UNITED NATIONS
ESCAP
Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific

BLOCKCHAIN TECHNOLOGY AND THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS SURVEY: PRELIMINARY FINDINGS

ICT and Development Section
ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division

IMPROVING REGIONAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY THROUGH THE
ASIA-PACIFIC INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY

Outline:

1. Preliminary results
2. Key messages
3. Methodology & Respondents profile (annex)

1. Preliminary results

Background – online survey

Challenge:

1. Blockchain technology has several applications in many fields – implication for contributing to SDGs;
2. However, there is limited information on the potential use of this emerging technology for different stakeholders involved in promoting affordable broadband connectivity (including the AP-IS initiative) within the region.

1. Preliminary results

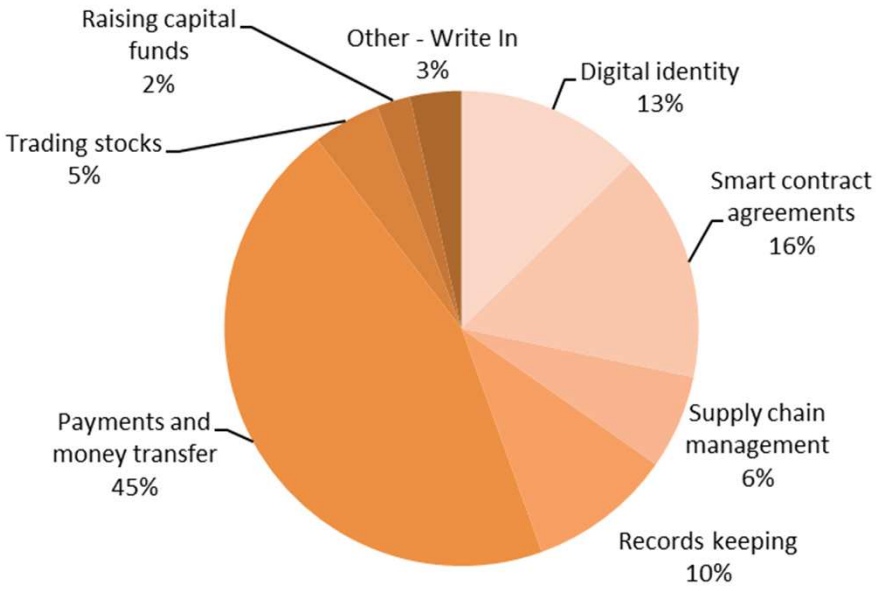
Background – online survey

- ESCAP and the Internet Society collaborated to develop the online survey, distribute the questionnaire and analyze the results (ongoing);
- Objective: To solicit expert opinions in the field of ICT, on the opportunities and challenges of blockchain technology for sustainable development in Asia and the Pacific;
- Target: ICT experts that have professional experiences on the state of ICT in Asia and the Pacific which include senior ICT government officials, ICT regulators, academia, research/ICT networks, think-tanks, INGOs, telecom operators, ICT industry sector, and other industry sectors.
- These ICT experts have been involved/attended in past ESCAP/ISOC ICT-related meetings/events;

2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #1: 45% of respondents believed that blockchain technology is most often used for payments and money transfer.

