



EAST-WEST
CENTER

GEN²

Leadership in a Time of Change

JULY 28-30, 2021

LEADERSHIP PROGRAM ALUMNI SUMMIT

WELCOME TO GEN²



RICHARD R. VUYLSTEKE

President
East-West Center

Aloha,

I am pleased to welcome you to Gen²: Leadership in a Time of Change, a virtual summit driven by East-West Center Leadership Program alumni and many friends interested in positively impacting their communities. Gen² ("Generation-Squared") is an opportunity to generate ideas and connections across generations.

The Summit themes align with the Center's broader strategic directions, including addressing climate change-related challenges, reinforcing open and sustainable civil societies, supporting leadership development and strengthening relations among people in the region.

We are extremely proud of our highly capable alumni and friends, and we are honored to highlight your leadership in some of the most important issues facing the region and the world. Thank you for participating in this work with East-West Center, and I wish you a productive event.

Best wishes,

Dr. Richard R. Vuylsteke

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STAY CONNECTED

EWCLPGen2 [Join the conversation](#)



ABOUT GEN²

The second annual Gen² is a virtual summit of the East-West Center leadership alumni which brings together people across generations. This generative space showcases and celebrates the variety of diversity in our community. Gen² offers peer-to-peer collaboration, professional development, leadership learning, inspiration and opportunities to connect.

SUMMIT THEMES ON THE CRITICAL ISSUES OF...

INCLUSIVE LEADERS are capable of engaging diverse thinking and backgrounds for better processes and outcomes. They are aware of and seek to counter-balance their own implicit biases and the implicit biases embedded in policies and procedures. Why is inclusive leadership critical in these times of change and how can all leaders be more inclusive?

CLIMATE CHANGE is fundamentally impacting all areas of society. How are Asia-Pacific leaders engaging communities and stakeholders in climate change work across various sectors, including tourism, agriculture, public health, disaster management, education, the arts, and beyond? What do leaders need to know about the climate catastrophe in order to lead in these times of change?

The reach and impact of **MIS/DISINFORMATION** is amplified by the ubiquity of social networks and the Internet. Is combating “fake news” a civic and leadership duty? Who is benefitting from misinformation and disinformation campaigns, and how are Asia-Pacific leaders addressing propaganda and disinformation? What do we need to learn, unlearn, and re-learn in this “post-truth” world?*

**Applicants of the Mis/Disinformation in the Media Certificate are required to attend all sessions on this topic.*

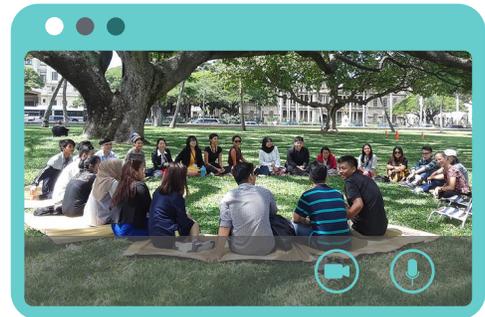
ABOUT GEN²

THROUGH THE SUMMIT, WE HOPE PARTICIPANTS...

- Strengthen and make new connections
- Learn about and try new things of professional and personal value
- Experience the EWC Leadership Program and network as relevant and valuable
- Recognize the possibility of communities to create positive change
- Engage in and organize future events like this

WHO CAN ATTEND GEN²?

The summit is open to anyone who would like to attend! Just click the 'Count Me In!' button below. It will take you to our registration page.



HOW CAN I JOIN?

Register today to avoid missing the virtual alumni summit! Reminder emails with information on how to join upcoming sessions will be sent to the email address provided on the form. If you have any problems accessing the form, send us an email by clicking the envelope icon below!

**COUNT
ME IN!**

WHAT PLATFORMS WILL GEN² USE?

We will be utilizing Zoom for all of our sessions. Please be sure to have the latest version of Zoom in order to avoid any technical issues. Our team will be checking registration for sessions so be sure your Zoom display name on your profile matches the name you have registered with. If it doesn't, be sure to let us know on the registration form.

STAY CONNECTED

EWCLPGen2 [Join the conversation](#)



SIGN UP

**JULY 17 -
AUGUST 31, 2021**

MIS/DISINFORMATION IN THE MEDIA *CERTIFICATE*

The East-West Center is pleased to offer its first professional certificate in Mis/disinformation in the Media. Building on the reputation, network, and rich offerings of the EWC Media Program, we will offer alumni and those new to the Center an opportunity to engage top journalists in this field, hear from leaders grappling with misinformation in their work, learn tools for improving their own media intake, and share the impact with their community.

