Thematic Work shop: Digital Resilience for COVID-19 Mitigation, Response and Recovery – Practical Lessons Learned

Wednesday, 31st March 2021: 14:00 - 15:00 CEST

Description of the Session:

Digital resilience has recently been elevated to a global priority for governments, businesses, development agencies and society at large, due to the vital and versatile role technology is playing to support COVID-19 response and recovery. In this new reality, resilience building is fundamental as disruptions and uncertainties will increase in frequency and magnitude due to future public health crises, climate-related disasters and geopolitical events.

Resilience can be defined as the ability of nations, communities, organizations and individuals to withstand, recover from, adapt to, and potentially transform amid change and uncertainty. Resilience includes looking at the ability to "bounce back better" or "bounce forward" by improving the physical, economic, social, political and environmental conditions during the recovery process to further strengthen resilience and agility.

This pandemic has further marked the indispensability of new technologies as a lifeline for individuals and organizations. These technologies serve as an essential force in curbing the spread of COVID-19 and accelerating research in treatments and vaccines. At the same time, the pandemic has clearly exposed the inequalities in access to digital technologies, as well as major technological challenges that have yet to be addressed. Around the world, women, senior citizens, persons with disabilities, ethnic minorities, indigenous groups, migrants, refugees, internally displaced people and poor people are disproportionately devoid of access to digital technologies.

This session will highlight the urgent need for governments to holistically create digital resilience playing close consideration to the multiple dimensions, which address interoperable infrastructure, operating models and processes, particularly examining data privacy, security and safety between the cloud and earth. The international speakers will provide a unique insight into their enabling policies, innovative operations and collaborations that have provided resilience through the pandemic for areas such as food systems; test, track, trace and treat, ecommerce and business continuity, remote education systems and human resilience.

Moderator:

1. **Dr Salma Abbasi,** Chairperson and CEO, eWorldwide Group (eWWG)

Speakers and Panelists:

1. **HE Dr Amina Abubakar Bello,** First Lady, Niger State, Republic of Nigeria
2. **Mr. Rezwanul Haque Jami,** eCommerce Lead, a2i, Government of Bangladesh
3. **Dr. Rajendra Kumar,** Additional Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and IT, Government of India
4. **Dr. Wang-jun Lee,** Chairman, Myongji Hospital, South Korea
5. **Ms. Sarah Pinnock,** Prevent Coordinator, Luton, Government of UK
6. **Dr. Stefan Sauermann,** Program Director MME, UAS Technikum Wien, Austria
7. **Mr. Sameer Sharma,** Senior Advisor, ITU

Moderator

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Chairperson and CEO, eWorldwide
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Mr. Sameer Sharma
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Registration Link for Participants: https://itu.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_t_LuLPSRR-eBrrH6G5ePdQ

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