Supporting Inclusive Digital Transformation for Asia and the Pacific: ADB’s Digital Technology for Development Work

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Agenda

1. Overview of DT@ADB
2. Ongoing Projects
3. Future Opportunities for Collaboration
DT for Development @ADB
Digital Development Opportunities

• Most countries recognize digital transformation as a key development strategy.

• Among potential digital investments, one of the top priorities is to have accessible, affordable and meaningful broadband connectivity, to bridge the digital divide.

• Education and training has a crucial role to play in fostering digital literacy and in upskilling the workforce.

• Crucial to foster digital entrepreneurship, innovation, and a tech startup ecosystem.

• To enable the flow of data, goods, and services, and generate investments in digital economy, a comprehensive regulatory framework, and effective policies and implementation arrangements is key.

• Governments are adopting guidance or governance frameworks on the ethical use of technologies.
Total Projects with DT Components (2010-2021 Approvals)

- Agriculture, natural resources and rural development: 93 (14%)
- Water and other urban infrastructure and services: 111 (17%)
- Transport: 76 (12%)
- Public sector management: 61 (9%)
- Industry and Trade: 44 (7%)
- Multisector: 37 (6%)
- Information and communication technology: 39 (6%)
- Finance: 25 (4%)
- Energy: 70 (11%)
- Education: 35 (5%)
- Health: 55 (9%)
- Total: 646
Digital Technology in Strategy 2030: Guiding Principles

1. Digital Transformation
   - Promote innovations using DT in partnership with the private sector
   - Support pre-feasibility studies on DT projects
   - Support pilot projects where the possibility of scaling up is high

2. Integrated Approach
   - Deliver integrated solutions through cross-sector/thematic collaboration (e.g. smart city, e-government)
   - Support cross-cutting areas (e.g. internet, digital ID, digital payment, cybersecurity, etc.)

3. Inclusive Digital Development
   - Support equitable access to digital infrastructures and technologies
   - Promote innovative technologies meeting the needs of underserved groups such as the poor, women, persons with disabilities, etc.

4. Improve Digital Safeguards
   - Support the management of privacy and security risks associated with digital technologies and platforms
   - Promote responsible use of technologies and data

5. Differentiated Approach Based on Country’s Digital Readiness and Demands
   - Conduct DT readiness assessments for DMCs
   - Provide tailored support for DMCs based on DT readiness assessment
   - Support developing digital strategies for DMCs in line with the Country Partnership Strategy
Ongoing Projects – Examples
### INVESTMENTS
- Investment in **subsea cables** to connect the Pacific Island Countries
- Loan to launch **Kacific 1** satellite for universal broadband access
- Financing to **Ooredoo Myanmar** (matured)
- Loan loan to **PNG ATH** for greenfield 4G rollout

### TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE
- **PHI New Clark City (NCC) ICT PPP Project** [Planned] [Reg Expanding Digital Connectivity and Affordability to Close the Digital Divide]: New business models for last mile connectivity; expanding investment in "dig-once" and infra-sharing; and knowledge support on policy and regulatory best practices

### KNOWLEDGE SOLUTIONS
- **Digital Connectivity and Low Earth Orbit Satellite Constellations** (Working Paper)
- [Planned] Last Mile Connectivity and Affordability Frontiers
- [Planned] Co-Deployment/Sharing of Digital Infrastructure
Digital Government Applications

**CAM**: Standardization of e-government services to support the decentralization

**MLD**: Pilot for the National Single Window System using DLT technology

**MON**: I) e-Mongolia ii) QI Investment in Ulaanbaatar (GIS and public asset management)

**NEP**: Digitalization of the business and land use registration

**ADB-GIZ Joint Initiative**: Digitalization of the whole life cycle of social protection management systems
Earth Observation and Geospatial Information System (GIS)

**ARM:** Supporting the Establishment of National Spatial Data Infrastructure

**CAM:** Sustainable Coastal and Marine Fisheries Project

**INO:** Emergency Assistance for Rehabilitation and Reconstruction

**MON:** Sustainable Fodder Management

**NEP:** Melamchi Water Supply Project – early warning system; snow modelling
Future Opportunities for Collaboration
AP-IS <> ADB's DT4D focus

Three Pillars of AP-IS Action Plan (2022 – 2026)

1. Connectivity for all
   - e-government (DESA) and e-commerce services (TIID) for digital economy
   - frontier technologies (TIID)
   - digital technology for traditional sectors (smart transport, energy, finance: TD, ED, MPFD)
   - digital for sustainable environment and society (climate change, air pollution and public health: EDD, SDD)

2. Digital technologies and applications
   - data sharing and use in cross sectoral and inter-country (SD)
   - integration of data (big data and geo statistical data)
   - framework for data protection and trust
   - digital literacy and capacity using big data

3. Digital data

Multi-partnerships