



Global Alliance of Special Economic Zones
3rd GASEZ Annual Conference Programme
Xiamen, 8 September 2024

General programme for SEZs visiting the 24th China International Fair for Investment and Trade (CIFIT), September 7-11, 2024, Xiamen, China

7 Sept

- 13:00 - 18:30 Conference registration, check-in
- 18:00 - 20:00 Welcome Dinner

8 Sept

- 9:30 - 12:00 CIFIT Opening Ceremony and Main Forum (Optional attendance)
- 12:00 - 13:30 Working Buffet
- 14:00 - 17:30 The 3rd GASEZ Annual Conference
- 18:00 - 20:00 Gala Dinner

9 Sept

- Networking Morning Matchmaking sessions between SEZs and Chinese enterprises with intentions to expand
- Visits Afternoon Visits to local SEZs in Xiamen

10-11 Sept

2-days visit to other provinces
 GPIPC will facilitate the selection of visit routes including visits to SEZs in Tianjin, Nanjing or Hefei, or a combined visit of all three in 4 days.



3d Annual Conference of the Global Alliance of Special Economic Zones (GASEZ) 8 September, 2024 Xiamen, China



Welcome remarks

14:00 - 14:20

Mr. Ji Ling, Vice Minister and Deputy China International Trade Representative of the Ministry of Commerce

Ms. Nan Li-Collins, Director, Investment and Enterprise, UN Trade and Development

Dr. Samir Hamrouni, CEO, World Free Zones Organization (World FZO), Co-Chair of GASEZ

14:20 - 15:05

Opening Summit by GASEZ Founding Members: Catalyzing investment in innovation and sustainability

Introductory remarks and moderator: Mr. James Zhan, Co-Chair of GASEZ

Dr. Samir Hamrouni, CEO of World FZO and Co-Chair of GASEZ

Ms. Yuyan Song, Executive Director of the Secretariat of the Green Partnership of Industrial Parks of China (GPIPC)

Mr. Ayoub R'Mili, Director and Senior Expert, African Economic Zones Organization (AEZO) and Technical and Operations Director, Tanger-Med Zones, Morocco

Mr. Julio Rodriguez, Executive Director, Ibero-American Free Zones Association (AZFA)

Mr. Juan Torrents, President World Free and Special Economic Zones Federation

Mr. Herbert Chen, Former President of the International Association of Science Parks and Areas of Innovation (IASP), Deputy Director of TusPark, China

Mr. Jeffrey Taffel, President, National Association of Foreign-Trade Zones, United States of America (NAFTZ) (virtual)

15:05 - 15:10

The Road to COP29: Special intervention by **Mr. Elmar Mammadov**, Senior Adviser, Co-Lead of COP29 Initiatives Team, COP 29 Presidency, Head of Economic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Republic of Azerbaijan

15:10 - 15:30

Key note Address: "Embracing new opportunities in sustainability disclosure"

Mr. Zhang Zhengwei, International Sustainability Standards Board (ISSB) Beijing Office Director and Special Advisor to ISSB Chair

Key note Address: "Building competitiveness with the goal of net-zero and sustainability"

Mr. Eddie Chen, Managing Director, Fullerton Fund Management and Partner, Fullerton Asia Carbon Action Fund

15:40 - 15:45

Guest remarks by **Mr. Ismail Ersahin**, Executive Director and CEO of the World Association of Investment Promotion Agencies (WAIPA)

15:45 - 15:50

How are special economic zones adapting to the sustainability imperative?

Ms. Stephania Bonilla-Feret, Senior Economic Officer, UNCTAD

15:50 - 15:55

Promotional video: "Action 2030: The Sustainable Development of National Economic and Technology Development Zones in China"

15:55 - 16:00

The Guidance and Reports Release by GPIPC: "Sustainable cities and communities - Industrial Parks - Guidance for practical local implementation of ISO 37101" & Reports on the sustainable development of industrial parks

16:15-
17:00

2 Parallel
panels:

Panel 1: Discussion: New Global Challenges and Opportunities for SEZs

The landscape of foreign direct investment (FDI) and international trade is undergoing significant transformation. Cascading global crises persist as geographical and investment relationships are becoming more uncertain. SEZs face the urgent task of adapting to broader economic shifts, changing investment trends and global trend patterns. Panelists representing SEZs from across the globe will share their different perspectives on the key, urgent issues for the SEZ community and innovative strategies to address them.

Moderator: **Dr. Samir Hamrouni**, CEO of World Free Zones Organization and Co-Chair of GASEZ

Ms. Kelli-Dawn Hamilton, CEO, Jamaica Special Economic Zones Authority

Mr. Julio Rodriguez, Executive Director, AZFA

Dr. Kenneth Chelule, CEO, Special Economic Zone Authority of Kenya

Mr. Mingwei Zhang, Deputy Director, Administrative Committee, Luoyang Economic and Technological Development Zone

Panel 2: Global Green Trade and Investment

Experts and representatives from SEZs will share their practical experiences and insights on promoting green trade and investment within these zones, aiming to drive economic growth, technological innovation, and environmental protection.

Moderator: **Dr. Bo Bai**, Executive Chairman and Co-Founder of MVGX Holdings, Executive Chairman of Asia Green Fund

Mr. Zhang Zhaotang, Executive Vice-President, Development Zone Committee of China Association of Enterprises with Foreign Investment

Mr. Rafal Zelazny, President of the Board, Katowice Special Economic Zone, Poland

Mr. Stanley C. Ezeilo, Executive Manager, FEMOZA

Ms. Hua Liu, Deputy Director, Administrative Committee, Suzhou Industrial Park, China

Panel 3: Facilitating sustainable linkages between SEZs and domestic economies

The panel will focus on the practices and lessons learned by SEZs in attracting investment and fostering linkages with the local economy. Experts and practitioners will share insights on facilitating collaboration between foreign investors and domestic businesses, aiming to enhance economic growth, technology transfer and sustainable development within host countries.

Moderator: **Ms. Stephania Bonilla-Feret**, UNCTAD

Mr. Ayoul R'Mili, Technical and Operations Director, Tanger Med Zones, Morocco

Mr. Herbert Chen, Senior-Executive VP, TusHoldings Co. Ltd, Deputy Director, TusPark, China

Mr. Li Zhang, Director, Administrative Committee, Economic Development Bureau, Nanjing Jiangning Economic and Technological Development Zone

Mr. Ainsley Brown, Senior Director, Policy Monitoring and Enforcement, Jamaica Special Economic Zone Authority

Panel 4: Development Path of Industrial Parks: International standards and ESG

Experts and practitioners will discuss the integration of national and international standards and the benefits and challenges of these practices. They will also share experiences on how the adoption of standards in SEZs can drive innovation, attract investment and contribute to environmental and wider sustainability goals.

Moderator: **Dr. Han Shi**, Senior Fellow, University of Hong Kong, Centre on Contemporary China and the World Founding Director of the ESG Centre, HKU Institute for China Business

Mr. Molid Housein, Senior Adviser to the Government of Djibouti

Mr. Jonghwan Kim, Director-General, Incheon Free Economic Zone Authority, South Korea

Mr. Witold Uhma, Director International Cooperation, Katowice Special Economic Zone, Poland

Mr. Qing Zhou, Party Committee Member, Deputy Director, Administrative Committee, Tianjin Economic Technological Development Area

18:00

Closing of conference