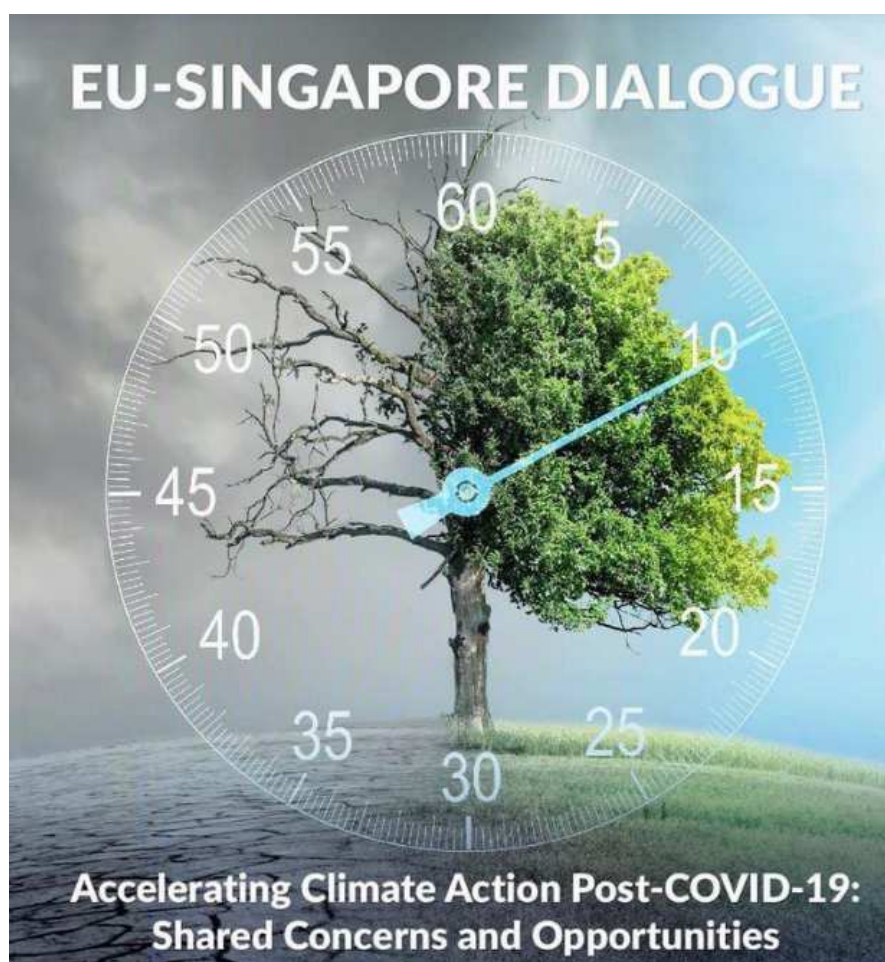


EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION TO SINGAPORE

Media Report

EU-Singapore Dialogue on Climate Change

5 November 2020



European Union
Delegation to Singapore

Summary

On Thursday, 5th November 2020 the Singapore Institute of International Affairs (SIIA) with the support of the European Union in Singapore presented the EU-Singapore Dialogue on Climate Change.

The theme: Accelerating Climate Action Post-COVID-19 – Shared Concerns and Opportunities.

This brought together policy-makers, private sector representatives, and experts from the European Union and Singapore on a shared platform to exchange ideas, insights and best practices on current efforts to accelerate climate action, even amidst the pandemic. It explored opportunities for collaboration on green recovery from COVID-19, the potential of nature-based solutions in both European and Asian markets, and the emerging fields of green finance and green procurement.

In her opening remarks, Barbara Plinkert, Ambassador of the European Union to Singapore said: “The EU and Singapore have proven their common commitment to maintain climate action as a priority, even in the midst of the crisis, demonstrating our mutual ambition to step up our promise for a sustainable and green recovery.

