ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

UNECE

MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATIONS OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

INNO week

FOURTH SESSION OF THE SPECA WORKING GROUP ON INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

DATE
19 October, 2023

TIME
14:00 - 16:30 (Tashkent time)

UZBEKISTAN
7, UNIVERSITY STREET, ALMAZAR DISTRICT, TASHKENT CITY

SCAN ME

UN ESCAP for Inclusive Digital Transformation

- Regional cooperative mechanism on ICT

- APIS Action Plan 2022-2026 (ESCAP resolution 79/10 in May 2023)
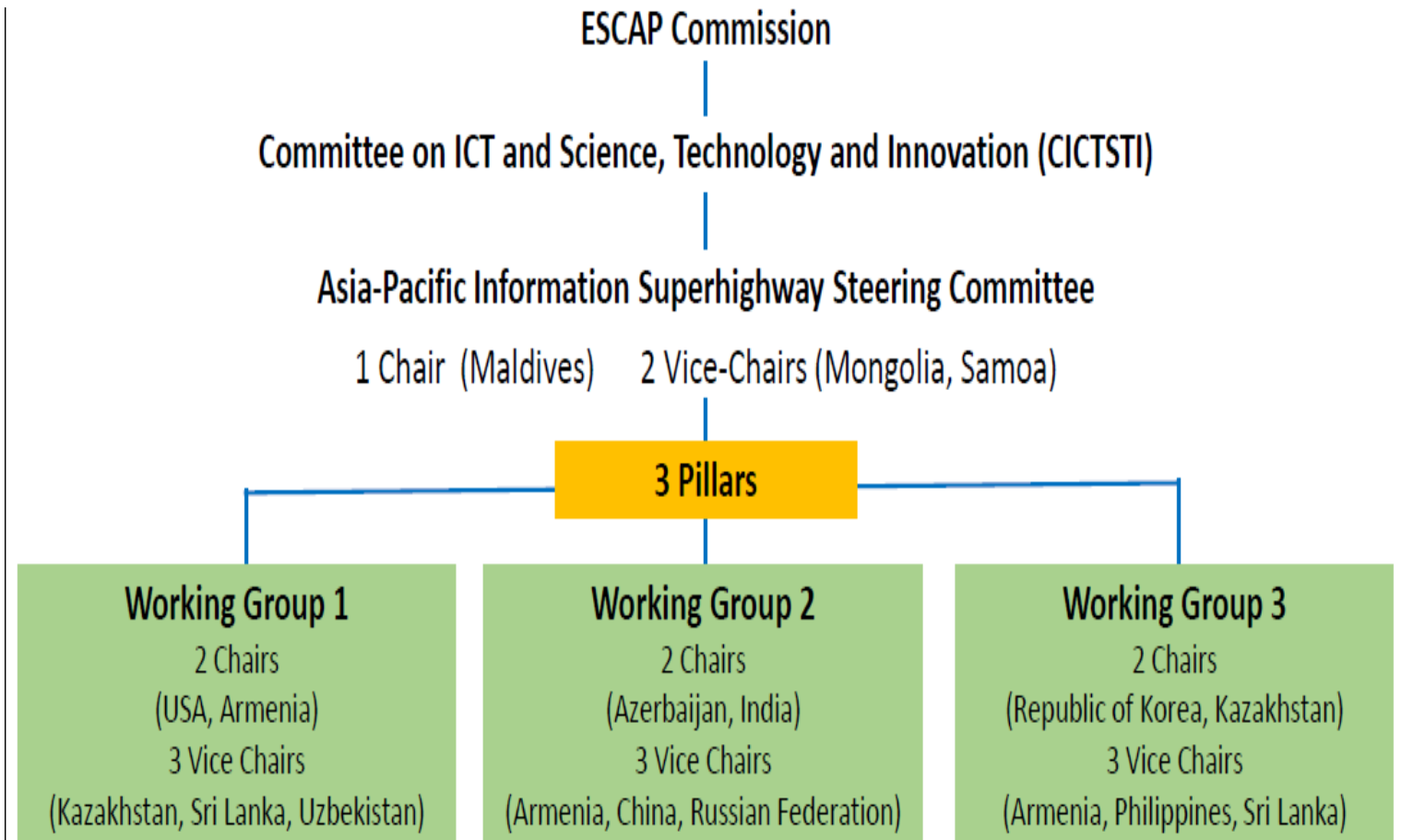
APIS Working Groups

Working Group 1 of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) on Connectivity for All

The Working Group 1 (WG1) on Connectivity for All is aimed to facilitate implementation of the APIS Action Plan in 2022-2026 by connecting people, organisations, and things anywhere and all the time.

Bureau of the Working Group 1

Co-Chairs: Armenia, United States of America

Vice-Chairs: Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan

Focus of Working Group 1 in 2022-2024:
- ✓ Bridging the digital divide
- ✓ ICT infrastructure and co-deployment of ICT with other sector infrastructures
- ✓ Universal, reliable, and affordable access to broadband internet
- ✓ E-resilience of ICT infrastructure

Contact us at:
ICT and Development Section
ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division
United Nations Economic and
Social Commission for Asia and
the Pacific (ESCAP)
Email: escap-ids@un.org

Working Group 2 Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) on Digital Technologies and Applications

The Working Group 2 on digital technologies and applications is aimed to facilitate implementation of the APIS Action Plan in 2022-2026 by bridging the digital divide and accelerating digital transformation through multi stakeholder cooperation

Bureau of the Working Group 2

Co-Chairs: Azerbaijan, India

Vice-Chairs: Armenia, China, Russian Federation

SCOPE OF WORK

I. New and Emerging Tech
- i. Digital and Frontier Technologies
- ii. Strategies of Digital Transformation

II. Digital Policies
- i. Policies for ICT Infrastructure Resilience
- ii. SMEs Digitalization
- iii. Enabling Public-Private Partnerships

III. Digital Applications
- i. Digital Transformation Assessment Framework
- ii. Digital Skills and Digital Financial Services
- iii. ICT for disaster risk management
- iv. Sectoral Digitalization

What we do:
- Exchange information at monthly online meetings
- Prepare publications and guidelines (reports, working papers etc.)
- Hold capacity-building activities (webinars and trainings)

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ICT&DRR Gateway   AP-IS Website

Working Group 3 of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) on Digital Data

Working Group 3 on "Digital Data" in the AP-IS Action Plan (2022-2026) focuses on strengthening digital data creation, transition to open format, storing, maintaining, use, and integration with other data sources such as satellite-geospatial data, real-time Internet of things and statistical data.

Bureau of the Working Group 3

Co-Chairs: Kazakhstan, Republic of Korea

Vice-Chairs: Armenia, Philippines, Sri Lanka

Focus of the Working Group 3 in 2022-2026:
- ✓ Digital data creation, collection, integration, management and
- ✓ Evidence-based policy making with use of different data sets, including big data
- ✓ More targeted policy interventions for affordable and universal Internet connectivity
- ✓ Coordination within and between national and international frameworks for data sharing and use across sectors and countries

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Asia Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) Steering Committee

Chair
Mr. Mohammed Shareef

Vice Chairs
Mr. Erkhembaatar Jargaltsengel
Mr. Leaso Ronnie Aiolupotea

Working Group 1 — Connectivity for All
Co-Chairs:
Mr. Vahan Hovsepyan
Mr. James Cerven
Vice Chairs:
Ms. Ayazhan Mukanova
Mr. Crishantha Nanayakkara
Mr. Bunyod Rakhmatullaev

Working Group 2 — Digital Technologies and Applications
Co-Chairs:
Mr. Semral Aliyev
Mr. Abhishek Singh
Vice Chairs:
Mr. Arshak Kerobyan
Mr. Hui Chen
Mr. Zorikto Gomboin

Working Group 3 — Digital Data
Co-Chairs:
Mr. Askar Zhambakin
Dr. Sang-yirl Nam
Vice Chairs:
Mr. Arshak Kerobyan
Mr. Edwin S. Ligot
Mr. Crishantha Nanayakkara

ESCAP — Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

Please click to complete: APIS Survey
Https://forms.office.com/e/RKaVnxGD0i

- This survey aims to gauge the interest and demand of members regarding the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (APIS) related areas. By collecting this information, the Working Groups can allocate resources more effectively and provide better support for member States' activities, leading to closer collaboration.

- We kindly request your active participation in this process. Please complete and submit the questionnaire online by **15 November 2023**.

