ADB

Technical Assistance Report

Information and Communication Technology for Development Initiative Facility in Asia and the Pacific
(Cofinanced by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund)

Asian Development Bank

Vice-President	B. N. Lohani, Knowledge Management and Sustainable Development
Director General	C. Locsin, Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD)
Director	B. Édes, Poverty Reduction, Social Development, and Governance Division, RSDD
Team leader	S.Y. Yoon, Senior Public Management Specialist, RSDD
Team members	L. Faustino-Chan, Senior Operations Assistant, RSDD
	L. Francisco, Public Management Officer, RSDD
	P. Gonzales, Senior Operations Assistant, RSDD
	A. Ramamurthy, Senior Public Management Specialist, RSDD

CONTENTS

Page

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

1. Basic Data				Project Number: 48240-001
Project Name	Information and Communication Technology for Development Initiative Facility in Asia and the Pacific	**Department /Division**	RSDD/RSPG	
Country	REG	**Executing Agency**	Asian Development Bank	
Borrower	NA			

2. Sector	Subsector(s)	Financing ($ million)
✓ Information and communication technology	ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development	1.00
	Total	**1.00**

3. Strategic Agenda	Subcomponents	Climate Change Information	
Inclusive economic growth (IEG)	Pillar 1: Economic opportunities, including jobs, created and expanded	Climate Change impact on the Project	Low
Environmentally sustainable growth (ESG)	Disaster risk management Eco-efficiency Natural resources conservation Urban environmental improvement		
Regional integration (RCI)	Pillar 1: Cross-border infrastructure Pillar 2: Trade and investment Pillar 3: Money and finance Pillar 4: Other regional public goods		

4. Drivers of Change	Components	Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	
Governance and capacity development (GCD)	Anticorruption Client relations, network, and partnership development to partnership driver of change Civil society participation Institutional development Institutional systems and political economy Organizational development Public financial governance	Some gender elements (SGE)	✓
Knowledge solutions (KNS)	Application and use of new knowledge solutions in key operational areas Knowledge sharing activities Pilot-testing innovation and learning		
Partnerships (PAR)	Bilateral institutions (not client government) Civil society organizations Foundations Implementation International finance institutions (IFI) Private Sector Regional organizations South-South partner United Nations organization		
Private sector development (PSD)	Conducive policy and institutional environment Promotion of private sector investment Public sector goods and services essential for private sector development		

5. Poverty Targeting		Location Impact	
Project directly targets poverty	No	Regional	High

6. TA Category:	B

7. Safeguard Categorization	Not Applicable

8. Financing	

CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AT A GLANCE

Modality and Sources	Amount ($ million)
ADB	**0.50**
Sovereign Capacity development technical assistance: Technical Assistance Special Fund	0.50
Cofinancing	**0.50**
Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund	0.50
Counterpart	**0.00**
None	0.00
Total	**1.00**

9. Effective Development Cooperation

Use of country procurement systems	No
Use of country public financial management systems	No

I.   INTRODUCTION

1.   The spread of information and communication technology (ICT) has promoted a more connected, networked, and interdependent world. ICT has made a substantial contribution to economic growth and has empowered populations by lowering development costs, reducing corruption and inefficiency, and improving quality in government delivery of essential services. It has also promoted more transparent and more affordable access to such services.

2.   Developing member countries (DMCs) need to increase ICT access for underserved populations if the digital divide in Asia and the Pacific is to be bridged. Just one-third of DMC households have internet access, and the costs of broadband connections are very high. In many countries, ICT for development (ICTD) is hampered by a lack of adequate ICT infrastructure, insufficient government support for partnering with the private sector to provide ICT infrastructure, and poorly performing universal access policies.[1] Large populations residing in rural and geographically remote areas have little access to digital technology and to the benefits that connectivity can bring.

