



## **Businesses Accelerating Inclusive Green Economies - Leaving No One Behind**

Tuesday, 11 June, 13:00 PM - 16:00 PM  
UNCC, meeting room MR G  
Lunch : 12:30 PM

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### Organizers:

- The EU-SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component
- United Nations Environment Programme (UN Environment)
- The United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

# Businesses Accelerating Inclusive Green Economies - Leaving No One Behind

*“Nations across Asia and the Pacific need to take bold action to ensure empowerment, inclusiveness and equality if the region is to realize the ambitious 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development”, UN Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, Speaking at the opening of the Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) in Bangkok, March 2019*

## The Inclusive Green Economy

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development pledges to **leave no one behind**. At the heart of this ambition is a commitment to empower people, reduce inequalities and promote human rights.

To make our economies greener, fairer, and more inclusive, **we need to seriously re-evaluate the economic policies** that have resulted in the

pollution of our air, water and food. The inclusive green economy has emerged as an alternative to the status quo that creates growth by liquidating natural assets, investing in people and ecological infrastructure as a source of future innovation, revenue, and growth.

The **SDG 12**, sustainable consumption and production, is about promoting resource and energy efficiency, sustainable infrastructure, and providing access to basic services, green and decent jobs and a better quality of life for all. Its implementation helps to achieve overall development plans, reduce future economic, environmental and social costs, strengthen economic competitiveness and reduce poverty.

Private sector engagement and leadership for achieving SDG 12 is very important, and even more so in the context of **SDG 17** that advocates for partnership solutions. Businesses and investors are vital partners and stakeholders for increasing resource efficiency, enabling access to all, and reducing the negative environmental impacts. However,

green goods and services such as electric cars, alternative energy including solar, cooling equipment without hydrofluorocarbon (HFCs), sustainable food, green housing, and so on are still beyond the affordability of masses. Leaving no one behind has to be an integral aspiration in all aspects of sustainability and green economy pathways.



## The Dialogue

Panellists will share best practices in business and investment for inclusive green economy pathways and solutions that are advancing implementation of SDG 12 for Sustainable Consumption and Production, whilst “leaving no one behind”.

The discussions will be organized around two main issues: i) the enabling conditions where businesses are not only providing jobs and income, but enhancing human wellbeing, prosperity and social equity, within the contours of positive environmental impact; ii) the enabling environments and incentives that are attracting investors to invest in businesses that accelerate inclusive green economies.

# Businesses Accelerating Inclusive Green Economies - Leaving No One Behind

## Background

**SWITCH-Asia Programme**, funded by European Union, promotes sustainable consumption and production in Asia focusing on improving resource efficiency and managing in consumption and production for all the sectors. This programme has three major components: (1) **Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC) managed by UN Environment**, (2) Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) Facility, and (3) Grants for projects in the countries.

The **OECD** is home to the most comprehensive international instrument on responsible business conduct (RBC), the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (OECD MNE Guidelines), and promotes RBC as a key pillar of the SDGs and sustainable and inclusive growth. The OECD adopts a multi-stakeholder approach to this work, conducting outreach and building partnerships globally. Most recently, **the OECD joined the European Union (EU) and the International Labour Organisation (ILO) in promoting “Responsible Supply Chains in Asia”** (Asia Programme). The objectives of the Asia Programme funded by the EU are to promote RBC with regard to the environment, decent work and human rights in global supply chains, working with national governments and business across China, Japan, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand and Vietnam.

Importantly, this work includes raising awareness and boosting industry capacity on operationalising RBC practices, including those that are essential to sustainable production and consumption. Specifically, the OECD has been working directly with businesses and business associations across the region in providing technical support and training on key concepts of risk-based due diligence as outlined in the **OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct** (Guidance). The Guidance reflects international best practice standards on due diligence and provides a framework for business to demonstrate their implementation of international expectations, extending to the environment and the broader SDGs. In parallel, under this Programme the OECD is also working with governments to promote policy tools for implementing RBC and the building of enabling environments that support business’ implementation of responsible and sustainable practices.

