



City of Miami Beach, 1700 Convention Center Drive, Miami Beach, FL 33139, www.miamibeachfl.gov

OFFICE OF MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS, Tel: 305.673.7575
Tonya Daniels, E-mail: tonyadaniels@miamibeachfl.gov
Melissa Berthier, E-mail: melissaberthier@miamibeachfl.gov

PRESS RELEASE

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Miami Beach Welcomes Fellow from Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative

*-- Hosting an Environmental Professional to Bring Skills and Strategies Learned
Back Home --*

Miami Beach, FL – As an international leader in climate change mitigation and adaptation, the City of Miami Beach will soon share its wealth of knowledge with a talented, young professional as part of the International City Manager’s Association (ICMA) Young Southeast Asian Leaders Initiative (YSEALI). The professional fellows program offers a coveted opportunity for community leaders from Southeast Asia to learn about environmental sustainability directly with counterparts in local government offices across the United States over the course of a month.

“I’m proud of our City staff for taking the initiative to host one of these ambitious young leaders, which may set the foundation for their future by enhancing their practical expertise, leadership skills and professional contacts to be able to address challenges and create new opportunities in their home communities,” expressed Mayor Dan Gelber.

Creating institutionalized long-term partnerships that support emerging leaders and their societies, the program works to inspire change in creating responsive, open and accountable governance in a fellow’s community.

“I look forward to having our first-ever visiting fellow, Jenny Rose Olfindo, shadow me and I’m excited to teach each other as we work closely on environmental, resiliency and urban planning projects,” shared Chief Resiliency Officer Susanne Torriente.

In her current position, Olfindo is primarily responsible for the design and development of national capability-building programs focused on disaster risk reduction and management, as well as climate change adaptation at Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services-National Community Driven Development Program (KALAHYAN-CIDSS-NCDDP) in the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD). She is also a licensed Environmental Planner completing her Master of Arts in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of the Philippines with experience in developing community-based, urban and regional planning frameworks for local governments.

Ofindo will be starting with the City this month through November 13, 2018.

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