ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN)

Objectives

ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN) consists of executives and representatives of leading businesses in a wide range of industries and sectors from across the Asia-Pacific region, and is set up to drive businesses in working toward the 2030 Sustainable Agenda and associated Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Contact Us

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Background

ESCAP currently has one primary mechanism to engage with the business sector: the ESCAP Sustainable Business Network (ESBN).

In 2004, an ESCAP Business Advisory Council (EBAC) was set up by the Executive Secretary to engage the business sector in ESCAP’s work, following the Secretary-General’s establishment of the United Nations Global Compact.

In 2012, EBAC decided to establish the ESBN to promote more active business sector engagement in sustainable development.

Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business

The Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business is an initiative of ESBN which advocates for business leadership in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. It includes five priority action areas for business action towards the green transformation of businesses:

1) Green energy;  
2) Green infrastructure and logistics;  
3) Green finance;  
4) Green innovation; and  
5) Green production, consumption and waste.

The ESBN urges Asia-Pacific businesses to pledge their support to the Asia-Pacific Green Deal for Business Declaration and calls for businesses across Asia and the Pacific to take a leadership role on climate actions.

Pledge your support:  
https://www.unescap.org/projects/gd

ESBN Members

- Consist of Business leaders, CEOs, and heads of sustainability from companies from and/or with substantial operations in the countries/economies of the ESCAP region.

- ESBN activities are implemented through its five task forces: Sustainable and Inclusive Finance, Digital Economy, Disaster and Climate Risk Reduction, Green Economy, and Youth and Women Entrepreneurship. The ESBN is also a key partner and co-organizer of the annual Asia-Pacific Business Forum (www.unescap.org/apbf).

Becoming a Member of ESBN

- ESBN membership is open to any entity that is formally registered as a private or public sector business organization, a private sector representative organization such as a Chamber of Commerce and Industry, or a non-governmental organization working with business to address sustainability issues located in or having substantive operations in one or more ESCAP member States.

- Be a signatory to and adhere to the principles of the UN Global Compact (for business and organizations), the UN Principles for Responsible Investment (for investors), the Principles for Responsible Banking (for banks), or equivalent globally recognized standards for socially and environmentally responsible business.

- Track and report on sustainability progress in a transparent and verifiable manner.