Prof. Dr. Juan M. Pulhin

Full Professor and Founding Director of the UPLB Interdisciplinary Studies Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Environment Management (UPLB-INREM).

A former Dean of the College of Forestry and Natural Resources at the University of the Philippines Los Baños (UPLB), he has held the highest rank of UP Scientist III since 2011, highlighting his outstanding research contributions and international stature. He has been a four-time Visiting Professor at the University of Tokyo and a Visiting Scholar at Waseda University. He is an Academician at the National Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) in the Philippines, a member of Multistakeholder Advisory Council of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), and an Invited Expert for the Asia-Pacific Network for Global Change Research (APN). Recently appointed by the Philippine President to the Climate Change Commission's People's Survival Fund Board, he also leads the Vulnerability and Risk Assessment for The Philippines-Canada Partnership on Nature-Based Solutions (NbS) for Climate Change Adaptation

Dr. Yasumasa Hirata

Re-employed Research Specialist, Department of Forest Management, Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute

He was Director of REDD-plus and Overseas Forest-DRR Research and Development Center until March 2023. He specializes in forest monitoring by remote sensing. He participated in the REDD-plus negotiations at the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and is the lead author of the 2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. So far, he has implemented REDD-plus and forest-based disaster prevention and mitigation projects in many developing countries including Southeast Asia and other parts of the world.

Dr. Manzul Kumar Hazarika

Director of the Geoinformatics Center, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT)

He holds a Ph.D. degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Tokyo, Japan. Over the past 22 years, Dr. Hazarika has been extensively working in applications of geospatial technologies in agriculture, disaster management, and the environment. One of his interests is disaster management covering multi-hazard risk assessment, emergency mapping and damage assessment, community-based disaster management, and capacity building.

Ms. Sachiko Takinaga

ASIA AIR SURVEY CO., LTD. Overseas Project Department

After graduating from the Tokyo University of Agriculture and Technology, joined the Japan Overseas Forestry Consultants Association (JOFCA) and worked on JICA technical cooperation projects in the field of forest and natural environment conservation, etc. Since 2021, working in the "Promoting Forest-based Disaster Risk Reduction (F-DRR) in Developing Countries"

Dr. Ha Van Tiep

Director, Forest Science Center of Northwestern Vietnam, Vietnamese Academy of Forest Science

He has about 27 years working experiences in research on agroforestry systems, restoration of degraded natural forest, afforestation and sustainable community forest management plan and community development as well in Northwest region of Vietnam. He has also been a leader of some research projects funded both from Viet Nam government and international organization.

He graduated from Vietnam National University of Forest in 1996 with the field of silviculture. After that, he obtained the Degree of Master of Science in Natural Resources Management from Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) Thailand in 2005. He held a PhD in Forest Ecology from Utrecht University in the Netherlands in 2015.