



SCALING MARKET SOLUTIONS. POWERING PROGRESS & GROWTH

Organised by:

**IETA**

Co-Hosts:



**Financial Services and the Treasury Bureau**

The Government of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region  
of the People's Republic of China



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**Environment and  
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The Government of the  
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**Environmental  
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Fund**



**Federal Ministry  
for Economic Affairs  
and Climate Action**



**International  
Carbon Action  
Partnership**

**ICC**



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Climate Change

## Introduction

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**[Asia Climate Summit \(ACS\)](#) #ACS2026** is the leading gathering of carbon market practitioners, experts, and governments from across Asia Pacific. Organised by IETA, ACS is an in-person event taking place 7-9 July at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, in Hong Kong SAR China.

Bringing together around 800 delegates from across the APAC region and internationally, the Summit offers a unique opportunity to gain insights into the latest regulatory developments, enhance your carbon market expertise, and foster meaningful business connections.

ACS addresses how to best drive corporate decarbonisation strategies, gather regional market intelligence with global perspectives, focusing on how market-based solutions can drive credible climate action, investment and sustainable growth. The programme focuses on the next steps for climate action in Asia and internationally, collaboratively moving the needle on delivering climate action and transition finance at scale.

## Daily Snapshot

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7 July: Summit Sessions, Side Events, Member Meetings & Welcome Reception

8 July: Summit Sessions, Side Events & IETA Nightcap Reception

9 July: Summit Sessions, Side Events

## Practical Information

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- For **speaking opportunities and sponsor visibility**, contact Lisa Spafford, [spafford@ieta.org](mailto:spafford@ieta.org) - Visibility Packages available [HERE](#)
- Attend as a **delegate**, contact Awa Antille, [antille@ieta.org](mailto:antille@ieta.org)
- For **media**, contact Christian Mosquera, [mosquera@ieta.org](mailto:mosquera@ieta.org)
- **Summit venue**: Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, 1 Expo Dr, Wan Chai, Hong Kong SAR China

## Summit Agenda Overview (subject to updates)

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### DAY 1 - TUESDAY 7 JULY

- 8:30-9:30 Registration & Welcome Refreshments
- 9:00-10:30 IETA Members Only Meeting – APAC Working Groups Roundtable
- 9:00-16:00 By Invitation – International Carbon Action Partnership (ICAP) & Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) & Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) Carbon Market Dialogue
- 9:30-10:30 **Workshop 1 – Promoting Integrity of Carbon Credit Market Transactions: The Legal Nature of Carbon and Role of Regulation**  
Since the introduction of carbon credits in the 1997 Kyoto Protocol, their legal status within both voluntary and compliance markets has continued to evolve. Establishing legal certainty is essential to facilitate transactions and attract investment in this growing sector. The global nature of carbon markets, coupled with the absence of centralised governance, leaves the system vulnerable underscoring the urgent need for robust regulatory frameworks.
- 10:30-11:00 Tea & Coffee Break
- 11:00-12:30 IETA Members Meeting – China Working Group
- 11:00-11:45 **Workshop 2 – Bridging Platforms and Pathways: Scaling Low-Carbon Markets and Corporate Net Zero in Asia**  
This panel brings together leading Guangdong–Hong Kong–Macao Greater Bay Area exchanges to explore how physical energy markets, environmental commodities and financial instruments support real economy decarbonisation. The panel will also examine how cross-regional collaboration, market interoperability and scalable mechanisms can accelerate China’s transition toward a low-carbon economy.
- 11:45-12:30 **Workshop 3 – Advancing Corporate Net Zero Pathways Across Asia**  
Corporates across Asia are accelerating decarbonisation efforts to achieve net zero and strengthen long-term competitiveness. This panel will bring sustainability leaders together and discuss their climate transition journeys – from integrating decarbonisation strategies into mandatory ESG and climate reporting, to balancing risk and return and leveraging

environmental markets – to meet sustainability goals and stakeholder expectations.

