

## North-East Asian Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals

10-11 October 2017, Beijing, China

### Concept Note

#### Background

The North-East Asia (NEA) subregion is home to some of the largest economies in the world and is recognized for both its potential role and footprint in the global progress on implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (the 2030 Agenda).

While the subregion has made remarkable progress in achieving the Millennium Development Goals, it faces many challenges in implementing the 2030 Agenda. Poverty reduction and safeguarding basic needs remain a priority in the subregion as there are over a 100 million (in 2012) of its population living in extreme poverty. North-East Asia is also extremely prone to natural disasters and in need to strengthen the capacity to address rising disaster risks. Furthermore, NEA countries have undergone a fossil-fuel based and resource-intensive development path. The subregional economies are the world's largest consumers of energy, collectively accounting for over 30% of global energy consumption, and responsible for similarly large shares of global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions which stood at 32.4% in 2013. Meanwhile, energy consumption and GHG emissions are closely linked with the subregion's rapidly urbanizing population which shared over 58% in 2016.

The **North-East Asia Multistakeholder Forum on Sustainable Development Goals** is a timely and unique opportunity for dialogue among stakeholders from government, academia, civil society, the private sector, and international community. The forum will bring together and connect key players from various sectors and roles, and enable exchanges on the challenges and opportunities as well as the way forward in striving towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The forum will also strengthen subregional perspective on the theme of the 5<sup>th</sup> Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) and High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) 2018, "Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies" and ensure that these perspectives are well-captured in regional and global dialogue and review of progress. The forum will discuss ways to ensure that subregional progress on the selected SDGs for review by the HLPF 2018 include water, energy, cities, responsible consumption and life on land as well as the means of implementation and partnership is taken into account at both global and regional levels, and by subregional cooperation efforts.

## The Selected SDGs for In-Depth Review at HLPF 2018



As an inclusive regional intergovernmental forum, the APFSD serves as a regional platform for discussing national perspectives and sharing good practices; providing a regional perspective for implementing the 2030 Agenda; and assessing progress and providing opportunities for peer learning related to the thematic goals of the HLPF.

### Objectives

The main objective of the Forum is to enable an inclusive dialogue among multistakeholder groups in North-East Asia on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and to ensure that subregional perspectives on supporting the follow-up and review of the Agenda are well reflected in the relevant regional and global processes. To achieve this, the forum will:

1. Enhance awareness and understanding of the key challenges and opportunities for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in North-East Asia through sharing of experiences and knowledge.
2. Discuss how the Regional Roadmap for Implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific can support national and subregional efforts<sup>1</sup>
3. Provide reflections on theme of the HLPF and the APFSD for 2018 <sup>2</sup>
4. Discuss multilateral and multistakeholder cooperation for strengthening subregional follow up and review, including on the cluster of goals for in-depth review in 2018.

### Participants

- Government experts responsible for various aspects of implementing the SDGs and
- Voluntary National Review focal points
- Civil society organizations
- Local governments
- Think tanks and academia
- Private sector organizations
- Regional and subregional organizations
- Other stakeholders involved in SDG implementation at national, regional and global levels.

<sup>1</sup> The Roadmap identifies opportunities for regional cooperation on identified Means of Implementation, and thematic issues. The means of implementation include (a) Data and statistics, (b) Technology, (c) Finance, (d) Policy coherence, and (e) North-South, South-South, international and regional partnerships. The identified thematic issues are (a) Leaving no one behind, (b) Disaster risk reduction and resilience, (c) Climate change, (d) Management of natural resources, (e) Connectivity for the 2030 Agenda, and (f) Energy.

<sup>2</sup> ESCAP will work with ADB and with UNDP to prepare a regional report to support regional and global dialogue on the theme.

