



Media Advisory

Experts and governments gather in Bangkok to discuss sustainability innovations for Asia and the Pacific

Bangkok, September 12, 2018 – From September 18-19, senior government officials, top environmental experts, and leaders in the private sector and civil society will gather at the C-Asean tower in Bangkok for discussions on what it will take to ensure Asia-Pacific's rapid economic growth does not come at devastating environmental cost.

Over two days, five themed sessions will address everything from the impact of artificial intelligence on transportation to how venture capitalists can support green startups. Other discussions will cover such topics as regional harmonization of environmental laws and how to employ nudging techniques, the media, and religious leaders to guide society toward better environmental practices.

A **full agenda of topics is below** and further information can be found at <https://transforming-ap.org/>

In addition to the main panel discussions and speeches, on 18 September from 5 to 7 p.m., UN Environment will also be hosting the final pitch competition for entrepreneurs that previously won the Asia-Pacific Low-Carbon Lifestyles Challenge. These 10 start-ups from across the region will have the opportunity to show how an initial grant of US\$10,000 has helped them expand their business, and why they deserve the \$50,000 available in the final round.

To schedule interviews with participants and register your interest, please contact:

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NOTES TO EDITORS

About UN Environment

UN Environment is the leading global voice on the environment. It provides leadership and encourages partnership in caring for the environment by inspiring, informing, and enabling nations and peoples to improve their quality of life without compromising that of future generations. UN Environment works with governments, the private sector, civil society and with other UN entities and international organizations across the world. UN Environment is holding this event under the EU-funded SWITCH-Asia programme.

Transforming Asia Pacific: Innovative Solutions, Circular Economy and Low Carbon Lifestyles: Detailed Agenda

DAY 1, TUESDAY

18 SEPTEMBER

12.00 – 13.00

Registration

13.00 – 14.00

Opening session and keynote

Welcome Remarks, Framing Asia's key questions about low carbon consumption

Dechen Tsering, UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Office

UN Environment is the leading institution in low carbon consumption in Asia and the Pacific. In this speech, we will set the scene and ask the core questions that must be answered by the end of the event: What are the priority innovative solutions for circular economy and low carbon lifestyles in the following domains: 1. Policy, 2. Finance, 3. Technology, 4. Business models, 5. Culture.

Regional policy solutions for low carbon and low waste consumption – top 5 lessons learned in Europe

H.E. Pirkka Tapiola, Ambassador of the EU Delegation to Thailand

The EU has a long history of policy integration when it comes to low carbon consumption. Today, it is changing the global policy and business landscape with innovative policy solutions both at the regional and national level. From product longevity declarations, to nudging policy, and bold single use plastic bans, we hear from the EU what their top 5 lessons learned are that could jumpstart low carbon consumption policy in Asia. This is an opportunity to delve into the recent slew of policy goals on single use plastics.

Keynote and Opening: Thailand's innovation under the Thailand 4.0 Strategy

General Surasak Karnjanarat, Minister, Ministry of Natural Resources and Environment (TBC)

Thailand has embarked on an ambitious strategy called Thailand 4.0, which outlines how it will strengthen the enabling environment for innovation in industry.

Group Photo

Session 1: Rules of the game Policy mechanisms for low carbon consumption

Session Chair: Ms. Hong Sin Kwek, Founder, CrowdFunding Asia

Changing policies is hard work. The panel discussion will debate which are the most critical policy measures governments should take to enable low carbon consumption. One type of policy from each category will be showcased by policy makers and businesses from the following types: legal instruments, financial instruments, mainstreaming, and sustainable public procurement.

