



TOR for Preparing SASEC ICT Development Master Plan

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Objective

- To identify potential areas for cooperation among SASEC countries for ICT development on a regional level; and
- To develop regional ICT sector policies and strategies including investment programs and technical assistance activities.

Tasks

- To assess the extent and adequacy of existing cross-border telecommunications/ICT linkages;
- To assess the current status and future potential of ICT sector development in the country and region;
- To assess the potential of ICT sector development on a regional level on the basis of region-wide ICT network that directly links SASEC countries;
- To develop investment program to ensure a region-wide integrated ICT network; and
- To identify technical assistance activities.

Scope of Work

- Review of National and Regional ICT Activities
- Analysis of Regional ICT Infrastructure Facilities
- Analysis of ICT Demand
- Analysis of Regulatory Regime
- Development of Recommendations

Review of National and Regional ICT Activities

- To review the telecommunications and ICT sector development plans for each country and identify the common interests in which regional issues are to be considered; and
- To review existing regional agenda and mechanism for ICT development and consolidate them from the SASEC regional perspective.

Analysis of Regional ICT Infrastructure Facilities

- To outline the current intraregional connections of telecommunications/ICT including technologies employed and an assessment of the state of the facilities; and
- To identify other network facilities available from other sources such as rail and power system.

Analysis of ICT Demand (1)

- To forecast traffic to the year 2015 after establishing baseline data of intraregional traffic (voice and non-voice services) over the past 5 years, both direct between countries and traffic that transit through third countries and investigate the possibility of transiting extraregional traffic within the region;
- To assess current e-government status of each country and identify the possible areas for cooperation;

Analysis of ICT Demand (2)

- To assess e-trade status and future potential between SASEC countries;
- To assess human resource development capacity in each country covering universities, research institutes, training centers, and other local communities in general and those for ICT professions in specific; and
- To assess the demand from other potential ICT using sectors such as e-health and e-park.

Analysis of Regulatory Regime (1)

- To identify technical issues affecting interoperation of national systems including signaling, synchronization, numbering plan, and equipment standards;
- To review telecommunications/broadband pricing policies in the region and assess the impact of pricing on such issues as private sector investment, disincentives (if any) to intraregional traffic, and comparison to international norms.

Analysis of Regulatory Regime (2)

- To assess regulatory and policy approaches of countries including existence of autonomous regulators, regulatory capacities of each country, regulatory/policy coordination within the region, involvement of the private sector, and degree of competition allowed; and
- To review the prospective roles of the public and private sectors for ICT sector development.

Development of Recommendations (1)

- The framework of infrastructure provision linking SASEC countries both publicly and privately financed (public-private partnership) adequate to developing countries, covering rural and urban areas separately;
- The time schedule for infrastructure investment plan and provision of feasible ICT application services;
- The plan for promoting ICT application including e-education, e-health, e-government, e-trade ,and e-park;

Development of Recommendations (2)

- The ICT enabling environment policy including ICT small and medium enterprise (SME) policy, legal framework for cross-border e-trade, legal system such as cyber law, pro-poor market development policy, and public-private partnership framework for developing countries;
- The approach to formalize ties among various national telecommunications and ICT agencies into regional ones;

Development of Recommendations (3)

- The criteria for selecting investment and technical assistance projects, such as cost, economic rate of return, financial rate of return, financing option, and contribution to regional cooperation; and
- Potential projects for investment and technical assistance eligible for ADB assistance.

Required Expertise

- International
 - ◆ Telecoms Specialist with a background of telecoms sector policy development (3 person-months)
 - ◆ ICT Specialist (3 person-months)
- Domestic (in each country)
 - ◆ Telecoms Specialist (3 person-months)
 - ◆ ICT Specialist (3 person-months)

