



Climate Change Negotiations Training Workshop for NUS and Singapore Youth

Duration: Weekly, from 13 August to 17 September

Venue: The Red Box, 113 Somerset Rd, Singapore 238165 and NUS Ridge View Residential College, 25 Lower Kent Ridge Rd, Singapore 119081

Time: 6-8pm

Participants: 30 participants (10 from NUS Ridge View Residential College, 20 NUS/ Singapore youths)

Conducted by: Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, National University of Singapore

Partners: NUS Office of Environmental Sustainability and Ridge View Residential College (RVRC), National Youth Council

Background

The National University of Singapore (herein referred to as ‘NUS’ or ‘the University’) was admitted as a Research and Independent Non-Governmental Organization (RINGO) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (FCCC) on 10 December 2014, at COP20 in Lima. The Energy Studies Institute (ESI) is the designated contact point for NUS and the official channel for the exchange of information with the UNFCCC secretariat. ESI staff have been attending COP negotiations since 2011. In 2015 and 2016, ESI brought a total of 5 students from NUS and Yale-NUS College to attend the climate talks in Paris and Marrakech. At both sessions, together with the Singapore Youth for Climate Action, NUS participated in meetings with members of the Singapore delegation and breakfast dialogues with Singapore’s Minister for Environment and Water Resources Mr. Masagos Zukifli.

“Before attending COP21, I have heard of the Kyoto Protocol and Montreal Protocol which were very briefly touched on during my secondary and post-secondary studies... It was truly an eye opener for me to witness the world coming together in high hopes for this conference to be successful. To put it simply in numbers, world leaders and representatives from 195 countries across 7 continents gathered in Le Bourget for 12 days to negotiate on 1 global negotiating text so that the 1st universal climate agreement in history can be adopted.”

- Goh Jia Lin, NUS Mechanical Engineering Student, who attended COP21 in Paris with NUS

Introduction to the Workshop

Participants are required to attend 4 out of the 6 sessions of this workshop. The sessions are 2 hours each, every Monday (except for Session 3, which is on a Tuesday) from 6-8pm at The Red Box. The last and final session will be held at Ridge View Residential College. The last workshop session is mandatory, and will run for 3 hours, as it will include presentations by participants on what they have learnt and intend to do beyond the workshops. This serves to enrich the knowledge of all participants and to provide a platform for potential collaboration. The workshop schedules are tabled below. Topics/guest speakers may be interchanged for a particular week. All participants will be informed of any changes in advance.



Session 1 – Monday, 13 August 2018, 6-8pm @ The Red Box

Introduction to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change & the Paris Agreement

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, NUS)

This session will cover the basics of international climate change policy, including the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and the Paris Agreement and its Paris Agreement Work Programme (PAWP).

Session 2 – Monday, 20 August 2018, 6-8pm @ The Red Box

The Role of Youth

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, ESI, NUS & representative from Singapore Youth for Climate Action)

This session will consider the role of youth at the international climate talks and introduce the youth constituency Youth NGOs or YOUNGOs.

Session 3 – Tuesday, 28 August 2018, 6-8pm @ The Red Box (*Note that this session is not on Monday)

National Perspectives on Climate Change

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, NUS)

This session will look at the major negotiating positions at the UNFCCC and focus on national perspectives on climate change, including that of major emitters like the United States and China, and negotiating blocs like the European Union, G77 & China, African Group, Arab Group, and Least Developed Countries etc.

Session 4 – Online Forum

Tracking the Negotiations

In the week of 3 September 2018, there will be UNFCCC negotiations in Bangkok. Workshop participants will be tasked to track talks on the Paris Agreement Work Programme and participate in an online forum. See: https://unfccc.int/sites/default/files/resource/InfoNotetoPartiesonAdditionalSession_Revised.pdf

Session 5 – Monday, 10 September 2018, 6-8pm @ The Red Box

Singapore's Participation at the UNFCCC

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, NUS)

This session will cover Singapore's efforts at the UNFCCC talks and discuss the importance of its whole-of-government approach towards meeting its reporting obligations.

Session 6 – Monday, 17 September 2018, 6-9pm @ Ridge View Residential College (Mandatory)

Participant presentations & Conclusion

(Melissa Low, Research Fellow, Energy Studies Institute, NUS)

At this session, participants will have the opportunity to share what they have learnt and intend to do beyond the workshops, as well as discuss potential collaboration.



Materials

Materials for each seminar will be sent to all participants ahead of schedule. All are expected to have read the relevant materials before coming to the workshops and to participate actively in discussions.

Useful references:

<https://www.unfccc.int>

<https://www.nccs.gov.sg>

<https://www.mewr.gov.sg/climateaction>

Open to

30 Youth under 35 with a keen interest in climate change policy, action agenda.

Cost of Participation

This workshop is free for all successful applicants.

Certificates of Participation will be awarded to participants subject to the completion of all sessions and for participation in the final presentation.

Application

To apply for this workshop, please send a short CV and one-page personal statement on how and what you intend to get out of this workshop, and any plans you have for putting into action what you will learn to esimlyx@nus.edu.sg by **Friday, 13 July 2018**. We will not be considering any late applications.

Please note for NUS/Tertiary students, please include your Faculty and Major (state your year of study), and if you are from NUS Ridge View Residential College.