



11th APFSD

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20-23 February 2024



Harnessing Technology, Data and Capacity for Climate Resilient Development

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

February 20 at 13:00-14:15, GMT+7

Virtual (<https://zoom.us/j/95336366020>)

Organizers

- Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development
- Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology
- Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management
- Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanization
- Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific

Registration

To register for this side event, please use <https://forms.office.com/e/E793psTVVz>

Background

Efforts to address climate change in Asia and the Pacific must prioritize the leveraging of technology, statistics, and capacity building. This entails fostering the transfer and development of sustainable technologies, improving data governance, collection and analysis capabilities, investing in statistical infrastructure for tracking progress, and promoting capacity building initiatives. By embracing these comprehensive strategies, countries in the region can enhance their resilience, make informed decisions, monitor climate impacts, and effectively contribute to global efforts in mitigating and adapting to the challenges posed by climate change.

The side-event will look into the strategic integration of policymaking and planning, capacity building, technology, effective use of data and statistics, and regional cooperation in combating and adapting to climate change. It will feature experts and practitioners who will discuss on:

1. Potential of cross-border technology cooperation and exchange of technical capacities and expertise in responding to climate change. By facilitating the

transfer of cutting-edge and innovative climate technologies and solutions, countries can collaboratively mitigate the adverse effects of climate change more effectively.

2. Harnessing the power of data and statistics to transform vast amounts of climate data into actionable insights, including for food security and climate resilience.
3. The need to strengthen human and institutional capacities in countries to understand and combat climate risks and challenges. This entails equipping them with the knowledge and skills to collect and analyze relevant data that can serve as an input to the formulation of effective climate responses while harnessing cutting-edge and innovative technologies.

The event is aligned with the APFSD theme on Climate Action (SDG13) and relevant SDG targets, namely: Target 13.1 on the need to strengthen resilience and adaptive capacity to climate-related hazards, a goal that is significantly advanced through technology transfer; Target 13.3 on improving education, awareness-raising, and human and institutional capacity on climate change mitigation and adaptation; and Target 13.2 on integrating climate change measures into national policies and planning. It will also address SDG2, in particular Target 2.4: on and implementing resilient agricultural practices that strengthen capacity for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters.

Key Questions

This side event will examine the following questions:

- What are the critical capacity needs of countries when it comes to leveraging technologies in their response to climate change? What are the major barriers to building capacity of stakeholders and how can they be overcome?
- How can we ensure that effective climate technologies are scalable, affordable and accessible, especially in developing countries? What are some examples of technology cooperation and transfer between countries that have significantly contributed to climate change mitigation or adaptation? What are the challenges in cross-border transfer of climate-related technologies and how to address them?
- How can we improve the use of data and statistics to better understand the relationship between human activities and climate change, and how these integrated data can be used in formulating climate policies and actions through leveraging technologies? What are the obstacles to effectively using data in climate change initiatives, and how can they be overcome?

Programme

Opening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Message from Ms. Armida Salsiah Alisjahbana, Executive Secretary, ESCAP Introduction by the Moderator Remarks by Mr. Kiyoung Ko, Director, APCICT/ESCAP (on behalf of all ESCAP RIs) Group Photo 	10 min
Speakers		
Ms Lei CAO, Associate Researcher, Nanjing Institute of Agricultural Mechanization, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Affairs of China	Integrating data and new technologies into agricultural mechanization for climate resilient agriculture and adaptation of smallholders to climate change.	45 mins
Representative from Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India (speaker name to be confirmed)	Harnessing Artificial Intelligence including 4IR Technologies for Climate Resilient Development	
Mr. Sokol Vako, Statistician, Statistical Institute of Asia and the Pacific	Integrated information in support of climate change policies	
Representative from the Pacific	-	
Moderator: Ms. Kalara McGregor, Principal Sustainability Consultant, Earth Systems		
Interactive discussion and Q&A		18 min
Closing		2 mins

For information, please contact Mr. Robert de Jesus, Programme Officer, APCICT/ESCAP at dejesus3@un.org