

The 5th ASEM Working Group Seminar on SMEs Eco-Innovation Competence

- 19-21 September 2017, Seoul, Korea –

The ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) and Ministry of SMEs and Startups (MSS) of the Republic of Korea would like to cordially invite you to the 5th ASEM Working Group (WG) Seminar on SMEs Eco-Innovation Competence, which will be held on 19-21 September, 2017 in Seoul, Korea. The Seminar is held to discuss implementation of ASEM cooperative projects and development of new cooperation among ASEM member countries.

In order to carry out our mandate of SMEs eco-innovation competence which is aimed at strengthening the common ground to support SMEs among participating countries toward sustainable growth, the Seminar had been endorsed at the 10th ASEM Summit in Milan, Italy

Following consecutive roundtable discussions and constant analyses of the needs and expectations of member countries throughout the prior WG Seminars, 7 project ideas under three main topics were generated and had been endorsed at the 11th ASEM Summit in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia as one of ASEM's new initiatives for 2016-2018 as follows.

- 1) Developing Training on Eco-Innovation for SMEs
- 2) Eco-Innovation Advisory Services for SMEs Cooperation,
- 3) Eco-Innovation Capacity Building for the Governments.

These WG-driven projects will be discussed in-depth during the 5th Working Group Seminar and to generate concrete plans to be implemented in 2017-2018. We expect the participation of a delegate from a member country interested in cooperation with other members in facilitating eco-innovation of SMEs in the context of ASEM.

The WG Seminar is open to all ASEM member states that have keen interest in facilitating eco-innovation of SMEs. ASEIC and members of WG would like to take this opportunity to note that any ASEM member state is more than welcome to contribute to this progressing Working Group.

A round trip flight ticket and accommodation will be provided to one country delegate per every member state. For more information, please contact to Ms. Rebecca Sunmi Koo (sm.koo@aseic.org) at ASEIC.

Contact

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For more information:

<http://www.aseminfoboard.org/events/5th-asem-working-group-seminar-smes-eco-innovation-competence>

Background

Efforts towards sustainable development are gaining momentum throughout the global community. Likewise, the member states of the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) have been focusing on the role of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) in achieving sustainable development.

Through eco-innovation, which is innovation for both economy and ecology, we can reduce the negative impact on the environment, preserve natural resources, save energy and expenses, generate more sustainable business models, create jobs and increase income. We can also enhance organization and institutional changes that can promote all of these developments.

ASEM leaders acknowledged the importance of eco-innovation at the 10th Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit in 2014 and endorsed the ‘ASEM Working Group Seminar on SMEs Eco-innovation Competence.’ The Working Group serves as a platform for policy dialogue, experience sharing and international cooperation in order to raise awareness of eco-innovation for sustainable development among SMEs in Asia and Europe.

The first ASEM Working Group Seminar on eco-innovation took place on 10-11 November 2015 in Seoul, South Korea. Delegates from Asia and Europe had shared their practices and support programs for sustainable development of SMEs in terms of eco-innovation and had discussed relevant collaboration opportunities for ASEM member states to achieve the common goal for enhancing eco-innovation competitiveness of SMEs in Asia and Europe. Following the first seminar, three more seminars were held in Slovakia, Korea and Denmark, all of which served as a platform for developing seven collaborative working projects under three topics as follows.

- **Eco-innovation capacity building for governments:** Foresight for Eco-Innovation, International Program on ETV (Environmental Technology Verification) and Deals for ASIA and Europe.
- **Developing training on eco-innovation for SMEs:** Open Education Resource.
- **Eco-innovation advisory services for SMEs:** B2B, IT Platform and Consulting Services.

The Working Group proposed its outcome entitled “**Asia-Europe SMEs Eco-Innovation Open Platform**” at the 11th ASEM Summit in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia and it was successfully endorsed as a new initiative of ASEM, which was represented at the meeting by 17 member states including Belgium, Cambodia, Czech, Croatia, Denmark, Hungary, Korea, Laos, Malaysia, Netherland, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Thailand, and Vietnam.

The 4th-6th ASEM Working Groups further endorsed at the Summit follow-ups to the new initiative and development of a new cooperation: the Eco-Innovation Open Platform. The Working Group is open to all member states to participate in the development of current and future projects.

Objectives

The seminar may focus on ways to enable practical working plans on the Open Platform (refer to the Appendix ‘Open Platform and 7 projects’) and strategies on operating the seven working projects as the 2017-18 ASEM activities. Member countries interested in any of the 7 projects or willing to suggest a collaboration project in the ASEM context is welcome to participate in the project.

Expected Participation

- Participating countries (delegates) to the previous Working Group Seminars
- New member countries willing to participate in the collaboration projects

Ideally, we expect two delegates from each country; one government official and one expert. As for

member states with only one delegate, she/he should be a representative of an organization which could officially implement ASEM activities, or someone recommended by such organization.

