



Webinar on “Greater Schools Connectivity in the Asia and the Pacific: One Step Towards Sustainable Education”

Session 1 - 7 August 2020 10:00 – 12:00 hrs (BKK time)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and UNICEF are pleased to invite you to join the webinar on “Greater Schools Connectivity in the Asia and the Pacific: One Step Towards Better Education”.

Some 3.6 billion people in the world do not have access to the internet. This lack of connectivity means exclusion, marked by the lack of access to the wealth of information available online, fewer resources to learn and to grow, and limited opportunities for the most vulnerable children and youth to fulfil their potential. Closing the digital divide requires global cooperation, leadership, and innovation in finance and technology.

UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel report on Digital Cooperation every adult should have affordable access to digital networks by 2030. Despite significant investment in ICTs, we have not seen ubiquitous scale. Like global development investments in general, are most often siloed by sector, resulting in significant fragmentation and duplication of efforts, resulting to technology providers disinvest from building these products in many countries, as the market size seems too small.

The UN Secretary General’s High-Level Panel report on Digital Cooperation also states that every adult should have a broad, multi-stakeholder alliance, involving the UN, create a platform for sharing digital public goods. Even when the relevant digital public good or opensource solution is found, support and additional investment are still required to scale them up and successfully implement them.

In part of the The United Nations Secretary-General’s Roadmap For Digital Cooperation, Giga has been identified as a potentially transformative model as a way forward to achieving universal connectivity.

This webinar will provide an introduction to the foundational pillars identified to implement the Giga project, a joint initiative led by ITU and UNICEF to connect every school in the world to the internet, and every young person to information, opportunity, and choice. It will discuss the challenges and possible solutions that need to be addressed such as to mapping of schools, developing access, availability of funding and e-learning solutions.

This webinar will also provide a platform for countries with the common goal to connect schools, to share their aspiration and formulate the first step forward to achieve this goal. The webinar will be an interactive discussion by the presenters and participants.

Program Agenda	
10:00 – 10:10	<p>Session Moderator: Ms Atsuko Okuda, <i>Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific</i></p> <p>Welcoming Remarks</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Stephen Bereaux, <i>Deputy to the Director BDT, ITU</i> ▪ Mr Christopher Fabian, <i>Giga Lead, UNICEF</i> <p>Guest of Honor H.E Zunaid Ahmed Palak, <i>State Minister for ICT Division, Bangladesh</i></p>
10:10 – 11:00	<p>Introduction on the Foundational Pillars Giga</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to Giga • E-learning approaches • Financing Instruments for development <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr Alex Wong, <i>BDT Senior Strategy Advisor, Giga Lead, ITU</i> and Mr Christopher Fabian, <i>Giga Lead, UNICEF</i> (Presentation) ▪ Ms Ito Misako, <i>Regional Advisor for Communication & Information, UNESCO</i> (Presentation) ▪ Mr Arndt Husar, <i>Senior Public Management Specialist (Digital Transformation), ADB</i> ▪ Mr Vincent Wierda, <i>Lead – Energy, Regional Coordinator for Asia, UNCDF</i> (Presentation)
11:00 - 11:30	<p>Aspiration on Future Education: Country presentation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State of school connectivity • Availability or level of adoption of smart learning solutions and digital learning content in connected schools • Availability of financing instrument to support digital connectivity <p>Presenters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Zahra Nazari, <i>Afghanistan Telecommunication Regulatory Authority</i> • Mr Dawa P Lodey, <i>Ministry of Information and Communications, Bhutan</i> • Representative from Mongolia
11:30 - 11:40	<p>Presentation on ASP RO Proposal for Giga ASP: The step forward Ms Atsuko Okuda, <i>Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific</i></p>
11:40 - 11:55	<p>Q&A Session and open discussion on Giga Moderator : Mr Sean Doral, <i>Program Officer, ITU</i></p> <p>Panelist:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Mr. Alex Wong, <i>BDT Senior Strategy Advisor, ITU</i>

11:55 - 12:00	Concluding Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Ms Atsuko Okuda, <i>Regional Director, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific</i>▪ Representative from UNICEF

Additional Information

For more information, visit the event page at <http://itu.int/go/L57D>

Who should attend?

This webinar is by invitation only. Invitees are welcome to extend the invitation to relevant counterparts at the education and finance ministry.

Registration

You can register for this webinar by completing the online form using the following link:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=12Tkl-YEh0uRPCS9iSGf03xMu4Px6GxEg6ZD6P8PHTIUNEINrzAxUDNINfk1NIIEMDIWM0RJSkxHUC4u>

How to Participate

A Zoom meeting invite, and details will be sent via email to all registered participants closer to the event date. For more information on how to use Zoom, please visit <https://us04web.zoom.us/>

When joining meeting, please use the ID in the following template “Yourname_Country”

Event Coordinator

Contact Mr. Sean Doral, *Program Officer, ITU Regional Office for Asia-Pacific* (sean.doral@itu.int)

We look forward to you joining us for this webinar.

Social Media

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