



3rd Technical Workshop on ITSAS GIS

UN House, Beirut- Lebanon, 21-22 March 2023

Concept Note

1. Background

The Integrated Transport System in the Arab States (ITSAS) platform was built by ESCWA and IsDB to facilitate the follow-up on the implementation of existing international rail and road agreements in the Arab region and provide a full picture of how airports, ports, border crossings, and logistics zones perform. This platform will allow for determining the actual level of service and safety of transport infrastructure and facilities and tracking the flow of goods between the region's countries. It will assist the Arab countries as well in strategic planning and anticipating future demands on transport and logistics between them.

ESCWA and IsDB have previously cooperated in implementing several training workshops on ITSAS GIS. The first workshop, organized on July 10–11, 2019, tested the applicability and maneuverability of the GIS tool towards officials representing the Ministries of Transport in the Arab region in terms of data filling, updating and analyzing, displaying query results, and sought the feedback of the participants on the feasibility of the approach. A second training workshop was organized on December 18–19, 2019 to assist ESCWA member States in updating their GIS maps. Besides, IsDB funded the ITSAS-GIS user guide that was prepared by ESCWA for guiding the focal points on data collection, analysis, and reporting on the ITSAS platform that is powered by the GIS cloud.

The [23rd Session of the ESCWA Committee on Transport and Logistics](#) requested that ESCWA continues its cooperation and coordination with the Islamic Development Bank (IsDB) to hold new training workshops for national coordinators of the **Integrated Transport System in the Arab States (ITSAS)** project.

In cooperation with the IsDB, ESCWA is planning to organize a 3rd training workshop on ITSAS GIS on March 21–22, 2023. This training workshop will be implemented as a follow-up activity to the 23rd session ESCWA Committee on Transport and Logistics to support the completion of filling out the required data to feed the system platform and building the analytical capabilities of the coordinators using the GIS cloud for the follow-up and assessment of the performance of the Arab region's transport networks.

II. Workshop Objectives

The technical workshop aims at achieving the following objectives:

- To review and validate the data entered by focal points.
- To complete participants' training on GIS tools to make queries and analyze data.
- To train the participants on how to use the analytical capability of GIS to analyze the performance of transport networks at both national and regional levels.
- To explain the use of GIS cloud for future transportation applications.

III. Activities during the workshop

- PowerPoint Presentations
- Online handling of GIS tools under the supervision of trainers
- Round table discussion

IV. Outputs of the workshop

- Participants will improve their skills in entering and updating data attributes of GIS networks in the relevant countries and making queries and analyses on the status of transport network components in the ESCWA region.
- Participants will learn how to use the analytical capability of GIS to analyze the performance of transport networks at both national and regional levels.
- Participants' recommendations will be addressed to develop the regional GIS tool.

V. Venue and duration

The technical workshop will be held at the UN House in Beirut on 21 and 22 March 2023.

VI. Contact Persons

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