

## MLE ADVOCACY: OPPORTUNITIES AND STRATEGIES

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Bangkok time/GMT+7), 23 March 2022 via Zoom



**Asia-Pacific Multilingual Education Working Group Regional Webinar #5**  
**‘MLE Advocacy: Opportunities and Strategies’**  
**23 March 2022, 11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. (Bangkok time; GMT+7)**  
**Speakers’ Biographies**

### **KIMMO KOSONEN**

*Language Development Specialist, Payap University and Language Advisor, SIL International*  
‘Bringing Non-dominant Languages into Education Systems: Change from Above, from Below, from the Side—or a Combination?’



Kimmo Kosonen, PhD, is a Specialist in language development at Payap University in Thailand as well as an Adviser to SIL International on language policy, education, and advocacy. Kimmo carries a Finnish passport but has been working in Asia for the past 25 years. His research interests and publications have focused on Asian language-in-education policies, the role of non-dominant languages in education, as well as multilingual and non-formal education in low-income countries. His latest publication is an edited volume with Carol Benson: “Language

Issues in Comparative Education II: Policy and Practice in Multilingual Education Based on Non-Dominant Languages”.

### **MARGARETE SACHS-ISRAEL**

*Chief of Section for Inclusive Quality Education, UNESCO Bangkok*  
‘What is APREMC-II and How can MLE Practitioners Help National Delegations Prepare?’



Ms Margarete Sachs-Israel has been the Chief of Section for Inclusive Quality Education, UNESCO Bangkok, Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education since June 2021. Ms. Sachs-Israel has over 30 years of experience in education and international development. Before joining UNESCO Bangkok, she was the UNICEF Regional Education Advisor for Latin American and the Caribbean. Prior to that, she held the position of Chief Programme Coordinator, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning; and was the UNESCO focal point for the development of the United Nations Education 2030 Agenda at UNESCO Headquarters. In her capacity as Chief of Section for Inclusive Quality Education, Ms. Sachs-Israel oversees major work of the Section, which includes the SDG4-Education 2030 regional coordination, education policy, planning and management, quality of education, inclusive education, multilingual and mother tongue education, ECCE, as well as health education and well-being. In addition, she serves as the UNESCO co-chair of the newly established UN networking group, “Learning and Education 2030+”, co-led by UNESCO Bangkok and UNICEF EAPRO and ROSA.

## **LINH ANH MOREAU**

*Consultant, UNESCO Bangkok*

‘The International Decade of Indigenous Languages’



Linh Anh Moreau joined the Communication and Information Unit at UNESCO Bangkok as Consultant in 2021 to coordinate the Memory of the World and International Decade of Indigenous Languages 2022-2032 programmes. She previously worked as Programme Officer at the SEAMEO Regional Centre for Archaeology and Fine Arts (SEAMEO SPAFA), supporting projects on safeguarding and promoting archaeology and cultural heritage. A dual French-US citizen of Vietnamese heritage and Thailand upbringing, she obtained her BA and

MA in Southeast Asian Studies from SOAS University of London, and a Master’s in Information and Communication from University of Paris Sorbonne Nouvelle.

## **SURAPORN SURIYAMONTON**

*Country Representative, Pestalozzi Children’s Foundation, Thailand*

‘Indigenous People’s Organizations and the MLE Movement: Partnering for IDIL’



Since 2008, Ms Suraporn Suriyamonton has been the Thailand Country Representative for the Pestalozzi Children’s Foundation (PCF). In her role, she designs, implements, and manages PCF Thailand’s country office and programme which focuses on access to quality education for all children. PCF Thailand’s country programme contributes to PCF’s mission by providing vulnerable girls and boys in pre-primary, primary and secondary school (aged 4-18 years) of ethnic background in rural areas with access to mother tongue-based inclusive and equitable quality education. Strategy 2021-2024 thematic priorities are Mother Tongue-

Based Multilingual Education (MTBMLE) and Intercultural Education (ICE) with a strong component of teacher training and enhancing the use of ICT technology for digitalization of instructional materials and scalability. In her role, she also contributes to the establishment of the Tonkla Indigenous Children and Youth Network and the Indigenous Education Network to advocate for linguistically and culturally responsive education. From 2004-2008, she was the International Technical Secretariat of the International Alliance of Indigenous and Tribal Peoples of Tropical Forest.

## **JOSEPH LO BIANCO**

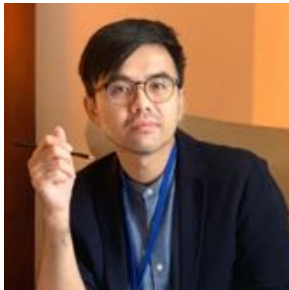
*Professor Emeritus of Language and Literacy Education, University of Melbourne*  
Discussant



Dr Joseph Lo Bianco, is Professor Emeritus in Language and Literacy Education at the Graduate School of Education, University of Melbourne, a Past President of the Australian Academy of the Humanities and was founding director of Language Australia, the National Languages and Literacy Institute of Australia. For many years he has worked in South and Southeast Asia on multilingual education, indigenous rights and access to education, literacy, girls education and multiculturalism. He designed and managed the UNICEF Language, Education and Social Cohesion Initiative in Malaysia, Myanmar and Thailand, resulting in several advances for ethnic rights, over 45 language policy dialogues and preparation of a Peace Building National Language Policy in Myanmar and an Indigenous languages submission to the Malaysian cabinet. A key outcome was the first Myanmar conference on multilingual policy, held at Mandalay University in 2016 with 350 delegates and a national language rights summit convened by the Union and State governments held at NayPyiTaw in June 2016. He authored the 1987 National Policy on Languages in Australia, a pioneer multilingual comprehensive rights based language policy and supported efforts in Thailand to build national language policy.

## **MANOCH CHUMMUANGPAK**

*Dhurakij Pundit University, Member State Representative of the IDIL Global Task Force, Thailand*  
Wrap Up



Manoch is the director of Master of Communication Arts Program at Dhurakij Pundit University, Bangkok, Thailand. He graduated with a PhD in Media Studies from La Trobe University, Melbourne, Australia. His research interests include the relationship between communication and marginalized communities, the production and circulation of alternative media such as ethnic media, community media and diasporic media, and the use of media platforms to express and negotiate cultural identities. Manoch has taken part in the Global Task Force for Making a Decade of Action for Indigenous Languages.