

China-Southeast Asian Symposium Towards Ecological Civilisation: Education for Sustainable Rural Development

15-16 December 2022, 14:00-18:00
(Beijing time, GMT+8)



Background

The World Bank statistic 2020 shows that 44% of the world's population lives in rural areas. In low- and middle-income countries, the share of rural people is 58%¹. Owing to demographic and environmental factors, rural areas continue to contribute to global development through the exploitation of labour and resources. However, rapid modernization and urbanization have intensified the dual crisis of the Earth's environment and human society. Competition for limited resources (both material and non-material) has become increasingly fierce all over the world. Excessive resource exploitation and destructive development patterns have put local environmental and cultural heritage at risk. Inequalities among different groups have been further widened... These threats have further plunged rural areas, which are already disadvantaged, into a development dilemma and it requires us to reflect deeper on the past development models: how can we achieve development for all without sustainable development in rural areas?

'Ecological civilisation' is a concept that highlights the integrated development of the environment, economy, society, and culture and is closely related to the notion underpinning sustainable development promoted by the United Nations. The aim of ecological civilization is to strengthen the relationship between humans and nature, self-development and society. It echoes the 5Ps of the Sustainable Development Goals: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace and Partnership.

Given this background, the importance of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) in advancing global development cannot be overlooked. The Goal 4.7 of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development states that "By 2030, ensure that all learners acquire the knowledge and skills needed to promote sustainable development, including, among others, through education for sustainable development and sustainable lifestyles, human rights, gender equality, promotion of a culture of peace and non-violence, global citizenship and appreciation of cultural diversity and of culture's contribution to sustainable development." Promoting sustainable development through education is necessary and

¹ Source: <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator/SP.RUR.TOTL.ZS>

urgent for raising awareness of ecological civilization and calling for collective action. In this process, the value and essential role of rural areas must be taken into account.

Objectives

The Roadmap for Implementing the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development launched by UNESCO in 2014 stipulates that the priority action areas for achieving the strategic goals of sustainable development and promoting global cooperation are: advancing policy, transforming learning and training environments, building capacities of educators and trainers, empowering and mobilizing youth, and accelerating sustainable solutions at the local level².

This symposium aims to enhance the international community's understanding of education for sustainable rural development under the framework of ecological civilisation, through the discussions and exchanges on “policy and practice”, “university and local actions”, and “youth on the move”. It seeks to establish a network of academic exchanges and experience sharing, and promote global consensus for systematic change in rural areas.

Hence, this symposium is expected to achieve the following objectives:

- Promoting understanding: to reflect on education for sustainable rural development from the perspective of ecological civilization through ideas exchange, and to raise awareness of the role and impact of education in promoting balanced and harmonious economic, social, environmental, and cultural development in rural areas;
- Sharing experience: to share policies and practices on education for sustainable rural development from different countries and social organizations;
- Seeking solutions: to reach consensus on the promotion of education for sustainable rural development, exploring effective and innovative pathways and solutions;
- Building partnership: to establish a global network through extensive partnership building and long-term efforts.

Theme

Towards Ecological Civilisation: Education for Sustainable Rural Development

Sub-themes

Policy and Practice

This session will review evidence-based policies and practices for sustainable rural development. Representatives from different country contexts will share their views from socio-economic, cultural, science and technology, environmental and education perspectives and discuss future directions for effective policies and cooperative practices.

² Source: UNESCO roadmap for implementing the Global Action Programme on Education for Sustainable Development; 2014, p15

University and Local Action

This session will share experiences of ESD in rural areas and the crucial role of universities in promoting sustainable rural development. Representatives will discuss the objectives and approaches of localized actions, the importance of the partnership between universities and local actors, and ways of building up innovative collaboration.

Towards a Sustainable Future: Youth on the Move

In this session, youth representatives from China and Southeast Asian countries will share their actions for sustainable development, especially in local communities. Youth representatives from different backgrounds will also discuss their insights and reflections on youth actions, shedding light on the role of youth in promoting sustainable rural development and its challenges, lessons and possible responses. This session will witness the launch of A Call to Youth-led Actions and discuss key opportunities to take youth actions forward beyond the forum.

Organisers

Supported by

National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO

Hosted by

Beijing Normal University

Organised by

The UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education (UNESCO INRULED)
Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University
China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association
Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO)
Asian Institute of Technology

Time and Format

14:00-18:15, 15 December 2022 (Beijing time, GMT+8)

14:00-18:00, 16 December 2022 (Beijing time, GMT+8)

ZOOM webinar

Language

Chinese and English (simultaneous interpretation provided)

Registration

Join us for the event. Please register [here](#).