Video: Policy mechanisms for low carbon consumption, UN Environment

MAINSTREAM! 5 Year Plans, Eco-Civilization, and implementation instruments –
China’s experience with integrating sustainable lifestyles at multiple levels of policy
Mr. Shi Feng, Deputy Division Director, China-Asean Environmental Cooperation Centre, China

BAN! Thailand’s experiences with banning single use plastics
(TBC)

TAX! How financial instruments facilitate private sector action for electric mobility
Sasiranga de Silva, Low Carbon Mobility Entrepreneur, Sri Lanka

LEAD by EXAMPLE! India’s experience with sustainable public procurement
Sanjay Aggarwal, Ministry of Finance, India (TBC)

REGULATE! How Singapore uses regulations to encourage sustainable consumption
Dr. Amy Khor Lean Suan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of the Environment and Water Resources, Singapore (TBC)

Panel discussion: Changing the rules of the game to support low carbon consumption

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

Coffee and tea

SESSION 2: SHOW ME THE MONEY USING FINANCIAL MECHANISMS FOR LOW CARBON CONSUMPTION

**Session Chair: Steven Stone, Chief, Resources and Markets Branch
Economy Division, UN Environment**

This session will present and discuss the lead 'characters' of the financing world, who will share information about financing sources needed to drive public and private investment to achieve low carbon consumption.

Video: Financing for low carbon consumption, UN Environment

THE CROWDFUNDER: Democratizing investment by letting the public invest, one dollar at a time

Ms. HongSin Kwek, CEO of CrowdFunding, Singapore

THE VENTURE CAPITALIST: Investing in the un-investible – how VCs are breathing life into innovation by investing in businesses with higher risk and longer payback periods

Shailesh Vikram Singh, Managing Partner, Massive Fund

GREENING FINANCE: How the IFC is enabling low carbon solutions

Kalina B. Miller, Financial Institutions Group, IFC

BLENDING PRIVATE AND PUBLIC FINANCE: Channeling capital towards sustainable supply chains

Angela Chen, Akipeo, Philippines

Panel discussion: Financing the switch to low carbon consumption

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

Asia Pacific Low Carbon Lifestyles Challenge – Pitching round

Tuesday, 18 September, 17.00 – 19.00, C-ASEAN building

17.00 – Welcome and snacks

17.30 – 3 minute startup pitches



Lathika Chandra Mouli, China
Powering electric vehicles with solar power using blockchain
[View profile](#)



Mohammed Saquib, Pakistan
Energy efficient modular homes for displaced people
[View profile](#)



Hassam Ud-din, Pakistan
Project: Rasai: Sharing the road, Optimising routes
[View profile](#)



Achmad Solikhin, Indonesia
Project: Making biodegradable plastic from waste material
[View profile](#)



Shutong Liu, China
Project: Turning gutter oil into sustainable fuel
[View profile](#)



Angelica Salele, Samoa
Project: Reducing waste with reusable sanitary pads
[View profile](#)



Deependra Pourel, Bhutan
Project: Installing smart energy meters in Bhutan
[View profile](#)



Pamela Nicole Mejia, Philippines
Project: Making plastic waste fashionable
[View profile](#)



Monish Kumar Siripurapu, India
Project: Cooling buildings using nature's designs
[View profile](#)



Sasiranga De Silva, Sri Lanka
Electrifying tuk tuks
[View profile](#)

18.00 – Feedback round

- Shailesh Vikram Singh, Go Massive Fund
- Steven Stone, Chief, Chief, Resources and Markets Branch, Economy Division, UN Environment
- Jessica Cheam, Eco Business Forum
- Dirk Wagener, Resource Efficiency Coordinator, UN Environment

18.30 – Announcement of recipients of \$50,000 in top up investments

- Dechen Tsering, Regional Representative and Director for Asia and the Pacific, UN Environment

19.00 - Close

DAY 2, WEDNESDAY
19 SEPTEMBER

9.00 – 9.15

Recap of Day 1

9.15 – 10.30

Session 3. "Sectoral healing"

Business action for cleaning up our consumption one sector at a time

Session Chair: Jessica Cheam, EcoBusiness Forum

This session will identify both readily available and innovative best practices, policies and lessons learned from efforts by different stakeholders on low carbon consumption in the region.

Video: Business models for low carbon consumption, UN Environment

eCOMMERCE: Leveraging the eCommerce boom to integrate sustainability into our consumption choices

Lazada Group (Speaker TBC)

MOBILITY: Radically changing our mobility choices with shared roads and eMobility
Mobike (Speaker TBC)

ENERGY: ASEAN's experience with harmonizing regional standards on sustainable lighting

Signify (formerly: Philips Lighting)

PLASTIC: How the food and beverage sector is innovating in the fight against plastic litter

Edwin Seah, Food Industry Asia

BUILDINGS: Shaping lifestyles through properties for smart city living

Anthony Arundell, Frasers Property Thailand (TBC)

Panel Discussion: Practical Solutions vs Innovative Solutions

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

10.30 – 11.00

Tea and Coffee

11.00 – 12.15

Session 4. "What the tech?"

