



Day 2

Opening Remarks



FRANCESCO TORNIERI

Principal Social Development Specialist
(Social Inclusion), Human and Social
Development Sector Office
ADB

Francesco Tornieri brings over 25 years of experience in multilateral development banks, specializing in social development with a focus on gender equality, social inclusion, and social justice. Since joining ADB in 2004, he has pioneered gender equality and social inclusion (GESI)-responsive governance, policy, legal reform, and empowerment initiatives across Asia and the Pacific. He was instrumental in the launch of the Inclusive Energy Solutions Program in the South Asia Department (SARD) and related ADB-World Bank We-POWER initiatives. Until 2023, he led the South Asia GESI Team and served as the CSO/NGO and impact evaluation focal point in SARD. During his tenure, Francesco enhanced the visibility of intersectionality within ADB operations, spearheading the finalization of the SARD GESI Framework (2023) and advocating for a greater emphasis on intersecting disadvantaged identities, including age, disability, and sexual orientation and gender identity (SOGI). As ADB's first-appointed focal point for SOGI, Francesco is currently leading the finalization of the ADB Roadmap for SOGI Inclusion. Prior to his work at ADB, he was engaged with the World Bank's Africa Region (1996-2004), focusing on the Gender and Law Program in West and East Sub-Saharan Africa, and has provided independent consulting for various Sub-Saharan countries.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS



WENDY WALKER

Director
Social Development, Sectors Group
Human and Social Development Sector Office
ADB

Wendy Walker is the director of the Social Development Practice Team in the Human and Social Development Sector Group at ADB. She provides technical leadership in social development and social protection and facilitates collaboration across sector and technical groups in ADB and with external partners.

Wendy has been co-leading ADB's first strategic operational priority on Addressing Remaining Poverty and key initiatives in areas such as demographic transition, migration and disability. She has over 25 years of experience in countries in Asia and Africa on developing and evaluating social protection and social development policies and programs. Wendy has an M.Phil from Oxford University and a PhD from Johns Hopkins University.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS

Presentation: The Intersectionality Framework



LOUISE MCSORLEY

Social Development Specialist
Sectors Group, Human and Social
Development Sector Office
ADB

Louise McSorley works on social development at ADB. Originally trained as lawyer she has extensive international experience and served as a diplomat in Australian missions in New Delhi and Kuala Lumpur.

Before joining ADB, Louise held leadership roles on gender equality policy in Australia – serving as the CEO of the Workplace Gender Equality Agency and then the Office for Women, in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet. She also advised the United Nations Development Program on gender and leadership and the International Labor Organization on law reform in Sri Lanka and Myanmar. In addition to law, Louise has masters qualifications in anthropology and gender.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS

**Intersection of old age and gender inequality in GMS countries:
Issues and Interventions**



MEREDITH WYSE

Senior Social Development Specialist
(Aging and Care), Sectors Group
Human and Social Development Sector Office
ADB

Meredith Wyse is Senior Social Development Specialist – Aging and Care, Human and Social Development Sector, Sectors Group at the Asian Development Bank. She has nearly 20 years' experience working in the Asia-Pacific region on issues related to adaptations to population aging and older persons working on programs related to social protection, community development, health and care and humanitarian response.

In her role she supports the ADB's technical assistance programs and projects related to the development of long-term care services and systems across a diverse set of Asian and Pacific countries as well as building technical capacity across ADB sectors on adaptation to population aging. She has a BA (Hons) in Middle Eastern History, and Msc in Development Management and is a qualified management accountant.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS

Intersection of disability and gender inequality: Manifestations and responses in GMS countries



CHANHPHENG SIVILA

Director
Women With Disability Association (Lao PDR)

Chanhpheng Sivila is the president of WWDA, founder Lao Disabled Women's Development Center (LDWDC) in 2001 and has worked for more than 20 years in the program for women with disabilities development, fundraising and operating management. WWDA is organization to have empowers women with disabilities through vocational training and advocates for the rights of persons with disabilities and provides them access to general income.