Programme

Day 1, 15 December 2022	
14:00-14:30 Beijing Time (GMT+8)	Opening Ceremony Moderator: Prof. ZHU Xudong, Dean, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University Opening Remarks: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. ZHOU Zuoyu, Vice-president, Beijing Normal University • Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela, Director, Secretariat of Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization • Dr. LUO Yixian, President, China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association • Mr. QIN Changwei, Secretary-General, National Commission of the People's Republic of China for UNESCO
14:30-15:45 Beijing Time (GMT+8)	Keynote Speeches Moderator: Dr. ZHAO Yuchi, Deputy Director, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ecological civilization and rural revitalization in China: Concepts, values and practices Prof. WEN Tiejun, School of Agricultural Economics and Rural Development, Renmin University of China • Education for 2030 and the Greening Education Development Partnership Ms. Jun Morohashi, Chief, Section of Education for Sustainable Development, Education Sector, UNESCO • Education for sustainable rural development: global lessons and local wisdom Prof. Bert Tuga, President, Philippine Normal University • Promoting Education for Sustainable Development in Rural China Ms. YANG Guiping, Founder&Chief Expert, China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association • Ecological civilisation education and ESD in China: concept mapping and case studies Dr. SHI Gendong, Executive Director, China National Working Committee for UNESCO on Education for Sustainable Development
Break	15 minutes

<p>16:00-17:15</p> <p>Beijing Time (GMT+8)</p>	<p>Session 1 Policy and Practice</p> <p>Moderator: Dr. HUANG Yu, Associate professor, Institute of International and Comparative Education, Beijing Normal University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Socio-economic perspective: Trends of digital economy and opportunities for rural development</p> <p>Dr. Pietro Borsano, Deputy Executive Director and Senior Lecturer, School of Integrated Innovation, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand</p> <p>Cultural perspective: Practical experience of local culture education in China’ s formal education</p> <p>Prof. HAN Jialing, Institute of Economics and Social Sciences, Jinan University</p> <p>Science and Technology perspective: Technology for education for sustainable development</p> <p>Prof. Glenn B Gregorio, Director, SEAMEO Regional Centre for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture</p> <p>Environmental perspective: The role of environmental education in sustainable rural development</p> <p>Prof. Phiathep Phimpha, Head of Department of Pedagogy Social Science, Faculty of Education, National University of Laos</p> <p>Education perspective: Life-long learning and the implications for sustainable rural development</p> <p>Mr. ZHANG Zhaowen, Former Vice President, China Adult Education Association</p>
<p>17:15-18:15</p> <p>Beijing Time (GMT+8)</p>	<p>Session 2 University and Local Actions</p> <p>Moderator: Prof. ZHANG Lili, Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <p>Education for Sustainable Rural Development: the models of “Integration of Three Types of Education” and “Three-in-one Education”</p> <p>Mr. LI Guangdui, Expert of ESD programmes, China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association</p> <p>ESD Movement in ASEAN Countries: what we have done and where we move forwards</p> <p>Dr. Athapol Anunthavorasakul, Director of ESD Centre, Division of Curriculum and Instruction, Faculty of Education, Chulalongkorn University, Thailand</p> <p>The role of universities in promoting sustainable rural development</p> <p>Prof. Mokbul Morshed Ahmad, Head of Development Planning Management and Innovation (DPMI), Asian Institute of Technology</p> <p>Building partnerships between higher education institutions and local actors to accelerate rural revitalization</p>

