



## Digital Technologies and Older Persons: A smart mix

February 8, 2021  
9:00am-10:30am (EST)

# Concept Note

## CONTEXT

The [59th session of the Commission for Social Development](#) will take place from 8 to 17 February 2021 at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. The theme of the Commission *Socially just transition towards sustainable development: the role of digital technologies on social development and well-being of all* could not be timelier, as digital technologies have become a ubiquitous and key tool in navigating COVID-19 pandemic response and recovery efforts. The Commission presents a key global platform for development leaders to engage with a wide range of stakeholders in a policy dialogue on social issues for implementation of the internationally agreed development goals. The [AARP-United Nations Briefing Series](#) place a spotlight on global ageing and catalyze political momentum to influence action and delivery.

## EVENT OBJECTIVE

The 14th annual AARP-United Nations Briefing Series, organized by AARP and DESA in collaboration with ITU and the United Nations Independent Expert on the human rights of older persons, aims to examine how to ensure the inclusion of older people's rights, needs, interests and perspectives in efforts of the international community to optimize the use of digital technologies and mitigate its risks. In doing so, the event will engage new and current partners in a discussion to highlight the challenges faced by and opportunities for older people in digital inclusion; digital capacity building and ensuring that digital products, policies and practices comply with human rights standards and protections of older people.

## AUDIENCE

The event will host over 100 participants, including heads of delegations from ministries of social development and ambassadors to the United Nations, bringing their unique perspectives to the discussion. They will be joined by representatives from the private sector, national human rights institutions, civil society and UN entities.

## FORMAT

Given that the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic and associated limitations on the holding of in-person meetings at UNHQ is anticipated to continue in early 2021, the event will be conducted virtually. It will bring together high-level speakers in an interactive moderator-driven panel discussion.

*For further information, please contact:*

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