ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM 2018
HARNESSING INNOVATION TO POWER THE FUTURE
Manila | 4–8 June 2018

Key Highlights
THE ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM 2018

The Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) 2018 was held at the Asian Development Bank (ADB) headquarters from 4 to 8 June 2018. The Forum offered a wide range of learning and networking events that included exciting and interactive plenaries, thematic track sessions, deep dive workshops, knowledge networking and matchmaking sessions, receptions, and satellite events.

ACEF 2018 brought together a diverse mix of project developers, financial institutions and investors, non-profits, entrepreneurs, government officials, donors and program managers, and civil society and academia for one intense and enlightening week of knowledge exchange, brainstorming, and partnership development.

ACEF 2018 AT A GLANCE

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<th>OVER</th>
<th>1,300</th>
<th>73</th>
<th>250</th>
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<td>PARTICIPANTS</td>
<td>COUNTRIES</td>
<td>SPEAKERS</td>
<td>WORKSHOPS, SESSIONS, AND NETWORKING EVENTS</td>
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OVER $10 MILLION LEVERAGED IN INVESTMENT AND PROJECT/PROGRAM FUNDING THROUGH CONNECTIONS MADE AT ACEF
AT ACEF 2018?

WHAT WAS NEW

ADB kicked off the week-long ACEF in the morning of 4 June 2018 to give participants a full day of open and free-flowing networking. Over 500 participants filled the hallways of ADB to set up side meetings that would lead to a productive week of knowledge exchange and partnership development.

Networking and Matchmaking Day

At the opening plenary, Woochong Um, Director General of the Sustainable Development and Climate Change Department; Bambang Susantono, Vice-President of the Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development; and Yongping Zhai, Chief of Energy Sector Group, represented ADB in giving awards to seven New Energy Leaders.

ADB New Energy Leaders Awards

ADB launched the New Energy Leaders initiative in 2017 to showcase creative solutions to energy development challenges in Asia and the Pacific’s energy development challenges and to promote the next generation of Asian clean energy entrepreneurs.
ADB on the Ground: Driving the Energy Transition

ADB showcased 22 of its innovative clean energy projects that have been implemented across the Asia and the Pacific region. These projects covered new technologies, approaches, and financing mechanisms to accelerate a shift to more sustainable, low-carbon energy sources and systems. Over 400 participants engaged with ADB staff and their government counterparts at this knowledge networking session.

Knowledge Dim Sum with Clean Energy Entrepreneurs

More than 300 participants had the chance to network with 23 different entrepreneurs and start-ups that are developing new business and delivery models and are turning the energy world on its head. Entrepreneurs pitched their innovations covering blockchain for microgrids, energy storage for smart grids, power appliances for the agricultural sector, cutting edge solar and wind energy technologies, and more.

Instagram Clean Energy Photo Contest and Awards Ceremony

For the first time in its 13-year history, ACEF held an Instagram photo contest in partnership with Canon Philippines and the Islamic Development Bank. Amateur photographers were invited to submit photos that capture positive and life-changing impacts from clean energy innovations in Asia through the lens of a camera. The contest received over 500 photo submissions, of which four were selected as winners by a panel of judges from ADB, the Islamic Development Bank, and Canon Philippines. The winners were recognized at an awards ceremony during an ACEF cocktail reception by Bambang Susantono, Vice-President of Knowledge Management at ADB and Sara Black, Celebrity Photographer and Brand Ambassador for Canon Philippines.
Welcome Address by the Co-organizers
Speakers representing ACEF 2018 co-organizers welcomed the participants and shared their vision for a clean energy transition in the Asia-Pacific and provided inspiration for the clean energy community to meet the pressing challenges of providing universal access to affordable clean, and distributed energy.

Special Address by Visionary Clean Energy Leaders
Three highly accomplished clean energy leaders shared their unique insights and experiences about what it will take for Asia and the Pacific to leapfrog to a low-carbon energy pathway.

- Yongping Zhai, Chief of Energy Sector Group, ADB
- Laszlo Varro, Chief Economist, International Energy Agency
- Monica Araya, Founder and Director, Costa Rica Limpia
- Dipal Barua, Co-founder of the Grameen Bank and Founder and Chairman, Bright Green Energy Foundation

ACEF participants had the chance to attend 16 deep dive workshops (DDWs) focused on topics such as grid integration of variable renewable energy; effective minigrid development strategies and business models; women entrepreneurs in clean energy; and much more. Some DDWs took the form of “master classes” while other workshops were more interactive and focused on brainstorming and network-building.

