

Indigenous Laws and Transpacific Trade Workshop

14-16 May 2026 | National Dong Hwa University

DAY 1 - Thursday 14 May

Toong Mao Resort, Hualien

Note that shuttle services will be provided between the hotel, the university, the reception and the community visit sites

18:00 - 20:00 **OPENING RECEPTION**

DAY 2 - Friday 15 May

National Dong Hwa University College of Indigenous Studies, International Conference Hall

9:00 - 10:00 **SESSION 1: Welcome and Opening Remarks**

Awi Mona	Dean & Professor of Law, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Dong Hwa University
Pooja Parmar	Associate Professor & President’s Chair in Law & Indigeneity in a Global Context, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria
Marie-Louise Hannan	Executive Director, Canadian Trade Office in Taipei.
Hui-Mi Hsu	President, National Dong Hwa University

10:00 - 10:15 **Break**

10:15 - 12:15 **SESSION 2: Strategies for Enhancing Indigenous Women’s Participation in Trans-Pacific Trade**

Chair:	Pooja Parmar	Associate Professor & President’s Chair in Law & Indigeneity in a Global Context, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria
Speakers:	Val Napoleon	Professor, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria
	Lilla Raja Hodder	Managing Director, Bario Development Corporation & Councillor, Sarawak
	Dara Kelly	Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Economic Wellbeing and Freedom (IEWF), Simon Fraser University
	Ramy Bulan	Professor of Law, University Malaysia Sarawak (UNIMAS)
Discussants:	Jhe- Yu (Yuri) Ko	CEO, Jidi Culture Publishing Co., Ltd., Taiwan
	Leah Bell	Researcher, Tauhokohoko International Indigenous Trade Project, Te Piringa-Faculty of Law, University of Waikato

12:15 - 13:15 **Lunch**

13:15 - 15:15	SESSION 3: Barriers to Accessing Opportunities in Transpacific Trade	
Chair:	Awī Mona	Dean & Professor of Law, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Dong Hwa University
Speakers:	Jack (Wei- Chieh) Hua	President, Splendid Bio Tech. Co., Ltd., Taiwan
	Siwakorn Odochao	Indigenous Pgak'yau (Karen) farmer and social entrepreneur, Thailand
	Sudhir (John) Horo	Convenor, Tribal Design Forum, India
	Hiroki Kajikawa	Rapporo Ainu Nation
	Nagane Kouki,	Rapporo Ainu Nation
	Jimmy Ano, Jr.	Manager, The Farmer's Daughter (Cordilleran Indigenous Cuisine), Baguio City, Philippines
Discussants:	Aashish Xaxa	Assistant Professor, School of Liberal Studies, BML Munjal University
	Songkrant Pongboonjun (Kan)	Lecturer, Chiang Mai University Faculty of Law, Thailand.
	Tina Wilson	GM Māori – Center of Excellence, ASB Bank, Aotearoa New Zealand
15:15 - 15:30	Break	
15:30 - 17:00	SESSION 4: Open discussion and debrief	
18:00 - 20:00	Dinner at Jane Wine Restaurant (<i>Shuttle service to the restaurant will be provided</i>)	

DAY 3 - Saturday 16 May

9:00 - 11:00	SESSION 5: IPETCA - Potential Impact and Strategies for Indigenous Success	
Chair:	Wagi Payan	Assistant Professor, Department of Ethnic Relations and Cultures, National Dong Hwa University
Speakers:	Nathaniel Sukhdeo	Ph.D. student, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria
	Robert Joseph	Associate Professor, University of Waikato, Te Piringa Faculty of Law
	Leah Abayao	Professor, University of the Philippines Baguio
	Dilara Aydin	Postdoctoral Fellow, Tauhokohoko International Indigenous Trade Project, Te Piringa-Faculty of Law, University of Waikato
Discussants:	Dara Kelly	Associate Professor and Canada Research Chair in Indigenous Economic Wellbeing and Freedom (IEWF), Simon Fraser University
	Leah Armstrong	Director, Centre for Indigenous Economic Transformation, Australian National University, Australia
11:00 - 11:15	Break	

