

Expert Group Meeting on Community of Practice on Climate Technologies

03 Apr 2024, Wednesday (11.00-13.30 India Time) (Virtual)

Organized by
Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT) of the
United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)

Background

The Asia-Pacific region grapples with the multifaceted challenges posed by climate change, characterized by increased weather variability and intensifying natural disasters. However, the Asia-Pacific region is also a repository of rich experiences and innovation capacities, as seen by the global innovation rankings. Leveraging this innovation potential is crucial for developing and scaling up climate solutions.

To facilitate effective knowledge-sharing on innovative climate technologies among stakeholders in the region, **APCTT proposes the establishment of a Community of Practice on Climate Technologies to be launched at the ESCAP Commission session on 23rd April 2024.** This will serve as an inclusive platform for multiple stakeholders (across member States and across sectors) to collaborate, share expertise, and exchange best practices in climate technology. By facilitating communication and collaboration, the community would catalyse adoption and deployment of innovative climate technologies in the region, contributing to a more sustainable future. Box 1 below explains in detail what a Community of Practice is.

Box 1: What is a Community of Practice

A community of practice is a group of people who share a common interest, domain, or passion and come together to learn from each other, solve problems, and develop expertise in that area. In the context of organizations, communities of practice are informal networks where employees voluntarily collaborate, share knowledge, and build relationships based on their shared professional interests and goals.

Communities of practice can exist within a single organization, across different business units, or even beyond organizational boundaries, connecting individuals from various backgrounds and locations. They play a crucial role in fostering collaboration, innovation, and continuous learning within organizations by providing a platform for informal interactions, knowledge exchange, and professional development. Communities of practice serve as valuable resources for individuals to deepen their expertise, stay current in their field, and contribute to the collective knowledge and success of the organization. Here are some examples of Communities of Practice currently active:

Communities of Practice (COPs) in the Resilient Cities Network

Focus: Connecting urban practitioners in building resilience in critical systems and vulnerable communities.

What it offers: Resources, tools, and expertise connecting cities with relevant expertise and technical assistance from international, private, and non-profit organizations.

Weblink: <https://resilientcitiesnetwork.org/communities-of-practice/>

Community of Practice of Southeast Asia Air Quality Alliance (SEA-AQ)

Focus: Air Quality monitoring and management, emissions reduction, public health impacts and advocacy.

What it offers: Collaboration, sharing knowledge, and implementing effective solutions on air pollution control.

Weblink: <https://www.wri.org/cities/air-quality/community-of-practice-southeast-asia>

Community of Practice of the World Intellectual Property Organisation Green Network

Focus: Green Technology Innovation, Technology Transfer and Licensing, Capacity Building and Training, Policy Analysis and Advocacy, Market Access, and Financing

What it offers: collaboration, innovation, and knowledge exchange

Weblink: <https://www3.wipo.int/wipogreen/en/>

Objectives of the Community of Practice on Climate Technologies

The specific objectives of the Community of Practice will be as follows:

Phase 1: Facilitate networking between potential collaborators, investors, and experts

The community will create avenues for direct engagement, partnership building and skill sharing through the Community of Practice, online forums, and explore collaborative opportunities to advance climate technology transfer initiatives.

APCTT will be implementing Phase 1 from this year. Phase 2 of the Community of Practice will evolve based on the needs of the community in future such as a repository of the latest research on climate technology transfer, regular policy updates, market intelligence & trend analysis, and success stories and technology adoption lessons.

Background to the Expert Group Meeting

APCTT is organizing a virtual regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) on the 3rd of April 2024 to seek inputs and advice on the design and functions of the proposed Community of Practice. The experiences of existing communities of Practice will also be shared by member States in utilising such communities for scaling up innovative climate actions in respective countries. The objectives of the regional Expert Group Meeting (EGM) are:

1. Discuss existing examples of communities of practice from member States regarding challenges and strategies for stakeholder engagement in other communities of practice.
2. Seek inputs on the functions and design of the proposed Community of Practice on Climate Technologies

Target participants

The Expert Group participants will be policymakers, technical experts and relevant stakeholders involved in climate technologies and in managing Communities of Practice for knowledge-sharing.

TENTATIVE PROGRAMME

| 03 Apr 2024, Wednesday, 1100-1330 hrs India Time (+5.30 GMT) | | |
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| TIME | TITLE | RESOURCE PERSON |
| 11:00 – 11:10 | Welcome and introduction | Pankaj Shrivastav Programme Officer, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), UNESCAP |
| | Welcome Address | Dr. Preeti Soni Head, Asian and Pacific Centre for Transfer of Technology (APCTT), UNESCAP |
| 11.10- 11.30 | Relevance of CoP in meet Sustainable Development Challenges – Experiences from Solution Exchange India | Steve Glovinski, Advisor, Solution Exchange, India (TBC) |
| 11.30– 12.20 | Presentations by other CoPs Cases of other CoPs running in area of sustainability and Climate Change (10 minutes each) | Moderator: TBD Speakers: Ms. Bedoshruiti Sadhukhan, CDKN South Asia Hub, ICLEI New Delhi Dr. Mamata Mehra, Global Solutions Alliance, USA (TBC) Ms. Irene Garcia, Carbon Neutral Cities Alliance (TBC) |
| | OPEN DISCUSSION (10 Minutes) | Dr. Dmitry Kalinn, WIPO, Geneva (TBC) |
| 12:20– 12:30 | Overview of proposed CoP on Climate Change An overview of the proposed Community of Practice on Climate Technologies | Mr. Pankaj Shrivastav |
| 12:30 - 13.20 | Feedback from member States and Expert Group on proposed design of the CoP | Moderator: TBD |
| | OPEN DISCUSSION | |
| 13:20 - 13:30 | Closing remarks | Dr. Preeti Soni Head, APCTT-ESCAP |