



Conference Programme

Economic Freedom as a Way to Happiness

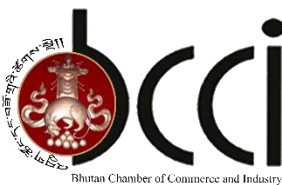
23-24 November 2015

Taj Tashi

Thimphu, Bhutan

Organised by

QED Group, Bhutan
Economic Freedom Network Asia (EFN Asia)
Bhutan Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF)



Friedrich Naumann
STIFTUNG **FÜR DIE FREIHEIT**

Day 1: Sunday, November 22, 2015

Time	Agenda
	Arrival of International Delegates

* Business attire for the entire duration of the conference

Day 2: Monday, November 23, 2015

Time	Agenda	Details
08.30 - 09.00	Registration of delegates	MC for November 23: Karma Choden, Program Coordinator, QED Group and Pett Jarupaiboon, Program Manager (Economic Freedom and Human Rights), Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom
09.00 - 09.30	Welcoming remarks Thinley Palden Dorji Founding Partner, QED Group Ronald Meinardus Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) South Asia	
09.30 - 10.00	Opening Keynote Address Economic Freedom as a Way to Happiness H.E. Kwon Tae-shin President & CEO, Korea Economic Research Institute (KERI) Former Minister, the Prime Minister's Office, Republic of Korea	
10.00 - 10.45	Refreshments	

Time	Agenda	Details
10.45 - 11.45	<p style="text-align: center;">The Buddhist Ethic and the Spirit of Economic Liberalism</p> <p>Dr Karma Phuntsho Founder & President, Loden Foundation, Bhutan</p> <p>Erick Rinner Managing Partner, Milestone Investisseurs, United Kingdom</p>	<p>Moderator: Tshering Tashi, Author, <i>Bold Bhutan Beckons</i> and <i>The Bodhisattva King</i></p>
11.45 - 13.30	Lunch	
13.30 - 14.45	<p style="text-align: center;">Combating Poverty through Economic Freedom</p> <p>Dr Sethaput Suthiwart-Narueput Executive Chairman, Thailand Future Foundation</p> <p>Najaf Yawar Khan Chairman, Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME), Pakistan</p>	<p>Moderator: Pramit Pal Choudhary, Foreign Editor, Hindustan Times, India</p>
14.45 - 16.00	<p style="text-align: center;">Economic Freedom and Happiness: Data, Models and Results</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Fred McMahon Resident Fellow and holder of the Dr Michael A. Walker Research Chair in Economic Freedom, Fraser Institute, Canada</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Commentators:</p> <p>Pema Thinley Researcher, Centre for Bhutan Studies & GNH Research, Bhutan</p> <p>Dr Mahar Mangahas President, Social Weather Stations (SWS), the Philippines</p>	<p>Moderator: Sunil Rasaily, Founding Partner, QED</p>

<p>16.00 - 16.30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Refreshments</p>	
<p>16.30 - 18.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Economic Freedom and Happiness</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Five Fishbowls</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Size of government: expenditures, taxes, and enterprises and happiness Expert: Muntasir Mamun Iqbal/Lecturer, North South University, Bangladesh Moderator: Ruben Dieckhoff, Regional Project Manager, FNF Regional Office South Asia Rapporteur: Akash Shrestha, Senior Research Officer, Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation, Nepal 2. Legal structure and security of property rights and happiness Expert: Nitin Pai, Director, Takshila Foundation, India Moderator: Subodh Kumar Agarwal, Programmes Executive, FNF Regional Office South Asia Rapporteur: Sreya Majumder, Executive, Energy, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) 3. Access to sound money and happiness Expert: Nonoy Oplas, President, Minimal Government Thinkers Inc., The Philippines Moderator: Moritz Klein-Brockhoff, Resident Representative Indonesia, Project Director Malaysia, FNF Rapporteur: Yu Suhyeon, Programme Officer FNF Korea 4. Freedom to trade internationally and happiness Expert: Prof. Eric Gartzke, Professor of Political Science, University of California, San Diego, USA Moderator: Olaf Kellerhoff, Head of Asia Department and Human Rights, FNF Head Office Rapporteur: Khim Sophanna, Programme Manager, FNF Cambodia 5. Regulation of credit, labor, and business and Happiness Experts: Suwanchai Lohawatanakul, President, Institute of Small and Medium Enterprise Development, Thailand Moderators: Armin Reinartz, Regional Project Manager, FNF Regional Office South East and East Asia 	<p>Introduced and facilitated by Miklos Romandy, Regional Programme Coordinator, FNF Southeast and East Asia and Raphaella Prugsamatz, Regional Communications Officer</p> <p>Five open fishbowls at the same time. Each fishbowl has five resource persons (1 fixed expert, 1 fixed moderator and 3 open resource persons from each group in each time) and a rapporteur.</p>

	Rapporteurs: Sorasak Phaengkote, Student, Thammasat University, Thailand	
	End of First Day Conference	
18.30 - 19.30	EFN Asia Members and Partners' Meeting: Goals and Indicators during 2017-2019	This is for the official members and partners of EFN Asia. Our membership is quite open and we would be happy to have new members. If you are interested, please contact Pett Jarupaiboon at pett@fnst.org
20.00	Dinner	Venue: Taj Tashi Hotel