The certificate is offered virtually with a mix of synchronous and asynchronous sessions, culminating in presentations and a final social media posting by participants. Speakers and facilitators are drawn from the EWC's impressive network. The certificate is offered jointly by the EWC Leadership Program, Office of Alumni Engagement, and Media Program.

Participant Takeaways

- Examples of misinformation in the work and lives of people in the Asia-Pacific region
- An enhanced ability to recognize what misinformation is, understand why and how it occurs, and foresee how it could change in the future
- Skills for identifying and countering misinformation
- A plan to apply the learnings to your own area of work and leadership

Enroll to earn the certificate by clicking "SIGN UP" in the header above.



SUMMIT SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28

MIS/DISINFORMATION

- 2:00** **Welcome & Introduction**
- 2:15** **Misinformation: Our Vulnerability, Our Resistance, Our Responsibility**
Nathan Bomey, Dilrukshi Handunnetti
- 3:30** **Break / Informal Discussion**
- 4:00** **From Myths to Myth-Information: The Double-Edged Power of Stories**
Philippe Lemonnier, Hira Siddiqui
- 5:00** **Break / Informal Discussion**
- 5:30** **Combating Fake News through Social Media Platforms**
Htike Htike Aung, Swe Zin Lynn Phyu
- 6:00** **Social**

THURSDAY, JULY 29

CLIMATE CHANGE

- 2:00** **Theme Introduction**
- 2:15** **Combatting Climate Change at the Grassroots: A Perspective from India and Cambodia**
Kalpna Sankar, Balaji Narasimhan, N Krishnan, Sut Samedy, Sahaana Sankar
- 3:30** **Break / Informal Discussion**
- 4:00** **Climate Change and Eco-Tourism: What Does it Mean for Bhutan?**
Thinley Choden, Pem Lama, Ngawang Gyeltshen

SUMMIT SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JULY 29 (cont.)

CLIMATE CHANGE

- 5:00** Break / Informal Discussion
- 5:30** **Guerrilla Gardening:
Reimagining Urban Foodscapes**
Benjamin Ong
- 6:00** **Social**

FRIDAY, JULY 30

INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP

- 2:00** **Theme Introduction**
- 2:15** **Inclusive Leadership in Times of Change**
Akiemi Glenn
- 3:30** **Break / Informal Discussion**
- 4:00** **Cultural Appropriation in the Arts:
How Institutions and Individuals Can Create Change**
Erin McAnally, Alice Randall
- 5:00** **Break / Informal Discussion**
- 5:30** **The Transformative Power of Listening and
Creative Dialogue**
Raymond Hyma, Suyheang "Heang" Kry
- 6:00** **Closing Pau Hana**

SESSION ONE

Misinformation:

Our Vulnerability, Our Resistance, Our Responsibility



2:15 - 3:00 PM HST

This engaged session will explore why and how we are all susceptible to misinformation and disinformation and what we can do to protect ourselves. Alongside globally distinguished journalists, trace the arc of misinformation in your communities and regions and gain some tools for counteracting the impacts of misinformation on yourself and others. Discover some answers to the question of what we all might need to learn, unlearn, and re-learn in this “post-truth” world?

Nathan Bomey

China-U.S. Journalists Exchange Program, 2012

Reporter, USA Today



Nathan Bomey is a reporter for USA Today, an author and a documentary scriptwriter. At *USA Today*, he tracks how business is changing, covers the automotive industry and writes about the impact of misinformation on America's political discourse. His newest book, *Bridge Builders: Bringing People Together in a Polarized Age*, was released in May 2021 by Polity Press.

Dilrukshi Handunnetti

Jefferson Fellowship, 2009; International Media Conference, 2016, 2018; South Asia Journalists Dialogue, 2016, 2018

Executive Director, UColombo-based Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR)



Dilrukshi Handunnetti is an international award-winning investigative journalist, foreign correspondent. A lawyer by training, Dilrukshi currently works as the executive director at the Colombo-based Center for Investigative Reporting (CIR). She counts 25 years in journalism and law and reigned her job as consultant editor of a national daily/weekly to set up CIR, together with two other colleagues passionate about investigative journalism. Her work has appeared in the UK Guardian, Washington Post, Al Jazeera, The Humanitarian, and many other international outlets. She currently runs an information literacy program to promote information integrity and Sri Lanka's first initiative in partnership with IFCN and BOOM INDIA to train a group of journalists and fact-checkers towards IFCN certification.

