First Session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Steering Committee, 1-2 November 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

DRAFT SUBMISSION OF [SRI LANKA]
Broadband Priorities for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway Master Plan
[10/25/2017]

Objective: This form is sent to the representative of each country in order to prioritise activities and better align broadband connectivity gaps with solutions. All country submissions will be consolidated as per AP-IS Pillar and subregion to develop an implementation plan for 2018 and will be presented by the Secretariat during the First Session of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway (AP-IS) Steering Committee, 1-2 November 2017, Dhaka, Bangladesh. A similar template is sent to partners to identify their planned activities.

Please complete this form and submit to ESCAP (escap-ids@un.org) by **no later than 25 October 2017.**

(a). Background Information

(i). Government Ministry/Organization in charge of ICT connectivity: [Information and Communication Technology Agency of Sri Lanka]

(ii). National Broadband Policy: [Name of Policy, if applicable]

(iii). Completed/Current/planned fibre-optic broadband project: [Lanka Government Network 2.0 & Public Wi-Fi – Handled by ICTA under the mandate of Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure]

- As the main apex government institution, the ICT Agency of Sri Lanka (ICTA) is implementing connectivity and Wi-Fi Facility for 860 Government institutes to build a high available, high speed, secure, reliable and centrally managed government network with a single digital infrastructure.

Overall plan is to connect another 3500 government buildings and 4000 post offices.

LGN 2.0 initiative offers backbone with fibre optics based network 2MBps to 100Mbps last mile connectivity and Wi-Fi transmitters will be feeding off this links for each building. LGN Wi-Fi will support “IEEE 802.11 ac” standard.

First Phase of the implementation which is 860 sites will be completed by end January 2018. This will also enable access to Lanka Government Cloud.

Stakeholders of the project

1. ICTA
2. Ministry of Telecommunication and Digital Infrastructure
3. Lanka Government Information Infrastructure Ltd (LGII – Subsidiary of ICTA)

4. Sri Lanka CERT (Computer Emergency Reediness Team – Subsidiary of ICTA)
5. All government organizations in Sri Lanka (860 for year 2017 and 3xxx in 2018??)
6. All citizens of Sri Lanka
7. Service Providers (Connectivity and Wi-Fi)

- Public Wi-Fi
  Current - 600 locations; 6 telecom operators and 100MB per user/month. 300,000 registered users at the moment. This is a government/private partnership.
  Proposed - 2821 schools with 3 hotposts and 2 hotspots for public in nearest GND (smallest unit of administration in the Country)

i. Backbone connectivity
   a. 2Gbps to 10Gbps (demand based scaling)

ii. Core infrastructure development
   a. CIPA Firewall

iii. Last mile connectivity
   a. 10Mbps to 100Mbps (demand based scaling)

iv. School Wi-Fi Infrastructure development
   a. Minimum 5 Access points, PoE switches, Fiber and CAT6 cabling, racks. (demand based scaling)

v. Two Public Wi-Fi hotspots in GNDs or nearest GND

vi. Integration to existing Central user authentication and management systems of Public Wi-Fi and LGN 2.0 systems.

(b). Challenges and Opportunities on promoting broadband connectivity:

Within the scope of the AP-IS four pillars

(1). Connectivity;

(2). Internet Traffic & Network Management;
(3). E-resilience; and
(4). Broadband for all,

ESCAP member countries and partners outlined seven strategic initiatives in the AP-IS Master Plan (http://www.unescap.org/sites/default/files/pre-ods/CICTSTI1_2E_rev1.pdf) to be implemented between 2016-2018 (please refer to attached chart of AP-IS 4 Pillars and AP-IS Strategic Initiatives).

The AP-IS seven strategic initiatives are as follows:

1. Identification, coordination, deployment, expansion and integration of the regional backbone networks at the cross-border intra- and interregional levels, in collaboration with member countries and subregional organizations;
2. Establish a sufficient number of Internet exchange points at the national and subregional levels and set out common principles on Internet traffic exchange to prevent Internet traffic tromboning, decrease transit costs and improve service quality
3. Regional social and economic studies;
4. Enhancing ICT infrastructure resilience in the Asia-Pacific region;
5. Policy and regulations for leveraging existing infrastructure, technology and inclusive broadband initiatives;
6. Capacity-building; and
7. Asia-Pacific information superhighway project funding mechanism based on public-private partnerships

(c). AP-IS 7 Strategic Initiatives Implementation Plan 2016-2018: priority challenges and proposed activities

In order to match country's sub-region's and region's priorities within the scope of the AP-IS seven strategic initiatives, please complete the matrix below accordingly. Please add a row as deemed necessary.

Priority Challenges	Focus Area	AP-IS Strategic Initiatives (1-7)	AP-IS Pillars (1-4)	Remarks
Priority Challenges:	(i) Adoption - Promoting the use of LGN and Public Wi-Fi by the citizens by introducing contents, applications and eServices. ICTA has introduced 50+ eServices	(i) AP-IS Strategic Initiative 1, 2, 3, 5, 7	(i) 7 (v) AP-IS Pillar 1, 4	

	and other programs such as: 1. eSamurdhi – welfare management 2. State Land Information System 3. Cross-Government Digital Documentation 4. ePensions 5. SMART Digital Classroom 6. eHealth Hospital Management etc.. All these leads to: Providing affordable broadband connectivity to all citizens But we need more content, applications and eServices developed for this project to be successful Educational content for school children			

	Ensuring affordable universal access Assuring Ingernet safety particulary for children			
Opportunities	(i) Creating content with local language and also more eServices to attract the citizen use LGN (ii) Finding ways to increase Public Wi-Fi data quota provided to the citizens. Currently telcos are providing this service free of charge and they would not increase the data quota for free (iii) Opportunities for start ups (iv) Empowering society, particularly SMEs, housewives, marginalized			
Proposed solutions/actions	(i) Island wide roll out of projects listed above; Funding and procedural bottlenecks a constraint (ii) Ensure wider adoption by awareness building among stakeholders.			
(d). Update to terrestrial/submarine fibre-optic cable projects: Based on the ESCAP/ITU interactive transmission map (access via link: http://www.unescap.org/our-work/ict-disaster-risk-reduction/asia-pacific-information-superhighway/asia-pacific-information-superhighway-maps **), please check and list down if there is any recent fibre-optic cable project completed/planned for your country, which is not reflected in the interactive map. The input provided below will be used to update the interactive map accordingly.**				
(e). Any other suggestions/issues:				