ICT/E-GOVERNMENT INNOVATIVE PRACTICES IN ASIA-PACIFIC

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Outline:

1. Using national statistics for regional dialogue
2. ICT statistics & digital divide
3. Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway
1. Using national statistics for regional dialogue

Analysis for regional/international level evidence-based policy (ESCAP)

Regional/International Data (ESCAP; UNDESA; WB, ITU, UNCTAD etc.)

National e-Government Portal – National level evidence-based policy

National Statistic Office/Ministries
1. Using national statistics for regional dialogue

Key role of ICT as enabling tool to sustainable development

Effectiveness of ICT-related industries/services depends on the level of ICT infrastructure connectivity…
1. Using national statistics for regional dialogue

- The development of ICT connectivity is therefore critical to other industries sector.
- **Monitoring ICT sector development:**
  - **ICT indicators:** (a). Fixed broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants; (b). Mobile broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants;
- **ICT Policy development:**
  - ICT infrastructure development
  - Access to affordable and resilient broadband connectivity
  - Regulatory measures
  - Internet traffic management
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

- Digital divide is widening in Asia and the Pacific…

Figure 9: Fixed broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants by income group, 2000-2015

Source: Produced by ESCAP, based on data sourced from ITU World Telecommunications/ICT Indicators Database (accessed July 2016).
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Fixed-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants in South and South-West Asia countries, 2000-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Afghanistan</th>
<th>Bhutan</th>
<th>Bangladesh</th>
<th>Maldives</th>
<th>India</th>
<th>Nepal</th>
<th>Pakistan</th>
<th>Sri Lanka</th>
<th>Turkey</th>
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<td>2008</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants
average by region, weighted by population
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants in South and South-West Asia countries in 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Mobile-broadband subscriptions per 100 inhabitants</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Maldives</td>
<td>63.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey</td>
<td>50.9</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bhutan</td>
<td>46.7</td>
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<td>Nepal</td>
<td>26.4</td>
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<td>Iran (I.R.)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangladesh</td>
<td>15.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pakistan</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sri Lanka*</td>
<td>13.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>India</td>
<td>9.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afghanistan</td>
<td>6.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Note: * - The data for Sri Lanka is from 2014.
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

- **Regulations and infrastructure development**: There is a strong correlation between the perceptions on quality of regulations (World Bank – World Governance Indicators) and access to fixed-broadband subscriptions.

Better quality of regulation instill certainty in investment environment, which encourages private operators to invest more.
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

E-commerce and ICT Access

- Strong positive correlation between E-commerce and broadband access
- Hence, if broadband infrastructure is not in place, it limits access and therefore e-commerce.

Sources: ESCAP estimates; UNCTAD B2C E-Commerce Index 2016; and fixed broadband per 100 sourced from ITU.
2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Online Services versus Telecommunications Infrastructure in North and Central Asia, and South and South-West Asia in 2008 and 2014

Missed Opportunities – ICT infrastructure in place, but online services lacking…

2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Disaster exposure and Fixed-broadband adoption in 2015

Disaster exposure and Mobile-broadband adoption in 2015

2. ICT statistics & digital divide

Disaster exposure and Telecommunication Infrastructure Index (2014)

The Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative aims to increase the availability and affordability of broadband Internet across Asia and the Pacific, by strengthening the underlying Internet infrastructure in the region.

- Promote terrestrial and submarine fibre-optic connectivity

- Provide a regional intergovernmental platform focusing on the missing fibre-optic links between ESCAP countries
What is AP-IS? : Four Pillars of AP-IS

- Physical network design, development, management at regional level
- Inter-governmental negotiation
- Improving regulations based on open access

- Ensuring efficient and effective Internet traffic and network management at regional, sub-regional and national levels

- Resilient ICT Networks
- Support to disaster management systems
- Ensuring last mile disaster communication

- Bridging digital divides
- Promoting affordable access to underserviced areas
- Policy and technical support to governments
Improving Regional Broadband Connectivity Through the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway

(2). Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway

AP-IS Master Plan seven initiatives

- Expansion of Reg. backbone networks
- Est. of IXPs
- AP-IS funding platform
- Policy and Regulations for AP-IS funding platform
- Social and Economic impact of ICT on people
- ICT infrastructure resilience
- Capacity building

AP-IS Initiatives
ESCAP Resolution 73/6

(a) Accord priority to the implementation of the Master Plan for the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway, including the support to members and associate members for their implementation;

(b) Encourage the participation of various stakeholders in the implementation of activities of the Master Plan;

(c) Continue to conduct research and analysis and capacity development to identify challenges and opportunities associated with the four pillars of the Asia-Pacific Information Superhighway initiative;
AP-IS Steering Committee Meeting

- 1st Meeting of the AP-IS Steering Committee will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, 13-14 September 2017.
- The Government of Bangladesh offered to host in collaboration with ESCAP.
- ESCAP member countries, regional and international partners on AP-IS implementation will be invited to attend.
AP-IS Steering Committee Meeting

• The objectives of the meeting are:

1. To discuss the operationalization of the governance structure, as stipulated in the AP-IS Master Plan;

2. To discuss regional and sub-regional implementation plans of the AP-IS initiative and to identify challenges and opportunities in implementing the initiative;

3. To develop partnerships with relevant international and regional organizations for the implementation of the AP-IS Master Plan;

4. To provide an update on state of ICT at regional and subregional levels to support the deliberations.
AP-IS Map

Interactive Map, visit <http://www.itu.int/itu-d/tnd-map-public/>
Asia-Pacific ICT & DRR Gateway

Access the Gateway on www.drrgateway.net
Online Communities

Communities on Unite platform facilitating dialogue on 4 pillars:

1. Infrastructure and connectivity
2. Internet traffic and network management
3. E-resilience
4. Broadband for all
Thank you!

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