

UN TECHNOLOGY BANK FOR THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

Highlights from 2024



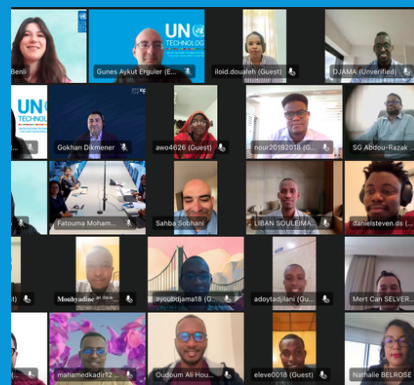
◆ The **Technology Needs Assessment (TNA) for Lao PDR** was kicked-off in January 2024. The technical team undertook a mission to the country in March 2024 to inform the TNA process and discuss the key sectors of focus. The TNA will map the country's development challenges and identify technologies to address them.

◆ 2024 has already seen many important conferences taking place, such as the **Antalya Diplomacy Forum** and the **LDC Future Forum**. The Technology Bank joined to advocate for the special needs of LDCs, showcase its work in the areas of the TNAs, technology transfer, capacity building and strengthen new and existing partnerships.

TNA Kickoff Meeting for Lao PDR

Visit of the UN RC of Türkiye, Mr. Babatunde Ahonsi

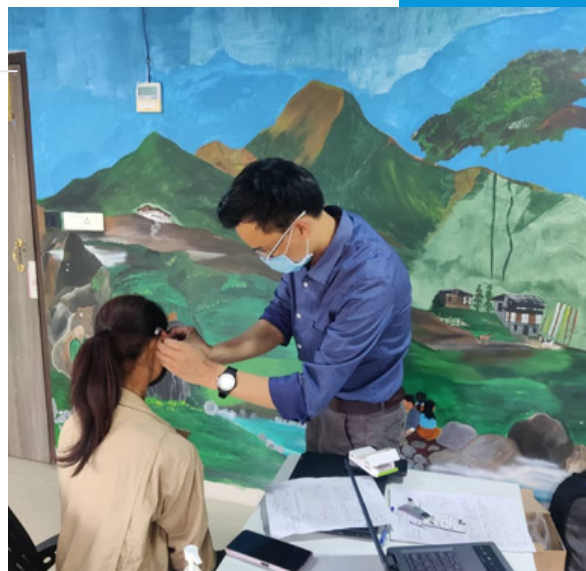
Closing Ceremony of the 2024 Frontier Tech Leader's Programme



Hear, Listen and Speak' Programme for All Bhutanese Children

The Programme aims to implement the national rollout of screening to all 20 districts in 2024, along with expansion to monastic institutions, including initiating discussions with the Government on the sustainability of the programme for 2025. To date, the programme has;

- ◆ screened over **76,000 school children** in nine districts
- ◆ treated over **2,000 children**
- ◆ trained **250 school health coordinators**
- ◆ trained **20 audiologists and ENT technicians**
- ◆ transferred over **100 screening devices & equipment**
- ◆ provided **600 hearing aids** donated by GN ReSound and Hear the World Foundation



Post-Harvest Loss Management of Cashews in The Gambia



The project was kicked-off in February with initial discussions with **The Gambia Cashew Alliance and Farmers**, and will be implemented in collaboration with the **Ministry of Higher Education, Research, Science and Technology** and **TUBITAK MAM**. Field visits in-country are planned for April 2024, to proceed with the next steps. We were also grateful to meet H.E. Mr. Mamadou Tangara, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of the Republic of The Gambia at the Antalya Diplomacy Forum this month to further discuss the progress and planned activities for the implementation of the project.

Snapshot of our activities in 2023

◆ The Fifth United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries took place in March 2023, with the **Doha Programme of Action** for the LDCs for the decade 2022 to 2031 identified the UN Technology Bank as a **focal point for the Least Developed Countries**, on science, technology and innovation-related issues.

◆ The Eighth Session of the Governing Council of the Technology Bank took place in December 2023, with the Chairperson, Vice Chairpersons and Rapporteur being elected during this session, and key decisions taken on the programme of work for 2024. Learn more about our Council Members [here](#).



The support that the Technology Bank provides to the least developed countries is currently focused in four thematic areas derived from the 14 Technology Needs Assessments that the Technology Bank has completed to date. These include:

1. Agriculture and food systems
2. Environment, climate change and resilience
3. Health; and
4. Education and digital skills development



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