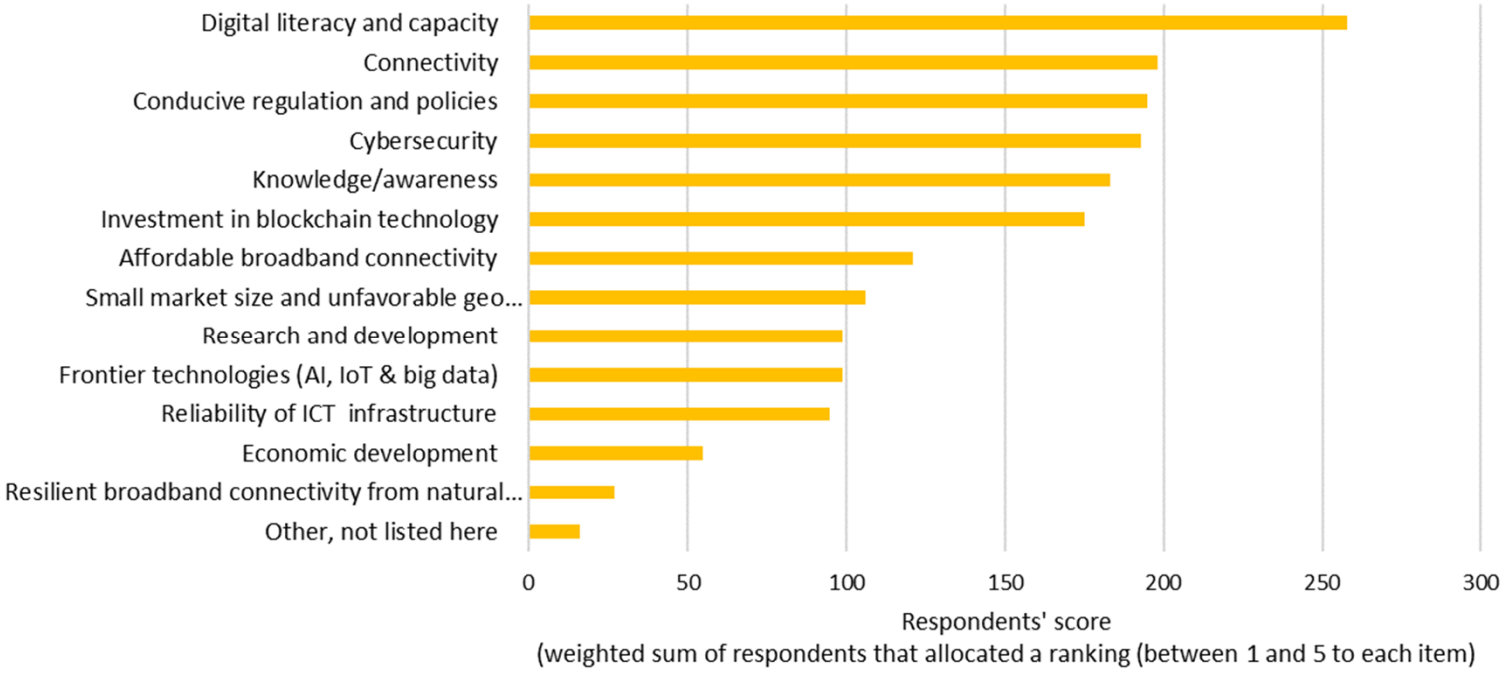
From your experience, blockchain technology is most often used for:



2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #2: Digital literacy, connectivity and conducive regulation and policies identified as hindrance to update of blockchain technology.

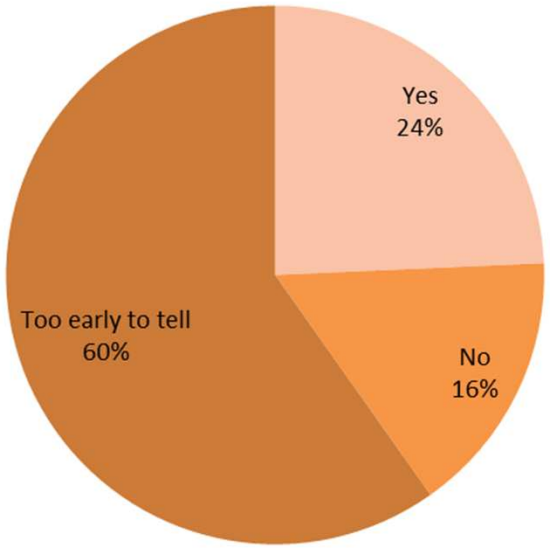
What are the challenges deterring the uptake of blockchain technology for sustainable development in the country where you reside? (please rank top 5 challenges, with #1 as most challenging)?:



2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #3: 60% of respondents stated that they are yet to see any inherent risks of blockchain technology for sustainable development in the region.

