

**Join the ultimate conversation
to advance Asia's Net-Zero ambitions**



Charting Pathways for a Sustainable Asia

26 – 28 June 2023

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

By:



Knowledge Partner:

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Energy Asia advances the region's Net-Zero ambitions by bringing together policy makers, industry captains and energy professionals through actionable solutions for a just and responsible energy transition.



Spanning three days from **26 – 28 June 2023** at the **Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre**, Energy Asia conference is poised to deliver riveting thought leadership discussions alongside a showcase of cutting edge technology and solutions.

Charting Pathways for a Sustainable Asia

Asia is a resource-rich region with a significant population base, robust economic development and strong long-term growth potential. The region comprises advanced, developing and emerging economies moving at multiple paces, underpinned by different stages of economic development and socio-economic standards.

In most developing and emerging Asia, decarbonisation requires the stakeholders to strike the right balance between energy security, affordability and sustainability, or the energy trilemma. Balancing this will allow the development of the right ecosystems that suit their respective national interest, particularly to sustain economic development and alleviate poverty, as well as spurring new growth areas arising from energy transition.

As Asia positions itself as the axis of global growth, it is imperative that the region puts in place comprehensive ecosystems to enhance its attractiveness as a hub for low-carbon investments and clean technology deployment. The goal is to decarbonise the region by subscribing to global best practices, best-in-class technologies and innovative solutions that would lead to a just transition for Asia.

We can achieve this through intra-regional collaborations, among others, capitalising on each nation's unique set of policy ambitions. The role of policies, financing, innovation, digital transformation and collaboration are all critical in super-charging efforts towards Asia's just and responsible transition. Opportunities abound, underpinned by accessibility and availability of resources – whether it is molecules, energy sources, technology, financing and talent - leveraging on unconventional partnership and collaboration.

On the Agenda



How would permanent structural changes driven by geopolitics and geoeconomics impact policies and strategic direction?



Energy scenarios & strategic options in balancing the energy trilemma of security, sustainability & affordability



How can G2G collaboration be strengthened among the international community for a successful energy transition for the region?



New models of finance and investment to do it right & doing the right thing



Energy policies, regulations and incentives – building a framework that is effective, impactful, consistent and sustained delivery



Turning Net-Zero commitments into business-building – clean and sustainable energy



Technologies to unlock decarbonisation pathways, does it exist and at what cost?



Demonstrating visible leadership in ASEAN oil & gas methane emissions management and driving actions through collaboration and partnerships

Conversations at Energy Asia

Geopolitics: An Era of Sustained Volatility

The global energy landscape remains vulnerable to the interplay between market and non-fundamental forces, particularly the never-ending geopolitical conflicts that prolong the period of uncertainty and heighten the risk of doing business. In the short term, these events will trigger volatility in energy prices, with diverse implications for the broader economy and industries' profitability. However, in the long term, the implications are far more significant, where plausible scenarios include permanent structural changes in the global geopolitical order from the North to the South and shifting the axis of growth from the West to the East.

All these will impact global investments, trade flows, supply chains, access to key energy and economic resources, talents and technology acquisition, thus necessitating a new form of partnership and collaboration, perhaps even an entirely new business model. This is part of the ongoing global transformation and re-balancing, where the resultant shifts in global systems and economic power will shape and influence countries' and industry players' growth agendas and long-term strategies.

In the case of Asia, the dynamics of global geopolitics requires the region to adapt and develop its own model that addresses the different levels of economic development, social equity and access to resources.

- What does it take for Asia to remain resilient and progressive, withstand sustained volatility and promote economic growth?
- How can policymakers ensure accountability for environmental responsibility and social equity in the development of national and regional policies and blueprints?

Ecosystems for a Just Transition – A Radical Shift towards a Globally Competitive Asian Model

The energy transition continues to unfold and progress at a different pace across the world. The pace is faster in most advanced economies, while emerging and developing countries manage the pace from the context of national development and other competing socio-economic priorities that requires a specific kind of attention.

In the case of Asia, as the region sets its course towards becoming the axis of global growth amidst the growing focus on sustainability agenda, key Asian economies, including China and India have committed themselves towards a net zero end state as early as 2050. Asia now needs a specific energy transition model that reflects the different states of economies and finds the 'sweet spot' in the energy trilemma of security, affordability and sustainability.

