Background

In our rapidly globalizing world, the urgency and significance of achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 have never been more apparent. These goals, which include ending poverty, ensuring clean water and sanitation, promoting sustainable cities and communities, and combating climate change, are all interconnected. Goal 7, which focuses on ensuring access to affordable, reliable, sustainable, and modern energy for all, is pivotal in this context. The shift towards green energy and a just transformation is essential for achieving sustainable development on a global scale. Green energy, encompassing renewable sources like solar, wind, hydro, and geothermal power, holds immense promise in mitigating the adverse effects of climate change. By reducing greenhouse gas emissions and dependence on fossil fuels, green energy helps combat global warming and promotes environmental sustainability and resilience.

Moreover, transitioning towards green energy is not solely about environmental conservation but also about social justice and equity. A just transformation acknowledges the interconnectedness of ecological, social, and economic factors, striving to ensure that the benefits of sustainable development are accessible to all, particularly marginalized communities and future generations. Collaboration is not just beneficial; it’s crucial. Governments, businesses, civil society, and educational institutions must work together to advance the agenda of green energy and a just transformation. To this end, we are inviting students to join us for a global workshop focused on youth empowerment and spreading awareness. Together with APRU, ESCAP’s Subregional Office for South - East Asia is hosting a workshop on the green energy transition, featuring an expert panel engaging students and youth from across the Asia-Pacific region.

Workshop Objectives

1. **Ignite Global Citizenship**: Fostering discussions on global challenges, intercultural understanding, and critical thinking skills. Simultaneously, it provides students with a unique opportunity to witness global initiatives first-hand during their visit to ESCAP.

2. **Embrace Inclusivity**: Encourage participation from all students, irrespective of their background or knowledge level, fostering a welcoming and inclusive learning environment.

3. **Amplify Outreach**: Actively promote the blog competition to maximize participation and reach a wider audience. Extend this outreach strategy to include documenting and sharing experiences during their visit to ESCAP.
Expected Outcomes

1. **Empowered Knowledge**: Students will better understand renewable energy and its crucial role in sustainable development. Additionally, visiting ESCAP will broaden students' understanding of global initiatives and the role these organizations play in addressing international challenges. Develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills by analyzing challenges and opportunities associated with renewable energy adoption during the workshop.

2. **Effective Communicators**: Hone communication skills through collaborative group discussions, presentations, and blog writing activities within the workshop.

3. **Inspired Agents of Change**: Empowered by knowledge and skills gained in both the workshop and visit to ESCAP, the students will be motivated to advocate for renewable energy solutions and contribute to global initiatives in their communities.

4. **Connected Network**: Through the workshop website, blog competition, and interactions during their visit, students will connect with like-minded individuals, forming a global network for future collaboration on sustainability initiatives and international career pursuits.

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### Tentative Program

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>10.00 – 10.45</td>
<td><strong>Welcome Address</strong>&lt;br&gt;Professor Wilert Puriwat, D.Phil. (Oxon), Acting President, Chulalongkorn</td>
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<td><strong>Introduction</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah, Head, Subregional Office for South - East Asia ESCAP</td>
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<td><em>Introducing the workshop theme and objectives. Discuss the interconnectedness of the SDGs and the necessity of advancing all SDGs to achieve the 2030 Agenda.</em></td>
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<td><strong>Presentation of ESCAP’s activities and progress related to SDG 7.</strong>&lt;br&gt;Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah, Head, Subregional Office for South - East Asia ESCAP</td>
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<td><em>An overview of Energy Transition in the Asia-Pacific and how ESCAP is supporting countries to address the challenges and issues</em></td>
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<td>10.45 – 10.55</td>
<td><strong>Q&amp;A Session</strong>&lt;br&gt;<em>Interactive polls to allow students to address questions on the presentations</em></td>
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<td><strong>Coffee Break</strong></td>
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PANEL SESSION

A panel of experts representing diverse perspectives on climate action.

A moderator guides a discussion on different aspects of energy transition, highlighting challenges, opportunities, and solutions.

• Just Energy Transition and Youth Empowerment in Pacific and ASEAN: Savinda Ranathunga, Regional Youth Project Manager, UNDP

• Just Transition and Environmental Awareness among Youth Through Creative Media: Green Youth Thailand,  
  1- Natkritta Muaprakhon, Head of Administration  
  2- Pittayaporn Puttasin, Head of Content Writer

• Green Energy Transition and Electric Vehicles: Dr. Nitida Nakapreecha, Researcher, Chulalongkorn University

Moderator: Prim Rajasurang Wongkrasaemongkol, Youth Advocate

Open discussion

11.45 – 12.00

CLOSING

Recap and Takeaways

Ruhimat Soerakoesoemah, Head, Subregional Office for South - East Asia ESCAP

Closing Remark

David Quimbayo, Program Officer, Networks and Students Programs APRU