

BIODATA OF PARTICIPANTS



MOHAMMED NURUDDIN AL-MASUD was born in Bangladesh right after its independence in December 1971. By profession he is a social worker with keen interests in upholding human rights, good governance and gender parity. He is working with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Liberia as an international monitoring and evaluation specialist. Over the past decade, he has worked in various humanitarian organizations including Save the Children-Australia, *Fundacion Intervida*, and Society for Participatory Education and Development (SPED). He also taught at the College of Development Alternative (CODA). As an Asian scholar, Mr. Masud is a direct beneficiary of Nippon Foundation and completed his Masters in Arts in International Peace Studies at the University for Peace (UPEACE), Costa Rica and Ateneo de Manila, Philippines. He also has a Masters in Political Science from Bangladesh and two bachelor degrees in Social Science and Law.

SAAD HABIB-E-RASUL MULLAH from

Bangladesh is pursuing his PhD in Neurosurgery at Tokyo Medical and Dental University in Tokyo, Japan. He graduated from Dhaka Medical College, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh. He was awarded The Nippon Foundation-Bangladesh Scholarship Council scholarship twice during his medical undergraduate course. At the



central examination after completing high school he secured 1st position in Bangladesh among 100,000 students. For this achievement, he received gold medal from the President of Bangladesh and special award from the Prime Minister. He received several other awards, medals and scholarship by different organizations for his outstanding results throughout academic life. He got the Japan Government (MEXT) Scholarship twice. Besides academic life, he has been involved in social welfare activities like fund raising for orphanage, blood donation programs, medical service for flood victims, free medical treatment camp for the impoverished. During his stay in Tokyo he has

been involved in several cultural exchange programs, taking Language classes in Japanese school. He is a participant in the activities of Meguro-UNESCO association. He speaks English, Bengali and Japanese while having some hold on Hindi, Urdu and Arabic. Presently he is carrying out research activities in the field of regenerative medicine for brain injury.



VICHETH SEN, from Cambodia, is a researcher in the Social Development Program, Cambodia Development Resource Institute (CDRI)—Cambodia's leading independent development policy research institute. His research covers education, peace, gender and public health. He is also a faculty member of the Master of Education Program at the Royal University of Phnom Penh. He has been a lecturer in the English Department at the Institute of Foreign Languages, Royal University of Phnom Penh since 2002. He holds a Bachelor of Education (2002) from the Institute of Foreign Languages, Royal University of Phnom Penh. In 2005, he received a scholarship from the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) to pursue a Postgraduate Diploma in Applied Linguistics at SEAMEO Regional Language Center, Singapore. He was awarded a scholarship by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) in 2006 to do a Master of Education (M.Ed.) at Simon Fraser University, Vancouver, Canada. In his research project, he examined the role of higher education in promoting civic engagement in Cambodia. In 2008, he got a scholarship from The Nippon Foundation to pursue his M.A. in International Peace Studies, Dual Campus Program, now known as the Asia Leaders Program, at the United Nations-mandated University for Peace in Costa Rica and the Ateneo de Manila University, the Philippines. His research project focused on the role of social capital (trust) in post-conflict recovery. His main research interests center on social capital, social networks, higher education and civic engagement, and the social dimensions of climate change adaptation.

SUNITHA B NAIR is presently working as Assistant Professor in Kannur University Kerala. She has completed her Master of Philosophy programme in interdisciplinary social sciences, specializing in economics from Mahatma Gandhi University Kerala, India. Her doctoral thesis was on *“Political Economy of Health: An analysis of policies, priorities and initiatives in Kerala,”* from the Centre for Social Medicine and Community Health, Jawaharlal Nehru University. She has worked with various organizations, both government and NGOs, for different research projects. Her experiences with communities in the field have helped her gain a social sensitivity. She is working as a health activist in Kerala under the umbrella of public health movement in India. She prefers to work in those projects which are beneficial to the disadvantaged groups in the society and wishes to expand from Kerala to Asia.



BERNADETH ANGGIA MARIA ROSARIE from Indonesia currently focuses on the Conflict Resolution and Dispute Settlement Mechanism of ASEAN. She used to work as a Technical Officer of the Legal Services and Agreements Division of the ASEAN Secretariat, Jakarta, Indonesia. She obtained her Master of Law and Bachelor of Law from the Faculty of Law, University of Indonesia. Her area of interest encompasses law, conflict resolution and the pacific settlement of disputes, free trade agreements, investor-state disputes, alternative dispute resolution and trade related issues. She has six years of research and analysis experience on various issues of law and economy. Her publications include “Critique of Indonesian Antitrust Law on the Exclusion of Patent Licensing from the Antitrust Law, A Comparative Study to U.S. Antitrust Law” and “Critical Analysis of the Dynamic of Regulating Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Products of Biotechnology and Barrier to Trade of International Trade Law”.