## Programme Outline

### Session

**10 Oct**

**09:30 - 09:50**    **Opening Session**

*Opening Remarks by Mr. Kilaparti Ramakrishna, Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office*

*Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Lan Xue, Director, Institute for SDGs, Tsinghua University*

*Welcoming Remarks by Mr. Nicholas Rosellini, UNDP Resident Representative (tbc)*

**09:50 - 10:00**    **Photo session and coffee break**

**10:00 - 11:45**    **Global to regional and subregional context of follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda and National progress, achievements and challenges**

*Moderator: Kilaparti Ramakrishna*

*Presentations:*

- *ESCAP: reporting of APFSD and HLPF, 2017 and dissemination of key policy messages; and Asia Pacific Roadmap on implementing the 2030 Agenda and stocktaking of subregional cross-cutting and emerging issues*
- *Mr. Ming Li, UNDP China: SDGs localization in China: methodology, progress and the way forward*

***Follow-up and review (FUR) at the national level:*** *Country presentations on Voluntary National Review (China and the ROK in 2016, and Japan in 2017); coordination mechanisms; and key challenges to the implementation*

- *China – NDRC (tbc)*
- *DPRK*
- *Mongolia - Onon Khanoi, Officer, National Development Agency*
- *Republic of Korea – Hyun Kyung Kim, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*
- *Russian Federation – Arsen Bogatyrev, Ministry of Foreign Affairs*

**11:45 -- 13:00**    **Monitoring and measuring progress: Statistical data for FUR**

*Moderator: tbc*

*Presentations:*

- *ESCAP*
- *Youngshil Park, Deputy Director, Statistics Korea*
- *Yalalt Ganbat, Chairperson, National Statistics Office of Mongolia*
- *Won Kwak, Director, Central Bureau of Statistics, DPR Korea*
- *Japan (tbc)*

## Session

**13:00 – 14:00** Lunch break

**14:00 – 16:00** Perspectives on 2018 HLPF theme, “Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies”

*Moderator: Lan Xue, Director, Institute for SDGs, Tsinghua University*

*Plenary session*

*Panel:*

- *Tungalag Ulambayar, Ministry of Environment and Tourism*
- *Seonghoon Lee, Asia Development Alliance*
- *TBC*

**14:45 – 16:50** Perspectives on 2018 HLPF theme

*Group discussion*

*Part 1 – exploring risk and the development context (14:45-15:45)*

*Coffee break (15:45-16:00)*

*Part 2 – identifying responses to promote resilience (16:00-16:50)*

**16:50 - 17:30** Perspectives on 2018 HLPF theme

*Plenary discussion*

**18:00 – 20:00** Welcoming reception

## 11 Oct

**09:00 – 10:30** High-Level Roundtable on Implementing the SDGs in East and North-East Asia

*Moderator: Kilaparti Ramakrishna*

*Panel:*

- *Oyun Sanjaasuren, Former Minister of Environment, Mongolia*
- *Mori Hideyuki, President, Institute for Global Environment Strategies, Japan*
- *Soogil Young, Chair, SDSN Korea*
- *Jiahua Pan, Director, Institute for Urban and Environmental Studies, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences*

**10:30 -- 10:45** Coffee break

**10:45 – 13:00** SDG 6 Clean Water & Sanitation & SDG 11 Sustainable Cities and Communities

*Moderator: Xufeng Zhu, Executive Director, Institute for SDGs, Tsinghua University*

*Presentations & Panel Discussion*

- *Ryuta Maekawa, Program Manager, ADRA Japan*
- *Kyoung Hyo Yoon, Secretary General, Korea SDGs Network*

## Session

- *Shu Zhu, ICLEI East Asia Secretariat*

**13:00 – 14:00** Lunch break

**14:00 – 15:30** **SDG 7 Affordable and Clean Energy & SDG 12 Responsible Consumption**

*Moderator: Yanhua Liu, Director, National Committee of Experts on Climate Change, China (tbc)*

*Presentations & Panel Discussion*

- *Liu Zhiqiang, Deputy head, China Electricity Council*
- *Lu Hong, Energy Foundation China*
- *Masaki Inaba, SDGs Japan*

**15:30- 16:30** **SDG 15 Life on Land**

*Moderator: Sangmin Nam, Deputy Head, ESCAP East and North-East Asia Office*

*Presentations & Panel Discussion*

- *Hyunju Lee, Deputy Director, Forest Policy Division, Korea Forest Service*
- *Tungalag Ulambayar, Advisor to Minister of Environment and Tourism, Ministry of Environment and Tourism of Mongolia*
- *Jianyu Zhang, Chief Representative of Environmental Defense Fund Beijing Office (tbc)*

**16:30 – 17:30** **Wrap up: Strengthening cooperation in North-East Asia towards achieving the 2030 Agenda**