Online Seminars for Safeguarding ICH in the Asia-Pacific Region

Zoom Webinar Pre-registration required



Leveraging Local and Indigenous Knowledge to Enhance Adaptive Capacity: Examples from Southeast Asian coastal communities

26 February 2025 10:00-11:30 (JST)



Click HERE or scan the QR code for registration



Lisa Hiwasaki

Assistant Professor, Department of Marine Affairs, University of Rhode Island, USA; Associate researcher, Institut en environnement, développement et société (Institut EDS), Université Laval, Canada Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities have long relied on their own knowledge to overcome crises, and they continue to do so today. As they face multiple stressors—including climate change and increased disaster risk—challenges to their adaptive capacities remain. In this seminar, I share some knowledge and practices used by coastal communities in Southeast Asia that have enabled them to adapt to various changes. I will then address questions such as: How can these communities continue to adapt to these myriad stressors in an uncertain future? How can we support adaptations in ways that do not reinforce existing vulnerabilities or create new ones? How we respond to these questions will be crucial to ensure that such knowledge continues to thrive, enabling equitable adaptation.

[Profile] Lisa Hiwasaki is a social scientist exploring vulnerability, equity & adaptive capacities of coastal communities in Southeast Asia. Her research is based on more than 20 years of experience working with the UN and international research organizations. Currently based in the US, she has worked and lived in Japan, France, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Canada.

* This seminar will be organized in conjunction with IRCI's new project 'Research on Intangible Cultural Heritage and Climate Change in the Asia-Pacific Region' (FY 2024-2026).



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