DOTHY from Indonesia, was awarded a fellowship from the Nippon Foundation to join the Masters Program at the World Maritime University, Sweden, in 2000-2001. Over the past fifteen years, she has worked as an Assistant Lecturer for the Industrial Engineering Department at the Institute of Technology Surabaya, and at the Ministry of Communication. She is currently working as the Assistant Senior Manager of HR Development at Indonesia Port Corporation (IPC) III Surabaya, a state-owned enterprise. IPC III manages three subsidiaries and 19 branches located within 7 provinces of the Indonesia archipelago. She relishes the challenge of handling ports with different business characteristics, resources, culture, and people. She focuses on HR Development and Corporate planning, where she balances micro and macro knowledge in her strategic planning.



EKONINGTYAS MARGU WARDANI, is a researcher at the Center for Asia and Pacific Studies, Gadjah Mada University. She graduated from the Economics Department, Gadjah Mada University, Yogyakarta. Her areas of interests are in indigenous communities (especially in Indonesia and the Philippines), environmental problems, food security, rural development, globalization, international trade, and poverty related issues. She also works on several research projects based on multidisciplinary studies, such as economics, environmental studies and anthropology. Her recent work has been in the area of sustainable livelihood particularly for disaster risk reduction and forest fire reduction programs in Indonesia.

ENDRO KRISTANTO was born in Indonesia in 1979.

He has worked recently as a Consultant of Peace Through Development (PTD) in Indonesia, a project of the National Development Planning Agency, created in cooperation with United Nations Development Program to address issues related to the linkage between development and peace



building. He is writing the “*Development Through a Participative and Peaceful Approach*,” training module to raise the awareness of community development facilitators. He is also a consultant for Oxfam GB in Indonesia where he is conducting the final evaluation of Emergency Response and Early Recovery Program in West Java. Endro completed his Masters degree at the University for Peace, Costa Rica-Philippines in 2008-2009. He has an undergraduate degree in Psychology from Gadjah Madah University, Indonesia. He was involved in the response to the 2004 tsunami with two organizations. He volunteered to be a trainer and counselor of community-based trauma healing for an inter religious institution namely Forum Kemanusiaan dan Persaudaraan Indonesia in 2005-2007. He also worked for Oxfam GB as a human resources consolidation officer in 2007-2008. Endro has a great interest in performance arts. During his high school years, he joined in a theater group, and undertook the role of vice project manager and music player when the group achieved the best performance and the best music awards. During his university years, he led a gospel vocal group to perform in many churches in Indonesia. In recent years, he has used Playback Theatre as a method to enhance cohesiveness as well as to heal trauma in communities.



EDGAR MINORU TOKASHIKI OKA from Peru, is presently pursuing his MBA at the International University of Japan. He worked as a research fellow at a company called Peruvian Fishing Solutions (Peru), where he researched the *Merluccius gayi peruanus*, a marine resource that is heavily exploited in the north of Peru, and determined its biomass. In 2008, he decided to specialize in Agricultural Business Administration. In 2009, he was awarded the Nikkei Scholarship from the Nippon Foundation to pursue his Masters Degree in

Japan. He helped the Peruvian Embassy to participate in the Japan International Seafood & Technology Expo and worked as an adviser for his family company Deli Veg from 2007 to 2009.

YUKA INOUE is a civil society advocate from Japan. In 2004, she was awarded a JASSO research fellowship and did her field work on the indigenous communities of Davao, Philippines. This led to her completion of a Masters degree in Southeast Asian Studies from the University of Tsukuba in 2006. Since then, she has worked at the Philippine Nikkei-jin Legal Support Center, a Tokyo-based non-profit organization that works for the recognition and citizenship rights of Japanese descendants, who were left behind in the Philippines after the Second World War. Criss-crossing between Tokyo, Manila and Davao, Ms. Inoue is an active member of several organizations including academic societies, Philippine-Japan civil society coalitions and friendship circles. Her interests and advocacies include issues on Philippine-Japan relations, peace-building in Southeast Asia and grassroots networking among civil society organizations.