3.   The Asian Development Bank (ADB) recognizes the growing importance of ICT for development and has introduced ICT components in a large number of projects across all sectors and thematic areas of support. The Midterm Review of Strategy 2020 states that ADB will use ICT more effectively in projects to improve development impact, and will utilize ICT to improve access to finance in the DMCs.[2] It also calls for ADB to increase adoption of innovative and catalytic solutions to meet the needs of DMCs, most of which have reached middle-income status. Integrating ICT and e-solutions into ADB's assistance is one of the ways in which ADB can provide an innovative response to DMC needs. In line with Strategy 2020 priorities, access to ICT needs to be improved in underserved parts of the region, and e-solutions must be utilized to make ADB more relevant to the needs of its middle-income DMCs. This technical assistance (TA) will contribute to the identification and operationalization of potential ICTD interventions in ADB operations.

4.   In April 2014, ADB and the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) launched the ICT for Development in the Asia and Pacific Region (ICTD-ASP) Initiative, which aims to (i) provide advisory support for prioritization of ICTD investments and pre-feasibility studies (PFSs) on high-priority ICTD investment projects, (ii) mobilize resources and facilitate ICTD investment through coordinated partnerships among stakeholders, and (iii) enhance institutional ICTD capacity via sharing experiences and knowledge on ICTD in Asia and the Pacific.[3] Under this initiative, ADB and ITU will collaborate to assist the Asia-Pacific countries in designing, planning, implementing, and monitoring their ICTD strategies and programs. A fact-finding mission was carried out in October 2014, where key design issues related to the partnership arrangement of the ICTD-ASP Initiative were discussed with ITU.

II.   ISSUES

5.   Many DMC governments have adopted ICT strategies, plans, e-readiness assessments, and e-governance programs. However, the ability of governments to translate these into action is hampered by inadequate financial resources, insufficient managerial and ICT technical

---

[1] ICTD is the use of ICT to advance socioeconomic development and improve human well-being.
[2] ADB. 2014. *Midterm Review of Strategy 2020: Meeting the Challenges of a Transforming Asia and Pacific*. Manila
[3] The ITU is a specialized United Nations agency for ICT. It has 193 member states, 567 sector members, 159 associates, and 60 member academic institutions. It is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland, and has four regional offices, including one for Asia and the Pacific.

competence, weak ICT regulatory regimes and public–private partnership arrangements, and inadequate institutional capacity to prepare ICT projects.

6.   ADB support for ICTD initiatives could be enhanced if DMCs had greater understanding of ICT needs and requirements. It is important that ICTD programs be identified when ADB country strategies and operations business plans are being prepared—since ADB's country teams may not be aware of potential ICTD opportunities. In 2014, the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) began collaborating with regional departments to carry out country-specific assessments of ICT opportunities for ADB in three DMCs. Such assessments could be carried out in more countries to enhance ADB's understanding of members' ICT requirements, and to integrate these into ADB's pipeline of country support.[4]

7.   From 2000 to 2012, ADB supported 444 ICT-related projects. Most of these projects were prepared in isolation. No systematic coordination mechanisms have been developed for the identification and design of ICT projects, and no significant ADB-wide ICT initiatives have been replicated and scaled up across the region. Some TA projects have focused on developing government capacity to prepare good ICT projects and programs.[5] However, the TA projects have generally not been directly connected to ADB operations.

8.   In many sectors and thematic areas, ADB lacks the capacity to identify and design relevant ICTD projects. However, many development partners have ample experience and expertise in ICTD. ADB must collaborate with these development partners to (i) meet growing DMC demands for ICTD solutions, (ii) improve the design quality of innovative ICTD solutions in operations, (iii) help scale up and promote the sustainability of ICTD initiatives, (iv) promote knowledge sharing on ICTD, and (v) facilitate the mobilization of global expertise and financial resources for potential ICTD projects.

III.   THE CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

9.   The TA will assist DMCs to develop ICT projects that can be financed by ADB and by the DMCs themselves to help close the digital divide. It will be aligned with the country partnership strategy (CPS) and country operations business plans of participating DMCs, so that ICT projects support specific ADB sector and thematic priorities in the participating DMCs.

