"When it is obvious that the goals cannot be reached, don't adjust the goals. ADJUST THE ACTION STEPS!"

CONFUCIUS

THE DIGITAL SILK ROAD
Digital Economy Benchmark for Common Prosperity
The Premise

For the first time ever, the Digital Economy became a key policy recommendation by the B20 and was adopted in the 2015 Turkey G20 Leaders final communiqué. Furthermore, the 2016 China G20 adopted the Digital Economy Development and Cooperation Initiative as a key policy directive to achieve sustainable growth and this led to the creation of the 2016 B20 Germany Digitalization Task Force.

Based on the G20 Nations Case Study, the G20 citizens have defined the digital tools they need in order to do a better job on the ground level towards achieving common prosperity.

Under the protection of the international community, digital industry leaders have committed to deliver the defined Digital Economy, at no cost to the end user.

The custodians of the world economy recognize that the Digital Economy has the potential to increase global GDP by about 17% creating nearly 310 million jobs across the world by 2030.

Following 15 years of Research & Development, a Public Private Partnership involving more than 150 governments through their pan regional representatives, 26 NGOs / IGOs and the world’s leading Technology firms operating in 130 countries servicing 60% of the world’s GDP have united together to achieve sustained economic growth for all nations by empowering the Digital Economy.

Strong support is marked at the regional level with APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) committed to leverage the growing interdependence of its 21 member economies to create greater prosperity for the region by promoting balanced, inclusive, sustainable innovative and secure growth by accelerating regional economic integration.

This premise is strongly supported by country leaders. President Xi Jinping of China has proposed building an internet governance system which features a multilateral approach with multi-party participation. Prime Minister Modi of India has urged the nation to embrace Digital Economy. President Widodo of Indonesia has remarked that Indonesia has high potential to develop Digital Economy.
The Action

The Digital Silk Road (DSR) connecting China, ASEAN (represented by Indonesia), and India, powered by India, will encompass nearly 45% of the world’s population and serve as a benchmark trade lane for the global economy.

The DSR will assist to implement the G20 Leaders’ policy directives by providing the tools defined by the G20 citizens in collaboration with the digital industry leaders delivering what technology can make possible today to the end users around the world, at no cost.

The DSR benchmark trade lane is planned to be delivered over a 9-month period and includes governments, sellers/buyers, finance/insurance, and logistics service providers - everyone participating in the trade pipeline from shelf to shelf.
The Benefits

The DSR can serve as the first step in establishing a solid foundation to rebalance the global economy providing significant benefits, including but not limited to:

Benefits to the World
- Reduce annual domestic & international trade cost by USD 3.7 trillion
- Reduce business operating costs by up to 15%
- Increase trade by USD 7.7 trillion
- Provide a USD 6 trillion market opportunity for the services industry
- De-risk the conduct of business to enlarge the global market place
- Reduce the carbon footprint and enhance cargo security
- Speed disaster relief response and heighten food safety
- Create a USD 1 trillion SME fund and generate nearly 310 million jobs

Benefits to China
- Reduce annual domestic & international trade cost by USD 828 billion
- Increase trade by USD 941 billion
- Create 44 million new jobs
- Minimize economic dependency on high-income countries

Benefits to India
- Reduce annual domestic & international trade cost by USD 73 billion
- Increase trade by USD 365 billion
- Create 17 million new jobs

Benefits to ASEAN
- Reduce annual domestic & international trade cost by USD 261 billion
- Increase trade by USD 399 billion
- Generate greater foreign direct investment
- Create 27 million new jobs

Benefits to Indonesia
- Reduce annual domestic & international trade cost by USD 104 billion
- Increase trade by USD 159 billion
- Create 10.6 million new jobs