

ITU Regional Development Forum for Asia-Pacific (RDF-ASP)

Digital transformation and innovation for a sustainable and equitable digital future: Supporting the SDGs

organized by the International Telecommunication Union

13-15 September 2023
Bangkok, Thailand

Bangkok Time (GMT+7)

Please note that submitted information will be presented during the RDF-ASP P2C Roundtables and it will also be reflected on the pledging platform of the Partner 2 Connect Digital Coalition.

Once completed send to ITU-RO-AsiaPacific@itu.int

CONTRIBUTION FORM

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TITLE: [Promoting the construction of Internet interconnection Infrastructure, boosting the equality of digital connectivity]

DESCRIPTION OF ACTION: [Provide a brief description up to 500 words]

Internet interconnection infrastructure is crucial for connecting different networks and enabling cross-network communication. Its balanced layout and scale expansion are critical for equalizing digital connectivity services and improving the efficiency and quality of cross-network access in backward regions. About a decade ago, Internet interconnection infrastructures in China were mainly concentrated in several key provinces in the eastern region. Cross-network connectivity in the central and western regions required long-distance transmission to the eastern node, with many hops and a considerable distance, so there was a massive gap in the efficiency and quality of network interconnection compared with the eastern region. The competent department of information and communication attaches great importance to this. It has vigorously promoted the optimization of the layout of cross-network connectivity facilities in the past decade, focusing on the relatively backward provinces in the central and western regions, encouraging large operators to deploy backbone connectivity facilities in the local areas, and thoroughly solving the problem of cross-network access to the Internet for users in backward regions. It has improved the level and capability of network infrastructure in the central and western regions, significantly narrowed the gap in cross-network connectivity between various regions, and effectively eliminated the digital divide. At the same time, in the case of prosperous development of Internet industry and applications, timely promote the construction of Internet exchange points (suitable for the interconnection between small and medium-sized networks), solve the problem of poor digital connection between small and medium-sized enterprises, promote their extensive interconnection, to give small and medium-sized networks the same digital connection opportunities as large networks, and further optimize the industrial development ecology. This work has achieved specific results and laid an excellent network foundation for supporting the high-quality social and economic development of various regions in China. China's experience has particular reference significance for other countries in the Asia-Pacific



region to promote the construction of Internet interconnection infrastructure and achieve equal digital connectivity.

COUNTRIES in FOCUS: [Name countries to be impacted by this action]

 -- Relational less developed country in the Asia-Pacific region.

YEARS of IMPLEMENTATION: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

2025

RELEVANT ITU REGIONAL INITIATIVE: [Tick the relevant boxes or delete the irrelevant items]

ASP3: Fostering development of infrastructure to enhance digital connectivity and connecting the unconnected

Please find more information on the ITU Regional Initiatives 2023-2025, as defined by WTDC-22,

[https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/v2/2023/ITU-Asia-and-the-Pacific-Regional-Initiatives-\(2023-2025\).aspx](https://www.itu.int/en/ITU-D/Regional-Presence/AsiaPacific/Pages/v2/2023/ITU-Asia-and-the-Pacific-Regional-Initiatives-(2023-2025).aspx)

RELATED ITU-D PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY THE ITU WORLD TELECOMMUNICATION DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2022

Digital Transformation

Please find more information on the ITU-D Priorities, as defined by WTDC-22, [here](#).

RELATED ITU PRIORITIES AS DEFINED BY ITU PLENIPOTENTIARY CONFERENCE 2022

Inclusive and secure telecommunication/ICT infrastructure and services

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