



Dear Friends,

We are happy to share the latest edition of APCTT's newsletter. It highlights some of key activities and events undertaken by the Centre during the first six months of this year. These include capacity building programmes, expert group meetings and developing knowledge products. We continue our efforts to support member States in strengthening stakeholder capacities and promoting regional cooperation in innovative and emerging technologies for sustainable development.

We thank you for being part of our journey. Your continued support and interest inspire us. We look forward to greater collaboration and working together in the coming months.

*Preeti Soni
Head, APCTT*

A. Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation, Second session, 28-30 May 2025



The second session of the Committee on Trade, Investment, Enterprise and Business Innovation was organised by ESCAP at ESCAP headquarters in Bangkok. The Committee

discussed policies for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific related to trade, private sector leadership, foreign direct investment and business innovation.

As part of the Secretariat, APCTT presented the document for Agenda 6 on ‘Fostering cooperation to leverage innovation and technology for sustainable development’. The document discussed the role of cross-border cooperation in leveraging innovation and technology for sustainable development in the Asia-Pacific region. It presented an overview of the capacity-building and technical support provided by the secretariat through APCTT from March 2023 to February 2025, including programmes and activities for capacity-building, enabling policies and linkages, the promotion of cross-border cooperation and networking, and knowledge management.

B. Side Events

1. Eighty First Session of Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP)



The 81st session of the Commission was held at the ESCAP headquarters. Under Agenda item 5h, the Vice-Chair of the Governing Council of APCTT presented the report of the Governing Council of APCTT on its twentieth session. Several member States expressed their appreciation and support to the Centre for consistently supporting member States in strengthening national innovation systems, fostering regional technology cooperation, and technology capacity building, and knowledge-sharing with a focus on climate technologies, municipal solid waste management, green hydrogen and energy storage, and emerging digital technologies including ICT and 4IR technologies.

Side Event on “Harmonizing innovation growth and climate resilience: AI-based NBI platform for climate technology cooperation in the Asia-Pacific region”, 23 April 2025, Bangkok and Online



APCTT jointly organized a side event in partnership with with the Science and Technology Policy Institute (STEPI), National Institute of Green Technology (NIGT), Korea Institute of Civil Engineering and Building Technology (KICT), and hosted by the Ministry of Science and ICT, the Republic of Korea and the Embassy of the Republic of Korea in Thailand. The side event brought together regional and international experts to explore how advanced technologies, especially AI, can drive climate action. The Nature-Balanced Innovation (NBI) framework was introduced to align innovation with environmental sustainability by maximizing technological impact while minimizing harm to environment.

Discussions focused on AI’s role in evaluating climate technologies, enhancing predictive capabilities, and linking innovation with green finance and carbon markets. The event emphasized the need for standardized, data-driven tools, cross-sector partnerships, and tailored national strategies and called for continued cooperation to scale climate technologies across the Asia-Pacific region.

2. Twelfth Asia Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development

a. Side Event on “Fostering Regional Cooperation, building partnerships between scientific and research councils in the Asia-Pacific region”, 26 February 2025, online.



APCTT and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Ministry of Science and Technology, Government of India, jointly organized a virtual side event during the 12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development. The objective was to provide a platform for member States to share their viewpoints and knowledge on the role of scientific institutions in providing updated research technologies that have the potential to be scaled up across the Asia Pacific region. 40 experts from the region convened to discuss how scientific and research councils could advance the 2030 Agenda. Key outcomes included support for a digital forum for technology information sharing and a strong emphasis on regional cooperation, capacity building, and ethical AI governance.

b. Side Event on “Scaling Science-Based Solutions for Sustainable Development: Regional Innovations in Technology and Data for Achieving the SDGs”, 28 February 2025, Bangkok and online.