	Dr. Arlyne Marasigan, Assistant professor, Philippine Normal University
Day 2, 16 December 2022	
14:00-14:15 Beijing Time (GMT+8)	<p>Report</p> <p>Youth Participation in Sustainable Rural Development: Strategy, Role and Impact of ESD programmes</p> <p>Ms. GONG Shiqing, Programme Assistant, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education</p>
14:15-17:45 Beijing Time (GMT+8)	<p>Session 3 Towards a Sustainable Future: Youth on the Move</p> <p>Part 1 Actions of Youth-led Associations: Experience Sharing (14:15-15:45, GMT+8)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. WANG Siyao, Programme Assistant, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education</p> <p>Presentations of student associations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. LI Ziqiao, Green Association, Huazhong Agricultural University, China • Mr. YANG Haowen, Digital Hive Research Association, Northwest Agriculture & Forestry University, China • Dr. Arie Ekawie Baskhoru, Margo Mulyo Community Programme, Asian Institute of Technology • Mr. Raksmei Phal, WeFarm Agriculture and Tourism Community Programme, Asian Institute of Technology • Mr. Mark Ponce San Juan, Comparative Education and Students' Critical Leadership Society, Philippine Normal University <p>Q&A: further discussions and networking</p> <p>Break: 15 minutes</p> <p>Part 2 Roundtable Discussion (16:00-17:20, GMT+8)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. ZHANG Silu, Secretary-General, China Youth Climate Action Network</p> <p>Roundtable Panelist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Nur Afiqa Amani, youth leader of SEAMEO TED and <i>Theirworld</i>, Keningau Vocational College, Sabah, Malaysia • Mr. Phiyachon Phumwiphat, youth leader of clean energy project “CO₂ To FUEL” , Gainesville International School, Chiang Rai, Thailand • Ms. LIN Lu, lecturer, Wenzhou-Kean University, China • Ms. QIU Huiqiao, CEO, Wudao Wuxue Education for Sustainable Development, China

	<p>Part 3 A Call to Youth-led Actions: Promoting Sustainable Rural Development Towards Ecological Civilisation (17:20-17:45, GMT+8)</p> <p>Moderator: Ms. GONG Shiqing, Programme Assistant, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An overview of A Call to Youth-Actions: Promoting Sustainable Rural Development Towards Ecological Civilisation • Video messages for youth actions from partners • Next steps
<p>17:45-18:00</p> <p>Beijing Time</p> <p>(GMT+8)</p>	<p>Closing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. ZHAO Yuchi, Deputy Director, UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education • Ms. YANG Guiping, Founder & Chief Expert, China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association

Biographies of speakers and moderators

Welcoming remarks

QIN Changwei



Mr. QIN Changwei is now the Secretary-General of the Chinese National Commission for UNESCO. He is a senior expert in the planning and monitoring of China's educational development. He led the drafting of the 13th Five- Year Plan for Educational Development of China (2016-2020). Between 2015 and 2018, he served as China's National Coordinator for SDG4- Education 2030 and one of the key drafters of China ' s national document for the implementation of Education 2030 agenda - China's National Plan for Education Modernization.

Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela



Dr. Ethel Agnes Pascua-Valenzuela is presently the Director of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization (SEAMEO) Secretariat, the first female Director since SEAMEO was established in 1965. She served as the first female Deputy Director for Programme and Development of SEAMEO Secretariat from July 2015 to March 2019 and led the Educational Research and Innovation Office of SEAMEO INNOTECH from 2006 to June 2015. Dr Valenzuela ' s expertise is on internationalization of higher education and transnational education, teacher education, alternative learning and secondary education.

ZHOU Zuoyu



Prof. ZHOU Zuoyu is the Vice President of Beijing Normal University, where he oversees the work of international cooperation, human resources development, international Chinese learning and continuing education. He leads the development and realization of a university-wide global strategy to enhance Beijing Normal University's position in global education, research and impact. He specialises in

higher education administration, higher education assessment and the research on leadership, and has led many research programmes funded by National Social Science Fund and won the Second Prize for the Third Excellence Achievement Award in Educational Research of China.

LUO Yixian



Dr. Luo Yixian is the President of the China Zigen Rural Education & Development Promotion Association. He is from Tongren City, Guizhou Province. He gained his bachelor's and master's degree from Guizhou Normal University and his doctorate degree from Nankai University. He did his postdoctoral research in Renmin University of China. He is also the Editor-in-Chief of the China Economic and Social Forum Magazine.

ZHU Xudong



Prof. ZHU Xudong is the Dean of Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University. He also serves as the Director of Centre for Teacher Education Research of Beijing Normal University and a distinguished professor of the Yangtze River Scholar Programme awarded by the Ministry of Education. He is the Secretary- General of Teacher Education Branch of China Association of Higher Education, and a guest researcher of the Central Committee of the China Association for Promoting Democracy. His research interests are teacher education, system and policy, comparative education and foreign education history.

Keynote Speakers

WEN Tiejun



Prof. WEN Tiejun is Executive Dean of the Institute of Rural Reconstruction of China, Southwest University, and Dean of the College of Rural Revitalization, Fujian Agricultural and Forestry University, China. He is a leading scholar on macro-economics and agrarian issues in China and has served in many capacities including Independent Non-Executive Director of Postal Savings Bank of China and of Agricultural Bank of China, Chief Editor of China Reform, and policy advisor to the State Council and the Ministry of Ecology and Environment of China.

