



United Nations



HIGH-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON
ENERGY
UNITED NATIONS, NEW YORK, SEPTEMBER 2021

Ministerial Thematic Forums

21 – 25 June 2021

Event name

Integrated approaches to boost SDG7 and climate-relevant SDG actions towards sustainability in the Asia-Pacific

Event date and time

Monday, 21 June 2021, 6.00 - 7.00 EST (19:00 - 20:00 JST)

Organizers

Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES) &
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

Number of participants:

80

Main speakers and brief summary [max 300 words]:

A just and inclusive energy transition through integrated actions is necessary for a new sustainable, decarbonised society. In her opening remarks, **Armida Salsiah Alisjabana** (UNESCAP) noted the importance of energy transition in achieving the SDGs and described how the recommendations from the Technical Working Groups can facilitate this transition process. Energy, she observed, needed to be a central element in COVID-19 recovery plans. **Minoru Takada** (UN DESA) provided the keynote speech, explaining the objectives of the UN High-Level Dialogue on Energy. He stressed that Asia-Pacific has a decisive role in energy transition, and stressed that all the energy transition pathways need to be inclusive and just. Ensuring access to energy and achieving the net-zero target, he argued, will not be sufficient if the transitions do not address people's needs and aspirations.

Leena Srivastava (IIASA) shared her perspectives from Asia and the Pacific, noting that it is time to take bold measures for transformative changes because incremental progress is not sufficient. In this transformation, energy acts both as a driver and also as a subject of transformation. **Kazuhiko Takeuchi** and **Nandakumar Janardhanan** (IGES) offered IGES' perspectives on integrated approaches and co-innovation for energy to achieve a sustainable and decarbonised Asia-Pacific by maximizing the synergies and minimising the trade-offs. Transformative changes, they argued, are needed to recover better from the pandemic and to create a sustainable, decarbonised world. **Nuki Agya Utama**

(ASEAN Center for Energy) explained his Centre's work on achieving SDG 7 in ASEAN countries and the progress and challenges thereof. **Nazmul Haque** (IDCOL) noted the importance of local context and innovation in overcoming the challenges in SDG 7 implementation. **Hongpeng Liu** (UNESCAP) observed that enhanced regional cooperation and integration and south-south cooperation will be needed for a just energy transition. **Junichi Fujino** (IGES) facilitated the side event.

Key outcomes [max 100 words]

- Experts in Asia and the Pacific pointed out that recommendations from the five Technical Working Groups will play an important role in navigating a just and inclusive energy transition to achieve the 2030 goals and zero carbon by 2050.
- Because of its diversity and dynamism, the Asia-Pacific region will have to play a central role in transformative changes through integrated approaches to boost SDG7 and climate-relevant SDG actions to recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic and to create a sustainable, decarbonized world.
- Innovative, problem-solving initiatives in the local context, and regional cooperation and integration including south-south cooperation are key.

Links to livestream recording/website/social media

<https://www.iges.or.jp/en/events/20210621>

Contacts

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