- What are the key success factors and enablers that can create the right pace for Asia's energy transition and transform the region into an attractive destination for green investments?
- How can policymakers and industry players in Asia collaborate to develop the right ecosystems, for example policies and incentives, regulatory environment, green funding, and physical and digital infrastructure readiness?

Transition Pathways for Asia – Common Agenda, Differing Pace and Pathways

The energy trilemma of security, affordability and sustainability are driving policymakers and industry players to develop sustainable ecosystems to shape the pace of energy transition.

Energy transition across the world is moving at different speeds and scales, necessitating the need to strike the right balance in the energy trilemma. This requires inclusive and comprehensive discourse from different perspectives that considers the varying interests and agendas of all stakeholders – governments, regulators, consumers, the market and industry players.

On this note, what would be a workable model to provide a win-win solution for the public and private sectors to optimise the opportunities arising from the energy transition, particularly in new growth areas related to low carbon pathways? How can "the blockers be unblocked" and enabling conditions be implemented to facilitate these efforts of securing growth from the context of sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG)?

- What are Asia's energy transition enablers, and how can conducive policy, transition finance and human capital be unlocked? What radical shift would it take for Asia to become a competitive force in sustainable business models?
- How can Asia shift from its long-standing dependency on fossil fuels to developing sustainable energy solutions to meet the region's long-term energy security?

Clean Energy Solutions – Positioning Asia as a Hub

Energy is the mainstay of global economic growth. Asia, one of the fastest growing regions, heavily relies on energy from fossil fuels such as coal, oil & gas, and renewable energy particularly solar and wind to power and sustain its nation-building and development.

The shift towards clean and sustainable energy is progressing as Asia continues to embrace energy transition at its own trajectory, underpinned by the respective economies' aspiration towards a net zero future. Elsewhere in the world and Asia, the energy transition opens new growth opportunities in non-traditional businesses, particularly low carbon and sustainability-driven sectors, such as the circular economy, green hydrogen, green mobility, energy storage and Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS).

- How can local industry players, SMEs and service providers position themselves as preferred partners in these emerging growth areas?

Oil & Gas Amid Accelerating Energy Transition – Striking the Right Balance Between Energy Security and Sustainability

Oil & gas remain part of the global energy mix amid intensifying competition from clean and sustainable energy sources. The global economic rebound post the COVID-19 pandemic led to an exponential spike in demand for oil & gas. Escalating this further, the sanctions on oil & gas exports from Russia triggered the global energy crisis as energy demand exceeded supply. The lack of accelerated and concerted growth in alternative and renewable energy investments across the world exacerbated the adverse supply situation, which enhanced the reliance on fossil fuels, namely coal, oil & gas, as economies strive to address the short-term security of supply.

Long-term energy security will need urgent and broad-based new investments and policy support to substantially raise clean and sustainable energy capacity, thereby increasing its share in the global energy mix.

Amid the energy transition, oil & gas investments are still needed to prevent supply shocks and mitigate future energy crises.

- How can policymakers and industry players collaborate to strike the right balance in exploring solutions and options between energy security and sustainability?
- What would be the near- and long-term solutions to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, including methane, across the value chain?

Technology and Innovative Solutions as Enablers and Drivers of Energy Transition

Technology and innovative solutions, especially those related to clean and sustainable energy, energy efficiency, carbon sequestration such as Carbon Capture, Utilisation and Storage (CCUS) and direct air capture are key enablers and drivers of growth for the energy transition. Thus, for industry players, adopting and unlocking the right technology is key to remaining competitive and resilient.

However, barrier-to-entry in new growth areas that are technology intensive remains a big challenge as most technologies are proprietary.

- While partnerships and collaborations may provide the best option, what would be the value propositions of prospective partners vying to access and own the technology and start-ups?
- While proprietors of technology and clean energy solutions strive to accelerate the commercialisation and scaling up of these frontier technologies, will there be a new form of partnership and collaboration between resource holders of key energy transition metals and minerals and other bio-resources?
- Will this lead to resource nationalisation and trigger material scarcity that will spur rising costs, thus impeding progress towards a low carbon future?

