

# N.Vijay Jagannathan, PhD

8404 Old Seven Locks Road, Bethesda, MD 20817

---

Phone: (301) 365-4034

[njagannathan@wri.org](mailto:njagannathan@wri.org)

**Secretary General, CITYNET, Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute, and former Sector Manager Infrastructure, East Asia Pacific Region, World Bank**



---

## PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

---

Vijay Jagannathan is Secretary General of CITYNET, a network of cities, civil society representatives, training institutions in the Asia Pacific region, interested in peer learning, knowledge sharing and promoting sustainable urban development in the Asian continent. He is also concurrently a Senior Fellow at the World Resources Institute since his retirement from the World Bank. In this capacity he is advising the institute's work in developing its sustainable cities agenda. In addition is consulting with international/ regional organizations, such as the Green Climate Fund and the World Bank. He is also a member of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) launched by the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon in August 2012.

As Sector Manager for Infrastructure in the East Asia and Pacific region of the World Bank; he managed a unit that annually lends about \$5 billion in transport, energy, water, disaster risk management and urban development investments in developing countries of the region. He was also the region's liaison person for the various green growth initiatives of the region's industrialized countries (APEC, Australia, Japan, Korea and Singapore). Prior to this assignment he managed water and environment programs in the Middle East and North Africa region of the World Bank for several years.

Dr. Jagannathan has first-hand experience of practical applications of various policies and programs launched over the past twenty three years at tackling global environmental problems. He was involved in the drafting of the incremental costs paper for the Montreal Protocol; has implemented projects financed by the Global Environment Facility, the Clean Development Mechanism and the Clean Technology Fund; managed regional seas programs (METAP), and international waters programs (Nile Basin Initiative, Red-Dead project, Mekong regional project). In the past three years he has been a member of the APEC Experts Panel on Green Finance, Rockefeller Foundation's Panel for promoting urban resilience in Asian cities, and managed the region's large programs of disaster risk management, energy efficiency, green transport and sustainable water management.

Before joining the World Bank he was a member of the Indian Administrative Service for sixteen years, during which time he gained valuable experience in development administration, including a term as Secretary of the Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority.

Dr. Jagannathan holds a PhD in Economics from Boston University, and blends a unique combination of operational experience, substantive knowledge and excellent client relationship skills developed through

decade's long engagements with policy makers and project staff in over twenty five developing countries, multilateral and bilateral development organizations.

---

## WORK EXPERIENCE

---

### **2013-Current: Secretary General, CITYNET**

- Responsible for managing the CITYNET Secretariat, based in Seoul and Yokohama for promoting sustainable urbanization in cities of the Asia-Pacific region among its approximately 130 members and facing common problems of infrastructure and housing deficits, urban poverty and urban environmental challenges.

### **2013-Current: Consultant, World Bank, Green Climate Fund and International Center for Biosaline Agriculture**

- Consultant on a variety of development issues relating to urban water supply in the Philippines (World Bank), Water resources and marginal lands (ICBA), green finance (ICBA), rural sanitation (World Bank).

### **2012- Current: Senior Fellow, World Resources Institute**

- Leads the development of the sustainable urbanization platform that the World Resources Institute, a leading think tank based in Washington DC. He also represented WRI in a special policy study on "Good City Models for Ecological Civilizations" commissioned by the China Council on Climate and International Economic Development (CCICED) in 2014.

### **2009-2012- Sector Manager (Infrastructure), East Asia & Pacific Region, World Bank**

- Led the Washington based staff working on projects and programs in water, energy, transport, urban development and infrastructure financing in one of the largest programs of the Bank (average annual lending is about \$5-6 billion a year), which covers China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Thailand, Philippines, Cambodia, Laos, Mongolia, Timor leste, and the island nations of the Pacific ocean). Member of Expert Panel on Green Finance established by APEC, Rockefeller Foundation's Experts Panel on urban resilience in Asian Cities and the Executive Committee of City Net, a network of Asian cities.

### **2003-2009: Sector Manager (Water, Environment), Middle East & North Africa region, World Bank**

- Led the World Bank engagement in the most water stressed region of the world (Saudi Arabia, Yemen, southern Egypt), and also in countries with greatest conflicts in water resource use (Iraq, Israel, Palestine and Yemen). He also managed the Mediterranean Technical Assistance Program (METAP), Nile Basin Initiative and the Red Sea –Dead Sea Project.

### **1996-2003: Lead Water & Sanitation Specialist, East Asia & Pacific Region, World Bank**

- Led the World Bank water and sanitation project and policy work in the Philippines, Indonesia, Thailand and Cambodia, which included leading the Bank team in the landmark privatization of Manila's Metropolitan Waterworks and Sewerage System (MWSS), and spectacular improvements in performance of the Phnom Penh Water Supply Authority.

### **1991-1995: Senior Water and Sanitation Specialist, Transport, Water and Urban Development Department, World Bank**

- Engaged in operationalizing what was at that time a 'new' World Bank water policy that focused on demand orientation and service management at the lowest appropriate level in World Bank policies and programs in Asia, Africa and Latin America

### **1988-1990: Consultant, Environment Department**

- Worked in the newly created Environment Department, developing policies for the newly established Montreal Protocol, and undertaking analytical work on poverty-environment linkages.

