Training on Frontier ICTs

8-9 July 2024, Vientiane

BACKGROUND

Frontier Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) are increasingly recognized as vital tools for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Innovations such as Artificial Intelligence (AI), Blockchain, and the Internet of Things (IoT) are expected to play a significant role in sustainable development. However, these technologies also present considerable challenges, especially in policymaking, particularly for developing countries. It is crucial for nations to develop guiding frameworks for integrating frontier ICTs into their national development strategies.

The Asian and Pacific Training Centre for ICT for Development (APCICT/ESCAP) in collaboration with the Ministry of Technology and Communications of Lao PDR, is organizing a training on frontier ICTs. This training aims to deepen participants' understanding of these technologies, focusing on key measures and policy directions for their effective application in promoting sustainable development, illustrated through case studies from various countries.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of the programme, participants are expected to:

- Understand fundamental concepts of the frontier ICTs of Artificial Intelligence
- Present the current status of policies related to each of the three ICTs and global cases applied in the public sector;
- Comprehend the challenges and risks in the application of the ICTs for sustainable development as well as the measures to address them;
- Identify key policy directions and measures to consider in the development, application, and deployment of the frontier ICTs for sustainable development.

TARGET PARTICIPANTS

The programme will be attended by officials of the Ministry of Technology and Communications of Lao PDR.

PROGRAMME AGENDA

	Day 1
Time	**Description**
08:00 – 08:30	*Registration*
08:30 – 09:00	**Opening Session** ▪ Welcome Remarks ▪ Self-introduction by the participants ▪ Group Photo
09:00 – 10:00	*Break*
10:00 – 11:30	**Session 1: Introduction to Frontier ICTs for Sustainable Development** ▪ Overview of the Academy module's structure and use. ▪ Introduction to frontier ICTs ▪ Review of policy areas and directions for frontier ICTs ▪ Case Studies based on OECD OPSI
11:30 – 13:00	*Lunch*
13:00 – 14:30	**Session 2: Introduction to Frontier ICTs for Sustainable Development (Continued)** ▪ Barriers and risks related to frontier ICTs, ▪ Policy framework and international cooperation for frontier ICTs ▪ Discussion on trends in ICT adoption in the public sector
14:30 – 14:45	*Break*
14:45 – 16:00	**Session 3: Artificial Intelligence (AI)** ▪ Introduction to AI's definition, scope, and features. ▪ Discussion on AI's role in achieving the SDGs, including development challenges and risks.

Time	Description
Day 2	
08:30 − 10:00	**Session 4: Artificial Intelligence (AI) (continued)** ▪ Examination of recent AI applications in the public sector. ▪ Policy recommendations for AI.
10:00 − 10:15	*Break*
10:15 − 12:00	**Session 5: Case studies by Houng Aloun Tech** ▪ Current trend of AI ▪ AI applications by Houng Aloun Tech
12:00 − 13:30	*Lunch*
13:30 − 15:00	**Session 6: Artificial Intelligence (AI) (continued)** ▪ International cooperation strategies for AI. ▪ Team Discussion: Share an example or plan of AI application in your organization, focusing on your primary concerns.
15:00 − 15:15	*Break*
15:15 − 16:00	**Session 7: Summary of Frontier ICT and AI submodule: A** ▪ Summarize of Module objectives, learning outcome, structure and policy principles for frontier ICTs ▪ Review the two-day training course and discuss how to use this module
16:00 − 16:30	**Evaluation and Closing**