Chanhpheng's career has focused on strengthening and promoting disability rights, inclusion, and development, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls with disabilities in Lao PDR, and advocating women and girls' leadership in communities. Her work with the WWDA has helped boost social entrepreneurship of women and girls with disabilities. The organization has partnered with the World Assembly on women with disabilities, sits as a member of Women with Disability in Asia Pacific Unite, and collaborates closely with the Government of Laos to develop and improve policies and laws on the rights of persons with disabilities.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS

Intersection of disability and gender inequality: Manifestations and responses in GMS countries



SAOWALAK THONGKUAY

President
Association to Empower the Potential of
Women with Disabilities in Thailand;
Member of the UN Committee on the Rights of
Persons with Disabilities

Saowalak Thongkuay, President of the Association to Empower the Potential of Women with Disabilities in Thailand and a member of the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

Saowalak is a member of the UN CRPD Committee, a steering committee for ASEAN Disability Forum, has been an expert on gender equality to NHRI since 2020. In addition, she has been a committee member and expert on Human rights of Committee on the Gender Equality Promotion, since 2022 established by the Gender Equality Act. Since 2016. She is very keen on intersectionality as a central part of her advocacy work.



Session 1 - Intersectionality Lens: Advancing Social Inclusion and Gender Equality in the GMS

Intersection of ethnicity, income poverty, and gender inequality in GMS countries



TU ANH HOANG

Director
Center for Creative Initiatives in Health and
Population (Viet Nam)

Tu-Anh Hoang, MD, PhD is a founder and Director of the Center for Creative initiatives in Health and Population – a leading organization in promoting gender equality, sexual and reproductive rights, and health justice in Viet Nam; She is the chairwoman of the Vietnam Gender-based violence Prevention and Response Network (GBVNet). She initiated the free online counseling program for young people on sexual and reproductive health and rights in 2003 – the first online counseling program in Vietnam.

Tu-Anh has worked extensively with marginalized and vulnerable communities on promoting leadership, engaging in policy advocacy and empowering them in tackling inequity and injustice using intersectionality framework and affirmed approach. She is a national trainer for Ministry of Health, Ministry of Education and Training and several UN and international organizations in mainstreaming gender, sexual and reproductive health and rights in health and development programs including programs on environment and climate change adaptation, screening and providing support for GBV survivors, inclusion and diversity, etc. She actively contributed to policy development through shadow report and policy brief and mobilizing CSOs to dialogue with policy makers. She is also a pioneer in initiatives working with men such as promoting positive masculinity and fatherhood to improve gender equity and prevent GBV.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion

Identity at the Crossroads: Reflections on SOGI and Intersectionality



ALFREDO PERDIGUERO

Regional Head
Regional Cooperation and Integration
Southeast Asia Department, ADB

Alfredo Perdiguero is the Regional Head of the Regional Cooperation and Integration, Southeast Asia Department of the Asian Development Bank. He has worked in Southeast Asia for the last 20 years and has broad exposure, deep knowledge and extensive work with ADB on regional cooperation and integration issues in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Brunei Darussalam-Indonesia-Malaysia-Philippines East ASEAN Growth Area (BIMP-EAGA), the Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), and the Greater Mekong Subregion (GMS). Prior to joining ADB, Mr. Perdiguero was an economist in the European Union Delegation in South Africa. His career spans the private sector, the government and the academe.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion

Identity at the Crossroads: Reflections on SOGI and Intersectionality



CHANTALE WONG

United States Executive Director
Board of Directors, ADB

Chantale Yok-Min Wong is the United States Executive Director to the Asian Development Bank. Before her appointment, she was the Senior Vice President at Amida Technology Solutions. She was appointed by President Obama to serve as Vice President for Administration and Finance, and Chief Financial Officer at the Millennium Challenge Corporation (MCC). Prior to MCC, she was the budget director of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). She has also held leadership positions at the Office of Management and Budget, Departments of Treasury and Interior, and the Environmental Protection Agency. She joined ADB in 1999 as an Environment Specialist and was subsequently appointed by President Bill Clinton as U.S. Alternate Director.

