



UPDATE : ASIA-PACIFIC INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY (AP-IS) INITIATIVE

ICT and Development Section
ICT and Disaster Risk Reduction Division

IMPROVING REGIONAL BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY THROUGH THE
ASIA-PACIFIC INFORMATION SUPERHIGHWAY



Outline:

1. Objectives of the second session of the AP-IS Steering Committee meeting, 27-28 August 2018
2. Updates to the AP-IS Master Plan
3. Progress on AP-IS implementation by ESCAP



1. AP-IS Steering Committee meeting, 27-28 August 2018

Objectives:

1. To discuss and **finalize updates to the AP-IS Master Plan and Regional Cooperation Framework Document**, as agreed upon at the first AP-IS Steering Committee meeting in Dhaka, in November 2017;
2. For ESCAP and partners to present **analytical work in support** of regional policy dialogue and AP-IS implementation;
3. To **review subregional initiatives, activities along the 7 strategic initiatives** of the Master Plan and discuss any issues identified in the implementation process.



2. Updates to the AP-IS Master Plan

- The AP-IS Master Plan (E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/2) (2016-2018) updated;
- Suggested changes (new initiatives/projects/studies) and new partners have been added to the Master Plan;
- Electronic copies of suggested changes have been shared with participants;
- Suggested changes will be discussed and finalized in session 6, Monday 27 August 2018.
- **Outcome** of this meeting will be presented by the Chair to CICTSTI, 29-31 August 2018.
- CICTSTI will review for endorsement the updated AP-IS Master Plan and RCFD 2019-2022.



3. Progress on AP-IS implementation

Action item	2016				2017				2018			
	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4	1/4	2/4	3/4	4/4
Steering committee to be established and operational					■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
1.1 Conduct feasibility studies						■	■	■	■	■	■	■
2.3 Internet exchange point system and operation model								■	■	■	■	■
3. Regional social and economic studies				■	■	■	■	■	■			
4.1 Study route diversification as part of e-resilience				■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	
5.1 Undertake policy initiatives for cross-border connectivity									■	■	■	
6.1 Capacity development									■	■	■	■
7.1 Formulation of Asia-Pacific information superhighway funding platform									■	■	■	■
Present Master Plan for adoption				■		■						
Evaluation and progress report									■	■	■	

First session of the Committee

Seventy-third session of the Commission

Seventy-fourth session of the Commission

- AP-IS Master Plan (E/ESCAP/CICTSTI (1)/2) outlines key areas of focus and implementation plan (2016-2018).



AP-IS implementation by ESCAP

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Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item (a): Steering Committee (SC) to be established and operational (Completed);

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st AP-IS SC meeting held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, September 2017; | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to conduct pre-feasibility study to identify challenges and opportunities of ICT connectivity in each ESCAP subregion; • In collaboration with partner organizations, conduct technical studies on various ICT challenges highlighted by the meeting; • To establish an academia network for AP-IS researches; • To develop a UNV partnership programme for supporting, coordination and monitoring of the AP-IS implementation; • To continue collaboration with ITU in updating the AP-IS Transmission Map; |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2nd AP-IS SC meeting, Bangkok, August 2018. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review updated AP-IS Master Plan (2019-2022), and recommend for the consideration of the 2nd session of CICTSTI; |

Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item (b): Present AP-IS Master Plan for adoption (Completed);

- Presented **AP-IS Master Plan** (E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/2) & **Regional Cooperation Framework Document** (E/ESCAP/CICTSTI(1)/3) to ESCAP Intergovernmental forums;
- Recommended by **1st session of CICTSTI**, October 2016;
- Endorsed by the **73rd session of the Commission**, May 2017;
- **ESCAP resolution 73/6** on the 'Implementation of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative through regional cooperation' (sponsored by Bangladesh and co-sponsored by China, Fiji, Islamic Republic of Iran, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation and Thailand)



Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item (c): Evaluation and progress report;

- Updated member States and stakeholders on implementation progress:
- The first session of CICTSTI in October 2016;
- Report (E/ESCAP/73/10) to the **73rd session of the Commission**, May 2017;
- 1st session of the **AP-IS SC, Dhaka**, Bangladesh, November 2017;
- AP-IS **Steering Group Meeting**, Bangkok, 12 December 2017 and Joint Session with the Working Group on the Asian Highway Network, Bangkok, 13 December 2017
- Second session of the AP-IS Steering Committee meeting, Bangkok, August 2018

Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 1.1: Conduct feasibility studies (Ongoing);

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pre-feasibility studies conducted (completed): 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Pre-Feasibility Study on the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway in the ASEAN Sub-region (2016); A Study of ICT Connectivity for the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI): Enhancing the Collaboration in China-Central Asia Corridor (2017);
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Feasibility studies (planned) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NCA, SEA, SSWA, ENEA & Pacific (2019-2022)

Action item 2.3: Internet exchange point system and operational model (Ongoing);

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Study that included IXP management (in progress): 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An In-depth Study on Asia Pacific Information Superhighway in Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam (CLMV) Countries (2017)
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Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 3: Regional economic and social studies (Ongoing);

- Economic/Social studies (completed):
 - A Study on Cost-Benefit Analysis of **Fibre-Optic Co-Deployment** with the Asian Highway Connectivity (2018)
 - Broadband connectivity in **Pacific island countries** (2018);
 - **Artificial Intelligence** and Broadband Divide: State of ICT Connectivity in Asia and the Pacific (2017)
 - The Impact of **Universal Service Funds** on Fixed-Broadband Deployment and Internet Adoption in Asia and the Pacific (2017)
 - Effect of **Open International Gateways** on the Broadband Connectivity Market (2017)

Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 3: Regional economic and social studies (Ongoing) (cont);

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|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic/Social studies (completed): | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planning processes, policies and initiatives in ICTD education at institutions of higher learning (IHLs) in Asia and the Pacific (2017) |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic/Social studies (in progress) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICT and education (ESCAP & UNESCO) • Enhancing Cybersecurity in the Asia-Pacific's "Fourth Industrial Revolution" • Internet of People • Social Media and Gender |



Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 4: Studies on e-resilience (*Ongoing*);

- E-resilience studies (completed):
 - e-Resilience: A Review of National Broadband Policies, Regulations, Strategies and Initiatives of **China, Japan and the Republic of Korea** (2018);
 - ICT in Disaster Risk management Initiatives in Asia and the Pacific (2016);
 - Building e-Resilience in **Sri Lanka**: Enhancing the Role of information and Connections Technology for Disaster Risk Management (2016);
 - Building e-Resilience in **Mongolia**: Enhancing the Role of information and Connections Technology for Disaster Risk Management (2016);
 - Building e-Resilience in the **Philippines**: Enhancing the Role of Information and Communications Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction (2016);
 - Building e-Resilience in **China**: Enhancing the Role of Information and Communications Technology for Disaster Risk Reduction (2016)

Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 4: Studies on e-resilience (*Ongoing*) (cont)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-resilience studies (completed): 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building a Resilient Digital Economy: Fostering SMEs in Central Asia (2017);
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-resilience studies (planned): 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> E-resilience and emergency telecommunications (ESCAP & LIRNEAsia)



Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 5.1: Undertake policy initiatives for cross-border connectivity (Ongoing)

AP-IS Subregional meeting to identify subregional plan for subregional cooperation

- AP-IS Subregional meeting for NCA, October 2018, Almaty (upcoming);
- AP-IS Subregional meeting for Pacific, November 2018, Nadi (upcoming);

Action item 6.1: Capacity development (Ongoing)

AP-IS capacity development activities;

- Sub-Regional Workshops on **Internet Traffic Management** and **E-resilience** for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway **SSWA** (2016) (completed);
- AP-IS Subregional meeting for Pacific, November 2018, Nadi (upcoming);

Implementation progress (as of August 2018)

Action item 7.1: Formulation of AP-IS funding mechanism platform (Ongoing)

Establishment of an AP-IS funding mechanism platform (ongoing)

- Informal meeting on AP-IS financing mechanisms, Bangkok 31 August
- Partnerships with private sector companies
- **UN partnerships** strengthened through the organization of the inter-agency working group meetings (Dec and Jan 2018) and joint production of report “Report of the Side Event of the Asia-Pacific Forum for Sustainable Development on ICT for Transformation and Resilience”



Summary

- **Studies** addressing opportunities and challenges using qualitative and quantitative methods;
- Technical capacity activities **linking ICT and other sectors**;
- Expanded **partnerships** and implementation arrangements;
- Collaboration with **UN country team** (UNCT) to better serve member country in the future;
- Developing future **research agenda** to guide AP-IS implementation



Thank you

