



ESCAP Sustainable Business Network

ESBN Monthly Update

February 2022

ESBN news and updates

ESBN members who earlier joined in a personal capacity are kindly reminded to convert to corporate membership as soon as possible, by submitting the commitment form shared earlier, and to become signatories of the UN Global Compact. Please contact the ESNB secretariat for more information: esbn@un.org

Activities by ESNB members

KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific: Jointly organized by The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) and the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and supported by the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance), [ESG CORPORATE SUMMIT](#) with the theme “Driving Sustainability and Sustainable Transformation” will take place on 17 February 2022 at the Royale Chulan, Kuala Lumpur, from 9.00am to 5.15pm. This ESG Corporate Summit brings together business leaders, corporate managers, ESG practitioners and NGO leaders to deliberate on future action to ensure the sustainability agenda is achieved. The Summit will provide opportunities for sharing of best practices, exchange of ideas and insights and promote learning and collective action. For registration and information, please contact: wani@kasi.asia.

ESG CORPORATE SUMMIT

Driving Sustainability and Sustainable Transformation

Opening Keynote Address
Datuk Syed Zaid Albar
 Executive Chairman, Securities Commission

Welcome Speech
Tan Sri Abdul Wahid Omar
 Chairman, Bursa Malaysia & Advisory Council,
 Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL)

17 February 2022
 Royale Chulan Kuala Lumpur

Jointly organized by The Economic Club of Kuala Lumpur (ECKL) and the KSI Strategic Institute for Asia Pacific and supported by the Malaysia CSO-SDG Alliance)

Upcoming events of ESNB interest

28-31 March 2022: Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development 2022

The Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) is an annual intergovernmental forum and a regional platform for supporting countries, in particular those with special needs, in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development while serving as a regional preparatory meeting to the high-level political forum. The theme of the 9th APFSD is “Building back better from COVID-19 while advancing the full implementation of the 2030 Agenda in Asia and the Pacific”. The 9th APFSD will play a unique role as a catalyzer of solutions and peer learning on how to accelerate transformations for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda while recovering from COVID-19. For more information, see:

<https://www.unescap.org/events/apfsd9>



Recently concluded

17-21 January 2022: Technical Training Series of the Infrastructure Financing and Public-Private Partnerships Network of Asia and the Pacific

In response to a technical assistance request raised by the Government of India, ESCAP organized this Technical Training Series to provide technical capacity support on preparing and implementing sustainable infrastructure projects in India. The objectives of this training are to share financial and economic drivers of project finance and gain an understanding of the role of key parties at critical points in the PPP project lifecycle. The training consists of six modules and includes interactive sessions, knowledge recap, networking, and experience sharing of PPP project facilitation. For more information, see: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2022/technical-training-series-infrastructure-financing-and-public-private-partnerships>



Upcoming ESCAP activities and events

10 February 2022: National Consultation on Facilitating Cross-border Paperless Trade: Azerbaijan

Co-organized by ESCAP, State Customs Committee of the Republic of Azerbaijan and Centre for Economic Reforms Analysis and Communications of the Republic of Azerbaijan. In moving forward in the area of trade facilitation and paperless trade in Azerbaijan, being among the first countries to join the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific, legal and technical readiness assessments for cross-border paperless trade have been conducted, under a ESCAP project as part of the joint UN Development Account project entitled “Transport and trade connectivity in the age of pandemics.” This workshop aims to present the results from self-assessment on technical and legal aspects of cross-border trade facilitation in Azerbaijan and bring to the attention of all stakeholders the draft report and review the recommendations and the initial action plan. For more information, see: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2022/national-consultation-facilitating-cross-border-paperless-trade-azerbaijan>

23 February 2022: Webinar on Unlocking the potential of cross-border digital services trade

In order to unlock the potential of digital services trade, Asian countries need to invest in human and physical capital, expand ICT infrastructure and improve the regulatory and policy environment. Trade liberalization and domestic reforms could reinforce the positive impacts. This webinar will shed light on these crucial issues and explore ways to harness that digital services trade offers to the region. To visit the webinar series on accelerating cross-border paperless trade facilitation, please [CLICK](#). For more information, see: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2022/webinar-unlocking-potential-cross-border-digital-services-trade>

27-29 April 2022: First session of the Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific

The first session of the Paperless Trade Council of the Framework Agreement on Facilitation of Cross-border Paperless Trade in Asia and the Pacific will be held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok from 27 to 29 April 2022. The Paperless Trade Council is established in accordance with Article 11 of the Framework Agreement for the purpose of its implementation. The Paperless Trade Council, in its first session, will adopt rules of procedures and terms of reference for itself and the Standing Committee under it and discuss development of action plans for implementation of the Framework Agreement. For more information, see: <https://www.unescap.org/events/2022/first-session-paperless-trade-council-framework-agreement-facilitation-cross-border>

23-27 May 2022: 78th session of the Commission

The seventy-eighth session of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) will be held in a hybrid modality from 23 to 27 May 2022 at the United Nations Conference Centre in Bangkok and online. ESCAP will be commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of its establishment in 2022, and the seventy-eighth session will mark the culmination of the commemorations. Guided by the theme “A common agenda to advance sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific”, the annual session will be an opportunity to discuss and shape the future of regional cooperation centred around a new form of multilateralism and regional cooperation. For more information, see:

<https://www.unescap.org/events/commission78>

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

[Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation: Global Report 2021 \(2 February 2022\)](#)

[Sustainable Finance Recovery: Innovating Finance for the Implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development \(31 January 2022\)](#)

[Blog: Implications of the EU’s Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism for Commonwealth members in the Asia-Pacific region \(27 January 2022\)](#)

[Digital and Sustainable Trade Facilitation in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\) 2021 \(26 January 2022\)](#)

[Airship Technology for Air Connectivity and Humanitarian and the Caribbean and the Pacific \(24 January 2022\)](#)

[Call for Papers: Transport and Communications Bulletin for Asia and the Pacific, No.92 “Environmental Sustainability of Transport” \(24 January 2022\)](#)

[Facilitating the deployment of highly and fully automated vehicles in road traffic along the Asian Highway \(20 January 2022\)](#)

[Increasing the use of smart mobility approaches to improve traffic conditions in urban areas in the Southeast Asia Subregion \(18 January 2022\)](#)

[Strengthening capacity for operationalizing sustainable transport connectivity along the China-Central Asia-West Asia Economic Corridor to achieve the 2030 Agenda: Study report \(18 January 2022\)](#)

Working paper series

Macroeconomics: Click [here](#)

Trade: Click [here](#)

Please don't hesitate to get in touch with us to provide input, questions or suggestions for the monthly update: esbn@un.org

Best regards,

ESBN Secretariat