

21ST INFORMAL ASEM SEMINAR
on Human Rights

Climate Action:

Human Rights-Based
Approaches to Adaptation
and Mitigation Challenges

ONLINE TRAINING

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS



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Professional Training on Human Rights “Climate Action: Human Rights-Based Approaches to Adaptation and Mitigation Challenges”

October - November 2022

Online

About the Training Programme

This online training is part of the [Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights Series](#) (ASEMHRS) which aims to promote greater cooperation and better mutual understanding of human rights issues in Asia and Europe.

The impacts of climate change on the enjoyment of human rights are becoming more apparent both in Asia and Europe. There is a growing common concern on the adoption of climate change response measures requiring more concrete action, commitment, and accountability among relevant all stakeholders.

The training serves as a follow-up to the [21st Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights](#), which called on ASEM Partners to ensure stronger concerted international cooperation to address the progression of climate emergency through sustainable and equitable solutions.

The training will provide participants with the necessary knowledge and skills to help their governments and organisations to respond with human rights-based mitigation and adaptation solutions to the impacts of climate change, taking into account recommendations from the 21st Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights (ASEMHRS21) as well as the National Inquiry on Climate Change (NICC) Report by the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP).

Training Objectives

- To gain practical and relevant knowledge to understand the human rights impacts of climate change and develop human rights-based responses that fulfil international and domestic human rights obligations and standards that also consider the rights of future generations.
- To gain a better understanding of the disproportionate impacts of climate change on certain sectors such as Indigenous Peoples, women, older persons, and persons with disabilities, among others, and to learn about best practices and recommendations to ensure participation and access of such sectors in an inclusive decision-making process.



- To gain knowledge about climate justice and trends in climate litigation around the world, and about how these actions can move both states and the private sector towards more ambitious climate targets.
- To learn about the experiences, recommendations, and best practices from the world's first case accepted by a National Human Rights Institution examining climate change as a human rights issue, the National Inquiry on Climate Change (NICC) which was conducted by the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines.

Target Participants

All applicants should demonstrate that they have a minimum of 3 years of experience as either (a) climate change or human rights policymakers or administrators; (b) practitioners in the fields of international human rights law or environmental law. All participants must also be citizens of ASEM Partner countries¹, and a working proficiency in English is also required.

The training will be targeted at

- Representatives of **ASEM government agencies** involved in human rights and/or climate change mitigation or adaptation efforts, i.e. Ministries of Environment, Sustainable Development, Justice, Trade, Foreign Affairs, Social Welfare, Youth; and
- Representatives of **regional or national human rights institutions**

Representatives of relevant **CSOs** (involved in climate change mitigation and adaptation) are also eligible to apply.

Application Process

Interested applicants are kindly requested to complete the online application form [here](#) by **Wednesday, 14 September 2022** (23:59 Singapore time). In the online application, applicants are requested to upload a **letter of organisational endorsement or nomination letter**, explaining how their participation in the training fits into the organisation's priorities and activities.

The selection of participants is conducted by an admission panel designated by the Co-organisers.

¹ ASEM member countries are: Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Cambodia, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Laos, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Mongolia, Myanmar, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.



Training Format

The training program will consist of a combination of selected readings, lectures and discussions with subject matter experts, and practical workshops to apply the knowledge from the training. The training will require each successful applicant to devote approximately **29 hours** of focus time over the course of 2 months. All sessions will be conducted through the Zoom platform.

Preliminary timetable

October

- Week 1: Advanced readings on the science of climate change (2 hrs) / Lecture on the science of climate change (2 hrs)
- Week 2: Advanced readings on the impacts of climate change (2 hrs) / Lecture on a) impacts of climate change on nature; b) impacts on specific human rights (3 hrs)
- Week 3: Advanced readings on the impacts of climate change (2 hrs) / Lecture on impacts on vulnerable sectors; (2 hrs)
- Week 4: Advanced readings on climate litigation and climate justice (2 hrs) / Lecture on climate litigation and climate justice (2 hrs)

November

- Week 1: Advanced readings on duty of states (1 hr) / Lecture on duty of states (2 hrs)
- Week 2: Advanced readings on responsibility of business (1 hr) / Lecture on responsibility of business (2 hrs)
- Week 3: Advanced readings on human rights-based mitigation (1 hr) / Lecture on human rights-based mitigation (2 hrs)
- Week 4: Advanced readings on human rights-based adaptation (1 hr) / Lecture on human rights-based adaptation (2 hrs)

Further details of the programme will be shared with selected participants.

The training is fully funded.



The Organisers

The **Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF)** promotes understanding, strengthens relationships and facilitates cooperation among the people, institutions and organisations of Asia and Europe. ASEF enhances dialogue, enables exchanges and encourages collaboration across thematic areas of culture, education, governance, economy, sustainable development, public health and media.

ASEF is an intergovernmental not-for-profit organisation located in Singapore. Founded in 1997, it is the only institution of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM).

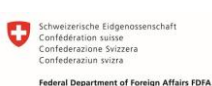
ASEF runs more than 25 projects a year, consisting of around 100 activities, mainly conferences, seminars, workshops, lectures, publications and online platforms, together with about 150 partner organisations. Each year over 3,000 Asians and Europeans participate in ASEF's activities, and much wider audiences are reached through its various events, networks and web-portals.

For more information, please visit www.ASEF.org

The **Informal Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Seminar on Human Rights** promotes mutual understanding and co-operation between Asia and Europe in the area of political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues, and encourages an open and non-confrontational debate between representatives of civil society organisations and officials from all ASEM Partners. The Seminar series is co-organised by ASEF, the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, the French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Department of the Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China.

ASEMHRS21 took place on 16-18 March 2022 in a hybrid format. It focused on the topic of "*Human Rights and Climate Change*," and was hosted by the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg. For more information, visit [here](#).

The **Climate Action and Human Rights Institute (CAHRI)** envisions the full enjoyment of all human rights by all people, in a clean and sustainable environment and a stable climate system. Its mission is to help achieve this vision through education, policy formulation, executive action, and global cooperation. Working under the auspices of the Institute of Environmental Science for Social Change at the Ateneo de Manila University, CAHRI is composed of the core team which handled the National Inquiry in Climate Change (NICC), conducted by the Commission on Human Rights of the Philippines (CHRP). The institute is presided by recently-retired Commissioner Roberto Eugenio T. Cadiz, who designed and led the CHRP's inquiry.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs of
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