SESSION TWO

From Myths to Myth-Information: The Double-Edged Power of Stories



4:00 - 5:00 PM HST

Humans have always used stories to share culture, ideas, knowledge, and connections. Stories are everywhere. But they have a shadow side. We can use stories to create mistrust and defiance. This workshop will explore how stories shape our lives; how disinformation impact social trust; and how we can identify stories that divide, cheat and deceive. The workshop will include a case study of *The Global Tiller* newsletter as an example of information that's thought-provoking and inspires action.

Philippe Lemonnier

Pacific Islands Leadership Program with Taiwan, 2014

Disruptive Tutor, Pacific Ventury



Philippe, founder of Pacific Ventury, is a “disruptive tutor”, human development-leadership consultant in the Asia-Pacific region with extensive experience in human development, human innovation and leadership. He helps organizations and individuals better understand the world, humanity and tomorrow through innovative tools and pedagogy.

Hira Siddiqui

Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2016

Editor, The Global Tiller



Hira Siddiqui, APLP G16, is the editor of *The Global Tiller* newsletter that covers global trends through critical reflection. She has been a journalist and storyteller for over 10 years and has worked extensively in media training and program management. She has an MA in Political Science from the University of Waterloo, Canada.

SESSION THREE

Combating Fake News through Social Media Platforms

5:30 - 6:00 PM HST

In the wake of the recent military coup in Myanmar, social media platforms spread critical news about the protests and security situation but some lead to confusion. This session will focus on how social media can be used for gathering accurate information and making positive impacts in communities. The session leaders will reference their experiences in Myanmar.

Htike Htike Aung

Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2015

Master's Candidate, Public Policy and Administration, University of Massachusetts, Amherst



Htike Htike Aung is currently attending Master of Public Policy and Administration (MPPA) at University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She is also an Asia Pacific Leadership Fellow (G15) from the East-West Center. She has served as a leading role in NGO field engaging with state actors, non-state actors and business entities for nurturing change agents for tri-sectoral competencies towards sustainable development in Myanmar. Htike is committed to supporting within her community and empowering others through development, education and leadership.

Swe Zin Linn Phyu

Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2015

Lecturer and Head of International Relations, Asia Euro University, Phnom Penh, Cambodia



Swe Zin Linn Phyu is from Myanmar and currently working as Lecture and Head of International Relations Department at Asia Euro University in Phnom Penh, Cambodia. She is also an Asia Pacific Leadership fellow (G15) at the East-West Center and master graduated from Universidade do Minho and Asian Institute of Technology. She is also the author of women leadership issues in Myanmar, fighting for the disability rights through vernacularization in Bangkok.

SESSION ONE

Combatting Climate Change at the Grassroots: A Perspective from India and Cambodia



2:15 - 3:30 PM HST

This interactive panel discussion will bring together climate change leaders in India and Cambodia to highlight how grassroots organizations in South East Asia are combatting the climate catastrophe. With its partners, Hand in Hand helps 125,000 households manage solid waste and improve air, water, and soil quality. Nearly 20,000 tribal farmers employ organic technologies and help ensure livelihoods, enhance soils, and decrease migration. Join this discussion to hear from local government officials, agriculture technicians, and community leaders about effective grassroots responses to climate change.

Dr. Kalpana Sankar

Changing Faces, 2009

Co-Founder & Managing Trustee, Hand in Hand India



As co-founder of Hand in Hand India, Dr. Kalpana Sankar has curated a unique integrated approach for poverty alleviation through women empowerment, environment, education and health that has been implemented in 7 countries. She is the recipient of the Nari Shakti Puraskar from the President of India (India's highest award for women leaders), the Woman Transforming India award from NITI Aayog and the Global Award for Women's Empowerment from Kingdom of Bahrain and UN Women. Her stint with East West Center's Changing Faces leadership programme in 2009 helped to unleash her potential and scale her initiatives that is currently providing employment to 7500 people across India, Cambodia and Switzerland.

Dr. Balaji Narasimhan

Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, Indian Institute of Technology Madras



Dr. Narasimhan is a climate change expert and Professor with a PhD in biological and agricultural engineering from Texas A&M University. He is a Hydrologist with expertise in modelling the impact of land use and climate change on hydrology using GIS, remote sensing and hydrologic / hydraulic / crop growth models with experience of over 15 years. He is currently involved in a project funded by the Department of Science and Technology to design and develop Low Impact Development (LID) measures in the form of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) for reducing flooding and improving water security of cities such as Chennai. He was involved in a large team project to develop a flood forecasting system for Chennai city, following the floods of 2015, funded by the Principal Scientific Advisor, Govt. of India.



