



Asian and European experts to discuss Climate Change on the way to COP21

Sustainable energy solutions for climate change will be at the core of the discussion agenda.

Press Release

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More Information

<http://bit.ly/ASEFclimate>

Less than two months away from the COP21 UN Climate Change Conferences, over 100 Asian and European representatives from the climate change and energy sectors will gather on 29-30 September 2015 in Paris, France for a 2-day conference, **Asia and Europe Crossing Paths on the Way to COP21**. The event is organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Asia Centre.

This conference will be a unique platform preceding COP21 that will bring together renowned experts from academia, science, business, politics and the media to discuss climate-related issues, which will be at the core of the COP21 international negotiations. The attendees will particularly focus on high-interest topics such as renewable energy and energy efficiency, climate finance, emissions trading, climate regulation, private environmental governance as well as resource and risk management.

"The transition to a green economy now seems to be a certainty, rather than a hopeful aspiration, as growing public acceptance and technological advances make investment in clean energy increasingly practical", says Dr Simon ZADEK, co-Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) Inquiry into Design Options for a Sustainable Financial System. Dr ZADEK will be one of the guest speakers at the conference.

Over the past few years, the issue of climate change has been at the centre of attention of the ASEM¹ members. During the 10th ASEM Summit (ASEM10) held in October 2014 in Milan, Italy, Heads of State and Government of 53 ASEM members concurred that further and immediate action is required by all parties to limit the far-reaching effects of climate change.

Responding to these priorities, ASEF and the Asia Centre have been collaborating in exploring the challenges and opportunities presented by climate change, specifically looking at the role of energy in the transition to a more sustainable future. Under the project, *'Energy Challenges and Climate Change'* in 2015, ASEF and the Asia Centre have already co-organised a series of conferences in Beijing (China), Almaty (Kazakhstan) and Bangkok (Thailand) on energy and environmental issues in the run-up to COP21.

The Paris event is the final and most notable session of this conference series, building on ASEF's past work on Sustainable Development and Environment. The event will be held at the Senate, Palais du Luxembourg in cooperation with the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

For more information please visit: <http://bit.ly/ASEFclimate>



¹ The **Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM)** is an intergovernmental forum for dialogue and cooperation established in 1996 to deepen relations between Asia and Europe, which addresses political, economic and socio-cultural issues of common concern. ASEM brings together 53 members (21 Asian and 30 European countries, the ASEAN Secretariat, and the European Union).

About the Organisers



The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across the thematic areas of culture, economy, education, governance, public health and sustainable development. ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

Together with about 750 partner organisations ASEF has run more than 700 projects, mainly conferences, seminars and workshops. Over 20,000 Asians and Europeans have actively participated in its activities and it has reached much wider audiences through its networks, web-portals, publications, exhibitions and lectures.

For more information, please visit www.asef.org



Established in August 2005 by François Godement and a team of research fellows and experts on contemporary Asia, **Asia Centre** is an independent research institute which conducts discussions and produces publications on the strategic and economic aspects of international relations as well as current political and social transformations in the Asia-Pacific region. From a crossroads between academic research and decision-making (both corporate and government), Asia Centre's fellows identify the significant regional issues and analyze them from a local and global perspective.

Asia Centre initiates international discussions. Its renowned expertise grants it access to numerous committees and research groups focused on the region. The Centre's programs are developed in conjunction with an extensive network of partners – companies and prominent specialized centers in Europe, North America and Asia.

For more information, please visit www.centreasia.eu



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