



The Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA) will be hosting a Special Event at PMAC2026 to launch the 5th Healthy Aging Prize for Asian Innovation (HAPI)! Join us to learn more about the award and hear from Grand Prize Winner Edren Llanillo, whose intergenerational program mobilizes Filipino youth to provide health monitoring and disaster preparedness training to older adults in their communities.

Event Details:

Time and Date: January 30, 10:00–10:30 am

Location: 22nd Floor, Centara Grand at Central World (Special Event Area)

Speakers:

Edren M. Llanillo, Founder and Executive Director, Padyarescue Inc. (4th HAPI Grand Prize Winner)

Liem Nguyen, Programme Manager on Social Welfare, ERIA

Satoko Itoh, Managing Director, JCIE

Stephen McHugh, Chief Program Officer, JCIE USA (moderator)

About the Event:

This special event will feature a fireside chat between the award organizers and a previous Grand Prize winner where you will:

- learn about the award program—its goals, the application and selection

process, and the benefits of winning

- hear about how past winners are improving the health and wellbeing of older people across Asia

About the Speakers:



Edren M. Llanillo, Founder and Executive Director, Padyarescue Inc.

Edren Mejia Llanillo is an entrepreneurial public servant who is the co-founder of the Go Bike Project, a grassroots initiative in the Philippines that empowers the youth to help their older neighbors and build healthier, more disaster-resilient communities. His work encompasses youth leadership, public health, governance, and disaster risk reduction and management, collaborating with various local governments and international developmental organizations. He also serves as the youngest Councilor of the Municipality of Bugallon.

Edren is a Mass Communication graduate who became a development professional and holds an executive certification in Bridging Leadership from the Asian Institute of Management. He is also the founder of PadyaKaisipan, a mental health advocacy program, and of ALWAR (Association of Learners Working on Altruism and Resilience), which institutionalized proactive youth engagement in disaster preparedness and resilience across various schools in the Philippines. To manage all of these, he served as the executive director of Padyarescue Inc. from 2021 to 2025. His efforts have been widely recognized in his own country, and the Go Bike Project received the Grand Prize in the 4th Healthy Aging Prize for Asian Innovation.



Liem Nguyen, Programme Manager on Social Welfare, ERIA

Dr. Liem has served as program manager on social welfare at ERIA since October 2024. He is a sociologist and demographer by training. His research interests encompass health equity, social determinants of health, health systems, digital health, migration, and disability-inclusive development. He is particularly focused on enhancing health and social assistance for vulnerable groups, including marginalized migrants, ethnic minorities, residents of hard-to-reach areas,

women and children, and persons with disabilities.

Dr. Liem has extensive experience in developing and managing multidisciplinary projects, designing and conducting national and complex sample surveys, building capacity in quantitative research methods, and applying social data in developing countries. His diverse research and consultancy journey includes collaboration with government bodies, local NGOs, and international organizations such as DFAT, UNESCAP, UNFPA, WHO, the World Bank, IOM, UNICEF, DFID, CIDA, SIDA, the Population Council, USAID, Humanity & Inclusion, and UN Women.



Satoko Itoh, Managing Director, JCIE

Satoko Itoh joined JCIE in 1988. She currently leads a wide range of global health programs, including the Friends of the Global Fund, Japan (FGFJ), which she has been involved with since its inception in 2004 and for which she currently serves as director.

From 1997 to 2004, she operated the Levi Strauss Foundation's Donor Advised Fund, which provided funds to Japanese nonprofit organizations for activities tackling issues of HIV/AIDS, economic empowerment, and social justice. She has since helped launch and facilitate a number of other corporate giving programs, encouraging the Japanese private sector to become actively engaged in achieving universal health coverage (UHC) and health equity in low- and middle-income countries. Ms. Itoh has an extensive network, having worked closely with representatives of various ministries, the private sector, and key civil society organizations (CSOs). Her expertise lies in navigating the complicated dynamics and politics of various actors in the global health community in Japan. She contributed to the formation of Japan's Global Health Strategy as a member of the Task Force on Global Health Strategy organized by the Cabinet Secretariat in 2021–2024. In 2025, she was reappointed as a member of the new committee on Japan's global engagement in health and medicine under the Cabinet Secretariat. She holds a BA from Keio University and an MA in area studies from the School of Oriental and African Studies, University of London



Stephen McHugh, Chief Program Officer, JCIE USA

Stephen joined JCIE USA in April 2019, where he works on its programs on Healthy and Active Aging in Asia, Expanding Japan’s Support for Democratic Governance, and political exchanges, including the US Congressional Staff Exchange Program. He also helped launch JCIE USA’s US-Japan Healthy and Resilient Aging exchange program in 2022. In 2024, he was selected as one of the Australian Institute for International Affairs and Japan

Foundation’s Indo-Pacific Cooperation Network Fellows for a year-long fellowship on the theme of disaster resilience in the Indo-Pacific, where he focused on the importance of addressing the specific needs of older adults in disaster preparedness and response. Prior to joining JCIE USA, Stephen taught English at a public high school in Tokyo as part of the Japan Exchange and Teaching (JET) Program. He later served as a JET Program Coordinator in Washington DC, where he managed the nationwide application process. Originally from London, Stephen moved to the United States to study at the University of Chicago, where he earned a BA in English Literature.

About HAPI:

The Healthy Aging Prize for Asian Innovation (HAPI) is an award program that seeks to recognize and amplify innovative policies, programs, services, and products that address the challenges facing aging societies, help extend healthy and meaningful lives, and improve the provision of care to older adults. Organized by the Japan Center for International Exchange (JCIE) and the Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA), the award has been conducted for four rounds so far and has received over 300 applications from 14 countries and regions in East and Southeast Asia. To date, we have developed a solid collection of good practices, creating a platform for knowledge sharing and network development, which is available on the website: <https://ahwin.org/innovative-cases/>

