



# Flooding and ECD: Protecting Young Children Amidst Growing Threats of Climate Change

Understanding the impact of specific climate risks such as flooding on young children, with practical insights from the countries on how to protect the most vulnerable young children and their families

Thursday, 03 October 2024  
2:00-3:30PM, Singapore time

ARNEC is pleased to host its webinar amplifying the important linkage of early childhood development (ECD) and climate change with a specific focus on how global warming exacerbates many of the factors that increase flood risk. This webinar will discuss why this risk is particularly high in the Asia-Pacific region as some of the countries share their experiences and insights.

## 1. Discussion focus and speakers

Over 400 million children in the Asia-Pacific region are at extreme risk from flooding, and 70% of people exposed to flooding globally are in South and East Asia. As flooding risks escalate due to climate change, land subsidence, and coastal development, it is critical to address the impact of floods on early childhood development. The recent Flooding Advocacy Brief by ARNEC and Vital Strategies sheds light on these issues and provides actionable insights. **Download the [advocacy brief](#) here.**

### Webinar Objectives:

1. Raise Awareness: Understand how climate exacerbates flooding and how this affects young children.

2. Equip Stakeholders: Gain tools and knowledge to mitigate the impacts of flooding on young children, their families and communities.
3. Promote Co-Learning: Share experiences and strategies from countries mostly affected by massive flooding.

The speakers and topics are found below:

Speaker	Topic
Evelyn Santiago, ARNEC	Early Childhood Development & Climate Change: ARNEC's Advocacy
Neelima Chopra, ARNEC Lynn Tang, Vital Strategies	Impact of Flooding on Young Children Introducing the Flooding Advocacy Brief
Nazar Khalid, University of Pennsylvania	Resilience and Vulnerability: Addressing Climate Change Impacts of Flooding on Young Children
Mourie Chowdhury, UNICEF, Bangladesh	The Impact of Floods on Young Children in Bangladesh
Baela Raza Jamil, Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA), Pakistan	Understanding the Impact of Floods on Young Children in Pakistan
Mariel Joy S. Sampang, Save The Children, Philippines	The Impact of Floods on Young Children in the Philippines

\*See Attachment A for the profiles of speakers and their organisations (To be added).

## 2. Discussion flow and facilitation

Time (SGT)	Speaker	Mode / Time	Key Messages
2:00-2:15 PM	Evelyn Santiago	Presenting [15 min]	Welcome & Introductions ARNEC's advocacy on ECD and climate
2:15-2:35 PM	Neelima Chopra & Lynn Tang	Presenting [20 min]	Impact of Flooding on Young Children The Flooding Advocacy Brief
2:35-2:50 PM	Nazar Khalid	Presenting [15 min]	Impact of flooding on vulnerable and marginalized communities highlighting the challenges faced
2:50-3:15 PM	Mourie Nishad Chowdhury, Baela Raza Jamil & Mariel Joy Sampang	Panel Discussion	Presentation & Discussion-Country sharing of experiences of floods impacting young children w.r.t the different NCF components
3:15-3:30 PM	Neelima Chopra	Q&A [10 min] Closing [05 min]	Open forum Summarizing key points; and thanking presenters and participants

## Attachment A

### Profiles of Speakers and their Organisations

#### Picture

**Lynn Tang**



#### Bio-note

Lynn Tang is the Director of Programs, Environmental, Climate and Urban Health at Vital Strategies, an international public health organization. She is a development professional with over two decades of experience in various local and international NGOs, including UN Women and Conservation International. She has proven competency in a range of roles including marketing and communications, program management, partnership development and fundraising. Her portfolio of past and present projects includes air pollution, lead poisoning, non-communicable diseases and data and indicators for environmental and climate health tracking. She holds a Bachelor of Communications from Northwestern University and a Master of Tri-Sector Collaboration from the Singapore Management University. She is currently based in Singapore.

**Nazar Khalid**



Nazar Khalid is a joint doctoral candidate in Demography and Sociology at the University of Pennsylvania and a research affiliate with r.i.c.e., a research institute for compassionate economics. Born in Bihar, India, Nazar has lived across multiple Indian states including Delhi, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, and Goa. His research focuses on education, health, social inequality, and the environment. His recent work examines how exposure to extreme weather impacts children's education and health, and how this relationship is shaped by pre-existing social and economic inequalities. Nazar has also engaged in research and advocacy in sanitation and food security.

**Mourie Nishad Chowdhury**



Mourie Nishad Chowdhury brings over 20 years of experience in the development sector, with a strong focus on education and Education in Emergencies (EiE). She has worked extensively in both refugee and disaster-induced emergency contexts nationally and internationally and specializes in program design, partnership building, political engagement, and capacity development. Currently serving as an Education Specialist at UNICEF Bangladesh, her portfolio focuses on Early Learning and Education in Emergency. Mourie also co-leads the National Education Cluster and supports government to coordinate education responses for affected children and build long-term resilience in the education sector. In the current flood in August, she is playing a pivotal role for preparation, coordination and implementation of the disaster response efforts for education.

**Baela Raza Jamil**



Baela Raza Jamil is the CEO of Idara-e-Taleem-o-Aagahi (ITA) and the founder of the Pakistan Learning Festival in Pakistan. Baela served as Technical Advisor to the federal Ministry of Education (2001-2004/5). She has actively promoted ECCE, girls' education, gender rights and public private partnerships. She leads the citizen-led assessment and accountability initiative, ASER Pakistan. Baela has led whole school improvement as a niche area since 2000, ECCE and the second chance program for adolescent girls in Pakistan, Siyani Sahelian (wise friends), recognized as a HunderEd innovation in 2022-23. From 2015 to 2023, she served as a Commissioner to the Education Commission. Baela is associated with global, regional, national and provincial Boards, Baela has worked in USA, UK, HongKong, South Asia and Pakistan.

**Mariel Joy Sampang**



Mariel Joy Sampang or Joy is the Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) Advisor for Save the Children Philippines, with over 20 years of experience working on behalf of young children. She leads innovative ECCD programs focused on gender equality, social inclusion, climate change, and leadership development. Joy serves as Co-Chair of the global ECCD Working Group in Save the Children and a Steering Committee member of Asia Pacific Regional Network in Early Childhood (ARNEC). Joy's extensive experience includes roles as a preschool teacher, college professor, and market researcher. She holds a Master's Degree in Family Life and Child Development and a Bachelor's degree in Communication Research from the University of the Philippines. Joy has authored numerous ECCD publications and presents at national and international conferences.