



ESCAP Sustainable Business Network

## ESBN Monthly Update: April 2023

### Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business

The ESNB Executive Council adopted the Green Deal for Business at its 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting in May 2022. A soft launch of the Green Deal was held during the Asia Pacific Business Forum 2022 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok, Thailand, on 26 August 2022.

Pledge your support to the Green Deal for Business at: <https://www.unescap.org/projects/gd>

### Activities by ESNB members

**World Green Organisation:** The World Green Organisation, together with the International Chamber of Sustainable Development (ICSD), have recently published a joint publication entitled “The Quality of Environmental KPI Disclosure in ESG Reporting for SMEs in Hong Kong” in a Sustainability Journal. For more information, see: <https://www.mdpi.com/2071-1050/15/4/3634>

### Upcoming events of ESNB interest

**3 April 2023: APTA CCI Webinar: Building a Resilient Green Economy across the Asia Pacific by Year 2030**

Organized by the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement Chamber of Commerce and Industry (APTA CCI), the webinar entitled “Building a Resilient Green Economy across the Asia Pacific by Year 2030” will be held virtually via Zoom on 3 April 2023. Dr. Tientip Subhanij, Chief of the Investment and Enterprise Development of ESCAP will deliver a presentation on the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business. For registration, [CLICK](#).

**15-19 May 2023: [79th session of the Commission](#)**

The seventy-ninth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will be held in from 15 to 19 May 2023 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok. Guided by the theme “Accelerating climate action in Asia and the Pacific for sustainable development”, the annual session will be an opportunity to strengthen regional cooperation on climate change. The session will bring together Government leaders from across Asia and the Pacific and other key stakeholders to discuss policy options and areas of regional cooperation required to accelerate climate action in the region and beyond. With dedicated discussions on catalysing climate finance and investments, complemented by a climate solutions fair, the session will allow identifying opportunities, sharing solutions and facilitate engagement of a broad set of partners and stakeholders, to both reduce the risks and impacts of climate change and foster ambitious climate action in Asia and the Pacific towards net-zero pathways and limit global temperature rise to no more than 1.5 degrees Celsius.



# 79<sup>th</sup> Commission Session

## Recently concluded

27-30 March 2023: [Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2023](#)

The 10th APFSD was organized from 27-30 March 2023 under the theme “Accelerating the recovery from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development at all levels in Asia and the Pacific” in Bangkok, at the United Nations Conference Center (UNCC). Dr. George Lam, Chair of ESNB, has delivered a statement at the APFSD. The ESNB statement at the APFSD can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KvXnwvrPpr4> (2:04:41-2:09:56)



Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2023 (Day 3)

## Upcoming ESCAP activities and events

5 April 2023: [Launch of the Economic and Social Survey of Asia and the Pacific 2023: Rethinking public debt for the Sustainable Development Goals](#)

Published annually since 1947, the Survey provides analyses to guide policy discussion on the current and emerging socio-economic issues and policy challenges to support sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific. Produced by the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the Survey 2023 presents the new perspectives on fiscal and public debt analysis that help Asia and the Pacific to effectively pursue the SDGs.

*10 April 2023:* [Asia-Pacific Stats Café Series: Using Big Data to Measure the Nexus Between Environment and Gender in Asia and the Pacific](#)

The Asia-Pacific Stats Café Series on "Using Big Data to Measure the Nexus Between Environment and Gender in Asia and the Pacific" to be held virtually on Monday, 10 April 2023, 12:00-13:00 hours (Bangkok time, UTC +7). For registration, [CLICK](#).

*8 May-15 June 2023:* [Bilingual Course \(French, English\) on Negotiating Regional Trade Agreements for Trade in Times of Crisis and Pandemic](#)

This course, co-organized by ESCAP and ECA, aims to build capacity of stakeholders on developing trade agreements that can promote greater preparedness and resilience of parties when faced with future pandemics and crises, especially for French-speaking countries in Africa.

*30-31 May 2023:* [2023 Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Maritime Connectivity](#)

The 2023 edition of the Asia-Pacific Regional Forum on Sustainable Maritime Connectivity will be held in Bangkok, Thailand and online on 30-31 May 2023. The event will bring together experts from member countries and relevant organizations to engage on a wider array of issues relevant for strengthening and enhancing maritime connectivity in Asia and the Pacific, with a particular focus on Southeast Asia. Interested participants are kindly invited to [register](#) by **22 May 2023**.

*5-7 June 2023:* [Third Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics](#)

The Third Expert Forum for Producers and Users of Disaster-related Statistics will be held between Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th June 2023 in Bangkok, Thailand in hybrid format.

**For a short overview of ESCAP related news, please see** <https://www.unescap.org/news> or subscribe: <https://unescap.us10.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=c0fdb6e03fa08a5e575b433c0&id=e318af22fc>

**All ESCAP upcoming events:** <https://www.unescap.org/events>

## Recently published by ESCAP

[United Nations 2023 Water Conference Mid-term Review of the Water Action Decade : key messages from the United Nations Regional Commissions \(20 March 2023\)](#)

[Guidance note on disability-inclusive project management cycle \(17 March 2023\)](#)

[Guidelines on how to address disability inclusions in ESCAP evaluations \(17 March 2023\)](#)

[Unleashing Kazakhstan's export potential : a study of the country's export process and procedures \(16 March 2023\)](#)

[The digitalization of tax administrations in Asia and the Pacific : a manual for practitioners \(15 March 2023\)](#)

[SDG 9 : Industry, innovation and infrastructure \(06 March 2023\)](#)

**Working paper series**

Macroeconomics: Click [here](#)

Trade: Click [here](#)

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with us to provide input, questions or suggestions for the monthly update: [esbn@un.org](mailto:esbn@un.org)

Best regards,  
ESBN Secretariat