RPAC in collaboration with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) facilitated a dialogue on **“Sustainability Reporting – Thinking Circular Economy by Businesses” on 27 March, 2019** on the side lines of the the Asia Pacific Forum on Sustainability Development at UN Conference Centre in Bangkok.

Building on the dialogue on Sustainable Reporting, the EU funded RPAC, in partnership with ESCAP and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), are pleased to convene this dialogue on “Businesses Accelerating Inclusive Green Economies- Leaving No One Behind” focusing on businesses and investors internalizing economic, social and environmental considerations to advance sustainable consumption and production.

The event will take place as a side event during the **Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum** co-organized by the Royal Thai Government, OECD, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), ESCAP, International Labour Organization (ILO) and with the participation of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights



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## **Join us**

We look forward to seeing you!

**The online registration is available at** <https://forms.gle/PCF97uTv6Ry9J2wA6>

For more information, please visit SWITCH-Asia Event Page

<https://www.switch-asia.eu/events/businesses-accelerating-inclusive-green-economies-leaving-no-one-behind/>

## **Contact details:**

### **Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon**

Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency

UN Environment, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Project Manager

Regional Policy Advocacy Component

(SWITCH-Asia – the European Union funded programme)

Email: [memon@un.org](mailto:memon@un.org)

## Speaker Biographies

(in order of appearance)



### Mr. Giuseppe Busini

Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to Thailand

Mr Giuseppe Busini took up duties as Deputy Head of the EU Delegation to the Kingdom of Thailand in September 2018. Mr Busini has worked in the EU External Relations service for more than 20 years, covering inter alia South Caucasus, Iran, Central Asia, the Gulf Cooperation Council and India. Before his appointment to Bangkok, he was responsible for the EU's relations with ASEAN and the ASEAN Regional Forum.

Mr Busini holds a master degree with honours in Political Science and a PhD in International Relations and Contemporary History, both obtained at the University of Perugia (Italy). In addition to his Italian mother tongue, Mr Busini is fluent in English, French and Spanish. He is married and has three sons.



### Ms. Isabelle Louis

Deputy Regional Director

United Nations Environment Programme, Asia and the Pacific Office

Ms. Isabelle Louis has been Deputy Regional Director at UN Environment Asia Pacific Office in Bangkok since September 2014. She coordinates UN Environment's work programme in the region pursuant to the organization's mandate to support the UN Member States in the region on issues related to the environment and sustainable development, including initiatives on climate change, environmental governance and law, pollution, sustainable consumption and production, sustainable financing, gender inclusiveness and the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals. She also coordinates UN Environment's strategic partnerships including with governments, research institutions and the private sector.



### Ms. Cristina Tebar Less

Head, Responsible Business Conduct

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Cristina Tébar Less is Head of the OECD Responsible Business Conduct. She manages a team of experts in corporate responsibility and oversees work related to the implementation of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, the development of due diligence guidance, and support to the Network of National Contact Points. She had held positions in the OECD Legal Directorate and in the Environment Directorate, where she did policy analysis on trade, investment and environment linkages. She has been a Senior Policy Analyst in the Investment Division since 2008, where she worked on a broad range of issues, including countries' adherence to OECD investment instruments, investment policy reviews, green investment and the contribution of the private sector to the transition to a low carbon economy. She is the author and co-author of numerous OECD publications on the links between trade, investment, and environment. Before joining the OECD she worked as an Attorney at Law in Madrid (Spain), with a focus on corporate, environmental and intellectual property law.



### Mr. Marc Proksch

Chief, Investment and Enterprise Development Section,

Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP

Marc Proksch has a Masters Degrees from the Free University of Amsterdam in political science, international relations and of the London School of Economics in international political economy with specializations in foreign investment and international trade. From 2000 until 2010, he worked in ESCAP's Trade Policy Section of the Trade and Investment Division, with focus on WTO issues and the Doha Development Agenda, in particular agricultural trade, trade and investment and competition policy, intellectual property rights, as well as on regional and bilateral trade agreements and their relationship with the multilateral trading system. In 2010, he became the Chief of the Investment and Enterprise Development Section in the Trade, Investment and Innovation Division focusing on FDI promotion and policies, small- and medium enterprise development, and promotion of responsible business practices.

