

# Advancing Climate Finance and Energy Transition through Multidisciplinary Leadership

By Laurence Kwan  
Doctoral Candidate, International Business School of Scandinavia  
Co-Founder and Managing Director, ClimateCrafters Pte Ltd

The energy transition in Asia-Pacific (APAC) is a multidimensional challenge—technical, financial, regulatory, and geopolitical. For leaders driving this change, success demands not only sector-specific knowledge but the ability to synthesise insights across industries. My professional journey exemplifies this integrative approach. With over three decades of experience spanning defence engineering, desalination, electricity markets, renewable project development, and sustainable finance, I have dedicated my career to solving real-world problems with cross-sectoral rigour and vision.

Beginning as a Senior Naval Officer in the Republic of Singapore Navy, I developed a disciplined foundation in engineering, operations, and leadership. This experience shaped my approach to complex systems thinking and risk management. My subsequent roles in Hyflux, where I led operations in both domestic and international water treatment projects, further exposed me to the nexus of infrastructure, public utilities, and sustainable resource management. The transition into Singapore's energy markets—first through pioneering demand response at Diamond Energy and later through senior leadership at Sunseap and EDPR—marked a decisive pivot towards clean energy innovation.

In 2023, I co-founded ClimateCrafters Pte Ltd to bridge two persistent gaps in the APAC decarbonisation ecosystem: the lack of credible capital deployment pathways and the disconnect between climate ambition and project execution. At ClimateCrafters, we combine technical capability in renewable energy systems (solar PV, battery energy storage, microgrids) with structured financial advisory, supporting capital providers in deploying billions of dollars into viable, high-impact projects across the region.

My deep domain knowledge in energy markets and operational project delivery is complemented by strategic engagements with policymakers and investors. Notably, I have served as a Market Advisory Board Member for Singapore's Electricity Market and advised regional energy platforms such as Energy Risk Asia and Enlit Asia. These roles reinforce my belief that systemic energy transformation must be guided by practitioners who understand both the technical frontlines and the strategic levers of industry-wide change.

The decision to pursue a Doctorate in Business Administration (DBA) with the International Business School of Scandinavia (IBSS) is a natural extension of this

leadership trajectory. This doctoral journey will not only allow me to formalise and interrogate the interdisciplinary knowledge I've accumulated over the years—it will also equip me with a deeper analytical and academic foundation to influence policy, capital markets, and emerging ESG frameworks. I aim to contribute scholarly research that reflects industry realities while shaping the next generation of sustainable infrastructure finance.

Looking ahead, I envision a future where ClimateCrafters evolves into a leading platform for project-linked climate finance—bridging sovereign, institutional, and philanthropic capital with commercially viable decarbonisation ventures. The DBA programme will sharpen my research capabilities, elevate strategic thinking, and position me to lead this transformation with greater clarity and credibility.

In conclusion, climate transition is not just about deploying solar panels or issuing carbon credits. It is about orchestrating systems, capital, and people towards a shared vision of sustainability. My multidisciplinary career—from military engineering to energy markets and climate finance—uniquely positions me to navigate this complexity. Through the DBA programme, I am committed to advancing both academic knowledge and practical solutions that accelerate a low-carbon future in Asia and beyond.

# REFERENCES

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