activist Workshop).



# Organizers



## East Asian-Australasian Flyway Partnership

Recognizing that no single site or country can protect all the migratory waterbirds along the flyway, international collaboration is vital. That is why, in 2006, a partnership was launched to conserve migratory waterbirds,

their habitat and the livelihoods of people who depend on them. This

partnership is called the East Asian — Australasian Flyway Partnership (EAAFP).

As of 2020, the EAAFP is made up of 39 Partners and it continues to expand.

This is a unique partnership which includes partners in all sectors and it

provides a flyway-wide framework to promote dialogue, cooperation and

collaboration among a range of stakeholders.

LEARN MORE AT: <https://www.eaaflyway.net/>



## Youth Engaged in Wetlands

Youth Engaged in Wetlands or "YEW" is an international youth team committed to the conservation, protection, and wise-use of wetlands. YEW provides a global platform for young people to enable and empower them to help support the mission of The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

LEARN MORE AT:

<https://www.youthengagedinwetlands.com/>

# Acknowledgements



**FORO para el  
Desarrollo  
Sustentable, A.C**



**Global Youth  
Biodiversity  
Network**



**UNACAR®**  
Universidad Autónoma del Carmen  
"Por la Grandeza de México"



**CONSERVATION**  
WITHOUT BORDERS



# For Inquiries:

## Get in touch with us!

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“Young People, when informed and empowered, when they realize that what they do truly makes a difference, can indeed change the world. “

**Jane Goodall**