

Economic and Social Commission for Western Asia

**Series of Expert Meetings on Enriching the Mechanisms for Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab region**

**The First consultative Expert Group Meeting on Digital Technologies and Pressing Issues from the 2030 Agenda**  
**Online, Monday, 27 November 2023**

**Arab States Action Programme on Advancing Digital Cooperation and Digital Development**  
**Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny, Chief of ICTPS, ADCD-ASAP in UN-ESCWA**



1

**Arab States Action Programme on Advancing Digital Cooperation and Digital Development**

Digital Cooperation + Digital Development

Internet Governance  
(Global IGF, Arab IGF, National IGFs)


Global Roadmap on Digital Cooperation & Global Digital Compact

ICT 4 Development  
WSIS Process.  
Digital for SD

© Copyright ESCWA. All rights reserved. No part of this presentation in all its property may be used or reproduced in any form without written permission

2

All of the **Digital** X All of the **Sustainable Development**

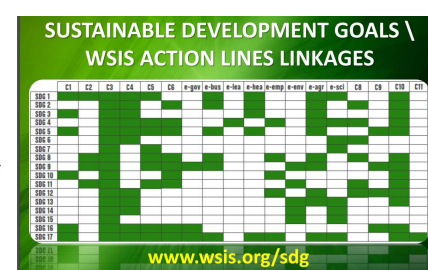


© Copyright ESCWA. All rights reserved. No part of this presentation in all its property may be used or reproduced in any form without written permission

3

All of the **Digital** X All of the **Sustainable Development**

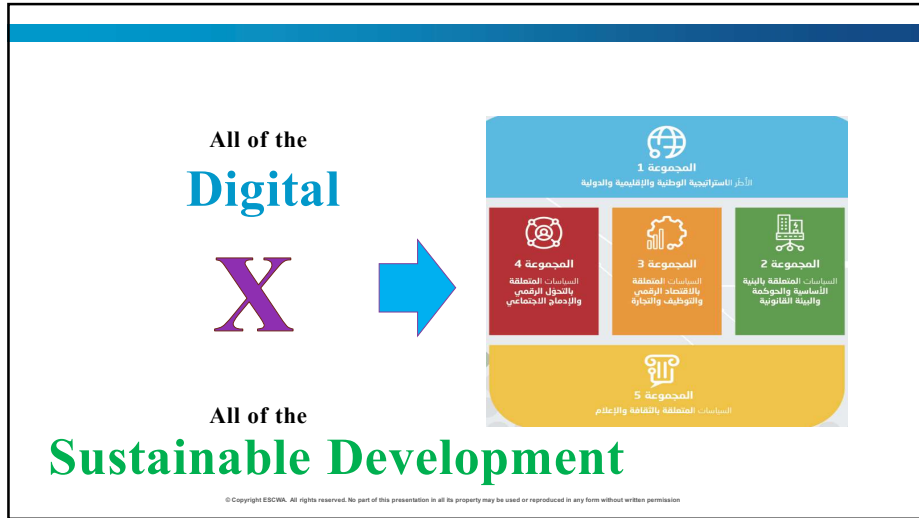
➔



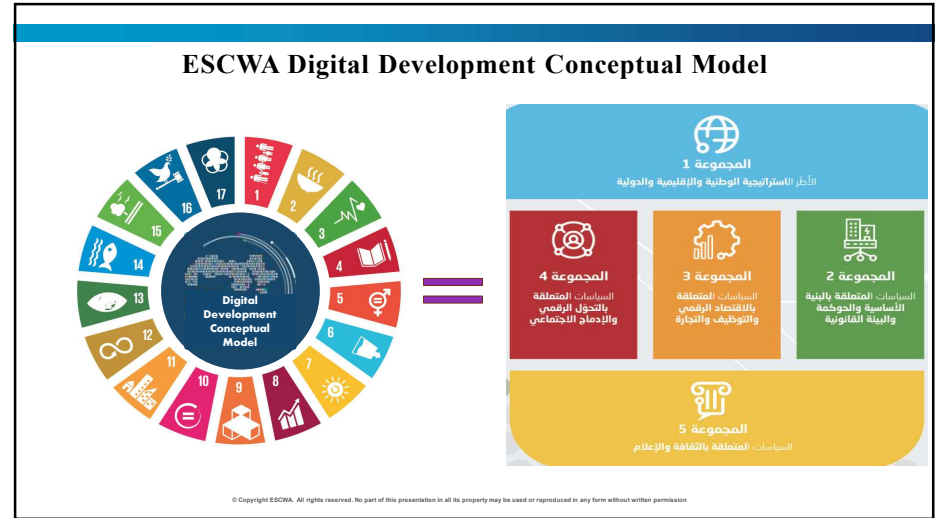
[www.wsis.org/sdg](http://www.wsis.org/sdg)

