

Time: 11:00 – 13:00 | Wednesday, 5 June Venue: Crowne Plaza Helsinki-Hesperia Meeting Room 14

WCEF 2019 SIDE EVENT

Closing the loop: ASEM's consistion towards achieving a circular economy

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CONCEPT

The Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF) is launching a review of the implementation experience of Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) countries on Sustainable Development Goal 12 (SDG12): Responsible Consumption and Production (RCP).

The study "Closing the loop: ASEM's transition towards achieving a circular economy" provides a bird-eye view of how 51 ASEM member countries approach the implementation of SDG12 targets and integrate them into national strategies, target-setting, and monitoring activities.

In order to achieve the targets of SDG 12, the publication sets out five key messages for ASEM member countries to address the full production and consumption cycle of natural resources and support a circular economy transition. The five key messages suggested are listed below:

- 1. Importance of creating strong policies and legislative framework, as a backbone of a successful transition to a circular economy
- 2. Crucial role of businesses in systemic transformation
- 3. Essential place of green public procurement practices supporting circular economy
- 4. Education on RCP practices
- 5. Smart monitoring

PROGRAMME

11:00 – 11:15 Registration 11:15 – 11:20 Welcome remarks Mr Sun XIANGYANG, Deputy Executive

Director, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

11:20 - 11:30 Keynote Remarks

Ms Annika LINDBLOM, Secretary General, National Commission on Sustainable Development Chief Specialist, International Affairs, Ministry of the Environment

11:30 - 12:15 Panel discussion

Ms Grazyna PULAWSKA, Senior Project Manager, Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)

Ms Sipaphaphone CHOUNRAMANY, Deputy Director of Development Planning Division, Ministry of Planning and Investment, Lao PDR

Expert Commentators:

Ms Thi Lam Giang NGUYEN, Director General, Department for Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Development, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Vietnam Mr Lukas MUELLER, Researcher, Freiburg University

12:15 - 12:45 Q&A

12:45 - 13:00 Conclusions

This event is supported by the Asia-Europe Environment Forum (ENVforum) Partners: Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), Government of Sweden through the Regional Asia Environment Conference Support Programme administered by Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), Hanns Seidel Foundation (HSF), ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) and the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies (IGES).

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