



ESCAP Sustainable Business Network

ESBN Monthly Update: January 2023

Happy New Year! The Secretariat wishes ESNB members, colleagues, and friends a prosperous, and sustainable journey in the year 2023. Together we can scale up business action in support of the Sustainable Development Goals!

Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business

The ESNB Executive Council adopted the Green Deal for Business at its 7th 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>

Upcoming events of ESNB interest

18- 20 January 2023: Eighth Meeting of the Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Network of Asia and the Pacific

ESCAP will co-organize the Eighth Meeting of the Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Network of Asia and the Pacific, with the Istanbul Public-Private Partnership Center of Excellence (Istanbul PPPCoE) on 18-20 January 2023, in Istanbul, Türkiye. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the 7th Istanbul PPPCoE Week 2022, focusing on climate-resilient and gender-inclusive infrastructure development. Additionally, it will serve as a venue to discuss in-depth, Türkiye's recent PPP experience and achievements with featured infrastructure site visits. Experts from international development banks and the private financing sector will share their perspectives on green infrastructure development and the way forward. [CLICK](#)



22-24 February 2023: Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation, First Session

The first session of the Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation will be held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 22 to 24 February 2023. The Committee will discuss policy issues relating to: (a) strengthening regional integration and competitiveness through sustainable and inclusive trade; (b) advancing partnerships with the public and private sectors to accelerate the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and the Paris Agreement on climate change; (c) mobilizing investment for sustainable development; (d) enabling business innovation for inclusive and sustainable development; and (e) promoting regional cooperation in innovation and technologies for achieving sustainable development. For more information, [CLICK](#).



22 February 2023: Accelerating Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific – Harnessing Finance and Technology: a Side event at the Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation

The recent COP27 pointed to the pressing reality that Asia is where the fight against climate change will be won or lost. Throughout the region, businesses large and small need to take action. Given that MSMEs make up 90 per cent of firms, decarbonization of the supply chain will not occur with participation solely from big corporations and financial institutions, but requires action from smaller companies and end consumers. What are the current options for accelerating a green transformation across the large supply chains present in the Asia-Pacific? What can be done to empower MSMEs to increase their ambitions to decarbonize? Discussants at this session will survey the technology platforms in place which can support and inclusive transition towards more sustainable development, and initiatives such as the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business which are linking together private sector sustainability champions. Participants at the event will learn about how businesses are using new tools to track, report on, and analyze their business sustainability, and in turn creating change in the real economy. **Register [HERE](#)**. For more information, [CLICK](#).

27-30 March 2023: Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2023

The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) is an annual, inclusive intergovernmental forum to support follow-up and review of progress on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) at the regional level, while serving as a regional preparatory meeting to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF). The Forum provides a regional perspective on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by identifying regional trends and sharing best practices and lessons learned. Since its inaugural session in 2014, the APFSD has brought governments, civil society, the private sector, and other stakeholders together to prepare for the HLPF and to support regional efforts to accelerate the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The 10th APFSD will be 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). For more information, [CLICK](#).

Upcoming ESCAP activities and events

25 January 2023: UNESCAP-WCO-ICC-ADB Webinar on Data Analytics for Cross-border Paperless Trade

The increasing number of emerging technologies applied in international supply chains, both in the public or private sector, generate substantial trade-related data. The diverse, sophisticated methodologies to analyze data have become a top priority for national governments and private sector stakeholders. Data analytics can enhance the efficiency in decision-making processes for varied purposes, such as national economic policies. Customs Administrations play a pivotal role in mitigating the risks throughout the supply chain, thus ensuring the safety and protection of societies. The economic operators apply data analytics to optimize the performance of business operations, maximize profit, and make more strategically-guided decisions. There are different approaches to data analytics: descriptive, diagnostic, and predictive analytics. The webinar will share experiences from Customs Administrations, the private sector, and other relevant international stakeholders on applying analytical methodologies and techniques to cross-border trade transactions. For more information, [CLICK](#).

8-9 February 2023: Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on the priority theme for the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 67)

Asia-Pacific Regional Consultation on the priority theme for the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW 67): “Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls” will be jointly convened by ESCAP and UN Women Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, in collaboration with ILO; ITU; OHCHR; UNESC; UNFP; UNDP; and UNICEF. The objective of the regional consultation is to provide an interactive forum for ESCAP member States and key stakeholders in Asia and the Pacific to examine ways to accelerate progress on key frameworks including the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (in particular, the 2019 Asia-Pacific Declaration on Advancing Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment: Beijing+25 Review), the Financing for Development, Addis Ababa Action Agenda (FfD), and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. For more information, [CLICK](#).

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

[Blog: Green Deal for Business and technology in accelerating sustainable development \(12 December 2022\)](#)

[Investment facilitation for sustainable development within the context of the regional comprehensive economic partnership, the ASEAN investment facilitation framework and the WTO draft investment facilitation framework for development \(29 December 2022\)](#)

[Transport and communication bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, no. 92: Environmental sustainability of transport systems \(21 December 2022\)](#)

[Public expenditures and inequality in Asia-Pacific : understanding the relationship \(21 December 2022\)](#)

[G20 Toolkit for measuring digital skills and digital literacy \(21 December 2022\)](#)

[Readiness Assessment for Cross-Border Paperless Trade: Turkmenistan \(21 December 2022\)](#)

[Road safety and mobile phone use in the Asia-Pacific Region \(20 December 2022\)](#)

[2022 ESCAP population data sheet \(19 December 2022\)](#)

[Promoting decent work opportunities for older persons in the Asia-Pacific region in the context of the Fourth Industrial Revolution \(16 December 2022\)](#)

[Using big data for official statistics : key considerations when using mobile phone data \(15 December 2022\)](#)

[Policy approaches to enable business innovation for inclusive and sustainable development \(14 December 2022\)](#)

[Enabling the green transition of business : policy approaches from Asia and the Pacific and Latin America \(14 December 2022\)](#)

[Towards universal social protection \(12 December 2022\)](#)

[Tracking sustainable mobility in Asia-Pacific cities 2022 \(09 December 2022\)](#)

[Sustainable freight transport in Bangladesh \(08 December 2022\)](#)

[A three-decade journey towards inclusion : assessing the state of disability-inclusive development in Asia and the Pacific \(07 December 2022\)](#)

[Female labour force participation and the care economy in Asia and the Pacific \(07 December 2022\)](#)

[Gender equality and climate change \(07 December 2022\)](#)

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

Best regards,
ESBN Secretariat