© Copyright ESCWA. All rights reserved. No part of this presentation in all its property may be used or reproduced in any form without written permission

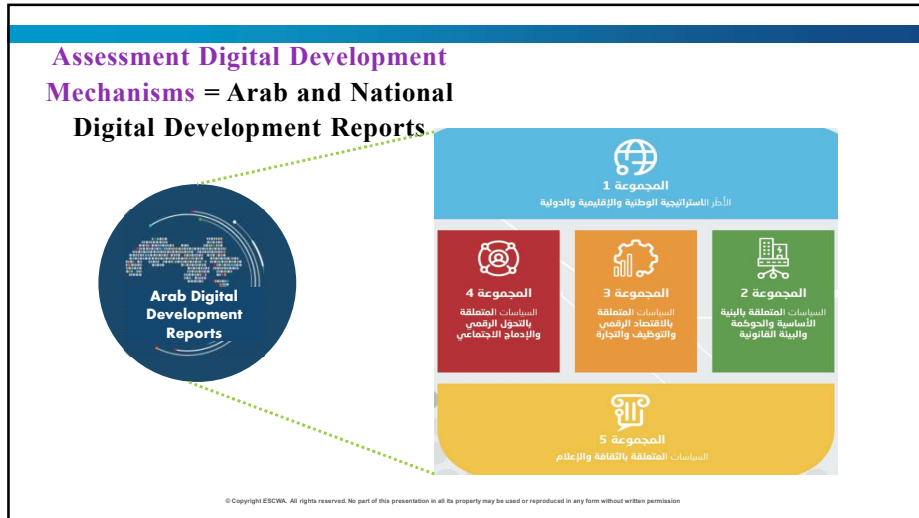
4



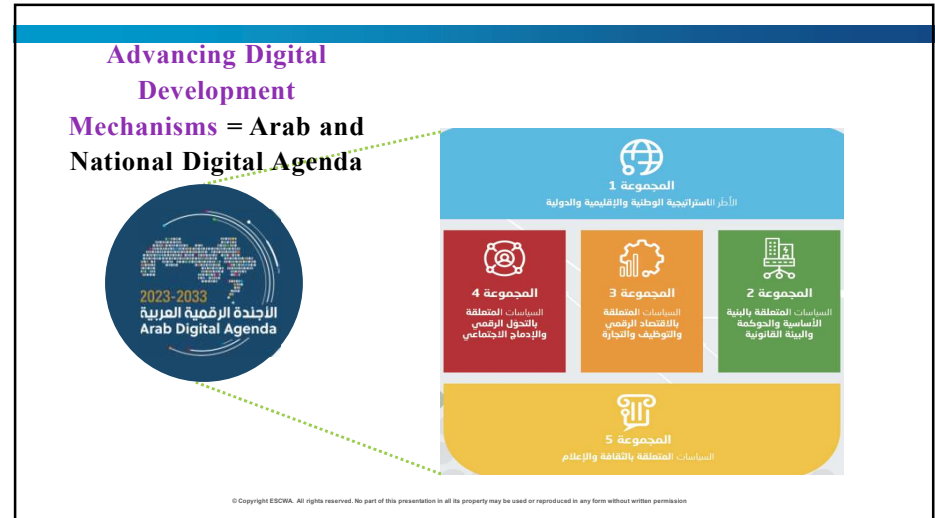
5



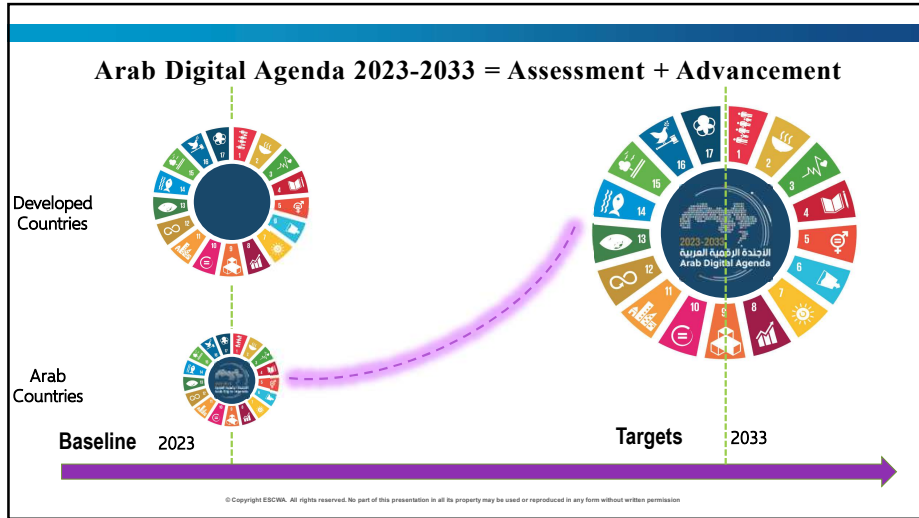
6



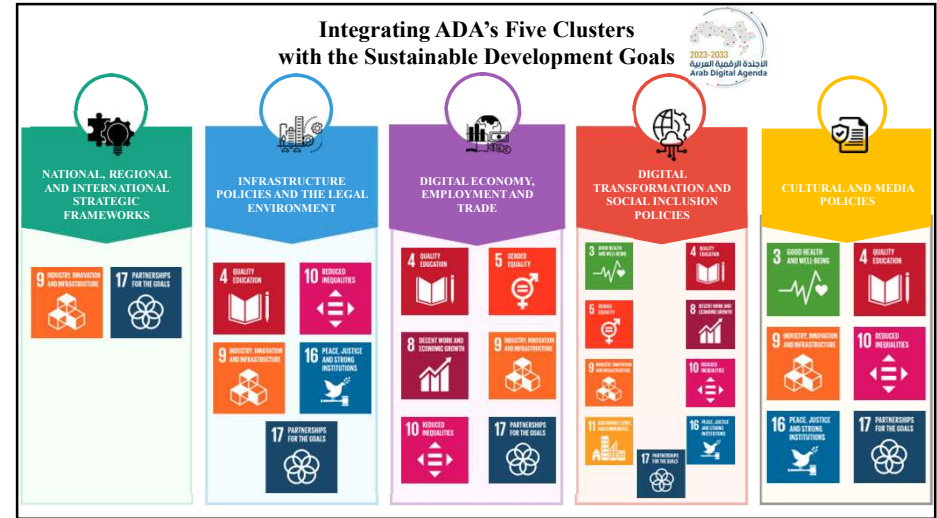
7



8



9



10

### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals

ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Develop comprehensive digital development strategies at the regional and national levels that keep pace with global developments and allow for monitoring of progress.	Goal 1.1																		
	Goal 1.2																		
Enhance effective and influential participation in international and regional cooperation tracks.	Goal 2.1																		
Maximize competitiveness and strengthen regulation in the telecommunications sector in Arab countries.	Goal 2.2																		


11

### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals

ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Improve access to basic telecommunications services.	Goal 2.3																		
Improve Internet speed for users and increase the benefits from Internet services and content.	Goal 2.4																		
Develop the infrastructure of Internet networks and the structure of interconnection at the national and regional levels.	Goal 2.5																		
Activate the use of digital signature services and electronic transactions at the national and regional levels.	Goal 2.6																		
Personal data protection of users.	Goal 2.7																		
Enhance cybersecurity in the Arab region.	Goal 2.8																		

12


### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals



ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Classify companies operating in the ICT sector and avail their data.	Goal 3.1																		
Encourage investment in ICT companies.	Goal 3.2																		
Activate and revitalize R&D efforts in the ICT field.	Goal 3.3																		
Monitor the contribution of the ICT sector to the national economy.	Goal 3.4																		
Promote the ICT sector in the Arab region.	Goal 3.5																		
Enhance ICT use in the various productive sectors activities.	Goal 3.6																		
Promote exports of ICT goods and services in Arab countries.	Goal 3.7																		
Expand the e-commerce market in Arab	Goal																		

13


### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals



ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Positive adoption of digital currencies in accordance with a beneficial legal framework for the economy.	Goal 3.9																		
Develop individuals' ICT skills.	Goal 3.10																		
Increase remote work opportunities.	Goal 3.11																		
Increase companies productivity by developing the capacities of employees in ICT.	Goal 3.12																		
Enable broadband Internet access at reasonable prices.	Goal 4.1																		
Promote Internet access for all segments of society, especially women.	Goal 4.2																		