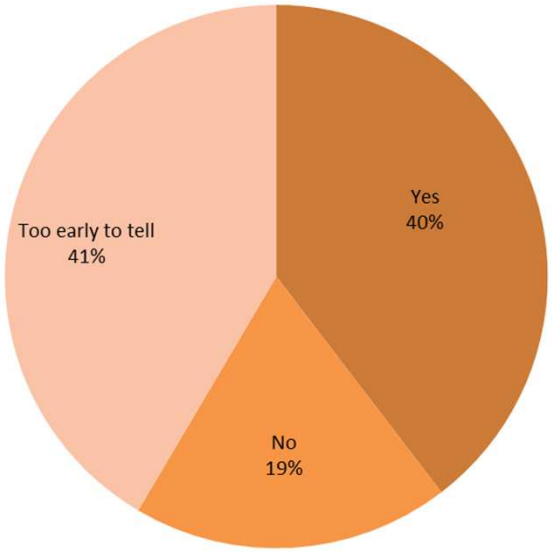
Do you foresee any inherent risks of blockchain technology for sustainable development in Asia-Pacific developing countries?:



2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #4: 41% of respondents stated that it was too early to tell if cryptocurrency will be sustainable in the long-run.

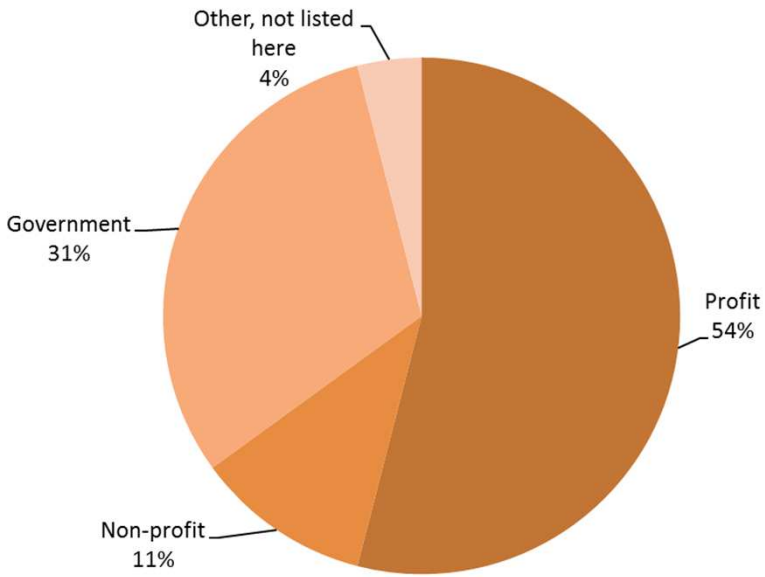
In your opinion, would the emergence of cryptocurrency be sustainable in the long-run?



