

ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT 2018

“Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies in Asia and the Pacific”

28-30 March 2018 | UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE CENTRE . BANGKOK, THAILAND

WEDNESDAY 28 March 2018

Integrated approach to ensure resource efficiency and transformative impact: the case of SDG 11 and SDG 12

Date: Wednesday, 28 March 2018

Venue: Conference Room 2, 2nd floor UNCC

Time: 12:00 – 13:30

Organizers: SWITCH-Asia SCP Facility together with Thailand, India, and Mongolia/ IGES/ APRSCP

Key Questions?

- Necessity of system approach for SDGs implementation; SCP as a “structuring framework” for the SDGs;
- Cities, a “recipient” for most of the SDGs in terms of implementation; governance challenges;
- Opportunities for effective transformation from a resource flow and use perspective in cities;
- Framing the needs and means for contributing to resource efficient and resilient cities through SCP.

Safeguarding indigenous resource management systems for sustainable and resilient societies

Date: Wednesday, 28 March 2018

Venue: Meeting Room G, 1st floor UNCC

Time: 12:00 – 13:30

Organizers: AIPP/IPs constituency, FAO, ILO (TBC) and ILC Asia (TBC)

Key Questions?

- How are indigenous peoples’ practicing their customary resource management systems in their respective countries?
- How are their customary resource management systems contributing to building sustainable and resilient societies, with particularly focus in achieving Goals 6, 7, 11, 12 and 15?
- What are the entry points for engagement and collaboration of indigenous communities with relevant UN agencies in protecting and promoting their customary resource management that contributes to sustainable development?

Why People Matter in Implementing the 2030 Agenda: Community best practices and lessons in building resilience towards the SDGs

Date: Wednesday, 28 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room H, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: AP-RCEM /APWLD / UNDP

Key Questions?

- What are the systemic barriers to achieve sustainable development and to have active, resilient societies that engage meaningfully in the sustainable development processes in local, national and regional and global level?
- What are the best practices of communities' and civil societies initiatives, campaigns that lead to structural change for development justice, i.e. adoption of progressive laws, new collaborations between civil societies with governments/UN agencies, etc.
- How are these best practices happened? What are the enabling environment needed for civil society and people's movement? What are the lesson learnt?

Launch of the Asia Pacific Faith-based Coalition for sustainable development (APFC)

Date: Wednesday, 28 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room F, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: World Vision International, ACT Alliance, Islamic Relief, Soka Gakkai International, Arigatou International, APSD Partners

Key Questions?

- Role of faith in making communities resilient and socially cohesive to achieve sustainable development
- How Faith Based Organizations (FBOs) can work together and address issues at the regional levels
- What will be the complimentary role FBOs to achieving sustainable development agenda in the region.
- How can various Faith Based Agencies coordinate their efforts and work with UN and Civil Society Organizations in addressing the common issues instead of working in isolation.

High Level Launch of the 2018 Annual Regional SDG Report under the ESCAP/ADB/UNDP Asia-Pacific SDG Partnership

Date: Wednesday, 28 March 2018
Venue: Cafeteria, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 18:15 – 19:30
Organizers: ESCAP / ADB / UNDP

THURSDAY 29 March 2018

Pacific Roadmap for Sustainable Development and Pacific SDG Report (2018)

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room A, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: UN ESCAP Pacific Office PIFS / SPC

Making cities resilient: for sustainable and resilient communities

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room F, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: UNISDR/ UNHABITAT/ICLEI/ UCLG/ SEEDs and Local Authorities from selected cities (in South and South-East Asia)

Key Questions?

- How does coherence across multiple international frameworks work at the local level?
- What are the city experiences in using tools, to establish baselines and gather profiles of risk and resilience building data and information? How do these inform the development of local strategies (Sendai Target E, and SDG Target 11.b.2)?
- What are the essential steps needed to successfully engage multi stakeholders for the implementation of SDG 11 and Sendai Framework at the local level in Asia and the Pacific?

Human rights and the 2030 Agenda: Unleash the potential of Goal 17's focus on partnerships and participation to promote human rights and the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Public Foyer, Ground Floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: Government of Denmark/ UNDG AP Human Rights Network/ OHCHR / DIHR / IPMG

Key Questions?

- What are the emerging experiences and good examples of partnerships and participation in establishing multi-stakeholder partnership to SDG-human rights implementation?
- How can human rights frame and guide partnerships to ensure that no one is left behind, including through collaboration around SDG and human rights monitoring, data collection and analysis among national partners?