N Krishnan

Managing Director, Indian Natural Farmers Producers Company Pvt Ltd



Mr. Krishnan has more than three decades of experience in sales, marketing and project management functions in international development sector and blue chip FMCG organizations. He has served in senior management positions both in India and abroad, providing leadership and strategic inputs for programme design and implementation and fostering relationships with partners and other stake holders, including the private sector and Government of India. As Managing Director, Indian Natural Farmers Producers Company Pvt Ltd, he oversees a farmers producers company with close to 7000 farmers. As Deputy CEO in Hand in Hand India, he oversees programme implementation in areas relating to Child Labour Elimination, Health and Natural Resources Management.

Sut Samedy

Director, Hand in Hand Cambodia



Sut Samedy is a specialist in climate change, renewable energy finance, waste management and livelihoods expert with a range of international experience and exposure in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Laos, Ethiopia, Malawi and the USA. He has led teams across several assignments in waste management, agricultural productivity assessment and alternative energy projects

Sahaana Sankar (MODERATOR)

Chief Operating Officer, Hand in Hand India



Sahaana Sankar is an electronics and communications engineer from Anna University and has a master's degree in management studies from the London School of Economics. Through her role at Hand in Hand India she supports with digital strategy and social media communications, nurturing farmers produce through an e-commerce website and fundraising for the various projects of Hand in Hand India. She is a passionate about sustainability and the environment.

SESSION TWO

Climate Change and Eco-Tourism: What Does it Mean for Bhutan?

4:00 - 5:00 PM HST

Bhutan is an environment champion. It is the world's first carbon-negative country, and pledges to perpetually remain at least carbon-neutral. However, Bhutan is very vulnerable to climate change and relies heavily on climate-sensitive hydropower and tourism. Tourism, which ceased with the pandemic, will be critical for Bhutan's smart green growth. This panel will discuss the likely futures of tourism, the possibilities of balanced green and healthy growth, and lessons and best practices Bhutan can share with other countries. Join us for this dialogue and to make new connections for future collaboration on these issues.

Thinley Choden

Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2002

Social Entrepreneur/Consultant
CEO Bhutan Tours and Travels



Thinley Choden is a social entrepreneur and consultant possessing an ecosystem portfolio of careers in climate change and sustainability encompassing entrepreneurial leadership, impact investing, green economy, climate literacy, and youth empowerment. She is a Climate Reality Leader.

Pem Lama

Director, Bhutan Ecological Society

Pem Lama is Director at the Bhutan Ecological Society (BES), an environmental non-profit in Bhutan. She has experience in areas of sustainable development, green public procurement, sustainable consumption and production and Gross National Happiness (GNH) research. She led a research on socio-economic impacts of COVID-19 on Bhutan's tourism sector for UNDP Bhutan and is currently leading a pilot project aimed at enhancing resilience in a nature-based tourism community in Bhutan.



Ngawang Gyeltshen

UNDP Bhutan Biodiversity Specialist

Ngawang Gyeltshen is a Programme Coordinator at UNDP. A forester at heart and by training, he focuses on biodiversity conservation, ecotourism and green finance. Before joining UNDP, he worked for the Department of Forests and Park Services supporting ecotourism planning and development in the country. He is a Kinship Conservation Fellow.



SESSION THREE

Guerrilla Gardening: Reimagining Urban Foodscapes

5:30 - 6:00 PM HST

With the pandemic's disruption of global supply chains, people reinterpreted urban spaces – often through the lens of food. Come to this session with examples of wild and domestic food sources near you and share how they are being re/discovered and used today. Hear from others and celebrate together the region's food heritage and its place in the cities of today and tomorrow.

*Ahead of the session we are collecting examples from around the world. We would love for you to share something via [this form](#). Mahalo!

Benjamin Ong

Institute for Natural Resource Managers
(YSEALI/SUSI), 2010

Applied Imagination Fellow 2021, Center for Science and the Imagination, Arizona State University

Benjamin Ong is an ecologist, writer, and photographer based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Benjamin's interests center on the relationship between humans and nature in cities, and on the power and agency of student and community volunteerism. His book, *The Backyard Before You* was published in 2017, and he is the recipient of the 2019 Marsh Award for Education in Botanic Gardens.



SESSION ONE

Inclusive Leadership in Times of Change



2:15 - 3:00 PM HST

We all live our lives within a social landscape formed by layers of history and culture. Inclusive leaders seek to understand and navigate these layers in order to build just futures for everyone. As the Executive Director of The Pōpolo Project, Dr Glenn is at the forefront of such leadership in Hawai'i and the Pacific. This talk-story session is a chance to hear about her leadership journey and the questions at the center of her work. She will discuss her focus on radical reconnection, what it has meant for the Black community in Hawaii and the Pacific, and what it calls others to do.

