

Online Workshop

The European Green Deal and the Singapore Green Plan 2030: Building Bridges for Green Transition

Date: 22 April 2021

16h00 Singapore Time/ 09h00 CET

ZOOM-Meeting

Background

The European Union has traditionally been a pioneer in setting ambitious targets and fostering global cooperation regarding environmental policies to promote sustainable development within Europe and on a global level.

In December 2019, the president of the European Commission, Ursula von der Leyen, named the *European Green Deal* as "Europe's hallmark." With a 250 billion Euro projected funding, it is one of the most ambitious projects the E.U. has set up so far – aiming at no less than "Europe becoming the first climate-neutral continent."

Despite the E.U. still being the largest single market, the ambitious goal of the "European Green Deal" can only be achieved by redefining the exchange patterns with other major economies. As the national economies of the Asia-Pacific region will remain the most dynamic ones and are currently undergoing their own major transformations, they will be chosen as points of reference.

On the 10th February 2021, the Government of Singapore unveiled the Singapore Green Plan 2030. It is a comprehensive movement to advance the national agenda on sustainable development.

The Green Plan envisions ambitious and concrete targets over the next 10 years, strengthening Singapore's commitments under the UN's 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and Paris Agreement – with a final target of long-term net-zero emissions.

Objectives of the Webinar / Guiding questions:

- How is the EU's Green Deal perceived in Singapore?
- What are the different approaches in both countries/regions on the way to a low-emission society and economy?
- The Singaporean Green Plan 2030 has laid out five pillars of action? Where do you see fields of cooperation both in politics and business? Are there already any concrete examples?
- How can a comprehensive and long-term dialogue between both 'worlds' be established?
- Is the current framework of bi- and multilateral trade agreements etc. well designed to achieve the goals of the EU Green Deal and the Green Plan 2030?
- What is the understanding of sustainable development in Singapore and Asia, and what lessons can be learnt from that?

Agenda

09 00 / 16 00 **Welcoming Remarks**

Dr. Peter *Hefe*le, Director Asia-Pacific, KAS, Berlin

09 10 / 16 10 **Introduction into the Topic**

Professor Dr. Sonia *Chikh M'hamed*, ESSCA School of Management & KAS fellow, Berlin/Shanghai

09 15 / 16 15 **Session 1**

Green Transformation in Singapore: Achievements and Challenges

Moderation: Dr. Christian *Hübner*, Director, Regional Programme Energy Security and Climate Change Asia-Pacific (RECAP), Hongkong SAR, China

09 20 / 16 20 *Statement 1:*

Melissa *Low*, Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore

Singapore 's Agenda for a Green Transformation – a Regional Perspective

09 30/ 16 30 *Statement 2: Prof Faith Chan, University of Nottingham, Ningbo*
Singapore 's Agenda for a Green Transformation - an Urban Perspective

09 40 / 16 40 *Discussion*

09 55 / 16 55 *Coffee/Tea break*

10 05 / 17 05 **Session 2**

Partners in Transformation: Potential for EU-Singapore Relations within the EU Green Deal

Moderation: Professor Dr. Sonia Chikh M'hamed, ESSCA School of Management & KAS fellow, Berlin/Shanghai

10 10 / 17 10 *Statement 1:*

Dr. Bardt Hubertus, Managing Director, Head of the Research, German Economic Institute

Potentials for cooperation within the EU Green Deal

10 20 / 17 20 *Statement 2:*

Dr. Peter Hefele, Director Asia-Pacific, KAS, Berlin

Potentials for EU-Singapore relations within the EU Green Deal

10 30 / 17 30 *Statement 3:*

Dr. Harvey Neo, Lee Kuan Yew Centre for Innovative Cities

Potentials for EU-Singapore relations within the EU Green Deal

10 40 / 17 50 *Discussion*

10 55 / 17 55 *Conclusions and next steps*

Professor Dr. Sonia Chikh M'hamed, ESSCA Shanghai, KAS Fellow 2020/21

11 00 / 18 00 *End of Workshop*

Reporting: Reiss, Alina, Project Manager, KAS, Berlin.

Participants

1. Biswas, Professor Dr. P.K, Dean, IMT, Ghaziabad
2. Chikh M'hamed, Professor Dr. Sonia, ESSCA Shanghai & KAS fellow, Berlin/Shanghai
3. Deng, Prof. Dr. Haifeng, Assistant Dean and Vice Director of the Center for Environmental, Natural Resources & Energy Law at Tsinghua University
4. Echle, *Christian*, Director of the Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia, KAS Singapore
5. Elsner, Gisela, Policy Advisor Sustainability, Department Agenda 2030, KAS Berlin
6. Hefele, Dr. Peter, Director Department Asia and the Pacific, KAS Berlin
7. Hoerber, Prof. Dr. Thomas, Director of EU*Asia Institute, ESSCA School of Management
8. Hein, Dr. Christoph, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Singapore ([tbc](#))
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10. Liu, Professor Dr. Gengyuan, Beijing Normal University, School of Environment
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13. Nadaud, Ghislaine, Head of Sustainability Asia Pacific, ABN AMRO Bank N.V
14. Reiss, Alina, Project Manager, KAS, Berlin
15. Samse, Stefan, Rule of Law Programme Asia, KAS Singapore ([tbc](#))
16. Tiwari, Professor Dr. Shalini Rahul, IMT, Ghaziabad
17. Wölkner, Sabina, Head of Department Agenda 2030, KAS Berlin ([tbc](#))