T20 Indonesia Summit 2022:
Global Convergence in Climate Action

NUSA DUA, BALI, 06 SEPTEMBER 2022. Although the global communities suffer from COVID-19 pandemic, climate change is not on pause. Once the global economy begins to recover from the pandemic, emissions are expected to return to higher levels. Saving lives and livelihoods requires urgent action to address both the pandemic and the climate emergency. Effective action against the climate crisis requires transformative policies in the coming years to guide developments over the next 2-3 decades. Several international agreements on environmental issues, The Paris Agreement for example, aims to strengthen the ability of countries to deal with the impacts of climate change, through appropriate financial flows, a new technology framework and an enhanced capacity building framework. In recent years, there is a convergence trend among countries globally in regards of actions taken to combat climate issues and achieve climate targets, i.e. commitment in NDC and LTS-LCCR.

This panel forum aims to shed light on the effort of international climate actions taken by countries in combating climate issues and current trend of climate policies globally, in particular raising up the global-south perspectives. Brought together national and international leading figures in climate issues, the insights of this discussion will be valuable recommendations for the G20 to strengthen global climate actions.

The panel session was chaired by Fabby Tumiwa, Director of the Institute of Essential Services Reform (IESR), who has years of expertise in climate change. The discussion commenced with remarks by Nathan Hultman, Professor and Director of the Center for Global Sustainability at the University of Maryland. He underlined that to achieve net-zero emission target, there are several risks that have to be mitigated by helping support more robust policies in public health, quality of life and justice, economic growth, reduced conflicts, as well as financing and business model.
Furthermore, Shuva Raha, Head of New Initiatives at the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW), elaborated how the global-south perceived on the climate mitigation and adaptation. She emphasized that equity and climate justice cannot be ignored, there is a huge difference on the endowments and resources between developed and developing countries, therefore, solid collaborations between global-south and -north in every and each aspect are essential for successful climate actions. Filled in the gap of the cooperation issue, Noura Mansouri, Senior Research Fellow at King Abdullah Petroleum Studies Research Center (KAPSARC) highlighted three points for successful climate action: 1) energy security cannot be taken for granted; 2) investment in various energy option, particularly the green and sustainable energy; and 3) climate action has to be sustainable and inclusive.

Moreover, it was incomplete to talk about climate action without grasping the financing issue. As mentioned by Preety Bhandari, Senior Advisor of Climate and Finance at the World Resources Institute (WRI), huge amount of public finance, approximately USD 4.5 up to 5 million per year, is needed to make climate action at stake. In that regards, global solidarity for climate action, notably in capital mobilization, is paramount. The lead co-chair of T20 Task Force 3, Kuki Soejachmoen, guided the financing point of view to carbon pricing. She conveyed that the developing countries are still in need of building their carbon pricing mechanism, with support from developed countries to elevate their competitiveness in global market.

As a conclusion, climate mitigation and adaptation should be a collective but not an equal action across countries. And the G20 has to initiate solidarity with vulnerable countries, so it doesn’t seem exclusive for the rest of the world.

To see the full coverage of the parallel session, please watch our recorded live stream on YouTube: https://www.youtube.com/c/T20Indonesia