Akiemi Glenn

*Executive Director, The Pōpolo Project
Sister of APLP 2015 Alum*



Raised in the rural US South with ties to the forests and coastal areas of North Carolina and Virginia, Dr. Akiemi Glenn is a scholar and culture worker who now lives on the island of O'ahu, Hawai'i. She holds an MA and PhD in linguistics from the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa and a BA in linguistics from New York University. As a linguist who works in Indigenous language revitalization, a researcher, filmmaker, artist, and cultural practitioner, her work engages concepts of culture, race, and belonging at the intersections of art, social justice, and education. She is the founder and executive director of the Pōpolo Project, an organization whose mission is to redefine what it means to be Black in Hawai'i through cultivating connections between individuals, our communities, our ancestors, and the land to highlight the vivid, complex diversity of Black cultures and communities in the Pacific and around the world. She is also co-founder and principal of [Hawai'i Strategy Lab](#), a research and data access endeavor that brings together data and culture in the service of social justice and re-centers models of leadership and expertise in Hawai'i.

[Learn more about Akiemi.](#)

SESSION TWO

Cultural Appropriation in the Arts: How Institutions and Individuals can Create Change

4:00 - 5:00 PM HST

LaVern Baker, an American R&B singer, was the second woman inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. A Black artist, she was openly critical of the white artists who copied her work. LaVern Baker was the focus of a recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame ([Reckoning and Requiem: LaVern Baker and Cultural Appropriation](#)). Voices in Conversation moderated by Alice Randall and Nwaka Onwusa. Featuring artists Rosanne Cash, Siedah Garrett, Margo Price, and Allison Russell. This session will look at the differences between appropriation and appreciation and how individuals and institutions can end the cycle of incorrect attribution in music today. Erin will share her experience co-producing the event and lead a discussion on why the narratives that arts institutions tell are critical.

Erin McNally

Asia Pacific Leadership Program, 2005

Writer, Consultant, Music Business Professional

Alum of the Asia Pacific Leadership Program G5, Erin McNally is a writer, consultant, and music business professional. She has crafted an extensive and multifaceted career in the arts. In her consulting work, she aids artists, brands, and non-profits with marketing, fundraising, education, grassroots efforts, events, and operations. She also works as a songwriter and writer of prose for various organizations and publications.



Alice Randall

Author

Professor & Writer-in-Residence, African American Studies,
Vanderbilt University

Alice Randall is the Harvard-educated author of five novels: *The Wind Done Gone*; *Pushkin and the Queen of Spades*; *Rebel Yell*; *Ada's Rules*; and most recently the widely acclaimed *Black Bottom Saints*, which features LaVern Baker as a Saint among Saints. Randall was the first black woman to pen a #1 country hit as co-writer of XXX's and OOO's which celebrates Aretha Franklin. With her daughter, Caroline Randall Williams, she co-authored the iconic cookbook *Soul Food Love* that won the NAACP Image Award, and the young adult novel, *B.B. Bright, Possible Princess*, which received the Phillis Wheatley award. A Professor and Writer-in-Residence at Vanderbilt University in the Department of African American studies. She holds an honorary doctorate from Fisk University home of the world-renown Jubilee Singers. A native of Detroit, MI, she resides in Nashville, TN.



SESSION THREE

The Transformative Power of Listening and Creative Dialogue



5:30 - 6:00 PM HST

How can we listen to diverging perspectives, recognize our own biases, and effectively convey our thoughts even when our opinions may be actively changing? Come learn about [Facilitative Listening Design](#), how it can be a critical leadership tool in any space to understand how certain groups may generally think, and how you can use this approach in your own context. Ultimately, this short session intends to demonstrate how listening needs time, space, and connection to be transformative.

Raymond Hyma

Change Leadership Program

Co-developer, Facilitative Listening Design



Raymond Hyma is an alumnus of the EWC Change Leadership Program, two-time Rotary Peace Fellow, and is the co-developer of Facilitative Listening Design - a participatory information gathering tool that leverages listening to better understand others and build relationships in the process. Raymond has been working in policy, community practice, and research for nearly 20 years across the Americas and Asia.

Suyheang "Heang" Kry

Executive Director, Women Peace Makers



Suyheang Kry is the Executive Director of Women Peace Makers, a Cambodian NGO that works at the intersection of gender and peacebuilding. A feminist, conflict transformation practitioner, and an innovative leader, Suyheang has focused on listening to "the other" as a co-developer of Facilitative Listening Design (FLD) to bring unheard, controversial, and sometimes difficult-to-swallow perceptions to the forefront in order to foster deeper understanding.

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Leadership in a Time of Change



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