



# 11<sup>th</sup> APFSD

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20-23 February 2024



## Addressing systemic barriers in multilateralism to deliver the 2030 Agenda and prevent the climate crisis

### Side Event: 11th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development

February 21, 11:30-12:45 GMT+7

Room H

### Organizer(s)

Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism

### Co-organizer(s)

Asia Pacific Forum on Women, Law and Development

Asia Pacific Research Network

ALGA

Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society

International Trade Union Confederation - Asia Pacific

### Registration

To attend the side event, all registrants must also register on Indico to attend the APFSD by February 6 using the link here:

<https://indico.un.org/event/1007683/>

Please register using the option “Registration for Others” and choose your side event. Those who do not register on Indico will not be able to access the United Nations Conference Center.

**[INSERT RELEVANT LOGO(S) HERE]** According to guidelines, if the ESCAP logo appears with another logo it should be placed first, on the left-hand side. In no case should the other logo be visibly larger than the ESCAP logo

## Background

The world today is at an inflection point in the global governance, sustainability and wellbeing of humanity. Poverty reduction has stalled, hunger and inequality are rising. Violent conflicts and wars persist and pose serious threats to international peace and security. Recovery from the pandemic is incomplete and uneven. Trade and economic cooperation failed to deliver shared prosperity and many countries fall into debt and cost of living crises. Climate crisis, biodiversity loss and pollution seem irreversible and the SDGs seem unachievable.

Multilateralism has failed to create effective and transformative solutions to the aforesaid intersecting global problems, putting under scrutiny its legitimacy, efficiency, and capacity to address the systemic barriers to sustainable development. As the 11th APFSD looks into reinforcing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and eradicating poverty during times of multiple crises, this side event aims to critically rethink multilateralism and explore alternative approaches to advance development justice.

## Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

1. What is the current state of multilateralism and how does it manifest in Asia-Pacific?
2. How responsive is the current multilateral system to the global problems that the people of Asia-Pacific face amidst the multiple and intersecting crises?
3. Considering the global challenges that the region faces amidst the multiple and intersecting crises, how can we rethink and transform multilateralism for development justice?

Bringing together a **diverse panel,\*** this side event aims to draw attention to the failure of multilateralism in effectively responding to the present global challenges amidst the multiple crises and ensuring an inclusive global governance system that delivers shared prosperity for all. In doing so, it will help to critically examine the current state of multilateralism, explore alternative forms of multilateralism, and identify recommendations that can contribute to strengthening the collective position of APRCEM on the Summit of the Future discussions.

## Programme

Opening session	
Background of the side event	10 min
Introduction of panellists	11:30 - 11:40
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ali Jillani, Karachi Research Chair</li> <li>2. Ajay Kumar Jha, Centre for Community Economics and Development Consultants Society</li> <li>3. April Porteria, Asia Pacific Forum on Law, Women and Development</li> <li>4. Julia Puno, Asia Pacific Research Network</li> <li>5. Representative from G77+China (TBC)</li> <li>6. Representative from the UN (TBC)</li> </ol>	
Interactive panel discussion (Talk show format)	
<u>First round</u>	35 min
<p>The moderator will pose following question to all the panellists who will be given five minutes each to respond:</p> <p>How would you assess the effectiveness of multilateralism in responding to the global problems that people in Asia and the Pacific region face?</p>	11:40 – 12:15
<u>Second round</u>	15 min
<p>The moderator will pose following question to all the panellists who will be given two minutes each to respond:</p> <p>Give two recommendations on how to transform multilateralism for development justice.</p>	12:15 - 12:30
Questions from the floor	10 min
	12:30 - 12:40
Closing	
Conclusion and key takeaways	5 min
	12:40 - 12:45

**For information,** please contact Ms Joy Hernandez, Co-Chair of Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism and Senior Communications and Advocacy Officer of ITUC-Asia Pacific, at [joy@ituc-ap.org](mailto:joy@ituc-ap.org).