- How can human rights contribute to ensuring an enabling environment to strengthen partnerships and meaningful participation of stakeholders in the implementation of the SDGs?
- What practical tools are available for supporting integrated approaches to human rights and SDG implementation and follow up?

EAEU sustainable development and its experience of the SDG implementation at sub regional level

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room E, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 13:00 – 14:00
Organizers: Eurasian Economic Commission

Key Questions?

- Presentation of the EEC Report on the SDG implementation by the EAEU Member States and Regional Economic Integration Impact;
- Presentation of the System of Integration Indicators (SII);
- Presentation of the EEC Report on Inclusive Growth of the EAEU Member States

Building Resilient Societies in the Face of Climate Change and Disasters: Experience with Participation and Partnerships from the Mountains and beyond

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room G, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 13:00 – 14:00
Organizers: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
 Nepal National Planning Commission (NPC), SIDA

Key Questions?

- What are the key principles of engagement and enabling factors in building resilience of mountain women and men?
- What are the challenges/barriers and how these can be overcome by multi-stakeholder participation to co-create and implement resilience building solutions?
- How can meaningful multi-level participation contribute to resilience building?

Empowering scientists in the Asia-Pacific region to support the SDGs

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room H, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 13:00 – 14:00
Organizers: Asian national science academies/ Association of Academies and Societies of Science in Asia (AASSA) Inter academy Partnership (IAP)

Key Questions?

- How can scientists/academics better play their part in supporting the implementation of the SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region?
- How can the science-policy interface be strengthened at national and regional levels?
- Where can science/academia help plug gaps in knowledge (the “evidence base”) for the regional implementation of the SDGs, including supporting follow-up and review of the SDGs, and monitoring processes?
- How can partnerships between policymakers and academia best support the implementation of the regional road map and 2030 agenda in the Asia-Pacific?

***Launch of: “Partnering for Sustainable Development:
Guidelines for Multi-stakeholder Partnerships to Implement the 2030 Agenda in Asia
and the Pacific”***

Date: Thursday, 29 March 2018
Venue: Theater, Ground Floor UNCC
Time: 17:15 – 18:30
Organizers: ESCAP / UNU - IAS

FRIDAY 30 March 2018

Accelerating the Transition Towards Low Carbon Development in North-East Asian Cities in the Context of SDGs

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room H, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 08:30 – 10:00
Organizers: ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, Innovative Green Development Program (iGDP)
What will be discussed?

Key Questions?

- What progress has made in transiting to low carbon development and achieving SDGs in cities?
- What kinds of institutional frameworks and policies are critical for the transition, and what are the barriers?
- What valuable experiences and lessons can be learned from existing synergies and trade-offs on sustainable development and low carbon development at the local level?

E-resilience, how ICT can enhance resilience

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room A, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 08:30 – 10:00
Organizers: ESCAP IDD

Key Questions?

- How ICT can help enhance resilience and societal transformation?
- How ICT can foster cross-sectoral collaboration at country level?
- How ICT can enhance cross-countries collaboration?

The role of Innovative Financial Instruments in Accelerating Deployment of Renewable Energy and Improving Energy Efficiency in Asia and the Pacific

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room F, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 08:30 – 10:00
Organizers: RCC Bangkok, UNFCCC/IGES, GIZ / UNEP / GIZ / SEI / AIT / UNDP

Key Questions?

- Role of the Green Climate Fund in accelerating innovation in clean energy technologies, energy efficiency and financial options;
- Clean technology research, development, testing and demonstration: how to increase and secure investment in energy research in developing and emerging economies;

- Innovative financing for renewable energy projects and risk mitigation mechanisms: loan guarantees, partial risk guarantees, partial credit guarantees, and other credit enhancement approaches and instruments intended to reduce project and investment risks;
- Renewable energy policy, projects and database management;
- Case Study on Accelerating Renewable Energy Deployment in Small Island Developing States (SIDS), A story from Fiji.

Leaving no one behind: what will it take?

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018

Venue: Engagement Space

Time: 08:30 – 09:30

Organizers: ODI

Key Questions?

- What do you understand to be the meaning of ‘leave no one behind’? How is ‘leave no one behind’ approached in your country in relation to Agenda 2030?
- Do the policies in your country tend to focus on building resilience of individuals and groups who are left behind?
- What are the key SDGs where work on leaving no one behind is focused for your country? What are the issues that are common to addressing these goals in your country?
- What are the key constraints to making faster progress on leaving no one behind in your country’s context?

