

Preliminary Survey on Status of Information and Communication Technology Policies, Plans, and Projects in Selected Developing Member Countries^a

Country	National Development Plans and Programs with IT Components	National ICT-Related Development Plans, Policies, and Strategies	ADB-Assisted Programs/Projects with ICT Components	Non-ADB Funded Programs/Projects	Others
Bangladesh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National IT policy being finalized • Other government support <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ IT has been declared a thrust sector □ Waiver of all taxes and duties on import of computer hardware and software □ Decision to link to global highway through submarine cable link □ IPR passed by Parliament 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Position Paper on Information Technology Sixth Five-Year Plan (result of the consultation) presented to the Government of Bangladesh • Human Resource Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Increasing computer literacy rate through education; includes computer education in secondary levels; computer education also included in 2-year courses; universities produce computer science graduates □ Training Centers, foreign franchises, local training institutes (government and private), in-house training 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Railway Fiber Optic System Project financed by Norwegian Agency for International Development under a program supported by ADB—completed in 1993, intended to provide communications network for Bangladesh Railway to better control rolling stocks and human resources • Grameenphone Telecommunications Project establishing a nationwide cellular telephone system and a village pay telephone service in rural areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • State-owned company BTTB is considering proposal submitted by Singapore Telecom (Sing Tel), which also offered to provide infrastructure for transporting voice traffic over the Internet 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lowered tariffs on long-distance telephony and on the cost of leased lines • Internet connectivity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Started in 1993 □ With two e-mail services using UUCP dial-up connections □ With around 25 ISPs □ Government-owned company BTTB has its own ISP catering to government entities

^a Based on preliminary survey reports submitted by Asian Development Bank (ADB) resident missions, the divisions at ADB headquarters: Education, Health and Population Division East; Water Supply, Urban Development, and Housing Division; Financial Sector and Industry Division; Environment Division; and Private Sector Group, and individual responses from the Office of the Vice-President (West), Agriculture and Social Sectors Department West, Office of Pacific Operations, Office of External Relations, and Office of Information Systems and Technology.

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India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Five-Year Economic Plan (1995-2000)—support for the buildup of ICT resources both in infrastructure and human resources 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Electronic Commerce Act of 1998; Semiconductor IC Design Bill of 1999; Information Technology Act of 2000; IT Policy of the Government of Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad, India—Government Orders No. 506 (Revenue); No. 67 (Energy); No. 161 (Environment); No. 58 (Finance and Planning for ICT) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Under consideration are projects in the following areas: procurement database, low-cost/mobile access to Internet, training in Internet use, policy dialogue to stimulate the IT sector, and conference on IT development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fifth Telecommunications Project (Loan 3904-IND) to modernize telecommunications networks (World Bank) • Information Infrastructure Development Project (Loan 4222-IND) • Encourages formulation of national plan for IT (World Bank) • Activities include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ improve legal and regulatory frameworks □ expand science and technology networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-Commerce <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Software companies have started developing E-commerce sites, but most are hosted out of country due to bandwidth limitation.

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India (cont'd)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> expand communication and information networks <input type="checkbox"/> provide technical assistance and training program <input type="checkbox"/> provide project management • Proposed projects related to standards and regulatory practices <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Measurement System of Telecommunication Test House, to help regulate the flow of various telecommunication's equipment; actions include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> provide equipment and laboratories for test house <input type="checkbox"/> create design engineering <input type="checkbox"/> conduct education and training for laboratory staff 	

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India (cont'd)				<p>2. Technical Assistance to the Ministry of Communications in the Field of Telecommunication Regulations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To strengthen the policy and regulatory and supervisory capability within the Ministry of Communications and Telecommunications; activities include <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> improve available planning system <input type="checkbox"/> elaborate, implement, and take follow-up actions on standardization practice <input type="checkbox"/> formulate guidelines and procedures for IT <input type="checkbox"/> improve human resources development 	

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Indonesia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PD No. 30/1997 on IT Development <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established the coordinating team for IT development in Indonesia; the plan consists of three components <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> IT infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> IT application <input type="checkbox"/> IT resources <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Industrial support ◆ Standardization ◆ Human resources ◆ Laws and regulation ◆ IT culture • PD 50/200 renewed the structure and members of the IT Development Coordinating Team 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IT development was prioritized in five strategic sectors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> E-government for good governance <input type="checkbox"/> E-commerce to support sustainable economics <input type="checkbox"/> IT-based community <input type="checkbox"/> IT for education <input type="checkbox"/> E-democracy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecommunications Sector (to provide networks outside Java) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Telecommunications Project (Loan 1157-INO) • Second Telecommunications Project (Loan 1233-INO) 	Non-ADB-Funded Programs/Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three-stage telecommunications sector project to be completed by April 2001; project to be financed by German Bank, KfW, MCTPC • Other sectors with ICT components applied in management information system, database, electronics, data communications, and geographic information system <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity Building of Water Supply Enterprises for Water Loss Reduction Sector (Loan 1527-INO) • Coral Reef Rehabilitation and Management (Loan 1613-INO) • Social Protection Sector Development Project (Loan 1623-INO)

Appendix

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Indonesia (cont'd)				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health and Nutrition Sector Development Program (Loan 1676-INO) • Family Health and Nutrition Project (Loan 1471-INO) • Biodiversity Conservation in Flores and Siberut (Loan 1187-INO) • Capacity Building for Financial Governance (Loan 1620-INO) • Capacity Building Project in the Water Resources Sector (Loan 1339-INO) 	