Disruptive Tech Innovations for low carbon consumption

Session Chair: Stein Hansen, Country Director, UNIDO Thailand

The panel discussion will shed light on technological revolutions Asia and the Pacific should expect in the next 5 years, and how they can be used for low carbon consumption.

Technologies: Smart meters, Blockchain, IoT, Artificial Intelligence, Big Data, digitization, Deep Learning, Automation

Applications: Supply chain transparency, tokenizing recycling, facilitating p2p clean energy transactions, tracking compliance of environmental treaties, enabling CSOs and decentralized action, Carbon Footprinting of products to set carbon tax prices, incentives through reputation currency.

Video: Technologies for low carbon consumption, UN Environment

INTERNET OF THINGS: How Blockchain can enable sustainable consumption through traceability, engagement and consumer information

Tim Hadsel-Mares, Regional Director, ScanTrust

BLOCKCHAIN: Unlocking peer to peer transactions in smart grids

Lathika Chandra Mouli, Energo, China

MACHINE LEARNING: How ML is optimizing our transport choices

Hassam Ud-din, Rasai ride sharing and route optimization platform, Pakistan

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE: Using AI to enable smart cities

Daniel Kondor, Future Urban Mobility group, MIT Singapore

Panel Discussion: How to harness the tech revolution for low carbon consumption?

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

Lunch

1.45 – 3.15

Session 5. "Capturing hearts and minds of Asia" How culture, psychology and economics shape behaviour

Session Chair: Dr Divya Datt, Director, Integrated Policy Analysis, TERI

Faith based groups, behavioral economists and publicists know more about our behaviours than we realize. Behaviour economists are the leaders behind successful behaviour change campaigns for health. In this panel discussion, our societies' thought leaders share insights into the hearts and minds of Asia's cultures, and how to apply this through policy and business action on low carbon consumption

Video: Behavior change for low carbon consumption, UN Environment

BEHAVE: What is a Behavioural Insight Team, and why are governments building them to influence our behavior through subtle policy shifts

Alexander Clark, Behavioural Insight Team Singapore

NUDGE: Norwegian experiences in applying nudging techniques

Stig Traavik, Lead Indonesia Advisor at Antler Venture Capital

CHANGE THE DEFAULT: Do you really need that plastic cutlery? Findings after the launch of an opt in/out system for plastic cutlery in food delivery in ASEAN countries

Foodpanda, Thailand and Philippines (TBC)

BELIEVE: How governments are engaging religious leaders in the fight against plastic waste

Adi Wardoyo, Ministry of Environment and Forests, Indonesia (TBC)

FEELIN' IT: Three elements of successful behavior change campaigns

Jacob Holder, Hill and Knowlton Strategies

Panel Discussion: Which behavior change mechanisms work well in the Asia Pacific context to support low carbon consumption

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

3.45 – 5.15

Closing session on Transforming Asia Pacific: Innovative Solutions, Circular Economy and Low Carbon Lifestyles

This session will bring together the key messages of the issue papers with the findings of the sessions to present a synthesis on Innovative Solutions, Circular Economy and Low Carbon Lifestyles for Asia and the Pacific.

Session Chair: Dirk Wagener, Resource efficiency coordinator, UN Environment

Presentation of session key outcomes by session Chairs:

- *Chair of Session 1: "Rules of the game" Policy mechanisms for low carbon consumption*

- *Chair of Session 2: "Show me the money" Using financial mechanisms for low carbon consumption*
- *Chair of Session 3. "Sectoral healing" Business action for cleaning up our consumption one sector at a time*
- *Chair of Session 4. "What the tech?" Disruptive Tech Innovations for low carbon consumption*
- *Chair of Session 5. "Capturing hearts and minds of Asia" How culture, psychology and economics shape behaviour*

Q and A with audience using Slido app to live upvote audience questions

Word of thanks, closing

Dechen Tsering, UN Environment Asia and the Pacific Office