



APCW2021
Asia-Pacific Climate
Week 2021 Virtual Thematic Sessions
6-9 July Hosted by
 the Government of Japan

Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2021

Virtual Thematic Sessions
 6-9 July 2021

OUTPUT REPORT

6 August 2021

Hosted by:



In collaboration with global partners:



And regional partners:



Table of Contents

Overview of APCW 2021	4
TRACK 1: National actions and economy-wide approaches.....	6
Track Objectives.....	6
Key Takeaways	6
TRACK 2: Integrated approaches for climate-resilient development.....	10
Track Objectives.....	10
Key Takeaways	11
TRACK 3: Seizing transformation opportunities	13
Track Objectives.....	13
Key Takeaways	14
Affiliate Events	17
Side Events.....	18
Action Hub	18
COP 26 Presidency Events.....	18
Engagement	21
Moving Forward	21
Recognition	22
Organizing Partners.....	22
Event Partners.....	22
Collaborating Partners	23
Annexes.....	25
ANNEX A – Affiliate Events	25
ANNEX B – Side Events.....	32
ANNEX C – Action Hub Videos	59

The Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2021 (APCW 2021) Virtual Thematic Sessions were held on 6-9 July, hosted by the Government of Japan and organized collaboratively by core partners – UN Climate Change, UN Development Programme (UNDP), UN Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Bank Group. Regional partners include the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

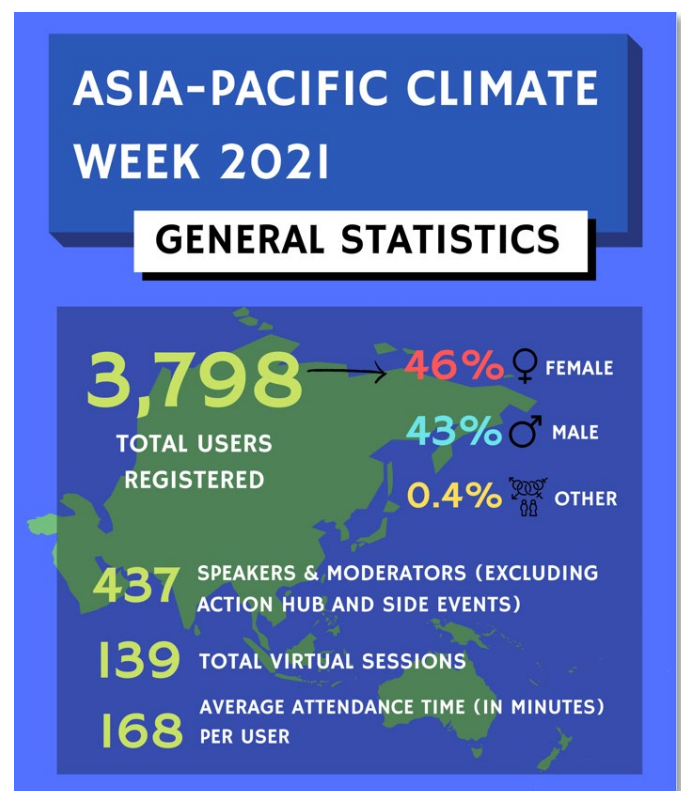
Due to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis, the APCW 2021 thematic sessions were held online. The virtual platform was provided by an independent contractor and featured different virtual ‘rooms’ where sessions were streamed live. Speakers in each session could interact with each other, while attendees watched and provided feedback through moderated chat. Registration was widely promoted by UN Climate Change and our partners, which provides some insights into the size and scope of the event.

- 3700+ registered participants representing 152 countries
- 437 speakers and moderators from 20 countries (not including speakers in Side Events or the Action Hub)
- 500+ organizations participated
- 87 events in the program, including:
 - 11 Affiliated Events
 - 7 Action Hub Videos
 - 69 Side Events

At the APCW 2021 opening ceremony, high-level speakers addressed attendees, highlighting the importance of regional collaboration and the opportunity of the four-day conference.

The event kicked off with a series of speeches, leading with remarks by H.E. Mr. Shinjiro Koizumi, Minister of the Environment of Japan. This was followed by remarks from leaders of all core and regional partners, in this order:

- Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Under-Secretary-General of the UN and Executive Secretary of UN ESCAP
- Dr. Bambang Susantono, Vice-President for Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development of the ADB
- Mr. Ovais Sarmad, Deputy Executive Secretary, UN Climate Change
- Ms. Kanni Wignaraja, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific, UNDP
- Ms. Victoria Kwakwa, Regional Vice-President, East Asia and Pacific, World Bank Group
- Ms. Dechen Tsering, Director, Asia and the Pacific Office, UNEP
- Professor Kazuhiko Takeuchi, President, IGES



After four days of discussion, a closing ceremony was held to officially end the Virtual Thematic Sessions. In the closing ceremony, key takeaways from each of the thematic track discussions were presented, along with takeaways from the UK initiatives. The key messages included in this report will be carried forward as the official outcomes of APCW 2021. The Week concluded with closing remarks by Ms. Keiko Segawa, Deputy Director General, Global Environment Bureau, Ministry of the Environment, Government of Japan.

Overview of APCW 2021

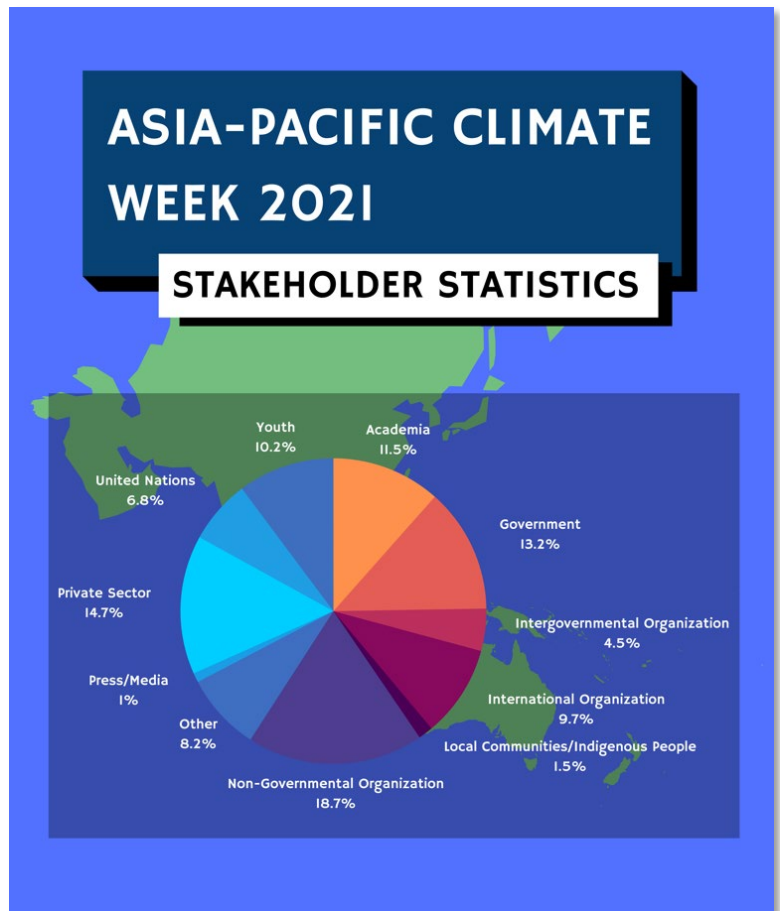
APCW 2021 should accelerate collaboration and integrate climate action into recovery from the global pandemic. The COVID-19 health crisis shows a need for resilience against emerging risks and collaboration to solve pressing challenges. Recovery opens opportunity to address social inequalities and invest in economic development that is good for humanity and nature.

APCW 2021 builds momentum towards COP 26 by bringing together regional stakeholders to:

- Showcase action that demonstrates momentum building for COP 26
- Track progress on submission of stronger NDCs
- Give info on the Race-To-Zero and Race-To-Resilience campaigns
- Offer stakeholders a way to have their voice heard in the UN Climate Change process

As part of the Regional Climate Weeks 2021, APCW 2021 includes:

- Virtual Regional Roundtables, March 2021 – The year kicked off with discussions to set priorities and needs in relation to three thematic tracks
- Virtual Thematic Sessions, 6-9 July 2021 – Held online in each region to take the pulse of climate action in the region, explore challenges and opportunities, and showcase solutions
- High-Level Sessions, October 2021 – Anticipated sessions bring regional considerations into COP26 preparations



A dedicated session at the APCW 2021 High-Level Event later this year ensures that APCW 2021 Thematic Session outcomes are captured and framed in the context of COP 26.

The Virtual Thematic Sessions are led by APCW 2021 core partners UNDP, UNEP and the World Bank Group. Sessions are organized around three thematic tracks agreed through collaboration among core partners. Each of the three tracks was designed to advance a crucial dialogue. The three track themes are:

1. *National actions and economy wide approaches* – Discussion on ambitious action in key sectors and how these actions can integrate in national planning and economic packages to enable COVID-19 recovery while supporting the Paris Agreement.
2. *Integrated approaches for climate-resilient development* – Collaboration to discuss the climate risks facing regions around the world, develop low-carbon solutions and seek partnerships for risk-based approaches to adaptation and resilience building.
3. *Seizing transformation opportunities* – A platform to explore breakthrough solutions to deliver climate action at a scale that puts the world on a low-emission and highly resilient development pathway.

The Virtual Thematic Sessions are the primary component of the APCW 2021 agenda. Each day of the conference featured four hours of Thematic Sessions for each track, led by the organizing partner and presented in collaboration with supporting organizations.

The outcomes of the Thematic Sessions are included in this report along with an overview of Affiliated Events, Side Events, Action Hub videos and COP 26 Presidency events that were part of the four-day Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2021.

TIME GMT+9	6 Tuesday			7 Wednesday			8 Thursday			9 Friday		
08:00-08:55	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		
09:00-09:55	OPENING CEREMONY			AFFILIATED EVENTS			AFFILIATED EVENTS			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		
10:00-10:55	OPENING CEREMONY			AFFILIATED EVENTS			AFFILIATED EVENTS			Side event/ affiliated event	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB	
11:00-11:55	TRACK 1 -Led by WBG- National actions and economy wide approaches: Long term planning and national commitments (NDCs, UPLZ09)	TRACK 2 -Led by UNDP- Reinforcing climate resilience through integrated climate solutions	TRACK 3 -Led by UNEP- Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Imagining 2050)	TRACK 1 -Led by WBG- National actions and economy wide approaches: Making peace with nature. From Ambition to Action on Advancing Ecosystem Restoration for Climate Action (title tbc)	TRACK 2 -Led by UNDP- Integrated support for acceleration of climate resilience: from assessment to the design and implementation of programmes	TRACK 3 -Led by UNEP- Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Imagining 2050)	TRACK 1 -Led by WBG- National actions and economy wide approaches: Aligning policy signals (title tbc)	TRACK 2 -Led by UNDP- Partnerships and collaboration for integrated and inclusive climate resilient development	TRACK 3 -Led by UNEP- Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Imagining 2050)	UK initiatives	UK initiatives	AFFILIATED EVENTS
12:00-12:55	National actions and economy wide approaches: Green recovery (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Nature based solutions. Practical steps for implementation (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Climate data and information – engaging all stakeholders on climate transparency and the ETF (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Finance)			
13:00-13:55	National actions and economy wide approaches: Green recovery (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Nature based solutions. Practical steps for implementation (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Climate data and information – engaging all stakeholders on climate transparency and the ETF (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Finance)			
14:00-14:55	National actions and economy wide approaches: Green recovery (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Urban environments (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Nature based solutions. Practical steps for implementation (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Sustainable energy (Finance)	National actions and economy wide approaches: Climate data and information – engaging all stakeholders on climate transparency and the ETF (title tbc)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Policies for behaviour change and technology development)	Transformative Opportunities: Transport and mobility (Finance)			
15:00-15:55	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		Side event/ affiliated event	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		Side event/ affiliated event	Key Takeaways from the Thematic Sessions		
16:00-17:00	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB			SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		Side event/ affiliated event	SIDE EVENTS / ACTION HUB		Side event/ affiliated event	Press conference		

This schedule gives an idea of the overall structure of APCW 2021. To see the schedule in more detail, please see [the APCW 2021 event schedule page](#).

TRACK 1: National actions and economy-wide approaches

Track organization was led by the World Bank. Six virtual sessions were held under this track and 820 participants joined.

Track Objectives

These sessions will help stakeholders better understand the cycle of the Paris Agreement – ambition of NDCs and LT-LEDS; implementation of action, including with support; and transparent reporting, including on progress and impact. Discussion will focus on long-term national planning and integrated national policymaking, including whole-of-government and society approaches, enhanced engagement of all stakeholders and the redirection of financial flows. Sessions will highlight ambitious action in key sectors, including nature-based solutions, and how these actions integrate in national planning and contribute to long-term climate ambition.

This track will help assess the best practices for society-wide and economy-wide approaches to cutting emissions and building resilience. Sessions will discuss how economic packages that enable recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic can also support the Paris goals. The impact of these approaches on other SDGs, in particular gender equality, decent work and reducing inequalities, will also be explored with an eye on finding synergies in response.

Key Takeaways

Day 1 – The day included a session on ‘long term planning and national commitments (NDCs, LTLEDS)’, followed by another on ‘green recovery and low carbon, climate resilient development’. Key takeaways include:

- Three countries from the region shared their experiences of enhancing NDCs.
 - Marshal Islands highlighted the important role of engaging civil society, especially local communities, in climate action.
 - Philippines highlighted the need for champions in the different key stakeholder groups for long-term support.
 - Fiji highlighted the importance of building resilience, integrating mitigation and adaptation policy and planning across different levels and sectors.
- UNESCAP and UN Women presented an Asia-Pacific 2050 net-zero pathway based on a joint regional study coming later this year. Key findings include:
 - Urgent regional climate action is required in the Asia-Pacific region to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and build on economic and social recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Level of ambition across the region measured by six different indicators varies widely and is not confined to high-income countries, some low-income countries are leading the way.
 - National level decarbonization is slower than it is for key sectors, and carbon pricing has unexplored potential to accelerate process.

- Vertical and horizontal coordination, low-carbon sectoral budget allocations and engagement of private sector capture benefits of integrated policy making.
- More efforts are required to strengthen engagement at the subnational and local levels, and for monitoring, reporting and verifying.
- UN Women's analysis shows that an increased level of commitment in terms of the gender mainstreaming in the NDCs can lead to enhanced climate ambition. Cambodia and the Philippines stands out.
- Overall, countries in the region at all levels of income, are investing in enabling factors that can increase confidence and lead to higher ambition.
- Cambodia and Indonesia gave an update on the status of their NDCs.
 - Cambodia emphasized that political commitments are important to success of NDC implementation, institutional arrangements clarify the roles and responsibilities of ministries to integrate different agendas including national development plan and gender into climate change.
 - Cambodia will try to include gender at sub-national development planning.
 - Indonesia to started to develop domestic financial instruments such as carbon pricing.
 - Indonesia also shared their experience establishing a gender taskforce at national and provincial levels. Gender can be included in NDC as a broad issue and addressed in adaptation and mitigation long-term strategy.
- Representatives from Vietnam and Armenia emphasized that enhancing inter-ministerial collaboration and improving policy coherence can ensure that economic recovery and climate strategy implementation are sustainable.
 - Requires breaking out of institutional silos and engaging with various ministries and stakeholders to maximize the impact.
- Representatives from Vietnam and Armenia emphasized that enhancing inter-ministerial collaboration and improving policy coherence can ensure that economic recovery and climate strategy implementation are sustainable.
 - This requires breaking out of institutional silos and engaging with various ministries and stakeholders to maximize the impact.
- Although modeling is important for long-term strategies (LTS), the process in developing an LTS is just as important.
 - One key challenge for countries to develop long-term strategies (LTS) is lack of available data/information for climate modelling.
 - Tonga stressed importance of robust participatory processes and partnerships (global and local) and acknowledged that different national circumstances should be factored into the LTS.
 - An LTS can be a useful tool in guiding COVID-19 economic recovery to guide short- and medium-term investment choices away from being locked into carbon-intensive development patterns.
 - A whole-of-government approach enhances synergy between recovery and LTS.
- Financing must complement planning and design of robust and appropriate climate and recovery strategies to be transformative.
 - Green finance can accelerate the development of green infrastructure during by COVID-19 recovery by facilitating green public funding.
 - Green finance can help create bankable projects, de-risk investments, and catalyze private capital, technologies and resources.