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Lao People's Democratic Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Five-Year New Economic Mechanism for 1995–2000 and 2001–2005 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft regulatory framework ICT due for legislation in 2001 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA for capacity building for training instructors on how to develop IT training programs 		
Nepal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 9th Five-Year Plan (1997–2002)—stresses that ICT will play a highly contributory role in Nepal's economic development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT policy 2000; draft of proposed cyber law; proposed spectrum policy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA 2954-NEP: Strengthening the Project Performance Management System; TA 3117-NEP: Formulating an Action Plan on Civil Service Reform 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposed TA for 2001: IT for improved financial service provision; corporate and financial governance

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Pakistan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Economic Revival Plan of 1999, explicit support for the development of IT and software industry in the country 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Draft policy on IT (to be finalized 2001) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA 1543-PAK: Development of Mathematics and Computer Education Programs for Grades 9–10; TA 1576-PAK: Improvement and Modernization of Securities Infrastructure; TA 1577-PAK: Development of Centralized Clearing and Settlement Systems; Loan 1681-PAK: Modernization of Customs Administration; TA 1682-PAK: Establishment of a National Accreditation System; Loan 1683-PAK: Institutional Strengthening of the Board of Investment 		

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<p>Philippines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Legislative Frameworks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Republic Act 8972 (E-Commerce Law) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Facilitates use of digital communication within and among nations □ Promotes and validates transactions of ICT □ Promotes uniformity of laws on electronic documents • Executive Order No. 468 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Created the Philippines Internet Commerce Council □ Catalyst to revolutionize trade in both goods and services over electronic networks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Science and Technology in ICT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> □ Creation and strengthening of the NITC □ Adoption of the GISP □ Partnership and participation of the NITC in the Global Knowledge Plan □ Establishment of the VCTI-IT to promote technological change in key industry sectors by pooling resources and efforts of the private sector, government, and the academe 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TA provided to the Department of Agriculture for a project on Development of Infrastructure for Rural Productivity Enhancement Sector, with GIS/MIS component using ESRI Arc View software package. • TA for strengthening MIS of PDIC and Insurance Commission • TA for LAN and MIS for SEC 			

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Enhances government and private sector partnership <input type="checkbox"/> Acknowledges the potential for transacting business over the Internet of global Internet infrastructure <input type="checkbox"/> GISP <input type="checkbox"/> Mission-critical frontline services information systems <input type="checkbox"/> Oversight and common application systems <input type="checkbox"/> Sectoral information system <input type="checkbox"/> Local government information systems • Republic Act 7925 (Public Telecommunications Act): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Interexchange carrier <input type="checkbox"/> Value-added service provider • Senate Bill 2025 (Anti-Hacking Bill) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Training and certification programs <input type="checkbox"/> Creation of ICT learning hubs in 15 regions <input type="checkbox"/> Creation of the Advance Science and Technology Corporation • IT21 Philippines—National IT plan for the 21st century focusing on the following <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Telecommunications <input type="checkbox"/> Industry <input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Education <input type="checkbox"/> Research and development <input type="checkbox"/> Support Structures 			

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Singapore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10-Year Economic Development Plan (1990–2000) explicit support for ICT to achieve better national quality and efficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infocomm 21; IDA Act of 1999; Telecommunications Act of 1999; Electronic Transactions Act 			
Thailand	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NECTEC transformation; new Strategic Master Plan on Electronic, Computer, Telecommunication, and Information Technologies (ECTI-21) for 2000–2009 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ministry of Public Health's Hospital Management System GINet—E-government Software park SchoolNet expansion program SchoolNet content creation and promotion campaign E-commerce initiatives IT project of HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindon IT laws Internet policy development Government program to improve IT 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> TA for web site development for office of the auditor general of Thailand to improve postevaluation capability by providing public access to audit reports Loan for computer learning centers in 800 schools (proposed) TA on skills development to plan training programs for technicians in IT in collaboration with the private sector 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promoting foreign investment; BOI incentives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Corporate income tax exemption for 8 years, regardless of zone Exemption from import duty on machinery, regardless of zone

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		<p>skills of government information officers and executive officers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Telecom research—from WLL to WAP • Low-cost PC • Microelectronics • Solar cell development project • Thailand Integrated Water Resource Management Network • Cluster computing and networked GIS clearinghouse 			
Viet Nam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed 10-Year Socioeconomic Development Strategy; 5-Year Plan 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Resolution No. 49/1993/CP on IT Development in Viet Nam; Resolution No. 07/2000/NQ-CP on establishing and developing the software industry for 2000–2005 • Decree 21/CP Provisional Regulations on management, and establishment, and 			

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> use of Internet in Viet Nam Decision No. 136 of the PM establishing the National Internet Coordination Commission, cochaired by MOSTE and MSP 			

ADB=Asian Development Bank; BOl=Board of Investments; BTTB=Bangladesh Telegraph and Telecom Board; GIS=geographic information system; GISP= Government Information System Plan; ICT= information and communication technology; IDA= International Development Association; IND= India; INO= Indonesia; ISP=Internet service provider; IT= information technology; KfW= Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau; LAN= local area network; MIS=management information system; MOSTE= Ministry of Science, Technology, and Environment; NEP= Nepal; NITC= National Information Technology Council; PAK= Pakistan; PC= personal computer; PDIC= presidential decree; PDIC= Philippine Deposit and Insurance Corporation; SEC= Securities and Exchange Commission; TA= technical assistance; VCTIIT= Virtual Center for Technology Innovation-Information Technology