## Speaker Biographies

(in order of appearance)



### Ms. Marit Nilses

Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Marit Nilses has over 20 years of work experience combining public and private sectors, of which over 15 years with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), focusing on sustainable business practices and foreign direct investment. Prior to the UN she worked in policy analysis at the Swedish National Board for Industrial and Technical Development, and in market analysis and communications for a multinational company in the construction sector. She has a Master of Science degree in Economics and Business Administration from Uppsala University, Sweden.



### Ms. Ruenvadee Suwanmongkol

Secretary-General  
Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC, Thailand)

Ms. Suwanmongkol is Secretary-General of the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), Thailand. Prior to joining the SEC, Ms. Suwanmongkol worked at the Ministry of Justice for 15 years in various positions, i.e., Director-General of the Legal Execution Department and Probation Department and Inspector, etc. She is a Director of Bank for Agriculture and Agricultural Cooperatives and Dhanarak Asset Development Co., Ltd. Also, she worked at the SEC, Thailand from 1992-2004 as Director of the Office of the Secretary-General and Deputy Director of Asset Management Supervision Department, respectively.

Ms. Suwanmongkol earned LL.B. with 1st Class Honors and Gold Medal from Chulalongkorn University. She obtained L.L.M. (International Business Law) from Harvard Law School and M.B.A., from Walter A. Haas School of Business from University of California at Berkeley, U.S.A. Additionally, she was awarded Barrister-at-Law from Legal Training Institute, Thai Bar Association.



### Ms. Tongjai Thanachanan

Director, C asean

With more than 15 years of global strategic consulting experience, Tongjai has recently turned her focus to Sustainable Development and Social Enterprise operations. She has been an instrumental figure in the launching of Pracharat Raksamakkee social enterprise network across Thailand, which focuses on rural community development.

Additionally, Tongjai leads Sustainability Program at C asean with wide range of activities, including award-winning "Win Win WAR Thailand" TV program.



### Mr. Apichat Saligupta

Vice President  
Unilever

Mr. Apichat Saligupta has been Vice President Customer Development since July 2017. He has worked with Unilever for almost 25 years. He has been working across Unilever business including Consumer & Market Insight, Marketing for both Thailand and Asia region, Customer Development Operations and Modern Trade especially international customers. He also led Rad Tid Dao program which is part of Unilever Sustainable Living Plan to enhance livelihood of small Mom & Pop stores in challenging retail environment.

## Speaker Biographies

(in order of appearance)



### **Ms. Yuki Yasui**

Asia Pacific Co-ordination Manager, UNEP Finance Initiative

Yuki has been working on sustainable finance for the last 16 years. She has recently moved to the UN Environment Asia Pacific Office to expand UNEP FI activities in the region. She works towards the acceleration of the development of financial institutions in the region that integrate sustainability as a value creation driver and which contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). She is a chartered accountant (ACA) and was at PricewaterhouseCoopers in London.



### **Mr. Somchai Lertlarpwasin**

Senior Director, Financial Institutions Strategy Department  
Bank of Thailand

Mr. Somchai Lertlarpwasin is Senior Director of the Financial Institutions Strategy Department. He has worked at the Bank of Thailand for more than 20 years, covering facilitation of debt restructuring, banking liberalization policy and financial stability. He led the Bank's regional office in Khon Khaen prior to joining the Financial Institutions Strategy Department in October 2018. His department works on policy formulation for development of Thailand's financial sector, sustainable banking and coordination of financial regulatory policies with a view to promoting sustainable development. He works on developing strategies for promoting competitiveness and financial access, while maintaining stability of the financial sector.