Jun Morohashi



Ms. Jun Morohashi is Chief of Section for ESD at UNESCO. She joined UNESCO in 1999 at the Division for Human Rights & Fight against Racism and Discrimination in Social & Human Sciences Sector (1999-2007). She then worked in Education Sector as Programme Specialist in Peace, Human Rights and Global Citizenship Education (2007-2014) before serving as Chief of Education Unit at UNESCO Port-au-Prince Office (2014-2016), and then as Head of Executive Office & Regional Programme Coordinator at the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Regional Bureau for Education in Bangkok.

Bert J. Tuga



Dr. Bert J. Tuga is the 11th President of the Philippine Normal University. He holds a PhD degree in Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Tuga also serves as Executive Director of the United Nations Association of the Philippines; Regional Chair, Philippine Association of State Universities and Colleges-NCR; etc. He is also a member of the Core Team of the Asia-Pacific Network on Global Citizenship Education and the lead consultant of an international project on Global Citizenship Education implemented by UNESCO Bangkok.

YANG Guiping



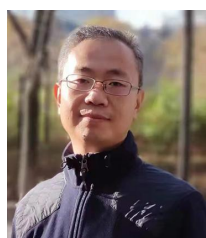
Ms. YANG Guiping is the Founder and Chief Expert of China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association. Since 2010, her main working area has been promoting ESD in rural China. She led the development of a series of training programmes under the framework of sustainable development to establish rural green ecological schools and learning centre of villages. In 2013, she was awarded the 2012 title of "Public Interest Watcher" and "People of the Year Influencing China" by the "China News Weekly".

SHI Gendong



Dr. SHI Gendong is the Executive Director of China National Working Committee for UNESCO on Education for Sustainable Development and the Director of the Ecological Civilization and Sustainable Development Education Innovation Centre at the Beijing Academy of Educational Sciences. Dr. Shi is a State Council Special Allowance Expert. Since 1998, he has been involved in research and implementation of Education for Sustainable Development (ESD) projects in China. In 2017, he was awarded the International Scholar Laureate of the American International Education Honor Society.

ZHAO Yuchi



Dr. ZHAO Yuchi is the Deputy Director of International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education under the auspices of UNESCO, and lecturer in Faculty of Education, Beijing Normal University. He worked as a loaned expert in UNESCO Headquarters from April 2019 to October 2021, in the position as the coordinator of the UNESCO Prize for Girls' and Women's Education and the Coordinator of UNESCO-Hainan Airlines Funds-in-Trust Project. His research interests are education and international development, rural teachers' professional development and girls' and women's education.

Session 1 Policy and Practice

Pietro Borsano



Dr. Pietro Borsano is the Deputy Executive Director (Industrial and Global Alliances) and the faculty member for Entrepreneurship and Core Business at the School of Integrated Innovation, Chulalongkorn University. He holds a Master in European Business from ESCP Europe and Doctorate Degree in Law from the University of Turin. His research interest is to build an innovation ecosystem in line with SDG #9 (Industry, Innovation & Infrastructure) and groom Thai and international students to strive as the next generation of entrepreneurs and corporate innovators in Southeast Asia.

Han Jialing



Dr. Han Jialing is a visiting professor at the Institute of Economic and Social Research of Jinan University and a researcher at the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences. She has been working and researching on social development and support networks for disadvantaged rural people since 1991 and has been involved in action researches on education and social development for disadvantaged poor people. She received the China Poverty Eradication Award in 2004. Her main research areas include: rural development, rural education, migration, social development, etc.

Glenn Gregorio



Prof. Glenn Gregorio is the Director of Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEAMEO-SEARCA) and a professor at the Institute of Crop Science at the University of the Philippines Los Baños. He is a Conferred Academician by the National Academy of Science and Technology Philippines and the Chair of the Technical Panel for Agriculture of the Philippine Commission on Higher Education. In 2021, he was declared as United Nations Food Systems Summit (UNFSS) Champion, and Filipino Faces of Biotechnology.

Phiathep Phimpha



Prof. Phiathep Phimpha is the Head of Department Pedagogy Social Science at the Faculty of Education, National University of Lao, where he is responsible for Academic of Social Science Teaching, Seminal and Curriculum Analysis. He gained his PhD degree from Khonkaen University of Thailand. His major research achievements are Access to Basic Education in Lao, Comparative Education for Ensuring to the ASEAN Community, Enhancing Competency Based Programme for In-service Teachers in Innovative Learning Management, etc.

