

BIO  
**PORIE SAIKIA-EAPEN**

+1 917 302 1982

EMAIL: [porie.saikia-eapen@priaglobal.com](mailto:porie.saikia-eapen@priaglobal.com)

Ms. Porie Saikia-Eapen, based in New York City, consults as an independent strategic solution provider for a sustainable built environment internationally. She has developed and manages exclusive multinational business exchange forums in South Asia, the success of which has led to current developments of additional such forums in South America, Middle East, India and Africa.

Ms. Saikia-Eapen is currently contracted by UN to chair and manage the ITC's "Women in Trade" initiative – a Global Platform for Action on Sourcing from Women Vendors which aims to increase the share of corporate, government and institutional procurement secured by women vendors for the ultimate purpose of bringing greater economic benefit to women and their communities. ITC's Women and Trade Programme works with governments, the private sector and trade support institutions to bring greater economic benefit to women through increased participation in export trade.

Since 2008, Ms. Saikia-Eapen has been appointed as an "Expert Panelist, part of a national team of experienced practitioners and research specialists" by the Transportation Research Board (TRB) of the NCHRP. Sponsored by AASHTO & FHWA, and administered by TRB, her team managed the published *NCHRP Synthesis 402, Construction Manager-at-Risk Project Delivery for Highway Programs*, and is near completing **Project 10-85- A Guidebook for Construction Manager-at-Risk Contracting for Highway Project** which will define a process for implementing CMR delivery for highway projects at national transportation agencies.

Previously Ms. Saikia-Eapen served as the *Business Vice President & Area Manager* to the US based international firm of CH2M HILL for New York. Ms. Saikia-Eapen successfully established CH2MHILL from a sub-consultant role to a major competitor and a go to consultant in NY for the largest infrastructure agencies in NYC, widening the client base four fold and contributing to a tenfold increase of the firm's NY revenue in 5 years.

Ms. Saikia-Eapen served as the *Executive Director* of Asian University for Women Support Foundation, where her responsibilities entailed transferring the vision of a foundation for an International University for South Asian Women into a physical plant in Chittagong, Bangladesh, for disadvantaged and underprivileged women of South Asia. The foundation operated at both Chittagong, Bangladesh Project Office and Cambridge, Mass, Head Office.

As the *Chief Architect*, MTA- New York City Transit, she was responsible overseeing the design of NYC Transit projects. She managed an in-house staff of 80+ architects and designers providing design and architectural services for the MTA NYC Transit. In that capacity Ms. Saikia-Eapen successfully brought the architecture of NYC Transit to the forefront of the industry and championed the implementation of sustainability in design/construction/operation.

Ms. Saikia-Eapen has worked as a *senior executive* in construction management firms and as a designer and design manager for infrastructure and facility projects in New York City for private firms and government agencies. They include the LiRo Group, Vollmer Associates, NYC Department of Environmental Protection, and NYC Department of Design and Construction.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

*Sept 2012 to Present*

**Independent International Consultant** on Strategic Solutions for the Built Environment.

*July 2007 to August 2012*

**Business Vice President, Senior Client Service Manager & Area Manager** at CH2M HILL New York

*Dec 2006-August 2007*

**Independent Consultant** to the **Indian Ministry of Railways** with SGI India

*June 2006-Nov 2006*

**Executive Director** of Asian University for Women Support Foundation, Cambridge, Mass & Bangladesh.

*May 2003 to June 2006*

**Chief Architect**, MTA- New York City Transit, New York

*Jan. 1997 to May 2003*

**Senior Associate** at the LiRo Group, Syosset, New York

*Oct, 1990 to Oct. 1996,*

**Program Director**, NYC Department of Design and Construction, New York

*Prior to 1990*

**Architectural Designer and Project Coordinator** at NYC Department of Environmental Protection

**Architectural Designer**, Vollmer Associates (Stantec), Engineers, Architects & Planners, New York.

**Project Coordinator Facilities Management**, Rockefeller University for Scientific Research

## EDUCATION & LICENSURE

Master of Public Administration /MPA, New York University, New York, NY

Interior Design Certification, Parsons School of Design, New York, NY

Bachelor of Architecture/B. Arch, Maharaja Sayajirao University, India

Registered Architect/RA NY State, USA

Licensed Fellow of Chartered Institute of Buildings/FCIOB, UK

## BOARD POSITIONS and AFFILIATIONS

**Governor**, New York Building Foundation/NYBC

**Fellow and International Ambassador** for Americas, Chartered Institute of Buildings UK (CIOB)

**Chair**, UN ITC/Intracen International Forum for Women Entrepreneurs in the Built Environment

**Chair**, Council of Women's Organizations of the Built Environment at NY Building Congress.

**Trustee**, Beverly Willis Architectural Foundation for Women (BWAF)

**Founder/Director**, Tree of Life, PD Inc

**Director**, American Council of Engineering Companies (ACEC)

**Director**, International Construction Project Management Association (ICPMA)

**Co-Chair**, International Design & Construction Management Forum (IDCM Asia)

**Recording Secretary**, Women Builders Council (WBC)

**Advisory Board Member**, WTS (Women Transportation International)

**Past President, current advisory board member**, NY/NJ

**Past Director & International Chair**, CMAA (Construction Management Assoc. of America) National,

## AWARDS

2009 **Outstanding Women in Construction** from Women Builders Council, NY

2009 **Good Scout Honor Award** from Boy Scouts of America (transportation & construction).