### **Mr. Poonsit Wongthawatchai**

The Executive Vice President, Head of Division: Environmental,  
Social, and Governance Division of Krungsri

Mr. Poonsit Wongthawatchai supervises the Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) Division, a new division established in response to the rising global demand for ESG-focused corporate responsibility, where he takes a leading role in formulating significant ESG issues and integrating them into the Bank's business strategies and processes, as well as banking product development and provision. His previous areas of professional experience include investor relations, internal and external communication which also covers the translation function, and employee activities.

He obtained a Bachelor of Science in Business Economics from University of New Hampshire and an MBA from Columbia University (with the Bank of Thailand's scholarship). He also received a Master of Philosophy in European Studies from Cambridge University.



### **Mr. Surayut Thavikulwat**

Chief Financial Officer, BTS Group Holdings Public Company Limited

Mr. Surayut has been Chief Financial Officer of BTS Group Holdings PCL since 2011. Prior to join the company he has more than 13 year of experiences at Bangkok Bank PCL. He is also a President of Thai Investor Relations Club.

He holds a Master of Business Administration from Ross School of Business , University of Michigan-Ann Arbor USA

## Businesses Accelerating Inclusive Green Economies- Leaving No One Behind

### Side Event- Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum

Tuesday, 11 June 2019,

12.00 – 16.00 PM

UN Conference Center- Meeting Room MR G, Bangkok, Thailand

## Agenda

TIME	PROGRAMME
12.00 – 13.00	Registration and light lunch
13.00 – 13.30	<p><b>Welcome, opening remarks and “setting the scene”</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Mr. Giuseppe Busini</b>, Deputy Head of Delegation, European Union</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Isabelle Louis</b>, Deputy Regional Director, UN Environment, Asia and the Pacific Office</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Cristina Tebar Less</b>, Head, Responsible Business Conduct, OECD</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Marc Proksch</b>, Chief, Investment and Enterprise Development Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP</li> </ul> <p><b>MC: Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon</b>, Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency, UN Environment, Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific Project Manager, Regional Policy Advocacy Component (SWITCH-Asia – the European Union funded programme)</p>
13.30 – 14:40	<p><b>Panel 1. “Enabling conditions for inclusive and green businesses”</b></p> <p>Private sector engagement and leadership is very important for achieving SDG 12, Sustainable Consumption and Production; and even more so in the context of SDG 17 that advocates for partnership solutions. Panelists will share tools, best practices and enabling conditions where businesses are not only providing jobs and income, but enhancing human wellbeing, prosperity and social equity, within the contours of positive environmental impact.</p> <p>Moderator: <b>Ms. Marit Nilses</b>, Economic Affairs Officer, United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)</p> <p><b>Panel Members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ms. Cristina Tebar Less</b>, Head, Responsible Business Conduct, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Ruenvadee Suwanmongkol</b>, Secretary-General, Securities and Exchange Commission, Thailand</li> <li>• <b>Ms. Tongjai Thanachanan</b>, Director, C asean</li> <li>• <b>Mr. Apichat Saligupta</b>, Vice President, Unilever Thai Trading Limited</li> </ul> <p><b>Q &amp; A</b></p>



**14.40 – 15.50 Panel 2. “Financing an inclusive green economy”**

The alignment of the finance sector to societal goals is key to guarantee that green goods and services are accessible to masses. Panelists will analyze the enabling environments and incentives that are attracting investors to invest in businesses that accelerate inclusive green economies.

Moderator: **Ms. Yuki Yasui**, Asia Pacific Region Co-ordination Manager, UNEP Finance Initiative  
UN Environment

**Panel Members:**

- **Mr. Somchai Lertlarpwasin**, Senior Director, Financial Institutions Strategy Department, Bank of Thailand
- **Mr. Poonsit Wongthawatchai**, Executive Vice President, Environmental, Social and Governance Division, Bank of Ayudhya Public Company Limited
- **Mr. Surayut Thavikulwat**, Chief Financial Officer, BTS Group Holdings Pcl.

**Q & A**

**15.50 – 16.00 “Take-aways” and concluding remarks**

MC: **Mr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon**