



Asia-Pacific 4.0

Harnessing the Fourth Industrial Revolution for Sustainable Development in Asia and the Pacific



Automation, AI and the innovations of the **Fourth Industrial Revolution** are penetrating everything from cars, garment and electronics manufacturing to business processes, logistics and healthcare.

How countries in **Asia and the Pacific** embrace and adapt to these changes will determine whether the region can sustain its rapid **economic and social development** of the past half-century.

ASIA RISK ATLAS

Asia's development "miracle", from Japan to the East Asian Tigers and China, was built on manufacturing sectors now at risk of automation.

SOURCES: EIU, ILO, VARIOUS



5 GENDER EQUALITY



Some Asian nations could lose more than 80% of their garment, textile and apparel manufacturing jobs, as "sewbots" replace humans in factories. In the ASEAN region, it is women who comprise the majority of the 9 million people dependent on jobs in these sectors.

UNDP partnered with the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to review the likely implications of Fourth Industrial Revolution on progress towards the SDGs in the Asia-Pacific region.

The resulting analysis identifies the region's risk flashpoints, the channels through which risks might constrain SDG progress, and, critically, the ways that new technologies might be harnessed to advance rather than hinder sustainable development.

The Economist INTELLIGENCE UNIT

Our research maps the Sustainable Development Goals directly affected by AI and Automation in Asia and the Pacific.

THREATS

1 NO POVERTY



- High Unemployment
- End of Export-led Manufacturing
- Reduced Tax base

4 QUALITY EDUCATION



- Obsolete Curricula
- Widening Gap between Low and High-skilled
- Reduced Education Budgets

16 PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS



- Disinformation
- Increased Cyber-terrorism risk
- AI-based Citizen Surveillance

OPPORTUNITIES

- More efficient social protection
- AI, Big Data -enabled fin-tech
- New livelihoods in gig economy

- Low-cost e-learning
- AI optimizes investments
- Speech recognition for learning

- Blockchain powered citizen data management
- Stronger vigilance against rights violations

THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development

Revamp Institutions and Policy Tools

Systems-thinking, Strategic Foresight and Innovation enable policies that will future-proof economic and social progress

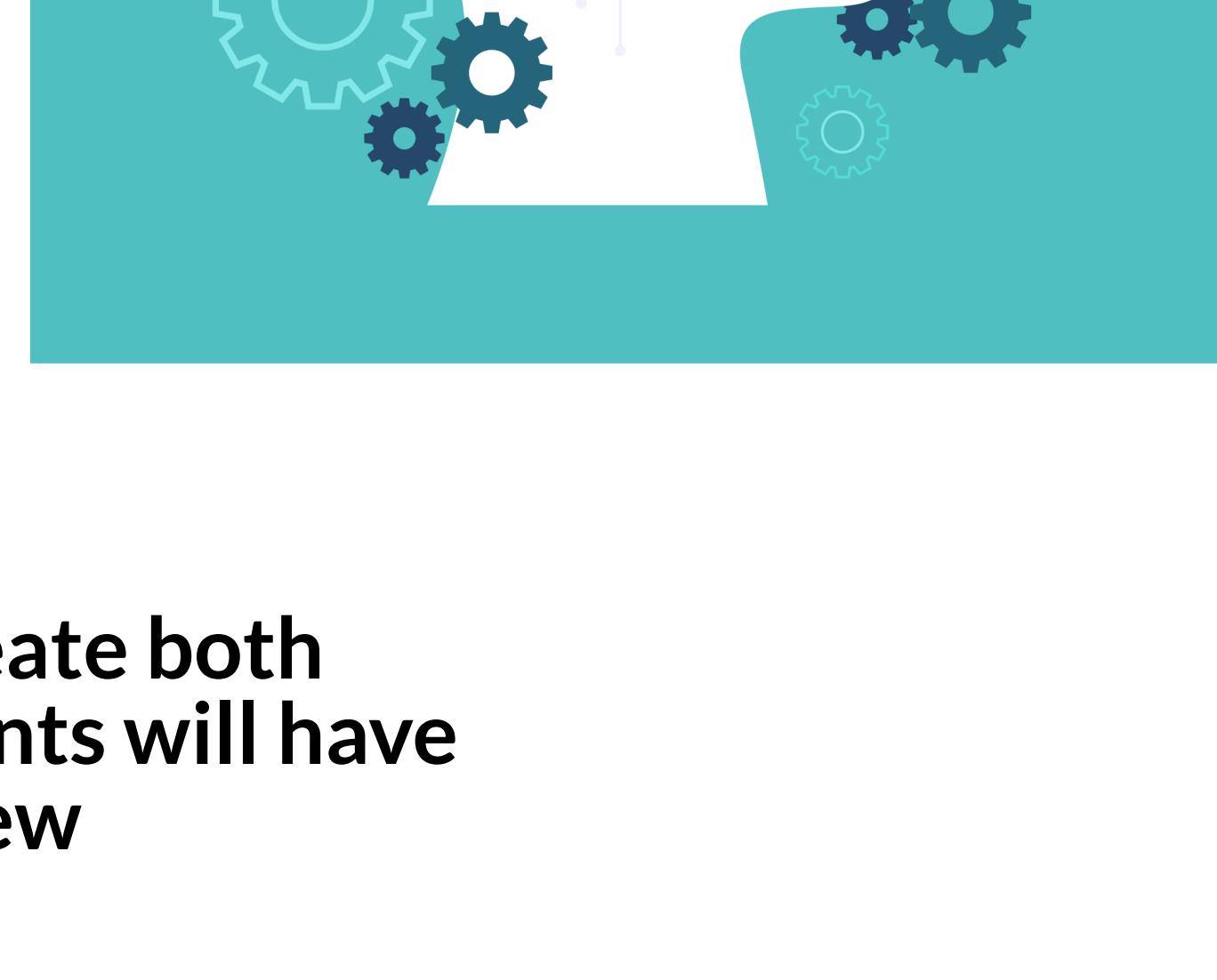
Create a Tech-driven economy

New technologies can drive economic growth that is decoupled from environmental degradation

Widen Social Protection

Technological progress will create both winners and losers. Governments will have to tailor social protection to new economic trends and realities.

A NEW POLICY AGENDA



Transform Public Services

Technology helps governments provide wider coverage and increase the overall efficiency of public services.

Reimagine Inclusive Civic Engagement

Citizens expect higher level of participation in decision-making, and tech makes this possible.

Finance a Better Future

Revenue sources will change, and governments will have to make a paradigm shift to taxing wealth rather than income.