



FULL AGENDA

20 - 22 Sept 2023 *

In-person and by invitation only | Bangkok time (UTC+7)

DAY 1		20 SEPTEMBER 2023 (WEDNESDAY)	Room
08:30 - 09:00	Registration		Ground Floor
09:00 - 09:45	OPENING SESSION		CR3
09:45-10:00	Forum Code of Conduct Briefing		
10:00 -10:30	Networking Activity		
10:30 -10:45	Coffee Break		Foyer near CR3
11:00 -13:00	SESSION 1: REGIONAL SITUATION REFLECTION		CR3
<p>The significance and contribution of EHRDs' efforts to protect the environment and advocate for the rights of individuals and communities who are disproportionately impacted by environmental harms has been globally recognized. Nonetheless, EHRDs in the Asia-Pacific region continue to face significant challenges in their work, including harassment, intimidation, and violence from both state and non-state actors. This session will offer EHRDs from across Asia and the Pacific the opportunity to breakout into sub-regional groups to discuss and reflect on the situation of EHRDs in their sub-regions.</p>			
Concurrent breakout rooms	Breakout Room - Southeast Asia		CR3
	Breakout Room - Northeast Asia		MRF
	Breakout Room - South Asia		MRG
	Breakout room - Oceania/ Pacifika		MRH
13:00 -14:30	Lunch and Networking		Reception Hall (Ground Floor)
13.45 -14.30 (concurrent sessions)	<i>Engagement Spaces (Optional)</i>		
	Manushya Foundation and OECD-Watch: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> EHRDs Leading the Way: Using the updated OECD Guidelines for Justice and Safety 		CR3
	UNEP Major Group of Children & Youth and the Asia-Pacific Youth Advisory Group on Environmental and Climate Justice (YAG) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth Engagement Space 		MRF
	Accountability Counsel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and its human rights implications with the case studies of using accountability mechanisms to access remedies in Asia 		MRG
14:30 -16:00	SESSION 2: STATUS OF EHRDs DATA		CR3
<p>Data plays a vital role in the work and protection of EHRDs yet attacks against EHRDs continue to be significantly under-reported and/or unrepresentative. One reason for this is the persistence of gaps in data collection (including disaggregated data) and reporting across the region. This session will introduce the importance of data as well as how it can be used by EHRDs for campaigning, advocacy, and communications. EHRDs will be introduced to the methodology to collect, store, and monitor data and will gain an overview of the current ecosystems to scan and map data on environmental and human rights issues across the region.</p>			
16:00-16:15	Coffee Break		Foyer near CR3
16:15-16:35	SESSION 3: IMPROVING PROTECTION THROUGH DATA		CR3
<p>Building on the knowledge gained in Session 2, this session will invite participants to reflect on how data can improve the protection of EHRDs. It will introduce challenges around data collection, including ethics, security, and privacy issues as well as how to utilize data, including who this information can be reported to and how. Participants will be invited to share their views around how data collection and monitoring can be improved across the region.</p>			
16:35 - 17:30 concurrent breakout rooms	Problem solving: Challenges around data collection, ethics, security and privacy issues related to data collection and handling of personal information.		MRF
	Utilizing data: Why report on violations of environmental rights and cases of harassment of EHRDs? Who to report to? Sharing data and reporting to NHRIs and other national institutions		MRH
	Indigenous Data - Indigenous Navigator		CR3
17:30 -18:00	Report back and discussion		CR3
18:30-20:00	ASIA-PACIFIC ENVIRONMENTAL HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS RECEPTION		Delegates Lounge (Level 1)
<p>The Asia-Pacific Environmental Human Rights Defenders Reception will recognize the important work of EHRDs in the region as well as connect defenders with members of the diplomatic community. This will provide an important opportunity for EHRDs to build new relationships and networks, as well as foster dialogues around environmental human rights issues in the region.</p>			