This dialogue was organised in partnership with the Energy Studies Institute (ESI) and the Institute of Marine Sciences (ICM) of the Spanish National Research Council (CSIC). It was funded by EU's Foreign Policy Instruments.

Coverage for the event was maximized through a targeted media pitch and social media campaign led by the EUDS Press team. The event got coverage in Singapore, Malaysia and Indonesia.



The Article

THE STRAITS TIMES

Green finance among options
Singapore needs to adopt to achieve
climate and economic goals



Singapore aims to send 30 per cent less waste to the Semakau Landfill by 2030. PHOTO: NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT AGENCY.

adding that firms can tap the Economic Development Board's Resource Efficiency Grant for Energy and the National Environment Agency's Energy Efficiency Fund.

"Companies should use this period of lowered activities to consider implementing energy-efficiency improvement projects so that they can be more cost-competitive and emerge stronger from this crisis," said Mr Tan.

In her opening remarks, EU Ambassador to Singapore Barbara Plinkert reiterated that the EU and Singapore have continued to prioritise climate action, and have a mutual ambition to ensure green recovery.

During the dialogue, which heard inputs from Mrs Plinkert as well as Mr Mauro Petriccione, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action, Mr Tan welcomed opportunities for South-east Asia and Singapore to collaborate with European companies in climate-related projects.

He said the region expects to see more sustainability-related growth opportunities in areas such as infrastructure, renewable energy, carbon services and financing.



The Article

THE STRAITS TIMES

Green finance seen as key in S'pore's climate change fight

Shabana Begum

To ensure economic growth and fight climate change at the same time, Singapore needs to leverage green finance and mobilise capital for low-carbon investments, said Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment Desmond Tan yesterday.

And to succeed in its efforts, the country also needs to plan ahead for a smooth transition to low emissions and build resilience against environmental shocks, he added.

"Covid-19 has accelerated pre-existing trends, including rising protectionism, rising inequalities and global warming," Mr Tan, who is also Minister of State for Home Affairs, noted in his speech at the European Union-Singapore Dialogue on climate change.

But it has also slowed activities. "Companies should use this period to consider implementing energy efficiency improvement projects so that they can be more cost-competitive and emerge stronger from this crisis," he said.

To implement these, they can tap the Economic Development Board's Resource Efficiency Grant for Energy as well as the National Environment Agency's Energy Efficiency Fund, Mr Tan added.

Pointing to green finance, he said it is a "critical enabler of green growth" that allows companies to support sustainable initiatives while ensuring good returns.

Green finance refers to an area of banking and investment-supporting projects that consider a range of environmental concerns.

In June, Singapore joined the EU-initiated International Platform on Sustainable Finance to help promote the integration of markets for green finance products internationally.

The Republic is also Asean's largest green finance market.

Yesterday's virtual dialogue allowed policymakers, private sector representatives and experts from the EU and Singapore to share insights on climate action.

Associate Professor Simon Tay, chairman of the Singapore Insti-

tute of International Affairs, which organised the dialogue, noted that despite the massive global lockdowns this year, total emissions for the year will shrink by only about 7 per cent compared with last year.

"This barely meets the annual reduction (of 7.6 per cent) the United Nations Environment Programme says the world needs to achieve consistently if we are to keep global warming below 2 deg C or lower," he added.

The dialogue also explored ways in which Singapore and the EU can collaborate on climate-related projects.

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Climate Action Mauro Petriccione said both sides can work on creating an international level playing field around new sustainable technologies such as renewable hydrogen, solar energy, and carbon capture and storage. Both the EU and Singapore account for less than 10 per cent of global emissions, he noted.

"Neither of us can stop global climate change alone. But there are many things that we can do together to facilitate the rapid transition to a prosperous net-zero society around the world."

The Republic has set aside \$49 million to fund low-carbon energy research and test-bedding efforts in hydrogen- and carbon-capture utilisation and storage.