Downstream – Optimising Value While Meeting Net Zero Targets

Asia is one of the world's fastest-growing regions, and to sustain its growth engine and economic development, the region accounts for more than half of global energy consumption. In terms of the energy mix, fossil fuels account for some 75% of Asia's energy demand, which primarily caters to key economic sectors such as transport, manufacturing and utilities. While energy consumption remains high, the rising level of greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions is equally disconcerting, particularly from the hard-to-abate sectors that require a coordinated approach with long-term solutions.

There must be a progressive shift from an energy-intensive industry with high emissions to a low carbon future, reducing and capping emissions to a level that meets the Paris Agreement commitment.

To adapt to a low carbon future, Asia should capitalise on opportunities to optimise its natural resources that can serve as building blocks for its key downstream sectors including bio-refinery, plastic recycling, sustainable fertiliser manufacturing and bio-energy, to name a few.

- How can Asia optimise the value of its indigenous hydrocarbon resources and building blocks while capping emissions and meeting net zero carbon emission targets?
- What is the role of downstream businesses? Can it lead to a lower correlation between economic growth and resource consumption?
- How to repurpose and transform the existing downstream oil and petrochemical manufacturing value chain into a model that embraces sustainability and environmental, social and governance (ESG) goals, as well as accelerate investments in clean energy solutions?

Demonstrating Visible Leadership in Asia's Oil & Gas Methane Emissions Management and Driving Actions through Collaboration and Partnerships

Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas (GHG) with a Global Warming Potential that is more than 80 times greater than carbon dioxide (CO₂) over a 20-year period. It is the second largest contributor of global GHG emissions and responsible for nearly half of today's net global warming.

Against the backdrop of Asia's rapid economic growth, methane emissions are expected to rise steadily over the next decade.

Cutting methane emissions is the fastest opportunity to immediately slow down the rate of global warming.

The Global Methane Pledge launched at COP26 in 2021 at Glasgow, saw over 150 countries committing to reduce methane emissions by at least 30% by 2030.

Achieving this target requires even deeper methane reductions from fossil energy. Applying today's existing technology can enable nearly half of the methane reduction achievements to be at zero net cost.

The ASEAN Methane Energy Roundtable series established in 2021 aims to elevate the conversation on effective methane emissions management through collaboration, acceleration of on-ground actions by showcasing viable financing options for energy industry players, promote effective policy, technology transfer and capacity building on methane emissions management among ASEAN member countries.

- How can Asia strengthen its collaboration to accelerate actions on effective policy change, financing options, technology transfer and capacity building to reduce and manage its methane emissions?

Officiating Energy Asia 2023



**The Right Honourable
Dato' Seri Anwar Ibrahim**
Prime Minister
Malaysia

Our Speakers



H.E. Mohd Rafizi Ramli
Minister of Economy
Malaysia



H.E. Nik Nazmi Nik Ahmad
Minister of Natural Resources,
Environment and Climate Change
Malaysia



H.E. Arifin Tasrif
Minister of Energy and
Mineral Resources
Indonesia



H.E. Haitham Al Ghais
Secretary General
Organization of the Petroleum
Exporting Countries (OPEC)



Tengku Muhammad Taufik
President & Group CEO
PETRONAS
Chairman of Energy Asia



Daniel Yergin
Vice Chairman
S&P Global



Amin H. Nasser
President & CEO
Saudi Aramco



John B. Hess
CEO
Hess Corporation



Mansoor Mohamed Al Hamed
CEO
Mubadala Energy



Patrick Pouyanné
Chairman of the Board & CEO
TotalEnergies



Russell Hardy
CEO
Vitol



Takayuki Ueda
President & CEO
INPEX Corporation



Alok Sinha
Managing Director & Global
Head of Oil & Gas and Chemicals /
Commodity Traders & Agribusiness
Standard Chartered



Dato' Amirul Feisal Wan Zahir
Managing Director
Khazanah Nasional



Amjad Bseisu
Chief Executive
EnQuest PLC



Amy Chua
President
SLB Asia

Our Speakers



Andy O'Brien
Senior Vice President,
Global Operations
ConocoPhillips



Ashwani Dudeja
President & Director
(Green Hydrogen & Ammonia)
ACME Group



Atsunori Takeuchi
Executive Officer,
Senior General Manager
of LNG Business Department
Tokyo Gas Co., Ltd.



