Expertise of Theme Keynote Speakers



Gyewoon Choi

Professor Gyewoon Choi is currently Professor of Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering at Incheon National University in Korea. He has the depth of global leadership experiences merged with practical and academic endeavours in major public and private sectors in the water engineering, civil and environment industry.

He was at the forefront of resolving water and environment related affairs through multiple leadership roles, encompassing water resources, water supply, urban environment, sustainable management activities, new and renewable energy, and overseas business.

A few notable leadership positions he has been appointed to be President of K-water, Secretary General of World City Water Forum, Secretary General of International Conference on Hydro-Science and Engineering 2000, Vice President of Korea Water Forum, Chairman of Korea National Committee on Large Dams, Vice President of Korean Civil Engineering Association, and the Founder & the First President of Asia Water Council.

Particularly at K-water, Korea's the only government-owned water provider, He managed over 4,500 employees with 53 departments and 16 divisions which enhanced my vision that allowed me to execute diverse global initiative projects. Ultimately, these experiences broadened organizational expertise while rendering growth of water and environmental development in Korea and Asia.



Matti Kummu

Kummu works as assistant professor at Water & Development Research Group, a multi- and interdisciplinary research group operating at the Aalto University, Finland. Kummu has gained extensive experience in water resources related research from basin to global scale. His research focuses on issues such as human impact on hydrology and sediments, hydrological variability, water scarcity, food security, and sustainable use of natural resources. He has published over 100 scientific publications, including articles in Nature and PNAS.



Senaka Basnayake

Dr. Senaka Basnayake works as the Head of Climate Change and Climate Risk Management Department of Asian Disaster Preparedness Centre (ADPC) in Bangkok, Thailand. He has been involved in implementing projects and programs on climate risk management and climate change adaptation in Asia. He has also experience in conducting research on severe weather events (floods, droughts, cyclones, etc), numerical weather and climate modeling, conducting hazard and risk assessment, assessing impacts of climate change, variability and extreme climate events. Before joining ADPC in 2010, he has served as a Scientist at Theoretical Division of SAARC Meteorological Research Centre (SMRC) in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Previously he has worked as a Meteorologist and Meteorologist-In-Charge of Centre for Climate Change Studies (CCCS) at Department of Meteorology in Colombo, Sri Lanka. During 2005 - 2006, he has also served as the thematic consultant of climate change for the UNDP funded project on National Capacity Self-Assessment (NCSA) of Sri Lanka. He holds B.Sc. (special) Degree in Physics and a Postgraduate Diploma and Ph.D. Degree in Meteorology.



Bülent Topkaya

Professor in Department of Environmental Engineering at Akdeniz University (1998 -). Head of Dept. Env. Eng. (1998 -). Project Manager "Monitoring sea water quality near Antalya sea outfall" (World Bank, 1999-2003); Project Manager "Integrated Health-Care Waste Management in Istanbul" (EU Commission, 2002-2004). Project Manager "Antalya Sanitary System Construction and Water Supply Rehabilitation Project Environmental Management Plan" (World Bank, 2007); Vice-President of MESAEP (Mediterranean Scientific Association of Environmental Protection, Munich, 2003-2011); President of MESAEP (2011-2013); Director of Environmental Research Center at Akdeniz University (2007-). Topic Editor at CLEAN Soil, Air, Water (2007-). Participated in the EXCEED Project in 2011 and have been Regional Coordinator Middle East since 2013.

His research focusses on water pollution and control, sludge management, integrated residential and healthcare waste management, application of life cycle assessment methodology in solid waste management in residential areas and waste water treatment, water reuse, transboundary water management, water demand management using water footprint methodology.



Le Anh Tuan

Dr. Le Anh Tuan has been working at Can Tho University since 1982 as a Senior Lecturer at the College of Environment and Natural Resources. He is the Vice Director of the Research Institute for Climate Change – Can Tho University, Vietnam. He is also an Advisor of Vietnam Rivers Network.

He completed his B.Eng. in Water Management and Land Improvement at Can tho University, Vietnam in 1982 and M.Eng. in Water Resources Engineering at Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand in 1990. He finished PhD. in Applied BioSciences and Engineering, specialized in Environmental Hydrology at Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium. In 2012, Dr. Tuan is official recognized as an Associate Professor in Earth Sciences of Can Tho University. Dr. Tuan has many years in teaching and research in the fields of Water Environment and Ecosystem based approaches to climate change adaptation and mitigation in the Mekong River Delta.