She holds a Master in Public Administration from the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard. She has another Master in Environmental Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, with a focus on water and wastewater management. She earned her undergraduate degree in civil and structural engineering from the University of Hawaii.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion

Legal Reform for SOGI in Thailand



NAREELUC PAIRCHAIYAPOOM

Director
International Human Rights Division
Department of Rights and Liberties Protection
Department, Ministry of Justice (Thailand)

Nareeluc Pairchaiyapoom is the Director of the International Human Rights Division of the Rights and Liberties Protection Department, Ministry of Justice Thailand. As a seasoned civil servant of the Ministry of Justice, Nareeluc has extensive experience in working with representatives from governments, civil societies and domestic and international organizations on a wide range of human rights issues. She is a team leader for drafting Marriage Equality Bill in Thailand. She also widely acclaimed for her expertise in policies relating to legal aid, gender diversity, anti-torture and enforced disappearances, and business and human rights issues.

Nareeluc was awarded the “Thailand’s Best Government Officer Award” in 2013 and the “Rising Star of the Year Award 2017” as presented by the prestigious Associations of Thai Government Scholarship Students. She holds LLB in Law and LLM in Private and Business Law from Chulalongkorn University, Master degree in Theory and Practice of Human Rights from Essex University, and Post Graduate Diploma in Human Rights Law from Nottingham University.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



CLIFTON CORTEZ

Global Adviser on SOGI
World Bank

Clifton Cortez joined the World Bank Group in November 2016 as its first-ever Global Advisor on Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (SOGI). In this role, he has overall responsibility for ensuring the integration of SOGI inclusion in Bank operations around the world, including through the Bank's Environmental and Social Framework (ESF). Previously, he served as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)'s Deputy Director of the Health Global Practice, as well as the agency's global LGBTI lead (2014-16), based at UN headquarters in New York City. Prior to his global role, he served as UNDP's Asia and Pacific Regional Practice Leader for Health, based in Bangkok, Thailand (2010-2014).

Prior to UNDP, he was part of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)'s team that managed the U.S. contribution to the global HIV response, from Washington, DC (1997-2005) and then as an Asia regional position in Bangkok, Thailand (2005-2010). Over 22 years, his work has taken him to countries throughout Asia, the Pacific, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, Central Asia, and Europe. Clif holds a law degree from Georgetown University in Washington, D.C.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



LEE BADGETT

Economist and President
International Association for Feminist
Economics

M. V. Lee Badgett, PhD, is a pioneering researcher of the global cost of homophobia and transphobia, economic empowerment of LGBTI+ people, and LGBTI+ economic inequality. She's the Chief Economist and co-founder of Koppa: The LGBTI+ Economic Power Lab. In addition, Badgett is Professor Emerita of Economics and former director of the School of Public Policy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. She is a Williams Distinguished Scholar at UCLA's Williams Institute, where she was a co-founder and the first research director. She has worked with the World Bank, Open For Business, UNDP, USAID, IDB, ADB, the U.S. State Department, OECD, global businesses, and many LGBTI+ organizations.

Her latest book is *The Economic Case for LGBT Equality: Why Fair and Equal Treatment Benefits Us All* (Beacon Press, 2020). Badgett received a Ph.D. in economics from the University of California-Berkeley, and has a BA in economics from the University of Chicago.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



SAMREEN SHAHBAZ

Lead Consultant
ADB Study on the Legal Barriers to SOGI
Inclusion

Samreen Shahbaz has been working toward the advancement of bodily autonomy, gender equality, and social inclusion for more than 10 years. She has previously led the international advocacy portfolios of multiple women's rights and LGBTI rights' civil society organizations. Her professional engagements have allowed her to travel and work in more than 12 countries across Asia and the Pacific region.

Currently, she is working with the World Bank and Asian Development Bank as a social development consultant on issues related to social inclusion and social safeguards for the vulnerable and marginalized groups. Samreen authored ADB's pioneer study on legal barriers to SOGI inclusion, and led the legal research component of the 2nd edition of the World Bank's global study, Equality of Opportunity for Sexual and Gender Minorities (EQOSOGI).



