



ENERGY
TRANSITION
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CONCEPT NOTE AND DRAFT AGENDA

SPARK Dialogue

Carbon Markets and Pricing for the Energy Transition

20 - 23 October, 2025 | Khao Yai, Thailand

Implemented on behalf of the Southeast Asia Energy Transition Partnership by Asia Clean Energy Partners



UNOPS



Federal Ministry
for Economic Affairs
and Climate Action



Department for
Energy Security
& Net Zero



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Climate Change Canada
Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



Australian Government
Department of Climate Change, Energy,
the Environment and Water



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About SPARK

This event marks the inaugural gathering under a new initiative called **Sharing of Perspectives to Advance Regional Knowledge (SPARK)**. SPARK has been established as a convening platform by the Southeast Asia Energy Transition Partnership (ETP) to catalyze peer-to-peer learning, foster collaboration, and drive actionable strategies to finance low-carbon futures in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines. Drawing inspiration from the [Wilton Park meetings](#) in the UK, known for informal yet impactful discussions, SPARK will use [Chatham House Rules](#) to enable open dialogue and collaborative problem-solving.

SPARK begins in 2025, with two policy dialogue events that focus on financing, convening senior policymakers and technical experts from Southeast Asia. With the aim to build relationships, strengthen institutional capacity, and generate practical insights. The SPARK initiative will complement broader regional efforts driven by governments to align climate and finance policies, including the ASEAN Plan of Action for Energy Cooperation (APAEC), the emerging Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP), intensified efforts to foster cross-border power trade through the integrated ASEAN Power Grid (APG) frameworks, the private sector to meet their decarbonization and sustainability commitments and the development of sustainable finance taxonomies for banking sectors in countries across the region.

The first event in the SPARK series will focus on **Carbon Markets and Pricing** as a lever for Southeast Asia's energy transition. The three-day meeting will be designed to examine policy developments and market mechanisms, and it will explore opportunities to co-develop ideas for where carbon markets can go next, both as a climate solution and as an engine for sustainable development between Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines. This event is planned for October 2025.

Event Details




- **Date:** 20 - 23 October 2025
- **Location:** Khao Yai, Thailand
- **Target Participants:** 15 policymakers from Indonesia, Vietnam, and the Philippines
- **Language:** English

Objectives

The SPARK event on Carbon Markets and Pricing will provide an opportunity for high-level dialogue and collaborative exchange on the design and implementation of effective carbon pricing strategies in Southeast Asia. Drawing on global insights and regional experience, the event aims to:

- **Foster regional alignment** through open dialogue and peer learning among policymakers, regulators, and technical institutions.
- **Build capacity** to design and implement inclusive and effective carbon-pricing mechanisms, including ETS, carbon taxes, and voluntary market linkages.
- **Promote cross-sector collaboration** between governments, private sector actors, and development partners.
- **Identify actionable outcomes**, including knowledge gaps to address, technical assistance needs, and potential pilot partnerships.

Event Design

 <p>DAY 1</p> <p>Participants will arrive in the afternoon for registration and informal networking.</p> <p>The formal program will open with a session titled Carbon Markets 101, which will introduce the concept of carbon pricing and key instruments (ETS, carbon taxes, voluntary credits, ITMOs), their benefits (e.g., cost reduction, investment), and relevance for energy transition. This will help establish a common baseline of knowledge.</p> <p>This will be followed by a welcome dinner and a fireside chat, where a policymaker and private sector leader will explore why carbon pricing matters for the energy transition, particularly in countries like Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines.</p>	 <p>DAY 2</p> <p>The focus will be on national experiences and carbon market design, beginning with structured country updates from Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines on their respective carbon pricing readiness and plans.</p> <p>This will be followed by a three-part fishbowl dialogue exploring the drivers behind instrument choices in each country.</p> <p>Sessions will then focus on building confidence and demand in carbon credit markets (Session 3) and on developing national infrastructure for tracking, trading, and trust (Session 4). These sessions will emphasize both technical and political hurdles to implementation and explore opportunities for shared learning.</p>	 <p>DAY 3</p> <p>The spotlight will turn to implementation.</p> <p>Sessions will explore how national carbon pricing systems intersect with cross-border trade in electricity and goods, how countries can respond to growing international scrutiny (e.g., CBAM), and what steps are needed to participate in international markets under Article 6.</p> <p>The day will close with a forward-looking plenary on charting national pathways for carbon pricing, with reflections on realistic next steps for each country delegation.</p>
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Throughout the event, the format will encourage interactive discussions, network-building, and peer-to-peer exchange. Participants will engage in moderated panels, roundtable sessions, and small-group breakouts to explore technical topics (e.g., data systems, ITMOs), institutional challenges, and policy priorities. Fishbowl formats will be used where appropriate to elevate diverse voices and promote dynamic peer-to-peer exchange. The carefully curated sessions will aim to not only deepen technical understanding but to build trust, foster cross-country alignment, and lay the groundwork for joint action in advancing carbon markets across the region.