- Your valuable feedback will contribute to shaping the future direction and focus of APIS working group discussions and cooperation.
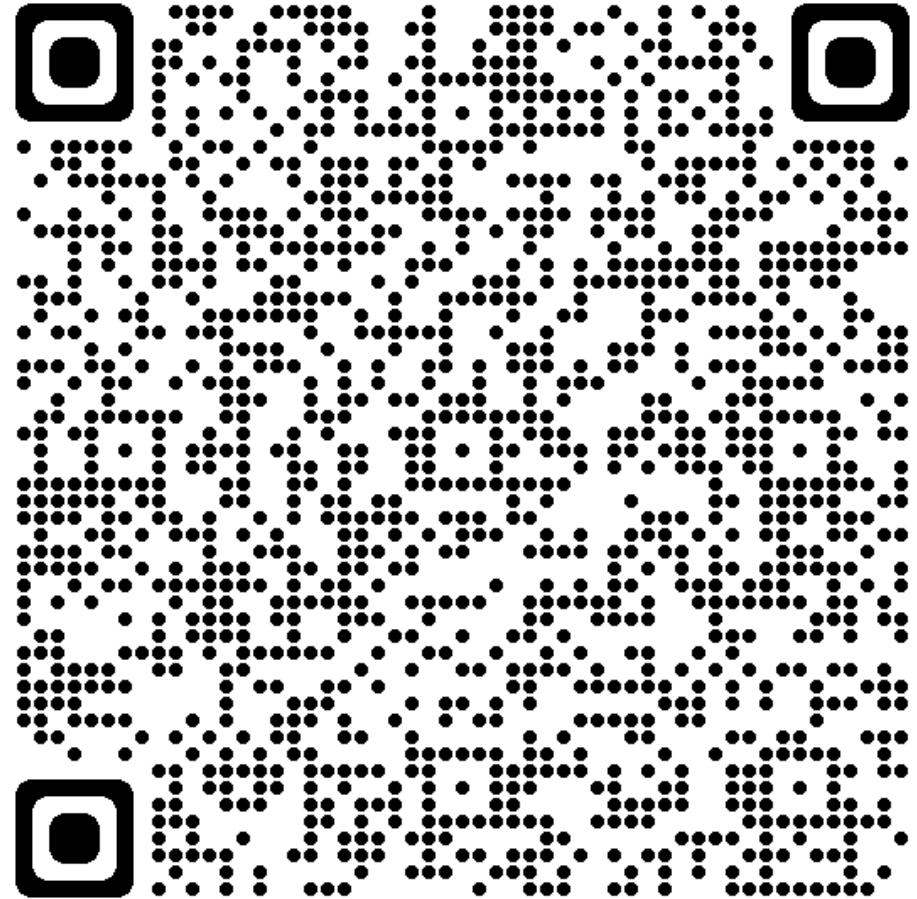
Online Training on Using ICT Connectivity Tools of ESCAP for ICT Infrastructure Development and co-Deployment in the Region, 5 June 2023

CO-DEPLOYMENT PORTAL

There are 62 land borders between ESCAP member-States in Asia and the Pacific with the total length more than 75,000 km.
More than 100 Integrated Infrastructure Corridors can be developed.

The Infrastructure Co-deployment Partnership Portal is a collaborative online workspace supporting ICT infrastructure co-deployment with road transport and the energy infrastructure. The portal enables services to:

✓ Register new infrastructure facilities and find other compatible infrastructure development projects (either planned or at early development stage);

✓ Learn from other infrastructure co-deployment projects;

✓ Assess technical compatibility, cost-effectiveness and economic efficiency of the co-deployed infrastructure development;

✓ Initiate and generate the interest of potential partners for infrastructure co-deployment, from initial correspondence to formulation of joint infrastructure co-deployment projects.

This tool contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), on: (i) connectivity: SDG 1, 5, 9, 17, (ii) e-resilience: SDG 9, 13, 17, (iii) traffic and network management: SDG 9, 16, 17, (iv) broadband for all: SDG 9, 17.

https://co-deployment.online/

Road | ICT
Railway | Electricity
ICT + Electricity | Other | ICT + Road

How and Who Benefits?

The portal provides working desks for 30-50 professionals in real-time; these allow co-working and viewing the infrastructure co-deployment in different combinations. Several hundreds of stakeholders and experts could be further engaged.

The portal streamlines the efforts of decision-makers, development agencies, investors, infrastructure owners, service providers to find each other for co-deployed infrastructure development.

Committed Partners

ESCAP, in partnership with ITTLLDC, national networks, regional and subregional knowledge centers, and institutions, has generated interest from the LLDC policymakers of Asia and the Pacific to institutionalize infrastructure-deployment cooperation and collaboration, including through the portal.

ESCAP, ITTLLDC, and APCICT have delivered training modules for the policymakers and officials of the region.

LLDCs, through these efforts, will overcome landlocked isolation and be better integrated into global and regional economies.

