

# Call for Application

## *Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development and Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development*

The next two years will be critical for formulating a post-2015 development agenda. The UN Secretary-General's Report to the 68<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly entitled "A life with dignity for all" recommends a transformative post-2015 development agenda with sustainable development at the core and as its guiding principle. The High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) has now replaced the Commission on Sustainable Development, as the guardian of the sustainable development agenda and a body whose work will be based on an innovative agenda that should be enriching, forward-looking, thought-provoking and productive.

ESCAP and other regional commissions of the UN will coordinate regional processes to support global HLPF meetings and boost progress on sustainable development at the national, subregional and regional levels.

The inauguration of the Asia-Pacific regional processes will take place in May 2014 in Thailand. Civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders will be fully engaged in the process. Civil society organizations (CSO) are therefore invited to apply to participate in a series of events:

### **The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD)** – 19-21 May 2014 at Pattaya

*The inaugural regional preparatory meeting for Asia Pacific region will take stock of the global and regional discussions at this critical time when the HLPF and its associated processes are in a transitional phase and the post-2015 development agenda is being formulated. The forum will also feature a session in preparation for the ECOSOC Annual Ministerial Review. The APFSD will focus on:*

- *Identifying the regional and sub-regional views on 1) the sustainable development challenges of Asia and the Pacific and 2) the formulation of sustainable development goals and the post-2015 development agenda and its follow-up,*
- *Identifying effective and inclusive means of implementation for a transformational development agenda,*
- *Defining the regional HLPF processes to 2015 and beyond*

### **The Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development** – 15 -17 May 2014 at Bangkok

*As a preparatory event for the APFSD, the Asia-Pacific Civil Society Forum on Sustainable Development will be convened by ESCAP in collaboration with civil society partners to enable civil society organizations from different sectors and countries to come together and explore common ground and actions, develop common messages for the APFSD on issues including means of implementation for just and transformative development agenda, and coordinate strategies for more effective participation in the post-2015 process.*

*The forum will also discuss the establishment of the Regional CSO Engagement Mechanism for sustainable development in Asia-Pacific.*

\* Participation in the civil society forum is strongly recommended for those seeking to attend the APFSD. Civil society organizations can also seek to attend the APFSD as part of national delegations.

#### **Associated event**

- [Regional Dialogue on Technology Facilitation for Sustainable Development](#) (18 May 2014 at Pattaya)

*Concerning the vital role of technology in enabling countries attain sustainable development, “the Future We Want”, the outcome document of Rio+20, requests relevant United Nations agencies to identify options for a global technology facilitation mechanism that promotes the development, transfer and dissemination of clean and environmentally sound technologies. In this connection, ESCAP holds the Regional Dialogue to map out on-going initiatives and existing institutional frameworks for technology transfer in the Asia and the Pacific region, to share experiences in technology facilitation at national and subregional level, and to explore how these initiatives can contribute to support the transfer of technology effort in line with discussion at global level. For inquiries about this meeting, please contact Ms. Nobuko Kajiura at [kajiura.unescap@un.org](mailto:kajiura.unescap@un.org).*

#### **Target group and selection criteria**

Priority will be given to major group organizations and nominees meeting the following criteria:

- Accredited to, or having consultative status with the United Nations (consultative or similar status with the UN including ECOSOC list, CSD Roster, and UNEP or other UN-related organization)
- Regional or subregional scope of mandate
- Demonstrated expertise and experience related to sustainable development

Funding will be available for a limited number of organizations through ESCAP's collaborating partners.

#### **How to participate:**

Submit the application form [online](#) by latest **20 April 2014** if funding is requested or by **30 April 2014** if funding is not requested. Application forms will be reviewed by ESCAP in consultation with its partnering organizations against the selection criteria above. Notification on the status of the applications will be sent by **2 May 2014**. Selected applicants will receive an acceptance letter, which will be necessary for participation in any of the meetings above.

With regard to civil society participation modality in APFSD, the guide to civil society participation will be posted on the APFSD website in due course.

#### **For more information**

- On the regional process:
  - Visit APFSD page at <http://www.unescap.org/events/apfsd/>
  - Contact ESCAP: [escap-esdd-evs@un.org](mailto:escap-esdd-evs@un.org)
- On the global process on High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development:
  - Visit: <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1556>
  - Visit: <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/index.php?menu=1564> (Major Groups)