2008 **Professional Achievement Award** from Society of Indo American Engineers & Architects

1989 **Design Excellence Award** from New York City Art Commission

2002 & 2006 **Individual Achievement Awards** from CMAA Metro NY/NJ

## KEY ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Ms. Saikia has had extensive experience in transit planning in as well as master plan development in the US and abroad and has been directly involved in some of the major transit projects of the last decade. They include the Fulton Transit Center, the Second Avenue Subway Line, 7 West Extension, South Ferry Terminal in NYC USA, Dwaraka Sector 21 TOD plan in New Delhi India, the Crossrail project in London UK. In addition she has worked on developing master plans for both public and private organizations including the NYC's Rikers Island and the Asian Womens University in Chittagong, Bangladesh

Established CH2MHILL as a top tier major competitor in NY region in 5 years, contributing to its \$50M rise in revenue in the region. Ms. Saikia-Eapen also led the team that introduced IPD (Integrated Project Delivery) for American Airlines & developed contracts & procedures for the first IPD projects in NYC transportation industry.

Conceptualized and executed the International Design and Construction Management Forum in Asia to promote east-west professional exchange. Since 2007, the Forum has grown to a major international round table for international construction management organizations. In 2012, Ms. Saikia-Eapen introduced a business exchange model between client and vendors that was acclaimed and well received by the industry.

Founded Tree of Life Professional Development, Inc. in 2007 with a goal to build capacity in the disciplines of the built environment through training, education and knowledge-sharing in distressed, developing, and disadvantaged communities. Training has been provided to Iraqi professionals in Iraq and USA through the Iraqi Engineers exchange Program.

Influenced the Bangladesh construction industry by introducing Design-Build & sustainable project delivery, receiving bids on target budget; Initiated reviews of use of Performance Bond with sureties in Bangladesh and of workers' health & safety, created apprenticeship and mentoring of women & young adults in construction trades, as well as inclusion of women in skilled labor force with the contracting community, while on the "Asian University for Women" project.

For MTA-NYC Transit, revamped the *Capital Program Management*'s Architectural design delivery to more accurately reflect budget priorities; established NYCT architecture as a player in the design community; directed and approved design of all of MTA's post 9/11 expansions and renovations of over \$18B (South Ferry Terminal Station, Fulton Street Transit Center, 7 West Extension, and Second Avenue Subway; and, managed the designation of sixty four (64) NYC Transit properties to the National Register of Historic Places.

Successfully managed the Federal Court Mandated programs for NYC Dept. of Design and Construction with a \$800M capital portfolio for Department of Correction that included new facilities, Permanent Power Distribution upgrade at Rikers Island, system wide Fire Life Safety Upgrade and Food Service program

Ms. Saikia-Eapen is a major advocate and spokesperson in the design and construction industry worldwide for transportation, sustainability and women in the industry in the US, Asia and Europe. She is committed to the proliferation of consistent professional standards throughout the industry, both in the developing and developed communities of the world, and is currently the CIOB Americas ambassador for promoting professional exchange in the Americas.

In October 2012, Ms. Saikia-Eapen initiated the establishment of the Council of Women's Organizations in the Built Environment for the New York Building Congress, a 90 year old New York construction industry organization committed to the construction industry. She was also appointed the Chair of this new Council.