Agenda

Monday, 20 October (DAY 1) – Setting the Scene	
Time	Session
Before 15:30	<i>Participants arrive at the venue, check in, decompress</i>
15:30 - 16:00	Registration, Coffee
16:00 - 17:30	Carbon Markets 101: From Climate Tool to Growth Strategy
	<i>Introduces carbon pricing and markets in simple terms, including different instruments (ETS, carbon tax, voluntary credits, ITMOs), their benefits (cost reduction, investment), and relevance for energy transition. Aims to level-set participants' knowledge.</i> <i>Format: Expert presentation + audience Q&A.</i>
17:30 - 19:00	Welcome Dinner & Fireside Chat: Why Carbon Pricing Matters for the Energy Transition
	<i>A relaxed conversation between a moderator and an expert exploring what carbon pricing is, why it matters, and how it can support clean energy and economic development goals. The discussion will help build a shared understanding of carbon pricing fundamentals, address common questions and misconceptions, and highlight why it is increasingly relevant for countries like Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines.</i>
19:00 – 20:00	<i>Informal Discussions among participants</i>
Tuesday, 21 October (DAY 2) – National Experiences and System Design	
Time	Session
09:00 - 10:30	Session 1: State of Play - Carbon Market Readiness in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines
	<i>This session will feature structured 20-minute country presentations from Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines, led by the government agencies responsible for carbon pricing. Presenters will share updates on current mandates, institutional roles, pilot efforts, and future plans. The session will conclude with a moderated discussion to surface common challenges, clarify capacity needs, and identify near-term opportunities for support and collaboration.</i> <i>Format: Structured presentations + moderated panel or Q&A.</i>
10:30 - 11:00	Coffee / Networking Break
11:00 - 12:30	Session 2: Understanding the Drivers of Carbon Pricing in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines
	<i>This session will examine the key drivers behind carbon pricing adoption in Vietnam, Indonesia, and the Philippines and what these drivers imply for the selection of instruments such as ETS, carbon taxes, and voluntary crediting mechanisms. The discussion will highlight why certain instruments may be more feasible, impactful, or politically acceptable in one context than another, and what support is needed to advance implementation.</i> <i>Format: Three country specific fishbowl sessions</i>
12:30 - 14:30	Lunch break including time for official business
14:30 - 16:00	Session 3: Carbon Credits and Emission Reductions - Building Market Confidence, Demand and Driving Impact

	<p><i>This session will examine how Southeast Asian countries are approaching the development of high-integrity emission reductions and crediting systems. It will explore key design features of carbon credit instruments, including alignment with Article 6, demand signals from domestic and international buyers, and concerns around integrity and additionality. This session will also explore how carbon pricing can serve broader economic goals.</i></p> <p><i>Format: Technical panel.</i></p>
16:00 - 16:30	Afternoon Break
16:30 – 18:00	Session 4: Building Carbon Market Infrastructure -Tracking, Trading, and Trust
	<p><i>This session will focus on the building blocks needed to establish robust national carbon market infrastructure. Key topics include MRV systems, registry platforms, data governance, institutional responsibilities, and diversified EACs (like ITMOs). Policymakers will reflect on the technical and political hurdles they face in setting up these systems and how they're planning to address them. The discussion will also consider opportunities for regional alignment and shared systems in the future, based on national progress.</i></p> <p><i>Format: Breakouts by theme (data, governance, digital tools).</i></p>
Wednesday, 22 October (DAY 3) – Interoperability of Carbon Markets	
Time	Session
09:00 –10:30	Session 5: Cross-Border Carbon: Power Trade, Embedded Emissions & CBAM Readiness
	<p><i>This session will explore the intersection of national carbon pricing systems, harmonization of methodologies with cross border electricity trade. It will address how countries can prepare for increased scrutiny on embedded emissions in traded commodities, including through mechanisms like the EU's Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM). The session will examine options such as joint implementation under Article 6, harmonized crediting protocols, and the role of regional coordination to support nationally driven decarbonization goals.</i></p> <p><i>Format: Moderated panel + breakout groups</i></p>
10:30 –11:00	Coffee Break
11:00 –12:30	Session 6: International Carbon Cooperation - Article 6 and Beyond
	<p><i>Participants will discuss pathways to international market engagement, including Article 6.2 and 6.4, and alternative frameworks such as joint NDC. Focus to be on readiness, registries, and bilateral agreements.</i></p> <p><i>Format: Roundtable or fishbowl with Article 6 leads.</i></p>
12:30 –14:30	Lunch break including time for official business
14:30 –16:30	Closing Plenary: Charting National Pathways for Carbon Pricing
	<p><i>This final session will bring together reflections from across the event and invite feedback from each country's delegation. Participants will be encouraged to identify realistic next steps for developing carbon pricing systems in their own countries, including institutional planning, stakeholder engagement, and sequencing. The session will also reflect on how future SPARK convenings can continue to support national progress and shared learning.</i></p> <p><i>Format: Open mic</i></p>