Day 2 – Two sessions were held, the first on ‘making peace with nature’ The second focused on ‘nature-based solutions’. Key takeaways include:

- Asia and the Pacific have history of success in ambitious ecosystem restoration and protection even in adverse circumstances.
 - Investing in ecosystem protection and restoration benefits people and livelihoods. Economic benefits are revealed as nature rebounds.
 - Strong understanding of change theory is needed to mobilize collective interest.
- Leadership is essential to realize the Paris Agreement vision and the SDGs.
 - Success depends on engagement of actors and stakeholders and cultural “rootedness” of initiatives – must align with positions of different actors.
 - A strong value (such as peace) can serve as a uniting factor, as in the Republic of Korea’s “Forests for Peace” initiative.
- Understanding the drivers of change, and the opportunities for livelihood enhancement can help define the right leverage points and appropriate nudges.
 - Local government commitments, public/private sector partnerships, space for marginalized stakeholders to participate and sustainable financing are all part of the solution.
- Making peace with nature means action across different fronts – restoring and protecting degraded landscapes and seascapes, restoring and creating city ecosystem functions, managing farm and food waste, and sustainable management of forest and other ecosystems.
 - It also means governance for peaceful conflict resolution – including putting in place protections for environmental defenders who risked their lives to protect nature and its socio-cultural value.
 - Knowledge can prompt policy action.
- Islands and coastal communities in Asia and Pacific face challenges and opportunities.
 - They are particularly vulnerable to climate impacts, pandemic exacerbated impacts on food security, economies, livelihoods and local ecosystems.
 - Many countries and communities in the region have already begun to design, implement, and integrate nature-based solutions.
- Addressing interlinked ecological/biodiversity, climate, and human wellbeing issues in an integrated, land-to-ocean and climate-responsive manner is vital for sustainable development of islands.
 - Building the capacity and resilience of local communities and empowering them to take action to shape their own futures should be at the heart of all climate adaptation and nature-based solutions.
 - We need to move from project-based to systems-based approaches that fully recognize and build upon the unique, holistic characteristics of island ecosystems and communities.
- The barriers to mainstreaming approaches of building with nature can largely be divided into three categories:
 - 1) Lack of knowledge, understanding and stakeholder capacity

- 2) Institutional barriers, such as the lack of clear agenda or opportunities for dialogue and translation of the concept into actionable messages
 - 3) Financial barriers
- Despite the benefits of building with nature, a significant investment gap in adaptation and natural capital persists.
 - Investment needs to scale up, including blended public/private finance.
 - We need to build knowledge, gather evidence, mobilize stakeholders, expand pilot projects, and establish unconventional partnerships to overcome barriers and mainstream building with nature in Asia.
- Nature-based solutions and building with nature are inclusive ways to invest in nature while building resilient societies and economies for a changing world.

Day 3 – The third day featured two sessions, with the first looked at ‘Aligning Policy to Enable a Green Recovery and Low Carbon Transition’, while the second explored “climate information, tracking progress and monitoring’. Key takeaways include:

- Carbon pricing is instrumental to help countries achieve climate goals and achieve ambitions while supporting low-carbon and climate resilient pathways.
 - Regional and international cooperation are important to implement carbon pricing policies, and instruments can resolve potential carbon leakage.
 - Revenues raised from carbon pricing have potential to increase level of economic activities and address inequality as part of green recovery.
 - Carbon pricing spurs green sector investment while progressing towards emissions targets and reducing air pollution.
 - Considering carbon pricing instruments should be carried out in the country local context, along with extensive stakeholder engagement early on to ensure buy-in, and as a part of broader policy packages such as green recovery.
 - Experience has shown that carbon pricing can result in emissions reduction from target facilities while local GDPs have been steadily increasing.
- Carbon trading must scale up but the question of how to do it does not have consensus.
 - The Taskforce on Scaling Voluntary Carbon Markets asks – ‘top down’ or the market-led ‘bottom up’?
 - Different angles – a legal and regulatory approach that creates an enabling environment vs. a ‘volume push’ with entities taking on risk to create the volume that leads to specialization and cost reductions.
- Need to push for ESG and co-benefits, valuing these unique project attributes and still generate a fungible marketplace – highlighting the importance of price.
- Finalization of the Rulebook on Article 6 at COP26 is important, and a deciding factor on an international carbon market.
 - An Article 6 decision will accelerate regional cooperation on market mechanisms.
- Carbon Pricing getting more dynamic with new entrants both at the sovereign level as well as the private sector levels.
 - Sovereigns could incorporate carbon pricing on key regulatory decisions, just as the private sector has been progressively doing.

- The markets in the APAC region are showing great promise.
 - Regional compliance markets interacting with each other and with the voluntary markets an interesting space to watch out for.
 - Supply side ease of transaction.
- Regional carbon markets rules and frameworks to be finalized and for operational mechanisms to be more robust to lend more confidence to market players and investors.
- Climate data/information and reporting requires a whole of government and even whole of country approach, including government actors, line ministries, sub-governments, private sector entities and other stakeholders.
- Non-Party stakeholders can become critical actors in climate transparency and ETF arrangements as they often have better quality data and information available – but climate transparency cannot become a burden.
- To engage a broad range of stakeholders into climate transparency activities, governments are critical actors to set up enabling environments.
 - Incentivize stakeholders to join in and contribute
 - Establish clear policy and regulatory frameworks
 - Allow stakeholders to start at capacity level and encourage/support to get better over time
 - Offer peer learning opportunity
 - Highlight benefits and showcase business cases for climate transparency
 - Provide access to resources
- Build capacity and institutional arrangements in governments and non-Party stakeholders now with support from the international community.

TRACK 2: Integrated approaches for climate-resilient development

Track organization was led by UNDP. Eleven virtual sessions were held under this track and 1,042 participants joined the discussions.

Track Objectives

This track will explore collaboration between all actors towards equitable, inclusive, locally-led climate resilience for development and the necessary climate policy foundation. In recent decades the Asia-Pacific region has had remarkable economic success, and at the same time widening inequalities and urbanization. Asia and the Pacific are among the most vulnerable region to climate impacts globally. Some populations in the region are particularly vulnerable, including a significant number of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities (IPLCs), including ethnic minority groups, female-headed households, youth, persons with disabilities and populations living in informal or inadequate housing. The need for climate change adaptation is widely recognized and momentum for action is gaining steam.

Based on the priorities and policy context of the Asia-Pacific region, the focus will be on preparing for scaled up implementation of NDCs, as well as NAPs and other climate risks management solutions on the ground, in an integrated and inclusive manner for maximum benefits to local communities across the region. To that end, this track will discuss climate

change adaptation and climate risk management for climate-resilient development while integrating adaptation co-benefits of mitigation efforts.

Sessions will share lessons learnt and experiences on implementation of actions across Asia and the Pacific regions, drawing on examples from a range of key sectors and a range of national, sub-national and local stakeholders.

Key Takeaways

Day 1 – The first day featured discussions on ‘reinforcing climate resilience through integrated climate solutions’. Key takeaways include:

- Successful implementation of NDCs and NAPs requires clear articulation of roles and responsibilities as well as close collaboration between national and sub-national levels. In order to foster locally led actions, tailored communication and participatory approaches are essential to the sustainability and viability of addressing multi-facet dimensions of vulnerability on the ground. For meaningful engagement, timelines and transparency are essential.
- Impacts of COVID-19 are delaying implementation of NDCs and NAPs. The narrowing of climate finance gaps will be important to accelerate necessary climate ambitions and green and resilient recovery.
- Jobs and livelihoods are an essential focus of inclusive climate action and to engage women and youth as economic actors.
- Evidence-based risk knowledge and management are the basis of sound climate actions and the public demand (64%) to address climate change as a global emergency is clear. Moving forward, policymakers should seek to ensure resilience through inclusivity and integrated processes and practices to build a social and economic resilient future for all.
- A new and improved framing of climate risk management, called the Pre-emptive Adaptation, Contingent Arrangement and Loss Acceptance Framework (PCL) resilience continuum, builds on inputs of society and local stakeholders to define intolerable risks, then to work out cost-effective ways to address them.
 - Tolerable risks are then managed through a mix of preemptive and contingency measures, based on cost-benefit analysis.
 - National adaptation plans (NAPs) as the central vehicle for adaptation planning and implementation should articulate this approach and consider a systems approach for coming up with a mix of pre-emptive and contingency risk management approaches.
- The artificial division between mitigation and adaptation is limiting how we develop and implement essential climate actions and transition to a holistic approach of climate actions.
- Just transition has to be further mainstreamed into the climate discourse at international, national and sub-national levels.
- With growing urbanization in the Asia-Pacific region, there is a growing need to accelerate city resilience.

- Environmental rights are human rights. We should promote rights-based approach to climate action.

Day 2 – Second day discussions on ‘integrated support for acceleration of climate resilience: from assessment to the design and implementation of programmes’. Key takeaways include:

- Nature-based Solutions (NbS) is not only green but a cost-effective solution to climate change and to achieve NDC targets. It is also well-poised to contribute to sustainable and green COVID-19 recovery.
 - While existing funding streams supporting this cost-effective solution are not sufficient to achieve results at scale, different funding streams from a combination of sources such as public, private, public-private partnerships both domestically and internationally that could finance NbS at scale are emerging.
 - NbS can often address both climate change mitigation and adaptation challenges in an integrated manner. It can also address biodiversity loss. This integrated nature is one reason to make NbS a cost-effective solution.
- Blue Economy offers both opportunities and challenges in the context of a changing climate and it is crucial to examine the inter-sectoral linkages and trade-offs.
 - Some ocean-based climate change mitigation and adaptation measures can grow the Blue Economy. A range of tools and approaches have been employed by different groups/ countries, including a cap & trade mechanism to manage fisheries; a Blue Carbon Offset Scheme to support conservation/ restoration activities in marine & coastal ecosystems; schemes, management and improvement plans for fisheries; and a focus on Integrated Coastal Management.
 - Unsustainable blue economy practices, on the other hand, may degrade marine and coastal ecosystems, which have been providing critical climate regulating services and resilience to coastal communities, leaving everyone more vulnerable to climate change.
- Climate resilience is crucial for sustainable food systems, and achieving it requires engagement from a wide range of actors comprising farmers, government, civil society, agri-businesses and research.
 - Countries in Asia and the Pacific are prioritizing and deploying innovative measures and strategies to promote resilient food systems and are highlighting these efforts as regional contributions to the UN Food system summit.
- Cities and local governments play a key role in building climate resilience in communities.
 - Scaling up collaborations and partnerships across different sectors, institutions, areas of expertise, governance levels, and building on good practices and solutions, are key factors to promote adaptation and resilience of communities.
 - Lack of access to predictable and sustained finance, lack of access to reliable climate data and low capacities to interpret them are among key barriers cities and local governments face to properly address climate change impacts and promote climate resilient communities.

- The COVID-19 pandemic offers opportunity for cities and local governments to mainstream climate resilience and green recovery into local and urban planning.

Day 3 – The final day discussion focused on ‘partnerships and collaboration for integrated and inclusive climate resilient development’. Key takeaways included:

- Knowledge exchange is essential to promote evidence-based climate actions at both local and national levels.
 - One of the keys to translating scientific knowledge smoothly and appropriately into practical, concrete climate actions is climate communication among experts, policymakers, and local people.
 - New technologies and tools should be well employed to enhance communication especially at local level.
- Climate budgeting and planning are essential for governments to address climate change effectively and efficiently, which is also playing an increasingly important role in leveraging international climate finance resources.
 - Strengthening climate change integrated decision-making will also lead to socially inclusive and gender-responsive climate-resilient development future.
 - Mainstreaming social inclusivity and gender equality into climate finance and action can ensure the effectiveness of climate finance, address root causes of inequalities, and unlock potential climate finance resources with social impacts.
- Climate Action must be inclusive.
 - Political will, policy reforms, male engagement and public awareness are key to provide space for diverse voices, and engagement, contributions and leadership of women and marginalized groups in climate action.
 - The long-term success of climate resilience is enhanced through fully engaging with women and marginalized groups.
- Investing in young people and giving them space to experiment, learn, and share can empower them to lead and mobilize for more climate actions and bring new innovative solutions to the table.

TRACK 3: Seizing transformation opportunities

Track organization led by UNEP. Nine virtual sessions were held under this track, with each thematic day featuring sessions on ‘Finance’, ‘Imagining 2050’ and ‘Policies for behaviour change and technology development’. A total of 922 participants joined.

Track Objectives

This track provides a platform to explore breakthrough solutions to deliver support and climate action at a scale that puts cities, sectors, countries, regions and the built environment on a low-emission and resilient development pathway. Discussions will focus on key economic sectors that need deep transformation and promote a speedy, healthy and sustainable recovery.

Related events under this track will enable an all-of-society approach to developing a common vision for the future in key sectors that promotes job creation and enhances human welfare. Track events will elaborate the policy and resource mobilization approaches needed today to achieve this future.

Key Takeaways

Day 1 – Urban Environment Day focuses on the challenges and opportunities that cities and the built environment will face regarding the climate crisis ahead, what the city of 2050 will look like, the importance of policy making for market and behavioural transformation, and on the business and finance market transformations.

- Cities and their built environment are at the frontlines of the fight against climate change and many cities in Asia-Pacific have set up ambitious decarbonization and clean energy targets with regulatory frameworks to sustain action.
 - Innovation can speed up the race to zero in cities. Leapfrogging is critical.
 - Cities need climate finance, infrastructure funds, and recovery investment.
- Initiatives to get global, national climate finance to cities and to transform traditional infrastructure finance to green finance exist.
 - Comprehensive, ambitious and verifiable climate action plans are critical for Race to Zero and Race to Resilience.
- Alignment with broader sustainability strategies and Voluntary Local Reviews ensures integrated and city-wide action, in line with national and local commitments to the SDGs and New Urban Agenda.
 - Climate policies should leave no one behind and not harm the urban poor – make cities more livable and work towards the SDGs.
 - Integrated adaptation and mitigation urban planning approaches needed.
- Nature-based solutions surged in popularity during the pandemic, with their need increasingly evident.
 - Nature absorbs carbon, builds flood resilience and provides sustainable livelihoods in urban settings. It can protect urban landscapes, improve walkability and overall quality of life.
- Initiatives and city networks – such as Race to Zero, Race to Resilience and GCoM – demonstrate its critical role of including a wide range of stakeholders and partners in urban transition efforts.
 - National governments need to set frameworks to support local climate action. Japan shows national announcements spark local action.
 - Importance of the building and construction industry, science and academia, professional associations, civil society and communities, as well as youth organizations, to reach the Paris Agreement goals.
- Vertical and horizontal integration is crucial.
 - Departments covering food, energy, transport, waste, businesses and buildings need to be involved in economy-wide solutions and sustainable planning.
 - National policy goals and action plans need to align vertically with state and city level policies and plans.
- Companies, developers, and entrepreneurs can provide solutions to address issues facing cities in the region – innovations need to be encouraged.

- MotionECO converts waste cooking oil into a fuel with a 90% lower carbon footprint than diesel.
 - Large developers like Lendlease design buildings with waste recycling (composting, maggot farms) and clean energy (biogas and solar) on-site.
- Awareness campaigns and circular economy behaviors are key. The role of youth in creating the momentum and asking for solutions is also key.
 - Cities can become their own agricultural fields and energy generators with circular economy business models.
- The building and construction sector is one of the largest contributors to GHG emissions and resource use in the region.
 - Introducing incentives for developers, for renovation, the adoption of minimum green standards for buildings and continued awareness raising are essential to achieve energy efficiency in buildings.
- Solutions exist and continue to be developed in the region.
 - Some technologies are capital intensive, but some are inexpensive and have a major impact – smart cooling and efficient, managed lighting.
- Public and private finance cooperation is crucial.
 - Public investors remain main source of urban climate finance – national and local government spending on urban transport and buildings.
- Asia-Pacific region presents many opportunities for urban climate finance, especially in light of the intensive urbanization happening in the region.
 - The largest proportion of urban climate finance worldwide is invested in east Asia and Pacific region, and mainly driven by China and urban transport and buildings investments.
 - Region holds 60% of total emerging market city investment opportunity
- Investment gap for urban climate projects remains, cities must urgently bridge it.
 - The State of Cities Climate Finance report estimates USD 384 billion global investment in urban climate finance, short of annual \$5T needed.
 - Significant gap in early-stage investment (needs vs funds available), as investors don't see climate mitigation as a fast-growing/high return sector.
- There is a need for innovative business models.
 - Globally, about 60% of buildings that will exist in 2050 are yet to be built, a great part of them in Asia. A whole life carbon approach is needed to avoid locking in further carbon into our buildings and ensuring future-proof built environments.
 - Time to think in terms of transformation and system thinking. Innovation, integrated system-thinking and partnerships are path to achieve our goals.

Day 2 – Sustainable Energy Day focuses on energy system transformation benchmarks to achieve the Paris Agreement towards a Just Energy Transition.

- Access to electricity expanded to 340 million more people between 2010 to 2018.
 - The installed capacity of renewables in the region reached 877 GW in 2019. In 2020, the new renewable capacity addition reached 82% of the total new installed capacity as compared to 73% in 2019.
 - 14 Pacific Island countries committed to decarbonize the energy sectors under the Paris Agreement.
- 27 countries in Asia-Pacific account for almost 94% of the global pipeline for coal-fired power plants under construction, planned or announced.

- This is incompatible with the Paris Agreement as seen in the [Coal Phase out and Energy Transition Pathways for Asia and the Pacific](#) report.
- Increasing trend of Asia-Pacific coal energy, with demand growing 2.5x from 2000 to 2019 (1.25M to 3M ktoe), primarily for electricity generation.
- Despite the COVID-19 pandemic there has been only a marginal drop in energy demand due to rise of energy intensive sectors, like data centres.
 - Alternative energy sources like solar, natural gas, hydrogen are crucial to reduce the strain on grid and shift towards clean energy.
 - International partnerships, encouraging cross border power system connectivity, collaborations amongst governments, private and civil societies are pivotal to decarbonizing sub-regions such as ASEAN.
 - Region is capable of rapid scale-up of innovation (e.g. floating solar PVs) and disruptive technologies in the renewables sector. These game changers can speed a fair transition for workers, enterprises and communities.
- The High-Level Dialogue on Energy [Theme Report on Energy Transition](#) fSDG7 recommendations include renewables scale-up and increasing energy efficiency.
 - Mainstreaming energy policies into economic, industrial, labor, educational, and social strategies which helps in long-term energy sector transformation.
 - Promoting R&D and increasing average annual energy efficiency gains (0.8% now to 3%) is essential to decarbonize the economy.
 - Affordability is key as technological innovations should be cost effective, better performing and environmentally friendly. Mass deployment should address social, policy, finance and business aspects.
- Fiscal policies and financial instruments are pivotal for the clean energy transition.
 - Blending impact and conventional investment, green bonds, carbon financing, portfolio guarantees address high upfront costs of renewables and efficiency.
- Regulatory reforms and capacity building that promote energy efficiency and other innovations help leverage the social and environmental benefits.

