

New officer at APO Secretariat

Arlene Donaire joined the Secretariat 1 November as the Information and Public Relations (IPR) Officer. A Filipino, Arlene served as deputy chief of USAID-funded programs in the Philippine energy and environment sectors for 10 years and before that as senior economist at the Philippine National Economic and Development Authority and chief strategic planner at the Philippine National Oil Company.



Photo courtesy of Gilbert Gutierrez, Foresight Digital Photography, Philippines

Arlene completed a Master's degree in Economics at the University of the Philippines (UP) and a Master's in Public Administration, with honors, at the Harvard Kennedy School. She studied PhD Economics at UP, specialized in resource economics at Auburn University in the USA as a Fulbright scholar, and received extensive training in environmental economics and project appraisal at Harvard.

Her IPR skills were acquired mainly from on-the-job training and experience in designing and managing information, education, and communication campaigns; developing and implementing government advocacy programs to secure stakeholder support for policy reforms; and serving as resource person in institution-building activities. With her combined academic and professional background and a positive attitude toward challenges, Arlene looks forward to contributing to enhancing the user value of the APO's knowledge products, expanding organizational reach and impact, and sustaining dynamism in the productivity movement. She also hopes to visit Japan's exquisite locales as she pursues her hobby of photography and gain a better appreciation of its rich culture.