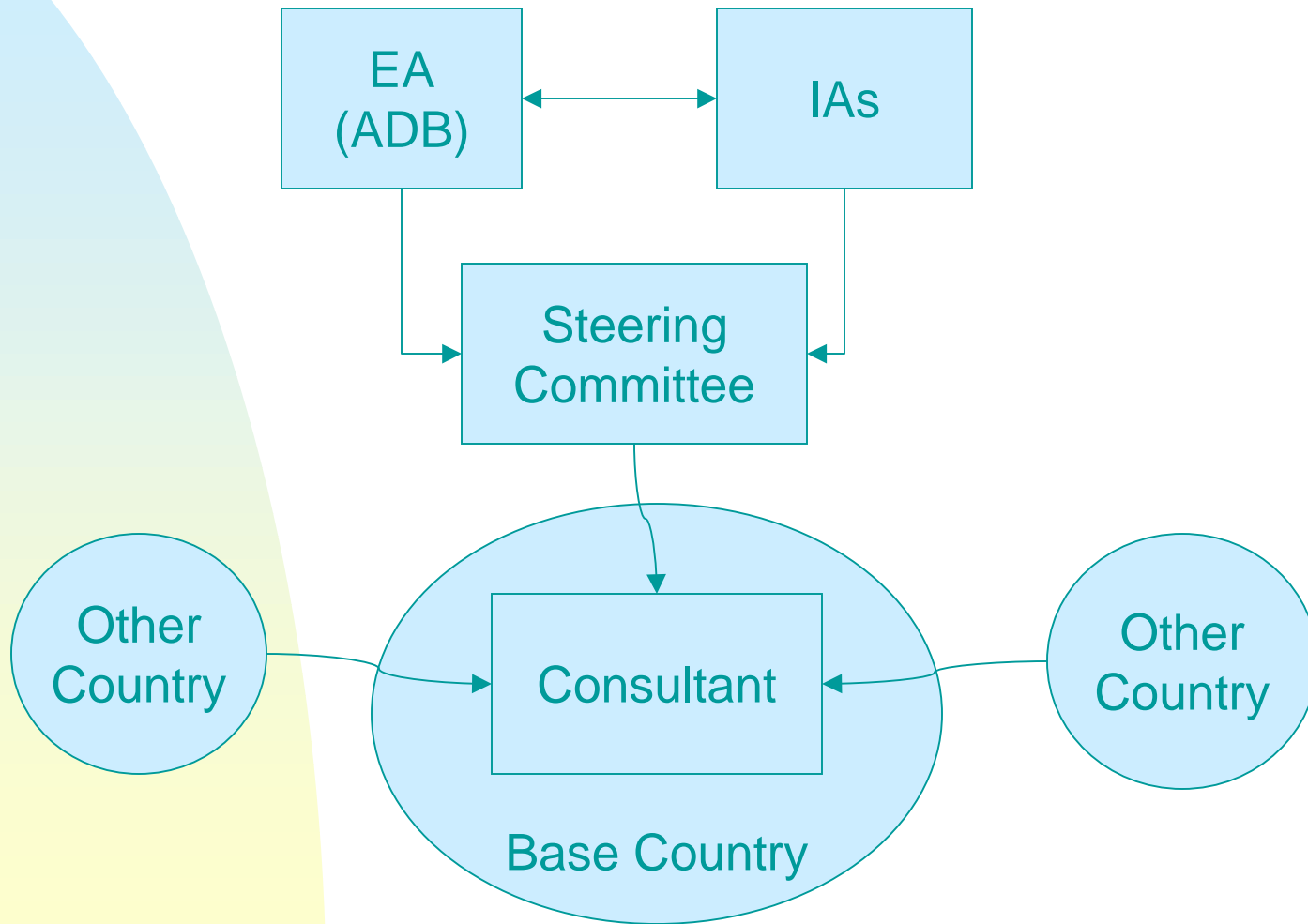
Report

- **Inception Report:** Within one month of the start of the services.
- **Working Papers:** Prepared on a need basis as part of the consultation process with each country that will deal with implications of the technical assistance for each country's ICT development plan.
- **Draft Final Report:** Within 2.5 months of the start of the services.
- **Final Report:** Within one month of receipt of comments from each country and ADB.

Cost Estimate and Financing Plan (\$)

	Item	Foreign Currency	Local Currency	Total
ADB Financing				
1	Consultants			
	a. Remuneration			
	i. International	153,000	0	153,000
	ii. Domestic	0	84,000	84,000
	b. Travel			
	i. International	8,000	0	8,000
	ii. Domestic	0	6,000	6,000
2	Communication, Reports, and Documents	6,000	0	6,000
3	Steering Committee Meeting	8,000	0	8,000
4	Workshop	12,000	0	12,000
5	Contingencies	20,000	3,000	23,000
	Total	207,000	93,000	300,000

Implementation Arrangements



Government Contribution

- Counterpart Staff
- Secretarial Service
- Furnished Office Space
- Office Supplies
- Local Transportation and Communication
- Information and data about telecoms and ICT sector required by consultants



Next Step

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Next Step

- Confirmation of TA (June 2004)
- Steering Committee Meeting (April 2005)
- Workshop for SASEC ICT Development Master Plan (May 2005)
- 2nd ICT Working Group Meeting (July 2005)
 - ◆ To endorse the SASEC ICT Development Master Plan; and
 - ◆ To discuss and agree on ADB's assistance plan.

Decisions by ICT WG

- Approval of TOR
- Endorsement of further processing of TA as proposed
- Implementation arrangement of TA
 - ◆ Base country
 - ◆ Composition of steering committee
 - ◆ Government contribution
- Venue of 2nd ICT WG Meeting