



Climate Change Negotiations Training Workshop for Singapore Youth and Educators

Duration: Weekly, from 12 August to 16 September

Venue: Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box, 113 Somerset Rd, Singapore 238165 and NUS Ridge View Residential College, 25 Lower Kent Ridge Rd, Singapore 119081

Time: 6-8pm (except for 16 September, which is from 6-9pm)

Participants: 40 pax

Conducted by: Ms. Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore and Mr. Eric Bea, Research Assistant, Asia-Pacific Center for Environmental Law, NUS Law

Background

The National University of Singapore (herein referred to as 'NUS' or 'the University') was admitted as a Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organization (RINGO) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) on 10 December 2014, at COP20 in Lima. The Energy Studies Institute (ESI) is the designated contact point for NUS and the official channel for the exchange of information with the UNFCCC secretariat. ESI staff have been attending COP negotiations since 2011. From 2015 to 2018, ESI brought a total of 9 students from NUS and Yale-NUS College to attend the climate talks in Paris, Marrakech and Katowice. At these sessions, together with the Singapore Youth for Climate Action, NUS participated in meetings with members of the Singapore delegation and closed-door dialogues with Singapore's Minister for Environment and Water Resources Mr. Masagos Zulkifli and former and current Permanent Secretary (MEWR) Mr. Choi Shing Kwok and Mr. Albert Chua.

Following the inaugural Climate Change Negotiations Training Workshop in 2018, 3 out of the 35 youth participants were selected to represent NUS at the UNFCCC COP24 in Katowice, Poland.

Introduction to the Workshop

Participants are required to attend 4 out of the 6 sessions of this workshop, inclusive of the first, fifth, and final sessions. The sessions are 2 hours each, every Monday from 6-8pm at The Red Box. The last session will be held at Ridge View Residential College's Masters Lounge. The last workshop session is mandatory, and will run for 3 hours, as it will include presentations by participants on what they have learnt and intend to do beyond the workshops. This serves to enrich the knowledge of all participants and to provide a platform for potential collaboration.

This workshop is in its second run. The syllabus has been updated to reflect feedback from the inaugural run and will place greater emphasis on Singapore's domestic climate change policies before reflecting on the role of civil society organizations and youth. The UN Sustainable Development Goals will also feature in this run of the workshop. Topics/guest speakers may be inter-changed for a particular week. All participants will be informed of any changes in advance.



Syllabus & Session Details

This workshop will only be covering major aspects of the global climate change negotiations under the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC), including agreements such as the Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement and how Singapore, and other countries are responding.

Workshop Launch –Tuesday, 23 July 2019, 9.30-11.30am, Tras & Cook Social Library, Six Senses Maxwell (tbc)

Workshop Launch at Climate Action Week

(GOH & Speakers tbc)

This launch session aims to introduce the workshop syllabus and will be a useful opportunity for current and past workshop participants to network and touch base with organizing partners.

Session 1 – Monday, 12 August 2019, 6-8pm @ Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box (Mandatory)

Introduction to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change & the Paris Agreement

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS)

This session will cover the basics of international climate change policy, including the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement and its Katowice Climate Package/Rulebook.

Session 2 – Monday, 19 August 2019, 6-8pm @ Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box

Singapore's Participation at the UNFCCC and Voluntary National Review of the UN SDGs

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS)

This session will cover Singapore's participation at the UNFCCC talks and in the 2018 Voluntary National Review. We will discuss the whole-of-government approach toward meeting reporting obligations.

Session 3 – Monday, 26 August 2019, 6-8pm @ Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box

Singapore's Progress towards its Nationally Determined Contribution/Climate Pledge

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS)

This session will look at Singapore's climate change and energy policies in driving climate action towards meeting its 2030 NDC. This will include the Year of Climate Action and Year Toward Zero Waste.

Session 4 – Monday, 2 September 2019, 6-8pm @ Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box

National & Non-State Perspectives on Climate Change

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS; Guest Speakers from Singapore Youth for Climate Action, Asia-Pacific Center for Environmental Law, NUS Law, and Environmental Law Students Association, NUS Law)

This session will explore negotiating positions at the UNFCCC, including the United States and China, and negotiating blocs like the EU, G77 & China, African Group, Arab Group, Least Developed Countries, and the Small Island Developing States, as well as the role of civil society and youth at the international climate talks and introduce the various civil society constituencies such as the Research and Independent NGOs (RINGO) and the Children and Young People NGOs (YOUNGO). This will help participants prepare to step into the shoes of the parties in the following week's Model Negotiations/Lobbying Session.



Session 5 – Monday, 9 September 2019, 6-8pm @ Level 2 Learning Hub, The Red Box (Mandatory)

Bringing it all together: Model Negotiations /Lobbying Session

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS; Eric Bea, Research Assistant, APCEL, NUS Law)

This session will bring the knowledge that all participants have gained from the first four sessions into a practical session. Participants will be assigned to roleplay one of the various State Parties or non-State constituencies in the UNFCCC negotiating process. Through this session, participants will be able to better appreciate the roles that each party plays in the process, as well as their relative strengths and weaknesses.

Session 6 – Monday, 16 September 2019, 6-9pm @ Ridge View Residential College Master’s Lounge (Mandatory)

Participant presentations & Conclusion

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI NUS)

At this session, participants will have the opportunity to share what they have learnt and intend to do beyond the workshops, as well as discuss potential collaboration.

Materials

Materials for each seminar will be sent to all participants ahead of schedule. All are expected to have read the relevant materials before coming to the workshops and to participate actively in discussions.

Useful references:

<https://www.unfccc.int>

<https://www.nccs.gov.sg>

<https://www.mewr.gov.sg/climateaction>

Open to

40 Youth and educators under 35 with a keen interest in climate change policy, action agenda.

Cost of Participation

This workshop is free for all successful applicants.

Certificates of Participation will be awarded to participants, subject to the completion of the required sessions and for participation in the final presentation.

Application

Submit your application by filling up this form at www.bit.do/ClimateNegoTraining2019 by Friday, 31 May 2019. Please note that we will not be considering any late applications.

For enquiries, email esimlyx@nus.edu.sg.