

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

**DRAFT SUBMISSION OF LIRNEasia
PROJECTS/ACTIVITIES/STUDIES
22 October 2017**

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

(i). Organization: LIRNEasia, 12 Balcombe Place, Colombo 0080 Sri Lanka; rohan@lirneasia.net

(ii). Organization's Focus: Regional think tank seeking to catalyse infrastructure policy change through research in emerging Asia Pacific

(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
Description of the Activity/Project/Study (existing or planned)	(i) Crowdsourced broadband quality of service experience study (ii) Capacity building for effective policy and regulation (iii)
Link of the activity/project/study to the AP-IS Strategic Initiatives (1-7)	(i) AP-IS strategic initiative 5 (ii) AP-IS Strategic Initiative 6 (iii)
Link of the activity/project/study to the AP-IS Pillars (1-4)	(i) AP-IS pillar 4 (ii) AP-IS pillar 4 (iii)
Beneficiary Organizations/Countries of the Activity/Project/Study	(i) Myanmar Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Regulatory Agency when estd., civil society, media (ii) Myanmar Ministry of Transportation and Communication, Regulatory Agency when estd.,
Outcome of the Activity/Project/Study for Beneficiaries	(i) Improved broadband quality, diagnostic information for policy/regulatory interventions (ii) Broadband for all (iii)
Timeframe of the	(i) Ongoing from 2016, will have to be continued

activity/project/study	(ii) Ongoing from 2013, will have to be continued (iii)
(iv). Any other suggestions/issues: (i) [List any suggestions]	