“Building Links: Youth Partnerships for Impactful Action on SDGs”

Side Event: 10th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development
Date & Time: March 30, 17:15-18:30, GMT+7
Meeting Link: https://ifmsa.zoom.us/j/81043180071

Organizer(s)
● International Forestry Students Association (IFSA)
● International Federation of Medical Students’ Association (IFMSA)

Co-organizer(s)
N/A

Registration
To register for this virtual side event, please use the following link:
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSezfpMi3KPjJR7f1_Osx2p5WmQ8CHuf-b9TRt5bOS2F-498Q/viewform

Background
With the goal of 2030 to achieve SDGs, tracking their progress and discussing strategies to move into new directions is necessary - and the involvement of youth is critical in this process. This virtual side event will proceed in a story-telling format with speakers from various youth-led partner UN organisations on the topic: Youth contribution to the SDG targets from the Asia-Pacific countries, titled “Building Links: Youth Partnerships for Impactful Action on SDGs.”

Asia-Pacific has several geographic and cultural similarities which also translates into the efforts towards the SDGs and the setbacks faced during COVID times.
IFSA and IFMSA have been a consistent part of SDG development, giving a platform to youth in the tracking and decision-making of the international policy sector, which aligns with SDG 17 target of cultivating partnership for the goals.

The event will proceed in a storytelling format where speakers from various youth-led organizations share their journey and role towards implementation of SDGs, with a focus on SDGs 6,7,9,11 with an aim to enhance the knowledge and capacity of on-ground youth projects conducted by students and youth; and build network/linkages for the participants.

Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:
1. How do you think youth organisations and partnerships amongst them can accelerate the achievement of the SDGs?
2. How did these projects build from scratch? including participation, support and funding from organisations and partners.
3. What steps can UN bodies and intergovernmental agencies take to make partnerships with youth organisations meaningful, sustainable and inclusive? How can they help empower youth to create impactful action?
4. What are ways to achieve youth partnerships that are effective and sustainable?

TOPIC-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS:
- What are some global youth organisations working with/along students for climate action?
- What are some lacunae specific to APAC which obstruct youth projects and participation?
- How are youth coming together to tackle health related SDGs to drive post-pandemic recovery?
- How can youth partnerships elevate the engagement of the young people in achieving SDGs?

Outcome Draft: Bringing together a diverse youth panel, this side event aims to draw attention to the importance of fostering youth collaborations to accelerate progress towards SDGs. In doing so, it will clarify how to empower youth to form meaningful alliances to make sustainable impact during the COVID-19 recovery period in the Asia-Pacific, draw best practices from across the region together, and discuss pathways forward that can be suggested to policy makers, civil society, and other stakeholders. By
the conclusion of the session, participants should be able to highlight the inclusion of youth in SDG achievements and the importance of building active collaborations between them.

**Programme**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Speaker(s)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17:15 – 17:20</td>
<td>Introduction</td>
<td>2 Moderators (IFSA, IFMSA)</td>
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<td>17:20 – 17:30</td>
<td>Interactive session:</td>
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<td>● Word Cloud Brainstorm Session - via Slido/Mentimeter</td>
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<td>● ‘Before’ Group Picture</td>
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<td>17:30 – 18:18</td>
<td>Topic-Specific Questions (7 min each)</td>
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<td>Shi Sien Woon, IFMSA Regional Director for Asia-Pacific.</td>
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<td>Yifan Zhou, IPSF Chairperson of External Relations.</td>
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<td>All speakers + 2 moderators</td>
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<td>QA session: Open stage for audience questions</td>
<td>All speakers + 2 moderators</td>
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<td>Closing</td>
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*As a multi-stakeholder event, the APFSD Secretariat strongly encourages inclusion of multiple groups of stakeholders as panelists and speakers. If you would like suggestions or connections to potential representatives from constituencies of the Asia Pacific Regional CSOs Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM) or ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN) please contact us at escap-apfsd@un.org.*
For information, please contact Ms. Damya Srivastava, IPC Commissioner, IFSA at damya.srivastava@ifsa.net.