

Seventh Session of the Committee on Environment and Development (CED-7)

Side Event 2

Managing the risk of a temperature overshoot in Asia Pacific

29 November 2022

UNCC – Theatre | 12:30 – 13:50 Bangkok Time

Online participation: [https://c2g2-](https://c2g2-net.zoom.us/webinar/register/1216685120704/WN_VinTaN4CQYKOyLwVTPvGA)

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Organizers: The Energy and Resource Institute (TERI), Carnegie Climate Governance Initiative (C2G) of the Carnegie Council for Ethics in International Affairs

Background

According to the IPCC, large-scale Carbon Dioxide Removal (CDR) will be necessary to achieve net zero emissions and to limit warming to 1.5–2°C as per the Paris Agreement. Scaling-up CDR presents both benefits and risks and poses governance challenges which urgently need to be addressed. Furthermore, faced with the increasing risk of overshooting the 1.5°C goal and maybe going beyond, in addition to deep and rapid climate mitigation and adaptation, additional approaches – known as solar radiation modification (SRM) – are being explored to temporarily limit global warming by enhancing the Earth’s reflectivity. There is currently no comprehensive, robust, and formal international governance for SRM which poses a risk by itself.

The Asia-Pacific region is highly vulnerable to climate impacts and the current mitigation commitments made by countries globally remain insufficient to keep the world within the Paris Agreement temperature goals. In addition to transformative mitigation and adaptation, the region might need to consider additional options – and their governance – for managing the risks of a temperature overshoot, including CDR and potentially even SRM.



The event aims to increase the awareness of stakeholders and catalyze regional discussions around the latest scientific and governance developments relating to large-scale CDR and SRM.

Key questions to be addressed

- I. What would be the potential role of CDR in delivering the Asia-Pacific region's ambitions to be consistent with the Paris Agreement goals, and what would be the key governance challenges for the region?
- II. How would the Asia-Pacific region manage the risks of overshooting the Paris Agreement goals? What would be the role of different regional institutions such as ESCAP?
- III. How could regional actors learn and build capacity to more effectively address overshoot risks? Should this include learning more about how to scale-up CDR? Should it include learning more about additional emerging options such as SRM? And if so, how?

Agenda

8 min Opening remarks

- Kaveh Zahedi, Deputy Executive Secretary, UNESCAP
- Vibha Dhawan, Director General, TERI

10 min Keynote: How to situate CDR and SRM in the context of the global climate crisis and temperature overshoot

- Andy Reisinger, Vice-Chair of IPCC, Visiting Fellow, Climate Change Institute, Fenner School of Environment and Society, College of Science, Australian National University

45 min Panel discussion:

- Shinichiro Asayama, Senior Researcher, National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan



- Neth Daño, Asia Director, Action Group on Erosion, Technology and Concentration (ETC Group)
- Ajai Malhotra, Distinguished Fellow and Senior Advisor (Climate Change), TERI
- Dechen Tsering, Director, UNEP Asia and the Pacific Office
- Moderator: Janos Pasztor, Executive Director, C2G

15 min Q & A with the audience

- Moderator: Janos Pasztor, Executive Director, C2G

2 min Closure

- Janos Pasztor, Executive Director, C2G

Event facilitator: Qi ZHENG, Outreach Officer, C2G