14


### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals



ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Strengthen digital accessibility for persons with disabilities in the Arab region and enable them to access e-services.	Goal 4.3																		
Empower youth through meaningful use of the Internet.	Goal 4.4																		
Enhance and improve access of schools, health and community centres to the Internet, especially in rural and remote areas.	Goal 4.5																		
Maximize the benefits of ICT in the education sector.	Goal 4.6																		
Develop integrated e-government infrastructure and services in Arab countries.	Goal 4.7																		

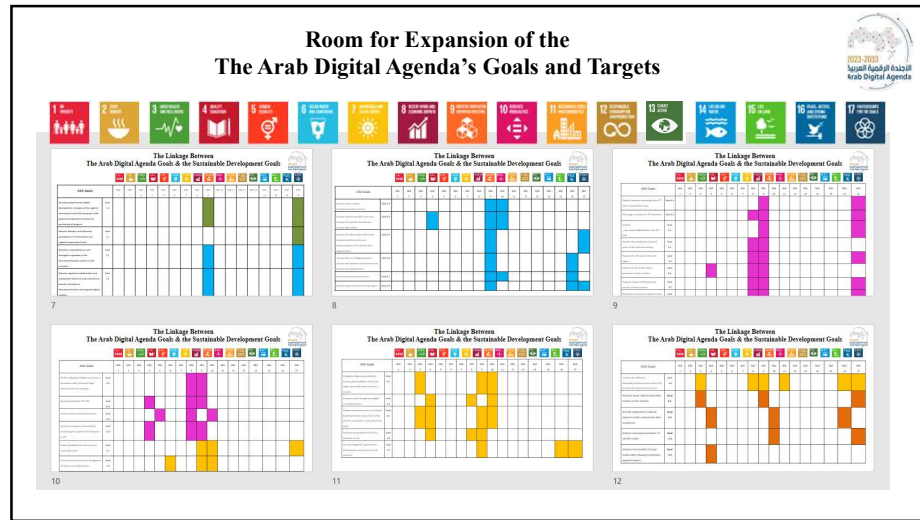
15

### The Linkage Between The Arab Digital Agenda Goals & the Sustainable Development Goals

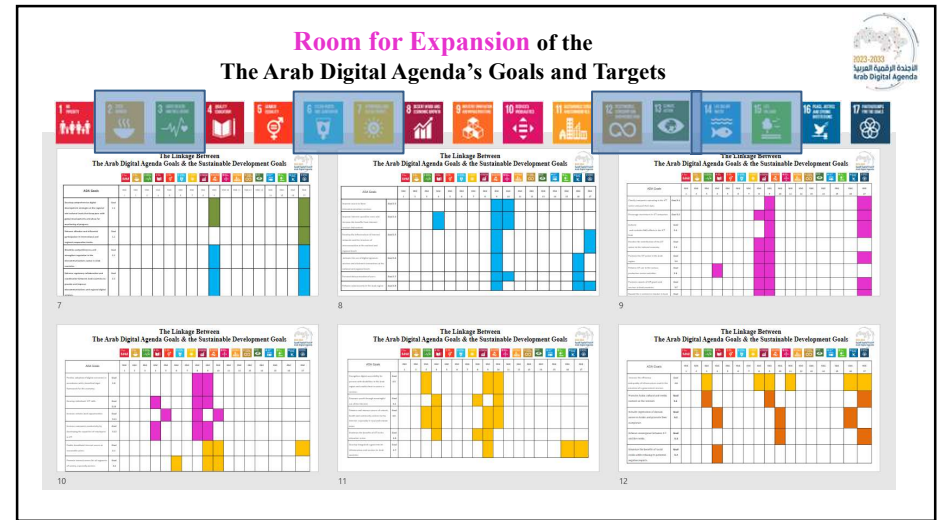


ADA Goals		SDG 1	SDG 2	SDG 3	SDG 4	SDG 5	SDG 6	SDG 7	SDG 8	SDG 9	SDG 10	SDG 11	SDG 12	SDG 13	SDG 14	SDG 15	SDG 16	SDG 17	
Increase the efficiency and quality of infrastructure used in the provision of e-government services.	Goal 4.8																		
Promote Arabic cultural and media content on the Internet.	Goal 5.1																		
Activate registration of domain names in Arabic and promote their acceptance.	Goal 5.2																		
Achieve convergence between ICT and the media.	Goal 5.3																		
Maximize the benefits of social media while reducing its potential negative impacts.	Goal 5.4																		

