E-Government for Women’s Empowerment in Asia and the Pacific

Closing gaps, maximizing opportunities:

Harnessing E-Government for Women’s Empowerment

ICT and E-Government can ensure women’s empowerment

egov4women.unescapsdd.org
The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by UN Member States in 2015 affirms that “the spread of information and communication technology and global interconnectedness has great potential to accelerate human progress, to bridge the digital divide and to develop knowledge societies”.

Women's empowerment through E-Government can accelerate the achievement of Goals and Targets across the 2030 Agenda. The new EGovforWomen Online Toolkit directly contributes to Sustainable Development Goals 5, 9, 10 and 16 and is aligned with the CSW review theme on "information and communication technologies and their impact on and use as an instrument for the advancement and empowerment of women”.

The Side Event entitled “E-Government for Women’s Empowerment in Asia and the Pacific” will launch the EGov4Women Toolkit (http://egov4women.unescapsdd.org). This online platform is an innovative public resource related to the design and implementation of gender-responsive E-Government institutional ecosystems in the Asia-Pacific region.

The toolkit represents the first region-wide toolbox to support the gender-mainstreaming of E-Government. Through a set of 5 comprehensive modules, it provides key pointers for policymakers on gender-responsive design of e-service delivery, e-participation and connectivity initiatives, and introduces a capabilities-based approach to outcome evaluation of E-Government for women's empowerment.

This Side Event is organized by the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Division for Public Administration and Development Management (DPADM) through its Project Office on Governance (UNPOG) in collaboration with the Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the UN.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations' regional hub promoting cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development. The largest regional intergovernmental platform with 53 member States and 9 associate members, ESCAP has emerged as a strong regional think-tank offering countries sound analytical products that shed insight into the evolving economic, social and environmental dynamics of the region. The Commission’s strategic focus is to deliver on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which it does by reinforcing and deepening regional cooperation and integration to advance connectivity, financial cooperation and market integration. ESCAP’s research and analysis coupled with its policy advisory services, capacity building and technical assistance to governments aims to support countries’ sustainable and inclusive development ambitions.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat is a vital interface between global policies in the economic, social and environmental spheres and national action. The Department works in three main interlinked areas: (i) it compiles, generates and analyses a wide range of economic, social and environmental data and information on which Member States of the United Nations draw to review common problems and to take stock of policy options; (ii) it facilitates the negotiations of Member States in many intergovernmental bodies on joint course of action to address ongoing or emerging global challenges; and (iii) it advises interested Governments on the ways and means of translating policy frameworks developed in United Nations conferences and summits into programmes at the country level and, through technical assistance, helps build national capacities.

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) of the United Nations Secretariat are working together to support the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This initiative is supported by the Korea-ESCAP Cooperation Fund (KECF).

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