Day 3: Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Time	Agenda	Details
08.30 - 09.00	Registration of delegates	MC For November 24: Tricia Yeoh, Chief Operating Officer, Institute of Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia
09.00 - 10.30	<p>The Economic Freedom of the World (EFW) Report 2015</p> <p><i>Welcoming Remarks</i></p> <p>Phub Tshering Secretary General, BCCI</p> <p><i>Remarks on Economic Freedom</i></p> <p>Fred McMahon Resident Fellow and holder of the Dr Michael A. Walker Research Chair in Economic Freedom, Fraser Institute, Canada</p> <p><i>Economic Freedom: Bhutan in Focus</i></p>	

	Sunil Rasaily Founding Partner, QED Group	
10.30 - 11.15	Receiving of the EFW Report 2015 and Keynote Address Dasho Sonam P. Wangdi Joint Secretary, Ministry of Economic Affairs, Royal Government of Bhutan	
11.15 - 11.45	Refreshments	
11.45 - 13.00	<p style="text-align: center;">Cases from the Region: Risks and Opportunities in the Building Resilient Economies</p> <p>Peter Wong Chairman, the Lion Rock Institute (LRI), Hong Kong</p> <p>Robin Sitoula Executive Director, Samriddhi, The Prosperity Foundation, Nepal</p> <p>Barun Mitra Director, Liberty Institute, India</p>	Moderator: Tricia Yeoh, Chief Operating Officer, Institute of Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia
13.00 - 14.30	Lunch	
14.30 - 16.15	<p style="text-align: center;">Economic Freedom and Inclusive Growth</p> <p>Dr Razeen Sally Assoc. Prof, The Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, The National University of Singapore and Chairman, Institute of Policy Studies, Sri Lanka</p> <p>Dr Tom Palmer Executive Vice President for International Programs, the Atlas Network, USA</p> <p>Wan Saiful Wan Jan Chief Executive, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia</p> <p>Dr Parth Shah President, Centre for Civil Society, India</p>	Moderator: Thinley Palden Dorji, Founding Partner, QED Group

16.15 - 16.45	Refreshments	
16.45 - 18.15	<p style="text-align: center;">Free, Happy and Green Asian Café:</p> <p>How does climate change manifest itself affecting people and economies and happiness? What does current evidence and projections say about the future? What are some existing successful responses to ensure resilience and adapt to changes, particularly from economic development point of view?</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Countries/Speakers/Rapporteurs:</p> <p>First Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bhutan/Sami Tornikoski, Living Himalayas Initiative, WWF Bhutan/Ugyen Lhendup, QED Group - Hong Kong/Peter Wong, Chairman, Lion Rock Institute (LRI), Hong Kong/Wilson Li, Assistant to the Executive Director, LRI - Bangladesh/Muntasir Mamun Iqbal/Lecturer, North South University/Ruben Dieckhoff, Regional Project Manager, FNF Regional Office South Asia - The Philippines/Nonoy Oplas, President, Minimal Government Thinkers Inc., The Philippines/Linda Luz Guerrero, Vice President, Social Weather Stations, the Philippines <p>Second Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Pakistan/ Zubair Ahmed Malik, Chief Coordinator, Economic Freedom Network Pakistan/ Najaf Yawar Khan, Chairman, Policy Research Institute of Market Economy (PRIME), Pakistan - Indonesia/Lola Amelia, Program Manager, the Indonesian Institute/Moritz Klein-Brockhoff, Resident Representative Indonesia and Project Director Malaysia, FNF - Vietnam/ Dr Nguyen Duc Thanh, President, Vietnam Institute for Economic and Policy Research/ Dau Anh Tuan, Director, Legal Department, Vietnam Chamber Commerce and Industry - Myanmar/Ko Ko Lay, Director, Department of Trade, Ministry of Commerce, Myanmar/Linn Maung Maung, Research Associate, Myanmar Development Resource Institute 	<p>Facilitator: Introduced and facilitated by Miklos Romandy, Regional Programme Coordinator, FNF Southeast and East Asia and Raphaella Prugsamatz, Regional Communications Officer</p> <p>Asian countries are investigated, divided into three sessions. Each session is approximately 25 minutes, divided into two rounds (12 minutes each round). Each speaker and rapporteur will perform for both rounds in its own session.</p> <p>Participants feel free to join any case/group, two rounds in one session and six in total.</p> <p>Every group is in one room, not far from each other.</p>

	<p>Third Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Korea/ H E Kwon Tae-Shin, President & CEO, KERI/Yu Suhyeon, Programme Officer FNF Korea - Malaysia/Wan Saiful Wan Jan, Chief Executive, Institute for Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia/ Tricia Yeoh, Chief Operating Officer, Institute of Democracy and Economic Affairs (IDEAS), Malaysia - India/ Pradhumna Dutt Kaushik, Professor, Institute of Information Technology & Management/ Sreya Majumder, Executive, Energy, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) - Cambodia/Ou Virak, President, Future Forum, Cambodia/Long Kim Khorn, Steering Committee Member & Department Chief, Cambodia National Rescue Party 	
18.15 - 18.30	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Remarks for EFN Asia Programme</p> <p>Jamyang Tashi Managing Partner, QED Group</p> <p>Siegfried Herzog Regional Director, Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom (FNF) South East and East Asia</p>	
19.30	Dinner	<p>Venue: Folk Heritage Museum Restaurant</p> <p>We meet at 19.10 at the lobby of Taj Tashi hotel.</p>

Day 4: Wednesday, November 25, 2015

Time	Agenda	Details
	Optional Excursions of Delegates	