DEEP DIVE WORKSHOPS

- Promoting Innovations for Energy Efficiency Technologies, Finance and Business Models in Developing Asian Countries
- Promoting Efficient, Clean Cooling through Technology and Policy Innovation
- The Eleventh Meeting of Asia Solar Energy Forum
- Grid Integration of Variable Renewable Energy: Innovative Solutions at Transmission and Distribution Levels
- Developing Sustainable Minigrids
- Realising the Potential of Waste to Energy
- From Startup to Scale Up
- Deep Dive Workshop on Clean Cooking
- Sustainable Energy for All in the Asia-Pacific

5 June 2018 (Tuesday)
- Opportunities and Models for Early-Stage and Community-Based Renewable Energy Project Finance, and Discussion of Additional Barriers to Unlocking Project Capital at Scale
- Renewable Energy Auctions: A New Paradigm for Asia
- Battery Energy Storage Technology for Clean Energy
- Connecting Asian and Global Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage Expertise
- Women Entrepreneurship in Clean Energy
- Scaling-Up Solar PV Deployment: Implementing Projects with Assured Quality

8 June 2018 (Friday)
THEMATIC TRACK SESSIONS

The heart of the main ACEF 2018 consisted of the four thematic tracks, structured under the core pillars of Energy for All. These included:

• Energy efficiency
• Renewable energy
• Energy access
• Navigating the Future: a cross-cutting theme focused on big ideas that can serve as important platforms and springboards for driving the clean energy industry forward.

CLOSING PLENARY

Speakers in the closing plenary emphasized how innovation, inclusivity, and strength in numbers are the driving forces helping Asia and the Pacific to leapfrog to a low-carbon energy pathway.

Keynote Speakers

Haukur Hardarson  
Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Arctic Green Energy

Roli Gupta  
Founder and CEO, Oorjan India

Leandro Leviste  
Founder and CEO, Solar Philippines

Panel Discussion with Clean Energy Innovators

A group of experts and practitioners engaged in a thoughtful panel discussion about what it really takes to be innovative in clean energy, as well as the challenges, and the rewards.

• Ashok Bhargava, Energy Division Director, Central and West Asia Department, Asian Development Bank
• Rana Adib, Executive Secretary, Renewable Energy Policy Network for the 21st Century (REN21)
• Athena Ronquillo Ballesteros, Climate Finance Director, Asia at Growald Family Fund
• Danny Kennedy, Managing Director of the California Clean Energy Fund and Cofounder of Sungevity and Powerhouse
• Chunguang (Charlotte) Wang, Founder & CEO EQuota Energy Technology (Shanghai) Co., Ltd.
• Aniruddha Sharma, Co-founder & CEO, Carbon Clean Solutions

Opening Remarks by the President of ADB

Takehiko Nakao, President of the ADB, delivered a special keynote speech in which he congratulated the 2018 New Energy Leaders on their achievements and how they have been tackling challenges in the areas of energy efficiency, renewable energy, and energy access across Asia by applying their innovative business and financial models.

Technology by itself is not enough. Projects with advanced technologies must be accompanied by viable business models, stable regulation, and smart policies to deploy the technologies.

- Takehiko Nakao, President of ADB
ACEF exceeded the expectations of most participants, in terms of the variety of workshops, events, and networking opportunities offered. In a survey completed by 260 participants, ACEF 2018 received overwhelmingly positive feedback.

Respondents expressed the desire to attend the next ACEF. 98%
Respondents ranked the forum above other international events related to clean energy. 90%
Respondents ranked the forum either highest or second highest in terms of how useful it was to their work. 97%

Respondents found the forum to have “met”, “exceeded” or “far exceeded” their expectations. 97%

Most Liked Deep Dive Workshops

- Grid Integration of Variable Renewable Energy: Innovative Solutions at Transmission and Distribution Levels
- Sustainable Energy for All in the Asia and the Pacific & Developing Sustainable Minigrids
- Promoting Innovations for Energy Efficiency Technologies, Finance and Business Models in Developing Asian Countries

Key Motivation Factors for Attending ACEF 2018
- Learn about the latest clean energy developments: 51%
- Received invitation by ADB: 45%
- Pursue networking opportunities: 37%

Participant Wishlist
- Webinar series for peer-to-peer networking
- ACEF series for Asian subregions
- ACEF website platform

Announcements made at ACEF 2018

Several organizations leveraged ACEF platform to launch their regional clean energy initiatives and programs to ACEF Community and media.


SATellite EVENTS

Events took place at ADB in parallel to ACEF but outside of the main forum, DDWs, and networking day.

- REN21 Asia launch of Renewables 2018 Global Status Report
- Meeting of Asia and the Pacific ESCO Associations
- “Creating Empowering Images: Inspiring Lives through Clean Energy”, a Lunchtime Talk by Celebrity Photographer Sara Black
- White Goods Olympics Demonstration
- Drone Demonstration
- Electric Vehicles Talk
- Off-grid Impact Stories
- Women in Energy Lunch

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GET READY
FOR ACEF 2019

Sponsorship Opportunities
The Asia Clean Energy Forum (ACEF) is eager to expand and keeps its doors open to welcome new sponsorship opportunities in Asia and other parts of the world for organizations sharing the vision of accelerating clean energy development. If you or your organization seeks to support ACEF’s mission and would like to become an official sponsor of the event, please contact our Agenda Coordinator, Jason Bogovich, at jbogovich.consultant@adb.org.

ACEF 2019
SAVE THE DATE
Manila, Philippines | 17–21 JUNE 2019

Participants and Speakers
Interested in attending and possibly presenting your work and ideas at ACEF 2019?
Stay tuned for our CALL FOR ABSTRACTS to be issued by January.

Connect with us on:
- www.asiacleanenergyforum.org/
- www.facebook.com/asiacleanenergyforum/
- www.twitter.com/ACEF2018
- www.linkedin.com/groups/5069172/

For further inquiries:
Contact us at acef@adb.org
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