



## **The 19th APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-19)**

Virtual/Online Meeting, 22 - 24 November 2022

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### **CONCEPT NOTE**

#### **1. Background / Context**

The Asia-Pacific region has high population density, growth potential, and diverse climatic and geographic environments. It has experienced many changes in economic, industrial, and social aspects through recent developments in communication technology and information technology. In particular, the speed of digital transformation centered on ICTs has accelerated during the pandemic, and this trend may continue to spread even after the pandemic. Local/cross-border movement and face-to-face activities were limited, and ICT functioned as a fundamental means to quickly accommodate these economic and social environmental changes. Due to these changes in the Asia-Pacific region, it is recognized that on-line accessibility that can be accessed anytime, anywhere and the infrastructure for it are directly related to the problem of survival beyond the problem of convenience. As a result, the need for affordable, secure, and reliable digital connectivity is growing exponentially. Efforts from countries, institutions and the private sector continue to meet the demand for digital opportunities and universal connectivity for everyone in the Asia Pacific region.

The APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF) has served as a platform to discuss key issues in the Asia Pacific region on telecommunications policy and industry and ICT development for the past 15 years. We have discussed various ways to improve connectivity in the region and suggested and shared ways to properly apply new technologies and improve service quality. It has also been a place to share the results of ICT pilot projects to improve the efficiency of traditional industries in the Asia-Pacific region by using ICT and to enable new industries. The 19th ADF will focus on the 3 Strategic Pillars of the Strategic Plan (2021-2023) of the APT: Connectivity, Innovation, and Capacity Building.

Regarding the first pillar “Connectivity”, we will look at the plans and support of APT Members and the efforts of other organizations to close the digital gap and expand universal connectivity reflecting the specificity of the Asia-Pacific region. Specifically, we will share the national broadband plan of APT Members with the activities of various organizations and learn about the current status and practical applications of various new technologies to build affordable and reliable communication networks.

Secondly, to enhance sharing and applying the latest innovative Telecommunication/ICT and to enable effectively to utilize the benefits of ICT innovation, we will look at innovative technologies that have emerged recently and are having a major impact not only on the economy and industry, but also on people's lives. With the development of technologies for collecting, analyzing, and processing vast amounts of data, AI is spreading in many economic and industrial fields at a faster rate. Looking at the best application cases related to this,

specifically, smart city, smart transportation, other industries, and application strategies for digital governance and future changes are discussed.

Thirdly, ADF-19 also aims to discuss how ICT can contribute to Startups and new small businesses that has recently started in various forms. We will share insights, knowledge and experiences among APT Members and various organizations to support young people how to implement their original ideas into concrete services by using ICTs.

In addition to the above points, as specified in the ADF Working Method and as a general practice, this ADF-19 will also include presentations on the current status, outcomes and achievements of various ICT pilot projects implemented by APT Members based on Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs).

## **2. Objectives**

The overall objectives of the ADF in 2022 which is approved by the MC-45 in December 2021 are 1) Focus on the telecommunication/ICT development issues for developing countries, 2) Provide an opportunity for members to share information on the best practices and experiences 3) Promote sharing of expertise for addressing key issues on telecommunication/ICT development issues.

Based on the overall objectives, specific objectives of ADF-19 were identified to:

- Discuss effective policies to deliver affordable and meaningful connectivity to unserved people in Asia-Pacific region based on countries' status;
- Share knowledge and insights regarding the national broadband plans of the government of the APT Members;
- Explain the current status and potential of the communication technologies such as 5G, recent Wi-Fi technology, and Satellite communication technology, etc.;
- Share knowledge and experience in the strategy and deployment of Smart city service, Smart transportation service and other industries using data and the latest ICTs based on the practical cases and success stories of the APT Members.
- Address and discuss issues related to cases and effects to enhance the startups and small-medium businesses based on recent ICTs and corporate investment from governments and organizations in Asia-Pacific region;
- Report outcomes and achievements of APT projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs).