Cost

One delegate from an ASEM member country with the intention to participate in current or future collaboration projects will be provided with a round trip flight ticket and accommodation. Flight tickets and room charges for any additional delegates should be borne by themselves.

Agenda (Tentative)

The working group seminar will be held with a parallel event of the 3rd ASEIC Global Eco-Innovation Forum “Sustainable Consumption and Production of SMEs: Responding to Climate Change through Sustainability” and of a field trip to Korea Energy Show 2018 and Dream Park landfill, an integrated place for facilities of waste-to-energy and eco-innovative technology.

Day 1 Tuesday, 19 Sep 2017 5 th Working Group Seminar(Venue: Imperial Palace Hotel)	
Participants: ASEM working group members and invited observers only	
Opening Session (9:00~9:15)	Welcome members & introductory ASEM Working Group Members
Welcome Session (9:20-9:30)	Welcome Speech ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) Small Medium Business Administration (TBD)
New Member Country Presentation (9:30-10:00)	Country Case New Member Countries
WG Project Presentation (10:00-11:30)	Project Status Understanding Open Platform and 7 Projects
Lunch	
Break-Out Discussion 1 (13:00-14:30)	7 Groups: Project Implementation Plan
Tea Break (14:30-15:00)	
Discussion 2 (15:00-16:20)	All
Break (16:20-15:00)	
Wrap Up & Closing Session (16:40~17:00)	All
Welcome Dinner	Hosted by ASEIC

Day 2 – Wednesday, 20 Sep 2017

 3rd ASEIC Global Eco-Innovation Forum (Venue: Imperial Palace Hotel)

Opening 10:00–10:15	Opening Remarks (5') SUNG Myeong-ki, Chairman, ASEM SMEs Eco-Innovation Center (ASEIC) Welcoming Remarks (5') (TBD) Representative, Small and Medium Business Administration of Korea (SMBA) Congratulatory Remarks (5') (TBD) Representative, Government official / International Organization / ASEM Member States		
Keynote 10:20–12:00	Keynote Presentation 1 (30') / Questions & Answers (10') Mr. Arab Hoballah, Executive Director of SEED, Former Ex-Chief of SCP in UNEP Sustainable Consumption and Production, the Engine to Low-Carbon Circular Economy and SDG Delivery Coffee Break (15') Keynote Presentation 2 (30')/ Questions & Answers (10') Speaker (TBD), Overall flow of international sustainable development trend after Rio Earth Summit 92		
12:00–12:30	ASEM Working Group Presentation on SME's Competence		
12:30–14:00	Luncheon		
Break-out Sessions 14:20–15:10	Session A Sustainable“Consumption” : Cases and future strategy - Expansion of Global CSR along with 10YFP - Sustainable Consumption and Sharing Economy - Sustainable Consumption : Upcycling	Session B Sustainable “Production” : Cases and future strategy - Sustainable Production and CSR - Cases of eco-production of SMEs - Korea National Cleaner Production Center Support	Session C ASEM Member States' collaborative efforts in disseminating SCP - ASEM Eco-Innovation Index (ASEI) - SCP in Japan and International Collaboration - SMEs Sustainability using ICT - SCP cases of Thailand
Round Table 15:20–17:20	ASEM Round Table : Practical discussion on SCP strategies		

Day 3 – Thursday, 21 Sep 2017

Filed Trip (Korea Energy Show 2017 and Dream Park)

Participants: ASEM Working Group Members Only

Move to Venue (09:00~10:00)	Hotel – Kintex	Transportation (Bus)
Show Tour (10:00~12:00)	Kintex	Korea Energy Show 2017 ⁱ
Lunch (12:00~13:30)		
Move to Venue (13:30~14:30)	Kintex – Dream Park	Transportation (Bus)
Field Study (14:30~16:00)	Dream Park	Dream Park (Waste-to-energy and cleaner process) ⁱⁱ
Move (16:00~17:00)	Dream Park – Seoul	Transportation (Bus)
Break (17:00~18:00)		
Dinner (18:00~20:00)		Hosted by ASEIC

ⁱ **Korea Energy Show 2017**, organized by the Ministry of Industry, Trade and Energy and the Korea Energy Cooperation, aims to expand markets for energy saving technology and products and to promote high-efficiency products. www.koreaenergyshow.or.kr

ⁱⁱ **Dream Park** is an integrated place to optimizing its function of reclaimed landfill and to be a place built up of facilities as an ecological park. You could find eco-innovative technologies such as waste-to-energy and other soluble waste treatment and developed business models such a resort based on eco-tourism.

- more: <https://www.slc.or.kr/design/eng/>