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Professor Stanley T. Asah is Associate Professor of Human Dimensions of Natural Resource Management at the University of Washington. He holds a Ph.D. minor in Development Studies and Social Change from the Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change at the University of Minnesota. He was a scholar of pedagogy with the University of Minnesota's Preparing Future Faculty program.

Dr Asah teaches courses on Society and Sustainability and is a recipient of the 2011 Faculty of the Year Teaching Award from the University of Washington's Inter-Fraternity Council and PanHellenic Association. He is a nominee for the 2015 Distinguished Teaching Award from the University of Washington.

Dr Asah's work in the area of sustainability, development and education includes the political ecology and political psychology of natural resource management and the role of human agency in education for sustainable development. He is active in the conservation science-policy interphase including work with the Convention on Biodiversity, the Inter-governmental Science Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services, and the IUCN Commission on Education and Communication. Professor Asah served on the advisory council to the US presidential task force on wildlife trafficking.

Shigeru Ban

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Born in Tokyo in 1957, Shigeru Ban graduated from the Cooper Union in New York City. He started working for Arata Isozaki & Associates in 1982, then founded Shigeru Ban Architects in 1985. He became consultant to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in 1995 and established the NGO, Voluntary Architects' Network (VAN) in the same year to support disaster relief.

Selected works include the Nicolas G. Hayek Center, Centre Pompidou-Metz, and Oita Prefecture Art Museum. He is the recipient of multiple awards, including the Grande Médaille d'or de l'Académie d'architecture (2004), Arnold W. Brunner Memorial Prize in Architecture (2005), Grand Prize of AIJ (2009), an Honorary Doctorate from Technische Universität München (2009), L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, France (2010, named officer), Auguste Perret Prize (2011), Art Prize from the Japanese Agency for Cultural Affairs (2012), L'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres, France (2014, promoted to commander) and JIA Gran Prix (2016).

He served as Professor at Keio University (2001-2008), Visiting Professor at Harvard University GSD and Cornell University (2010), and is currently Professor at Kyoto University of Art and Design (2011-) and Guest Professor at Keio University (2015-). He was the laureate of the 2014 Pritzker Architecture Prize.



Otto Benavides

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Emeritus Professor Benavides is also faculty in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction. Professor Benavides represents Fresno State at the Academic Senate of the California State University. Otto is a member of various campus technology related committees and Chair of AIT- Academic Information Technology Committee.

Before joining the faculty at CSU Fresno, Otto was an Assistant Professor at the College of Education at The University of Memphis where he was responsible for technology planning and implementation in the Center of Excellence in Teacher Education. He taught audiovisual and other instructional technology courses at the undergraduate and graduate level.

Previously, Otto Benavides worked as Assistant Director at the Instructional Media Center at Shelby State Community College in Memphis, Tennessee. He assisted faculty in several academic departments and in particular Allied Health fields with course and clinical space design. He also taught TV Production and audiovisual courses in the two-year associate degree programs. Additionally, he was asked to serve as International Student Advisor and representative to the Community College International Consortium.

Kyosuke Inoue

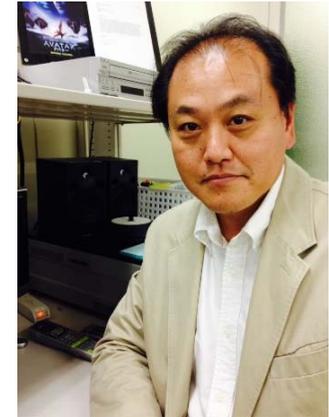
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Kyosuke Inoue was born in 1964 in Sapporo, Japan. In 1987 he graduated from Tokyo University, and started working at NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.).

He has been employed by NHK as a TV Producer for 30 years, and has made many special television programs, especially about the global and Japanese economies. His special series have included “Automobile Revolution” about the worldwide impact of changing from gasoline-powered to electric cars, and “Money Capitalism” on the 2008 international financial crisis.

After making a television series from 2011 to 2013 reporting on “Satoyama-way” alternative economical activities and life styles, he published a book entitled “Satoyama Capitalism”, which became a best-seller with over 400,000 copies sold. He followed up with a special entitled “Satoumi Setonaikai” about a Japanese approach to the ecological management of marine resources, which restored the health of the polluted Setonaikai sea.