10.   The TA will support implementation of the ICTD-ASP Initiative in collaboration with ITU, a global center of excellence, and other partners in Asia and the Pacific. It will assist DMCs to improve universal access policies and programs and to boost the supply of ICT infrastructure and ICT-enabled service delivery projects that are ready for financing. It will strengthen ADB's ability to identify and finance ICTD projects. It will also contribute to building a network of public

---

[4] As part of RSDD's initiative to mainstream ICT in ADB operations, it has prepared ADB. 2014. *Promoting Information and Communication Technology in ADB Operations*. Manila. The report examined and identified opportunities for ICTD projects in key sector and thematic areas in ADB operations. RSDD undertook assessments of country ICT requirements for Mongolia (in February 2014) and Tajikistan (in July–August 2014). A similar assessment of ICT requirements in Indonesia is planned for December 2014.

[5] Past ICT TA projects include ADB. 2009. *Technical Assistance for Improving Public Services through Information and Communication Technology*. Manila; ADB. 2008. *Technical Assistance for Rural Information and Communication Technology Policy Advocacy, Knowledge Sharing, and Capacity Building.* Manila. Ongoing ICT TA projects include ADB. 2012. *Technical Assistance to the People's Republic of Bangladesh for Improving Public Administration and Services Delivery through e-Solutions.* Manila; ADB. 2013. *Technical Assistance to the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for the Design of e-Governance Master Plan and Review of Information and Communication Technology Capacity in Academic Institutions.* Manila; ADB. 2013. *Technical Assistance to the Kingdom of Bhutan for Piloting the Design of e-Services Delivery Platform in Health Services*. Manila.

and private partners willing to invest in such projects. ITU and other partners of the ICTD-ASP Initiative will provide in-kind contributions for the TA implementation.

A.   Impact and Outcome

11.   The project's impact will be a narrowing of the digital divide and improved (ICT-enhanced) service delivery. The outcome will be increased governments' capacity to identify and prepare ICTD investments in DMCs.

B.   Methodology and Key Activities

12.   The TA will have five outputs: (i) country-level assessments of options for integrating ICT support in ADB's operations, (ii) PFSs on potential ICTD projects for DMCs, (iii) a partnership framework for resource mobilization on ICTD projects in DMCs, (iv) knowledge sharing and capacity development programs, and (v) contents of a knowledge portal on ICTD. Detailed activities and the implementation plan for each output are as follows.

13.   **Output 1.** Diagnostic country studies will be undertaken to identify options for integrating ICT support into ADB CPSs. ICTD diagnostic studies will be undertaken to support CPS preparation over 2015–2017. Target countries for diagnostic country studies will be identified in coordination with regional departments. Group A or Group B DMCs including Lao, PDR, Sri Lanka, and Tajikistan will be prioritized as target countries.[6] One or two diagnostic studies of ICTD options for ADB CPSs will be undertaken each year during the TA period.

14.   **Output 2.** PFSs will cover high-priority ICT investments in ADB's key sector and thematic areas. Support will be provided to bring project designs to the point at which they can be considered for funding. It is anticipated that these will be both public and public–private partnership investments, and could cover issues such as extension of broadband connectivity, public access internet facilities, e-government projects, smart city projects, and other ICT-based interventions in other sectors. The PFSs will be identified on the basis of concept proposals submitted by DMC governments or ADB operational departments. The Government of Cambodia has expressed its interest in receiving ADB technical support in developing a national identify management program. The steering committee of the ICTD-ASP Initiative will review the concept proposals in a batch once or twice per year. The aim will be to assist in the preparation of two to three PFSs per year, depending on demand and DMC readiness.[7]

15.   **Output 3.** A partnership network and financing framework will be developed among potential public and private partners interested in financing ICTD initiatives. Development of the network will facilitate cofinancing and ease financing constraints on public support for ICT investments. The partnership framework will be developed, customized, tested, and updated based on the nature of the ICTD programs and projects to be financed.