2. Preliminary results - online survey

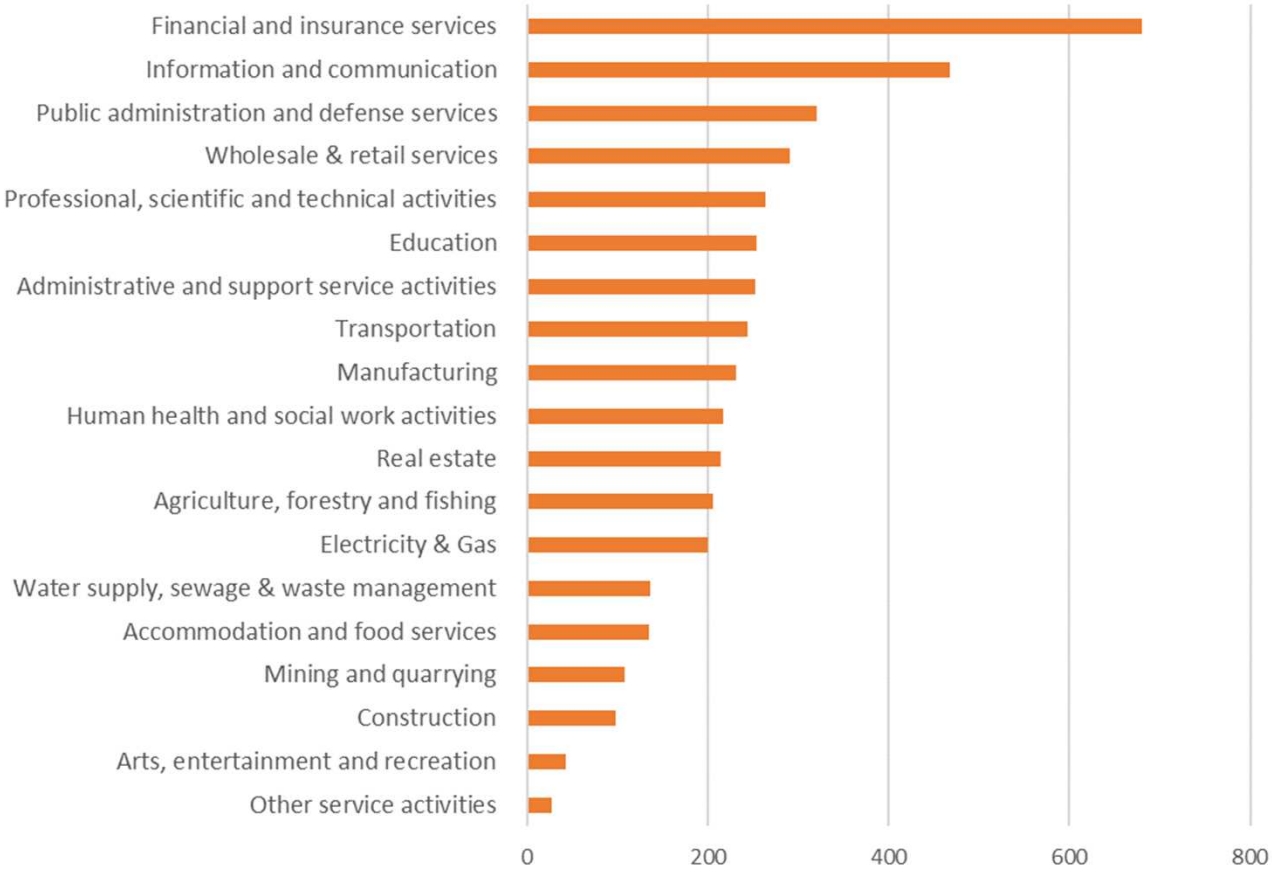
Finding #5: 54% of respondents stated blockchain technology will make the most impact on for-profit activities.

Do you think that in 5 years time, the blockchain technology will make the most impact on which type of activity?



2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #6: Financial and insurance services identified to benefit the most from blockchain technology in the next 5 years.

