

The Green Transition at Higher Education Institutions – Examples of Practice from Asia and Europe

30th May 2022

The climate crisis is a global challenge requiring a global effort. In order to achieve the goal of limiting the rise of global temperatures to less than 1.5°C as outlined by the Paris Agreement, the world needs to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050. Universities as research hubs driving innovation and educating the future workforce and leaders are important stakeholders in driving the green transition forward. At the last Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit the heads of states of Asian and European members reaffirmed their strong commitment to the Paris Agreement and the goals set within this agreement. This conference is organized as part of the dialogue within the education process of the Asia-Europe Meeting – the ASEM Education Process.

As the focus of the ASEM Education Process lays on fostering exchange and collaboration between the two regions, we want to reflect on how the two concepts of strengthening internationalisation and promoting ecological sustainability can be united. Furthermore, the conference will give the floor to higher education institutions from Asia and Europe which have implemented initiatives in order to green their internationalisation efforts, their campus management and teaching and hence promote peer learning among higher education institutions in the area of the green transition.

Agenda

Time (in CEST/ UTC +2)	Agenda
09:00 – 09:15	Welcome and Introduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Christian Bock, German Federal Ministry of Education and Research</i> - <i>Dr. Stephan Geifes, Director, Erasmus+ National Agency Higher Education</i>
09:15 – 09:45	Keynote – <i>Universities and climate change</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Tristan McCowan, Professor of International Education, University College London</i>
09:45 – 10:35	Panel – <i>Promoting internationalisation in the era of climate change</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Prof. Romyen Kosaikanont, Centre Director, SEAMEO-RIHED</i> - <i>Adrian Veale, Policy Officer, DG EAC, European Commission</i> - <i>Reka Tozsa, Asia-Europe Foundation</i> - <i>Peter Wells, Chief of Section Higher Education, UNESCO</i>
10:35 – 10:50	<i>Break</i>
10:50 – 11:40	Breakout Session 1 – Good Practice Examples <u>Greening internationalisation</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Green Erasmus Project, Erasmus Student Network (ESN)</i>

	<p><u>Green campus</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Green campus Programme, University College Cork (Ireland)</i> - <i>UM Sustainability and Development Centre, Universiti Malaya (Malaysia)</i>
11:40 – 11:45	<i>Break</i>
11:45 – 12:35	<p>Breakout Session 2 – Good Practice Examples</p> <p><u>Sustainability and climate literacy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>KTH Sustainability Office, KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)</i> - <i>SDGs Planning Committee, Okayama University (Japan)</i> <p><u>Promoting a culture of sustainability</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Green Office, University of Konstanz (Germany)</i>
12:35 – 12:50	Outlook – The ASEM Education Process and its commitment to fostering the green transition
12:50 – 13:00	Wrap-up