



TECHNOLOGY FOR CIRCULAR ECONOMY: A PROLOGUE TO THE 2021 SWITCH-ASIA LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

15:00-16:30 BeijingTime (GMT)+8, virtual
Thursday, 25 March 2021

Background

The EU-funded SWITCH-Asia Programme is supporting the uptake of SCP in Asia. The Regional Policy Advocacy Component implemented by UNEP is responsible for organizing the Leadership Academy which is a milestone of the SWITCH-Asia programme that works closely with selected young professionals from Asia to shift mindsets. Previous academies were organized in 2018 in Bangkok and 2019 in China to introduce the fundamental concept of circular economy. In 2020, the Academy dived deep into the aspect of how to communicate circular economy with case studies from both Asia and Europe. This year, the RPAC sees the need to touch base on technology and innovation. Technological advancement across sectors has catalyzed circular business models, driving new processes, new communication channels and new operational efficiencies that promote achievement of circular economy through enabling the decoupling of resource use from economic growth across industries.

In collaboration with Tongji University, SWITCH-Asia RPAC is organizing the Prologue to kick off the 2021 Leadership Academy, with aims to shift mindsets and inspire action on innovative technologies towards circular economy among young professionals in the region. This will be an online event that will bring frontiers insights and integrated solutions to technology innovation for a circular economy.

Agenda

15:00-15:05 Welcome Remarks

Ms. Feng Mei, EU Delegation to China

15:05-15:10 Opening

Dr. Mushtaq Memon, UNEP Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency in Asia & Pacific

15:10-15:15 Keynote Speech:

Technology Transfer on Circular Economy

Prof. Fengting Li, Executive Deputy Dean, Tongji University

15:15-15:45 Lectures

- Technology for Resource Use Efficiency to Achieve Circular Economy

Prof. Yadong Yu, East China University of Science and Technology

- "Calculate" the Benefit of Circular Economy

Prof. Sai Liang, Guangdong University of Technology

15:45-16:05 Technology to Improve Circular Economy – Case Studies

- *Mr. Nguyen Hung Cuong*, SWITCH-Asia Biomass Gasification Technology (BEST) Project, OXFAM Vietnam

- *Mr. Dhruv Khanna*, CEO of Triton Foodworks

16:05-16:15 Digitalization, diversity and sustainability

-circular considerations

Dr. Roger A. Søråa, Researcher at the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture (KULT), Norwegian University of Science and Technology

16:15-16:25 Q&A

16:25-16:30 Closing & Way Forward

Ms. Tunnie Srisakulchairak, UNEP Programme Management Officer, SWITCH-Asia RPAC

Moderated by *Ms. Lixia Zheng*, Project Coordinator for China Office, SWITCH-Asia RPAC



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CONTACT

Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

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UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific
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Ms. Feng Mei

Program Officer, the European Union (EU) Delegation to China

Ms. Feng Mei is a project management officer at EU Delegation to China. She works in the development and cooperation section in charge of the environment and climate change portfolios including also low-carbon cities, green finance, etc. She is the focal point of Switch Asia programme for China.



Dr. Mushtaq Ahmed Memon

Regional coordinator for Resource Efficiency in Asia Pacific, UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Dr. Memon is working with United Nations Environment Programme as a Regional Coordinator for Resource Efficiency in Asia Pacific Office located in Bangkok. He is supporting resource efficiency, sustainable consumption and production, green economy, green financing, sustainable public procurement, sustainable tourism, sustainable industries and various areas for Asia and the Pacific. Dr. Memon is also implementing EU funded SWITCH-Asia Phase 2 component by UNEP to support Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), especially SDG 12 on sustainable consumption and production in the region.



Professor Fengting Li

Executive Deputy Dean of UNEP Institute of Environment for Sustainable Development (IESD)

Prof. Fengting Li, as a reputable water treatment specialist in China, he obtains series of pollution control and treatment technics which are widely applied domestic and abroad. He also coordinated many technology transfer programmes in Africa with research institutes and international organizations.



Dhruv Khanna

Co-founder of Triton Foodworks, Member of the Founding team of UN Green Tech Startup Hub, an Initiative by UN Environment Programme and Mentor at Overseas Entrepreneurship Programme at NTU, Singapore

Dhruv Khanna is a cherished alumna of NTU, Singapore where he was honoured with NTU Director's list and NTU Young Alumni Award and currently serves as an overseas mentor. He was also conferred with the prestigious Forbes 30 under 30 Asia '2019 and Forbes 30 under 30 India '2020.



Professor Sai Liang

Professor in the Institute of Environmental and Ecological Engineering at Guangdong University of Technology

Sai Liang obtained his Ph.D. degree of environmental science and engineering at Tsinghua University in 2013. He is an academic board member of the Journal of Cleaner Production. Dr. Liang's research interest is the analysis of ecological and environmental issues in the coupled human and natural system.



Professor Yadong Yu

Deputy secretary general of Circular Economy Committee of China Society of Ecological Economics

Yu Yadong obtained his doctoral degree from the department of chemical engineering, Tsinghua University in 2013. He served as an associate professor in the department of management science and engineering, School of Business, East China University of Science and Technology. Dr. Yu's research interest is the analysis of circular economy and environment systems. He had published more than 40 papers in Nature Food, PNAS, and other domestic and foreign journals.



Mr. Nguyen Hung Cuong

Private sector engagement specialist working for Oxfam in Vietnam

Mr. Nguyen Hung Cuong has expertise and on-the-ground experiences in sustainable and inclusive value chain development, market systems development, private sector engagement and commitment, corporate social responsibility, inclusive business, cross-border trade facilitation. He is providing technical advices to programmes on the engagement with private sector and managing some flagship projects which facilitate commitments and implementation of responsible, socially and environmentally sustainable business practices in Vietnam and the Asia region.



Roger A. Søråa

Researcher at the Department of Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture (KULT)

Roger A. Søråa works as a researcher for the DRIVERS-project. He also works as a project manager and EU project developer for NTNU Department of Neuroscience, on the projects eWare—Early Warning Accompanies Robotics Excellence and LIFEBOOTS. He's affiliated with RURALIS, where he researcher on SmaT—smart technology for sustainable agriculture. He is also the Editor in chief of the Nordic Journal of Science and Technology Studies (NJSTS).



Ms. Srisakulchairak

Program Officer, SWITCH-Asia Regional Policy Advocacy Component (RPAC, the European Union funded programme), UNEP Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific

Ms. Srisakulchairak is a programme management officer to UNEP regional office for Asia and the Pacific for more than 10 years. Prior to this, she worked as programme specialist in Asian Institute of technology on promoting linkages between science and policy and enhancing multi-stakeholders' participation in scientific assessment and policy recommendation process. Ms. Srisakulchairak successfully manages key projects on climate adaptation and mitigation as well as Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP).



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