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



HENRY KOH

Executive Director
ILGA Asia

Henry Koh (they/them) is the Executive Director at ILGA Asia and a passionate advocate for human rights. They have extensive experience in research, strategy development, and training on LGBTIQ issues across the Asia Pacific region. Henry's commitment to human rights stems from their personal journey and their vision to combat marginalization. They have worked with various UN agencies and non-profit organizations, focusing on freedoms of expression, refugee rights, digital rights, and sexual health and reproductive rights.

Henry is the co-founder of Beyond Borders Malaysia, which supports refugees, migrants and stateless persons groups. In addition to their human rights work, Henry is an accomplished classical violinist and pop pianist. They hold a Bachelor of Laws, Postgraduate Diploma in International Arbitration and Master of Laws specializing in international human rights law and feminist legal theory. Henry is also interested in the study of memetics science and decolonization movements across Asia.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



HIKER CHIU

Founder

Organization Intersex International - Chinese

Hiker Chiu, a pioneer in the Asian region for intersex human rights, hails from Taiwan and founded OII-Chinese in 2008. OII-Chinese serves as the first platform for Chinese-speaking intersex individuals to advocate for their rights. Hiker Chiu made history in Taiwan by publicly coming out as an intersex person and spearheading the "Global Free Hugs with Intersex Movement" in 2010. Since 2013, Hiker has dedicated their efforts to fostering intersex connections in Asia, which became the foundation for "Intersex Asia," the first and only regional network of intersex organizations in Asia, established in 2018. Currently, Hiker holds the Chair and Executive Director position for Intersex Asia. In addition, Hiker served as an advisor for the Intersex Human Rights Fund since 2015, representing the Asian region. That same year, Hiker was elected as the co-chair of ILGA Asia, serving from 2015 to 2017.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



MIDNIGHT POONKASETWATTANA

Executive Director
APCOM (Bangkok)

Midnight Poonkasetwattana is Executive Director of APCOM based in Bangkok, Thailand working on health, rights and wellbeing of people of diverse SOGIESC in Asia and the Pacific region.

Midnight serves in various advisory committees, including the global IDAHOT committee, Dignity Network Canada, Equal Rights Coalition, The Commonwealth Equality Network, World Health Organisation Global PrEP Coalition and Guidelines Development Group for HIV Testing Services, and ASHM's Regional Advisory Group member leading on Key Populations of the Taskforce on BBVs, Sexual Health and COVID-19.

Midnight represents Asia and the Pacific NGO Delegation on the UNAIDS Programme Coordinating Board (2022-2024), and was invited to give the Closing Plenary Statement at the 2016 High-Level Meeting on Ending AIDS at the United Nations General Assembly in New York.

He was honoured as Gen.T 2020 for his advocacy for the rights of LGBTQIA communities in Asia, and also making the Future List 2020 as Thailand's Human Rights advocate.



Session 2 – Making the case for legal reform toward diverse SOGI inclusion



NHUUN WANNAPONG YODMUANG

Human Rights and Advocacy Manager
Asia Pacific Transgender Network
(Bangkok)

Wannapong “Nhuun” Yodmuang, currently serving as the Human Rights and Advocacy Manager at the Asia Pacific Transgender Network (APTN), is a distinguished Thai transgender activist and feminist who has dedicated their efforts to shaping regional and international gender justice related law, public policies, and multilateral decision making spaces. At APTN, She is leading in breaking down barriers faced by the transgender community across Asia and the Pacific, particularly in the realm of human rights and feminism through legal research projects, trans leadership building programs, and advocacy in several United Nations’ multilateral spaces.’



Closing Remarks



PHILIP CREHAN

Director and Founding Partner
Koppa Lab
and
Founder, Eolas Consulting

Philip R. Crehan is one of the Founding Partners of Koppa: The LGBTI+ Economic Power Lab. He has been at the forefront of expanding the economic development sector to be accountable to LGBTQ+ people. He's worked extensively in Latin America, the Caribbean, Europe, and Asia with the World Bank Group, the Inter-American Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and USAID. Phil has served as a Principal Investigator on primary research across 12 countries in addition to helping lead many other research efforts around the world. He's been separately awarded by the World Bank's president, vice president, and senior directors, and has published numerous times for academic journals and for institutions in development.