Potential Partnership

ESCAP75 | LLDC | ADB Asian Development Bank | THE WORLD BANK

CONTACT US:

ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction — escap-idd@un.org
Transport — escap-td@un.org
Energy — escap-energy@un.org
Subregional Office for North and Central Asia — escap-sonca@un.org
Subregional Office for East and North-East Asia — escap-sroenea-registry@un.org

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INFRASTRUCTURE CORRIDOR SIMULATOR

The Infrastructure Corridors Simulator is built on in-depth research and methodology of infrastructure co-deployment simulation to promising infrastructure corridors. It contains the spatial simulation module, as well as calculus and variable modules, which identify:

- The most prospective economic and technological flows.
- Scenarios and economic efficiency for infrastructure corridor development.
- The most appropriate combination of co-deployment partnerships.

The Simulator is a collaborative workspace and virtual co-location for online teamwork. Professionals can use it to work together on joint planning, designing infrastructure co-deployment, and developing integrated infrastructure corridors across borders and between countries regardless of the distance of their location.

More than 100 integrated infrastructure corridors can be simulated, with a total length more than 75,000 km, along 62 land borders between ESCAP Member-States in Asia and the Pacific

| More than 70 different types of infrastructure facilities, including roads, railways, tunnels, bridges and overpasses can be designed using this tool. Using the simulation can save labour costs during the pre-feasibility phase, and estimate co-deployment efficiency – for example possible savings of capital and operational cost. | Currently the Simulator contains qualitative and quantitative parametric data for three pilot corridors: (i) Almaty (Kazakhstan) – Cholpon-Ata (Kyrgyzstan); (ii) Urzhar (Kazakhstan) – Chugunchak (China); (iii) Semei (Kazakhstan) – Rubtsovsk (Russian Federation). | To simulate new transboundary corridors the following initial data are needed: (i) Economic and technical flows around the territory of infrastructure corridor; (ii) Traces of existing or planned facilities with granularity up to separate segments; (iii) Site-specific data set for scenario simulation, partnerships model and other needs. |

POTENTIAL PARTNERS

ESCAP75 | LLDC International Think Tank for LLDC | ADB Asian Development Bank | THE WORLD BANK

COMMITED PARTNERSHIP

ESCAP and ITTLLDC have confirmed their commitment to strengthening the technical capacities of selected LLDCs. For the simulation of newly-identified transboundary infrastructure corridors, technical expert groups will be established. These will conduct in–depth training, collaborative research, and data collection.

This tool contributes to achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), on: (i) connectivity: SDG 1, 5, 9, 17, (ii) e-resilience: SDG 9, 13, 17, (iii) traffic and network management: SDG 9, 16, 17, (iv) broadband for all: SDG 9, 17.

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Expert Group Meeting on E-Resilience
## 23 August 2023 The Link is **HERE**

- Finalised the Working Paper on Tracking E-resilience in SPECA countries

- Proposed new indicators for tracking e-resilience in 2023-2024

- Proposed to establish a task force on updating the dashboard analytics

Central Asia Drought Information System (CADIS) Pilot Project (2021-2023)

Objective: To strengthen the capacity of target Central Asian countries to use satellite data and geospatial information for effective drought monitoring and early warning.

Outcome: Target Central Asian countries use the pilot drought information system for drought monitoring and early warning.
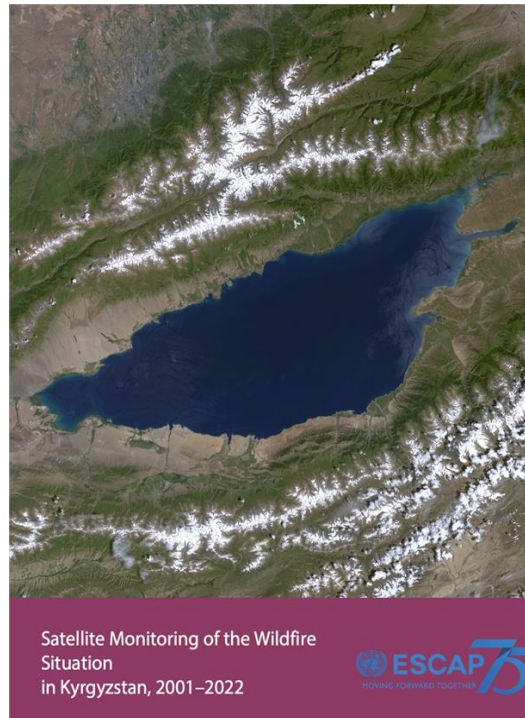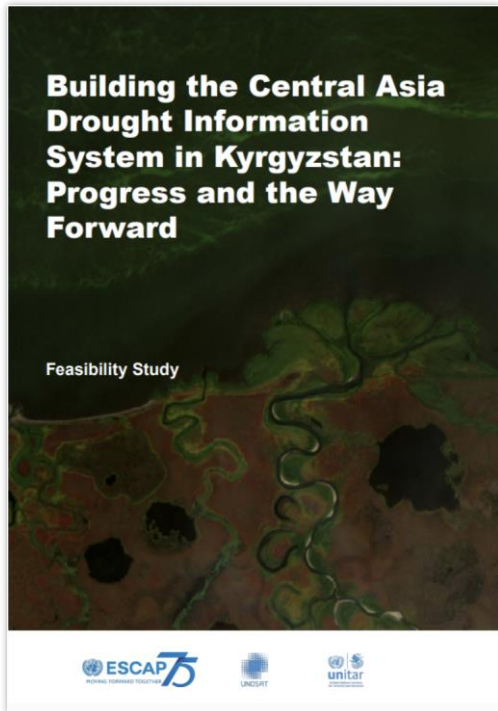
Massive Open Online Courses (wlc.un.edu)