DAY 2	21 SEPTEMBER 2023 (THURSDAY)	Room
08:15 - 09:00 (concurrent sessions)	Engagement Spaces (Optional)	
	The Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions (APF) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human rights-based data collection on the enabling environment for human rights defenders, and regional agenda for action on human rights defenders by APF and its members. 	MRF
	International Rivers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shrinking spaces for Environmental Deliberation in Asia: How to make energy transitions “Just”? 	MRH
08:30 - 09:00	Registration	CR3
09:00 - 09:10	Welcome to Day 2	CR3
09:10 - 09:50	SESSION 4: REVISITING REGIONAL SITUATION REFLECTION	CR3
	This session will build on Session 1 and invite representatives from each sub-group to share the main takeaways from yesterday’s discussion, including an overview of key trends as well any gaps that need to be addressed. In doing so, the session will bring together EHRDs from across Asia and the Pacific to identify common barriers and challenges, but also entry points, opportunities for increased leverage and protection, and recommendations on required action.	
09:50-10:45	SESSION 5: ROLE OF DATA TO SUPPORT EHRDs	CR3
	This session will aim to address identified protection and data gaps by inviting defenders to breakout into groups and identify what data and other resources and tools are needed to address these gaps.	
09:50-10:00	Introduction to the breakout activity	CR3
10:00-10:45	Breakout Group 1	CR3
10:00-10:45	Breakout Group 2	MRF
10:00-10:45	Breakout Group 3	MRG
10:00-10:45	Breakout Group 4	MRH
10:45-11:00	Coffee Break	Foyer near CR3
11:00-13:00	SESSION 6: ENGAGING WITH THE MEDIA	CR3
	Both traditional and social media can play a crucial role in bringing attention to the work of EHRDs as well as the issues EHRDs face when protecting the environment. This session will provide EHRDs with information on how to safely, effectively, and innovatively engage with the media in their advocacy. Through a moderated panel discussion, the session will address topics including how to pitch a story to journalists, how to identify and use hooks for the media, and the role of civil society in shaping media stories.	
13:00-14:30	Lunch and Networking	Reception Hall (Ground Floor)
13:45-14:30 (concurrent sessions)	Engagement Spaces (Optional)	
	OHCHR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Rights Data Clinic - All you need to know to gather, disseminate and use data on killings and other attacks against human rights defenders using SDG indicator 16.10.1 	MRG
	The Human Rights Measurement Initiative (HRMI) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> HRMI is an independent global research collective dedicated to tracking the human rights progress of countries. We produce robust, country-comparable data for up to 14 rights in 196 countries. All of these datasets are freely available on the Rights Tracker. 	MRF
	Alliance for Land, Indigenous, and Environmental Defenders – ALLIED <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advancing Recognition, Respect, and Protection for Environmental, Land, and Indigenous Defenders in Asia-Pacific through Data, Support, and Advocacy 	MRH
14:30-16:30	SESSION 7: EHRDs EXPERIENCES WITH THE MEDIA	CR3
	Through a breakout activity, EHRDs will be invited to share their personal experiences with the media, including national, international, and social media. Defenders may share whether they believe this was helpful or detrimental to their work as well as any success stories in using the media for a positive result and lessons learned for what not to do. Participants may also discuss whether the media has been used against them or any other EHRDs they know.	
16:30-17:00	CLOSING SESSION	CR3
17:00-17:30	Social Coffee	Foyer near CR3
17:30-19:30	FILM SCREENING: DELIKADO followed by Q&A session with Director of the film	CR3
	Delikado follows Bobby, Tata and Nieves, three magnetic leaders of an environmental network in Palawan, as they risk their lives in David versus Goliath-style struggles trying to stop politicians and businessmen from destroying the Philippines’ “last ecological frontier”. It is a timely film emblematic of the struggles globally for land defenders as they are being killed in record numbers trying to save natural resources from being plundered by corporations and governments. Delikado offers a story of courage and resilience to inspire others into action.	

***ADDITIONAL WORKSHOP DAY**

Workshop on Procedural Environmental Human Rights

DAY 3	22 SEPTEMBER 2023 (FRIDAY)	Room
08:30 - 09:00	Registration	
09:00 - 09:30	OPENING SESSION	CR3
09:30 - 10:30	SESSION 1: REGIONAL ACCESS RIGHTS OBSERVATORY	CR3
This session will provide an overview of the status of environmental human rights frameworks in Asia and the Pacific as well as other regions, thereby setting the scene for the rest of the workshop.		
10:30 - 10:45	Coffee Break	Foyer near CR3
10:45-12:30	SESSION 2: CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES TO REALIZE PROCEDURAL RIGHTS ACROSS ASIA-PACIFIC	CR3
Building on the overview provided in Session 1, this session will invite participants to identify challenges and opportunities to realize procedural elements of human rights in environmental matters across the region.		
12:30-14:00	Lunch and Networking	Reception Hall (Ground Floor)
14:00-15:15 (concurrent sessions)	SESSION 3A: ASEAN ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS FRAMEWORK	CR3
	AICHR, with the support of the UN, is in the process of developing an ASEAN Environmental Rights Framework. This session will introduce context, status, and potential scope of this Framework. It will also introduce the process and timeline and provide participants with an update as to where we are in the development of this framework.	
	SESSION 3B: PROMOTING ENVIRONMENTAL DEMOCRACY: Procedural elements of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment	MRH
The Special Rapporteur on human rights and the environment will present the report on “ Promoting Environmental Democracy: Procedural elements of the human right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment ”. He would like to seek inputs on the procedural or participatory elements of the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment, including access to information, public participation and access to justice with effective remedies. The report will also address related topics including the rights to environmental education, freedom of expression and association, and safe spaces for environmental human rights defenders. This session will seek to contribute to the call for inputs to inform the Special Rapporteur’s analysis and contribute to a report, which will be presented at the 55th session of the Human Rights Council.		
Participants will be invited to share their views on and recommendations for the ASEAN Environmental Rights Framework in breakout groups.		
15:30-17:00	SESSION 4: CONSULTATION	CR3
17:00-17:30	Closing Session	CR3