

## **Ecosperity Week 2022**

**9 June 2022**

2pm – 3.30pm

### ***Fireside Chat: The Real Returns on Carbon***

Businesses are increasingly recognizing that nature-based solutions have a role to play in carbon-offsetting as part of their holistic abatement strategy to achieving net-zero targets. While there are a number of such carbon projects in the market that businesses can invest in, few are able to demonstrate that the carbon credits generated are credible, legitimate and meaningful.

So how can one access credible carbon credits? Through technology-driven innovations. Professor Koh Lian Pin and his team at the NUS Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions (CNCS) have been focusing on the research and development of forest carbon accounting techniques and technologies that are specific to the unique ecosystems of our Southeast Asian region. Part of this work is being done in collaboration with the APRIL Group, a member of the RGE group of companies. The Riau Ecosystem Restoration initiative, twice the size of Singapore, is managed by APRIL Group. If successful, this collaborative effort will pave the way for businesses and investors in the carbon market to be able to monitor, trace, access and ascertain the integrity and credibility of the carbon credits across our region.

Professor Koh and Lucita Jasmin, APRIL's Director of Sustainability & External Affairs, will address the many questions that businesses and investors may have in mind. These include:

- What makes good quality carbon credits?
- How does one trace and access good quality carbon credits?
- Why carbon credits can be a catalyst for conservation and landscape protection?
- How we can best define and evaluate the links between nature protecting and mitigating carbon emissions?
- What are the best metrics for evaluating the success of investments in conservation and restoration?
- How can public and private sector actors collaborate to harness nature-based solutions to tackle climate change?

### **Speaker Profiles**

#### ***Professor Koh Lian Pin***

Professor Koh brings 20 years of international research experience in the field of sustainability and environmental science, having worked in institutions across Europe, Australia, the United States and Singapore.

He had been a Swiss National Science Foundation Professor at ETH Zurich in Switzerland, the Chair of Applied Ecology and Conservation at the University of Adelaide in Australia, and Vice President of Science Partnerships and Innovation at Conservation International in the USA.

Professor Koh returned to Singapore to join the National University of Singapore in 2020, under the Singapore National Research Foundation's Returning Singaporean Scientists Scheme.

Currently, he is the Chair Professor of Conservation, Director of the Centre for Nature-based Climate Solutions, and Director of the Tropical Marine Science Institute, as well as Vice Dean of Research at the Faculty of Science at NUS.

Professor Koh serves as a member of the Distinguished Advisory Group of the Integrity Council for the Voluntary Carbon Market, a member of the International Advisory Council of Climate Impact X, and a member of the Singapore Emerging Stronger Taskforce.

Professor Koh is also a TED speaker, a World Economic Forum Young Global Leader, and a nominated Member of Parliament for the 14th Parliament of Singapore.

When not at work, he is a TV and movie buff, traveling foodie, and private pilot.

### ***Lucita Jasmin***

Lucita Jasmin is the Director for Sustainability & External Affairs at APRIL Group, where she leads the advancement and implementation of APRIL's sustainability commitments, policy and programmes, including stakeholder engagement and communications.

Lucita has a global base of expertise in strategic and corporate communications in the intergovernmental and private sectors. She has led intercultural teams that provided communications counsel to senior management, strategized and executed campaigns and advocacy initiatives, organized stakeholder outreach on priority sustainability issues, and mobilized partners to provide support.

Prior to her current post, Lucita served at the United Nations Environment Programme headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya where she led strategy development, planning and execution of global communication programmes and campaigns, focused on resource efficiency and sustainable consumption and production.