## **3. Expected outcomes**

The agenda of the ADF-19 covers the list of topics to discuss on the specific outcomes include but not least:

- Learn and share the update of national broadband plan and current status of communication industry and identify points to be expected in terms of policies;
- Discuss the regional and rural digital divide and introduce the recent communication technologies to deliver affordable and reliable connectivity in Asia-Pacific region;
- Understand recent techniques and cases for good quality and fast network construction using 5G, Wi-Fi and Satellite communication technology;

- Understand the technologies currently applied to Smart City, Smart Transportation, and other industries changed by the latest ICTs, share experiences of best cases and strategies for using big data effectively, and obtain inspiration/idea on how to use ICTs in each environment of the APT Members;
- Update on challenges and success stories of Startups and SMEs as well as policy and regulatory measures to facilitate and build up sustainable ecosystems
- Update participants on the current progress and achievements about the recent EBC projects and share knowledge and experience of the results.

#### **4. Timing and location**

The ADF-19 will be held as a 3-day event via virtual meeting using Zoom. It will be from 9:30 AM – 15:00 PM (UTC+7) during 22-24 November 2022.

#### **5. Participation**

All APT Members, Associate Members, Affiliate Members, International/Regional Organizations, and eligible Non-Members can participate in the ADF-19 utilizing APT Zoom.

Participants will be provided with APT Zoom meeting link, meeting ID and password. Participants shall logon to meeting URL at the designated time and date. In order to have proper audio experience during the meeting, participants shall be equipped with headset containing speaker and microphone. APT requests all participants to kindly follow our guidelines in attending online meeting provided in an Introduction to APT Zoom meeting document.

#### **6. Contact persons:**

For any further information about ADF-19, please contact to:

APT Secretariat
<p>Mr. Sangmin Lee, Programme Officer (Email: <a href="mailto:smlee@apt.int">smlee@apt.int</a>)            Mr. Nidup Gyeltshen, Project Coordinator (Email: <a href="mailto:nidup@apt.int">nidup@apt.int</a>)            Ms. Tassanee Putsoan, Programme Secretary (Email: <a href="mailto:tassanee@apt.int">tassanee@apt.int</a>)</p> <p>Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT)            12/49 Soi 5, Chaeng Watthana Road            Bangkok 10210, Thailand            Tel: + 66 2 573 0044            Fax: +66 2 573 7479            E-mail : <a href="mailto:aptict@apt.int">aptict@apt.int</a></p>

## **Annex A**

### **19th APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-19)**

#### **PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

1. Opening
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Nomination of Chair of ADF
4. Outcomes of the 45th Session of the Management Committee of the APT relevant to ADF
5. Proposed revision in Working Methods of ADF
6. Thematic Sessions:
  - Emerging ICTs in Enhancing Connectivity for Quality and Universality: 5G, Wi-Fi, Satellite Communication, and Other Technologies
  - Updates for Providing Affordable and Accessible Broadband Services in Asia-Pacific Region
  - Applications of Digital Transformation: Smart City, Smart Transportation, AI, and Best Practices for Using Data and the latest ICTs.
  - Initiatives to Boost Startups for Accelerating Digital Economy
7. Outcomes and Achievements of the Projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs)
8. Way forward
9. Date and Venue for ADF-20
10. Any Other Matters
11. Closing

## The 19th APT Telecommunication/ICT Development Forum (ADF-19)

### Tentative Programme

TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
<b>Day – 1</b> (UTC+7)	<b>Tuesday, 22 November 2022</b>
9:30 – 10:00	<b>Registration</b>
10:00 – 10:20	<b>Opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome Remarks by Mr. Masanori Kondo, Secretary General of APT</li> <li>• Opening Remarks by Ms. Tepua Hunter, Chairman of ADF</li> </ul> <p style="text-align: center;">(Group Photograph)</p>
10:20 – 10:50	<b>Session 1: Plenary</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Adoption of the Agenda</li> <li>• Nomination of Chair of ADF</li> <li>• Outcomes of the 45th Session of the Management Committee of the APT Relevant to ADF</li> <li>• Proposed revision in Working Methods of ADF</li> </ul>
10:50 – 11:00	Coffee / Tea Break
11:00 – 12:15	<b>Session 2: Emerging ICTs in Enhancing Connectivity for Quality and Universality: 5G, Wi-Fi, Satellite Communication, and Other Technologies</b> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Since the first commercialization of 5G in 2019, this newly introduced networks are rapidly becoming established, especially in some countries and regions. However, there are various rural areas where these new technologies cannot be established in the Asia-Pacific region due to unique characteristic over vast land and sea. Many countries and companies in the Asia-Pacific region are working to make high-quality telecommunication networks more universal and faster. In this session, we will look at various technologies such as emerging communication networks, namely the new technology of 5G, Wi-Fi, and satellite communication, and how these heterogeneous technologies can be combined for universality and resilience.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: (tbd)</b></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recent 5G technology to support various services and applications</li> </ul>

TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evolution of Wi-Fi technology and use cases of unlicensed spectrum in Asia-Pacific regions</li> <li>• Current Status of Satellite Communication Industry in the Asia-Pacific Region and Forecast for Future Development</li> <li>• Other Technologies for Universal and Resilient Network</li> </ul> <p><i>Speakers: (tbd)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APT Members Representatives, Industry and Institute Representatives related to the topic</li> </ul>
12:15– 12:45	Coffee / Tea Break
12:45 – 14:00	<p><b>Session 3: Updates for Providing Affordable and Accessible Broadband Services in Asia-Pacific Region</b></p> <p><i>Computing and communication technologies, which are rapidly developing in recent years, are making the gap wider between those who can benefit from these technological developments and those who are under/unserved around the world. Meanwhile, various global crises, including the pandemic, are giving a chance to remind people of the importance of universal and reliable digital connectivity. In the Asia-Pacific region, network establishment is limited in rural areas due to the diverse topographical environment and large variations in population density and economic conditions. In this session, the national broadband strategies of the countries of Asia-Pacific region to reduce the digital divide, their implementation, and the application of the various technologies that support it will be shared.</i></p> <p><i>Moderator: (tbd)</i></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APT Member’s recent national broadband plans to deploy affordable and sustainable network to close the digital divide</li> <li>• Activities for reliable and affordable network proliferation to solve last mile problems in rural area</li> <li>• Current technology for wire and wireless network</li> <li>• Various technologies to support universal access</li> </ul> <p><i>Speakers: (tbd)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APT Members Representatives, Industry and Institute Representatives related to the topic</li> </ul>
<b>Day – 2</b>	<b>Wednesday 23 November 2022</b>
09:00 – 10:15 (UTC+7)	<b>Session 4: Outcomes and Achievements of the Projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs)</b>

TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
	<p><i>The session introduces the outcomes and achievements of the APT projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs). Each presentation outlines the needs, requirements, and basic problem statement of the project. It then provides achievement as the solution including the challenges in the project and concludes with the recommendation for the beneficiary country.</i></p> <p><i>Particularly, it features examples of connectivity project in challenging geographical conditions with applications to serve the people in the area.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Nakajima Mutsuharu, Director, International Digital Infrastructure Promotion Division, Global Strategy Bureau, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications (MIC), Japan</i></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status, Outcomes, and Achievements from the Projects of EBC-J (tbd)</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts or Participants of beneficiary APT Members Related to EBC-J</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:30	Coffee / Tea Break
10:30 – 11:45 (UTC+7)	<p><b>Session 5 – Outcomes and Achievements of the Projects via Extra Budgetary Contributions (EBCs)</b></p> <p><i>The session introduces the outcomes and achievements of the APT projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs). Each presentation outlines the needs, requirements, and basic problem statement of the project. It then provides achievement as the solution including the challenges in the project and concludes with the recommendation for the beneficiary country.</i></p> <p><i>Projects in this session provide examples of ICT applications can contribute to different sectors such as cloud infrastructure for e-learning and ICT in emergency medicine.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Hiroshi Yamasaki, Programme Officer, APT</i></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status, Outcomes, and Achievements from the Projects of EBC-J (tbd)</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts or Participants of beneficiary APT Members Related to EBC-J</li> </ul>

TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
11:45 – 12:15 (UTC+7)	Lunch Break
12:15 – 13:30 (UTC+7)	<p><b>Session 6: Outcomes and Achievements of the Projects via Extra Budgetary Contributions (EBCs)</b></p> <p><i>The session introduces the outcomes and achievements of the APT projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions from the Republic of Korea (EBC-K). Each presentation outlines the needs, requirements, and basic problem statement of the project. It then provides achievement as the solution including the challenges in the project and concludes with the recommendation for the beneficiary country.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Sangmin Lee, Programme Officer, APT</i></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status, Outcomes, and Achievements from the Projects of EBC-K (tbd)</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts or Participants of beneficiary APT Members Related to EBC-K</li> </ul>
13:30 – 13:45 (UTC+7)	Coffee / Tea Break
13:45 – 15:00 (UTC+7)	<p><b>Session 7: Outcomes and Achievements of the Projects via Extra-Budgetary Contributions (EBCs)</b></p> <p><i>This session introduces three ICT Application projects funded by Extra-Budgetary Contributions from China (EBC-C) which were implemented last year. Experts who participated in each project will explain the current situation of the project, and Q&amp;A and discussions will be held with the participants of the beneficiary countries.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator:</b> <i>Mr. Younggyu Sin, Programme Officer, APT</i></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Current status, Outcomes, and Achievements from the Projects of EBC-C (tbd)</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experts or Participants of beneficiary APT Members Related to EBC-C</li> </ul>
<b>Day – 3</b>	<b>Thursday, 24 November 2022</b>
09:00 – 10:15 (UTC+7)	<b>Session 8: Applications of Digital Transformation: Smart City, Smart Transportation, AI, and Best Practices for using Data and the latest ICTs</b>



TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
	<p><i>The pandemic of the past two years has triggered a non-face-to-face and digital transformation, demonstrating that ICT can be a powerful solution in responding to a new paradigm by enabling people to quickly acquire new information and share ways to cope with it. This has further accelerated the discussion of digital transformation around the world, and it has become an opportunity for each country to raise interest in digital governance, including digital transformation and platforming of government organizations. Digital governance is a new form of government administration that goes beyond the computerization of simple administrative tasks and pursues artificial intelligence and big data, and the benefits and utility of using them. In this session, we will share strategies and best practices for smart cities, smart transport, and other industries that are actively being promoted in the Asia-Pacific region as concrete and important application cases of digital governance. In addition, strategies, experiences, and best practices on digital governance promoted by countries in the Asia-Pacific region will be presented, and various perspective and opinions will be exchanged with participants.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: (tbd)</b></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Smart City: Strategy and Best Practices in Asia-Pacific region</li> <li>• Smart Transport System: The Integrated application of ICTs and management strategies for transportation.</li> <li>• Best Practices for Smart City, Smart Transportation, and other industries using data from The Perspective of the latest ICTs</li> <li>• Strategy for development of AI and Enhancing its usage in Digital Governance</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers: (tbd)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APT Members Representatives, Industry and Institute Representatives related to the topic</li> </ul>
10:15 – 10:30 (UTC+7)	Coffee / Tea Break
10:30 – 11:45 (UTC+7)	<p><b>Session 9: Initiatives to Boost Startups for Accelerating Digital Economy</b></p> <p><i>ICT technology is a major tool for young people to innovate and lead because it is easy to converge with other industries and can start a new business with high utility and ripple effect with just an idea. In addition, starting a business using ICT and software inspires and motivates many young people in that they can succeed only with ideas at a low cost without being limited by space. As the spread of knowledge through the Internet becomes common and various open platforms useful for start-ups appear, start-up activities based on ICTs are becoming more active around the world. In this session, we look at the status of start-ups in various countries,</i></p>

TIME (Bangkok)	PROGRAMME
	<p><i>organizations, and institutions, mainly in the Asia-Pacific region, and share government support policies and their results.</i></p> <p><b>Moderator: (tbd)</b></p> <p><b>Topics:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Policies and activities to support and revitalize Startups by countries and institutions in the Asia-Pacific region</li> <li>• Open platforms that facilitate the participation of young people in Startups</li> <li>• Driving technopreneurship through a collaborative ecosystem</li> <li>• Best Practices for enhancing Startups</li> </ul> <p><b>Speakers: (tbd)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APT Members Representatives, Industry and Institute Representatives related to the topic</li> </ul>
11:45 – 12:00 (UTC+7)	Coffee / Tea Break
12:00– 13:00 (UTC+7)	<p><b>Session 10: Plenary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consideration of the Output Documents, if any</li> <li>• Way forward</li> <li>• Date and Venue for ADF-20</li> <li>• Any other matters</li> </ul> <hr/> <p><b>Closing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Remarks by Secretary General of the APT</li> <li>• Remarks and Closing by Chairman of ADF</li> </ul>