

# APT and ICT Development in the Pacific



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# Contents

1. The Brunei Darussalam Statement of the Asia-Pacific ICT Ministers on “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”
2. The APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017
3. Input from the APT’s 8<sup>th</sup> Policy and Regulatory Forum for the Pacific (PRFP-8)

## “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

- ▶ Asia-Pacific ICT Ministerial Meeting on “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT” in Brunei Darussalam, 10-11 September 2014
- ▶ 6 Ministers from Pacific Island nations attended
- ▶ 21 Ministers overall attended  
4 Vice Ministers, 2 Deputy Ministers, 2 Permanent Secretaries
- ▶ 26 Member and 3 Associate Member countries were represented

# Brunei Statement: “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ► Six Key Priority Areas:

- 1) Conducive Policies for Sustainable Growth of ICT and Smart Digital Economy
- 2) Safe and Secure Society through ICT
- 3) Trust and Confidence in ICT
- 4) Sustainable ICT Ecosystem for Innovation
- 5) Capacity Building and Institutional Development
- 6) Fostering Regional Cooperation for ICT Development

# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ► Six Key Priority Areas for the Pacific:

- 1) Conducive Policies for [Sustainable Growth of ICT](#) and Smart Digital Economy
- 2) Safe and Secure Society through ICT - [disaster management](#)
- 3) Trust and Confidence in ICT - [cybersecurity](#)
- 4) Sustainable [ICT Ecosystem for Innovation](#)
- 5) [Capacity Building](#) and Institutional Development
- 6) Fostering [Regional Cooperation for ICT Development](#)

# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ▶ Sustainable Growth of ICT and the Digital Divide

“However, there is still a vast gap in broadband penetration and ICT Development among the various countries of the region. This digital divide needs to be bridged ... small island developing states continue to need further support in this regard”

## ▶ Disaster Management

“The Asia-Pacific region has suffered from natural disasters such as tsunamis, typhoons, floods and landslides, and volcanic eruptions. Our preparedness, early warning systems, rescue and recovery efforts can be improved with the use of ICT”

# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ▶ Sustainable Growth of ICT and Smart Digital Economy

- ▶ 2012 Study of Resource Center as new concept in Republic of Nauru, where there is very limited Internet connection - Nauru
- ▶ 2011 A Palau-Japan collaborative pilot project for Palau's first-ever rural telecenter: A Model of ICT Applications for eLearning, eHealth, Disaster Management, Economic Development, and Cultural Preservation in rural communities - Palau
- ▶ APT Policy and Regulatory Forum for Pacific (PRFP) - now in its 8<sup>th</sup> year

## ▶ Disaster Management

- ▶ 2014 A Pilot Project for Realizing Full Time Active Volcano Surveillance, Geohazards Monitoring, and Creating Disaster Emergency Information Dissemination Station together with the Provision of Internet Wireless Broadband Services to the Selected School and the Nearby Communities - Vanuatu
- ▶ 2012 Pilot Project for e-disaster communication network in rural island environment - Tonga
- ▶ 2011 Study on e-Disaster Communications by using the Advanced ICT in the Kingdom of Tonga
- ▶ APT Workshop on Disaster Management Communications (WDMC) - now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year

# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ▶ Cybersecurity

“Encourage the development of more ICT experts on cybersecurity by providing quality training programmes in the region”

“Assist members to develop cyber-legislation and support CERT/CSIRT activities”

## ▶ ICT ecosystem for Innovation

“The sustainable ICT ecosystem should provide a level playing field for all players, to encourage and nurture innovation as the catalyst for continuous economic growth”



# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

- ▶ **Cybersecurity**
- ▶ APT Cybersecurity Forum (CSF) - now in its 6<sup>th</sup> year
- ▶ Cybersecurity training courses in 2014 and future training planned
  
- ▶ **ICT ecosystem for Innovation**
- ▶ PRFP and PRF look at ways in which government policy and regulation can facilitate innovation and economic growth
- ▶ 2010 Livelihood Opportunities and Culture Preservation through a Sustainable and Eco-friendly ICT Telecenter - Marshall Islands
- ▶ Similar initiatives as for Sustainable Growth of ICT and Digital Divide

# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

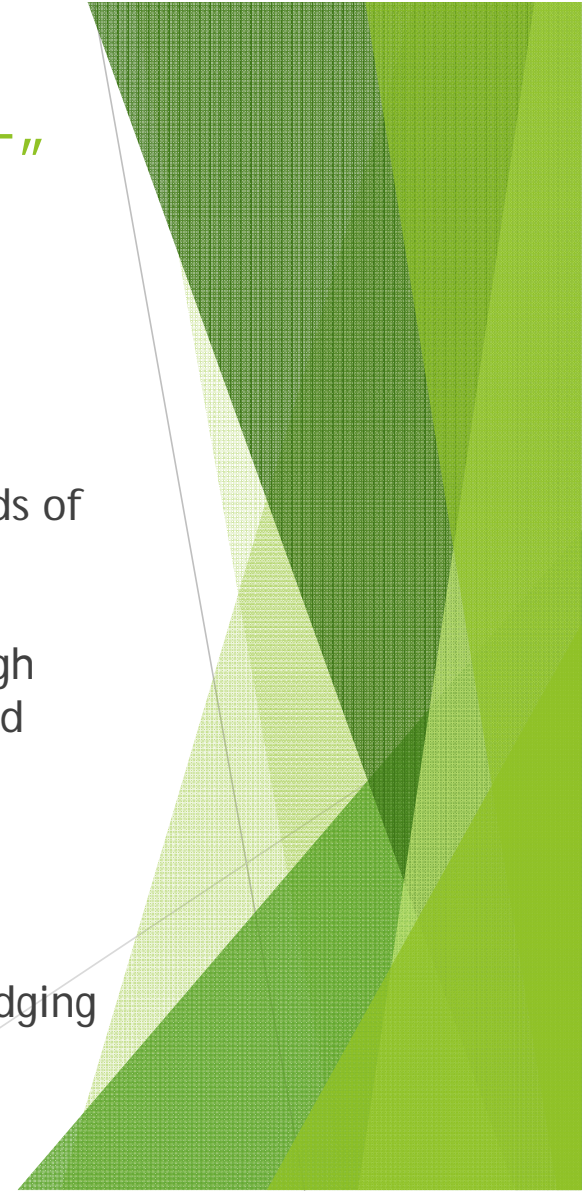
## ► Capacity Building

“Enhance and expand training programmes in the Asia-Pacific region, including online training programmes, by focusing on the specific needs of the region”

“Promote more collaboration amongst ICT experts in the region through exchange programmes of researchers, engineers, ICT pilot projects and start-ups”

## ► Regional Cooperation

“Regional cooperation in matters related to ICT plays a key role in accelerating the economic growth in the region, reducing poverty, bridging economic gap, increasing productivity and promoting employment”



# “Building Smart Digital Economy through ICT”

## ▶ Capacity Building

- ▶ 2015 Spectrum Management Training course in Fiji
- ▶ 2013 and 2014 - online training policies in policy and regulation, mobile communications

## ▶ Regional Cooperation

- ▶ PRFP forum for facilitating sub-regional cooperation on common issues
- ▶ Forums like APG and AWG facilitate regional cooperation - strength in numbers

# APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017

▶ APT Work Programme for the year 2015-2017 have been divided into 8 main Work Items:

1. Policy and Regulation
2. ICT Development
3. Disaster Management
4. Cybersecurity
5. Radiocommunication
6. Standardization
7. Capacity Building
8. Regional Cooperation for ICT Development

# APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017

## ► Policy & Regulation

“promote affordable national broadband access and improve international broadband connectivity in Member countries in the Asia-Pacific region”

“Share best practices, skills, regulations, and technologies to reduce the ICT development gap and to further develop ICT infrastructure so as to promote the innovation growth in the region”

## ► ICT Development

“Devise general guidelines/best practices for building and maintenance of reliable and robust Telecommunication/ICT facilities in landlocked developing countries and **small island developing states** in view of their special requirements in terms of repair and maintenance ... trained personnel, availability of bandwidth ...”

# APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017

- ▶ **Disaster Management**

“Encourage and promote the collaboration with relevant parties including international organizations and the private sector to facilitate implementation of necessary activities in disaster management”

- ▶ **Cybersecurity**

“Assist members to develop cyber-legislation”

“Assist members in setting up CERT/CSIRT in countries which have no such institutions”

- ▶ **Radiocommunication**

“Promote harmonization of spectrum across the Asia-Pacific region including new frequency spectrum such as the 700 MHz band to provide affordable broadband services”



# APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017

## ► Standardization

“Encourage development and adoption of common standards in the region for deployment of innovative technologies”

## ► Capacity Building

“Encourage the development of more ICT experts on disaster management/communications and on cybersecurity by providing quality training programmes”

“Enhance and expand training programmes ... including online training programmes, by focusing on the specific needs of the region”

“Provide expert missions in assisting Member countries on ICT development needs”

“Promote more collaboration amongst ICT experts in the region through exchange programmes”

# APT Strategic Plan 2015-2017

## ► Regional Cooperation

“As the only inter-governmental telecommunication organization in the Asia-Pacific region, take the leading role in promoting various development agenda including telecommunication standardization, region frequency spectrum coordination, cybersecurity and emergency communications”

“Bring in synergies among the international organizations working in ICT in the region by actively coordinating with ITU and other international organizations for optimization of resources to avoid duplication of efforts”





## Input from the PRFP-8

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