12:00-13:15 Lunch Break

13:00-14:30 **By Invitation Only Meeting – Roundtable Dialogue with Exchanges**

13:15-14:45 **By Invitation Only Meeting – Safe Harbour for Corporate Use of Carbon Credits Roundtable**

13:15-14:00 **Workshop 4 – IETA: Joining with Purpose**

What does it mean to be a member of IETA? Designed for curious, strategic organisations looking to join a global network of carbon market leaders, this session is an opportunity to gain insight into how members engage in IETA's work, contribute to policy dialogue, and help shape market-based climate solutions.

14:15-15:15 **Workshop 5 – Digital Infrastructure for Carbon Integrity: Building Trust and Interoperability in Climate Market**

This session will discuss the latest around digital tokenisation and other digital improvements in the market.

15:15-15:45 Tea & Coffee Break

15:30-16:45 **Side Event 1 – Organised by UNFCCC Regional Collaboration Centre MENA and South Asia**

15:45-16:45 **Side Event 2 – Organised by EcoGuard**

17:00-18:00 **Side Event 3 – Organised by Verra**

**Side Event 4 – Organised by Federal Ministry for the Environment, Climate Action, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMUKN), Germany**

18:00-19:00 **Asia Climate Summit Welcome Reception**  
Open to all Summit Delegates.

## DAY 2 - WEDNESDAY 8 JULY

8:00-9:00 Registration & Welcome Refreshments

9:00-9:20 **Opening Ceremony – Scaling Market Solutions: Powering Progress and Growth**

9:20-9:40 **Opening Armchair**

9:40-9:55 **Keynote Presentation – Pushing Boundaries**

9:55-10:25 **Tea & Coffee Break**

10:25-11:25 **Plenary 1 – Financing Asia’s Climate Transition: Capital, Environmental Markets and Partnerships**

Asia requires more than US\$1.1 trillion in climate finance annually yet faces an estimated US\$800 billion funding gap. As businesses rethink what sustainable growth really means, this session explores a central question: how do we unlock the capital required for meaningful change to create a sustainable future? We will explore how emerging environmental markets and blended financing models are shaping the next era of corporate climate transition in Asia.

11:40-12:10 **CEO Roundtable**

12:10-13:15 **Networking Lunch**

13:15-14:15 **Side Event 5 – Organised by S&P Global Energy**

**Side Event 6 – Organised by New Forests**

14:30-15:20 **Breakout 1 – Carbon Pricing in Emerging Markets Across APAC: From Readiness to Implementation**

As emerging markets across the region launch new carbon pricing instruments, how do we ensure environmental policy instruments (CPIs) are effective and well-designed to support green growth? Focusing on Southeast Asia, this session will explore new carbon taxes, emissions trading system (ETS) pilot developments, early-stage implementation challenges, and the critical role of the private sector in ensuring effectiveness and credibility.

**Breakout 2 – Scaling Technology-Based Carbon Removals: From Pilots to Market**

Direct air capture, biochar, enhanced rock weathering (ERW) and other novel carbon removal approaches are moving beyond pilots and seeing significant premiums in the carbon market - but the scale remains limited.

This session examines what it will take to deploy technology-based carbon dioxide removal (CDR) at commercial scale in APAC, by enhancing methodological approaches and strengthening long-term demand signals.

**15:30-16:20 Breakout 3 – China’s Carbon Markets & Climate Leadership: Growth, Reform and Future Developments**

As geopolitical tensions rise and priorities shift, the durability of climate commitments is under pressure. Some countries have stepped back from the Paris Agreement, while compliance carbon markets face growing uncertainty over political support and ambition. Against this backdrop, China’s commitment to its climate goals is firm. China’s ETS continues to expand—moving toward an absolute cap, increasing auctioning, and covering key emitting sectors. This panel will examine the resilience of China’s decarbonisation pathway, its potential role in supporting international cooperation through Article 6 and Belt and Road initiatives, and what lies ahead for carbon markets in China.

**Breakout 4 – Sustainable AI Infrastructure: Greening the Data Center Boom**

Rapid expansion of Artificial Intelligence is accelerating the growth of data centers across Asia, resulting in a sharp increase in energy demand. As governments and corporations pursue their decarbonisation targets, the region faces tough trade-offs. This session explores how to power this infrastructure with clean energy, minimise environmental impacts using carbon markets, and maximise AI’s potential to support climate solutions.

