Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation, First session

Item 3: Advancing PPP and private sector networks to accelerate climate action and the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

22 February 2023,
Bangkok

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Overview

The investment and Enterprise Development Section manages two key networks:

• ESCAP Sustainable Business Network

• Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Network of Asia and the Pacific
ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN)

- ESCAP’s mechanism to engage with the business sector: the *ESCAP Sustainable Business Network* (ESBN)
- Created in 2004, originally the ESCAP Business Advisory Council (EBAC)
- In 2012, EBAC transited to ESBN to promote more active business sector engagement in sustainable development
ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN)

Objectives

• Drive business actions and contributions to the SDGs
• Increase availability of peer learning and inspiration for more sustainable business activity
• Offer private-sector insight and collaboration to ESCAP’s other activities
ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN)

Composition

• Business leaders, CEOs, and Heads of Sustainability of companies from the region or those with substantial operations in ESCAP economies
• Led by an Executive Council of 15 members
• Current chair is Mr. George Lam, President of the Hong Kong-ASEAN Economic Cooperation Foundation

Executive Council Meeting

• Biannual Executive Council Meeting
• Oversee the work of the ESBN
• Discuss business perspectives on sustainable development issues
• Provide private sector insight and perspective on the work of ESCAP’s Secretariat
Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business

Objectives

• An ESBN initiative
• Agreed upon at the Executive Council meeting in May 2022
• Call on businesses to commit to align their operational strategies with ESG principles
• Recognizes the urgent need for action to mitigate climate change
• Proposes new partnerships between governments, private sector and communities
• Calls for action aligned with five pillars
Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business

5 Pillars

- **Green energy**
  - Advance a zero-carbon, affordable and resilient energy system

- **Green infrastructure and logistics**
  - Build smart, sustainable and climate-resilient infrastructure

- **Green finance**
  - Mobilize public and private investment for green transformation

- **Green innovation**
  - Accelerate new technology and applications to improve efficiency

- **Green production, consumption and waste**
  - Change towards a circular economy to minimize environmental impact
Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business Declaration

• The Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business Declaration was soft launched at APBF 2022 held in Bangkok on 26 August 2022

• The Deal is a non-binding document that calls on the private sector to commit to aligning their core operational strategies with environmental, social and governance principles

• As of February 2023, 89 private sector organizations have pledged support to the Declaration.

Pledge support to the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business:

https://www.unescap.org/projects/gd/pledge-support
Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) Network of Asia and the Pacific

Background

• The challenges of infrastructure financing in Asia and the Pacific are complex, given the vastly different geographic and economic levels of development of member States in the region

• Recognizing these challenges, ESCAP established the *Infrastructure Financing and PPP Network of Asia and the Pacific* in 2018 with support from the China PPP Center, under the China Ministry of Finance
Infrastructure Financing and PPP Network of Asia and the Pacific

53 Network Member States
From Asia, the Pacific, Africa, and North America
(As of February 2023)
Infrastructure Financing and PPP Network of Asia and the Pacific

1. Regional Network Meeting
   - **Format**: Physical/Virtual/Hybrid
   - **Time**: Biannual
   - **Focus**: member states updates; projects presentation; site visit; project matchmaking session; networking.

2. Thematic Workshop
   - **Format**: Virtual
   - **Time**: Biannual
   - **Focus**: topic-specific discussions; thematic case study; interactive sessions.
In 2019, ESCAP published the *Infrastructure Financing for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific* proposes a new and holistic approach to infrastructure financing, which can accelerate sustainable and resilient infrastructure development and drives regional progress towards attaining SDGs in Asia-Pacific in 2030.

ESCAP is developing **PPP guidelines** with CPPPC and ADB with a focus on infrastructure project planning and risk identification in selected priority sectors.
InfraPPPnet Web Portal

https://ppp.unescap.org

Received 84 sustainable infrastructure projects from Asia-Pacific region across 12 sectors.

The total investment value of the received projects reached $25.7 billion.
THANK YOU

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