The EU, meanwhile, unveiled a hydrogen strategy in July.

Singapore's chief negotiator for climate change Joseph Teo said the nation hopes "to tap EU's expertise in this area (of hydrogen) and collaborate to launch pilots and demonstration projects".

Looking to next November's UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Mr Teo, who is from the Ministry of Sustainability and the Environment, said much work needs to be done to finalise outstanding negotiations on the Paris Agreement.

The areas pending negotiations are Article 6 on the pact's carbon market rules, the enhanced transparency framework and the new collective goal on climate finance.

nshab@sph.com.sg



CONSIDER NEW PROJECTS

Companies should use this period to consider implementing energy efficiency improvement projects so that they can be more cost-competitive and emerge stronger from this crisis.



MR DESMOND TAN, Minister of State for Sustainability and the Environment, referring to the impact of Covid-19.





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Singapore

TODAY Singapore

MENU

Humanity's role as environmental custodian offers hope amid Covid-19 gloom, says marine scientist

By LOW YUJIN



Malaysia

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EU-Singapore Dialogue: Accelerating Climate Action Post-Covid-19: Shared Concerns and Opportunities

Events

EU-Singapore Dialogue: Accelerating Climate Action Post-Covid-19: Shared Concerns and Opportunities

CONFERENCE 05 NOV 2020 10:30 AM to 05 NOV 2020 05:00 PM



Indonesia

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Tentang Kami

Hubungi Kami

Mondial ASEAN

No Comments

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UE-Singapura Selenggarakan Webinar Perubahan Iklim



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The Article

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Key Social Media Highlights

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Barbara Plinkert @BPlinkertEU · Nov 5
Strong commitment expressed by both keynote speakers - Minister of State Desmond Tan @MSEsingapore and DG Mauro Pertriccione @EUClimateAction - for collaboration on climate action. Discussions to continue throughout today's think tank dialogue. @siaa_tweet @EUinSingapore

EU in Singapore @EUinSingapore · Nov 5
Exploring opportunities for collaboration on green recovery from COVID-19. #EUSGDialogue off to a stimulating start. The Dialogue brings together experts & policy-makers from EU and Singapore. Snapshot of the opening & keynotes. Discussions continue through the day. #ClimateAction



Eszter Nemeth @ENemethEU · 22 oct.
Join the EU-Singapore dialogue: "Accelerating Climate Action Post-COVID-19: Shared Concerns and Opportunities" with focus on green recovery, #ClimateAction, nature-based solutions and green finance on 5 Nov 2020. Register here: sustainableresourcesdialogue.org/eu-singapore-d... #EUGreenDeal



EU in Singapore @EUinSingapore · Nov 5
The "immediate challenge of a global pandemic has also exposed the urgency of other global challenges, most notably the climate crisis that is an existential threat to humanity," @BPlinkertEU at opening of EU-SG Climate Dialogue @EU_ENV @siaa_tweet



Barbara Plinkert @BPlinkertEU · Nov 5
Many areas of cooperation to advance #ClimateAction, ranging from green finance to carbon pricing and EU-ASEAN collaboration, outlined by Singapore's Chief Negotiator for Climate Action @JosephTeoSG at the EU-Singapore dialogue. @siaa_tweet @EUinSingapore @MSEsingapore



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Key Social Media Highlights

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MSE Singapore @MSEsingapore · 2h

Singapore is well-poised to put sustainability at the center of our post-COVID-19 recovery plans. And we intend to do so.

#LetsGameChangeClimateChange #LetsGameChangeFoodSecurity
#30by30

Read and find out more about our nation's plans here:



Sustainability must be at centre of recovery: Grace Fu, Singapore
Singapore News - As Singapore revives its outbreak-hit economy,
sustainability and the fight against climate change must be a ...
[straitstimes.com](https://www.straitstimes.com)



Barbara Plinkert @BPlinkertEU · 21h

Two more days to go - join us in the   dialogue on collaboration in climate action and on how green solutions can be adopted in the recovery from COVID-19. 🌱🌿 @EUinSingapore @EUClimateAction @sia_tweet #EUGreenDeal





EU in Singapore @EUinSingapore · 3 nov.

