Biographies – CEESP Regional Vice Chairs

Asia: Meher NOSHIRWANI
Meher Marker Noshirwani (Pakistan) has a Masters in Sociology from the University of Essex, United Kingdom. As a sociologist with 27 years of experience in the field of women, development, environment and climate change, first with Shirkat Gah (a women’s NGO) and currently with TCCR, she has developed projects and programmes on the theme of gender, livelihoods, and sustainable development.

As a member of IUCN’s Pakistan National Committee, she has served on the Executive Committee of the Pakistan National Committee (PNC), participated in four of IUCN’s World Conservation Congresses and has been a member of IUCN’s Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP) since 2010, as well as a member of the theme on Sustainable Livelihoods and Sustainable Use Specialist Group.

She is currently working as a Consultant and Researcher on Gender and Environment issues and is the Regional Vice Chair for Asia of the Commission on Environmental, Economic, and Social Policy (CEESP). Meher is also the Technical Advisor to the Trust for Conservation of Coastal Resources (TCCR).

West Asia: Aisa Hammadeen
Aisa Mustafa Hammadeen has over ten years’ experience in legal works and researches. He holds a lawyer’s license from the Jordan Bar Association. He have written and lectured on legal topics relating primarily to environmental law and human rights and participated in many conferences. His research interest includes Environmental law, and human right. He worked as a legal advisor in an environmental project between Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. He is also the owner and founder of the Life Center for Legal Studies and Researches. Aisa M Hammadeen is a member in several nonprofit organizations. He is a member in IUCN Environmental Law Centre (ELC), and IUCN World Commission on Environmental Law (WCEL). He is also a member in the Jordan Environment Society. He earned his Master’s degree in law in 2005, and Bachelor’s degree in Law in 1999.

Meso and South America: Osvaldo Munguía
Osvaldo Munguía is co-founder of MOPAWI (1985) and its director since 1990. He was part of team leading the defence of the Moskitia region against three threats to indigenous peoples territory: i) A Concession granted to Stone container on one million hectares of forest territory to 40 years (1991); ii) An Executive Decree for Induced Settlement of one hundred thousand people on Sico-Paulaya Valley next door to Rio Platano Biosphere (1995); iii) The Concession granted to Harza and Panda companies, to build the Patuca II Dam on the Patuca-Tawahka Biological Corridor (1997-1998). The three defence campaigns were successful. Those projects were not carried out. This was key to obtain territorial titles in favour of La Moskitia Indigenous Peoples. He studied forestry at ESNACIFOR, Honduras (1977-1979); a Diploma on Silviculture at the Institute of Forestry, University of Oxford (1982); and a Masters degree In Community

**Oceania: Elise Huffer**

Elise is originally half French and half American and has been in the Pacific for 30 years. She is Culture Adviser in the Social Development Program of the Pacific Community, the oldest intergovernmental regional organization in the Pacific. In this role, Elise is responsible for promoting culture and the culture sector in the Pacific Islands region, working directly with governments, non-governmental organizations and other regional and international agencies. Some of her major areas of work are the development of cultural policy; the promotion of Pacific cultural industries; support for the preservation and promotion of cultural heritage, and the advancement of development and conservation policy which integrates cultural knowledge, norms and values. Prior to joining SPC, Elise designed and coordinated the Pacific Studies Postgraduate Program at the University of the South Pacific (a regional university which has 12 member States) and was responsible for the Institute of Pacific Studies Publications. During her 11 years at the USP, Elise’s research was focused on Pacific norms of governance and development, gender and culture. Elise was Co-Chair of CEESP’s Theme on Culture and Conservation from 2009 to 2016. Elise has two daughters, a husband, is an avid outrigger canoe paddler, an ex-international rugby player and is learning how to raise horses.