

Moderator and Speaker Biographies

Mekong Virtual Symposium

Fostering Solutions and Collaboration for a Sustainable Mekong River Delta

Wednesday, July 15, 2020 • 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM ICT



Moderator: Nguyen Huong Thuy Phan, Graduate Institute Geneva, Development Policies and Practices Executive Master Program

Dr. Phan Nguyen is a specialist in water and climate change. By training she has a Doctor of Engineering in Water Resource Development. Phan has more than 25 years of combined experiences in hydropower development projects in the South of Vietnam, coastal engineering projects in the Gulf of Thailand, climate change risk assessment programmes in the Vietnam's Red River Delta and the Lower Mekong Basin (Cambodia, Lao PDR, Thailand and Vietnam), and higher education programmes in development studies in South East Asia. Prior to joining the Graduate Institute Geneva, Phan worked for the MRC Secretariat as a Climate Change and Environment Team Leader in 2016 and a Programme Coordinator of the MRC Climate Change

and Adaptation Initiative (CCAI) in 2011-2015. She was the Head of Environment and Development Section at Asian Institute of Technology in Vietnam during 2002-2011; a research scientist at the University of Twente, the Netherlands during 2000-2002; a research engineer at the Asian Institute of Technology in 1994-2000; a water resource engineer at Vietnam Ministry of Energy in 1986-1992; and Board of Construction – Vietnam Institute of Hygiene, in 1984-1986.



Speaker: Kib Jacobson, Project Manager, Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

For the past 18 years Mr. Jacobson has been the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program Manager and Chief of the Water Quality Group. As the Program Manager he has been responsible for implementing the Title II Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program that was authorized by Public Law 93-320. Mr. Jacobson has spent his professional career of 40 years as a public servant working in different capacities in the Upper Colorado (UC) Region of the Bureau of Reclamation located in Salt Lake City, UT. Mr. Jacobson has a M.S. in Agricultural Economics from Utah State University, Logan UT.



Speaker: Nguyen Hong Phuong, Deputy Director General of Vietnam Mekong Committee

Ms. Nguyen Hong Phuong is Deputy Director General of the Viet Nam National Mekong Committee Secretariat. Ms Phuong has over 20 years of working experience in different agencies, programs and projects in water and environment. Prior to joining the Viet Nam National Mekong Committee Secretariat in 2007, she was Viet Nam National Program Coordinator of the Mekong Biodiversity Conservation and Sustainable Use, a joint Program of UNDP, IUCN, and MRC. Ms Phuong holds a bachelor's degree in Water Resources Engineering from the Ha Noi Water Resources University, Hanoi, Viet Nam, and a master's degree in Water Resources Engineering and Management from the Asian Institute of Technology, Bangkok, Thailand.



Speaker: Van Pham Dang Tri, Vice Dean, College of Environment and Natural Resources, Can Tho University

VAN Pham Dang Tri (Assoc. Prof., PhD.) is currently one of the Vice Deans at the College of Environment and Natural Resources at Can Tho University, Viet Nam. With a wide range of scientific background, he focuses on holistic research on integrated water resources management, irrigation, hydrodynamics modelling and possible impacts of climate change on behaviors of the different river networks, and on agriculture and aquaculture in the Vietnamese Mekong Delta. VAN Pham Dang Tri is presently participating in different national and international projects as either a project manager or a technical advisor. As a lecturer and a Vice Dean at Can Tho University, he pays great attention to capacity building for both the young generations who are doing their undergrad and postgrad students at Can Tho University and local practitioners who are doing their works related to environment and natural resources management.



Speaker: Malcolm Wilson, Chief, Water Resources & Compliance Group, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Malcolm Wilson has been the Chief of the Water Resources Group for Reclamation's Upper Colorado Region located in Salt Lake City, Utah since 2008. Malcolm participated in, and represented the Upper Colorado Region's interests in, the development of the Colorado River Basin Drought Contingency Plans. The Water Resources Group is responsible for long term operations of the Colorado River Storage Project reservoirs, including Glen Canyon, Flaming Gorge, Fontenelle, the Aspinall Units, for oversight of all regional water service, repayment and O&M contracts and for Reclamation Reform Act administration. Malcolm also spent 23 years in Reclamation's Eastern Colorado Area Office in Colorado working in multiple capacities including: overseeing operations and water rights for the Colorado-Big Thompson and Fryingpan-Arkansas projects. Malcolm has a degree in Civil & Agricultural Engineering from Cornell University.