

Date: 15 June
Time: 9:30-11:00
Room: T-6

Asia-Europe Environment Forum
Asia Europe Strategies
for the Earth Summit 2012



Invitation for Scenarios for Sustainable Development Governance: National Mechanisms that Work

Programme

Keynote Speeches:

Professor Cielito HABITO, Chairperson, UNCSD VI; former Minister of Socio-Economic Planning and former Chairman of the Philippine Council for Sustainable Development (1992-1998), Philippines

Dr. Sándor FÜLÖP, Deputy-Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, responsible for the protection of the interests of future generations, Hungary

Panel Discussion:

National Sustainable Development Councils – lessons learnt from the national level

Dr. Ingeborg Niestroy, Secretary General, European Environment and Sustainable Development Advisory Councils (EEAC)

Ms. Ella Antonio, President, Earth Council Asia Pacific

Panellists:

Mr. Surendra Shrestha, Director, Focal Point for SDGs, Office of Executive Coordinators, Secretariat for United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development

Mr. Joerg Mayer-Ries, Head of Unit Sustainable Development, German Ministry for Environment

Mr. Simon Høiberg Olsen, Policy Researcher, Governance and Capacity Group, Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES)

Mr. Jan-Gustav Strandenaes, Senior Policy Advisor, Stakeholder Forum for a Sustainable Future

Closing remarks: Mr. Sean Kim, Director, Counsellor at law, ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center, South Korea

Mr. Sang-Hun Lee, Director of Green Growth Division, SMBA, South Korea

Moderator: Ms. Sol Iglesias, Director, Intellectual Exchange, Asia-Europe Foundation



Partners:

Lead-partner: Earth Council

Organising Partners: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) and Regional Resource Centre for Asia and the Pacific (RRC.AP) at Asian Institute of Technology, and the ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC)

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Background information

The current Institutional Framework for Sustainable Development (IFSD) suffers from lack of coherence, coordination and integration. It is defined by the inability of economic and social policy making to fully account for environmental integrity; and very weak connections and coordination among governance levels, i.e. global, regional, and national. These shortcomings result in the persistent gap between sustainable development policy formulation and implementation.

There have been strong requests for institutional changes to alleviate these shortcomings both from civil society and from governments around the world. There is a need for a change of IFSD in a way that allows ensuring efficiency and accountability for sustainable development architecture. Three inter-related proposals have gained wide spread support:

- (1) introduction of sustainable development goals (SDGs),
- (2) creation of sustainable development council (SDC), and
- (3) strengthening and integrating and coordinating mechanisms at global, regional and national levels.

This side-event will focus on the national sustainable development mechanisms that have been implemented in Asia and Europe, examine its strengths and weaknesses. It also addresses the interconnectedness of all IFSD levels and will thereby demonstrate the need for better vertical and horizontal coordination of the sustainable development architecture. It will be based on the results of the research study initiated by the Asia-Europe Environment Forum and conducted by sustainable development and governance experts on these issues.



This side-event is supported by Asia-Europe Environment Forum – a strategic partnership of the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) of Japan, the Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) in cooperation with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

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