



UNESCO Bangkok
Asia and Pacific Regional Bureau for Education

Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific
Regional Advisor for Culture in Asia and the Pacific
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United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization

Organisation
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Организация
Объединенных Наций по
вопросам образования,
науки и культуры

联合国教育、
科学及文化组织

PRESS RELEASE

UNESCO Conference on Ethics of Energy Technologies and Human Rights

AGENDA*

19 October 2008

Imperial Tara Hotel, Sukhumvit Soi 26, Bangkok, Thailand

Session 1 (9:00-10:30)

UNESCO Human Rights Strategy and COMEST

- Dr. Pierre Sané, Assistant Director-General, UNESCO (Paris)

UNESCO Ethics of Energy Technologies Project Overview

- Dr. Darryl Macer, Regional Adviser for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and Pacific, UNESCO (Bangkok)

Energy and the ethics of science and technology (Title to be confirmed)

- Dr. Somsak Chunharas, Director, National Health Foundation (Member of UNESCO COMEST), Thailand

Energy Equity and Human Security: A Vision of Common Sharing of Energy Technologies and the Value Component of Human Security for the Region

- Prof. N. Manohar, Dean, Post Graduate Departments of Law and Research Development, Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, India (Chair, Working Group on Energy Equity)

Tea break

Session 2 (10:45-12:15)

Energy and Food Security: Ethical Dimension

- Dr. Samai Jai-in, National Metal and Materials Technology Centre (MTEC), Thailand

Technological Aspects in Various Energy Types and WG9 update

- Dr. Sumittra Charojrochkul, National Metal and Materials Technology Centre, Thailand (Chair, Working Group on State of Art Review)

Ethics, Energy and Human Rights, Efforts in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI): A Malaysian Perspective

- Dr. Ravichandran Moorthy, Ministry of Science, Technology & Innovation (MOSTI), Malaysia

Lunch (12:30-13:30)

Session 3 (13:30-15:15)

New and renewable energy: competitive research area in Indonesia

- Dr. Amru Hydari Nazif, Secretary, Indonesian National Bioethics Commission, Indonesian Institute of Sciences, Jakarta, Indonesia

From Water and Ethics to Water Ethics: thoughts on Sustainable Hydropower

- Dr. Ir. Khin Ni Ni Thein, Vice President, Asian Institute of Technology (AIT), Thailand

UN Global Compact: Human Right and CSR Practices

- Mr. Sapon Pornchokchai, President, Thai Appraisal Foundation

Fighting Climate Change, City Planning and Preserving Human Rights in Society (Title to be confirmed)

- Mr. Graeme Bristol, Centre for Architecture & Human Rights, Bangkok, Thailand

Tea break

Session 4 (15:30-17:00)

General Discussion and Recommendations

**Note: Further papers may be added.*

Background

The objectives of the Conference are to discuss the ethics of energy technologies with a particular focus on the impact of these technologies on human rights. Since the September 2007 launch conference of the UNESCO Ethics of Energy Technologies Project (EETAPP)*, 14 working groups have been set up to work on specific reports. This conference, and the project, calls for developing dialogues throughout Asia and the Pacific on future research needs and policy recommendations in regard to the ethical issues of energy-related technologies and related environmental, human security and human rights issues.

Energy is a topic of utmost global concern, and the rapid price increases in oil raise immediate concerns of access and equity. The 1972 United Nations Conference on the Human Environment declared that our environment, the natural and the human-made, are essential to our well-being and to the enjoyment of basic human rights—even the right to life itself. How can we set priorities for energy choices with respect to the concerns of human rights. How to balance environment and humankind?

Specific objectives

The specific objectives of this conference include:

- Providing a forum for exchanging views on diverse perspectives on ethics of energy technologies and human rights;
- Exploring the relationships between energy technologies, human rights and environmental ethics;
- Integrating a human rights-based approach to the sufficiency, safety and accessibility of energy technologies, including items such as: Participation; Non-discrimination, equality and attention to vulnerable groups; Indivisibility and interdependence; and Accountability and the rule of law;
- Developing strategies to respond to the environmental crisis which can be fed into specific working groups in the project, e.g. the working group on Energy Equity;

Examining the role energy technologies play in the contemporary context of the global food crisis with rising fuel prices;
Identifying areas for further research and consideration and different policy options.

The speakers and participants in this forum come from many disciplines and spheres of life.

We welcome you to come to share in the mutual reflections. There is no registration fee but preregistration is necessary. Please contact Dr. Darryl Macer, Regional Advisor in Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific at UNESCO Bangkok on +66-2391-0577, extension 147, or email rushsap@unescoykk.org

*Further information on the project is on <http://www.unescoykk.org/index.php?id=energyethics>.

Secretariat

Darryl Macer, Ph.D.,

Regional Adviser in Social and Human Sciences for Asia and the Pacific,
Regional Unit for Social and Human Sciences in Asia and the Pacific
(RUSHSAP),

UNESCO Bangkok, 920 Sukhumvit Road, Prakanong, Bangkok 10110,
THAILAND

Tel: +66-2-391-0577 ext 147

Fax: +66-2-391-0866 Email:

rushsap@unescoykk.org