"EU SWITCH-Asia: Sustainable Consumption and Production and its contribution to achieving the SDGs"

Side Event: 10th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development
30 March 2023 – 17:15 – 18:30 (GMT+7)
Meeting link: https://www.switch-asia.eu/event/10th-asia-pacific-forum-on-sustainable-development-2023/

Organizer(s)

EU SWITCH-Asia Programme

Co-organizer(s)

Registration

To register for this side event, please go to:
https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0pd-qvqT8oHtYyUbXXpsdjPFpjOcWUQNUm

Background

There is urgency for Asia and the Pacific to accelerate the implementation of the regional dimensions of the 2030 Agenda, particularly in the shift towards sustainable and just economies through policy intervention areas for Sustainable Consumption and Production (SCP) contributing to sustainable food systems, energy decarbonation and access, and sustainable urban development.

This side event will introduce the EU SWITCH-Asia Programme and how regional cooperation strategy with governments and stakeholders in Asia through the Programme are delivering the necessary transformative change towards sustainable development through the adoption of SCP policy instruments and the mobilization of local action on the ground.

Expected discussion will be on the importance of SCP and its contribution to achieving the SDGs and climate related agreements, reviving key interest among

key government agencies and stakeholder groups, and to bring in new stakeholders for possible collaboration in the region.

The side event will be contributing to the review of progress on the SDGs in the APFSD 2023 through the discussion of initiatives and partnerships on creating an enabling environment for the implementation of national SCP policies in the region and assist stakeholders in harvesting the benefits of SCP.

Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

(1) How instrumental was SWITCH-Asia programme in providing the platform for engagement between government and stakeholders to incorporate SCP-related targets in their policies, thereby contributing to SDG 12 targets and SCP related goals?

(2) How can SWITCH-Asia collaborate with regional/sub-regional organisations in providing platforms for dialogue and capacity building on developing SCP policies and enhancing SCP good practices among stakeholders towards a low-carbon, resource-efficient and circular economy?

(3) How can we strengthen support to countries in the region to incorporate SCP-related targets into their NDCs and SDGs and to participate in and comply with relevant climate change and environmental agreements?

Objectives of the event:

(1) Presentation of the lessons learnt and improvements on governments' and EU Delegations' engagement through the SWITCH-Asia Programme

(2) Introduce the third phase of the SWITCH-Asia Programme and its proposed activities and communication outreach.

(3) Discuss synergies and value added, relevance of the Programme to policy dialogues in the region (both nationally and across borders including the APFSD) and to priorities under the European Green Deal.

Expected Outputs

1. Levelled-off understanding on the programme's context and expected outputs.
2. Revived interest on possible collaboration to achieve common objectives.

As a preliminary agenda for this side event, besides the usual delivery of opening and closing statements from the European Commission and the EU Delegation, the speakers will present the experiences and lessons learned on SCP focusing on the SDGs under review: Goal 6 (Clean water and sanitation); Goal 7 (Affordable and clean energy); Goal 9 (Industry, innovation, and infrastructure); Goal 11 (Sustainable cities and communities) and Goal 17 (Partnership for the Goals) and how SWITCH-Asia continues to contribute to SCP policy and implementation. The outcome of discussions could contribute on how Asia and the Pacific could scale up delivery of needed transformative actions through SCP, achieving the SDGs.

Programme

Moderator: *Ms. Loraine Gatlabayan Pontifex*
Key Expert, SCP awareness raising and regional partnership building
SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component (PSC)

Time	Speakers	Presentations/Discussions
5 min **17:15 – 17:20 (GMT+7)**	**Francesca Gilli, Attaché, Programme Officer Cooperation, Delegation of the European Union to Thailand**	**Welcome Remarks**
20 min **17:20 – 17:40**	**Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva, Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component SWITCH-Asia Programme**	Achievements from SWITCH-Asia II Implementation: Impacts and Synergies contributing to SDGs and Presentation of the third phase of the SWITCH-Asia Programme: The Policy Support Component and the Grants Scheme
5 min **17:40 – 17:45**	**Moderator**	Questions to the Presenter from the Participant
15 min **17:45 – 18:15**	**Panel Discussion** **Brief statement/answers to questions raised to panelists based on previous presentations (5min each max)** **Mr. Zafar Makhmudov,** **Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Centre for Central Asia (CAREC)**	

	Ms Novita SARI, Cooperation Section, Programme Manager- Environment & Climate Change, Delegation of the European Union to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam and Delegation of the European Union to ASEAN **Mr. Sanjay Kumar, President, Asia Pacific Roundtable for Sustainable Consumption and Production and Chief Materials Manager with Ministry of Railways, Govt of India** **Mijidsuren Chimeddorj, Acting Head of Mission, Caritas Czech Republic in Mongolia** **Eliane Jarry, Mongolia Country Representative and Switch EU Project Coordinator, GERES** **Katharine Thoday, Principal Environment Special, Asian Development Bank**	
10 min **18:15-18:25**	**All Speakers**	Questions to the Panelists from the Participants
5 min **18:25 – 18:30**	**Dr. Zinaida Fadeeva, Team Leader, EU SWITCH-Asia Policy Support Component SWITCH-Asia Programme**	**Closing remarks**

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