





# CIAC2024: Agri-food & CIAC2024: Climate Solutions Two specialized Canada-in-Asia Conferences – Singapore, February 2024

The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada), in partnership with Universities Canada, is delighted to announce that the first two thematic <u>Canada-in-Asia Conferences</u> (CIACs) will be held back-to-back in February 2024 in Singapore:





CIAC2024: Agri-food – February 26-27, 2024
CIAC2024: Climate Solutions – February 28-29, 2024

**CIAC2024:** Agri-food and **CIAC2024:** Climate Solutions will bring together experts, investors, policymakers, researchers, business leaders, and innovators from across Asia and Canada to exchange perspectives, knowledge, and ideas and to create collaborative partnerships in these two critical sectors.

CIAC2024: Agri-food and CIAC2024: Climate Solutions will be bridged by the CIAC2024 Gala Dinner on the night of February 27. All conference delegates will be automatically registered for the Gala Dinner, which is also open to registered guests not attending either CIAC2024 conference. The annual CIAC: Gala Dinner is an opportunity for Canada-connected people, organizations, and institutions from across Asia to convene, build networks, and celebrate all things Canada-in-Asia.

These dual events build upon the momentum established by the Canada-in-Asia Conference 2023 (CIAC2023), established by APF Canada and Universities Canada to catalyze a new and transformative phase of Canada-Asia engagement. CIAC2023, held in Singapore over three days in February 2023, brought together more than 530 Canada-connected individuals, businesses, and institutions, and the enthusiasm for this concept has led to a commitment by APF Canada – supported by Universities Canada – to convene specialized Conferences on topics of mutual importance to Canada and Asia every second year, starting in 2024.

**Agri-food** and **Climate Solutions** have been selected as our first topics of focus due to the pressing need for collaboration to tackle food security and climate security globally – but especially in Asia – and the complementary strengths that Canada and Asia can bring to the table in addressing complex challenges in the agriculture & agri-food and climate spaces.

Each event is anticipated to attract approximately 250 attendees, with a unique mix of private, public, and civil society sector representatives in attendance. These conferences offer an innovative platform for leaders to collaborate across borders and oceans, sectors, and disciplines.

We hope you'll be able to join us.



## CIAC2024: Agri-food

CIAC2024: Agri-food will take place February 26-27, 2024, in Singapore. It will convene leaders from the private sector, governments, universities, and other institutions from across Asia and Canada in agri-food and related sectors for two days of networking and inter-disciplinary discussion on some of the most pressing issues in the Canada-Asia agri-food space. Importantly, CIAC2024: Agri-food will expose key leaders in Asia to Canadian thinking and capabilities in agriculture and agri-food while ensuring that Canadian players benefit from the experiences and perspectives of leaders from across Asia in agri-food and related sectors.

FORMAT	The program will include four plenary/keynote sessions focused on big-picture topics, and four sets of two concurrent breakout sessions (eight total) at which guests and speakers will dive deeper into specialty subjects. As well as plentiful networking time throughout the event, there will be a reception on February 26, and a Gala Dinner (open to attendees of both conferences, as well as the general public) on February 27.
AUDIENCE	Approx. 250 private sector, public sector, and academic sector leaders engaged in trade, investment, innovation, product development, research, policy development, and funding of agri-food initiatives across Canada and Asia.
OBJECTIVES	<ul> <li>To build and extend high-value networks in the Canada-Asia agri-food ecosystem;</li> <li>To expose Canadian agri-food leaders to the experience, expertise, and perspectives of counterparts from across Asia, and vice versa;</li> <li>To demonstrate Canadian excellence in agriculture &amp; agri-food;</li> <li>To catalyze connections among Canadian and Asian research &amp; development and university stakeholders in agriculture &amp; agri-food, and to facilitate linkages with the private and public sectors.</li> <li>It is anticipated that the facilitation of stronger networks – as outlined above – will lead to increased Canada-Asia trade and investment, research collaboration, innovation, and institutional connectivity.</li> </ul>
PRIORITY TOPICS	<ul> <li>Food security priorities in Asia</li> <li>Canadian contributions to food security across Asia</li> <li>Promoting sustainability in agriculture &amp; agri-food, including technologies, management, and finance</li> <li>Food safety</li> <li>One Health and agri-food system transformation</li> <li>Opportunities for collaboration in agtech, biotech, water tech, and agricultural science.</li> </ul>



