

SHARANIYA VIJITHARAN

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Objective

Dedicated to imparting knowledge, fostering critical thinking, and shaping future environmental leaders through innovative teaching methodologies and impactful research contributions.

Personal Details

- Full Name : Dr. (Ms.) Sharaniya Vijitharan
- Civil Status : Married
- Nationality : Sri Lankan
- National ID : 198977502433V
- Passport Number : N7318386
- Permanent Address: Near hospital, Kopay center, Kopay, Jaffna.
- Temporary Address: 220, Station Road, Vaviravapuliyan Kulam, Vavuniya.

Professional and Teaching Experience

Professional Experience

- Adjunct faculty at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand from January 2025 to May 2025.
- Visiting at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand from August 2024 to November 2024.
- Senior Lecturer Grade II at the Department of Bio-science, Faculty of Applied Science, University of Vavuniya, Sri Lanka, from July 2023 to present.
- Lecturer in Environmental Science at the Department of Bio-science, Faculty of Applied Science, University of Vavuniya, Sri Lanka, from 7th March 2017 to July 2023.

Teaching Experience at the University of Vavuniya

- Forest Environmental Biology and Management (ENS2152)
- Climate Change (ENS4192)
- Environmental Disaster Management (ENS2233)
- Sustainable Development for Environment (ENS2172)
- Plantation Forestry and Environment (ENS4242)

Teaching Experience at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand

- Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (ED76.21)
- Forestry and REDD+ (ED76.24)
- Nature-based Solutions for Sustainable Resources Management (ED76.9016)

Educational Qualifications

- PhD in Natural Resources Management at the Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand (Aug 2020 to July 2023).
Title of the dissertation: Accounting for Forest Carbon Stocks in Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka Using Google Earth Engine: Implications for Carbon-Based Incentives.
- M.Sc in Disaster Management, Post Graduate Institute of Science, University of Peradeniya (2016 – 2018) – GPA: 3.68 out of 4.0.
- B.Sc in Environmental Science, Department of Bio-science, Faculty of Applied Science, Vavuniya Campus of the University of Jaffna. (Nov 2010 – April 2015)
First Class: GPA – 3.76 out of 4.0.

Publications

1. Vijitharan, S. (2025). Climate Change-induced Extreme Events and Management Strategies in the Context of SDG 2030. *Climate Change: Conflict and Resilience in the Age of Anthropocene*. Springer (Accepted, In press for publication).
2. Vijitharan, S. (2025). A meta-analysis of Google Earth Engine in different scientific domains. *Google Earth Engine and Artificial Intelligence for Earth Observation*. Elsevier (Accepted, In press for publication).
3. Sasaki, N. and Vijitharan, S. (2024). Nature-Based Carbon Capture through Forest Management in the Mekong Region of Southeast Asia. In Han, P. and Nepal, R. (EDS) *Energy Transition and Carbon Neutrality in ASEAN – Developing Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Technologies*. World Scientific. <https://doi.org/10.1142/13725>
4. Vijitharan, S. (2024). A Review on Traditional Knowledge: A Sustainable Solution for the Climate Crisis. In: Mukhopadhyay, U., Bhattacharya, S., Chouhan, P., Paul, S., Chowdhury, I.R., Chatterjee, U. (eds) *Climate Crisis, Social Responses and Sustainability. Climate Change Management*. Springer, Cham. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-031-58261-5_10
5. Vijitharan, S., Tsusaka, T. W., and Sasaki, N. (2024). Evaluating REDD+ Progress and Results-Based Incentives in Sri Lanka: A Comparative Analysis across Southeast and South Asian Countries. *Trees Forests and People*, 16, 100574. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.tfp.2024.100574>
6. Vijitharan, S., Sasaki, N., Tripathi, N.K., Pramanik, M., and Tsusaka, T.W. (2024). Assessing carbon emission reductions and removals in Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka: REDD+ project contributions to sustainability. *Next Sustainability*. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.nxsust.2024.100035>
7. Vijitharan, S. (2023). A Review of Climate Change Impacts, Adaptation, and Mitigation in South Asia. The 10th International Conference on Agriculture 2023, held on 18 -19th September 2023.
8. Vijitharan, S., Sasaki, N., Venkatappa, M., Tripathi, N.K., Abe, I, and Tsusaka, T.W. (2022). Assessment of Forest Cover Changes in Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka: Implications for Establishment of Subnational Forest Reference Emission Level. *Land*. 2022; 11(7):1061. <https://doi.org/10.3390/land11071061>
9. Musfira, A. F., Shafana, A. R. F., Musthafa, F. N., Vijitharan, S., and Iqbal, N. (2022). Digital competence and ICT literacy of schoolteachers: In the context of schools in Nintavur, Sri Lanka. *International Journal of Health Sciences*, 6(S2), 977–991. <https://doi.org/10.53730/ijhs.v6nS2.5124>
10. Vijitharan, S., Sasaki, N. and Venkatappa, M. (2021). Applications of Google Earth Engine for Mapping and Assessing the Changes in Dry Monsoon Forest: A Case Study in Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka. *Joint International Symposium on Sustainable Forest Ecosystem Management (SFEM) by Taiwan, Japan, and Korea*, held 29th November 2021. pp. 07.