Climate Action, shared concerns & opportunities. On Thursday, EU-SG Dialogue looks at potential of nature-based solutions, green recovery from #COVID19 & green finance. More in our media release - European External Action Service europea.eu/Hm74UV @sia_tweet #EUGreenDeal



Deepika Shetty @deepikashetty13 · 5 nov.

The need to "build back better." At opening of #EUSGDialogue @BPlinkertEU says   have "continuously demonstrated their common commitment to maintain climate action as a key priority, even in the midst of the crisis."

@sia_tweet @EU_ENV @MSEsingapore @ESI_EnergyVibes @ICMCSIC



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Delegation to Singapore

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European Union in Singapore @EUinSingapore
160 followers
1d •

A strong commitment expressed by EU Ambassador to Singapore Barbara Plinkert and Prof Simon Tay, Chairman SIIA, as well as by both keynote speakers - Minister of State Desmond Tan and DG Mauro Pertriccione for collaboration on climate action.

Discussions to continue throughout today's think tank dialogue.

#EUSGDialogue #EUClimateAction #EUGreenDeal

Singapore Institute of International Affairs European
External Action Service



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3,334 followers
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Next Thursday, the SIIA will be organising the EU-Singapore Dialogue on Climate Change. The theme of this event is "Accelerating Climate Action Post-COVID-19 - Shared Concerns and Opportunities", where we hope to bring policymakers, private sector representatives, and experts from the European Union and Singapore together to explore opportunities for collaboration on green recovery from COVID-19, the potential of nature-based solutions in both European and Asian markets, and finally the emerging fields of green finance and green procurement.

The dialogue is organised with the support of the European Union in Singapore @EUinSingapore and in partnership with the Energy Studies Institute (ESI) and the Institut de Ciències del Mar - CSIC.

Swipe to see our panels of distinguished speakers representing the government agencies, private sector, financial institutions and academics from Singapore, Southeast Asia and Europe. To sign up, hop on to this link - <https://lnkd.in/eAKFeXX>

#EUSGDialogue #ClimateChange
#climatechangedialogue



European Union in Singapore @EUinSingapore
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The EU-Singapore Dialogue Accelerating Climate Action Post-COVID-19: Shared Concerns and Opportunities. Join the discussions on green recovery, nature based solutions and green finance.
5th November 2020

#GreenRecovery #GreenFinance #ClimateAction
#EUGreendeal

<https://lnkd.in/eAKFeXX>

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Key Links

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The Straits Times

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/green-finance-among-options-needed-to-address-economic-and-climate-objectives-mos-desmond>

<https://www.straitstimes.com/singapore/environment/green-finance-seen-as-key-in-spores-climate-change-fight>

Channel NewsAsia

<https://www.channelnewsasia.com/news/video-on-demand/singapore-tonight/thu-5-nov-2020-13474792>

Today Singapore

<https://www.todayonline.com/singapore/humanitys-role-environmental-custodian-offers-hope-amid-covid-19-doom-and-gloom-says>

-

Bursa Sustain

<https://bursasustain.bursamalaysia.com/droplet-details/events/eu-singapore-dialogue-accelerating-climate-action-post-covid-19-shared-concerns-and-opportunities>

Koran Jakarta

[http://www.koran-jakarta.com/ue-singapura-selenggarakan-webinar-perubahan-iklim-/](http://www.koran-jakarta.com/ue-singapura-selenggarakan-webinar-perubahan-iklim/)

EU in Singapore Youtube

<https://youtu.be/oBigzsgCC6g>

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Political, Press & Information Section
European Union in Singapore



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