



Regional: Pacific Information and Communication Technology Investment Planning and Capacity Development Facility- Phase 2

Project Name	Pacific Information and Communication Technology Investment Planning and Capacity Development Facility- Phase 2					
Project Number	50409-001					
Country	Regional					
Project Status	Active					
Project Type / Modality of Assistance	Technical Assistance					
Source of Funding / Amount	<table border="1"> <tr> <td colspan="2">TA: Pacific ICT Investment Planning and Capacity Development Facility - Phase 2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Technical Assistance Special Fund</td> <td>US\$ 1.00 million</td> </tr> </table>		TA: Pacific ICT Investment Planning and Capacity Development Facility - Phase 2		Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.00 million
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Technical Assistance Special Fund	US\$ 1.00 million					
Strategic Agendas	Environmentally sustainable growth Inclusive economic growth Regional integration					
Drivers of Change	Governance and capacity development Knowledge solutions Partnerships Private sector development					
Sector / Subsector	Information and communication technology - ICT industries and ICT-enabled services - ICT strategy and policy, and capacity development					
Gender Equity and Mainstreaming	No gender elements					
Description	<p>The proposed knowledge and support technical assistance (TA) will address requests from several Pacific country governments seeking to strengthen their information and communication (ICT) capacities. The TA will support (i) advancing ICT policy and regulatory frameworks, (ii) ICT applications development, and (iii) adaptation of technology innovations and protection against cyber-crime. The initiative is a continuation of a similar TA program which successfully and efficiently addressed ICT infrastructure-related challenges for submarine cable projects.</p> <p>The TA is included in the Pacific 2016-2018 Regional Operations Business Plan (ROBP) which outlines ICT applications for development of ICT-enabled services as key area of assistance. It is also listed in the current ROBP 2017-2019.</p>					
Project Rationale and Linkage to Country/Regional Strategy	<p>The development of the ICT sector in the Pacific has come a long way in the last 10 years. The region is on an ICT adaptation path, and has overcome the initial hurdle of setting up effective infrastructure systems for the next phase of ICT engagements.</p> <p>While previously ICT adaptation was inhibited by limited quality of service and high costs of internet services, penetration rates have improved with the introduction of O3B 's low orbiting satellite services and submarine cable systems, providing greater and more reliable bandwidths at lower costs. As private sector investments were difficult to attract due to small market sizes and lack of financial feasibility, a number of countries relied on development partners including ADB and the World Bank to support their fiber optic cable projects.</p> <p>With broadband infrastructure in place or expected to be in place in next five years, Pacific islands have to manage the changes involved in adapting technological advances. ICT policy and regulatory frameworks in most countries are at a nascent stage, if at all established, and require further support in order to mature. While isolated progress has been made in the adaptation of ICT applications recently, general utilization of services is often limited to casual end-users and basic communications, impeding progress on a larger scale. At the same time, the region is making efforts to achieve its development goals in other sectors like health, education and private sector development, while struggling with geographic remoteness and lack of access to economic markets abroad.</p> <p>The TA seeks to ensure that the region receives support for essential ICT adaptations to tackle the issues described, and achieve its development outcomes more effectively.</p>					
Impact	Access to ICT increased (ADB Pacific Approach, 2016 2020) Access to ICT applications for public service delivery improved					

Project Outcome	
Description of Outcome	Cross-sectoral service delivery through use of ICT innovations improved
Progress Toward Outcome	
Implementation Progress	
Description of Project Outputs	ICT policy and regulatory framework supported Development of ICT applications supported Adoption of technology innovations and protection against cybercrime supported
Status of Implementation Progress (Outputs, Activities, and Issues)	
Geographical Location	
Summary of Environmental and Social Aspects	
Environmental Aspects	
Involuntary Resettlement	
Indigenous Peoples	
Stakeholder Communication, Participation, and Consultation	
During Project Design	
During Project Implementation	
Business Opportunities	
Consulting Services	ADB will administer the TA cluster and will be responsible for consultant recruitment and procurement, in close consultation with the participating governments. ADB will seek concurrence from the participating governments for the recruitment of consultants. The government counterpart in each country will assist ADB in identifying the TA implementing agencies based on the scope of the requests. The implementing agency in each participating country, together with the consultants, will implement the TA.
Procurement	ADB will administer the TA cluster and will be responsible for consultant recruitment and procurement, in close consultation with the participating governments. ADB will seek concurrence from the participating governments for the recruitment of consultants. The government counterpart in each country will assist ADB in identifying the TA implementing agencies based on the scope of the requests.
Responsible ADB Officer	Bhattacharya, Sibesh
Responsible ADB Department	Pacific Department
Responsible ADB Division	Urban, Social Development & Public Management Division, PARD
Executing Agencies	<i>Asian Development Bank 6 ADB Avenue, Mandaluyong City 1550, Philippines</i>
Timetable	
Concept Clearance	-
Fact Finding	-
MRM	-
Approval	12 Sep 2017
Last Review Mission	-
Last PDS Update	05 Sep 2017
Project Page	https://www.adb.org/projects/50409-001/main
Request for Information	http://www.adb.org/forms/request-information-form?subject=50409-001
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