



11th APFSD

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20-23 February 2024



“Promoting Synergistic Approaches in Asia and the Pacific: Addressing the Triple Planetary Crisis”

February 20, 13:00-14:15 GMT+7 (Thailand Time), 15:00-16:15 GMT+9 (Japan time)

Language: English/Japanese

Meeting link (for virtual side events): To be provided at a later date. Pre-registration is necessary.

Organizer(s)

Ministry of Environment Japan

Co-Organizer

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies

Japanese Embassy in Thailand

Registration

To register for this side event, please use the following link:

https://iges-jp.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_ns11S67pTruhYEOoFyiuRw

Background

The world faces a triple planetary crisis: climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution threaten to undermine the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Synergistic approaches could potentially help address these three crises in an integrated manner by working across the different dimensions of sustainable development.

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In recent years, the international community has the need for robust planning and reporting frameworks that can help effectively implement synergies. Against this backdrop, Japan is proposing a resolution “Promoting synergistic approaches to address the interlinked global crises of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution and support sustainable development” for UNEA-6. Focusing on ways countries in Asia-Pacific can accelerate their efforts on climate (SDG 13) and other relevant environmental SDGs through the promotion of synergistic actions, this side event will enable policymakers and other stakeholders an opportunity to offer inputs into the effective implementation of the resolution and bring synergies to life.

Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

1. What are some of the key opportunities and challenges for promoting synergies in Asia and the Pacific?
2. How can countries in the region develop robust planning and reporting frameworks for synergies?
3. What kind of good practices that generate synergies among SDGs do countries have and what are lessons learned from those?

The triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution continues to pose obstacles to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda, the Paris Agreement, and the recently-agreed Global Biodiversity Framework. Overcoming these challenges in an effective manner requires the adoption of synergistic approaches. This side event will engage with representative governments and other stakeholders leading implementation across the region to focus on ways countries in Asia-Pacific can accelerate their efforts on climate and SDGs by promoting synergistic actions.

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Programme

| Presenters | Topic | Thailand time | Duration (min.) |
|--|---|---------------|-----------------|
| Introduction | | | |
| Moderator: Eric Zusman Research Leader Integrated Sustainability Centre Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) | Welcoming | 13:00 – 13:02 | 2 |
| Opening | | | |
| Representative from Embassy of Japan in Thailand (To be confirmed) | Opening Remarks | 13:02 – 13:07 | 5 |
| Presentations | | | |
| Luis Gomez-Echeverri Emeritus Research Scholar International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) / Co-Lead, Expert Group on Climate and SDG Synergies | Overview of Global Synergies Report | 13:07 – 13:17 | 10 |
| Representative from Fiji Government (To be confirmed) | Importance of UNEA Resolution on Synergies for Fiji | 13:17 – 13:27 | 10 |
| To be confirmed | To be confirmed | 13:27 – 13:37 | 10 |
| Karma Yangzom Principal Environment Specialist Asian Development Bank (ADB) | Promoting Co-benefits in the Blue Skies Programme | 13:37 - 13:47 | 10 |
| Kenji Tsurumi Assistant Manager Kawasaki Environmental Research Institute | The Synergies Between Green Space and Heat Stroke Mediation | 13:59 - 13:59 | 12 |
| Interactive Discussions (Q&A) | | | |
| Facilitator: Matthew Hengesbaugh Policy Researcher Integrated Sustainability Centre Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) | | 13:59 -14:10 | 11 |
| Closing | | | |
| To be confirmed | Closing remarks | 14:10 – 14:15 | 5 |

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