



# 13<sup>th</sup> APFSD

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24-27 February 2026



## From Voices to Action: Indigenous Leadership in Achieving Affordable and Clean Energy for All

**Side Event: 13th Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development**

February 27, 13:00-14:00 GMT+7

Theater 109

### Organizer(s)

Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples (REP)

### Co-organizer(s)

UN Women  
United Nations Environment Programme  
Heinrich Böll Stiftung Southeast Asia

### Registration

To attend the side event in-person, all registrants must have also registered on Indico beforehand.

Those who do not have Indico registration will be able to access the session virtually, link will be provided.

### Background

This side event highlights Indigenous Peoples' challenges and initiatives, focusing on Indigenous women and youth's roles in advancing SDG 7 and ensuring a just energy transition. It will launch a publication documenting the 2024 Regional Conference in Bangkok, which examined the impacts of large-scale renewable energy projects and promoted Indigenous-led renewable energy systems.

A scoping study on community-based renewable energy policy and a mapping of Indigenous Peoples-Led Renewable Energy initiatives in Southeast Asia will be shared. The session aims to connect findings to ongoing processes on just energy transitions, Indigenous Peoples' rights, and gender equality - incorporating a panel discussion format to promote cross-sectoral exchange and strengthen policy linkages to SDG 7, SDG 13, and SDG 17.

The organizers aim to:

1. Amplify Indigenous Peoples' voices in regional energy transition dialogues
2. Support evidence-based policymaking
3. Generate support for community-based renewable energy initiatives
4. *Contribute to a just, inclusive, and equitable realisation of SDG 7 in line with the 2030 Agenda's principle of leaving no one behind*



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with Indigenous Peoples**

## Key Questions and Outcomes

This side event will examine the following key guiding questions:

How can Indigenous Peoples—particularly women and youth—actively shape and lead just and sustainable energy transitions in their communities and at the regional level?

What policy, financing, and governance mechanisms are needed to ensure that renewable energy initiatives respect Indigenous rights and contribute to gender equality and climate action?

How can regional and global partnerships strengthen Indigenous-led renewable energy systems and promote equitable access to clean energy (SDG 7)?

In what ways can evidence and lessons from Indigenous communities influence national and regional energy transition policies toward more inclusive and just outcomes?

## Expected Outcomes

Greater visibility and recognition of Indigenous-led approaches to achieving SDG 7 in alignment with SDG 13 (climate action) and SDG 17 (partnerships)

Policy recommendations to promote just, inclusive, and rights-based energy transitions at the regional level

Strengthened collaboration among governments, UN agencies, civil society, and Indigenous organizations in advancing equitable access to renewable energy

Launch and dissemination of the publication *"Voices of Indigenous Women and Youth for a Just and Sustainable Energy Transition"* as an evidence base for future advocacy and policymaking

This side event will bring together Indigenous leaders and other stakeholders to discuss policy pathways for just, inclusive, and rights-based energy transitions.



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## Programme

No.	Responsible	Topic	Time
1	New Zealand representative	<b>Welcome and Opening Remarks</b>	5 min 13:00 – 13:05
2	Robeliza Halip Executive Director Right Energy Partnership with Indigenous Peoples	<b>Introductory Remarks &amp; Launch of Publication and Study</b>  Voices of Indigenous Women and Youth for a Just and Sustainable Energy Transition"  “Scoping Study on Indigenous Peoples and Renewable Energy in Southeast Asia	6 min 13:06 – 13:12
3	Moderator: Daniel Abunales, Programme Coordinator, Heinrich Böll Stiftung Southeast Asia	<b>Panel Discussion:</b> Indigenous-Led Pathways for a Just and Sustainable Energy Transition  Panelists: Indigenous Woman Leader: Joe Baxter: <b>Indigenous Youth Representative:</b>  Reactors: EmPower Partner Country-(Philippines) Aldilla Rakhieemah: <b>ASEAN Center for Energy</b> Romchat Wachirarat-Tanakornkul <b>OHCHR</b> EmPower Pogram (UN WOMEN/UNEP)	30 min 13:13 – 13:43
4	Open Forum / Q&A	Audience Reflections and dialogue with panelists	10 min 13:44 – 13:54
5	Organizer	Closing Remarks	5 min 13:55 – 14:00

**For more information or enquiries,** please reach our to our Documentation and Advocacy Officer, Mr. Richard Gadit, through [richard@rightenergypartnership.org](mailto:richard@rightenergypartnership.org)



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