### **1986-1988: Secretary, Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority**

- Responsible for urban development in what was at that time India's largest metropolitan area. Responsibilities included managing 5000 staff, \$300 million Calcutta Urban Development Project funded by World Bank, and \$100 million Ganga Action Plan for cleaning up the river Ganges in the Calcutta metropolitan area.

### **1980-1985: PhD student at Boston University**

- Awarded a Ford Foundation fellowship for professional training in economics. During this academic break also taught undergraduate courses at Boston University, and University of Massachusetts, Boston.

### **1972-1980:**

- Held several administrative positions in the Indian Administrative Service in rural and urban districts of West Bengal, India.

---

## **EDUCATION**

- PhD in ECONOMICS in 1985, Boston University. Dissertation on Informal Markets in Developing Countries recognized as "Outstanding Academic Dissertation of the Year" by the American Library Association and published by Oxford University Press, New York.
- Master of Arts in Political Economy in 1982, Boston University, specialization in regional economics, public sector economics and economic development theory
- Master of Arts in Economics in 1971. Delhi School of Economics, Delhi University, specialization in agricultural economics.

---

## **COUNTRY EXPERIENCE**

Has been engaged in infrastructure and environmental policy and project work in Brazil, China, Cambodia, Costa Rica, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Lebanon, Lao PDR, Korea, Mongolia, Morocco, Philippines, Thailand, Timor Leste, Tunisia, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen, Zambia, Palestine, Jordan, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates

---

## **RECENT SPEECHES**

- July 2013: Speaker at the Center for Urban Science and Progress (New York University)'s Seminar on the Promise of Urban Informatics.
- July 2012: Keynote Speaker on Smart Cities at the Annual Meeting of City Net in Surabaya, Indonesia
- January 2012: Resource Person at the ADB/ADBBI Conference on Climate Change and Green Asia in Jakarta
- December 2011: "Green Finance: Issues and Challenges", at the Asian Development Bank, Manila
- November 2011: "Smart Cities in Developing Countries" Keynote Speech at Citynet Annual Meeting, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- October 2011: Keynote Speech at Smart Cities Convention, Yokohama, Japan organized by Nikkei-BP and the city of Yokohama
- August 2011: Keynote speech on Green Growth at International Seminar organized by Thai Green Growth Organization, Bangkok

- June 2011: “Green Growth in East Asia: World Bank Perspectives”, APEC Senior Finance Ministry Officials’ Conference, Washington DC, organized by US Department of Treasury
- May 2011: “East Asian Experiences in Water Management” at Food and Agricultural Organization, Rome
- May 2011: “Monitoring Verification and Reporting Systems and Green Growth”; Seminar organized by Asian Development Bank to share World Bank, JBIC and ADB experiences
- March 2011: “Greening of Urban Transport: The East Asia Experience” Asia Pacific Energy Research Center’s Annual Meeting, Tokyo

## PUBLICATIONS

- 1/13: Forthcoming Sustainable Urbanization: Landscape Analysis World Resources Institute
- 1/12: Challenges of Smart Cities in Asia (forthcoming) in City net Magazine
- 4/09: Water in the Arab World: Management Perspectives and Challenges; World Bank, Washington DC edited with Ahmed Shawky and Alexander Kremer
- 1/08 “Making the Most of Scarcity”, Arab Water Council Journal, Amman
- 3/06 "Story of a Hiss" Water Supply issues in India, Economic and Political Weekly
- 4/01 “Are Water Policies Pro-Poor? Case Study from Philippines”, World Bank Economists Forum
- 4/99 “Use of Benchmarking in water supply”. Co-authored with W.Kingdom in Viewpoint World Bank
- 5/95 Water User Associations, Co-authored with Ruth Meinzen-Dick and Ashok Subramaniam, World Bank
- 5/90 Use of Geographical Information Systems in Economic Analysis, Discussion Paper of Environment Department, World Bank
- 9/89 Poverty-Environment Linkages: A Case Study. Discussion Paper of the Environment Department, World Bank
- 2/89 “Pavement Dwellers of Calcutta: Family Characteristics and Poverty Profile.” Co-authored with Animesh Haldar, Economic and Political Weekly
- 12/88 “Pavement Dwellers of Calcutta: Occupational Mobility and Remittances”, co-authored with Animesh Haldar in Economic and Political Weekly
- 11/88 “Corruption, Property Rights and Delivery Systems: A Rejoinder”, World Development
- 6/88 “Housing-Shelter Linkages: A Case Study of Pavement Dwellers of Calcutta, Economic Characteristics” co-authored with Animesh Haldar in Economic and Political Weekly
- 10/87 Informal Markets in Developing Countries: New York: Oxford University Press
- 3/87 “Planning New Towns: The Durgapur Experience”, in Economic and Political Weekly
- 12/86 “Economic Aspects of Calcutta’s Basic Development Plan,” Paper presented at 20 Years of the BDP: Calcutta Metropolitan Development Authority and National Institute of Urban Affairs
- 12/86 “Pattern of Expenditures in State Budgets: An exploratory Survey”, in Economic and Political Weekly
- 1/86 “Corruption, Property Rights and Delivery Systems, World Development
- 06/85 “Cooperatives in Agriculture, Institutional conditions for viability in Cooperatives” co-authored with Vijay Vyas in World Agriculture, T. Ogura Ed. Marubeni Press, Tokyo
- 6/74 The Bidi Industry of Murshidabad; Calcutta: Department of Labour, Government of West Bengal