Day 3 – Transport and Mobility Day focuses on how to achieve a 2050 sustainable transport and mobility system and support efforts of transformation and increase the ambition of climate action, showcasing opportunities to improve urban transport and mobility systems.

- Asia has a positive story to tell despite having the fastest transport CO2 emissions growth rate. Governments have started “owning” climate change interventions in transport, with increased focus on Transport NDCs.
 - Transport NDCs are also being integrated into broader transport strategies and considers a more holistic approach to sustainable transport.
 - Transport impact on emissions is increasingly measured and considered by key government agencies.
- A decarbonized transport system by 2050 is one where public transport, cycling and walking, MAAS or shared taxis are commonplace with low or no emissions. A place where women and children can walk easily without fear for their safety.
- Technical and financial support for sustainable transport improvements are widely available. Key is commitment from local (and national) governments to make the decisions and implement solutions.
 - There is still a need to continue raise gender, equity, and inclusion in the planning and decision-making process.

- While recognition from international development institutions is increasing more actions needs to be made at national and city levels.
 - Need for horizontal and vertical cooperation between the public and private sector, local and national government.
 - Regional focus is crucial for a transition to build back better and foster regional cooperation.
- Multilateral coordination and a multidisciplinary approach between transport and other sectors such as health, environment and energy are essential.
- Pandemic shows we are capable of embracing new technology quickly. Technologies to decarbonize transport are there, we just need new approaches.
 - Building back better should include SDGs, no one should be left behind.
 - Social marketing crucial for behavior change in transport and mobility transition.
 - Better transport and mobility services information and communication systems crucial for transport optimization, decarbonization and behavioral changes.
- Sustainable mobility programs are crucial for policy implementation, sound financial mechanisms and market preparedness.
 - Mainstreaming behavior change, introducing low-carbon technology, de-risking these new technologies are all key for such a shift. Tech must be proven, practical and scalable to gain public acceptance.
 - A wide range of projects and assessments are being conducted by Multilateral Development Banks (EBRD, World Bank and ADB) to raise public and private financing for public transport (bus fleets, metro) and electric mobility (charging infrastructure, vehicle fleets, battery and components manufacturing).
- Still a significant gap in quantifying sustainable transport environmental benefits.
- There is a growing shift from investment in road infrastructure to urban transport and rail. However, funds leveraged for non-motorized transport still lag and remain complex.
- Coherent policy framework is key to attract and unlock financing.
 - For example, fuel and electricity policies are enabling factors for setting the right market structure and playing field for market operators.
 - Taxation, subsidies and incentives are all ways to drive demand and appetite for new vehicles and eventual market shift to clean mobility.

The complete set of Thematic Track Key Takeaways provided by track organizing partners is available to qualifying governments and organizations on request.

Affiliate Events

A series of Affiliate Events was open to core and regional partners. These sessions allow partners to convene region-specific events in the Regional Climate Weeks framework. This opens space for collaboration and coordinates action in the run-up to COP 26. Affiliate Events addressed issues such as achievements, new perspectives on the European Green Deal, sustainable post-COVID-19 recovery, progress made by countries in the region on just transition and the green jobs agenda, the promotion of public policies on climate change, and more.

A complete list of Affiliate Events is available in Annex A and [the APCW 2021 Affiliated Events schedule](#).

Side Events

Side Events opened another engagement opportunity at APCW 2021. Each session lasted one or two hours and covered critical issues aligned with the thematic tracks. These sessions offered a platform to share experiences and expertise.

There were 69 side events that used external platforms to host their events, which hinders accurate accounting of the number of total participants.

The 69 sessions convened organizations that addressed issues such as youth engagement in climate change, livestock and agriculture climate solutions, carbon neutrality and decarbonization, climate resilience, data use and transparency, development of renewable energies, and more.

A complete list of Side Events is available in Annex B and [the APCW 2021 Side Events schedule overview](#).

Action Hub

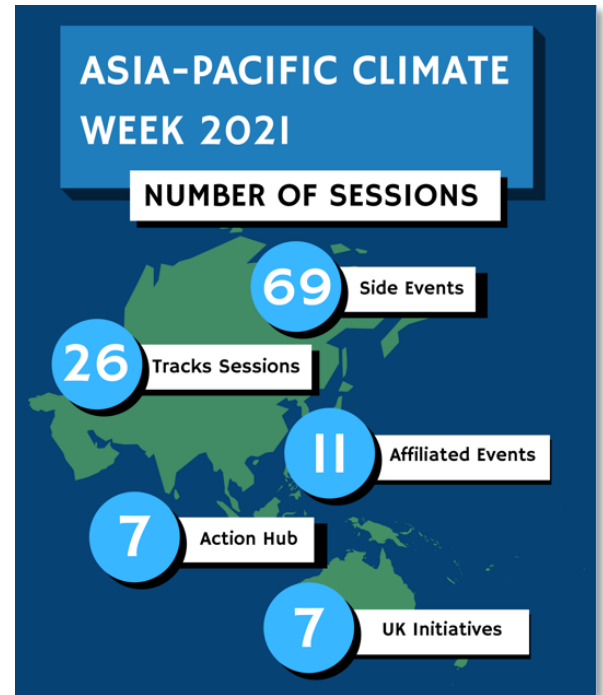
APCW 2021 featured an Action Hub with seven videos on climate change and solutions seen across the region and around the world. The Action Hub videos addressed topics such as building with nature to adapt to climate change, experiences from local climate action in the region, youth perspectives from Asia and the Pacific, the net-zero transition in India, regional collaboration to support climate-friendly development near the Betung Kerihun National Park on the border of Indonesia and Malaysia, and more.

Video details are found in Annex C and all videos are available to registered users on-demand at [the APCW 2021 conference site](#) with plans to move to a dedicated Action Hub in the future.

COP 26 Presidency Events

The COP 26 Presidency hosted a series of events reflecting the UK's four goals for COP 26 – mitigation, adaptation, mobilizing finance, and collaboration. These were fruitful conversations, ranging from crucial issues such as climate finance, transparency and reporting and exploratory sessions on carbon markets to sharing experiences on adaptation in the region and dialogues with Indigenous Peoples on leading nature-based solutions. A COP 26 logistics session provided information and an opportunity to ask questions about attending the conference.

COP26 Presidency Events are emerging as a COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action, a regional preparatory track for the crucial upcoming UN Climate Change conference in Glasgow. Key takeaways from the COP26 Presidency Events are included.



COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action – Opening Plenary

As the incoming COP26 Presidency, the UK is committed to better understand capacity building challenges faced by developing countries, particularly those most vulnerable to climate impacts. The Opening Plenary of the COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action heard from diverse speakers from across Asia and the Pacific region to discuss challenges and share lessons learned. Asia-Pacific is keen to engage and share their experience on capacity building and speakers were interested in continued involvement with the COP26 Catalyst.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action – Carbon Markets Participation

Many countries have signaled they intend to or will consider carbon markets to meet NDC targets. Many developing countries have also highlighted the need for capacity building support to take advantage of these opportunities. This session provided space to discuss available opportunities, including case studies where carbon market mechanisms have been developed, implemented or where they are being considered. The session also focused on what has worked and why in terms of capacity building and the barriers are to increasing participation.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action – Transparency & Reporting

This session introduced the COP26 Catalyst's work on transparency and reporting: outlining existing support, challenges and experiences from the region and beyond. Attendees were invited to share their views on capacity building and support challenges in this area and to suggest potential areas of focus for the COP26 Catalyst's work towards and beyond COP26.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action – Access to Finance

This session explored capacity building needs in relation to accessing climate finance to understand key challenges that Parties and partners have and learn from best practice examples. Discussions touched on capacity building experiences for access to finance within the region and more broadly, relevant examples at a global level. Partners emphasized the need for long-term approaches that build in-country capacity, co-create solutions with partners on the ground, and tailor capacity building support to funding proposals.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action – Adaptation Action

This session focused on preparing an Adaptation Communication (ADCOM) to the UNFCCC. Many countries are preparing their first ADCOM, and this was an opportunity for South-South peer learning to compare approaches and questions. Discussion explored how countries are leveraging existing adaptation planning such as NAPs, NDCs and National Communications to reduce reporting burdens and deliver well-coordinated approaches to adaptation.

Gender in National Adaptation Planning – Sharing best practice from Asia and the Pacific

This session brought together experts and policy makers in Asia and the Pacific to share best practice on how to integrate gender equality into national adaptation planning. Progress is being made across the region, but opportunities exist for further integration. The dialogue was collaborative and constructive, outlining tangible next steps that include:

- Conducting an initial gender analysis or stocktaking exercise
- Ensuring underrepresented voices are able to take part in all parts of the NAP process
- Establishing a means to track progress and share learning

Dialogue: Indigenous Leadership and Nature-based Solutions

The UK COP Presidency and International Indigenous Peoples Forum for Climate Change co-facilitated a second dialogue on Indigenous leadership and nature-based solutions. Indigenous Peoples are leaders in how to develop nature-based, resilient and effective solutions to climate change. Attendees heard Indigenous expertise and first-hand experiences by those living on the frontline of climate change.

Research and Innovation for COP26: Pathways to impact in Asia Pacific

The UK COP Presidency and the Science and Innovation Network in Malaysia led a session on pathways to impact for researchers and academics that featured academics from across Asia Pacific speaking on topics such as nature-based solutions, earth systems modelling and disaster prevention. These speakers gave valuable advice to participants on the science-policy interface, including examples of how to feed scientific evidence into decision making, through the IPCC, government advisory bodies and NGOs.

Global Goal on Adaptation Workshop

The UK and Chile held the second joint informal workshop on the Global Goal on Adaptation (GGA). Fruitful discussion brought together Parties, non-Party stakeholder and non-governmental organizations to discuss what needs to be agreed at COP26 and how progress on the GGA might be assessed at the Global Stocktake.

COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action and NDCP – Turning Higher NDC Ambition Into Action: Sharing of Good Practices

This UK COP Catalyst and NDC Partnership collaboration created a platform for capacity building in mitigation through the sharing of experience and best practices in NDC development and implementation from across the region. Participants from Nepal, Armenia and Pakistan took part in the discussion in a Q&A format, providing insight into different national contexts, and sharing engagement experience with key stakeholders to develop more ambitious NDCs.

Climate Ambition Alliance – Developing Long-Term Strategies to net zero in alignment with NDCs

This workshop was organized through collaboration by the UK COP26 Presidency, the Chilean COP25 Presidency, the High-Level Champions for Climate Action, the UN Development Programme and UN Climate Change under the 'Climate Ambition Alliance'. This is the broadest mitigation ambition alliance in the world, uniting Parties and non-party stakeholders representing over half of global GDP to work towards net zero CO₂ by 2050. This workshop discussed how to turn aspiration into implementation through Long Term Strategies aligned with nearer-term NDC targets and involvement of non-Party stakeholders in this effort.

Mobilising Finance for Climate Action in Asia Pacific

The session was an open dialogue on mobilizing private finance for climate ambition in the Asia Pacific region. The event was convened by COP 26 Regional Ambassador to Asia-Pacific and South Asia, Ken O'Flaherty, and the Under-Secretary General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of UNESCAP, Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana. It brought together ministers, multilateral development bank seniors and other regional actors to discuss mobilization of private capital for climate solutions in emerging markets and developing countries. As a priority for the COP26 Presidency, this discussion was valuable to ensure COP 26 supports scaling up private finance for countries to fund ambition and fulfil NDCs and national plans.

COP Logistics Overview

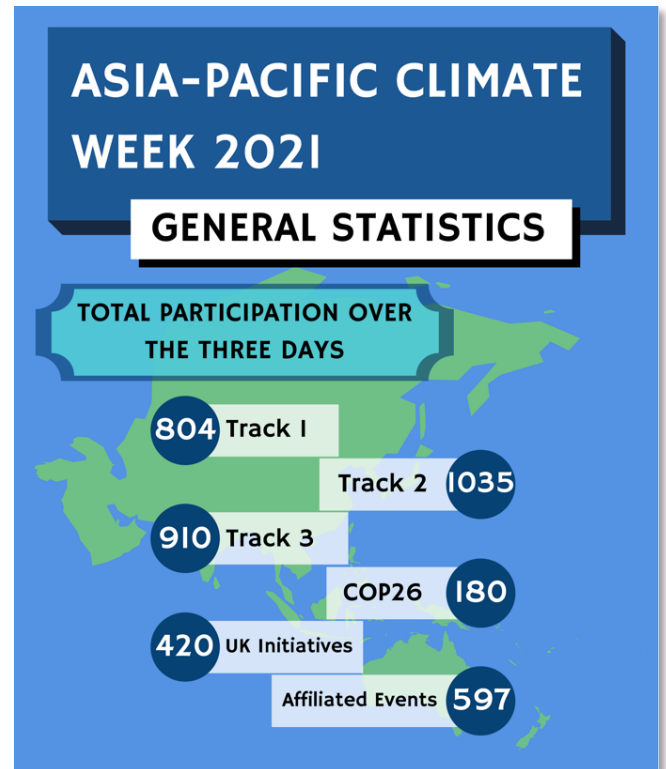
The session was led by members of the HMG COP26 Events Team and provided a high-level overview of logistics including venues, accreditation, accommodation, visas and transport. The presentation was followed by a short Q&A session.

COP 26 Presidency Events are found on the final day of [the APCW 2021 schedule overview](#).

Engagement

APCW 2021 was positioned as the key regional gathering to boost climate ambition and cooperation ahead of COP 26 in Glasgow. The online format and social media outreach enabled a global audience to easily engage in the conversation.

- The **opening ceremony** had **383 live views**
- The news article about the **registration opening** was a **top story** with **4.585 views**
- Three press releases distributed to 4,000+ journalists for **engagement in English, Spanish, French and Russian**
- A final **press conference** was held
- There were **42 mentions in online media** in English and two in Korean
- **Two articles were posted to the Climate Action Blog** showing regional action and highlighting the value of regional collaboration
- Twitter featured **4.2K tweets mentioning #ClimateWeekAP** from 7 June to 19 July 19 with **potential reach of 48M views**
- A **social media video** on Asia-Pacific opportunity for a green recovery was posted in **English, Spanish, French, and Russian** and received **+39K views** across platforms
- A **quote card** showcasing a youth climate activist from the AP region received **+77K impressions across Instagram and Facebook**
- An **Instagram quiz** composed of four questions posted in English received around **+13K views over a 24-hour period**



Moving Forward

The outputs of this event will be taken forward to the APCW 2021 High-Level Session scheduled in October 2021. Dedicated sessions will ensure the Virtual Thematic Session outcomes are captured and framed within the larger context of COP 26. The information in this report is presented as a record of the event and for Ministers to consider when shaping their country's participation in the climate talks.

The powerful potential of regional collaboration was on display during APCW 2021 discussions, which can inspire confidence at the COP 26 UN Climate Change Conference. It should also inspire confidence that the voice of the region is represented. This step towards COP 26 is only possible with the right people in the room. APCW 2021 convened diverse stakeholders to align action on climate change. This collaboration can be a catalyst for success at COP 26 and take us closer to achieving the vision laid out in the Paris Agreement.

Recognition

Thanks go all the partners who came together to contribute to a successful APCW 2021.

