



12th APFSD

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25-28 February 2025



Powering the Future: Advancing Gender and Social Inclusion in Climate and Energy Policies

Side Event: 12th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development

February 27, 11:30-12:45 GMT+7

UN ESCAP UN Conference Centre, Theater Room) and

Registration -

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/KApAD4wKTQiwvvARUOXtLA> - /registration

Organizer(s)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women)

Co-organizer(s)

Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCM), ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE)

Registration

To attend the side event in-person, all registrants must register on Indico to attend the APFSD **by 3 February** using the link here: <https://indico.un.org/event/1014374/>.

Please register using the option "Registration for Side Events, Associated Events, Exhibition, and Volunteers" and choose your side event. **Those who do not register on Indico will not be able to access the United Nations Conference Center.**

Background

UNEP in partnership with UN Women, APRCEM and ACE will be organizing a hybrid learning session with South and Southeast Asia governments to address the approach and strategies on integrating gender and social inclusion (GESI) in climate change and renewable energy (RE) policies and plans. As various countries present their VNRs, the side-event will facilitate discussions and delve into critical GESI recommendations for existing RE and climate change policies specifically related to promoting women leadership, inclusive work and employment. The session will present an evidence base on the intrinsic link between gender equality and human rights, climate change and renewable energy. The session will also discuss strategies for advancing multi-stakeholder partnerships that share knowledge, technology, skills and financing resources to advance the SDGs in an inclusive manner. This event will culminate in a Major group and stakeholder's outcome statement that reinforces the urgent need for inclusive, sustainable, science and evidence-based climate and energy policy frameworks; and enhanced understanding of GESI and strategies to promote it. The SDGs on gender, decent work and partnerships will guide the side-event aligning with the APFSD's commitment to inclusivity and leaving no one behind.

Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

1. What are the current GESI challenges and opportunities in the region's climate and energy sectors?
2. How are existing policies and programs addressing GESI issues? What are the gaps and limitations?
3. What are the specific just transition needs and priorities of marginalized groups, such as enabling leadership of women, indigenous peoples, and low-income communities?
4. How can we foster stronger partnerships between governments, civil society organizations, and the private sector to advance GESI goals?
5. What are the financial implications of integrating GESI into climate and energy initiatives? How can we secure adequate funding for GESI-related projects?

This multistakeholder side-event aims to enhance the understanding of GESI and strategies to promote GESI in the region. This hybrid event will explore the status of gender and social inclusion implementation with Asia-Pacific Outcome drawing on best practices from across the region. Together the participants will support the drafting of a CSO-led outcome statement and on inclusive, sustainable, science and evidence-based climate and energy policy frameworks.



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Programme

Time	Agenda	Speakers/Discussants	Time
11:30-11:39am	Opening remarks	Dechen Tsering, Regional Director - UNEP Regional Office for Asia Pacific (UNEP ROAP) TBD - Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) Dana Avram, First Secretary - New Zealand Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade (MFAT), Embassy of New Zealand in Thailand	9 min
11:39-11:49am	Context setting and outlining APRCEM's priorities for a just transition Recap of People's Forum key outcomes	TBD - Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCCEM)	10 min
11:49-12:29pm	Panel discussion on key recommendations	Co-Moderators: UNEP & APRCEM Panelists: Ambiyah Abdullah, Senior Researcher - ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) TBD - Asia Pacific Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism (APRCCEM) Pugazenthi Dhananjayan, Energy Analyst - International Centre for	40 min

		Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) Satrya Wibawa, Indonesia SME Finance Consultant - United Nations Environment – Finance Initiative (UNEP FI) Tagaloa Cooper, Director, Climate Change Resilience - Secretariat of the Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP)	
12:29-12:37pm	Q&A	Moderator: UNEP	8 min
12:37-12:43pm	APRCEM	Reflections and Closing summary	6 min
12:43-12:45pm	UNEP/UN Women	Closing remarks	2 min

For information, please contact

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