

# HIGH-LEVEL SIDE EVENT

## Harnessing Technology and Innovation for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific: Challenges and Opportunities for LDCs

### Summary

Business as usual is not an option if the ambitions of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development are to be met. The scale and depth of the goals require a radically different and disruptive approach, the essence of innovation, along with significant scientific breakthroughs and technological advancements.

The Istanbul Programme of Action highlights the importance of science, technology and innovation as key drivers of transformation. The United Nations is developing mechanisms to advance the technology agenda in particular. For example, in 2014, United Nations Secretary-General announced the establishment of a High-Level Panel to study the scope and functions of a proposed Technology Bank dedicated to assisting the world's least developed countries (LDCs) advance out of poverty.

Despite consensus on the transformative potential of STI, there remains a lack of clarity on how LDCs can effectively implement it for inclusive and sustainable development. With limited financial resources it is not feasible for LDCs to simply invest significantly in research and development (R&D) activity and develop world-class universities and infrastructure.

The Asia-Pacific region is home to some of the most innovative countries in the world but also to some of the most technologically deprived. There is ample scope for regional collaboration. The challenge is to bridge this gap and to enable countries at all levels of development to take advantage of available technologies and develop a robust culture of innovation. Regional collaboration will be crucial to share knowledge on what works and to keep pace with the challenges and opportunities that this fast-moving and ever-changing agenda presents.

### This side event will:

- Explore innovation policy options that have the potential to enable LDCs to reap the benefits of innovation in a cost-effective manner.
- Highlight global technology mechanisms dedicated to supporting LDCs.
- Explore how the region can best collaborate to ensure that more people reap the benefits of the technological revolution.

**Midterm Review of the Istanbul Programme of Action**  
28 May 2016, Okeanos Restaurant, Hotel Titanic Deluxe Belek, Antalya, Turkey



UNITED NATIONS

**ESCAP**

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

The objectives of this side event are to:

- Discuss the key innovation and technology challenges and opportunities that LDCs see lying ahead.
- Provide insights on how effective technology and innovation collaboration and cooperation can be achieved.

The side event will offer the opportunity to explore some of the following questions:

- What have been the successful processes LDCs have employed when it comes to technology adaption and what are the challenges lying ahead?
- How will the Technology Bank assist the world's least developed countries to harness technology to advance out of poverty?
- Technology has opened up opportunities for the very poorest however many are still left out because they do not have access. How could we ensure that no one is left behind in the technological revolution?
- Technology has the potential to generate positive impact for the economy, society and the environment. What are the potential downsides that we must be mindful of?
- The region is home to some of the most technology-advanced countries in the world but also some of the most deprived. What would be an effective approach for the region to take to work together so that more people reap the benefits of technology?

## MODERATOR AND PANELISTS

The high-level side event is organized by ESCAP. Participants will include high-level government officials and policymakers attending the Midterm Review of the Istanbul Programme of Action.

**Shamshad Akhtar**  
*Under-Secretary-General of  
the United Nations and  
Executive Secretary  
of ESCAP*



**Khandker Mosharraf Hossain**  
*Ministry of Local Government  
Rural Development and  
Cooperatives, Bangladesh*

**Ismail Rahimi**  
*Deputy Minister  
of Economy  
Afghanistan*



**Odo Tevi**  
*Permanent Representative  
to the United Nations, former  
Governor of the Reserve Bank  
of Vanuatu, Vanuatu*

**Posh Raj Pandey**  
*Executive Chairman of  
SAWTEE and Environment  
and Member of HPL  
for the Technology Bank*

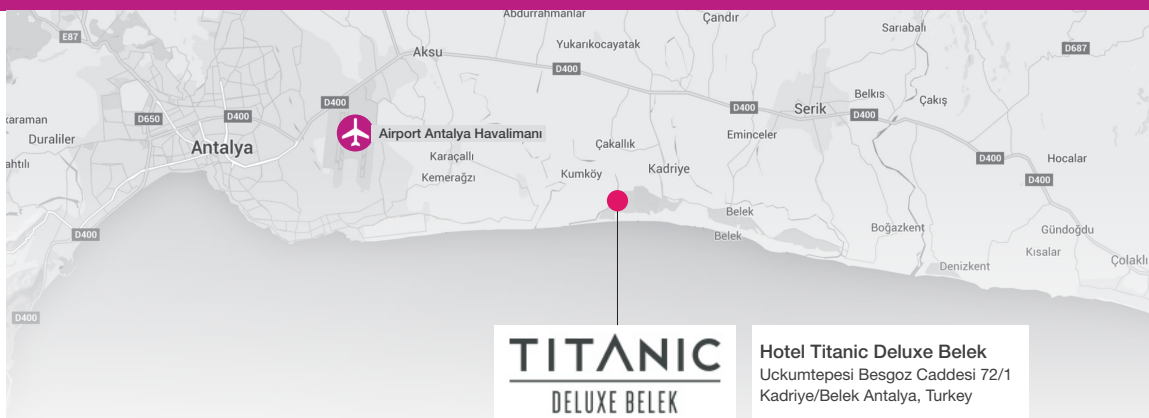


**Akash Bhavsar**  
*Managing Director, Skyquest  
Technology Group and Chair,  
Innovation & Competitiveness  
Task Force, ESBN*

**Gauri Pradhan**  
*International Coordinator  
LDC Watch*



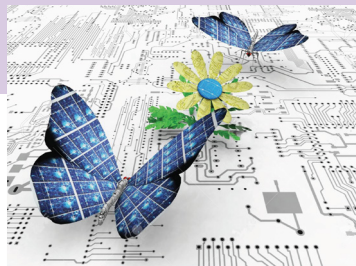
**Zeynep Arzýman Büyükboduk**  
*Head of Bilateral and  
Multilateral Relations Division  
Scientific and Technological  
Research Council of Turkey*



## Programme | Saturday 28 May 13.00 - 14.45, Okeanos Restaurant

- |       |   |
|-------|---|
| 13.00 | Registration  |
| 13.15 | Introductory remarks  |
|       | <b>Shamshad Akhtar</b> , Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations and Executive Secretary of ESCAP |
| 13.20 | Panel discussion  |
| 14.10 | Open discussion   |
| 14.40 | Closing remarks   |

ESCAP will launch the report:



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## For further information, contact:

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# Leave No One Behind

## ASIA-PACIFIC IS LEADING THE WORLD IN R&D

Share of Global Expenditure on R&D %	2007	2013	
ASIA-PACIFIC	36.9	44.8	+ 7.9
AMERICAS	37.1	32.4	- 4.7
EUROPE	24.5	21	- 3.5
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	0.7	0.8	+ 0.1
ARAB STATES	0.8	1.0	+ 0.2

Share of Global Researchers %	2007	2013	
ASIA-PACIFIC	48.4	49.8	+ 1.4
AMERICAS	23.7	22.2	- 1.5
EUROPE	25.1	25.0	- 0.1
SUB-SAHARAN AFRICA	0.9	1.1	+ 0.2
ARAB STATES	1.9	1.9	+ 0.0

## DESPITE THE REGION'S OVERALL PERFORMANCE A GREAT DISPARITY IN STI OUTCOMES REMAINS

4th  
QUARTILE

8

3rd  
QUARTILE

6



预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

[https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5\\_3233](https://www.yunbaogao.cn/report/index/report?reportId=5_3233)