New Course Launch: Spatiotemporal Drought Assessment by Leveraging Google Earth Engine Platform (Russian)

Course Start: 01 August 2023

Пространственно-временной анализ засухи с использованием платформы GEE

Этот онлайн-курс знакомит участников с платформой редактора кода Earth Engine и реализует алгоритм обнаружения и мониторинга засухи с использованием пассивного и активного дистанционного зондирования.

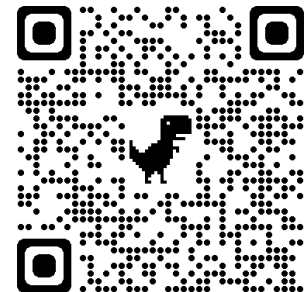**View Course**

Course Start
Aug 01, 2023

Course End
Aug 01, 2026

Duration
Undefined

Certificate
Yes

Capacity Building Activities

- [Digital SDGs: Regional Workshop on Digital Inclusion and Community Development](), 18-19 September 2023, Bangkok, Thailand

- National Training on Information Security and Privacy,

  4-5 October, Baku, Azerbaijan

- Digital Bridge 2023, 12-13 October 2023, Astana, Kazakhstan

Area of Activity	Lead Executive Agency	Timeframe
Ongoing and planned projects/activities with funding secured or expected. These activities would be implemented in mutually reinforcing way. Additional support from interested partners would expand the scope and the number of beneficiaries of these projects/activities.		
Capacity-building on policy options and practical instruments to promote knowledge-based development	UNECE	October 2023-December 2025
Implementation of the UNECE project on Innovation for Sustainable Development Reviews of selected countries	UNECE	October 2023-December 2025
Support to SPECA countries to foster innovation to deliver the SDGs	UNECE	October 2023-December 2025
Promote regional connectivity and transformation of SPECA region in the framework of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Action Plan 2022-2026	ESCAP	October 2023-December 2025
Capacity development on the utilization of digital technology and geospatial information	ESCAP	October 2023-December 2025
Strengthen institutional capacity on integrating geospatial and statistical data, with a focus on drought monitoring and land accounts in Central Asia	ESCAP	October 2023-December 2025
Capacity Development to reduce and mitigate disaster risks in endorheic (inland) water basins in Central Asia	ESCAP	October 2023-December 2025

Digital Solutions Center for Sustainable Development (DSC SD) for Central Asia and beyond

1. **MoA of ESCAP and MDDIAI of 20 April 2022**

2. **ESCAP CS resolution 79/10 of May 2023:** welcomed initiative of Kazakhstan on the establishment of DSC SD under UN

3. **SPECA member states expect the operational modality of DSC SD since there are three options for building DSC SD in 2024**
   a. One functional office of ESCAP (preferable)
   b. Independent Center
   c. Independent under SPECA framework

Work Plan November 2023-November 2024

- APIS Steering Committee, 9-10 November 2023 (Armenia)
- Updating APIS connectivity tools and e-resilience monitoring dashboard for SPECA countries (consultations, analytical work)
- Digital Almaty Forum, February 2024 (Kazakhstan)
- Asia and the Pacific Ministerial Conference on Digital Inclusion and Transformation (August, Astana, Kazakhstan)
- Central Asia workshop on the common challenges of the Landlocked Developing Countries for ICT Sector (Ulaanbaatar, 2024, ITTLLDC, ITU)
- SPECA WG on ITSD, October 2024 (host TBD)