Organizing Partners

Hosted by:



Ministry of the Environment
Government of Japan

In collaboration with global partners:



WORLD BANK GROUP

And regional partners:



Event Partners

COP 25 Presidency of Chile
COP 26 Presidency of the United Kingdom
Climate Technology Centre and Network
Germany / Deutsche Gesellschaft für
Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GlobalABC
Marrakech Partnership
International Renewable Energy Agency

Ministry of Natural Resources and
Environment of the Socialist Republic of
Vietnam
Ministry of Environment, Forestry and
Climate Change Bangladesh
NDC Partnership
United Nations Office for Disaster Risk
Reduction

Collaborating Partners

Organisation of African, Caribbean and Pacific States
 Ouranos Consortium on Regional Climatology and Adaptation to Climate Change
 Adaptation Research Alliance
 Alliance for Global Water Adaptation
 Alliances for Climate Action
 Association of Southeast Asian Nations
 Asia LEDS Partnership
 Asian Institute of Technology
 Beijing Energy Network
 Better Futures Australia
 Bogor Agricultural University and Government of Indonesia
 C Team
 C40 Cities Climate Leadership Group
 Calamianes Resilience Network
 Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition
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 Ding Tai Co.
 Ecojesuit
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 Extreme Heat Resilience Alliance
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 FAO
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 Forest Foundation Philippines
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 Global Environment Facility
 Global Alliance for Climate-Smart Agriculture
 Global Citizen Capital
 Global Compact Network India & Malaysia
 Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate and Energy
 Global Green Growth Institute
 Global Network of Civil Societies for Disaster Reduction
 Global Resilience Partnership & Mercy Corps
 Global Wind Energy Council
 Greenhouse Gas Management Institute
 GreenID
 Health Care without Harm SE Asia
 ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability
 IFRC
 Indian Institute of Management of Ahmedabad
 ILO
 Infinite Solutions
 Initiative for Climate Action Transparency
 Instituto Superiore per la Protezione e la Ricerca Ambientale
 International Centre for Climate Change and Development
 International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development
 International Development Research Centre
 IEA
 International Council of Chemical Associations
 International Institute of Green Finance
 International Transport Forum
 International Tropical Timber Organization
 Bandung Institute of Technology
 IUCN
 Japan Climate Initiative
 KIDSforSDGs
 Korea Environment Institute
 LEDS Global Partnership
 Marcharh
 Mercy Corps Indonesia
 MGCY Migration Working Group
 Movers Program
 Munich Climate Insurance Initiative
 National Climate Centre of China
 National Council for Climate Change
 Sustainable Development of India
 National Institute of Urban Affairs
 NewClimate Institute
 Ocean Policy Research Institute of the Sasakawa Peace Foundation
 Open Geospatial Consortium

Oscar M. Lopez Center
 Pacific Community
 Pakistan Water Partnership
 Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials
 Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement
 Paris Committee on Capacity-building
 PEFC International
 Perspective Climate Group
 Practical Action
 Prakriti Resource Center
 PRC Global Pte. Ltd
 Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings
 Reachout Salone
 Reiner Lemoine Institute
 REN 21
 Resilient Cities Network
 Resilient Housing (Build Change)
 River Above Asia Oceania Ecclesial Network
 WFP India
 Rock Environment and Energy Institute
 S&P Global
 SD Strategies and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory
 Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation
 SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport
 Slumdwellers International
 SME Corp Malaysia
 Society for the Promotion of Area Resource Centers
 South Pole
 Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture
 SouthNorth
 Stockholm Environment Institute
 Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative
 Sustainable Rice Platform
 Swedish Energy Agency
 Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation
 Technical University of Denmark

The Climate Reality Project
 The Nature Conservancy
 Young Explorers' Institute for Social Service
 Transport Decarbonisation Alliance
 United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific
 UK Department of Environment
 UK National Centre for Atmospheric Science
 UN Global Compact Network Sri Lanka
 UN Race to Resilience
 UN Women
 UN Habitat
 UNEP DTU Partnership
 UNFPA Asia-Pacific Regional Office
 UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office
 UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia
 UN Capital Development Fund
 UNIDO
 United Cities and Local Governments Asia Pacific
 UNU Institute for Environment and Human Security
 USAID
 University of the Philippines Los Baños – School of Environmental Science and Management
 Vanke Foundation
 Vietnam Academy of Forest Sciences
 Water Resilience Coalition
 Wetlands International
 World Agroforestry Centre
 World Business Council for Sustainable Development
 World Farmers' Organization
 WFP
 World Future Council
 World Resource Institute
 WWF
 Yayasan Humanis dan Inovasi Sosial
 YOUNGO
 Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance
 #Data4BetterClimateAction

Annexes

ANNEX A – Affiliate Events

Affiliate Event #1

Title: Asia-Pacific and MENA Regional DNA Forum Meeting

Organization: UNFCCC, RCC Bangkok, RCC Dubai

Description:

The Regional DNA Forum is to provide opportunities for DNA representatives to exchange views, share their experiences relating to the CDM and bring forward common views and issues to the attention of the Executive Board. The 2021 edition will be focused on current situation of the CDM, expectations at COP26, experiences and opportunities in the AP MENA region.

Affiliate Event #2

Title: High-Level Champions Implementation Lab – Welcome + Climate Resilient Smallholder Agriculture and Industry breakouts

Organization: High-Level Champions, Marrakech Partnership, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH (GIZ), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and the Global Cement and Concrete Association (GCCA)

Description:

The aim of the Implementation Lab is to have an open and solutions-oriented exchange between national government representatives and non-Party stakeholders (e.g., businesses, cities, subnational regions, investors and civil society) from the region, whose areas of expertise can support countries in implementing their NDCs, NAPs and long-term strategies. Participants will be brought together around a single 'exam question' that seeks to understand how to drive implementation of specific sector transition and what are the key 'unlocks' required for this, using breadth of insight from the Marrakech Partnership Climate Action Pathways to facilitate the discussions. The two discussions hosted at the APCW are:

- Industry transition: How can the establishment of net-zero, resilient cement and steel plants be accelerated?
- Climate resilient smallholder agriculture: how can the climate resilience of small farmers be increased with smart agriculture innovations?

Key takeaways

On climate resilient agriculture, stakeholders from Fiji, Vanuatu, and Solomon Islands underlined the importance of agriculture as their main subsistence source and impacts of climate change to food security in the region.

- Climate-resilient agriculture innovations need to be prioritized to help smallholder farmers enhance their resilience and build sustainable livelihoods and building resilience should include farming techniques and passing on good practices to youth.
- On Industry transition, the Government of India, UltraTech Cement, JSW Steel (India), Siam Cement Group (Thailand), GCCA and Boston Consulting Group (China office) highlighted that the net-zero transition could be further accelerated by utilizing green hydrogen and CCUS technology; introducing cost subsidies; strengthening public-private

partnerships; setting standards across sectors, and steering production towards decarbonization by investors.

Affiliate Event #3

Title: CTCN NDE Asia-Pacific Forum 2021 on Accelerating Climate Action through Climate Technology Transfer

Organization: CTCN

Description:

The Climate Technology Centre and Network (CTCN), the operational arm of the UNFCCC Technology Mechanism, organizes annually Regional Forums for National Designated Entities (NDEs) as part of its mandate and as one of its activities. The Asia Pacific Forum will take place within the framework of the Regional Climate Weeks (APCW 2021) organized by the UNFCCC and its partners. This year, the CTCN has structure its regional Forums according to the five key themes of the Technology Framework: Innovation, Implementation, Enabling Environment, Collaboration and stakeholder engagement, and Support. The CTCN Forum and APCW will provide the opportunity to develop and strengthen the regional CTCN network and its relationship with other actors in the multilateral arena, learn about innovations in climate technologies that are a priority for the region, and identify financial opportunities for climate technologies.

Affiliate Event #4

Title: Harnessing Ocean Potential and Securing Sustainable Energy Access in the Asia Pacific

Organization: TEC

Description:

Oceans have vast renewable energy potential, which is largely untapped. Offshore renewables can contribute to the decarbonization of the power sector, ensuring energy security for small island developing countries (SIDS) and contributing to achieve the Paris agreement. In addition, offshore renewables are a key component of the blue economy, providing significant socio-economic opportunities through job creation, enhancing livelihood, local value chains and synergies among blue economy actors. Offshore renewable energy technologies include:

- Offshore wind
- Ocean energy: tidal, wave, ocean thermal and salinity gradient
- Floating PV on sea water

Among those technologies, this session will focus on two technologies:

Ocean energy technologies – Most are in development stage with different technology readiness level. Tidal range is the only technology that has reached commercial scale with two large installations in France and Republic of Korea. Various wave energy concepts are gaining attention however, its deployment is in demonstration and pilot phase.

Ocean thermal energy conversion (OTEC) is still in the research and development (R&D) phase. Kiribati is planning to deploy 1MW, the largest OTEC plant globally, with support from the Republic of Korea ii. This plant is expected to generate multiple co-benefits other than energy generation like desalination, aquaculture and cooling.

Floating Solar Photo Voltaic – FPV is emerging rapidly worldwide, with an installed capacity of 1.1 GW in 2018. While most of the installed capacity is on freshwater reservoirs, recently there is more attention given to installations on sea water. FPV installation is highly dominated by the Asia Pacific region with world's top ten largest FPV installed in Asian countries.

This event on offshore renewables convenes experts, policymakers, industries and the private sector to discuss the current status and future opportunities of these technologies in the region.

Affiliate Event #5

Title: Article 6 of the Paris Agreement: Road to Glasgow

Organization: ADB

Description:

Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, which is a key element of the climate policy toolbox to foster international cooperation in supporting countries meet their Paris targets and raise ambition over time, is the last element of the Paris Agreement Rulebook to be finalized. With the implementation phase of the Paris Agreement starting in 2021, there is a small window of opportunity to create momentum in finalizing the Article 6 implementation guidelines at UN Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in November 2021. In this context, the session will take stock of the recent SBSTA meetings on Article 6, facilitate discussions on the open issues for finalization and update the broader audience on the status of Article 6 negotiations. To do so, the session will convene a panel of key actors who will share their insights and perspectives on the road to Glasgow for Article 6.

Affiliate Event #6

Title: Comprehensive Risk Management: The How-To in Achieving Coherence

Organization: UNDRR

Description:

Climate change amplifies risks and countries need to comprehensively manage climate and disaster risks at all levels. This was the focus of UNDRR's Affiliated Event at the 2021 Asia Pacific Climate Week. The session presented practical approaches in achieving coherence and strengthening synergies between DRR and CCA. It brought together focal points, policy makers and practitioners from both fields who shared their experiences and learnings on how best to integrate disaster risk reduction in NAPs and climate risks in DRR strategies. The 2-hour event gave participants the opportunity to hear key insights from countries; learnings from a regional policy mapping; and UNDRR's programmatic approach in providing technical support to SIDS and LDCs.

In Timor Leste, proper timing was key in the development of their National Adaptation Plan and in updating their National DRR Strategy. In Mongolia, they brought DRR and CCA together through assessing risks across scales and by collectively studying their overlaps and horizontal and vertical linkages. The participants highlighted the importance comprehensive risk assessments and the use of robust data and risk information from past events and future forecasts. They stressed the need to consider both climate (extreme and slow onset events) and non-climate related hazards, while emphasizing the need to recognize the systemic and cascading nature of risks and how these affect risk governance at national and sub-national level.

Comprehensive risk management gives DRR and CCA communities opportunities to better understand risks and work closer together to strengthen resilience today for the risks of tomorrow.

Affiliate Event #7

Title: Unlocking Green Hydrogen's Potential in the Asia-Pacific

Organization: Technology Executive Committee (TEC), High-Level Champions, IRENA

Description:

Substantial growth opportunities abound for the green hydrogen sector in Asia Pacific over the coming years.

A key driver to its development is closely linked to the abundance of cheap low-carbon electricity for its production via electrolyzer technologies. The diffusion of renewable energy in the region, and its rapidly falling costs, will push production costs of hydrogen down and drive adoption of the technology. Asia Pacific is the fastest-expanding region for energy demand and renewables growth over the coming decades, and it may represent a high potential market for green hydrogen. Nevertheless, several challenges may impede green hydrogen's full contribution to the energy transition of the region.

This deep-dive, co-organized by the Technology Executive Committee and the High-level Climate Champions aims to discuss the status of play of green hydrogen in the Asia-Pacific region and elaborate on drivers for its effective deployment around the question "How can the potential of green hydrogen be unlocked and accelerated in Asia-Pacific?"

Outcomes of the deep dive are intended to contribute to the development of a Technical Paper on climate technologies by the Technology Executive Committee. The session is also an opportunity for the High-level Champions to bring non-State actors in the region whose areas of expertise can help national governments implement their national plans by using the options for policies, technologies and solutions described in the Marrakech Partnership Climate Action Pathways as the basis for collaboration and inputs are received on to reflect regional context and needs.

Key takeaways

Representatives from the Government of Singapore, POSCO steel company, MENA Hydrogen Alliance, University of Oxford, Systems Engineering; Youth Non-Governmental Organisation (YOUNGO) and the Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations stressed that the next two years are critical to integrate green hydrogen in the energy transition. Despite its potential, the deployment of green hydrogen faces challenges including high costs for production, transportation and storage, lack of social awareness and limitations for large-scale development.

To unlock these challenges, the speakers discussed the importance of triggering demand throughout the whole value-chain; ensuring a coordinated approach across all end-use sectors; carbon pricing regulations; R&D towards innovative technologies; highlighting the benefits and safety of green hydrogen; and small-scale usage to gain experiences. A key element is to build partnerships with actors with similar goals and develop common standards and frameworks. For example, if one country were to build green hydrogen-based ports and no other country does, ships wouldn't be able to re-fuel, breaking down the whole system. One actor alone cannot transform the system - therefore, collaboration is essential.

Affiliate Event #8

Title: Delivering Sector Level NDC in Asia – Experience, Challenges, and Opportunities

Organization: UNEP, NDC Partnership, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment Vietnam, Department of Environment, Forestry and Climate Bangladesh

Description:

The event brought both public and private sector speakers from Bangladesh, Mongolia, Thailand, Tonga and Vietnam to present their experience, challenges and recommendations on how NDC targets can be more effectively carried out in sector level implementations.

Throughout Asia, progress on mitigation and adaptation actions are made. The recent round of NDC revision has set more ambitious targets. As mentioned by speakers, in almost all countries we are seeing stronger ambitions to reduce emissions within sectors such as energy, industry, waste and agriculture and countries have strengthened their adaptation components, where many have placed an emphasis on gender dimensions and NBS.

Recognizing NDC implementation is a highly complex process that involves multiple sectors, ministries and stakeholders, this in turn requires detailed and constant coordination and cooperation across all the relevant stakeholders. Some recommendations emerged:

- Bring sector ministries into the NDC development conversation as early as possible so their ownership can be built.
- Identify and fill in sector ministries' missing policy and technical capacities to identify risks associated and opportunities from tackling climate change.
- Exam different arrangements to make inter-ministerial and multi-stakeholder consultation on climate change decision making more effective.
- Identify and prioritize sector level laws, strategies, policies and financing needs and how these can be better trickled down to companies and individuals.
- Commercial banks are gearing up towards providing more sustainable finance for NDC implementation. Public private partnership in various forms is crucial to help realize such sustainable finance potential.

Affiliate Event #9

Title: The UNEP Global Electric Mobility Programme and the Regional Support and Investment Platform in Asia Pacific

Organization: UNEP, ADB

Description:

The event, moderated by Pamela Chiang of the Asian Development Bank (ADB), showcased UNEP's Global Electric Mobility Programme, supported by the GEF, and introduced the Regional Support and Investment Platform on E-mobility for Asia Pacific to be led by the ADB. The global programme aims to provide high level support for the shift to electric mobility, such as through the transfer of best practices, and to encourage the take up of e-vehicles in low- and middle- income countries by getting them to participate in global initiatives and through national target setting. Out of 29 country projects in the global programme, six are from the Asia Pacific.

The panelists, representatives from the national government, development institutions and experts, weighed-in on e-vehicle transformation and potential areas that the UNEP and ADB program could tackle through ongoing programs. Varied viewpoints were offered, but a common point was that while many countries were on the way to a tipping point of shifting from internal

combustion engines to electric, the speed and nature of this change depend on the types of vehicles being prioritized and levels of commitment at a country-level. The panel also discussed how electric vehicles need to be part of an e-mobility ecosystem, with infrastructure in place and that the decarbonization of transport could not be accomplished simply through purchases of e-vehicles. The necessary regulatory, institutional structures, workable business models for e-mobility infrastructure needs to be in place to enable uptake of E-mobility.

Affiliate Event #10

Title: GlobalABC Regional Roundtable for Asia Pacific: Building Pathways to Net-Zero

Organization: GlobalABC | UN Environment Programme

Description:

The Regional Roundtable discussed the level of ambition needed to accelerate the transition towards a zero-emission, resilient and efficient buildings and construction sector by 2050. This event brought together lead stakeholders from the public and private sectors and highlighted the key tools and processes to deliver that vision, showcasing:

- The policies adopted by Vietnam to counter the adverse effects of fast urbanization, such as the adoption of building codes and the market demand stimulation for energy-efficient housing.
- The roadmaps under development by ACE and BEE India with IEA for 'Sustainable and Energy-Efficient Buildings and Cooling in ASEAN' and for 'Energy-Efficiency in Residential Buildings in India', which provide short-, medium- and long-term targets and timelines to support the implementation of current policies.
- GlobalABC and GBPN's NDC Toolkit currently under development – a collection of existing tools that enable countries and stakeholders to take action to map, prioritise and implement building-related NDCs, and which can serve as a guide to cross-pollinate buildings NDCs to roadmaps in the buildings and construction sector and vice-versa.
- The Race to Zero Built Environment System Map, an interactive platform for policymakers, businesses, investors, innovators and citizens alike to explore and visualize their roles in the transition to a net-zero built environment.
- GlobalABC's building decarbonization commitment for national governments being developed to halve emissions from the building sector by 2030.

Despite early signs of change, participants called on all stakeholders in the building and construction sector to join forces and work together towards a zero-emission, efficient and resilient built environment, particularly in considering the weight of embodied carbon, as highlighted in WBCSD and ARUP's new report.

Affiliate Event #11

Title: The Transformative Potential of National Development Banks: Driving Infrastructure Investment for Climate Action in Cities

Organization: GIZ

Description:

NDBs have an important role as a linking pin between various stakeholders, such as national governments, cities/local authorities, banking associations, commercial banks, insurance companies and MDBs.

NDBs know the local reality, are well connected to cities and can translate the financing requirements and opportunities to cities.

NDBs can be first movers and invest in innovative solutions as most of the climate-conscious infrastructure still needs to be built. 75% of global emissions are generated in cities and 90% can be cut through climate-conscious infrastructure.

NDBs' mandates and regulatory frameworks should better reflect climate ambitions to allow for more finance to be directed to climate-conscious infrastructure in cities.

NDBs should provide increased and more targeted capacity building to city administrations to develop technically and financially feasible climate action projects to address the lack of adequate project pipelines, a key bottleneck for infrastructure delivery.

NDBs should act upon their capacities as mobilisers of private investments. The blended finance platform "SDG Indonesia One", established by the Government of Indonesia and PT SMI, provides an example and aims to raise funding from investors, donors, and philanthropist.

Cities must continue to address climate change even in the face of the pandemic. Close cooperation with the private sector is now even more important as available public resources are dedicated to pandemic response instead of climate action.

