

Advancing Climate Action and Resilience of Cities in the Asia-Pacific Region **Renewable energy and Air pollution control**

30 March 2023, UNCC, Bangkok (10:30-11:15 hrs Thailand Time GMT+7)

[Side event of 10th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD), 27-31 March 2023]

Jointly 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)

And

Sustainable Urban Development Section (SUDS), ESCAP

Concept note

Background

The Asia-Pacific region is experiencing rapid urbanization and its cities already consume 80% of the region's total energy while contributing to 75% of its carbon emissions.¹ With growing challenges due to climate change, the region's cities will need to accelerate climate actions in multiple sectors such as renewable energy, transport, energy efficiency, waste management, and climate resilience. The cities will need to design and implement city-level initiatives supported by innovative technology solutions for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and building climate resilience, while delivering economic, environmental, health, and social co-benefits.

In the context of advancing climate action and resilience of cities in the Asia-Pacific, the side event will focus on two areas of discussion – a) Renewable energy technology applications, and b) Air pollution control technologies. The first panelist will provide insights into innovative and affordable renewable energy technology solutions in the urban space. The second panelist will discuss the role of innovative and emerging technologies for air pollution control in cities with focus on construction and transport sectors. The initial presentations by the panelists will be followed by an interactive discussion and conclusions from the panelists.

Objectives

The event aims at contributing to the outcomes of APFSD through 1) exploring innovative technology solutions in renewable energy and air pollution control in cities, and 2) providing recommendations on accelerated action in the two sectors for making the cities climate resilient.

Participants

The side event will be of interest to policymakers, and other relevant stakeholders involved in urban governance, renewable energy applications and city air pollution control in the Asia Pacific region, as well as to the experts in the field of climate resilient cities.

¹ <https://www.adb.org/news/features/asias-booming-cities-most-risk-climate-change>

PROGRAMME

Date: 30 March 2023 | Time: 10:30–11:15 hrs (Thailand Time GMT+7)

| Time | Speaker |
|----------------------------------|--|
| 10:30-10:35 | Welcome remarks Ms. Preeti Soni, Head, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Mr. Curt Garrigan, Chief of Sustainable Urban Development Section (SUDS), Environment and Development Division, ESCAP |
| 10:35-10:55 (10 minutes each) | Moderator: Ms. Preeti Soni, Head, APCTT Presentations: Innovative and affordable technologies for renewable energy transition in the urban space Prof. Sivanappan Kumar, Faculty of Engineering, Naresuan University, Thailand Innovative and emerging technologies for air pollution control in cities Dr. Ekbordin Winijkul, Associate Professor and Head of EECC Department, Environmental Engineering Management, Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Change, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand |
| 10:55-11:15 | Panel discussion: Accelerated actions for climate resilient cities – renewable energy and air pollution control technologies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Prof. Sivanappan Kumar, Faculty of Engineering, Naresuan University, Thailand• Dr. Ekbordin Winijkul, Asian Institute of Technology, Thailand• Open discussion• Closing remarks by Ms. Preeti Soni, Head, APCTT |