Now, he is considered one of the most active innovators of this original Japanese system of sustainability.



Luz Jimenez-Quispe

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Luz Jimenez-Quispe is an Aymara woman, anthropologist and researcher from Bolivia. As an indigenous scholar her commitments are related to education, sustainable development and political organization of indigenous communities, as national policies.

The needs of her own family and indigenous communities became the inspiration for her academic work and political path. She became the first professional in her family. She graduated from Higher Teachers Training College in 1986 and went on to receive her BA in anthropology, MA in Intercultural and Bilingual Education and PH.D. in Language, Reading and Culture from the University of Arizona, USA.

She has worked with indigenous education councils writing the new education law in Bolivia. As a doctoral student at the University of Arizona and a member of the SEED Program, she trained indigenous teachers from Mexico and Guatemala. Currently, Dr. Jimenez is president of Universidad Pedagógica in Bolivia, which is working in post-graduate programs for all teachers in her country. In addition, she is leading national research on the vitality of indigenous languages and promoting intercultural, intracultural and plurilingual programs for indigenous teachers and leaders. Dr. Jimenez is also working in language planning with the Plurinational institute of Languages and Cultures.

Kenneth Y. T. Lim

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Kenneth Y. T. Lim operates at the intersection of cultural anthropology, the learning sciences, and cognitive psychology. He conceptualized the Six Learnings framework of curriculum design for fictive worlds and virtual environments, for which he was awarded an “Education in Excellence” grant for 2015-2016 by the Nanyang Technological University.

For the quality of his research and the scalability of his practice, he received a United Kingdom–Southeast Asia Collaborative Development Award from the British High Commission and British Council in 2014. Most recently, his team designed a field-based inquiry curriculum using open-source hardware and software, which they call Maker Motes. In 2016 he and his team embarked on translating the Maker Motes approach to urban and peri-urban schools in the ASEAN region.

In recognition of his expertise in mediation between maker culture and learning, Kenneth was UNESCO’s Plenary Speaker at the 2016 conference of the Asia-Pacific Programme for Educational Innovation and Development. He was also a Visiting Scholar at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. Kenneth's work has helped him posit a theory of learning around the notion of Disciplinary Intuitions, explicated in a book published in 2014 by Springer.



Koichiro Nakashima

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Koichiro Nakashima was born in 1952. After graduation from the Yokohama City University in 1976, he joined Meiken Lamwood Corporation Ltd., which his grandfather founded in Maniwa City, Okayama in 1923.

Since he became president in 2004, the company grew to be the biggest glulam manufacturing company in Japan today. His motto is to use up a tree entirely, and he plays a central role in wood bioenergy utilization projects in Maniwa City, Okayama.

For example, a Minawa biomass power plant, which he created in 2015 by using new wood biomass, now generates 10,000kw and helps to use forest resources and create employment and revenue.

He is also undertaking a new challenge by developing and distributing new wooden materials for construction, CLT, which enable high-rise wooden construction. This is merely one solution to making use of forest resources that are abundant in many regions of the world.

Eun-kyung Park

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Graduate level anthropological training in the USA enhanced Eun-kyung Park's interest in the interactions between humans, nature and the environment. Her international engagement has included being an Eminent Person of UNEP, a Board Member of UNU-IAS, part of the Tumen Net programme of UNDP, a UNCSO participant, a Bureau Member of the World Water Council, and a member of the Bureau of CAFO, as well as other organizations.

Through her involvement in these various programmes, she launched national programmes such as KWEN, NEAWEN, and Environment and Culture. As the founding chair of the Tongyeong Education Foundation for Sustainable Development, which developed out of the Tongyeong RCE (Regional Centres of Expertise), the first RCE established in Korea, she encouraged a regional ESD movement by starting a Sejahtera Forest, an Asia-Pacific hub for ESD since 2015.

She was also the first female bureau member of the World Water Council, the president of the Korea Water Forum and Korea's Ambassador for Water Resources. Her actions contributed to the development of a global water network and helped Korea win the bid to host the 7th World Water Forum in 2015.





Sawako Takeuchi

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After earning two doctorate degrees in engineering and economics, Sawako Takeuchi worked to develop a model for a sustainable society led by social innovation.

