

**Mr. Takashi Omote**



Deputy Director-General for Industrial Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy, METI

### **Biography**

Mr. Omote is Deputy Director-General for Industrial Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of the Government of Japan. He is concurrently serving as Deputy Commissioner for International Affairs of METI's Agency for Natural Resources and Energy (ANRE). Mr. Omote has previously held several energy and industry-related positions, including Executive Director, New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) in 2017-2019, Director for Industrial Safety Division, METI in 2011-2013, and Director for International Cooperation Office, Energy Conservation and Renewable Energy Department, ANRE in 2007-2008. Mr. Omote also had diplomatic experience as Counsellor and Minister at the Mission of Japan to the European Union in Brussels, Belgium in 2013-2017. Mr. Omote is a graduate of Faculty of Law at University of Tokyo. He studied industrial management at Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, U.S.A.

**Dr. Nuki Agya Utama**



Executive Director, ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

### **Biography**

Nuki Agya Utama was appointed as the Executive Director of the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) in August 2019 reporting directly to the Governing Council consisting of Leaders of the Senior Offices on Energy from the ASEAN member states. Nuki Agya Utama has research background as Post-Doctorate in Graduate School Energy Science Kyoto University for energy scenario planning in South East Asia. Holding PhD, with research on Life Cycle Energy Analysis from University of Technology King Mongkut (KMUTT), Thailand. He has extensive experiences in both energy industry as well as academics. Before taking the assignment as Executive Director, he had worked at Baryon HP as Director. He also working in international organizations such as UNDP and UNEP as consultant. He had started his international career with ENVIMA a German-Thai consulting firm working on renewable energy, energy efficiency and environmental consulting. He had also been served as the Head of Environmental Engineering department at Surya University, Indonesia and as senior lecturer in Swiss German University, Indonesia. Nuki has also assigned as chief editor and editorial board for some International Journal as well as reviewer and authored several publications, in international conferences, journals and scientific article particularly in the field of energy, environment and buildings. His interest among others is renewable energy, green buildings and energy efficiency.

**Ms. Mizuki Saito**



Deputy Director for Global Environment Partnership Office, METI

**Biography**

Ms. Mizuki Saito is Deputy Director for Global Environment Partnership Office in the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and leading climate change negotiations as well as strategic planning on global climate actions. Ms. Saito was previously in charge of international relations in the digital sector, and as Deputy Director for International Affairs Office in METI's Commerce and Information Policy Bureau, responsible for organizing G20 Ibaraki-Tsukuba Ministerial Meeting on Trade and Digital Economy which was convened under Japan's G20 Presidency in 2019. She took the leadership to promote the concept of "Data Free Flow with Trust (DFFT)", which aimed to maximize the benefits of digitalization by facilitating the free flow of data and addressing challenges such as security and privacy. Before joining METI in 2016, Ms. Saito had working experience in IT sector and engaged in analyzing and creating new services for the e-commerce business.

**Ms. Emily Chew**



Global Head of Sustainability for Investment Management, Morgan Stanley

**Biography**

Emily is Global Head of Sustainability for Investment Management at Morgan Stanley Investment Management, and chairs the firm's Sustainable Investing Council. Before joining Morgan Stanley in 2020, Emily was Global Head of ESG Research and Integration for Manulife Investment Management in Hong Kong and Boston. Previously, Emily was Head of Asia-Pacific ESG Research for MSCI Inc. in Beijing and Hong Kong, leading a team of ESG research analysts covering the Asia-Pacific constituents of the MSCI All Country World Index. Emily is a member of the Principles for Responsible Investment's Listed Equities Integration Subcommittee, and formerly served as rotating chair of the Steering Committee of the Climate Action 100+ investor engagement initiative, and chair of the Asian Investor Group on Climate Change. She holds an MBA from the University of Oxford, and Bachelors of Laws and Arts (honors) from the University of Melbourne.

**Dr. Ziqiu Xue**



Chief Researcher, Research Institute of Innovative Technology for the Earth (RITE)

**Biography**

Dr. Xue is Chief Researcher with a primary focus on seismic rock physics in earth science. He started his professional career in carbon sequestration in 2000. He was responsible for CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring at the first Japanese pilot-scale saline aquifer storage project (Nagaoka project). Now he is the General Manager of Technical Division of the Geological Carbon dioxide Storage Technology Research Association and he is also the technical leader of US-Japan CCS collaboration program. Dr. Xue has teaching experiences as a Senior Lecturer and then an Associate Professor at the Department of Civil and Earth Resource Engineering in Kyoto University. He served as an Associate Editor of International Journal of Greenhouse Gas Control during 2007-2012 and was responsible for CO<sub>2</sub> monitoring. He received a B.S. and an M.S. and Doctor's degree in faculty engineering from Hokkaido University, and a best paper award from Society of Exploration Geophysicists of Japan in 2006.

