

## International Conference on Innovation, Technology Transfer and Cooperation for Addressing Climate Change

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United Nations Conference Centre (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand and Online

*Organized by*

Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the  
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

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### Background

Technology plays a critical role in addressing the challenges of climate change through reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building resilience to the impacts. More than 50 percent of the population of Asia-Pacific live in cities and the region's urban population exceeded 2.3 billion in 2019, accounting for 54 percent of the overall global urban population.<sup>1</sup> In the Asia Pacific region, the projected urbanization rate is 64%. The region already contains 20 of the world's 33 megacities which will likely increase to 27 by the year 2030<sup>2</sup>. Cities in the Asia-Pacific therefore need to be the primary focus of the transition to climate technologies and resilience.

Cities and urban centers in the Asia-Pacific are now at the forefront of adopting smart city plans and implementing new technologies to manage city services. Digital and fourth industrial revolution (4IR) technologies are transforming the way cities are growing and being managed. However, there are challenges and limitations in large-scale use of such technologies in many cities of the region. Inclusive planning integrating emerging technologies at local, municipal and national level have become imperative for climate change mitigation and adaptation in cities. In this light, it is essential to create enabling policies and viable business models to promote innovations and transfer of technologies for building sustainable cities.

Developing capacities of city governments and sharing of good practices in transition to renewable energy for power and transportation, information and communication technology, and developing climate resilience through climate action plans is important. Multi-stakeholder partnerships between governments, civil society, and private sector organizations, and strengthened regional cooperation are critical to support sustainable urban development in the Asia-Pacific. This International Conference is envisaged to facilitate sharing of technical and institutional experiences on the complex policy and technology issues around urban climate resilience and sustainability and explore possible strategies and pathways to promote technology cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region.

### Objectives

- Explore and learn from good practices in scaling up innovative technologies on renewable energy, low carbon transport and disaster risk reduction including 4IR technologies for building sustainable cities.
- Enhance knowledge on enabling policies and mechanisms to accelerate innovations for climate change mitigation and adaptation in cities.
- Provide policy recommendations to strengthen regional cooperation for adoption of technologies for climate change mitigation and adaptation in cities.

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.unescap.org/our-work/environment-development/urban-development>

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.adb.org/sites/default/files/publication/705086/100-climate-actions-cities-asia-pacific.pdf>

**Target Audience**

Participants will include Government officials, city administrators, representatives of international organizations, R&D institutions and private sector, and other relevant stakeholders involved in urban governance, innovations and technologies related to climate change mitigation and adaptation.