

**Seventy-ninth session of the Commission
Bangkok, 15-19 May 2023**

Scaling up climate change adaptation technology applications for a resilient future in Asia and the Pacific

[Side event of the 79th session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)]

Jointly organized by:

Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, and Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the United Nations ESCAP

19 May 2023 (Bangkok and online), Time: 12:45-13:45 (Thailand time: GMT +7.0)

Venue: CR-4, Level 1, United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok, Thailand

Technology plays a critical role in climate change adaptation. The proposed side-event is built on the ESCAP Theme Study 2023 “Accelerating climate action in the Asia and the Pacific to 2030 and beyond,” ESCAP Resolution 78/1 on a common agenda to advance sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. Recognizing the existing gap between current levels of adaptation and levels needed to respond to the adverse effect of climate change, the event will engage the key stakeholders through advocacy and dialogues on scaling up climate adaptation technology applications to support a resilient future of Asia and the Pacific – the world’s most disaster-prone region.

The side event also builds on the Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan adopted at COP27. The Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan urges Parties to adopt a transformational approach to enhancing adaptive capacity, strengthening resilience and reducing vulnerability to climate change. It also urges developed country Parties to scale up their provision of climate finance, technology transfer and capacity-building for adaptation so as to respond to the needs of developing country Parties as part of a global efforts. At the COP27 climate change conference on 8 November 2022, United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres unveiled the “Executive Action Plan on Early Warnings for All” aimed at ensuring that everyone on the planet is protected by early warning systems within the next five years. Early warnings that reach all is a key adaptation measure that saves lives and livelihoods, minimizes loss and damage, and provides a tenfold return on investment.

The G20 India Presidency has introduced an exclusive G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRR WG) that addresses the priorities such as Global coverage of Early Warning Systems, increased commitment towards making infrastructure systems, strengthened national and global disaster response system and increased application of ecosystems-based approaches

to DRR. All these priorities, directly related to climate change adaptation, can be addressed effectively through advances in climate change adaptation technology applications.

Against this background, APCTT, jointly with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, propose to organize this event on the sidelines of the seventy-ninth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) to accelerating climate action in the Asia and the Pacific to 2030 and beyond.

Objective

This side event aims at contributing to the overall theme of 79th Commission Session of ESCAP on “Accelerating climate action in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable development”.

The side-event will bring together solutions and good practices in technologies and their application for climate adaptation and resilience including hazard monitoring as well as the opportunities to enhance regional cooperation to upscale them in Asia and the Pacific. The aim is to advance climate change adaptation technology applications towards accelerating climate actions in Asia and the Pacific.

Recommendations from this side event may be shared during the discussion on G20 working group on DRR on how regional cooperation can be enhanced for bringing in innovative and emerging technologies across countries for climate adaptation in the region.

Participants

All participants of the Commission Session, APCTT GC representatives, representatives from National Climate Change Offices, National Hydrometeorological Services, relevant sub-regional organizations. The side event will be of interest to policymakers, experts and other relevant stakeholders involved in climate change adaptation in the Asia Pacific region.