16.   **Output 4.** Lessons from TA-supported efforts, and others in the region, to help close the digital divide will be shared through a series of regional ICTD forums. These will highlight lessons from major ICTD initiatives and will facilitate knowledge cooperation on ICTD among developing countries. Two regional ICTD forums will be held each year under the ICTD-ASP

---

[6] A fact-finding mission has been made for Tajikistan in 2014 and both Sri Lanka and Lao PDR are scheduled to develop new CPSs in2015-2017.

[7] The steering committee is the decision-making body of the ICTD-ASP Initiative and comprises representatives of both ADB and ITU, and any other major contributors to the initiative.

Initiative: (i) on e-service platforms, and (ii) on e-government. It is proposed that the two regional forums be hosted in 2015 by the Government of Thailand.

17.   **Output 5.** Contents of a knowledge portal on ICTD developed. It will facilitate the sharing of practical knowledge relevant to the design of projects and programs under the ICTD-ASP Initiative. The knowledge portal will serve as a repository for good practices and lessons in ICTD throughout Asia and the Pacific. It will be focused on the key topic areas under the ICTD-ASP Initiative and will be supported by voluntary contributions of participating countries. The detailed design and maintenance arrangements for the knowledge portal will be discussed and developed during the regional ICTD forums. ADB will provide inputs on the contents of the website and ITU will provide technical expertise on the website development and the physical platform of the knowledge portal.

18.   This TA will be implemented based on the following assumptions: (i) continuous strategic partnership between ADB and ITU, (ii) strong support from relevant stakeholders from participating countries, and (iii) active involvement from concerned government agencies.

19.   No adverse social or environmental concerns are foreseen. Since the TA does not involve any direct financial transactions with government agencies, no issues related to public financial management, procurement, and corruption are expected.

20.   A potential risk is lack of participation from potential partners as a result of changing financing preferences or financial difficulties in the region. This risk will be mitigated by encouraging flexible implementation based on a range of options and partnership arrangements.

C.   Cost and Financing

21.   The TA is estimated to cost $1,000,000, of which $500,000 will be financed on a grant basis by ADB's Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V) and $500,000 will be financed on a grant basis by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund and administered by ADB. The cost estimates and financing plan are in Appendix 2.

D.   Implementation Arrangements

22.   ADB will be the executing agency. RSDD will implement the TA and provide a staff team to monitor and administer the individual contracts regularly, and to manage the combined outputs to achieve the TA objectives. This will be done in collaboration with operational departments for identification of target countries and strategic focus, the Office of Information Systems and Technology for technical support, and the Office of Cofinancing Operations for discussion with potential cofinancing partners. RSDD will coordinate with regional departments regarding any communication and/or consultation with participating DMCs. Concurrence of the participating governments will be obtained, as required. Government agencies and stakeholders in DMCs will submit ICT pre-feasibility project preparation and capacity development program requests to the steering committee of the ICTD-ASP Initiative. After these are screened and approved by the steering committee, concurrence from the relevant operations department will be obtained. Depending on the technical focus of the PFS, a small advisory panel of ADB and ITU staff may be formed. For each subproject, an implementing agency will be identified.

23.   The ICTD-ASP Initiative has a steering committee, secretariat, and regional stakeholders' forum:

(i)   The steering committee is comprised of representatives of the major contributors to the initiative, including ADB and ITU. It will be the overall governing body of the initiative and carries out the following tasks: (a) review and approval of the strategic development plan; (b) review and approval of the initiative operational guidelines; and (c) review and approval of the initiative work plans, including project proposals and annual reports.

(ii)   The secretariat comprises participating focal staff from ADB and ITU. It is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the initiative, for which a specialized team of consultants may be recruited in addition to the focal staff from ADB and ITU.