ANNEX B – Side Events

Side Event #1

Title: Carbon Dioxide Removal, determining transformation opportunities in relation to Sustainable Development Goals

Organization: Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G)

Jointly organized with: United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Description:

The impacts of climate change are undermining progress on the sustainable development agenda. Achieving the temperature goals of the Paris Agreement is vital to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

According to the IPCC SP15, to keep global warming under 1.5 degrees C will require reducing emissions and removing large-scale CO₂ from the atmosphere, through a range of approaches called Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR), to reach net-zero emissions by 2050 and net-negative thereafter. CDR methods vary and include the use of nature-based approaches, such as afforestation and enhancing wetlands, or engineering-based approaches to directly capture CO₂ from ambient air. They all carry potential benefits, risks and pose governance challenges for present and future generations. Apart from some nature-based approaches, no CDR techniques are currently ready to deploy at the speed or scale necessary to prevent overshooting the 1.5 – 2°C temperature goal.

Despite increasing discussions on these issues in the international community, important knowledge gaps remain, in particular on how CDR could be scaled through national planning and long-term climate ambition while ensure that the co-benefits can be maximized and trade-offs be minimized with regards to other SDGs. This event aims to seek insights from diverse experts on these issues.

Side Event #2

Title: Mobilized ambition in achieving NDCs: enhancing non-party stakeholder contribution

Organization: CDP

Description:

The signing of the Paris Agreement heralded a new era in global co-operation to tackle climate change. Countries submitted their commitments in reducing Green House Gas (GHG) emissions to limit the global temperature rising by 2C through the nationally determined contributions (NDC). However, science shows these pledges are largely insufficient and without increased ambition and coordinated action we face a potential 3-4C global temperature rise. National governments cannot achieve the ambitious NDCs alone; sub-national government, business, capital markets and other non-state actors' engagement is crucial. Year 2020 was supposed to be a "Super Year", as most of the global leaders were setting their climate targets. The global pandemic has shifted attention away from climate discourse in many countries as they struggle to cope with the ongoing health crisis. COVID-19 narrates the uncertain future if countries fail to increase their climate ambitions. Currently, only 8 countries submitted their updated NDCs with increased commitments, meanwhile 192 countries have not submitted/stated they will not update their NDC targets. In this session, we would like to create a discussion on the non-state actors' contributions for NDC achievement and potentially also their roles in raising climate ambitions. We will begin by addressing the role of sub-national governments in Indonesia before exploring how they can drive and coordinate ambitious corporate sector action in their jurisdictions.

Side Event #3

Title: COP26 Catalyst for Climate Action - Opening Plenary

Organization: COP26 Presidency

Description:

The Paris Agreement provides us with a truly global framework for climate ambition and action. To unlock the full potential of the Paris Agreement, it is important that all countries can participate to their maximum potential and that a lack of capacity does not hold them back. In its role as the incoming COP26 Presidency, the UK is committed to better understanding the capacity-building challenges faced by developing countries, particularly those most vulnerable to climate impact, and to provide opportunities to share positive experiences and lessons learned across the Asia-Pacific Region.

This opening session of the COP Catalyst for Climate Action will better understand the capacity building challenges and share positive experiences and lessons learned across the Asia-Pacific Region.

Side Event #4

Title: Deep decarbonization pathways in emerging economies: challenges and opportunities

Organization: IDDRI, Institute for Sustainable Development and International Relations

Jointly organized with: University of Cape Town, Indian Institute of Management of Ahmedabad, Bandung Institute of Technology

Description:

India, Indonesia, and South Africa are committed to meeting the long-term temperature goal of the Paris Agreement. Their domestic mitigation efforts focus on implementing their NDCs; under the Agreement, these contributions need to be strengthened over time.

Long-term low GHG emission development strategies are a crucial tool to inform priority short-term actions. Developing these strategies allow actors to be engaged in a comprehensive dialogue about the transformation, thereby increasing the mitigation capacity at national level. If they are connected to international processes, such as stocktake and revision cycles, they can also boost international mitigation capacity.

Thanks to the support of the International Climate Initiative (IKI), IDDRI has lead a consortium that include: Indian Institute of Management Ahmedabad, Center for Research on Energy Policy of The Institut Teknologi Bandung, and the Energy Research Center at University of Cape Town.

The Asia Pacific climate week will be the opportunity to share first insights coming from national analysis on how to accelerate the deep decarbonization of these economies.

Side Event #5

Title: Racing the Grey Rhino: Climate Risk Governance – Regional and Global Implications from Case Studies in China and the UK

Organization: Chatham House (The Royal Institute of International Affairs)

Jointly organized with: National Climate Centre of China

Description:

The effects of extreme weather events, present-day climate variability, and future climate change, cut across many different sectors of China's economy. Ensuring a greater understanding of the impacts of climate change on the world's most populous nation is vital not only for China, but for the world.

Chatham House and the National Climate Centre of China, in partnership with the Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office (FCDO) and the British Embassy Beijing, is leading a consortium of UK- and China-based organizations on a programme that supports sustainable and inclusive economic growth by ensuring that the worst economic, social and environmental risks of climate change are avoided.

This event will convene some of China's most influential academics and government officials to discuss the status of climate risk assessment and adaptation actions at national and regional levels. The session will further present the progress that has been made in China on integrating risk reduction strategies into national/local social and economic development and sector strategies. The progress that has been made will be discussed in the context of international experiences.

Side Event #6

Title: Foreseeable Future – Seamless Integration of data to enhance climate and disaster risk reduction

Organization: CODATA TG on FAIR Data for DRR

Jointly organized with: Tonkin + Taylor, IRDR

Description:

Climate change and disaster risks pose a serious threat to communities physical, social, economic, and environmental conditions. The potential increase in occurrence and intensity of extreme weather events as a result of climate change, coupled with increasing population in vulnerable areas reinforces the need for improved prediction and forecasting for the foreseeable future are increasing. This allows for enhanced risk reduction measures to be implemented, as well as providing readiness for emergency responses. Understanding a foreseeable future would enable more informed decision making, allowing users the opportunity to put appropriate prevention in place.

Though the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR 2015-2030), Habitat III, Paris Agreement, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDG 2030) share resilience building as their common goal, the activities and processes of these policies and frameworks are distinct, not very well-coordinated, and are often duplicated at the country level. A systemic (holistic) approach at the national level to integrate climate change, disaster risk, and sustainable development are necessary using an integrated database.

Side Event #7

Title: Community, Faith, and Nature: Voices from Oceania and Asia at the Forefront of Climate Reconciliation

Organization: Ecojesuit

Jointly organized with: River Above Asia Oceania Ecclesial Network (RAOEN)

Description:

This event highlights stories of Asian and Oceanian communities, emphasizing the interconnected roles of indigenous communities, faith, and nature in climate reconciliation. Addressing the climate crisis will only be possible by working together and engaging in meaningful dialogue that promotes shared learnings and collaboration.

Extreme weather events and degradation of life systems in our oceans and lands have moved beyond risks and threats and are already happening. In line with the thematic track Integrated approaches for climate resilient development, this event seeks to promote support for low-carbon actions and practices that many indigenous communities live out through agroecology as a Nature-based Solution (NbS). And this "community NbS" - this natural local response that's

not driven by technology - draws its strength from a shared gratitude for creation and the environment that is in solidarity with local needs and the common good. These are the voices that faith-based organizations (FBOs) and movements are listening to in sustaining a reconciliation with the sea and the land.

In the process, voices from the ground are empowered, especially that of the youth, women, and Indigenous Peoples. They are the “disruptors” in the global climate conversations that FBOs are supporting through years of community accompaniment.

Side Event #8

Title: Bolstering local actions to enhance climate resilience

Organization: Global Network of Civil Societies for Disaster Reduction (GNDR)

Jointly organized with: World Food Programme (WFP) India

Description:

The investments in the agriculture related livelihoods have become redundant even before the actual value of the investment is realised. Climate change impacts have also crumpled the ecosystems and food and water insecurity problems are felt across the regions. However, while the issues are deliberated at the regional and local level across the transboundary countries, the impact of these policy changes are hardly felt at the local level. The merit therefore is to seek for an integrated and cohesive approach led by the local actors and communities and their development plans take into account the risks posed by climate change. The speakers in the sessions will bring share the impacts and challenges on Food and Water Insecurity issues, Policy gaps, and the challenges and opportunities for localising climate resilience. The session will also look at the impact of food and water insecurity on the women as a result of climate change.

Side Event #9

Title: Radical Collaboration: Strengthening Action and Research on Adaptation in the Asia Pacific Region

Organization: Adaptation Research Alliance

Jointly organized with: International Centre for Climate Change and Development, Bangladesh

Description:

Effective solutions for adaptation to climate change emerge when vulnerable communities, practitioners, funders and researchers work together. This interactive session by the Adaptation Research Alliance and ICCCAD will employ a ‘design sprint’ to develop co-creation spaces for fostering such “radical collaboration”. The Adaptation Research Alliance (ARA) is a global effort that seeks to catalyse increased investment and capacity for action-orientated research that supports effective adaptation to climate change – primarily in developing countries. In this session, the Alliance will explore ways of amplifying voices of the marginalized in processes of stimulating greater investment in action research on adaptation.

Discussions will focus on ways of building effective collaboration to ensure locally-led adaptation and action research. This session will support learning and knowledge exchange by employing interactive facilitation approaches for enabling improved coordination and aligning incentives amongst a variety of adaptation stakeholders.

Side Event #10

Title: The Global Roadmap for Healthcare Decarbonization and what it means for Asia-Pacific

Organization: Health Care Without Harm SE Asia

Jointly organized with: Griffith University Centre for Environment and Population Health.

Description:

This event will feature Health Care Without Harm's Global Road Map for Healthcare Decarbonization: A navigational tool for achieving zero emissions with climate resilience and health equity. This ground-breaking Road Map identifies seven high impact actions over three pathways for health care facilities, the supply chain and the wider economy up to 2050 and beyond. These actions will build resilience and reduce greenhouse gas emissions as well as strengthen health equity. The Road Map will also support national Nationally Determined Contributions and other climate action plans for mitigation and adaptation. It contains individual fact sheets for 68 countries with national healthcare emission data and recommendations for government, international agencies, the private sector and civil society for achieving a healthier planet and better and more equitable health outcomes. The most viable way forward for vulnerable countries is through prevention and preparedness measures, starting now from very doable and affordable immediate actions to more ambitious ones over time.

Side Event #11

Title: Promoting Zero Carbon City through making "Decarbonization Domino Effect"

Organization: Ministry of the Environment Japan

Jointly organized with: ICLEI

Description:

Cities are ideally placed to redesign a socio-economic system which fosters a sustainable, resilient and decarbonized society. However, cities face a difficult task when integrating ambitious climate agendas into their city planning alongside a just and fair transition in the economy. Collaboration among cities, and support from national governments and international organizations, is vital to encourage cities to aim for a net-zero goal.

This session by MOEJ and ICLEI will invite national, international and local actors to share their experience of multilevel climate action. It will discuss how to accelerate momentum and ambition before COP26, expand the "Decarbonization Domino Effect" globally, and how to effectively collaborate with the UNFCCC Race to Zero Campaign.

This session will focus on:

1. UNFCCC Race to Zero Campaign to support cities and other stakeholders to make their commitment
2. Role and challenges of local governments
3. Framework or action of national governments to encourage support local governments to accelerate their action toward carbon neutrality
4. International city-to-city collaboration to transfer advanced policy, action and technology from one to the other
5. Platform mechanisms to share information and knowledge among many stakeholders including national / local governments and relevant international organization

Side Event #12

Title: You(th) in capacity-building: The role of youth in building capacities to support the coherent implementation of the nationally determined contributions and national development plans

Organization: UNFCCC

Jointly organized with: PCCB & PCCB Network

Description:

Nationally determined contributions (NDCs) are at the heart of the Paris Agreement and the achievement of long-term sustainable development goals (SDGs). From planning to implementation of the NDCs and SDGs, youth have a critical role to play as active agents of change. Recognizing the transformative role of youth, the PCCB in collaboration with the PCCB Network, through the 'You(th) in capacity-building' side event, will provide a platform for regional dialogue to explore the role of youth, and enhance youth engagement in the NDC processes in developing countries and how to better align these processes with existing national development plans. The side-event will feature a panel discussion, where members of the PCCB Network and youth ambassadors from the region will have the opportunity to share their experiences and exchange knowledge and best practices of their work related to NDC implementation in coherence with national development plans.

Side Event #13

Title: Ready for the Biennial Transparency Report?

Organization: Food and Agriculture Organization

Jointly organized with: Partnership on Transparency in the Paris Agreement (PATPA)

Description:

This event aims at learning from countries where they stand in preparing for the submission of the Biennial Transparency Report (BTR) in 2024. It will provide opportunity for participants to discuss the main needs and challenges in getting ready.

The discussion will enable countries to exchange lessons learned and best practice and learn from peers on the initial steps to be prepared. This segment also aims at raising the awareness that the time is already very short and stimulating governments to take action now.

Tacking stock from the discussion, FAO and PATPA will introduce to the audience the BTR guidance and roadmap tool that help countries plan the preparation process of their BTR as well as preparing a roadmap for implementing it.

Side Event #14

Title: 1.5°C domestic emissions pathways and key sectoral implications

Organization: Climate Analytics

Description:

2030 targets and pledges put forward by governments are not yet sufficient to cut emissions and limit warming to the 1.5°C temperature goal agreed upon in Paris. This year is an important one for national governments to increase the ambition of targets to align with this goal.

Global and regional 1.5°C emissions reductions pathways have been published, but for many countries these are not available at the national level. To support analytical work at national level, Climate Analytics has developed mitigation pathways compatible with 1.5°C temperature limit for 68 countries across all regions and the development spectrum.

16 of these 68 countries are from the Asia Pacific region – which is highly reliant on fossil fuels, and accounts for about 76% of global coal generation capacity. This webinar, taking place as a part of Asia Pacific Climate week, will present this new analysis, which could support the

development of updated NDCs, long-term strategies and net zero emission goals. Join us as we look at four case studies: Bangladesh, Japan, Singapore and Pakistan, to understand their unique country profiles and timelines for decarbonisation, with a focus on the power sector. The event will run for an hour.

Side Event #15

Title: Webinar: A Practical Guide to Climate-resilient Buildings & Communities

Organization: UNEP

Description:

Come and join us for the launch of A Practical Guide to Climate-resilient Buildings & Communities. This UNEP publication demonstrates how buildings and community spaces can be constructed to increase their resilience to climate change, especially in developing countries where structures are largely self-built. The practical guide provides an overview of the fundamental types of interventions at the building scale, including the use of nature-based solutions. Crucially, it offers construction solutions to adapt to a range of different risks in various climates. For instance, it shows us how to reduce indoor heat in hot and arid climates, or how to mitigate cyclone impacts on buildings in hot and humid climates.

The practical guide has been prepared because there is a recognized need to understand good practices for climate-resilient buildings in communities that may suffer from a deficit of professionally trained architects, engineers, and other practitioners. Therefore, this note is written for a broad audience, including those with little experience in the building and construction industries.

Side Event #16

Title: Implementation of Transformative Climate Actions in Cities

Organization: Asia LEDS Partnership + ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia

Jointly organized with: Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC); National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).

Description:

Local and regional governments in the South Asian region are increasingly tackling the climate challenge with a sense of urgency, implementing integrated climate action in the areas of mitigation and adaptation through appropriate policies, partnerships, capacity building and innovative mechanisms to access finance & technology. In spite of the inherent problems faced by the South Asian cities, many of them are leading the way and emerging as leaders in the fight against climate change.

The Asia LEDS Partnership and ICLEI Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia along with the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) will organize a side event on 'Implementation of Transformative Climate Actions in Cities' during the Asia and Pacific Climate Week (APCW) 2021. The objective of the event is to showcase key successes by the South Asian cities, enabled by national and sub-national policies, in combating climate change and to highlight the role of cities as change agents. Senior representatives from agencies at National, Sub-national and local levels will highlight the processes adopted, challenges faced, opportunities, lessons learned and good practices with respect to climate action planning and implementation and also showcase climate actions that were successfully implemented in the South Asian cities.

Side Event #17

Title: Making renewables mainstream: Building and bridging for a cleaner future

Organization: REN21

Description:

Asia is home to over 50% of the world's population and the region has seen tremendous economic growth, coupled with rapidly increasing energy demand. The region is at a critical juncture where it can leverage momentum to reduce energy demand, phase out support for fossil fuels and scale up renewable energy solutions.

While renewables in Asia are on the rise due thanks to a push by both local and national governments, fossil fuels (especially coal and natural gas) are rising even faster to meet the region's growing energy demand. With its size and influence, the region can play a key role in decarbonising the energy system, ensuring energy security, improving health, increasing access and moving the region towards the "race to zero".

This event will focus on how local and national governments can transform their cities and economies with renewable energy. It will look at the key barriers and opportunities to scale up renewables, including the combatting the perception that renewables are not cost-competitive. The need to scale-up investment, build adequate policy frameworks and multi-level frameworks to link local and national strategies to help accelerate the shift to renewables will also be discussed. The event will have a variety of players to illustrate different perspectives, i.e., stakeholders from city and national governments, energy experts, citizen groups etc. Discussion will focus on exchanging perspectives and identifying common entry points so we can collectively move forward on the energy transition.

Side Event #18

Title: COP26 Catalyst – Transparency & Reporting

Description:

The aim of the session is to explore capacity building in relation to transparency under the Paris Agreement, to lay out key challenges that Parties and partners may face in the implementation of the Enhanced Transparency Framework and to gather ideas and solutions from participants to inform the work of the COP26 Catalyst's Action Group on Transparency and Reporting.