### **Dr. David Banjerdpongchai**



Professor,  
Faculty of Engineering,  
Chulalongkorn University

### **Biography**

David Banjerdpongchai has been with Faculty of Engineering, Chulalongkorn University. Currently, he is a professor of Electrical Engineering, head of Intelligent Control Automation of Process Systems Research Unit, and deputy director of International School of Engineering. He is a senior member of IEEE, a founding chair of IEEE Control Systems Society Thailand Chapter, an executive board member of ECTI Association, and a chair of IEC TC65 Thailand National Committee. He is a TPC co-chair of SICE 2020 and general chair of ICA-SYMP 2021. In addition, he serves as Associate Editor of International Journal of Control Automation Systems and section Editor-in-Chief of ASEAN Engineering Journal. He has published over 150 articles in journal and conference proceedings. His research interests are energy management systems, advanced process control, iterative learning control, and robust control design.

### **Mr. Toshiaki Nagata**



Director of Global  
Environment Partnership  
Office, METI

### **Biography**

Mr. Toshiaki Nagata is Director of Global Environment Partnership Office at METI, Japan. Having taken up the post on July 1 2019, he's been leading a variety of work relating to international cooperation to address climate change, including, but not limited to, climate negotiations under the UN and bilateral cooperation to promote low-carbon innovations and policy designing. He started his engagement in the climate change field at environment divisions in METI in 2001. Since then, his work has constantly focused on promoting international efforts to address climate change, including through the use of carbon markets and cleaner energy. His career history also includes work at two renowned international organizations relating to climate and energy: the Climate Change Secretariat in Bonn, Germany (2003-2007) and International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (2017-2019).

### **Dr. Yongping Zhai**



Chief of Energy Sector Group,  
Asian Development Bank

### **Biography**

Dr. Yongping Zhai has been working on energy development in Asia and Africa for more than 25 years. He is currently Chief of Energy Sector Group of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), in charge of overall energy policy coordination and technical support to ADB energy sector operations. He is also in charge of developing energy sector knowledge work for ADB and interacts with worldwide energy sector partners.

Prior to his current position, Dr. Yongping Zhai was Director of South Asia Energy Division (2010-2015), ADB, covering energy sector operations in Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal and Sri Lanka. In this capacity, he led ADB's support to renewable energy, energy efficiency and power trade in South Asia. He also served as ADB's Lead Energy Specialist (2008-2010), in charge of energy sector in Southeast Asia including Indonesia, Philippines, and the Greater Mekong Sub-region (GMS). In particular, he was instrumental in leading ADB's support to the power sector's successful restructuring process in the Philippines. Moreover, Dr.

Zhai has played a key role in promoting power trade and cooperation in GMS.

From 1993 to 2000, Dr. Zhai was a Principal Program Coordinator/Public Utilities Economist at the African Development Bank (AfDB) in charge of energy projects in Southern African Development Community (SADC). Between 1990 and 1993, he served as an Assistant Professor at the Energy Technology Division (Energy Policy and Planning), Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) in Bangkok, Thailand.

He graduated from the Thermal Energy Engineering Department, Tsinghua University, Beijing, China (1983) and received a Ph.D in Energy Economics from Institute of Energy Economics and Policy, affiliated with the University of Pierre-Mendès France in Grenoble, France (1989).

Dr. Zhai can be reached by email at [yzhai@adb.org](mailto:yzhai@adb.org), by phone at (632) 632 5976 in Manila, Philippines.

### **Ms. Shannon Cowlin**



Senior Energy Specialist, Asian  
Development Bank

### **Biography**

Shannon Cowlin is a Senior Energy Specialist with ADB currently leading initiatives the Philippines, Viet Nam, and Indonesia on renewable energy, electric mobility, and carbon capture and storage. She previously spent more than 3 years contributing to ADB's renewable energy and energy efficiency programs based out of the India Resident Mission. Prior to joining ADB, Ms. Cowlin worked at the U.S. National Renewable Energy Laboratory where she led bilateral and multilateral collaborations on clean energy and served as supervisor for a sustainability analysis unit. Ms. Cowlin's prior work focused on the intersection of energy use, emissions (at household, urban, and global scales), human health implications, and mitigation approaches.