(iii)   A regional stakeholders' forum will be developed to track the progress of the initiative, discuss the demand for the initiative services, provide reactions to the initiative services rendered, and act as a forum for stakeholder dialogue on all initiative matters. The regional stakeholders' forum will meet once or twice per year in conjunction with the regional ICTD forum.

24.   The TA will provide 26 person-months of international consultants and 30 person-months of individual national consultants.[8] A mixture of consulting firms or institutions and individual consultants will be engaged by ADB following the quality- and cost-based selection method (90:10) and simplified technical proposals in accordance with its Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time). The outline terms of reference for consultants are in Appendix 3.

25.   All disbursements under the TA will be made in accordance with the *Technical Assistance Disbursement Handbook* (2010, as amended from time to time). Proposed activities will comply with specific fund regulations, agreements and/or guidelines.

26.   The TA will be implemented over 36 months, commencing in January 2015. The TA completion date is expected to be December 2017.

27.   Under the TA, a monitoring and evaluation framework, with clear benchmarks and targets, and reporting requirements will be prepared.

IV.   THE PRESIDENT'S DECISION

28.   The President, acting under the authority delegated by the Board, has approved (i) ADB administering a portion of technical assistance not exceeding the equivalent of $500,000 to be financed on a grant basis by the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund, and (ii) ADB providing the balance not exceeding the equivalent of $500,000 on a grant basis for Information and Communication Technology for Development Initiative Facility in Asia and the Pacific, and hereby reports this action to the Board.

---

[8] In line with the action plan of the Midterm Review of Strategy 2020, output-based lump-sum contracts will be considered for consulting services.

DESIGN AND MONITORING FRAMEWORK

Design Summary	Performance Targets and Indicators with Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
Impact A narrowing of the digital divide and improved (ICT-enhanced) service delivery	Increased access to internet and broadband in the DMCs Improved quality of public services and improved ICT infrastructure resulting from accelerated diffusion of e-solutions in participating DMCs	Annual ITU report Annual report of the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund Official published reports or announcements made by government agencies in participating DMCs	**Assumptions** Implementing agencies exhibit strong ownership of the TA projects. Sufficient funding and support is provided to implement proposed ICT infrastructure and service delivery projects.
Outcome Increased governments' capacity to identify and prepare ICTD investments in DMCs	At least three project proposals supported by the TA are accepted by the funding authorities in DMCs by 2017	Annual report of the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund Official published reports or announcements made by government agencies in participating DMCs	**Assumptions** Participating DMCs accept and act on TA findings and recommendations. Development partners and the private sector are willing to cooperate and coordinate efforts in ICTD initiatives.
Outputs 1. Country-level assessments of options for integrating ICT support in ADB's operations	At least three country studies prepared on ICTD options for ADB operations	Annual report of the Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund Project reports ADB CPS and COBP references	**Assumptions** Strong support from the key stakeholders involved in the case study TA projects Active involvement from the relevant government agencies from the participating countries in the ICTD-ASP Initiative
2. PFSs on potential ICTD projects for DMCs	At least one PFS per DMC on potential ICTD projects will be carried out. (This will be mainly based on, but not limited to, the recommendations on the country studies from output 1.)	Evaluation report submitted to ADB and Government of the Republic of Korea CPS and COBP documents in the participating DMCs	**Risk** Difficulty in finding stakeholders to be involved in the case study TA projects

Design Summary	Performance Targets and Indicators with Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
3. A partnership framework for resource mobilization on ICTD projects in DMCs	At least one PFS study that is supported by the TA utilizes this partnership framework.	Guidelines for resource mobilization for ICTD projects circulated to the operational departments and participating DMCs	
4. Knowledge sharing and capacity development programs	At least three regional knowledge sharing forums will be held annually, inviting officials from participating DMCs in collaboration with ITU.	Feedback from invited DMC officials	
5. Contents of a knowledge portal on ICTD developed	Online knowledge portal on ICTD in Asia and the Pacific established by 2015 At least 24 countries in Asia and the Pacific participate	Launched ICTD portal and survey result on the portal from stakeholders	