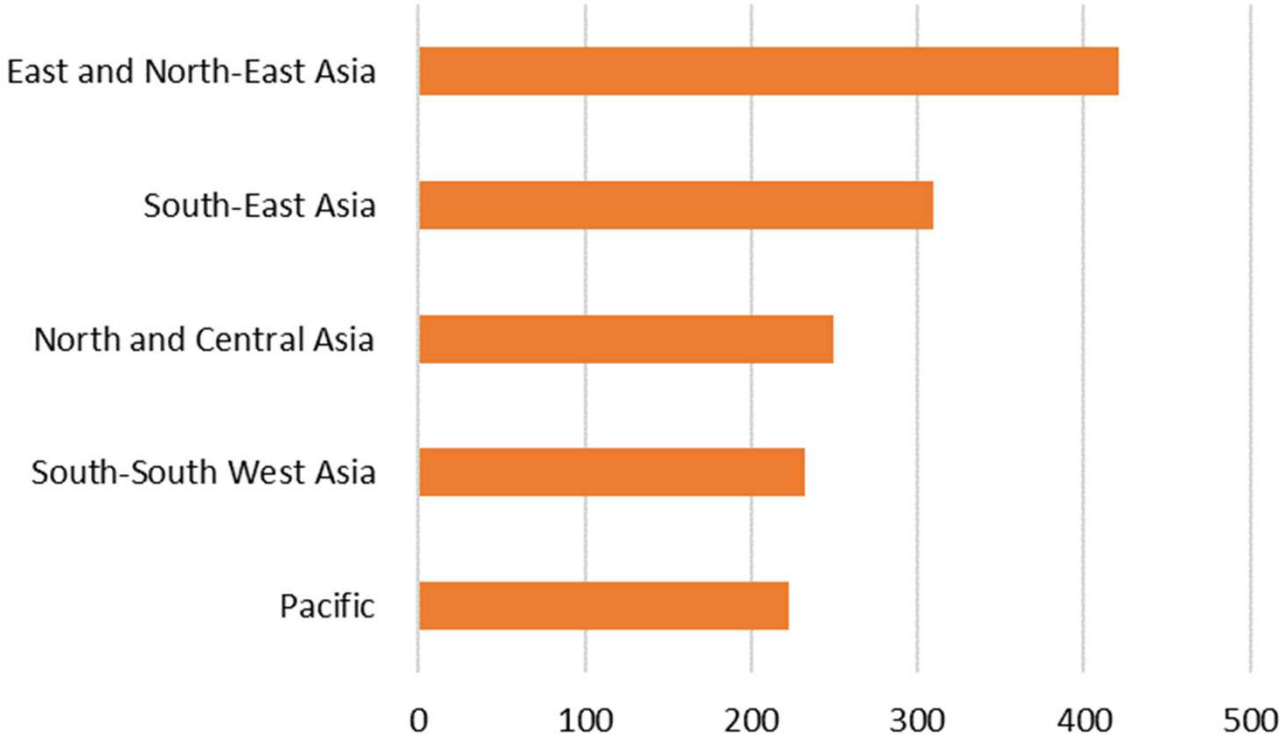


(Respondents' score
(weighted sum of respondents that allocated ranking (between 1 and 5 to each item)

In the next five years, which industry sectors (using the United Nations' International Standard Industrial Classification – ISIC) would benefit the most from the use of blockchain technology? Please rank top 10 industries, with #1 as highest benefit).

2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #7: East and North-East Asia identified as the most technologically-ready to adopt blockchain technology.



(Respondents' score
(weighted sum of respondents that allocated ranking (between 1 and 5 to each item)

Which ESCAP subregion is most technologically-ready to adopt blockchain technologies for sustainable development? (Please rank all subregions with #1 as most technologically-ready).

2. Preliminary results - online survey

Finding #8: Implementing conducive policies identified as most important for governments.

What should Asia-Pacific governments in your country do at the national level, to enhance the use of blockchain technology for sustainable development? (Please rank top 5 reasons with #1 as most important).

Key messages:

1. Blockchain technology is yet to be adopted widely in most Asia-Pacific developing countries;
2. Digital literacy and connectivity seen as the two major hindrances to blockchain adoption;
3. In the next 5 years, the financial and ICT sectors (profit-oriented) will benefit the most from blockchain technology;

Key messages:

4. ENEA is the most technologically-ready ESCAP subregion to adopt blockchain technology;
5. Implementing conducive policies for the development of ICT sector was identified as the most important for governments to consider;
6. Need to increase digital literacy (and awareness) and ICT connectivity in order to support emerging technologies such as blockchain.

Thank you

The online survey remains open until 15 August 2018. If you have not completed the survey, please visit: http://www.surveygizmo.com/s3/4319509/6885d7e0e0c0

1. Background - online survey

Methodology:

- ESCAP and the Internet Society distributed the online survey link (via email) to more than 1,000 potential respondents since May 2018;
- Questions: The survey contained 17 questions (3 open, 14 closed).