### **CIAC2024: Climate Solutions**

CIAC2024: Climate Solutions will be held in Singapore on February 28-29, 2024, immediately following its counterpart, CIAC2024: Agri-food. CIAC2024: Climate Solutions will convene Asia-based and Canada-based private sector, government, university, and other leaders to connect and learn from each other's priorities and experiences in climate policy, climate technologies, climate research, and climate finance. Given the significant impacts of climate change globally – but especially across Asia – we are excited to convene this unique opportunity to forge co-operative and collaborative approaches that harness the skills, expertise, and innovations of those on both sides of the Pacific.

FORMAT	The program will begin with the 2024 CIAC Gala Dinner on February 27 (open to attendees of both conferences, as well as the general public). Over two days of programming, attendees will then enjoy four plenary/keynote sessions covering topics of high relevance to all attendees, and four sets of two concurrent breakout sessions (eight total) for deeper discussion. There will be a closing reception on February 29.
AUDIENCE	Approx. 250 private sector, public sector, and academic sector leaders engaged in trade, investment, innovation, product development, research, policy development, and funding of climate initiatives across Canada and Asia.
OBJECTIVES	<ul> <li>To build and extend high-value networks in the Canada-Asia cleantech, energy, and other climate solutions sectors;</li> <li>To expose Canadian climate tech, research, and policy leaders to the experience, expertise, and perspectives of counterparts from across Asia, and vice versa;</li> <li>To demonstrate Canadian excellence in clean technology, energy, and other climate solutions;</li> <li>To catalyze connections among Canadian and Asian research &amp; development and university stakeholders in climate-relevant disciplines, and to facilitate linkages with the private and public sectors.</li> <li>It is anticipated that the facilitation of stronger networks – as outlined above – will lead to increased Canada-Asia trade and investment, research collaboration, innovation, and institutional connectivity.</li> </ul>
PRIORITY TOPICS	<ul> <li>Climate policy</li> <li>Climate technologies</li> <li>Climate research</li> <li>Climate finance</li> </ul>

#### ABOUT APF CANADA

The Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APF Canada) is an independent, not-for-profit organization focused on Canada's relations with Asia. Our mission is to be Canada's catalyst for engagement with Asia and Asia's bridge to Canada.

APF Canada is dedicated to strengthening ties between Canada and Asia through its research, education, and convening activities, such as the Canada-in-Asia Conference series and our Women's Business Missions to Asia. APF Canada also works with business, government, and academic stakeholders to provide Asia Competency training for Canadian organizations and students.

Our research provides high-quality, relevant, and timely information, insights, and perspectives on Canada-Asia relations. This is anchored in our signature tool, the Canada-Asia Sustainability Tracker (CAST), which provides greater situational awareness for Canadian stakeholders interested in the region's development. Our research work also includes regular Reports, Policy Briefs, Case Studies, Dispatches, Digital Media, and a weekly Asia Watch newsletter powered by CAST and its four areas of focus: Greater China, Southeast Asia, Northeast Asia, and South Asia.

#### ABOUT UNIVERSITIES CANADA

Universities Canada is the voice of Canadian universities, at home and abroad. We are a membership organization providing university presidents with a unified voice for higher education, research and innovation. Universities Canada, formerly the Association of Universities and Colleges of Canada, advances the mission of their member institutions to transform lives, strengthen communities and find solutions to the most pressing challenges facing our world.

Universities Canada advocates for Canadian universities at the federal level; provides a forum for university leaders to share ideas and address challenges in higher education; supports students by providing online information on university study and offering scholarships on behalf of private sector companies; and fosters collaboration among universities and governments, the private sector, communities and international partners to help build a better world.

#### **CONTACT US**

Please contact the Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada if you have questions about CIAC2024, if you have suggestions for the program, or if you are interested in engaging as a sponsor:

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