# Work Plan for the Year 2022
**Co-Chairmanship:** ITU and UNECE

The objective of the **United Nations Group on Digital Transformation for Europe and Central Asia (UN-DTG4ECA)** is to provide a regional platform for UN agencies to :

    i. Facilitate **cooperation and collaboration** between different UN agencies in the field of digital transformation, realizing synergies among related areas of work and contributing to the relevant platforms, processes, conferences, etc.;

    ii. Promote coordinated UN support to Member States in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda through ICTs, while providing **support to the UN Country Teams (UNCTs)** on digital transformation issues;

    iii. Strengthen **information sharing on activities of UN System** in Europe and Central Asia in field of digital transformation and their impact on the advancing achievement of SDGs;

    iv. Provide support to the work of the **Issues Based Coalitions and Knowledge Hub** of the UN System for Europe and Central Asia, with focus on digital transformation, while keeping track and providing regular updates on the information of new technologies and trends which may be utilized as SDG enablers and accelerators.

**The following presents a draft work plan for the year 2022:**

1. **Cooperation and Collaboration**
   Joint advocacy on multistakeholder, cross-sectoral, and inter-agency coordination as a key to capturing the enabling potential of ICTs in achieving the SDGs in the ECA region, positioning priorities at the regional and global levels, and aligning the implementation with the UN Processes (including WSIS and 2030 Agenda), including through contributing to regional intergovernmental processes. This includes but is not limited to:
   - Organization of high-level peer-learning roundtable in the RFSD 2022 for the UNECE Region, aiming to:
     - Review the achievement of the SDG17 targets related to Internet connectivity and technology;
     - Strengthen and promote the development of digital society and economy through multistakeholder partnerships;
     - Identify challenges, opportunities and required policy actions related to four pillars intrinsic to the SDG 17: ) connecting people everywhere, (ii)

empowering communities, (iii) building digital ecosystems, and (iv) incentivizing investments.

- Organization of a side event in the RFSD 2022 for the UNECE Region, aiming to:
  - Address the digital component of each SDGs of focus during this year RFSD (SDG 4,5,14,15 and 17);
  - Discuss challenges, opportunities and policy actions required to grasp the potential of digital development recovering from the COVID-19 Pandemic, including lessons learned from it, and adaption to a new normal.
- Both sessions will also contribute to the 2022 World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum;
- Mainstreaming of a human-centered approach for digital development and advocacy of the role of ICTs to advance the 2030 Agenda throughout the RFSD.

2. **Support to the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) and Resident Coordinators (RCs)**
   Strengthen information sharing on activities of the UN System in Europe and Central Asia in the field of digital transformation and their impact on advancing achievement of the SDGs:

   Promote coordinated UN support to Member States in their implementation of the 2030 Agenda through ICTs, while providing support to the UN Country Teams (UNCTs) on digital transformation issues; including through flagship multiagency initiatives and projects.

- Based on identified priorities of RCs and UNCTs across the regions: Elaboration of a reference document on connectivity in rural areas, including digital agriculture.
- Based on identified priorities of RCs and UNCTs across the regions: Elaboration of a reference document providing an overview on the current approaches of the UN agencies in supporting countries to develop digital skills.
- ITU-UNICEF Joint initiative on 'Connectivity in Education': Support governments in identifying persistent gaps in high-quality Internet connectivity for schools and to promote a favorable environment for investments in school connectivity and the infrastructure underpinning it by engaging with relevant stakeholders at the local, regional, and international levels. In particular, through the organization of national workshops upon the request of member states in close cooperation with UNICEF Country Offices and UN Country Teams, as well as leverage through the ITU-UNICEF Giga Initiative;
- ITU-FAO joint initiative on digital agriculture: Elaboration of guidelines for pre-accession countries on meeting the EU requirements in terms of digitalization of

agriculture. After which, national workshops will be held upon the request of member states, in close cooperation with FAO country offices and UN Country Teams.

- In addition to the above, provide demand-driven support to UNCTs and RCs.

Support to the UNCTs in their response to the impact of the war in Ukraine:

i. Elaboration of a background document presenting the UN System response related to digital and ICTs, providing support during the war and/or the recovery of the impact of the war.
    a. This document will intend to present a 'One UN'-coordinated approach through centralizing UN's ongoing and planned activities, projects and programs as well as analytical work addressing digital development recovery/ sustainable recovery (including humanitarian response) using ICT and digital tools, services, and infrastructures.
    b. This document will aim to be circulated to UNCTs and relevant partners, providing information on how the UN can support, as well as provide an invitation to scale up some activities (inter alia supporting to leverage necessary funds);
ii. Organization of a meeting with the regional DCO/ RCO to identify the priorities of the UNCT.

3. **Information Sharing on activities of UN System**
   - Update and dissemination of the Group's ICTs Solutions Stocktaking Report: This report presents a selection of recent ICT-based projects of the United Nations agencies in two categories: the regional and the country-specific levels. This way, providing the knowledge basis for national and regional stakeholders on initiatives that have the potential to be scaled up to advance digital transformation in the region.

4. **Support to the work of the Issues Based Coalitions (IBCs) and Knowledge Hub**
   - Regular reviews of the work of IBCs with particular focus on digital transformation, including via liaison officer established to facilitate the communication between the Group and each of the IBCs;
   - Repository of UN studies and report related to the digital transformation in ECA region.