YOUNGKYUNG KO is presently pursuing PhD in finance at Korea University Business School. She graduated from the Area Studies program majoring in Southeast Asian Regional Studies and International Business at Yonsei University in 2000. She has researched corporate finance and corporate governance in emerging markets and is especially interested in external financing as well as payout policies of firms related to ownership structure in business groups. She presented her working papers on these issues in 2008 at the FMA Asian Conference in China and at the International Conference on Corporate Governance in Emerging Markets, Turkey, in 2007. She currently works as a visiting consultant for HE&I Consulting, Seoul.

BOUNTHIENGTHAM NOUANPASEUTH from Laos

is presently a lecturer at the Faculty of Engineering, Champasak University. He taught at the National University of Laos for six years then moved to Champasak University. He received a scholarship from THACA in 2003 to pursue a Masters degree in Construction Management. Returning to Laos to work at FEA in 2007, he transferred his knowledge and experience to his students. He was also an assistant for a research project studying the alternatives for increasing revenue for corn as a cash crop, and did another project on the market orientation of corn. Both projects were supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation from 2007-2008. He also works as a consultant on a construction project for a private company.



AMIN ISKANDAR is the Executive Director of National Institute for Electoral Integrity (NIEI); an organization that actively campaigns for electoral reforms issues and voter's education in Malaysia. He is also a columnist for several independent news portals like *Malaysiakini* and *The Malaysian Insider*. His writes about politics, social affairs, arts

and culture. Amin's political involvement began in his university days where he acted as one of the coordinators and co-founders of a cultural institution popularly referred to as the *Universiti Bangsar Utama* (UBU). During the period of 1998-2001, a reform movement started in Malaysia. The UBU was involved in anti-government protests.

Amin also briefly worked with the May 18 Memorial Foundation in Gwangju, South Korea (2006-2007), where he was exposed to the admirable South Korean democratic movement. His expertise has been gained because of his active participation with the Asian Network for Free Elections (ANFREL). His international election observation work has brought him to Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Thailand, Philippines and Pakistan. Amin Iskandar also has a passion in music. He is a singer-songwriter with an independent album. One of his songs became the soundtrack of the award-winning documentary for the Freedom Film Festival in 2007, titled "*Sepuluh Tahun Sebelum Merdeka*" ("*10 years Before Independence*") by a local indie

filmmaker Fahmi Reza. Currently, he is an Asian Public Intellectuals (API) fellow for 2009-2010, researching the history of election monitoring in the Philippines and Indonesia.

MOHD EEKMAL BIN AHMAD from Malaysia is currently working as Press Secretary to Mr Anwar Ibrahim, Malaysia's Leader of the Opposition. He was an Assistant Coordinator to the first installation of Asian Renaissance: Capacity Building for Future Leaders. He is also an alumnus of Asian Renaissance: Capacity Building for Southeast Asian Leaders, an annual program organized by the Institute for Policy Research (IKD) and the Sasakawa Peace Foundation. He has translated numerous works from English to Bahasa Melayu, such as Friedrich Hayek's *"Individualism: True or False,"* and Claude Addas' *"Voyage of No Return."*



NGEOW YEOK MENG, PhD, undertook ethnic studies at the Institute of Postgraduate Studies, University of Malaya upon receiving a Sasakawa Young Leaders' Fellowship Fund from The Nippon Foundation in 2001. She graduated with a PhD entitled *"Ethnic Minority in an 'Islamic State': Response of the Chinese Minority towards Islamisation Policies in Kelantan"*. She is currently a senior lecturer at the Section for Co-curricular Courses, External Faculty Electives and TITAS (SKET), University of Malaya, Malaysia. Her areas of interest include scholarship of teaching and learning (SoTL), action research, ethnic identity of the minority and Islamisation policies. Her book publications include *Human Resource: Issues and Challenges* (2000) and *Anthology of an Undergraduate of University of Malaya* (1994 in Mandarin). Dr. Ngeow has authored and co-authored journal articles on the identity of ethnic minority, parliamentary discourse with a focus on ethnic sensitivities and gender stereotypes. She was a SYLFF scholar from 2001 to 2004.