Side Event #19

Title: #Data4BetterClimateAction: How to use climate transparency to achieve effective climate action AND advance national development

Organization: #Data4BetterClimateAction

Jointly organized with: Caribbean Cooperative MRV Hub, FAO, GEF Secretariat GHGMI, GGGI, ISPRA, LEDS GP, ICAT, NewClimate Institute, PATPA, UNEP DTU Partnership, UK Government (COP Presidency), UNDP, UNEP

Description:

Transparency is the backbone of the Paris Agreement. By having sound data and information systems in place, countries across the world are better designing, implementing and tracking their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) or long-term strategies.

The #Data4BetterClimateAction campaign aims to showcase to all APCW2021 participants how they can use their data and transparency frameworks to advance climate action that is effective in addressing climate change and meeting domestic development priorities while fulfilling reporting requirements at the same time. With high-level speakers and real examples from across the Asia Pacific region, this 1-hour interactive event will provide participants with the

inspiration, knowledge and networks needed to further build on their country's transparency efforts and strengthen the frameworks needed for effective climate action.

Side Event #20

Title: Anticipatory Action as an integrated solution to short- and long-term climate shocks

Organization: FAO

Jointly organized with: International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies

Description:

Anticipatory Action (AA) is an up-and-coming climate resilience approach which links early warnings to actions that can protect families and their livelihoods ahead of a hazard.

Acting early before a disaster has happened or reached its peak is critical: it can save lives and protect livelihoods from the immediate shocks, as well as protecting long-term development gains.

Country examples from Mongolia, Bangladesh, and the Philippines have proven this point. Studies show governments and communities have much to gain from the Anticipatory Action model - it has proven to be cost-effective, curb food insecurity, increase resilience and overall present a more dignified way of approaching aid.

Gains in technology and data collection have opened a new way of managing disasters - we can now forecast hazards with increasing accuracy and frequency. Rather than bracing ourselves for the worst, we are now empowered with knowledge on when and where to act.

This side-event, co-led by FAO and IFRC, provides a space to discuss how Anticipatory Action is contributing to climate resilience in the Asia-Pacific region. The session will firstly speak to early warning scientists to discover how new data and tools are shifting the way we react to crises. Secondly, country level experts will explore how the Anticipatory Action approach is contributing to both short- and long-term climate shocks.

Side Event #21

Title: Utilizing forest functions for mitigating and adapting to climate change

Organization: Forestry and Forest Products Research Institute, Japan

Jointly organized with: Center for International Forestry Research (CIFOR), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES), International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), Oscar M. Lopez Center (OMLC), Vietnam Academy of Forest Sciences (VAFS), World Agroforestry Centre (ICRAF)

Description:

To address the challenges of climate change, it is necessary to consider both mitigation and adaptation measures. Forest ecosystems and their management can contribute both to mitigation and adaptation. This side event will explore the potential of forests for mitigating climate change as well as for adapting to climate change in the tropics. In general, the mitigation measure, REDD-plus, can contribute to keep forests in good condition and maximize forests' capacity for disaster risk reduction. In the other hand, forests provide valuable direct and indirect ecosystem services which are crucial for the adaptation of people to the adverse impact of climate change. In some areas in the world, those ecosystem services provided by forests are the only safety net for the poor and most vulnerable people to cope with extreme events (droughts, floods, etc.). In this side event, we would like to discuss not only the potential of forest-based mitigation and adaptation measures but also obstacles for achieving them. The event will feature six short presentations on REDD-plus and Forest-based Disaster Risk Reductions (F-DRR) and a panel discussion, which will also include comments and queries from the (online) participants.

Side Event #22

Title: YouKuai: Expanding Plant Based Protein Adoption to Advance Net Zero

Organization: Global Citizen Capital

Jointly organized with: YouKuai Group, Ntuple and KIDSforSDGs

Description:

Climate change is here and present, and we must collectively act on our Net Zero Ambitions now! One of the most important pathways for this ambition is through protein diversification, particularly in reference to plant protein. YouKuai Group is partnering with top scientists and chefs to develop tasty, healthy and sustainable plant protein products with creative presentations. With more brands to come, YouKuai's current portfolio includes plant-based meat brand Zrou with multiple product lines, and sustainable lifestyle content-media brand OwnWhatYouEat. Such endeavors require investment and development in digital innovation and inclusion by companies such as Ntuple. Furthermore, to support YouKuai Group's Net Zero ambitions, youth plays a key role in the promotion and adoption of a plant-based diet. Indeed, as climate change and its impact intensifies over time, it is the children and young people of today who will face the worst effects. Far from being passive victims, young people all over the world have begun to fight back on a scale never seen before. Whether through education, technology, science or law – young people far and wide are tapping into their skills to speak up for climate action. Join this event for an inspiring youth panel led by KIDSforSDGs featuring David Zhou and Chris Li from Shanghai, and Jason Qiu and Megan Hsu from Hong Kong.

Side Event #23

Title: Building back better together: Strengthening resilient development through renewable energy

Organization: World Future Council

Jointly organized with: WWF Germany, WWF Nepal, WWF Vietnam, Prakriti Resource Centre, GreenID

Description:

To mitigate the worst impacts of climate change whilst harvesting the benefits associated with implementing Agenda 2030 and to truly leave no one behind, we need inclusive and participatory decision-making. A transition towards a resilient, sustainable future cannot be implemented by an individual or a single group of people alone, but rather needs a holistic approach, deeply entrenched into local environments and communities. The rapid spread of the COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the urgent need for inclusive decision-making to increase resilience of our lives through shortening supply chains and decentralising economic activities. The billions currently spent to revitalise our pandemic-stricken economies will determine our infrastructure for decades to come. We are at a crossroads whether we embark on a sustainable path towards resilience and climate mitigation, or if we continue as before and live beyond planetary boundaries. Renewable energies are the key to a just, resilient and clean future and building back better after the COVID crisis. Access to energy can lift millions of people out of poverty through adding local economic value and job creation, it can help to increase resilience of the agricultural sector through and can ensure energy security through utilising locally available energy resources.

Side Event #24

Title: NDCs in the APAC Region as the main driver of decarbonization

Organization: International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)

Description:

Representatives from governments and international organisations will provide insights into the work done to achieve their climate action goals. Also, real-world alternatives to decarbonise power systems with renewable energy will be showcased.

Finally, it will also present how the benefits of climate action can enhance an inclusive energy transition with multiple climate-resilient agendas to contribute to sustainable development.

Side Event #25

Title: Launch of the UNFCCC CASTT Adaptation Academy

Organization: UNFCCC secretariat

Jointly organized with: Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) and Korea Environment Institute (KEI), Alliance for Global Water Adaptation (AGWA)

Description:

The UNFCCC secretariat, in collaboration with five research and educational institutions, has initiated the “Climate Action and Support Transparency Training (CASTT) Adaptation Academy”. Designed to provide a multi-week training programme on the Paris Agreement with a focus on the adaptation reporting aspects of the enhanced transparency framework, the Adaptation Academy will aim to enhance technical capacity for adaptation assessments, planning, policy frameworks and coordination across ministries and governance levels to act on climate change. As part of Asia-Pacific Climate Week, this side event will be an opportunity to launch the CASTT Adaptation Academy to national experts from developing countries from the Asia-Pacific region. Senior leadership of the two regional institutions — Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) and Korea Environment Institute (KEI) — and the UNFCCC secretariat will sign a symbolic MoU and highlight the contribution from each of their organizations. In addition, a thematic discussion will be organized on a topic of reporting, planning and policy nexus in the context of the ETF. Participants will be informed of the training for this year and the plans for next year.

Side Event #26

Title: Advancing Jurisdictional Sustainability Approach and its Potential for Climate Financing in Southeast Asia

Organization: Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA)

Jointly organized with: Southeast Asian Regional Center for Graduate Study and Research in Agriculture (SEARCA); Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations – Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific (FAO-RAP); Ernst & Young (EY) – SyCip Gorres Velayo & Company (SGV); Calamianes Resilience Network (CRN); Forest Foundation Philippines (FFP); University of the Philippines Los Baños – School of Environmental Science and Management (UPLB – SESAM)

Side Event #27

Title: USAID’s new Climate Strategy: Listening session for stakeholder input in the Asia-Pacific region

Organization: USAID

Description:

The United States is committed to tackling the climate crisis. As part of this commitment, USAID is developing a new Agency-wide climate strategy to guide our efforts to target resources strategically, ramp up climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts, and further integrate climate change considerations into international development and humanitarian assistance programs across all sectors. The new climate strategy will not be successful without critical input and support from USAID partners, and this listening session provides a key opportunity for not only partners, but also technical experts, civil society organizations, and members of the public to identify priorities related to development and climate change in the Asia-Pacific region and share recommendations to inform USAID's strategy and future climate programs and partnerships. The format of this session will include a brief overview of the USAID climate strategy development process followed by smaller breakout group discussions around guiding questions. The participant input gathered from the listening session will support USAID's efforts to develop and implement a new climate strategy and provide a framework to support partner countries to achieve more ambitious targets under the Paris Agreement and implement their National Adaptation Plans.

Side Event #28

Title: COP26 Catalyst – Carbon Markets Participation

Description:

Many countries have signalled that they intend on, or are willing to consider, using carbon markets to meet their NDC targets. At the same time, many developing countries have highlighted their need for capacity building support to enable them to take advantage fully of these opportunities. This session will provide space to discuss what opportunities are available, including through looking at particular case studies of where carbon market mechanisms have been developed, implemented or where they are being considered. This includes focusing on what has worked and why in terms of capacity building and where the barriers are to increasing participation, particularly by those at an earlier planning stage.

Side Event #29

Title: Climate Action and Support Transparency Training (CASTT) Adaptation Academy

Organization: UNFCCC Secretariat

Jointly organized with: AGWA, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), and Korea Environment Institute (KEI)

Description:

The UNFCCC secretariat, in collaboration with five research and educational institutions, has initiated the "Climate Action and Support Transparency Training (CASTT) Adaptation Academy". Designed to provide a multi-week training programme on the Paris Agreement with a focus on the adaptation reporting aspects of the enhanced transparency framework, the Adaptation Academy will aim to enhance technical capacity for adaptation assessments, planning, policy frameworks and coordination across ministries and governance levels to act on climate change. As part of Asia-Pacific Climate Week, this side event will be an opportunity to launch the CASTT Adaptation Academy to national experts from developing countries from the Asia-Pacific region. Senior leadership of the two regional institutions — Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) and Korea Environment Institute (KEI) — and the UNFCCC secretariat will sign a symbolic MoU and highlight the contribution from each of their organizations. In addition, a thematic discussion will be organized on a topic of reporting, planning and policy nexus in the context of the ETF. Participants will be informed of the training for this year and the plans for next year.

Side Event #30

Title: Integrated urban water resource management for climate resilience: Lessons from Indonesia

Organization: Mercy Corps Indonesia

Jointly organized with: Bogor Agricultural University and Government of Indonesia

Description:

Indonesia has experienced nearly 300 disasters annually in the past 30 years, with impacts exacerbated by climate change. Nearly 90% of disaster events in 2019 were hydro-meteorological, with flooding the most frequent. Over 3000 villages experienced coastal flooding between 2016-2018 due to rising sea levels and high tides.

The session will provide a unique opportunity to understand real-time decision-making processes for cities at the frontlines of the climate crisis, through a case study of Pekalongan, Indonesia. Pekalongan is tasked with addressing both transboundary water resource management challenges and climate change, which together are leading to severe flooding. Inundation of entire communities and loss of livelihood opportunities are already being observed.

Findings from a climate risk and impact assessment conducted through a cross-sectoral partnership between government, academia, and civil society organizations will be presented. The speakers will explore the challenges and opportunities for local governments to practically address the identified risks and impacts; and illustrate the importance of connecting national climate resilience policy frameworks with local level action. Motivations of different actors to invest in climate resilient policies and interventions will also be explored and provide insight for cities globally facing challenges of urbanization and climate change.

Side Event #31

Title: Global Warming & Sustainable Livelihood - Role of CSA - Doubling Income of Farmers in Arena of Climate Change

Organization: NCCSD

Jointly organized with: WFO, GACSA

Description:

The Indian Perspective: India has the second largest arable land and largest number of farmers. 90 percent of which are small holders.

At the time of independence, the country had 90 percent of its rural families under poverty with continuing famines – droughts had to have ‘Rationing’ of essential commodities and – needed to import food-grains in huge quantities. But over a period of six decades, it transformed its rural areas – gave tenant / tiller right to ownership and reduced poverty which now ranges between 13% to 20% in different parts of the country. India now exports food grains. Its induced development policies had a massive programme of new technology transfer – in seeds, fertilizers, pest-control, water harvesting and efficient use of water – so on and so forth.

But new challenges of adverse climate – continuing increased intense adverse weather events does pose problems to livelihood – so is the increased urban – rural disparity in increase in income. India took a series of steps to meet these challenges.

- It initiated the National Initiative for Climate Resilient Agriculture – NICRA
- It introduced Soil Health Cards for farmers
- It introduced a comprehensive and integrated water harvesting, conservation programme with stress on its efficient use by micro irrigation
- It set up a National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture

- Major other policy initiatives included:
 - o Broad based and internet connected agriculture market system.
 - o Channelizing credit by NABARD through Kisan Credit Card
- Liberalized Crop Insurance Scheme to cover even non-loanees
- Minimum Support Price
- Employment Guarantee
- Food Security Guarantee
- Skilling, re-skilling and up-skilling farmers – particularly young farmers
- Empowering women farmers

Side Event #32

Title: Integrating Sustainable Energy and Transport in Island Territories

Organization: SLOCAT Partnership on Sustainable, Low Carbon Transport.

Jointly organized with: Reiner Lemoine Institut, SD Strategies, and the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL), Low Emissions Development Strategies Global Partnership (LEDS GP).

Description:

Many island territories spend a great share of their GDP on the imports of fossil fuels. Often, this makes them dependent on foreign energy supplies and vulnerable to price fluctuations. The burning of fossil fuels pollutes local environments, endangers the health of citizens, and contributes to climate change. It also prevents innovative new technical advancements. This side event will showcase island communities in the Asia-Pacific region and beyond that have demonstrated how energy and transport systems can be integrated based on renewable energies and a high degree of efficiency to make both sectors reliable, affordable, and sustainable. It is important to plan the decarbonisation of both sectors in an integrated way because then synergy effects of the ‘sector-coupling’ can be realised.

Participants will learn about energy and transport targets and trends in the region and tools that can be used to plan for the integration of renewable energies and transport technologies to scale up the adoption of electric vehicles. Case studies and results from the Roadmap for the Integration of Sustainable Energy and Transport in Small Islands will be presented.

Side Event #33

Title: Promoting Article 6 readiness through strategic design of NDCs and their implementation plan

Organization: Perspectives Climate Group

Jointly organized with: Swedish Energy Agency, Climate Focus

Description:

Commissioned by the Swedish Energy Agency (SEA), Perspectives Climate Group and Climate Focus are analysing how NDCs, and their implementation plans can be designed to promote Article 6 readiness. The study to be presented proposes a definition of Article 6 readiness and lays out strategies to advance readiness instead of haphazard approaches to Article 6 that risk to backfire and hamper NDC achievement. It systematically explores how the processes leading to and the information presented in NDCs can be harnessed. The study aims to guide governments engaged in NDC revision and implementation plan processes on how to best frame these documents for Article 6 cooperation. Such guidance aims to promote environmental integrity and transformational change both for the host country and other participants, as well as overall non-climate change related benefits of cooperation.

A panel discussion moderated by project lead Axel Michaelowa will follow the presentation to discuss the key messages of the study with selected experts and government representatives from the Asia-Pacific region and beyond. The discussions at the event will serve as feedback to the authors' team that will subsequently develop an empirical analysis of updated NDCs and how they provide a good basis for Article 6 cooperation.

Side Event #34

Title: Asia-Pacific Regional Leadership: building a lasting legacy towards COP26 and beyond through ambitious NDCs

Organization: WWF EU

Description:

2021 is a crucial year for dealing with the climate and biodiversity crises, rising inequalities and COVID 19. WWF has produced guidance for decision-makers in enhancing Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in Asia Pacific Region, based on WWF's #NDCsWeWant checklist, which we will launch at this event.

The subject for discussion will be to explore to what extent Asia Pacific NDCs reflect necessary ambition and what is the role for decision-makers in fostering highest ambition in the face of multiple development challenges. In doing so we will discuss opportunities for regional, national leadership and the role of non-state actors in supporting NDC development and implementation. This workshop follows a discussion organised by WWF during Regional Climate Week Latin America and the Caribbean with representatives from NDC Partnership, WWF, Colombian Government and the Road to Zero; and a similar discussion will be replicated in Regional Climate Week in Africa.

The subject for discussion will be to explore to what extent Asia Pacific NDCs reflect necessary ambition and what is the role for decision-makers in fostering highest ambition in the face of multiple development challenges. In doing so we will discuss opportunities for regional, national leadership and the role of non-state actors in supporting NDC development and implementation. This workshop follows a discussion organised by WWF during Regional Climate Week Latin America and the Caribbean with representatives from NDC Partnership, WWF, Colombian Government and the Road to Zero; and a similar discussion will be replicated in Regional Climate Week in Africa.

Side Event #35

Title: What would the pre-2020 to post-2020 climate regime transition look like?

Organization: Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

Jointly organized with: Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF)

Description:

This year presents an important opportunity to reflect on climate actions and issues of the pre-2020 era as we move beyond it. A successful transition to the Paris Agreement requires that learnings and experiences from pre-2020 climate agreements be considered. Furthermore, in order to ensure trust and accountability in the central pillar of our climate regime, dominant issues of pre-2020 frameworks such as non-participation of developed countries leading to ambition gap, unsold CERs and accounting challenges must be addressed. This session highlights key negotiation issues that remain and pragmatic mechanisms to solve for these to facilitate a smooth transition from the pre-2020 to the post-2020 climate regime.

