

Dr Maria Francesch-Huidobro, PhD

Principal Investigator & Consultant, (Regional Project Energy Security & Climate Change Asia-Pacific (RECAP), Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)* http://www.kas.de/recap/en/pages/16207/

I was educated in Madrid (Spain), BSc and MSc, came to Asia in the mid-1980s and was Director of the East Asian Educational Association Ltd (HK) and Legislative Assistant at the Legislative Council of Hong Kong SAR. In 2000, I graduated with a Masters in Public Administration (MPA) and with a PhD (Politics & Public Administration) in 2005, the University of Hong Kong (HKU). I was subsequently awarded Best PhD Dissertation in 2006 by the Hong Kong Political Science Association. I have taught political science and public administration at the University of Hong Kong (2005-2008) and the City University of Hong Kong (2008-2016). In 2013, I was appointed Visiting Research Fellow at Humboldt University of Berlin (Germany) and have been Honorary Fellow of the Centre for Civil Society and Governance, HKU (2007-2012) and of the Kadoorie Institute, HKU (2013-2016). Currently, I am Research Affiliate of the Southeast Asia Research Centre, Hong Kong (2016). In the Fall of 2016, I was Visiting Fellow of the Andrew Young School of Policy Studies, Atlanta, Georgia (USA) and was elected and admitted as a Professional Member to the Hong Kong Institute of Qualified Environmental Professionals (HKIQEP). I am the recipient of several awards: Visiting Research Fellowship by the Environmental Policy Group of the Wageningen University Institute for Climate and the Environment (WIMEK), The Netherlands (2008); Excellence in Knowledge Transfer Award, City University of Hong Kong (2014 & 2015), and Certificate of Leadership in Public Policy, The University of Science & Technology, Hong Kong (2015).

My expertise includes sub-national environmental governance compared, climate change policy and governance, energy transitions, and governance transformations in Asia. I am the holder of competitive research grants (AECOM, KAS, etc). My teaching and public speaking expertise relate to sustainable development theory, research and practice; civil society and the environment; water and climate governance; approaches to political analysis, and EU politics. My work appears in *Environmental Politics, Environment and Planning A, Progree in Planning, Journal of Cleaner Production, Energy Research & Social Sciences*, among others. I have written the book *Governance, Politics and the Environment: A Singapore Study* (ISEAS 2008) and co-authored with Lindsay Mai *Climate Change Governance in Chinese Cities* (Routledge 2015). Fan of outdoor sports, I often take to the hills with family and friends. A long-term Hong Kong resident and fluent Cantonese speaker, I engage with and serve the community through various voluntary organizations.

*The Konrad Adenauer Sitiftung (KAS) offers political education nationally and internationally to forward peace, freedom and justice. KAS promotes and sustains liberal democracy, constitutional legacy and the social market economy. The KAS Regional Project Energy Security and Climate Change Asia-Pacific (RECAP), based in Hong Kong, supports the political dialogue between decision makers in the region and with Europe concerning challenges of the energy and climate policy. The project develops solutions and concrete projects of sustainability in politics, economy and society.