The banner features the 12th APFSD logo (Participate • Accelerate • Innovate) on the top left and the event title 'ASIA-PACIFIC FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT' with dates '25 to 28 February 2025 Bangkok | Thailand' on the top right. The main title is 'Scaling Science-Based Solutions for Sustainable Development: Regional Innovations in Technology and Data for Achieving the SDGs'. The date is '28 February 2025' with times '9.15 - 10.30 (IST) | 10.45 - 12.00 (Bangkok Time)'. The venue is 'Bangkok, Thailand, and Online' with details: 'Venue: Meeting Room G, United Nations Conference Center (UNCC), Bangkok, Thailand'. It is 'Jointly organized by: ESCAP Regional Institutions (APCICT, APCTT, APDIM, CSAM, SIAP), International Center of Big Data for Sustainable Development Goals (CBAS), National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT) and other partners.' The meeting link is 'https://ait-ac-th.zoom.us/j/95305296601?pwd=MdigBXgYmO6eDBAnzWEQvjrNldm6WB.1'. The bottom of the banner displays logos for ESCAP, APCICT, APCTT, APDIM, CBAS, ICRD, CSAM, and SIAP.

APCTT along with other regional institutions of ESCAP (APCICT, APDIM, CSAM, SIAP), and other partners including the International Centre of Big Data for Sustainable Development Goals (CBAS) and National Research Council of Thailand (NRCT), jointly organized the side event during the 12th session of Asian and Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development. The side event focused on promoting science and evidence-based approaches to advance the SDGs in Asia and the Pacific. Discussions highlighted the importance of technology transfer, enhanced data governance, capacity building, and regional cooperation. Participants explored innovative tools, such as AI applications and digital platforms for data sharing and climate adaptation.

C. Other Key Activities

a. 38th Khwarizmi International Award (KIA) and 26th Khwarizmi Youth Award (KYA), Islamic Republic of Iran, 17 February 2025.



APCTT supported the Iranian Organization for Science and Technology (IROST), Islamic Republic of Iran, for the Khwarizmi International Awards and Youth Awards initiative. The Khwarizmi International Award and Youth Award seeks to recognize the efforts made by researchers, innovators and inventors from the world and to appreciate their achievements in various fields of science and technology. APCTT in collaboration with IROST provided certificates to two Laureates in recognition of their work with an aim to encourage young innovators and researchers in the Asia-Pacific region.

b. Second Meeting of the Working Group for creation of a road map and discuss potential cooperation with member States on the joint IT-Platform, 2 April 2025, Online.

The second meeting of the Working Group for creating a road map on a shared digital platform for information sharing on technologies across Asia Pacific was held to discuss the operational and technical aspects for establishing a regional IT platform for technology transfer and innovation. The platform is envisaged as a dynamic, cloud-based and user-driven to facilitate knowledge exchange and regional cooperation. Key discussions focused on the platform’s objectives, architecture, access levels, hosting models, and sustainability mechanisms. The meeting concluded with agreement on follow-up actions to incorporate feedback, share technical details, and finalize the platform roadmap in future sessions.

D. Knowledge Products

Two editions of APCTT’s quarterly periodical, Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor, have been published and disseminated. These focused on important issues pertaining to sustainable development in Asia-Pacific.

The Oct-Dec 2024 issue of Asia-Pacific Tech Monitor focusses on “Technologies for climate resilient infrastructure: opportunities and challenges for Asia and the Pacific”. The featured articles present insightful discussions on climate-smart technologies, adaptation plans, transport and building codes and standards, green business models and resilience of smart cities.

The Jan-March 2025 edition focuses on innovative technologies for building climate-resilient cities in Asia and the Pacific. The issue delves into AI applications in renewable energy

forecasting, urban climate adaptation and governance, applications of satellite informatics, datasets and remote sensing instruments and environmentally friendly firefighting agents. The articles provide interesting case studies on innovative technology applications and models to mitigate climatic challenges.



E. Upcoming Events

- International Conference on “Commercialization of Intellectual Property Assets” under the theme “PHILIPPiNEXt: Philippines’ International Exposition of Technologies,” with the Technology Application and Promotion Institute (TAPI) of the Department of Science and Technology (DOST), Government of the Philippines and APCTT. 14 to 17 July 2025 in Manila.
- Launch of Lecture Series on Emerging Technologies and Technology Transfer with the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (DSIR), Government of India and APCTT. August / September 2025 in New Delhi.
- Third meeting of the Working Group for creation of a road map and discuss potential cooperation with member States on the joint IT-Platform. September 2025 (online).
- International Conference on "Technologies for Sustainable Use of Natural Resources" organised jointly by Russian House for International Science and Technology Cooperation, Moscow, Russian Federation and APCTT. 3 Dec 2025 in Moscow.