She started a social entrepreneurship education program, open to professionals and students in France and in Japan, while teaching at leading universities such as the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées, University of Tokyo, and Kyoto University.

Her international activities were enriched by her experience as an ambassador of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, where she worked jointly with UNESCAP and the World Bank.

In 2011, she began to work in Paris as President of La Maison de la Culture du Japon. During her five-year mission as President, the number of visitors and participants doubled, and the number of language students increased tenfold. She stayed in France for more than ten years, and she speaks fluent French and English.

She is also a classically trained pianist and a tea ceremony master.

Takehiro Tanaka

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Takehiro Tanaka was born in Osaka city in 1953. He studied ichthyology in Kochi University and, after graduation, worked as a fisheries engineer in Okayama prefectural government for 32 years.

He was in charge of the maintenance of the fishing ground, management of aquatic resources, improvement of the oyster farming technology and work related to overall fisheries administration including fishery adjustment. His main job was to promote "Satoumi" with local fishermen and the public, an ecosystem-based approach to marine resource management that stresses community involvement.

He resigned from Okayama prefectural government in 2011 and, with Tetsuo Yanagi of Kyushu University, honorary professor who is a prophet of "Satoumi", established the NPO Satoumi Research Institute in 2012. He has since acted as its secretary general.



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Arjen Wals is a Professor of Transformative Learning for Socio-Ecological Sustainability at ECS. He also holds the UNESCO Chair of Social Learning and Sustainable Development. He is the Carl Bennet Guest Professor in Education for Sustainable Development at Gothenburg University in Sweden and an Adjunct Professor at Cornell University. His teaching and research focus on designing learning processes and learning spaces that enable people to contribute meaningfully to sustainability. In 2014 he was the lead author of an article published in Science on the role of citizen science in bridging science education, environmental education and sustainability.

He is editor and co-editor of a number of popular books including: Higher Education and the Challenge of Sustainability (Kluwer Academic, 2004), Creating Sustainable Environments in our Schools (Trentham, 2006), Social Learning towards a Sustainable World (Wageningen Academic, 2007), Learning for Sustainability in Times of Accelerating Change (2012), and of Routledge's International Handbook on Environmental Education Research (2013). He has (co)authored over 250 publications of which 60 are in international peer reviewed journals. He writes a regular research blog that signals developments in the emerging field of sustainability education.

Ani Wierenga

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Dr Ani Wierenga is a researcher, practitioner, academic sociologist and President (2014-18) of RC34 in the International Sociological Association, a global network of youth researchers spanning almost 50 countries. Ani is a recipient of the University of Melbourne's inaugural Future Generation Fellowships (2008-11), addressing contemporary social issues, focussing on the social and structural conditions that support young people's wellbeing, learning and engagement, in Australian and regional Asia-Pacific contexts. Projects include a 2005-6 situation analysis of Bhutan, research which then informed this developing nation's first youth policy (UNESCO, 2010). Ani's research explores the impacts of social change and inequalities, identifying the social dynamics that enhance or crush possibilities for human action, dignity and webs of life. She investigates what is needed to support individuals' participation in communities, and the forms of assumption and governance that underpin citizenship and global citizenship. This has direct relevance to future models of learning, and to policies for life-long learning. Wierenga's books include Young people making a life (Palgrave, 2009) and, with Jose Roberto Guevara, Educating for global citizenship (MUP, 2013). Other joint publications include Young people in decision making (FYA 2003) and, through VichHealth (2007), Generations in dialogue about the future.



Soo-Hyang Choi

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Ms Soo-Hyang Choi from Korea holds a M.Ed and a PhD in Educational Psychology from the University of Alberta, Canada (1990). She was seconded to the UNESCO Secretariat in 1997 from the Korean Educational Development Institute. Becoming the Chief of the Early Childhood and Family Education Section in 1998, she, afterwards, held various chief positions at Headquarters, dealing with inclusive education, field support and coordination, technical, vocational and secondary education.

