

Asia-Pacific MSME Policymakers Network: Inaugural Meeting – MSMEs and the Digital Economy

1 March 2021
14:00-16:50 hours Bangkok time (UTC+7)
Virtual Meeting

Programme

1 March 2021		<i>Virtual Meeting (via MS Teams)</i>
14:00 - 14:10	Opening address <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Marc Proksch</i> – Chief, Investment and Enterprise Development Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP 	
Part 1: The Asia-Pacific MSME Policymakers Network and revisiting ESCAP's MSME Policy Guidebook		
14:10 – 14:20	Presentation and discussion: Proposed Terms of Reference for the Asia-Pacific MSME Policymakers Network <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Ben McCarthy</i> – Associate Economic Affairs Officer, Investment and Enterprise Development Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP Discussion and adoption of the Terms of Reference by all participants 	
14:20 – 14:30	Presentation: Preparing a Second Edition of ESCAP's MSME Policy Guidebook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Eric Roeder</i> – Consultant, ESCAP 	
14:30 – 14:50	Open floor discussion: The Second Edition of the MSME Policy Guidebook <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All participants 	
14:50 – 15:00	Presentation: G2P digital transfers as a use case for the development of the digital economy: The experience of Cambodia and Lao PDR <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Alberto Isgut</i> – Economic Affairs Officer, Macroeconomic Policy and Financing for Development Division, ESCAP 	

Part 2: Taking advantage of the digital economy to support a resilient MSME sector

15:00 – 15:30	Presentation: MSMEs and the Digital Economy <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Maria Vasquez</i> – Consultant, ESCAP
15:30 – 15:45	Presentation: Supporting women entrepreneurs through ICT, business skills training, and innovative financing <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Deanna Morris</i> – Programme Management Officer, Technology and Innovation Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP
15:45 – 16:30	Open floor discussion: Supporting entrepreneurs, digital approaches for connecting governments and MSMEs, and country initiatives <ul style="list-style-type: none">• All participants
16:30 – 16:50	Closing remarks and final questions <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Marc Proksch</i> – Chief, Investment and Enterprise Development Section, Trade, Investment and Innovation Division, ESCAP