

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

**DRAFT SUBMISSION OF [ORGANIZATION]
PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES/STUDIES
[Date]**

Objective: This form is sent to the representative of each organization in order to prioritise activities and better align broadband connectivity gaps with solutions. All organization 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 ESCAP member countries 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

The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) funds research in developing countries to promote growth, reduce poverty, and drive large-scale positive change.

A Crown corporation, we support leading thinkers who advance knowledge and solve practical development problems. We provide the resources, advice, and training they need to implement and share their solutions with those who need them most. In short, IDRC increases opportunities — and makes a real difference in people’s lives.

Working with our development partners, we multiply the impact of our investment and bring innovations to more people in more countries around the world. We offer fellowships and awards to nurture a new generation of development leaders.

Our head office is located in Ottawa, Canada, while four regional offices keep us close to our work. They are located in Cairo, Egypt; Montevideo, Uruguay; Nairobi, Kenya; and New Delhi, India.

IDRC is governed by a board of up to 14 governors, whose chairperson reports to Parliament through the Minister of International Development.

IDRC was established by an act of Canada’s parliament in 1970 with a mandate “to initiate, encourage, support, and conduct research into the problems of the developing regions of the world and into the means for applying and adapting scientific, technical, and other knowledge to the economic and social advancement of those regions.”

(i). Organization: International Development Research Centre

(ii). Organization’s Focus: The International Development Research Centre (IDRC) funds research in developing countries to promote growth, reduce poverty, and drive large-scale positive change.

(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 your organization’s current and planned activities with country’s/sub-region’s/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.

| Activity/Project/Study | Description |
|------------------------|-------------|
|------------------------|-------------|

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|--|--|
| Description of the Activity/Project/Study (existing or planned) | (i) ICT Indicators for the Global South: Beyond Access (ii) Towards a Networked Economy in Myanmar (iii) Local Access Networks: Can the Unconnected Connect |
| Link of the activity/project/study to the AP-IS Strategic Initiatives (1-7) | (i) Regional social and economic studies; (ii) Regional social and economic studies; (iii) Regional social and economic studies; |
| Link of the activity/project/study to the AP-IS Pillars (1-4) | (i) Connectivity (ii) Connectivity (iii) Connectivity |
| Beneficiary Organizations/Countries of the Activity/Project/Study | (i) Multi-country; global (ii) Myanmar (iii) Multi-country; global |
| Outcome of the Activity/Project/Study for Beneficiaries | (i) Research - evidence, and analysis - on demand-side access and usage of ICTs (ii) Research – evidenc, and analysis – on demand-side access and usage of ICTs in Myamar (iii) Applied research, policy recommendations and influence around spectrum, and use cases of community-level infrastructure. |
| Timeframe of the activity/project/study | (i) Two year research project (ii) Closes Jan 2018 (iii) Two year research project |
| (iv). Any other suggestions/issues: | |
| (i) [List any suggestions] | |