16



17



18



19

	United Nations	
<p><b>E</b></p> <p>Date: LIMITED</p> <p>ESCWA/CLA/HT/2023/WO/5.1 27 November 2023</p> <p>Series of Expert Meetings on Enriching the Mechanisms for Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab Region</p> <p>The First Consultative Experts Meeting on Digital Technologies and Pressing Issues from the 2030 Agenda Cairo, 27 November 2023</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Draft Agenda</b></p> <p><b>13:00 – 13:20</b> Opening Session Welcome remarks ESCWA statement League of Arab States statement Interventions on Advancing Digital Cooperation and Development, Arab States Action Programme (ASACP - ASAP) and overview of the agenda Mr. Ayman El Sheikhy, Chair of ICT Policies and Digital Development ESCWA</p> <p><b>13:20 – 13:40</b> Session 1 – Review of Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab States and related Tools Facilitator: Mr. Mohamed Faraj Expert: Digital Development and Digital Cooperation in the Arab Region Presentations on the Remarks of the Mechanisms for Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab Region Overview of the Guiding Manual and Digital Development Reports Mr. Mervat El-Feghaly, Regional Representative Office ESCWA Overview of the Digital Development Management and Monitoring Model Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA</p> <p><b>13:40 – 13:50</b> Break</p>	<p><b>13:50 – 14:00</b> Background on the Arab Digital Agenda 2023-2033 Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA Arab States Action Programme (ASACP)</p> <p><b>14:00 – 14:10</b> Discussion about proposed presentations (10 minutes)</p> <p><b>14:10 – 14:15</b> Session 2 – Digital Technology and Selected Pressing Issues from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (17)</p> <p><b>14:10 – 14:50</b> Facilitator: Mr. Ayman El Sheikhy, Chair of ICT Policies and Digital Development ESCWA Digital Technology and Climate Change (10 minutes) Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA AI and Youth, Youth Skills and Digital Employment (10 min) Using Remote Sensing Data and Material (10 minutes) Models to Assess the Impact of Climate Change on Water and Agricultural Sectors Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA Priority for emerging digital technologies (10 minutes) AI for Digital Inclusion, Management Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA Digital Solutions for Agri-food Systems in the Arab Region: Challenges and Opportunities Mr. Mohamed Lazzari, Assistant Administrator, United Nations Regional Office for the Arab States (UNROA) ESCWA The Other Side of Digital Transformation (10 minutes) Mr. Mohamed El-Mekki, Regional Representative Office for the Arab Region Discussion about the proposed research questions on the upcoming version of the evaluation and planning tool inspired from proposed presentations (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>14:50 – 15:10</b> Break</p>	<p><b>15:15 – 16:00</b> Session 3 – Digital Technology and Selected Pressing Issues from the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (17)</p> <p><b>15:15 – 16:00</b> Session 3 Development in Environmental Statistics (10 minutes) Mr. Waleed Hamed, Lead of Economic and Development Statistics, Economic, Social and Technology Officer ESCWA The Role of Emerging Technologies in Sustainable Development Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA Innovation Safety and Technology Officer ESCWA Space Technology for the Sustainable Development Goals (10 minutes) Mr. Iyad El-Feghaly, Lead Data Applications Officer ESCWA Discussion about the proposed research questions on the upcoming version of the evaluation and planning tool inspired from proposed presentations (15 minutes)</p> <p><b>16:00 – 16:15</b> Break</p> <p><b>16:15 – 17:00</b> Closing Session – Conclusions and summaries drawn from the discussions of the previous sessions Lead of ESCWA's Working Paper on the Integration of Environmental Issues in Regional Digital Agendas Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA Arab States Action Programme (ASACP)</p> <p><b>17:00 – 17:15</b> Session 4 Conclusions and proposed research questions for possible inclusion in the updated version of the Framework and Tool for Assessing and Advancing Digital Development in the Arab Region ESCWA/CLA/HT/2023/WO/5.1 Discussion about the proposed research questions and inspired from the sessions (10 minutes) Mr. Rami Zamel, Lead and Technology Officer ESCWA End of the Meeting</p>

20

**Thank you**

**Mr. Ayman El-Sherbiny**  
**Chief of ICT Policies Section & ADCD-ASAP**  
**UN-ESCWA**

© Copyright ESCWA. All rights reserved. No part of this presentation is all its property may be used or reproduced in any form without written permission