In the field, she worked in Pakistan and also in Zimbabwe, where she was the UNESCO representative to Botswana, Malawi, Zambia, and Zimbabwe as well as to the Southern African Development Community. Returning to Paris in 2010, she worked as the Deputy Director of the Bureau of Field Coordination. Since 2012, she is the incumbent Director of the Division for Inclusion, Peace and Sustainable Development in the Education Sector of UNESCO Headquarters. The Division covers, among others, Inclusive and Gender Education, Education for Sustainable Development, Global Citizenship Education including human rights and peace education, Health and Education and the UNESCO Associate Schools Project. She is also assuming the UNESCO Focal Point responsibility for the Prevention of Violent Extremism through Education

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Anantha Duraiappah is the director of UNESCO MGIEP in New Delhi, India. An experienced environmental-development economist, he plays a key role in positioning MGIEP as a leading research institute on education for peace, sustainable development and global citizenship.

Professor Duraiappah received his PhD in economics from the University of Texas in Austin, USA. He has authored numerous books and journal articles and serves presently as the policy forum editor for "The Journal of Human Development and Capacity". He is a Fellow of the World Academy of Arts and Sciences (WAAS), a Founding Fellow of the Human Development and Capability Association and a visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo, Japan.

Anantha, in his previous post at the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP), played a pivotal role in establishing the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES). He was the Co-Chair of the Biodiversity Synthesis Group of the Millennium Ecosystem Assessment and founding director of the Inclusive Wealth Report released at the 2012 Rio+20 Summit.

He is presently researching and exploring how "Firing Gandhi Neurons" can be integrated into the educational curricular of the formal, informal and non-formal education systems around the globe.



Alexander Leicht

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Before joining UNESCO in 2011, Alexander Leicht was Head of the German Secretariat for the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development at the German Commission for UNESCO in Bonn since 2004. He also worked three years as a university teacher in Hungary and the United Kingdom and was originally trained as a teacher, with a graduate degree in literature, at the University of Marburg, Germany, and at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, USA. He holds a PhD in American Studies from the University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

As Chief of the Section of Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship Education at UNESCO, his priorities include coordinating the implementation of the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development (ESD), the follow-up to the UN Decade of ESD, in its five Priority Action Areas policy, education institutions, educators, youth, and local communities (which includes climate change education, education for disaster risk reduction and education to promote sustainable consumption, among others); and supporting countries to develop, strengthen and mainstream Global Citizenship Education (GCED), including peace and human rights education and the prevention of violent extremism through education.

Julie Saito

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Julie Saito started her 20-year journalistic career as a television coordinator for Nippon Television in New York and NBC News in Tokyo, which brought her an Emmy Award in 1986 as Associate Producer of KNBC's production "Ring of Fire," a series of stories on earthquake preparedness in Japan. After receiving her MS in Journalism from the Columbia School of Journalism in New York City, she worked for a Japanese daily, Asahi Shimbun, as staff writer for 16 years.

She joined UNESCO in 2007 as a press attaché for the Director-General. Since joining her current team in 2012, Julie has organized a media workshop for journalists of international media to raise awareness on ESD in 2013 and created a media room with journalism school students around the world during the 2014 UNESCO World Conference on ESD to release daily news by young reporters. As a focal point of the Youth Priority action area of the Global Action Programme (GAP), Julie coordinates training for youth leaders to become ESD change agents.

She was born in Tokyo and has lived many years abroad: Bangkok, Nairobi, New York, Lyon (France) and currently in Paris since 2006. Being an amateur pianist, she participated in the Van Cliburn Amateur Piano Completion this year in Texas, USA.



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Yoko Mochizuki is Head of the Curriculum Team at UNESCO Mahatma Gandhi Institute of Education for Peace and Sustainable Development in New Delhi since June 2015. She was formerly Programme Specialist in the ESD Section, UNESCO, Paris. Before joining UNESCO in 2011, she was ESD Specialist at the United Nations University (UNU) and conducted research on ESD, with special focus on the UNU's contributions to the UN Decade of ESD – RCE (Regional Centres of Expertise on ESD) and PROSPER.Net (Promotion of Sustainability in Postgraduate Education and Research Network).

She has published journal articles and written book chapters for volumes on social learning for sustainability, international educational cooperation, community learning centres (CLCs), and higher education for sustainable development.

She holds a MA from the University of Chicago and a PhD in Comparative and International Education from Columbia University in New York. Prior to joining UNU-IAS, she was Adjunct Assistant Professor at the Department of Human Development, Teachers College, Columbia University. Her latest book is *Educating for Sustainability in Japan: Fostering Resilient Communities after the Triple Disaster* (co-editor; Routledge, 2016).