ZHANG Zhaowen



Mr. ZHANG Zhaowen was engaged in literacy education, vocational education and continuing education when he worked in the Department of Vocational Education and Adult Education, Ministry of Education of China. After retirement, he served as the Vice President and Secretary-General of the China Adult Education Association. He undertook management and research work entrusted by the Department of Vocational and Adult Education to promote learning society and lifelong learning in rural counties.

Huang Yu



Dr. Huang Yu is an associate professor in Institute of International and Comparative Education at Beijing Normal University, China. His research interests cover fields like environmental education and education for sustainable development, higher education and sustainable development, geographic education, tourism geography and regional geography. His professional career outside of academia includes writing and editing textbooks and popular science books for a variety of publishers. He is a member of the Geographical Society of China, Chinese Society of Comparative Education Research.

Session 2 University and Local Actions

LI Guangdui



Mr. LI Guangdui is a training expert and former Executive Director and Deputy Secretary General at China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association. He has been engaged in the piloting, training and research of rural education projects for more than 20 years. He is now dedicated to the development and implementation of training courses on "Building Green Eco Villages for Sustainable Development" and the design of the "Integration of Agriculture, Science and Education" approach to promote education for sustainable rural development.

Athapol Anunthavorasakul



Dr. Athapol Anunthavorasakul is the Director of ESD Centre at the Faculty of Education in Chulalongkorn University. He contributes to scaling up training programmes nationwide and support teachers and teacher educators to implement concepts and approaches of Global Citizenship Education / Education for Sustainable Development to their classes in schools and universities. At the policy level, he is now a board member of Education Policy Commission for Bangkok Metropolitan Authority. Since 2021 he has been the Director of GCED Co-operation Centre (GCC) (Thailand) supported by UNESCO APCEIU.

Mokbul Morshed Ahmad



Dr. Mokbul Morshed Ahmad is a Professor in Development Planning Management and Innovation in the Department of Development and Sustainability, Asian Institute of Technology. Prior to that he taught in the department of Geography and Environment in Dhaka University, Bangladesh. He holds a PhD. in Development Geography from Durham University, UK. He also worked with the government of Bangladesh in the ministries of public administration and Commerce. Dr. Mokbul teaches and researches on international development, NGOs, community development, human conflicts and adaptation to climate change.

Arlyne Marasigan



Dr. Arlyne Marasigan is a former Director of Graduate Research Office (GResO) of the College of Graduate Studies and Teacher Education Research (CGSTER). She has engaged in the research and curriculum studies of science education, environmental sustainability, madrasah education, ecofeminism, rural education, green chemistry and comparative education at local, national and international educational level. She teaches courses on educational management, science education and professional education from undergraduate to doctoral level. She has been with PNU since 2009 as part-time faculty and since 2013 as full-time faculty.

ZHANG Lili



Prof. Zhang Lili is the Deputy Director of the Research Centre for Minority Education and Multi-Cultural Studies at Beijing Normal University and a Chief Expert of UNESCO INRULED. She is also a board member of China Zigen Rural Education and Development Association. Since 2002, she has been deeply involved in international projects such as the Sino-British Project on Skills Training and Capacity Building for Older Girls in Poverty-stricken Areas, the DFID-funded Southwest Basic Education

Project (SBEP), the development and operation of UNICEF's child-friendly school manual, etc.

Session 3 Towards a Sustainable Future: Youth on the Move

Li Ziqiao



Ms. Li Ziqiao is an undergraduate student majoring in environmental ecological engineering at Huazhong Agricultural University. She is currently the honorary president of the Green Association. She has carried out field research on environmental protection in rural villages and cooperated with Changjiang Daily to organize training sessions and summer camps on environmental protection for students in Shahu Park. The activities were reported more than 20 times by Xinhuanet, Changjiang Daily and other media.

Yang Haowen



Mr. Yang Haowen, is a post-graduate student at Northwest Agriculture & Forestry University, majoring in English MTI. After graduating from Communication University of China with a bachelor's degree in French Language, he also spent one year studying Art of Theatre and Cinema at Université Lumière Lyon 2. He was an intern producer for France Télévision Bureau Beijing and a Chinese Mandarin teacher in 2 high schools in Paris, Racine, and Carnot.