16:15-16:45 Tea & Coffee Break

**16:45-17:45 Plenary 2 – What’s Next for Asia’s Growing Compliance Carbon Markets?**

Emissions trading systems are rapidly expanding across Asia-Pacific, with varying design and trajectories. This session will explore developments across countries such as India, Korea, Australia and more, examining pricing trends, allocation approaches, and evolving policy choices shaping the next phase of compliance carbon markets in the region.

**20:30-23:30 IETA Nightcap Reception**

Separate paid ticket required for entrance, purchased online in advance of the reception. Tickets are sold on a first come, first served basis. Tickets can be collected at the summit registration desk.

## DAY 3 - THURSDAY 9 JULY

- 8:30-9:30 Registration & Welcome Refreshments
- 9:00-9:45 **Workshop 6 – Asia Pacific (APAC) Women in Sustainability & Carbon Breakfast**
- 9:00-10:00 **Side Event 7 – To be Announced**
- 10:00-10:10 **Opening Keynote Presentation – The Climate Reality in 2026**
- 10:10-11:15 **Plenary 3 – Scaling High-Integrity Voluntary Carbon Markets in Asia**  
This session will explore how to scale high-integrity voluntary carbon markets in Asia, highlighting what credit buyers are looking for, and the work of The Coalition to Grow Carbon Markets. Panelists will discuss current risks, key trade-offs, evolving buyer expectations, and what is required to build trust, credibility, and impact at scale.
- 11:15-11:45 Tea & Coffee Break
- 11:45-12:45 **Plenary 4 – Responding to Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) in Asia: Readiness, Data and Market Impacts**  
As the EU CBAM has entered its definitive phase, countries in APAC are bracing for impact. This session examines the moving parts of EU policy development impacting compliance costs overseas, while also addressing issues with trust, data sharing, MRV and green competitiveness, overall influencing the region's policies and response.
- 12:45-13:45 Networking Lunch
- 13:45-14:45 **Side Event 8 – To be Announced**
- 14:45-15:35 **Breakout 5 – Nature Climate Solutions (NCS) at a Turning Point: Mobilising Capital for Forests and Nature**  
As pressures from deforestation, land use change, and ecosystem degradation intensify, the potential to scale high integrity NCS continues to grow. This session examines how the evolving political and regulatory landscape is reshaping forest finance pathways, from carbon markets to blended finance models, in delivering credible climate and biodiversity outcomes.

### **Breakout 6 – Towards Global Carbon Accounting Standards: Aligning Methods and Markets**

As carbon markets expand, so does the complexity of measurement and reporting. From the GHG Protocol to SBTi and emerging corporate and national frameworks, companies face a fragmented landscape of approaches. This breakout will explore how to navigate the jungle of carbon measures, align accounting standards, and strengthen credibility across markets and value chains.

### **15:45-16:35 Breakout 7 – Accelerating the Energy Transition in Asia Pacific (APAC) Through Carbon Market Mechanisms & Innovative Approaches**

The phasing out of coal is central to achieving APAC's decarbonisation targets, carbon markets are evolving to support real energy system change. This session explores transition credits, emerging carbon crediting frameworks, and innovative mechanisms designed to mobilise finance, manage transition risks, and accelerate the shift away from coal while maintaining energy security and integrity.

### **Breakout 8 – CORSIA: Addressing Market Bottlenecks and Unlocking Regional Supply**

As the world advances toward broader CORSIA participation, this session spotlights the latest progress on national implementation and airline preparedness. Speakers will unpack updated credit eligibility rules, shifting procurement strategies, and the market signals shaping supply, demand, and pricing as the scheme expands. This session delivers clear insights into the policies and trends defining Asia's aviation decarbonisation landscape in 2026 platforms.

16:30-16:50 Tea & Coffee Break

### **16:50-17:50 Plenary 5 – Unlocking Article 6: Time to Turn Rules to Real Transactions**

With Article 6 and the new Paris Agreement Crediting Mechanism (PACM) becoming operational, this session will explore how we move from rulemaking towards real transactions. Discussion will cover authorisation processes, high-level links to CORSIA, and emerging leadership from countries such as Singapore and South Korea in shaping early market activity.

17:50-18:00 High-Level Closing Addresses

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