Side Event #36

Title: Climate Resilience: why local experience is essential for a successful COP26 especially during a global pandemic

Description:

The countries of the Asia Pacific region are facing increasing climate impacts. The communities and government in the region are implementing innovative solutions to tackle these crises, but despite a few islands of excellence, these are not yet achieving the scale necessary to deliver for the majority of people facing the climate emergency. The global community and especially the developed nations need to rapidly scale up international support. The various financial mechanisms under the climate convention need to rapidly scale up support and in a way that reaches frontline communities to scale up Nature Based Solution, Early Warning Systems, Community and Ecosystem Based Adaptation to build climate resilience. These local lived experiences and the knowledge generated in these communities must inform the border climate resilience discourse. This event will share the local level climate resilient experience of communities and will explore how community voices and non-state actors were able to inform and enrich the climate debate at previous COPs. We will explore the best examples and best practices to ensure a whole of society approach to the COP can be maintained despite the challenges presented by the global Covid pandemic. The event will also explore the key areas where the UNFCCC COP26 will need to deliver to expedite the implementation of climate adaptation actions in the vulnerable developing countries in the Asia Pacific region.

Side Event #37

Title: Enhancing Climate Resilience of Essential Services for Children and Most Vulnerable Populations

Organization: UNICEF East Asia and Pacific Regional Office, UNICEF Regional Office for South Asia (ROSA).

Description:

This event will share examples and lessons learnt on child-centred solutions and social sector engagement in climate resilience by Government partners and UNICEF, covering countries across the Asia Pacific region. Speakers will focus on how they managed and responded to climate-risks to the most vulnerable populations using Climate-smart Education and WASH systems and solutions, as crucial components of a socially inclusive response to the climate crisis.

Side Event #38

Title: The Forgotten Commodity: Scaling Sustainable Rice

Organization: World Business Council for Sustainable Development

Jointly organized with: Sustainable Rice Landscapes Initiative (consortium including FAO, GIZ, UNEP, IRRI, Sustainable Rice Platform and WBCSD)

Description:

Half the world’s population, some 3.5 billion people, eat rice as their main staple food, and its production by 144 million smallholder farmers supports the livelihoods of over 1 billion people. At the same time rice crops use 30-40% of the world’s irrigation water and contribute as much greenhouse gases as aviation, largely due to huge amounts of methane released during its production.

Transforming rice landscapes to more sustainable forms of production is critical to addressing the world’s food security, livelihoods and climate change. Yet, despite the potential for social and environmental impact, and a growing body of knowledge around best practice for sustainable rice, rice is often overshadowed by other commodities on the regional climate agenda.

A concerted effort is needed to accelerate the adoption of sustainable rice at the scale and speed required, to meet global climate and sustainable development goals.

This session explores how recent developments including those in innovative financing and policymaking, carbon markets, consumer demand generation and environmental monitoring technologies, can be leveraged to scale sustainable rice. Fundamentally, how can countries, investors, corporates, development partners and farmers work together to drive the systemic changes needed?

Side Event #39

Title: Financing Socially Inclusive Climate Resilience Development- Lessons from India, Bangladesh and Nepal

Organization: ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, South Asia

Description:

Different groups in society have different levels of exposure and vulnerability to extreme events. The climate actions and the budgets committed to climate action must consider the differential impact of climate change on the poor and vulnerable population groups, such as women, children, poor and others. ICLEI South Asia will organize a side event on ‘Financing Socially Inclusive Climate Resilience Development - Lessons from India, Bangladesh and Nepal’ during the Asia and Pacific Climate Week (APCW) 2021. The objective of the event is to showcase key learnings from successful initiatives on socially inclusive climate resilience from the three South Asian countries. The event will present cases from three organizations - Gorakhpur Environmental Action Group (GEAG) in India, Local Initiatives for Biodiversity, Research and Development (LIBIRD) in Nepal, and Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) in Bangladesh based on their work on socially inclusive resilience, with focus on women, farmers and fisherfolk. The event will also present a compendium of climate financing opportunities for national and local governments of India, Nepal and Bangladesh that has been developed by ICLEI South Asia to enhance knowledge on accessing climate finance.

Side Event #40

Title: Enhancing Means of Implementation through Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs)

Organization: UNEP DTU Partnership, Technical University of Denmark

Jointly organized with: UNFCCC Secretariat, Vladimir Hecl, Means of Implementation team, Technology sub-unit.

Description:

Acknowledging the importance of technological change in reducing emissions and stabilizing atmospheric concentrations of greenhouse gas emissions, Technology Needs Assessments (TNAs) were strongly referenced in the Paris agreement. Moreover, helping developing countries to conduct effective TNAs and implement their prioritized needs, has become instrumental to the UNFCCC implementation efforts. During this event country representatives will discuss the TNAs and their ability to provide information about the potential, ability, and scale of climate change technologies. Technology Needs Assessments can play a unique role in the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions. We will also discuss how to enhance implementation of Technology Action Plans, which countries prepare for priority technologies through the TNA process.

Side Event #41

Title: Thinking beyond Adaptation: Addressing Loss and Damage Associated with Climate Change Impacts

Organization: Prakriti Resources Centre

Jointly organized with: Practical Action

Description:

This side event will present the findings from recent studies in Nepal and Bangladesh which have identified existing challenges and limitations in assessing climate-induced Loss and Damage such as the neglect of non-economic losses and possible approaches for comprehensive risk management that can minimize and address Loss and Damage but also build long term resilience. The discussion will also feed into the ongoing work of the Warsaw International Mechanism on Loss and Damage and the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage.

Side Event #42

Title: Carbon Neutral Mobility for a Climate Friendly Future in Asia

Organization: International Transport Forum

Description:

Demand for transport will continue to grow massively in the coming decades, especially in the Asia Pacific region. As a result, in Asia, CO2 emissions from transport will increase by 47% to 2050 even if today's commitments to decarbonise transport are fully implemented. By contrast, more ambitious transport decarbonisation policies could reduce transport CO2 emissions by 56% in 2050 compared to 2015.

Building upon the ITF's existing decarbonising transport activities in Asia, this event will highlight key opportunities to increase ambitions in the region and implement concrete actions. It will focus on sharing evidence for best practices and effective measures that will accelerate the transition to carbon-neutral mobility in the Asia Pacific region, in the aftermath of the Covid-19 pandemic. The panellists representing international and regional organisations, countries and the private sector will take a deep dive into the specific opportunities and challenges that are integral to transport in the Asia Pacific. An interactive Q&A segment will allow the attendees to contribute to this dialogue. Key discussion points will be carried forward to COP26, through the ITF's role as a focal point for transport in the UNFCCC.

Side Event #43

Title: A whole of society approach to the race to zero

Organization: Alliances for Climate Action

Jointly organized with: Better Futures Australia (CANA), Japan Climate Initiative (WWF-Japan) and Viet Nam Coalition for Climate Action (WWF-Viet Nam)

Description:

We are entering the decisive decade of delivery in our race to zero. Our ability to succeed hinges on adopting a whole-of-society approach, with subnational and non-state actors leading by example and working with national governments to create enabling conditions to move faster together. The global Alliances for Climate Action involves three initiatives in the Asia-Pacific region, the Japan Climate Initiative (JCI), the Viet Nam Coalition for Climate Action (VCCA) and the up-and-coming Better Futures Australia (BFA) alliance.

Each is playing a unique role in:

- Identifying concrete opportunities available in their countries to accelerate more ambitious climate targets and policies;
- Mobilising a wide range of actors, stakeholders and sectors;
- Promoting collaboration within and across sectors; and
- Showcasing opportunities to coordinate and scale climate action in a way that sees a just transition where no one is left behind.

Side Event #44

Title: COP26 Catalyst Access to Finance

Description:

Capacity building to improve access to finance has been highlighted as a priority area of need. For example, country partners have noted a lack of institutional capacity both within national governments and at the local level to access finance from different sources, including from multilateral climate funds. Another highlighted need is to strengthen relationships between those providing climate finance and those trying to access it. This session will aim to explore capacity building needs in relation to accessing climate finance, to understand in detail the key challenges that Parties and partners have in developing this capacity to access finance, and to learn from best practice examples. This will touch on experiences of capacity building for access to finance within the region and will also look more broadly at global examples.

Side Event #45

Title: Accelerating carbon neutrality in China through effective carbon pricing and carbon accounting strategies

Organization: Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition (CPLC)

Jointly organized with: International Institute of Green Finance (IIGF), Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), World Bank

Description:

What best practices and lessons learned can be applied in China? In the second roundtable discussion, we will look closely into the role of measuring and disclosing financed emissions. Enabling financial institutions to assess and disclose greenhouse gas emissions of loans and investments is the first step to leverage private capital and incentivize decarbonization of hard-to-abate sectors instead of divesting from them.

In partnership with the International Institute of Green Finance (IIGF) and Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF), the Carbon Pricing Leadership Coalition (CPLC) and the World Bank are convening a virtual workshop – an official side event of APCW2021 of UNFCCC to discuss these issues. The event's goal is to bring together policy experts and corporate management from China and the world to have a peer-to-peer dialogue on the role of carbon pricing and accounting in helping the companies and financial institutions achieve their climate targets.

Side Event #46

Title: Voices for Climate Action - The transformative power of locally-led climate action

Organization: Yayasan Humanis dan Inovasi Sosial (affiliated with Hivos)

Jointly organized with: Yayasan Humanis dan Inovasi Sosial (affiliated with Hivos); WWF Indonesia; SPARC - Society for the promotion of Area resource Centre (supports Slum Dwellers International); SouthSouthNorth

Description:

The event will bring forth alliances of civil societies, grassroots organizations, and local community leaders working on cross-cutting themes about climate change. We will share stories on nature-based and locally shaped and led climate solutions from Asia, including Indonesia, Philippines, and India. It is expected to bring the world closer to the ground where solutions are being implemented and raising awareness on the critical role of local groups in inclusive policy development and a just climate transition.

Climate change has been seen as a separate issue from the livelihood development, poverty alleviation, and rights to resources of indigenous and local communities. This event will try to make these connections by capturing the evidence, strengthening the voices of local communities, and triggering mutual-learning mechanism.

Local communities tend to be neglected in the decision-making process related to the climate crisis. However, they are innovative solution creators, when given the space to do so. The urban grassroots organisation, indigenous people, and local communities have also been contributing

to climate adaptation and mitigation for decades. Therefore, building partnership with them is crucial to facilitate mutual learning and collaboration, and amplifying voices in new, unusual ways to create widespread societal support for locally shaped climate solutions.

Side Event #47

Title: Asia Pacific Cities Race to Zero COP26

Organization: Cities Race to Resilience /Cities Race to Zero

Jointly organized with: GCoM, C40, CDP, ICLEI, UCLG, Resilient Cities Network, WRI, WWF, UCLG ASPAC, ICLEI South Asia, ICLEI Japan, ICLEI Korea, ICLEI China, ICLEI Oceania, ICLEI Southeast Asia, Making Cities Resilient 2030

Description:

The event will also serve as the official launch of the Cities Race to Resilience. The Cities Race to Resilience is the official track for cities to join the UNFCCC Climate Champions Race to Resilience campaign which launched in January 2021. The Cities Race to Resilience has been brought together by several city networks and organisations working on raising the profile of urban resilience action, including the Global Covenant of Mayors for Climate & Energy (GCoM), C40 Cities, ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI), the Resilient Cities Network, United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), CDP, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF), World Resources Institute (WRI) and the Making Cities Resilient 2030 (MCR2030).

This event will focus on how cities in the Asia Pacific have been trying to accelerate the implementation of resilience measures and adaptation solutions. It will discuss challenges faced to finance these measures, to develop bankable projects to secure investments and their implementation.

Side Event #48

Title: Exploring characteristics of transformation in Local Level Adaptation

Organization: Global Resilience Partnership & Mercy Corps

Jointly organized with: Zurich Flood Resilience Alliance

Description:

This session will explore how different climate change adaptation implementation programs have contributed to transformational change in the countries of operations. The characteristics serve as guidance for designing a project or program that is going to contribute to unleashing transformational change in the country/geographies of operation.

The session will highlight case studies of community-based disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation projects with concrete examples from implementing partners in the region and other actors, including donor agencies and local governments.

This framework was chosen as it aligns with the experience of both implementing organisations of what transformation looks like within programs including: (1) systemic change; (2) catalyzing broader change; (3) operating at scale; (4) inclusion and equity; (5) sustainability. This session will also connect to the discussion held at the Community Based Adaptation Conference (CBA15), to ensure inclusion of key messages and continuity in narrative between events that address issues of CBA and improved access to climate finance at the local level.

Side Event #49

Title: Unifying Climate Risk Data at the Country Level

Organization: Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII)

Jointly organized with: United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS).

Description:

The Munich Climate Insurance Initiative (MCII), United Nations University - Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) are partnering in this side event to elaborate opportunities and challenges of having standardized systems to collect, process, and analyze climate-related risk data.

Outcomes of this session will contribute to the Plan of Action of the Technical Expert Group on Comprehensive Risk Management (TEG-CRM) mandated by the Warsaw International Mechanism (WIM) under the UNFCCC.

Side Event #50

Title: Asian and Pacific Islander Youth Perspectives on Climate Resilient Development

Organization: YOUNGO

Jointly organized with: MGCY Migration

Description:

Our event would be a panel interview, featuring between five and seven speakers. Each panelist would either be from an Asian or Pacific Island State, or would have deep ties to, experience in, and knowledge of the region. They would also be experts in climate change and its sociopolitical and economic effects. Each panelist will be given two questions, which will be designed to elicit thoughtful and reasoned answers and explanations. Speakers will be given 12 minutes total to answer both questions and will be allowed to divvy that time up however they see fit. At the end of the event, time will be allotted to answer questions from the floor. Kyle Heitmann, of MGCY Migration, will moderate and write the questions. This event will be streamed live to the MGCY Migration and YOUNGO Facebook pages.

Side Event #51

Title: Raising Climate Ambition: Accelerating progress towards Science Based Targets (SBTs)

Organization: Global Compact Network India

Jointly organized with: Global Compact Network Malaysia

Description:

We are in the midst of a climate emergency with irreversible consequences for humans and the environmental systems that keep us alive. At the same time, we are still dealing with the COVID-19 epidemic, which is wreaking havoc on people's lives and livelihoods, disrupting supply chains, increasing inequality, and reversing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Five years into the adoption of the Paris Agreement, the private sector has a crucial role to play. More and more companies are prioritizing corporate climate action and raising ambition in line with climate science. Ambitious business leaders are recognizing that they don't have to choose between taking climate action and having strong economies and bottom lines. On the contrary, taking climate action is the best way to build healthier and thriving people, communities, businesses and economies.

To accelerate the progress, the UN Global Compact has launched the Climate Ambition Accelerator programme, which equips businesses with the information and skills they need to set science-based emissions reduction objectives that are linked with the 1.5°C pathway, placing them on a road to net-zero emissions by 2050.

Side Event #52

Title: Leveraging carbon pricing to accelerate power sector decarbonisation in Asia Pacific

Organization: International Energy Agency

Description:

The event is organised as part of the Asia-Pacific Climate Week 2021. During this webinar, international and regional experts will analyse and discuss opportunities and challenges of

implementing carbon pricing instruments in the Asia-Pacific region, with focus on carbon pricing in power sector transition, examining different national circumstances and sharing country experiences.

Side Event #53

Title: Green, resilient, and inclusive development in the Hindu Kush Himalaya: Challenges and opportunities

Organization: International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)

Description:

The Hindu Kush Himalaya (HKH) region, which spreads across Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, China, Bhutan, Myanmar, and Bangladesh, is the pulse of the planet. What happens in this region affects the livelihoods of 240 million people living in the mountains, and 1.65 billion people living downstream. Together, the HKH provides essential resources, especially water and ecosystem services, to close to 2 billion people – one-fourth of humanity.

The HKH region is also a climate hotspot. Even under a 1.5-degree scenario, it is estimated that the HKH may lose one-third of its glacier volume due to elevation dependent warming. This will exacerbate climate induced disasters and have negative impacts on lives and livelihoods in the region and beyond.

The race to resilience and the race to zero can deliver ambitious climate action in this region.

Aligning COVID-19 recovery efforts with climate action will provide opportunities for green, resilient, and inclusive development in the region.

ICIMOD is organizing this side event to steer discussion on the ambitious action in key sectors, and how these actions can be integrated in national planning and economic packages to enable COVID-19 recovery as well as support the Paris Agreement.

This event is one of the many regional and international dialogues being organized by ICIMOD under the #HKH2Glasgow campaign in the run up to COP26.

Side Event #54

Title: Climate Risk Management for Food Security in the Asia Pacific

Organization: World Food Programme

Jointly organized with: UK Met Office

Description:

The World Food Programme's Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific has supported many countries in the region to work coherently towards climate-resilient development.

WFP works with vulnerable communities and governments to strengthen their capacities to analyze, anticipate, manage and prepare for current and future hazards and their impacts on food and nutrition security while supporting longer-term adaptation to climate change.