Charif Souki
Executive Chairman
Tellurian



Charles Brewer
Group CEO
Pos Malaysia



Christoph Schweizer
CEO
Boston Consulting Group



Cindy Lim
CEO
Keppel Infrastructure Holdings



Dr. Dong Sub Kim
President & CEO
Korea National Oil Corporation



Duncan Mitchell
Global Decarbonization Business Leader
KBC



Dwi Soetjipto
Chairman
SKK Migas



Enass Abo-Hamed
Co-Founder & CEO
H2GO Power



Fred Krupp
President
Environmental Defense Fund



Girish Nadkarni
Director
Gentari



Ichiro Takahara
Chairman and CEO
Japan Organization for Metals
and Energy Security (JOGMEC)



Iman Hill
CEO
International Association of
Oil & Gas Producers (IOGP)



Ingunn Svegård
Senior Vice President
Asia-Pacific Renewables and
Country Manager Singapore
Equinor ASA



Irina Gorbounova
Vice President M&A &
Head of XCarb Innovation Fund
ArcelorMittal Ltd



Jaime Caballero
Chief Financial Officer
Ecopetrol SA



Johan de Villiers
Senior Vice President,
Global Energy Accounts
ABB



Jonathan Drew
Head of Global Banking Sustainability,
Asia-Pacific
HSBC

Our Speakers



Justin Wu
Managing Director,
Co-Head of Climate Change
Asia Pacific
HSBC



Madelena Mohamed
Director, Sustainability Unit
Bank Negara Malaysia



Matthew Chan
Head of Sustainability &
ESG Engagement APAC
J. P. Morgan



Michael O'Dwyer
Managing Director
Global Co-Head Energy
Morgan Stanley



Montri Rawanchaikul
CEO
PTT Exploration and Production Public
Company Limited (PTTEP)



Datuk Muhamad Umar Swift
CEO
Bursa Malaysia Berhad



Nurhisham Hussein
Chief Strategy Officer
Employees Provident Fund (EPF)



Philip See
Group Chief Sustainability Officer
Malaysia Aviation Group



Dr. Ranjit Rath
Chairman & Managing Director
Oil India Limited



Roongrote Rangsiyopash
President & CEO
Siam Cement Group



Sandeep Kumar Gupta
Chairman & Managing Director
GAIL (India)



Ts. Shamsul Bahar
CEO
Malaysian Green Technology &
Climate Change Corporation



Srikant Kadambi
Managing Director
Energy & Sustainability
Microsoft Asia



Sushil Purohit
CEO
Gentari



Tatsuya Terazawa
Chairman & CEO
Institute of Energy Economics, Japan
(IEEJ)



Tejpreet S. Chopra
Founder & CEO
BLP Group



Tetsuo Yamada
Executive Vice President,
Chief Strategy Officer
JX Nippon Oil & Gas Exploration Corporation



Tom Reichert
Global CEO
ERM



Tze San Koh
President of China Gas Marketing
ExxonMobil



Uwem Ukpog
Vice President of Global Services
Amazon Web Services

Our Speakers



Yatin Premchand
Managing Director, Global Advisory,
APAC
Black & Veatch



Assoc. Prof. Dr. Azmi Hassan
Geostrategist and Senior Fellow
Nusantara Academy of Strategic Research
(NASR)



Mohd Yazid Ja'afar
President & CEO
Malaysia Petroleum Resources
Corporation



Dr. Naoko Ishii
Professor &
Executive Vice President
University of Tokyo



Sunita Narain
Director General
Centre for Science and Environment
& Editor, Down To Earth



Ts. Syed Saggaf Syed Ahmad
President
Malaysian Oil, Gas & Energy
Services Council (MOGSC)



Dr. Wayne Visser
Fellow, Professor of Integrated Value
& Chair of Sustainable Transformation,
University of Cambridge for Sustainability
Leadership & Antwerp Management School



James Allison
Chief Technical Officer
Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS F1



Toto Wolff
Team Principal & CEO
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... and many others

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