DAY 3 Continued

11:15 - 11:45	SESSION 6: Next Steps	
Moderators:	Awi Mona	Dean & Professor of Law, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Dong Hwa University
	Pooja Parmar	Associate Professor & President's Chair in Law & Indigeneity in a Global Context, Faculty of Law, University of Victoria
11:45 - 12:00	Closing	
	Awi Mona	Dean & Professor of Law, College of Humanities and Social Sciences, National Dong Hwa University
12:00 - 13:00	Lunch	
13:00 - 19:30	Community Visit <i>(Transportation will be provided)</i>	
13:00 – 14:30	Travel and visit to Indigenous Wild Vegetable Center	
14:30	Visit to Gao Shan Forest Tribal Ranch	
15:40 – 16:00	Arrival at the Forest Site	
16:00 – 16:30	Opening Session (Stone Cave Site) Site introduction and overview of the afternoon's program	
16:30 – 18:00	Forest Adventure Experience (Banyan Platform Tree Climbing) Guided rope-assisted tree climbing activity	
18:00 – 18:30	Blessing Necklace Workshop (Interpretation Station) Handmade activity using natural materials, led by local Indigenous community members	
18:30 – 19:30	Cultural Dinner & Sharing (Seaside Viewing Platform) Indigenous-style meal and informal exchange	
19:30	Departure	

PARTICIPANTS

Leah Abayao, University of the Philippines Baguio, Philippines

Jimmy Ano Jr, Manager, The Farmer's Daughter (Cordilleran Indigenous Cuisine), Philippines

Leah Armstrong, Director, Centre for Indigenous Economic Transformation, Australian National University, Australia

Dilara Aydin, Postdoctoral Fellow, Tauhokohoko International Indigenous Trade Project, Te Piringa-Faculty of Law, University of Waikato

Leah Bell, Researcher, Tauhokohoko International Indigenous Trade Project, Te Piringa-Faculty of Law, University of Waikato

Ramy Bulan, University Malaysia Sarawak, Malaysia

Kajikawa Hiroki, Ainu Nation, Japan

Lilla Raja Hodder, Bario Development Corporation Sdn. Bhd, Malaysia

Sudhir (John) Horo, Tribal Design Forum, India

Jack (Wei- Chieh) Hua, President, Splendid Bio Tech. Co., Ltd., Taiwan

Mr. Kolas, Itini How Co., Ltd.

Robert Joseph, University of Waikato, Aotearoa-New Zealand

Dara Kelly, Simon Fraser University, Canada

Jhe-Yu Ko (Yuri Yuko), Jidiculture Publishing House Limited

Freya Kodar, University of Victoria, Canada

Nagane Kouki, Vice President, Ainu Nation, Japan

Chih-Hao Lin (Osan Karo), Dagedan Group / South-Link Eco Tourism Union

Ben Lukenchuk, University of Victoria

Awai Mona, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

Sarah Morales, University of Victoria, Canada

Val Napoleon, University of Victoria, Canada

Siwakorn Odochao, Lazy Man Coffee, Thailand

Pooja Parmar, University of Victoria, Canada

Wagi Payan, National Dong Hwa University, Taiwan

Songkrant (Kan) Pongboonjun, Chiang Mai University, Thailand

Dana Powell, Taipei Medical University, Taiwan

Victor V. Ramraj, Centre for Asia-Pacific Initiatives, University of Victoria, Canada

Daphne Shih, International Inter-Tribal Trade and Investment Organization, Taiwan

Nathaniel Sukhdeo, University of Victoria, Canada

Tina Wilson, GM Māori – Center of Excellence, ASB Bank, Aotearoa New Zealand

Rebecca Wong, University of Victoria, Canada

Chih-Ping Yeh (Tilo Yeh), Shuang Liu Shan Shui Enterprise Corporation / Taiwan Indigenous Sustainable Development Association

Aashish Xaxa, BML Munjal University, India

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