Activities with Milestones	Inputs
1. Country-level assessments of options for integrating ICT support in ADB's operations 1.1 Identify three DMCs at the formative stage of preparing new CPSs (March 2015) 1.2 Secure ADB and country concurrence for diagnostic assessment (May 2015) 1.3 Engage key short-term consultants (June 2015) 1.4 Prepare country studies (July 2015–April 2016) **2. PFSs on potential ICTD projects for DMCs** 2.1 Establish the task force, and select the TA implementation team and advisory group (by March 2015) 2.2 Engage key consultants (March 2015) 2.3 Prepare the detailed outline of the business plan of the ICTD-ASP Initiative (May 2015) 2.4 Prepare the ICTD PFSs (up to September 2017) **3. A partnership framework for resource mobilization on ICTD projects in DMCs** 3.1 Initially identify suitable partners (March 2015) 3.2 Prepare memorandums of understanding with partner organizations (2015–2017) 3.3 Develop guidelines for resource mobilization for ICTD projects (initial report by September 2016, and draft report for interdepartmental circulation by November 2016) 3.4 Prepare final report on the findings (interdepartmental circulation and	**Inputs** **ADB: $500,000** **Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund: $500,000**

Design Summary	Performance Targets and Indicators with Baselines	Data Sources and Reporting Mechanisms	Assumptions and Risks
	advisory group review in June 2017); draft final knowledge product (August 2017) **4. Knowledge sharing and capacity development programs** 4.1 First regional forum by September 2015 4.2 Second regional forum by September 2016 4.3 Third regional forum by September 2017 **5. Contents of a knowledge portal on ICTD developed** 5.1 Develop an online knowledge portal (January 2015) 5.2 Launch ICTD portal (October 2015)		

ADB = Asian Development Bank, CPS = country partnership strategy, COBP = country operations business plan, DMC = developing member country, ICT = information and communication technology, ICTD = ICT for Development, ICTD-ASP = ICT for Development in the Asia-Pacific Region, ITU = International Telecommunication Union, PFS = pre-feasibility study, Q = quarter, TA = technical assistance
Source: Asian Development Bank.

COST ESTIMATES AND FINANCING PLAN
($'000)

Item	Amount
A. Asian Development Bank[a]	
1. Consultants	
a. Remuneration and per diem	
i. International consultants	297.0
ii. National consultants	90.0
b. International and local travel	60.0
2. Workshops, training, seminars, and conferences[b]	40.0
3. Miscellaneous administration and support costs[c]	13.0
Subtotal (A)	**500.0**
B. Republic of Korea e-Asia and Knowledge Partnership Fund[d]	
1. Consultants	198.0
2. Workshops, training, seminars, and conferences[b]	
a. In-country workshop	90.0
b. Regional conference	180.0
3. Miscellaneous administration and support costs[c]	2.0
4. Contingencies	30.0
Subtotal (B)	**500.0**
Total	**1,000.0**

[a] Financed by the Asian Development Bank's (ADB's) Technical Assistance Special Fund (TASF-V).
[b] Includes the cost of ADB staff travel as resource persons.
[c] Includes the cost of ADB staff travel in assisting implementation of technical assistance activities, e.g., as part of the secretariat or any administrative support in workshops or seminars. See also the Memorandum on the Use of Bank Resources: Regional Technical Assistance and Technical Assistance vs. Internal Administrative Expenses Budget, issued by Budget, Personnel and Management Systems Department and Strategy and Policy Department on 26 June 2013.
[d] Administered by Asian Development Bank.
Source: Asian Development Bank estimates.

<p style="text-align:center">OUTLINE TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR CONSULTANTS</p>

A.   Introduction

1.   The technical assistance (TA) team will work together with the Regional and Sustainable Development Department (RSDD) staff and International Telecommunication Union (ITU) staff engaged in the Information and Communication Technology for Development in the Asia-Pacific Region (ICTD-ASP) Initiative, in preparing projects and enhancing the management capacity of involved governments.

