

National workshop on cross-border paperless trade facilitation and emerging technologies

NEPAL

Co-organized by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Nepal

28 November 2022

The workshop aims to raise stakeholders' awareness of feasible data and exchange mechanisms for cross-border electronic data for trade facilitation, with special emphasis on utilizing emerging technologies, such as distributed ledger technology/blockchain, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and data analytics. The workshop will be attended by government officials from relevant agencies (including the Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies, Department of Customs, and other government regulatory agencies) and private stakeholders, as well as development partners. The workshop is organized under the project "Enhancing capacity for sustainable cross-border trade digitalization through application of emerging technologies", supported by Enhanced Integrated Framework (EIF).

Each session's presentations will be followed by discussions, facilitated by Ojha Purushottam, consultant, ESCAP.

09.30-10.00	Registration and Tea/Coffee
10.00-10.40	<p>Welcoming and opening Statement (plus a brief summary of the preliminary results from the national feasibility study on cross-border electronic exchange of trade data)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gobinda Bahadur Karkee, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Industry, Commerce and Supplies (MOICS), Nepal Soo Hyun Kim, Economic Affairs Officer, Trade Policy and Facilitation Section (TPFS), Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP
10.40-11.30	<p>Session 1. State of play: emerging technologies for trade facilitation</p> <p>Introducing the use of emerging technologies including distributed ledger technology/blockchain, Internet of Things, Artificial Intelligence and data analytics</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Christian LEMBKE, Technical Attaché, World Customs Organization (WCO) – based on the WCO/WTO Study Report on Disruptive Technologies Armen Manukyan, consultant, ESCAP - introduction and insights from ESCAP/ICC Cross-border Paperless Trade Database
11.30-11.50	Tea/Coffee Break

11.50-12.30	<p>Session 2. Challenges and opportunities from emerging technologies for trade facilitation</p> <p>Highlighting opportunities and challenges for the implementation of emerging technologies – also noting the requirements and evaluation of environments where these technologies will bring benefits</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steve Capell, UN/CEFACT – verifiable credentials for cross-border trade • Ziyang Fan, Head, Digital Trade, World Economic Forum – emerging technologies for trade: opportunities and challenges
12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
13.30 – 14.40	<p>Session 3. Good practices from the Asia-Pacific region</p> <p>Sharing good practices on leveraging emerging technologies for efficient trade facilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tahseen Khan, Vice-chair, UN/CEFACT & Advisory Committee Member, UNNExT - Navigating cybersecurity and data protection • Kerri Ahn, consultant, ESCAP – Republic of Korea's Customs experience using blockchain for efficient trade facilitation
14.40 – 15.10	Tea/Coffee Break
15.10 – 16.20	<p>Session 4. Good practices from the Asia-Pacific region (continued)</p> <p>Sharing good practices on leveraging emerging technologies for efficient trade facilitation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shantanu Godbole, IBM Research, India – Experiences from TradeLens • Janaka Wijayasiri, Trade Expert/consultant – Sri Lankan experience in the implementation of TradeLens (blockchain technology) • Nancy Chen Junhua, Senior Product Development Manager, GUUD Pte Ltd – Digital CoO flow: Singaporean experience
16.20-17.00	<p>Session 5. Nepal's experiences with Customs automation and the way forward for cross-border paperless trade</p> <p>Discussing the way forward on utilizing emerging technologies for efficient trade facilitation in partnerships among agencies and organizations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shyam Dahal, Trade Facilitation Expert & Ramesh Sukamani, Customs Officer, Department of Customs Nepal – Collaborations for Modernization • Discussions – moderated by Gobinda Bahadur Karkee, Joint Secretary, MOICS