11. Vijitharan, S., Venkatappa, M. and Sasaki, N. (2021). Assessment of Forest Cover Change using the Phenology-based Threshold Classification and Google Earth Engine. Geo for Good Summit 2021 organized by Google Earth Outreach, held 16th – 19th November 2021.
12. Vijitharan, S. and Sasaki, N. (2021). Accounting for Forest Carbon Stocks in Vavuniya District, Sri Lanka using Google Earth Engine – Implications for Carbon-based Incentives. Forest Planning Society Summer Seminar Research Presentation 2021 organized by Japan Society of Forest Planning, held 29th September 2021.
13. Vijitharan, S. (2021). Knowledge and attitudes of farmers towards Synthetic Pesticide usage in Vegetable Cultivation: A Case Study in Vavuniya DS Division, Sri Lanka. 3rd South Asia Conference on Interdisciplinary Research 2021 held 5th November 2021. pp. 26.
14. Vijitharan, S. (2021). Restoration and Conservation Benefits of Mangrove Forest to the Coastal Communities: A Review on Sri Lankan Perspective. *Asian Journal of Science and Applied Technology*, 10(2), 42–49. <https://doi.org/10.51983/ajsat-2021.10.2.3117>
15. Vijitharan, S., & Loganathan, P. (2021). Determination of Pre-Harvest Interval, Pesticide Contamination and Consumer Awareness to Reduce Pesticide Residues in Vegetables: A Case Study in Local Market of Vavuniya, Sri Lanka. *Challenging Issues on Environment and Earth Science Vol. 9*, 1–9. <https://doi.org/10.9734/bpi/ciees/v9/3550F>

Awards, Achievements, and Scholarships

- Invited contributor - THE Global Academic Reputation Survey 2025. Times Higher Education (THE) invited to participate in the prestigious survey evaluating global academic institutions based on reputation and research.
- Received a full sponsorship to attend in person the XXVI IUFRO World Congress, to be held in Stockholm, Sweden, from June 23 to 29, 2024, under the IUFRO-SPDC's Scientist Assistance Programme.
- Received the "Most Novel Solution" award for our group project, offered by the SDG summer school, University of Geneva in Switzerland.
- Scholarship awarded to attend the SDG summer school 2022 in Geneva as a PhD coach, by the University of Geneva, Switzerland (2022).
- AIT Scholarship, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand (2020).

- Accelerating Higher Education Expansion and Development Program (AHEAD) Scholarship, Sri Lanka (2020) sponsored by the World Bank of Sri Lanka.

Reviewer for Journals and Conferences

- Heliyon (Elsevier)
- Carbon Management (Taylor & Francis)
- The International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses
- The International Journal of Environmental Sustainability
- The International Journal of Sustainability Policy and Practice

Positions Holding and Held

- Member of the Committee for Interim Institutional Review - University of Vavuniya.
- Supervisor for the undergraduate research students.
- Senior Treasurer for Environmental Society, Department of Bio-science, University of Vavuniya.
- Director for the Support Centre for Persons with Disabilities (SCPD) at the University of Vavuniya, with effect from November 15, 2023.
- Served as a technical session chair (virtual) and the scientific committee member in the 11th International Conference on Agriculture 2024 (AGRICO 2024), held on September 23–24, 2024.
- Served as a session chair in the 8th International Conference on Climate Change 2024, held on February 8–9, 2024.
- External Expert for a master's student (Mr. Sai Nay Won Myint) research, at the Natural Resources Management, School of Environment, Resources, Development, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand.
- The Editor-in-Chief of the Faculty Level Newsletter at the University of Vavuniya, with effect from January 1, 2024, for one year.
- Member of the International Division, University of Vavuniya.
- A Ph.D. coach from 4th July to 29th, 2022, at the SDG summer school, University of Geneva, Switzerland
- Student Counsellor with effect from May 21st, 2018, to May 21st, 2019.

Extra Key Skills

- Ability to work in a team
- Ability to keep calm under pressure
- Good communication and presentation skills
- Leadership and curious in punctuality
- Updated knowledge of novel tools (Google Earth Engine and Qualitative Comparative Analysis - QCA) and MS Office
- Problem-solving and decision making
- Good management and administrative skills
- Ability to energetically carry out field studies and experiments, and research studies

Non-related Referees

Prof. Nophea Sasaki,
Natural Resources Management
School of Environment, Resources and
Development (SERD)
Asian Institute of Technology,
P.O. Box 4, Khlong Luang,
Pathum Thani 12120, Thailand.
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Takuji W. Tsusaka, Ph.D.,
Assistant Professor in Natural
Resource Economics
Asian Institute of Technology
P.O. Box 4, Khlong Luang,
Pathum Thani 12120, Thailand.
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I certify that the information above is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

Thank You.

Yours faithfully,



10.11.2024