2.   Two consultants will be engaged individually: a specialist in partnership strategy and evaluation, and a specialist in financing for development. Other consultants will be recruited as needed. The TA will be implemented in a flexible manner, so the terms of reference, duration, and schedule of TA inputs will be subject to adjustment. Such adjustments may also need to be undertaken during implementation to meet capacity-building needs and to ensure that TA funds are utilized in a cost-effective manner. The terms of reference for the proposed TA will be fine-tuned during implementation. All consultants will be recruited in accordance with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) Guidelines on the Use of Consultants (2013, as amended from time to time).

B.   Individual Consultants

3.   **Partnership strategy and evaluation specialist** (international, 5 person-months, intermittent). The specialist will support the activities of the ICTD-ASP Secretariat and will prepare the multi-stakeholder partnership framework and the resource mobilization mechanism for ICT projects in developing member countries (DMCs). Tasks will include
- (i)   developing a partnership framework among various stakeholders to promote ICTD in the region;
- (ii)   developing inter-sectoral coordinating and integrating mechanisms for ICTD initiatives in DMCs;
- (iii)   developing a results framework for the ICTD-ASP Initiative, and carrying out monitoring and evaluation of activities under the ICTD-ASP Initiative;
- (iv)   assisting in the preparation of special studies on options for integrating ADB assistance in three DMCs; and
- (v)   preparing a draft evaluation report including a summary, findings, recommendations, and supporting annexes.

4.   The consultant should have at least a master's degree in economics or a related social science. They should be an expert in development economics and have experience in institutional development. Working experience in ADB and its DMCs would be an advantage.

5.   **Financing for development specialist** (international, 3 person-months, intermittent). The specialist will prepare the resource mobilization mechanism for ICT projects in DMCs. Tasks will include
- (i)   stock-taking global experiences in financing modalities for ICTD projects and benchmarking other sectors including energy, transport, and education as preparatory work;
- (ii)   developing resource mobilization mechanisms to support ICTD projects including bilateral and/or multilateral financing, public–private partnerships, and other innovative partnerships for ICTD projects; and

(iii)   preparing a tool kit or guidelines for resource mobilization, categorizing different types of projects and different types of financial modalities.

6.   The consultant should have at least a master's degree in economics or a related social science. They should be an expert in development economics and have experience in project financing. Working experience in ADB and its DMCs would be an advantage.

7.   **Information and communication technology for development consultants** (international, 18 person-months, intermittent). The ICTD consultants will (i) undertake project preparation activities identified under the regional TA and others as required, and (ii) support the operations departments of ADB and other development partners to finance the projects. This analysis will provide the basis for designing the implementation arrangements of identified ICTD projects. The consultants must be capable of designing new support modalities and innovative solutions, particularly in ICT infrastructure, e-government, and ICT for education, health, social protection, and other infrastructure. This will involve knowledge of existing literature and ongoing work within and outside ADB, analysis of trends and issues, identification of good practices and innovative approaches, and an ability to make recommendations for more effective delivery of support in the target areas. The consultants will undertake diagnostic assessments of options for integrating ICTD support in ADB DMCs. The general approach will be to provide support on particular projects as required by the ICTD-ASP Secretariat and/or by RSDD, analyze the existing situation and trends in the target country, and recommend investment options based on the lessons from the experiences of developing and developed countries.

8.   **Information and communication technology for development consultants** (national, 30 person-months, intermittent). The main task of the national ICTD consultants will be to provide high-quality assistance and inputs, supported (where needed) by strong data analysis, for the international consultants. Tasks of the national consultants will include support activities for international consultants in the field, review of documents and literature, collection of data and information, research and analysis (quantitative and qualitative), and preparation of notes and briefs. The national consultants will provide technical and administrative support to assist the international consultant teams. They will coordinate with governments, other development partners, and other ADB projects; and undertake other support tasks as required by the ICTD-ASP Secretariat.