Social Entrepreneurship: A Pathway for Transformation towards Sustainable and Resilient Societies

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018

Venue: Engagement Space

Time: 09:30 – 10:30

Organizers: Social and Community Enterprises Constituency of Asia-Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (AP-RCEM), Institute for Social Entrepreneurship in Asia

What will be discussed?

Key Questions?

- What are social enterprises/ social entrepreneurship?
- What are the various social entrepreneurship models in Asia-Pacific that are engaging the poor and marginalized as stakeholders in transformation towards resilient and sustainable societies?
- What are the features of a policy environment and ecosystem that would assist the process of enabling social enterprises and social entrepreneurship to contribute significantly to the acceleration and achievement of the SDGs?

Transforming Lives and Livelihoods through Grassroots Innovations: Creating an Enabling Environment for Sustainable and Resilient Communities through Multi Stakeholder Partnerships

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room E, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 10:00 – 11:00
Organizers: TISS / SI Drive

Key Questions?

- How can we look at development alternatives or alternatives to development, which is more people centric? Can Grassroots Innovations provide an answer?
- How do we understand the challenges, pedagogy and implementation pathway of transforming marginalities in the South Asian region?
- How do we understand, and Centre stage the concerns of local and marginalized communities at the grassroots to enable building of resilient and sustainable communities?
- How do we foster an enabling and innovative multi stakeholder partnerships for creating sustainable impact and transformative change with local communities?

Voluntary National Review – Learning Café

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Engagement Space
Time: 10:30 – 11:30
Organizers: ESCAP

Key Questions?

- Ongoing or planned national-level follow-up and review, and challenges;
- Processes and tools to facilitate preparation of VNRs;
- How to undertake meaningful stakeholder engagement in follow-up and review. Regional commonalities and lessons learned from VNR preparations undertaken so far

***The regional launch of the World Water Development Report 2018:
‘Nature-based solutions for Water’***

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Ground Floor, UNCC
Time: 10:30 – 11:30
Organizers: UNESCO Bangkok / ESCAP

Key Questions?

- How can we the water challenges using nature-based solution?
- What is the most impactful policy lever in the region to address the SDG 6 on water and sanitation for all to ensure improvement of human livelihoods and ecosystem health?

Partnerships on Online Platforms for Sustainable Development

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room A, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 11:00 – 12:30
Organizers: ESCAP TID

Key Questions?

- How can online platforms be leveraged to achieve the SDGs?
- What policies and programs are needed to realize the opportunity?

Participatory Approaches for Resilience – Ideas and Experiences from a Meeting of Regional Partners in the Asia-Pacific

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Engagement Space
Time: 11:30 – 12:30
Organizers: SIDA / Embassy of Sweden in Bangkok and The DO School

Key Questions?

- Decision-making which build or influence the resilience of people is often made without involvement of the people most affected - which is not sustainable. How can this be change so that the people affected are included in the decision-making processes?
- The Regional Workshop generated ideas, messages and commitments - how to takes these forward during the coming year and into the APFSD 2019?
- How to create multi-stakeholder partnerships for resilience (incl. the private sector)?

Towards resilient societies: Health and well-being of women and young people

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room F, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: UNFPA / Member State of ESCAP/ Regional CSOs

Key Questions?

- What are key factors of sustainability and resilience in relation to the health and well-being of women and young people?
- What are priorities to ensure that health systems are resilient and able to respond to the needs of women and young people?
- What are strategies for building resilience of women and young people in the context of natural disasters and emergencies?
- What types of investments in young people are necessary for resilience and sustained development gains?

CSO participation in the VNR process and Follow up Mechanism

Date: Friday, 30 March 2018
Venue: Meeting Room H, 1st floor UNCC
Time: 12:00 – 13:30
Organizers: Asia Development Alliance (ADA), TAP Network Partners, Asia Civil Society Partnership for Sustainable Development (APSD) Partners, Action for Sustainable Development (A4SD)

Key Questions?

- What is the role and scope of CSO engagement in the VNR process so far?
- Are the government of 2018 VNR reporting countries prepared to fulfil the principles of the UN DESA VNR Handbook, Revised Voluntary Guidelines regarding the role of civil society in this process?
- What can we learn from the civil society submissions on VNR reporting (discuss the VNR guidelines prepared by IFP, ADA and others)?
- Can UN ESCSAP provide online space for Civil society reports on its own website?