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Mar. 2013: Invited to participate as a panelist at the 5th annual Women's Empowerment Principles event, *Inclusion: Strategy for Change* hosted by **United Nations Global Compact in NYC**.
- Nov. 2012: Conducted a UN workshop on Challenges in the Built Environment in **Mexico City**, Mexico
- Nov. 2012: Invited to speak on Infrastructure Solutions at the AFRICSEA conference in **Johannesburg**, South Africa
- Aug. 2012: Organized the first Five Asian Country Forum with Ministers of Infrastructure of **Laos, Cambodia, Vietnam, Myanmar, Thailand** for multinational companies.
- May 2012: Speaker at ICPMA Annual Conference in **Porto**, Portugal on Project Management Skills.
- Apr. 2012: Panelist at McGraw Hill's Ground Breaking Women in Construction Conference, **New York**
- Mar. 2012: Panelist at "Integrated Project Delivery- A Paradigm for Construction Success", **New York**
- Feb. 2012: Speaker at CIDB Conference in **Kuala Lumpur**, Malaysia on Mega Projects.
- Jan. 2012: Speaker at KIINKO/RAKLI Annual Conference in **Helsinki**, Finland on Urbanization.
- Oct. 2011: Speaker at CIOB **Kuala Lumpur**, Malaysia International Conference on Construction Logistics.
- Sept. & Oct. 2011: Presented "Mega Projects Delivery for" at **Finland** RE & Const. Leadership forum.
- Sept 2011: Panelist at ITC/COFTEC International Women Executive's Forum in **Chongqing**, China.
- Apr 2011: Speaker at "Special Industry Leaders Roundtable on P3 delivery" in **NYC**.
- Jun 2010: Panelist - "Leadership Role of Women in Sustainable Development" at CIOB Congress in **Shanghai**, China
- Jun 2010: Presented on Urban Mobility at the ICPMA congress in **Istanbul**, Turkey
- May 2010: Presented "Coordinating Sustainable Construction: Lower Manhattan - A Case Study" at KIINKO – Finland Construction Institute's Future Leaders Program in **New York City**.
- May 2010: Speaker on "Sustainable Transit – Developing an Action Agenda" in **NYC**.
- Apr 2010: Panelist at McGraw Hill's Ground Breaking Women in Construction in **NYC**.
- Mar 2010: Speaker on **Urban Mobility for a Sustainable Growth at International Design & Construction Management Forum, Bangkok**, Thailand
- Mar 2009: Speaker on "Managing Public Sector Construction Projects" at International Design & Construction Management Exchange Forum, **Bangkok**, Thailand
- May 2008: Speaker at the 8th Annual International Construction Project Management Association Conference in **Dublin**, Ireland on "Construction Project Management of Urban Rail Systems.
- Mar 2008: Speaker/Panelist at the 2nd International Engineering & Construction Management Conference in **Bangkok** on "Coordinating Sustainable Construction".
- Jan 2008: Speaker addressing Urban Infrastructure at the North East India Development Summit hosted by CII (Confederate of Indian Industries), **India**.
- Oct 2007: Panelist at NY Society of Commercial Real Estate Woman on **NYC** Waterfront Development.
- May 2007: Speaker/Moderator on Sustainability and Public Transportation at CMAA Leadership Conference in **Las Vegas**, Nevada.
- Feb 2007: Speaker on "Sustainable Design & Construction" at the 1st Intl. Eng. & CM Conf. in **Phuket**.
- Oct. 2006: Speaker on "Designing, Building and Operating in A Sustainable World" at the 5<sup>th</sup> ICPMU & CIOB Int. Conference in **Ascot, England**.
- Jun 2006: Speaker on "Transit Architecture" at the AIA Conference in **Los Angeles**.
- May 2006: Speaker & Panelist on "Construction Risk Management" at CMAA Conf. in **Philadelphia**.
- May 2006: Speaker on "Sustainable Cities" at the 5<sup>th</sup> ICPMA (International Construction Project Management Association) Conference in **Bern**, Switzerland.
- Oct 2005: Presented on "Urban Growth" at 7<sup>th</sup> World Congress for Council of Tall Buildings in **NYC**
- Sept. 2005: Speaker on "Mass Transit & Sustainability" at the 11<sup>th</sup> Intl. Green Building Council in **New Delhi**, India

## SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS

- Jul 2005: Keynote speaker on “Transit Architecture-NYC” at Government sponsored Transit Forum in **Moscow, Russia**
- Mar 2005: Keynote speaker on “Risk Management” at the 4<sup>th</sup> Intl. Const. Project Management Conference in **Seoul, Korea**
- Feb 2005: Speaker at the Dean’s Distinguished Lecture Series at **University of Notre Dame** Engineering School on “Architecture & Engineering of Mass Transportation”, **Indiana**
- Feb, 2005: Keynote Speaker at Society of Women Engineers’ 2005 Regional Conference in **Indiana**.
- Feb, 2005: Keynote Speaker at **Chi Epsilon** Honor Society’s Regional Conclave of 2005 in Indiana.
- Oct 2004: Speaker at the AIA NY on “Collaboration Underground” in **New York City**.
- Oct 2003: Speaker at AIANY on “Transit Architecture & Lower Manhattan Transit work **Post 9-11**”.
- Interviewed as 1 of 50 women nationally at **US National Science Foundation’s** - on Women in Science and Technology Forum - a program broadcasted nationwide to empower young women, in 2002
- Participated in International Conference 2002 on Advancement of Design, Construction, Construction Management & Maintenance of Building Structures in **Bali, Indonesia**.
- 2000 through 2006: Speaker at various International and US based construction and transportation Organizations, on challenges of the construction industry, Transit Design and Architecture (**Dublin, Mexico City, Delhi, London, Buenos Aires, Seoul**).
- 2000-present: Guest lecturer at graduate/undergraduate programs on “Design and Construction Management” at New York University, Columbia University and Polytechnic University in **New York**; Hanyang University & University of Seoul in **Seoul**, and at various Rotary Club events for students in **India**.