In this presentation, we aimed to display the current WFP's integrated approach to risk management. It will include an overview of the different tools, methods, and work areas for WFP, considering current and future risks and trends. Examples of these are:

- The Consolidated Livelihood Exercise for Analyzing Resilience (CLEAR)
- Forecast-based Financing (FbF) and experience from Bangladesh
- The Platform for Real-Time Impact and Situation Monitoring (PRISM)

Side Event #55

Title: Building SME's Capacity on Climate Action - Experiences from South-East Asia

Organization: RCC Bangkok

Jointly organized with: ESCAP, IDRC, UNIDO

Description:

Involvement of private sectors, including SMEs, to address Climate Change is essential for multiple reasons. First of all, given the scale and pace of emissions reductions needed, it is critical that companies across the board urgently act to reduce carbon emissions both in their direct operations and in their supply chains. Secondly, climate change presents material risks to business operations e.g. through infrastructure damage from flooding, droughts and severe weather systems, which in turn introduces new challenges to a fragile and vulnerable enterprise system, in particular for the SMEs. Thus, it is critical for SMEs to both find ways to mitigate emissions, and to be prepared to deal with future climate impacts to increase resilience. This side event hosted by UNFCCC/IGES Regional Collaboration Centre in Bangkok (RCC Bangkok) in collaboration with ESCAP, IDRC and UNIDO has the following objectives:

- (i) present the initial findings from a UNFCCC/IDRC mapping study of capacity building gaps and needs in relation to climate action of SMEs in South-East Asia
- (ii) increase understanding of the support provided to SMEs by different stakeholders in the region and identify areas for future collaboration to take meaningful steps on climate engagement with the SMEs

Side Event #56

Title: Transforming livelihoods with climate resilient housing

Organization: UN Race to Resilience

Description:

The Race to Resilience will host a panel of non-state resilience actors who are taking action across the region to protect the lives and livelihoods of vulnerable people by creating climate resilient dwellings and water supplies, led by the unique needs and cultures of their communities. It will also lay out how both private and public sector actors can constructively partner with pre-existing resilience initiatives to scale their work.

Side Event #57

Title: NDCs for buildings and construction: how to set, finance and implement effective targets to build a net-zero future

Organization: Programme for Energy Efficiency in Buildings (PEEB)

Jointly organized with: Global Alliance for Buildings and Construction (GlobalABC/ UNEP).

Description:

Construction in Asia is booming. Almost half of new construction in the world by 2040 will happen in the Asian region. Energy demand for cooling in buildings is expected to soar. Already today, the operation of buildings in ASEAN, China and India accounted for 27% of the region's final energy use and 24% of energy-related CO2 emissions (2018). Use of better design and better materials can significantly reduce emissions and move towards zero-emission, efficient and resilient buildings sector in the region.

Tools like buildings and energy codes are a powerful to decarbonize the sector, yet, as of 2018, only 44% of countries in Asia had voluntary or mandatory building and energy codes – an enormous challenge lies ahead to establish codes, improve enforcement and oversight, as well as raise their ambition. Similarly, taking whole life carbon approach, from design to decommissioning buildings, passive design and data gaps are key issues to be addressed in the region.

To exemplify actions on the ground, the session brought two experts on the ground.

In India, the targets for implementation of codes in the country are essential. Since buildings codes are state-specific, the government has started to develop a roadmap so that each state can implement these codes according to their local context. Now 20 states out of 35 have notified an energy conservation building code and it is expected that by the end of 2021 every state will have informed on an energy conservation building code. The roadmap, as of now,

addresses: new building, and new materials, new specifications systems and operations (integration of clean energy) urban planning. All these elements have targets for different years: 2025, 2030 and 2047, so that in 2030 all buildings will be net zero or within the passive concept. Vietnam is incorporating buildings in the NDC, working together with different ministries to address all the underlying sectors that also affect buildings to promote the furthest decarbonization. For this purpose, the NDC building roadmap is being developed following the methodology of the GlobalABC which takes a whole life carbon approach. There is also a focus on social housing: low-income housing is in high demand, and the supply is low. Working closely with the housing and real estate market, the Ministry of Construction is integrating NDC targets into the housing development strategies. Key challenges include data availability, political commitment, and willingness to act.

To support countries in integrating buildings roadmaps and NDCs, PEEB is working with the GlobalABC in the development of the NDC Buildings toolkit as a practical approach to address the synergies of the two processes and a database of resources that are helpful in them. NDCs are often presented as a percentage or a number, but measures and implementations need to be clear, with more concrete actions. Also, is it necessary to bring together the variety of actors and investments, and to decide on a precise plan to incentivize green building across sectors.

Side Event #58

Title: Goodbye coal, hello clean: Asia's energy transition

Organization: Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)

Jointly organized with: Ember

Description:

The International Energy Agency (IEA)'s recent landmark report showed that the phaseout of fossil fuels and the phase in of 100% clean power is a clear prerequisite to global transition to net zero by 2050. In this event, the Global Wind Energy Council and leading energy transition think tank, Ember, will join forces to explore how Asian countries can accelerate the energy transition and seize the opportunities of a coal to clean transformation.

Side Event #59

Title: Leveraging Action for Climate Empowerment : A Multi-Stakeholder Perspective

Organization: YOUNGO

Description:

The Side Event will mainly focus around the Role of Action for Climate Empowerment (ACE) In Mitigating Climate Change and leveraging Climate Empowerment and Justice through the meaningful participation of the different stakeholders.

Side Event #60

Title: Enhancing Climate Change Commitments to improve air quality and human health: Practical experience from the United Kingdom, and across Asia and the Pacific

Organization: UNEP/CCAC

Jointly organized with: Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, Stockholm Environment Institute, UK Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, UK National Centre for Atmospheric Science.

Description:

The aim of the session is to highlight the work being done in the Asia Pacific region on integrating air pollution and climate change mitigation. The session will demonstrate practical ways in which air pollution, and short-lived climate pollutants (SLCPs) can be integrated into climate change plans and can increase their ambition by considering local health benefits. The session will provide insights into the next steps for realizing these benefits. Finally, the session

will highlight the latest research on the range of co-benefits from climate change mitigation that can be quantified and evaluated within climate change planning, including broader health benefits from diets, water and sanitation, and economic benefits.

Representatives from the UK, Japan, Mongolia, Cambodia, Bangladesh and Vietnam, as well as from the Stockholm Environment Institute, the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies, and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition will share their experiences and views in taking integrated climate and air quality approaches in updating NDCs (and/or likeminded policies).

Side Event #61

Title: FAIR Climate Service

Organization: OGC - Open Geospatial Consortium

Jointly organized with: ACP - ORGANISATION OF AFRICAN, CARIBBEAN AND PACIFIC STATES

Description:

This side event is going to discuss the design and implementation of location-based climate information systems that meet FAIR principles. It will draw on the experience of climate and geospatial communities in achieving interoperability through standards. It will present ongoing efforts to meet these objectives, discuss experiences with operational infrastructures, and propose actions to establish climate information systems capable of answering the leading questions of a broad user community.

Side Event #62

Title: COP26 Catalyst Adaptation action group

Description:

As many countries are preparing their first ADCOM, this session will be an opportunity for South-South peer learning and exchange to compare approaches and share common questions. It will also explore how countries are leveraging existing adaptation planning processes (including through National Adaptation Plans, Nationally Determined Contributions, and National Communications) to reduce reporting burdens and deliver well-coordinated national approaches to adaptation.

Side Event #63

Title: Report Launch: Regional Study on Green Jobs Policy Readiness in ASEAN

Organization: ILO

Jointly organized with: ASEAN

Description:

The 2018 ASEAN Declaration On Promoting Green Jobs For Equity And Inclusive Growth Of ASEAN Community marks a significant step for ASEAN promoting Green jobs as a high priority and actively promoting green employment in clean energy, energy efficiency and green buildings and urban planning, as well as developing policy to support sustainable production and consumption systems such as circular economy

However, each ASEAN Member State (AMS) is working at a different pace, and with a differing focus. The consequence is that gaps exist in knowledge and data sources for green jobs at the ASEAN level, including understanding the country and sectoral level supply and demand drivers for green jobs, the resulting impacts on labour standards and occupational health and safety, as well as the implications for educational structures, particularly training and vocational education (TVET) systems.

The ILO and ASEAN, with the leadership of Malaysia worked together to address this challenge by conducting a study to assess policy readiness for promoting green jobs and a just transition

across AMS. In completing these assessments, the authors drew on responses to an extensive questionnaire completed by AMS countries between April and September 2020. Results from this questionnaire, along with other document analysis, were then used to develop country narratives and a summary assessment, which are presented in the report titled Regional Study on Green Jobs Policy Readiness in ASEAN.

As part of Asia Pacific Climate Week, this event will officially launch the report and will provide an opportunity to discuss the key findings and implications of the report for ASEAN Member States.

Side Event #64

Title: Making connections that matter: Gender and climate commitments

Organization: UN Women

Jointly organized with: UNEP

Description:

The side event will examine how science and policy work together towards gender responsive climate action. The event is organized with a broad representation of speakers from academia, governments, and intergovernmental organizations showcasing good examples of integrating gender in NDCs through science-based assessments and gender statistics and data. Specifically, experiences from countries in Asia-Pacific who have developed State of Gender Equality and Climate Change assessment reports and those whose NDCs are gender responsive will be highlighted. The discussion will provide recommendations from the integrated science-policy assessments that covered gender analysis in the key NDC sectors such as renewable energy, agriculture, water and waste management and forestry.

Side Event #65

Title: Financing Nature-based Solutions in Asia Pacific

Organization: The Nature Conservancy

Description:

This side event will highlight examples of financing mechanisms in the Asia Pacific region and beyond to illustrate the role that both public and private finance can play in realizing the potential of NbS. We will further explore the role that different sectors and organizations can play and consider actions needed on both the supply and demand sides to enable increased financing to flow high-impact NBS implementation.

Side Event #66

Title: Financing the transition to net zero

Organization: S&P Global

Description:

S&P Global Sustainable1, in collaboration with Asia Pacific Climate Week, presents a virtual thematic session exploring the critical steps towards financing the transition to net zero, including:

- What the net zero journey looks like for different market participants
- How the private sector is financing the ambition
- Forecasting the energy transition: what do we know today
- Key challenges and pitfalls in practice

Side Event #67

Title: Innovative role of the International Chemical Industry Mitigating Climate Change

Organization: International Council of Chemical Associations (ICCA)

Description:

The International Council of Chemical Associations with member around the world, including Asia Pacific region, has developed a selection of exemplary solutions from the global chemical industry to support the transformation toward a low-carbon society. Five main sectors were identified in which low-carbon transformations can be achieved: Power generation and storage, Mobility and transport, nutrition, and agriculture, Building and housing and Industry and production. From an initial 1,000 solutions, a shortlist was created based on expert feedback. Specific workshops were held in Tokyo, Berlin, São Paulo and Pittsburgh. The result was a selection of 17 concise solutions. Some of them coming from Asia Pacific region. Those 17 solutions have a carbon mitigation potential of 5 to 10 GtCO₂eq/year by 2050. The main conclusion was that, although climate change is a global problem, there is no one-size-fits-all solution for every region in the world. Differences in economic systems, geographical circumstances, infrastructures, market needs and the level of societal and political acceptance make it necessary for tailored development trajectories to be designed. Not only must these trajectories include factors such as technological feasibility but also environmental, societal and financial options, and be compatible with the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals.

Side Event #68

Title: Managing Transformation Risks and Seizing Growth Opportunities

Organization: C Team

Jointly organized with: Rock Environment and Energy Institute, The Climate Reality Project, Vanke Foundation

Description:

This side event will shed light on the progress of energy transition in the Asia Pacific economies, mainly Japan, China and Australia, and discuss the potential areas of international collaboration. Perspectives from think tank, academia, NGO and leading renewable energy enterprise will be featured. speakers will navigate three questions:

1. What are risks and opportunities of energy transition in the region?
2. What are the potentials for international cooperation to speed up the transition?
3. How advancement of renewable energy helps the decarbonization process?

Side Event #69

Title: Supporting Just Transition Pathways in Asia and the Pacific: Enhancing capacity and delivering investments

Organization: ADB, ILO, and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development

Description:

To contribute to the commitment made in the High-Level Statement released at the UN Climate Action Summit in September 2019, multilateral development banks have been collaborating on Just Transition. This session will examine some of the guidelines, principles, approaches, and financing mechanisms available to countries as they pursue a Just Transition to sustainable, low-carbon and climate-resilient communities. The session will discuss partnership initiatives, who is investing and who is financing what and why, as well as needs and opportunities for support in countries.

ANNEX C – Action Hub Videos

All videos are available to registered users on-demand at [the APCW 2021 conference site](#) with plans to move to a dedicated Action Hub in the future.

Action Hub Video #1

Title: Accelerating Adaptation through Building with Nature in Asia

Organization: Wetlands International

Jointly organized with: EcoShape and One Architecture

Description:

Millions of people in cities and villages along Asia’s coasts and rivers are vulnerable to storms, floods, droughts, and rising sea levels. By drawing on ecological knowledge of coastal and riverine systems and learning to ‘build with nature’, rather than against it, we can transform this vulnerability into resilience.



This event will present ‘Building with Nature Asia’, an initiative which aims to mainstream nature-based solutions into water infrastructure in Asia. By restoring ecosystems in combination with engineering strategies, we can improve the resilience of landscapes and accelerate adaptation.

The initiative is driven by Indonesia, Philippines, India, Malaysia and China, led by Wetlands International in collaboration with EcoShape and One Architecture. Government agencies, knowledge institutes, NGOs, development banks and the private sector are key contributors. By working together in multiple countries with multiple disciplines we can boost the adoption of Building with Nature.

Action Hub Video #2

Title: Experiences of Implementing Climate-Smart Village Program in the Vulnerable Areas of India

Organization: BAIF Development Research Foundation

Jointly organized with: Bharat Kakade

Description:

The project “Scaling-Out Climate-Smart Village Program in The Vulnerable Areas of Indo-Gangetic Plains of India” was a four-year (October 2016- June 2020) intervention



to scale-out weather resilient agricultural intervention through CCAFS's successful approach on Climate-Smart Villages (CSV). It strived to improve the adaptability and resilience of farmers in the relatively food insecure and vulnerable regions of India. A mix of locally relevant climate-smart technologies and practices identified based on global knowledge and complemented with weather information services were implemented in the CSVs.

Action Hub Video #3

Title: Take Action! Youth Perspectives from the Asia-Pacific

Organization: Youth Voices for Climate Action (UNESCAP)

Description:

Launched at APCW 2019, ESCAP's Youth Voices for Climate Action (YV4CA) platform provides a diverse and inclusive space for Asian-Pacific youth to share their thoughts, inspiration, and solutions for climate action within their own country and throughout the broader international community. We hope to share another video at APCW 2021 (as we did in 2019) to share new voices and ensure a greater and more diverse representation of youth and youth perspectives at the event. We believe that these voices offer a good perspective on national actions and can contribute to the multi-stakeholder function of APCW.



Action Hub Video #4

Title: Video of Betung Kerihun National Park in Indonesia

Organization: International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Description:

The video shows images of beautiful Betung Kerihun National Park on the border between Indonesia and Malaysia on Borneo. The Park, which is part of a transboundary conservation area, is home to at least 48 mammal species, including orangutan, 1200 plants and 112 fish species. ITTO projects in the area have helped uplift local livelihoods and improve biodiversity conservation outcomes.

The Park, which covers about 800 000 hectares, was established in 1992. One of Indonesia's most biodiverse protected areas, it adjoins the Lanjak Entimau Wildlife Sanctuary and Batang Ai National Park in Sarawak, Malaysia. A series of ITTO projects on both sides of the border has promoted collaboration between Indonesia and Malaysia on the conservation and sustainable management of this valuable transboundary ecosystem.

The latest project in the series [PD 617/11 Rev.4 (F)], which was completed in 2018, helped build the capacity of local communities living in or near Betung Kerihun National Park in a range of income-earning fields, such as bamboo and agarwood cultivation, aquaculture and ecotourism. Local women have been empowered through training and other means to operate local tourism ventures. Community members and park rangers have been trained in forest monitoring and patrolling, and a wildlife survey has been conducted.

Partnerships have been established among local communities, non-governmental organizations, government bodies and the Heart of Borneo Initiative that help sustains project outcomes. ITTO's projects in the transboundary area constitute part of the ITTO/CBD Collaborative Initiative for Tropical Forest Biodiversity.



Action Hub Video #5

Title: What makes India’s transition to net-zero emissions different from anything the world has seen?

Organization: Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW)

Description:

India would need to reach peak emissions within this decade if it were to achieve net-zero emissions by mid-century, a pace of transition unlike anything the world has seen before. This would give India an extremely narrow window to ensure a smooth and equitable transition from a peaking year to a net-zero year. The session is a 4-minute pre-recorded video-based on CEEW's study 'Peaking and Net-Zero for India's Energy Sector CO2 Emissions: An Analytical Exposition'.



Action Hub Video #6

Title: 1530 Bamboo villages Indonesia Project video for PD 600 11 Rev 1

Organization: International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO)

Description:

Indonesia’s plan to “green” its economy is getting a boost by the creation of 1000 bamboo villages through ITTO project PD 600/11 Rev.1 (I), which is building capacity for the sustainable use of bamboo and the restoration of degraded lands suitable for bamboo production.



Action Hub Video #7

Title: A Source of Hope

Organization: Afghanaid

Description:

Afghanistan is a land of astounding natural and cultural beauty, but following four decades of conflict, sustained poverty, and environmental degradation, Afghans are facing another threat - climate change. The shifting climate is making natural disasters more common and more severe, particularly floods and droughts, causing untold suffering, and trapping rural Afghans in a cycle of poverty. Every year, natural disasters affect some 235,000 people across the country, taking lives and destroying homes, fields, livelihoods, and crucial infrastructure. The Afghanistan Resilience Consortium, led by Afghanaid in partnership with ActionAid, Concern Worldwide, and Save the Children has been working alongside local communities to reduce their risk and improve their resilience to natural disasters



and climate change, by restoring their local ecosystems. Crucially, the strategies applied are affordable and can be sustainably managed by communities themselves. With our support, these communities are finding a source of hope in the face of the climate crisis.