OYUNDELGER SEDRAGCHAA from Mongolia, is presently Secretary General of Vansemeruu Mongolia, a local NGO based in her home country. She graduated from Soyol Erdem University in 2004 where she specialized in Japanese language study. Awarded a scholarship to a university of her choice by the Japanese Government, she chose Niigata University, one of the most famous state universities in Japan, and studied Japanese culture and literature with Japanese students for a year. She also enjoyed horse riding in the university as a member of a horse-riding club. In 2006, she started working for a tourist company in Ulaanbaatar as a manager. While she was engaged in tour conductor for Japanese tourists, she also had chances to take care of English-speaking tourists during the tourist season. She realized English was an important and useful tool for communication. In October 2006, she switched from the business field to non-profit field as she was more interested in social contribution. “Vansemeruu Mongolia” NGO, promotes traditional medicine in primary health care in Mongolia with funds from The Nippon Foundation since 2004. She noticed the organization was quite different from Mongolian organizations because the management style was Japanese, one of whose main features is a philosophy working quality is improved when skill of staff is improved through in-house human development. Being regarded highly by the management, she was promoted from Office Manager to Secretary General of the organization in 2008.



LINN LINN SOE from Myanmar is a Sales & Marketing Manager for Myanmar Consolidated Media Ltd (MCM), the publisher of *The Myanmar Times*. She is also part of MCM's Executive Management Committee which meets regularly to discuss business strategy. She has been engaged as a coordinator with the Sasakawa Peace Foundation's capacity enhancement program at *The Myanmar Times*. She has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics from the University of Distance Education, Yangon, Myanmar. She has also recently completed a two-year Diploma of Management and Administration from the Management Studies department of the Institute of Economics in Yangon. She completed the advanced diploma course in April 2010.

NANG SAW NANDAR HLAING is from Myanmar, the Golden Land. She was born in northern Shan state, a hilly region of the country. She describes her native town as a peaceful, pleasant and cheerful place, famous for its rice production and as a border trading city. She remembers living there as the happiest time of her childhood life, but she moved to the city for her education. She is the eldest in a large and harmonious family. She married in 2005 and has one lovely baby boy. She is working as a researcher after earning her Master degree at the Economic Studies & Research Institute (ESRI) under the Union of Myanmar Federation of Chambers of Commerce & Industry (UMFCCI). She also participated as one of the young researchers as a trainer in Myanmar sponsored by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation (SPF). She is interested in community development environment and is continuing her research in the Greater Mekong Subregion after attending the Regional Research Methodology Training Course at the Mekong Institute, Thailand.



JOSE ATANACIO L. ESTUAR from the Philippines, began his 20-year journey as development professional by working and living with communities as a volunteer project officer. This experience opened doors for service, in a managerial and/or technical specialist capacity, in the field of microfinance (savings, loans, social insurance) and sustainable livelihood for various international and local development organizations. He counts as modest career highlights the experience of providing technical support to a 4000 member savings and loan initiative in the mountainous terrain of Cordillera, Philippines and quietly leading a team to an award in the prestigious 2006 World Development Marketplace competition for a project on children's savings. He received the Institute of Philippine Culture-Ford Foundation Merit research award in 2005 to conduct the research "*Microfinance in Eastern Samar: Women's Notions of Savings , Credit ,Social Insurance and Social Capital.*" In 2009, He received The Nippon Foundation-Asian Public

Intellectual (API) fellowship for the project entitled “*Microfinance Innovations for Frontier Areas and Marginalized Populations: Lessons from Malaysia and Thailand*”. In 2007, Mr Estuar decided to take the risk in pursuing his legacy rather than tenured employment by creating the Eastern Twinstars Foundation (ETSF). As founding president, he leads the conceptualization and hands-on implementation of pilot social enterprise and innovative financial services projects in hard to reach “frontier areas” with pockets of economically-challenged and marginalized populations. Among these pilots are establishing mobile cash transfer services for cultural communities. Mr Estuar aspires for a quiet anonymity of a family man devoted to his loving wife and 2 daughters. His independent professional work however, aims to create sufficient ruckus through “out-of-the-box” undertakings with the hopes of rousing development workers and public intellectuals from their stupor and challenge dominant paradigms that creates barriers in enhancing quality of life at the bottom of the pyramid.

RONALDO P. BANDALARIA from the Philippines

has been working in the Maritime Industry Authority, the country’s Flag State Administration, as a Maritime Industry Development Specialist. With more than fifteen years experience in the industry, he has gained considerable know-how in the field of maritime administration, policy formulation, shipping business



management and maritime law enforcement. Specifically, he has been tasked in the evaluation of shipping applications, participation in technical working committee discussions and conduct of ship safety inspection, casualty investigation and marine inquiry, among others. Through the benevolent sponsorship of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation and the Nippon Foundation, Mr. Bandalaria was awarded the degree of Master of Science in Maritime Affairs specializing in Maritime Administration at the World Maritime University in 2005. He also completed his Master degree in Shipping Business Management in the Philippine Merchant Marine Academy in 2003. Aside from his postgraduate studies, he likewise completed two bachelor degrees in the field of Naval Architecture and Marine Engineering as well as Computer Engineering. In addition to his scholastic achievements, he attended foreign

seminars and conferences such as the Area Focused Training Course on Maritime Law Enforcement in Japan, International Symposium on Contemporary Issues in Maritime Security in Sweden and the STW40 Intercessional Meeting in the International Maritime Organization (IMO) in London. Born in the province of Batangas, 120 km south of Manila, Mr. Bandalaria is a married man and delighted with two children.



