

BIODIVERSITY AND FREE TRADE AGREEMENTS

WORKSHOP

22 to 23 January 2026

Lee Sheridan Conference Room
Eu Tong Sen Building, NUS Bukit Timah Campus

Full Programme details at:
<https://law.nus.edu.sg/apcel/events/apcelbdt26012-2-23/>

Register at:
<https://tinyurl.com/apcelBDT2026reg>
or scan the QR code.

Participation by invitation only.



International trade has been identified as one of the leading causes of biodiversity loss. Yet, little has been said about both the negative and positive effects that international trade law, and in particular innovative environmental provisions found in bilateral and regional trade agreements, can have on biodiversity. This two-day workshop features a group of young and established scholars who will kick-start this conversation by focusing on the integration of biodiversity in free trade agreements signed by Asian countries.

PAPERS

DAY 1, THURSDAY 22 JANUARY

“Trade War and Biodiversity: The Role of Free Trade Agreements in a Deglobalization Era”

Ying ZHU
Assistant Professor, Hong Kong University

“Embedding Biodiversity Protection in Trade Relations: the Legal Challenges of the EU-Thailand Partnership and Cooperation Agreement”

Krisdakorn WONGWUTTHIKUN & Thanapat CHATINAKROB
Assistant Professor, Thammasat University

“How does China balance biodiversity conservation in the process of promoting the implementation of free trade agreements?”

Haifeng DENG
Professor, Tsinghua University

“Trade-related Biodiversity Measures and WTO Law”

Gracia MARIN-DURAN
Professor, University College London

“The Enforcement Gap in Biodiversity Commitments in EU FTAs: Design, Practice and Institutional Cooperation”

Isola-Clara MACCHIA
PhD Researcher, European University Institute

“Combating Forest Biodiversity Loss by Incorporating the Voluntary Sustainability Standards into FTAs: How far can we go?”

Ngoc Ha NGUYEN
Associate Professor, Foreign Trade University

“Leveraging Free Trade Agreements to Promote Indigenous Economic Sovereignty and Environmental Sustainability”

David JEFFERSON
Associate Professor, University of Canterbury

“Environmental Regulation of Biodiversity Loss under the CRTTP Framework: Logic, Deficiencies, and Innovations”

YIN Ruilong
Assistant Professor, Fuzhou University

“Biodiversity Issues in Trade Agreements: The Sharing of Legal and Economic Burdens”

Johanna Aleria P. LORENZO
Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam

“Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights Interface in Free Trade Agreements: Emerging Trends”

James J. NEDUMPARA
Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

DAY 2, FRIDAY 23 JANUARY

“Green Trade, Grey Consequences: Addressing Biodiversity Loss at the Intersection of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Free Trade Agreements on Critical Minerals Mining”

Arnav SHARMA
Assistant Professor, National Law School of India University

“From Subsidies to Sustainability: The Role of Trade Law in Marine Biodiversity Conservation”

Ngan Vu KIM
Lecturer, Foreign Trade University

“Trade Law Exceptions and the Protection of Biodiversity: Types of Trade-Restrictive Measures and Legal Challenges”

Geraldo VIDIGAL
Associate Professor, University of Amsterdam

“Biodiversity and Regional Trade Agreements Concluded by Japan - Why biodiversity receives limited emphasis compared to climate change?”

Ritsuko YONEDA
Director for the Multilateral Affairs, Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

“Biodiversity as an Essential Element of Trade Treaties - How the GBF Changes Trade Law”

Markus GEHRING
Professor, University of Cambridge

“Reconciling trade liberalization and environmental protection: Pathways to effective biodiversity conservation in the ASEAN region through FTAs”

DUONG Tran Thi Thuy
Associate Professor, Ho Chi Minh City University of Law

** Subject to change.
Please email lawapcel@nus.edu.sg for enquiries.*

Organised by:



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PROGRAMME SCHEDULE

SESSION 1: THURSDAY 22 JANUARY, 09:10-11:50AM (SGT)

Trade War and Biodiversity: The Role of Free Trade Agreements in a Deglobalization Era”

Ying ZHU
Assistant Professor, Hong Kong University

“Embedding Biodiversity Protection in Trade Relations: The Legal Challenges of the EU-Thailand Partnership and Cooperation Agreement”

Krisdakorn WONGWUTTHIKUN & Thanapat CHATINAKROB
Assistant Professor, Thammasat University

“How does China balance biodiversity conservation in the process of promoting the implementation of free trade agreements?”

Haifeng DENG
Professor, Tsinghua University

“Trade-related Biodiversity Measures and WTO Law”

Gracia MARIN-DURAN
Professor, University College London

SESSION 2: THURSDAY 22 JANUARY, 12:30-15:00PM (SGT)

“The Enforcement Gap in Biodiversity Commitments in EU FTAs: Design, Practice and Institutional Cooperation”

Isola-Clara MACCHIA
PhD Researcher, European University Institute

“Combatting Forest Biodiversity Loss by Incorporating the Voluntary Sustainability Standards into FTAs: How far can we go?”

Ngoc Ha NGUYEN
Associate Professor, Foreign Trade University

“Leveraging Free Trade Agreements to Promote Indigenous Economic Sovereignty and Environmental Sustainability”

David JEFFERSON
Associate Professor, University of Canterbury

SESSION 3: THURSDAY 22 JANUARY, 15:00-17:00PM (SGT)

“Environmental Regulation of Biodiversity Loss under the CRTPP Framework: Logic, Deficiencies, and Innovations”

YIN Ruilong
Assistant Professor, Fuzhou University

“Biodiversity Issues in Trade Agreements: The Sharing of Legal and Economic Burdens”

Johanna Aleria P. LORENZO
Assistant Professor, University of Amsterdam

“Biodiversity and Intellectual Property Rights Interface in Free Trade Agreements: Emerging Trends”

James J. NEDUMPARA
Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade

SESSION 4: FRIDAY 23 JANUARY, 10:00-12:00PM (SGT)

“Green Trade, Grey Consequences: Addressing Biodiversity Loss at the Intersection of the Convention on Biological Diversity and Free Trade Agreements on Critical Minerals Mining”

Arnav SHARMA
Assistant Professor, National Law School of India University

“From Subsidies to Sustainability: the Role of Trade Law in Marine Biodiversity Conservation”

Ngan Vu KIM
Lecturer, Foreign Trade University

“Trade Law Exceptions and the Protection of Biodiversity: Types of Trade-Restrictive Measures and Legal Challenges”

Geraldo VIDIGAL
Associate Professor, University of Amsterdam

SESSION 5: TUESDAY 23 JANUARY, 14:00-16:00PM (SGT)

“Biodiversity and Regional Trade Agreements Concluded by Japan - Why biodiversity receives limited emphasis compared to climate change?”

Ritsuko YONEDA
Director for the Multilateral Affairs, Japan Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries

“Biodiversity as an Essential Element of Trade Treaties - How the GBF Changes Trade Law”

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