Arie Ekawie Baskhor



Mr. Arie Ekawie Baskhor holds a M.A. in international relations and LL.M. in international law, and is now a Ph.D student in Development, Planning, Management, and Innovation, AIT. He founded a youth association called "MargoMulyo" in 2020 during the COVID pandemic, aiming at mobilizing rural youth to create innovations for community development. 23 members have involved in this association and successfully carried out a series of programmes, including small market for village people, skills training for youth, etc.

Raksmey Phal



Mr. Raksmey Phal is a native Cambodian. He holds a bachelor's degree in Plant Science from Rajabhat University Thailand. Currently, he is pursuing a master degree in Natural Resources Management at AIT. His academic and practical experiences are related to agriculture, further, recently focusing on forestry and REDD+ and sustainability development. He worked as a volunteer in the University to Sub-district project at Sakon Nakhon, Thailand for one year.

Mark Ponce San Juan



Mr. Mark Ponce San Juan is a graduate student of the Philippine Normal University College of Graduate Studies and Teacher Education Research. He is the current president of the Comparative Education and Students' Critical Leadership Society, a newly established organization in 2022 at PNU which aims to aid the promotion of lifelong learning and the provision of educational access to marginalized sectors so that everyone's right to education can be fully realized.

ZHANG Silu



Ms. ZHANG Silu is the Secretary general of China Youth Climate Action Network. She is also a trustee of Zhanjiang Bird Watching Society, counselor of PEER Experience Exchange Rostrum and 2012 Lingnan Foundation W.T. Chan fellow. She graduated from Sun Yat-Sen University.

Nur Afiqa Amani



Ms. Nur Afiqa Amani is from Keningau Vocational College, Sabah, Malaysia. She is a global youth ambassador of Theirworld, a global children's charity committed to ending the global education crisis. She also led the Malaysian students in pioneering the SEAMEO TED exchange programme, in which she advocates the use of online platforms to increase cross-cultural opportunities for rural students to interact, learn and express their thoughts.

Phiyachon Phumwiphat



Mr. Phiyachon Phumwiphat (Anthony) is from Gainesville International School, Chiang Rai, Thailand. Since 4th grade, he has worked as a school representative for ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) school project, and participated in Sufficiency Economy and Case Study 7 Steps ACCU, Bansankong School, Chiang Rai Province of OBEC, Ministry of Education and Global Goals of United Nations. He participated in various campus activities and campaigned for youth participation to reduce the amount of waste (Zero Waste) and call for concerns of climate change.

LIN Lu



Ms. LIN Lu (Alicia) is currently a lecturer at Wenzhou-Kean University. She studied Architecture in Norway (MArch), Germany and New Zealand (BArch), and had practiced at Studio Makkink and Bey (NL), Opa Form(NO), Beca Groups(NZ) and Kengo Kuma and Associates(JP). Her research and practice are centred around vernacular typology, the materiality of wood, its tradition and contemporary expression, the theory of Open Form and relevant experimental design methodology. She started to practice independently after coming back to China with her studio based in Dali, Yunnan.

QIU Huiqiao



Ms. QIU Huiqiao is the founder & CEO of Wudao Wuxue, a social enterprise dedicated to promoting sustainable development education in islands. From 2020 to 2022, she has carried out multiple workshops on climate change, marine protection and other sustainable development goals with more than 300 youth engaged. Currently, she is co-initiating and facilitating Sustainable Life Youth Network in Asia to promote cross-region exchange and learning on practices in life and community development for local and regional sustainable transition.

WANG Siyao



Ms. WANG Siyao holds a Master degree in International Development from IE University, Spain. She is currently supporting the capacity building project of Teacher Education in China and Africa at UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education. From 2016 -2019, she worked at the UNESCO Amman office in Jordan on project coordination, supporting “Providing Technical Support to Jordan’s Education Strategic Plan”, “Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) for Syrian Refugee Youth in Jordan”, “Education Information Management System (EMIS)” and “Capacity Building for Teachers”, among other projects.

GONG Shiqing



Ms. GONG Shiqing is a programme assistant at UNESCO International Research and Training Centre for Rural Education. Her main working area is Ecological Civilisation and Education for Sustainable Development, in which she commits to promoting youth engagement through participatory approaches. She holds a M.A from the Institute of Development Studies at University of Sussex and a M.Ed from Beijing Language and Culture University. She has extensive professional and research experience in curriculum studies, education and international development, and second language acquisition.