VEN. BALANGODA ANANDA MANJUSRI is a Sri Lankan Buddhist monk who has been working with the Sewalanka Foundation, one of the leading NGOs in Sri Lanka, since 2006. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the Sri Jayewardenepura University of Sri Lanka for Criminology, Buddhist Civilization and Pali language in 2006. At the Sewalanka Foundation, he facilitates inter-religious dialogue and is a trainer for conflict sensitivity for staff, young clergies and youth leaders. Venerable was ordained when he was 13 years old in 1995 as a pupil of late Venerable Balangoda Ananda Maitreya Maha Nayeka Thera. He received his higher ordination in 2007. In addition to his day to day social, religious activities and organizational work, he does photography as a hobby.

KAUSHALYA NAVARATNE from Sri Lanka is presently working in the capacity of a Programs Director at the Sewalanka Foundation, one of the leading Development NGOs in the country. She joined the Sewalanka Foundation in 2003 as an Assistant Director-Special



Projects. Later, she established the Women's Empowerment Unit at the organization. At present her role includes leading and coordinating activities related to Gender, Psychosocial, Children and Youth and supporting the Emergency Response and Early Recovery work in war affected areas in the North. She did her undergraduate studies specializing in English Literature at the Women Christian College in Chennai, India and did her Masters Degree in Sustainable International Development at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management at the Brandeis University in Boston, MA, USA.



BUSSAGONE TAVONPRASITH from Thailand, is presently working as a lecturer and a researcher at Thaksin University, Songkhla. She was born in Songkhla in the south of Thailand. She finished an undergraduate degree programme in Economics from Kasetsart University, Bangkok. After graduation, she worked as a bank teller at the Siam Commercial Bank for two years. To challenge herself, she decided to pursue graduate study at Chiang Mai University where she was awarded the Ryoichi Sasakawa Young Leaders Fellowship Fund (SYLFF). After finishing her Masters degree in 1998, she worked as a lecturer at the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration and as a researcher at Southern Economy Research Unit (SERU), Thaksin University in 1999. As a lecturer, she mainly teaches Macroeconomics, Money and Banking, Regional Economics and Research in Economics. As a researcher, she focuses on economics and tourism in the south of Thailand. One of her research projects analyzed the employment system and skill enhancement. She was selected by the Government of India for an ITEC scholarship.

SOMKIAT CHAMPEEPAN is 31 years old. He has been living in Nakhon Sri Thammarat since his birth in 1979. He is an English teacher at the Prateepsasana Islamic Foundation School (PIFS), Nakhon Sri Thammarat, Southern Thailand. He has been teaching English at the Prateepsasana Islamic School since his graduation from Walailak University in 2003 and is now the Head of the Foreign Languages Department and Head of Student Counseling Division for 1,600 students in the two campuses of PIFS. He was selected from amongst English Islamic Teachers from all over Thailand to be a head of the English Department of the Pondok English Network. With the network, he conducts workshops on training for English teachers and organizes workshops for Muslim students all over Thailand. Over the past six years, he has won various scholarships to visit the United States to improve



his English proficiency. His students have won English and public speaking competition, a considerable achievement given that his students had to compete against well-known and better resourced government schools.



WUTTISAK PITSUWAN from Thailand is presently pursuing his Ed.D in Higher Education at Srinakarinwirot University, Bangkok, Thailand. He worked as a Project Manager of the CRP Project (Curriculum Reform for the Pondoks in Southeast Asia : Southern Thailand Section) which has been supported by the Sasakawa Peace Foundation for three years (2007-2010). He worked as Head of Department of Marketing at the Faculty of Business Administration, Bangkok University in 2007. Currently, he is a Secretary of Prateepsassana Islamic School Foundation for Educational Development (PFED), and is Manager of Prateepsassana Islamic Foundation School (Preschool-Primary Level), Nakorn Sri Thammarat, Thailand.