1. Background - online survey

Methodology:

- Questions: Answers to each 'closed' ranking question are reported as a 'Score' for ranking.
- The 'Score' figure is a weighted sum of respondents that allocated a ranking (between 1 and 5) to each item.
- Therefore, the score column incorporates two factors:
  I. the ranking preference of respondents for an item;
  II. the total number of respondents for an item.

1. Background - online survey

Methodology:

- Respondents profile:

a) **207 responses** received of which 5 were disqualified due to submitting twice in the system , resulting in 205 useable responses for analysis (20.7% response rate);

b) Out of 53 ESCAP members and 9 associate members, respondents from 32 ESCAP members and associate members respondent

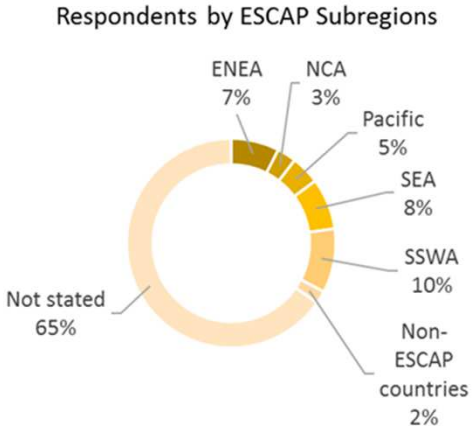
1. Background - online survey

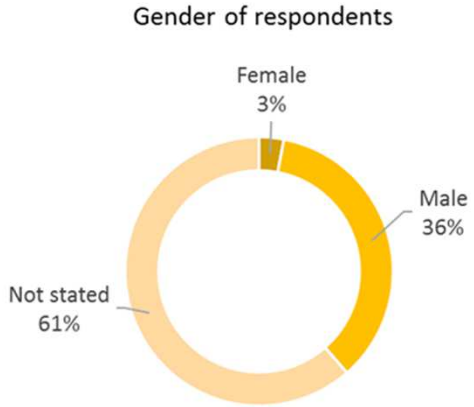
Methodology:

- Respondents profile:

c) Responses were received from all ESCAP five subregions while majority of respondents were male;

d) Majority of respondents who provided information, had 10+ years of professional ICT experiences.





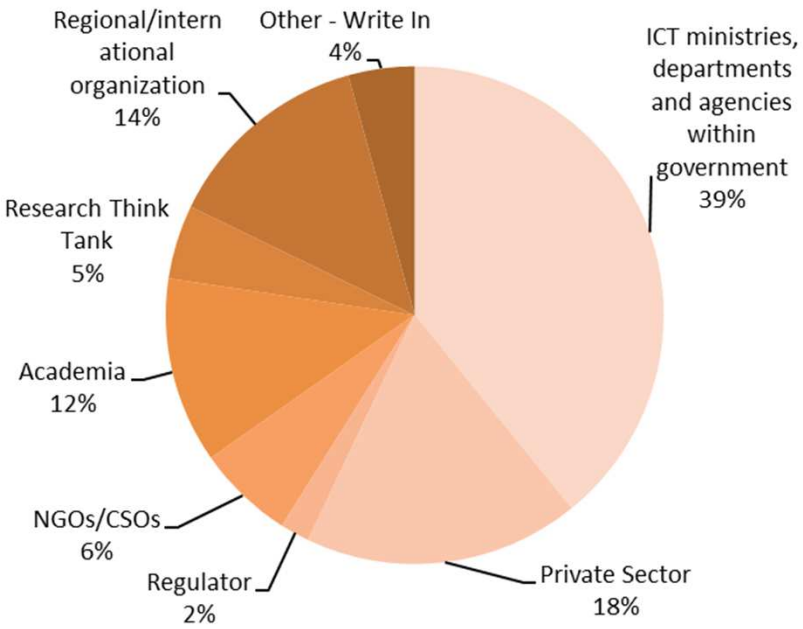
1. Background - online survey

Methodology:

- Respondents profile:

e) Organisation and job function

Organisation type:



Function type: