



ASIA-PACIFIC TELECOMMUNITY
12/49 Soi 5, Chaeng Watthana Road, Bangkok 10210, Thailand

Ref: APT/PD-1.5.1/ICT-Dev't/Inv

23 June 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Subject: Invitation for Proposals for International Collaborative Research and ICT Pilot Projects for Rural Areas for 2021 (Funded by the Government of Japan)

I am pleased to inform you that the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) is inviting APT members to submit proposals for 1) International Collaborative Research, and 2) ICT Pilot Projects for Rural Areas for 2021 funded by the Extra-Budgetary Contribution from Japan (EBC-J).

As an organization to promote ICT development in the Asia-Pacific region, APT has been providing programmes to facilitate ICT development activities in this region. The International Collaborative Research and the ICT Pilot Projects for Rural Areas are important and concrete activities to fulfill the APT's objectives, which aim to:

- Promote the exchange of knowledge and technical know-how among ICT experts in the Asia-Pacific region through international collaborative research projects on ICT and ICT utilization; and
- Narrow digital divide in the Asia-Pacific region by promoting and establishing pilot projects to ensure the access to ICT in rural areas of APT Members and to facilitate development of ICT infrastructures/services in the region.

This time, due to the unprecedented situation of the COVID-19 pandemic, APT, along with Japan (source of this EBC-J), plans to give a priority and to provide a special consideration to support activities of APT Members that relate to combating and recovering from COVID-19 impact.

The financial supports for these activities will be:

- 1) International Collaborative Research (Category I) - maximum USD 60,000 (USD 80,000 for projects designed to help in the recovery from COVID-19)
- 2) ICT Pilot Projects for Rural Areas (Category II) - maximum USD 200,000. (USD 250,000 for projects designed to help in the recovery from COVID-19)

Please note that your proposed project for EBC-J can be a part of a project that is financed by your own budget. Please also be reminded that your proposal will be carefully examined in terms of feasibility, reasonability, and effectiveness.

/ ...

The project is to be completed within 11 months. Priority may be given to the project with financial support from the proposing APT Member. APT Members could submit multi-year proposals up to 2 years. The possible combinations are:

- Category I (first year) & Category II (second year)
- Category II (first year) & Category II (second year)

In case of the multi-year proposal, it requires to include details of the second year's project as much as possible. Please also be noted that adoption of a multi-year proposal does not necessarily indicate nor express APT's commitment to extend financial support for the second year. In any case, the applicant of multi-year proposal needs to submit the proposal of the project in the second year for APT's consideration.

Interested APT members must submit project proposals by completing the Application Form and the Accounting Form, and sending them to APT Secretariat through the APT Members contact point by 14 September 2021 by e-mail to aptict@apt.int or fax to +66 2 5737479 or +66 2 5744226. The proposals from Affiliate Members should be submitted through the concerned APT Member or Associate Member.

If there is more than one proposal from a Member, please prioritize the proposals upon submission. Proposals submitted for last year's selection may be re-submitted with the necessary updates. For more information, please see the attached documents or visit APT website at <https://www.apt.int/APTICT>.

Yours sincerely,



Masanori Kondo
Secretary General

Encls:

- (1) Category I: Attachment 1 – Scheme of the Programme
- (2) Category I: Attachment 2 – Application Form
- (3) Category I: Attachment 3 – Accounting Form and Budget Plan
- (4) Category II: Attachment 1 – Scheme of the Programme
- (5) Category II: Attachment 2 – Application Form
- (6) Category II: Attachment 3 – Accounting Form and Budget Plan
- (7) DSA rate of May 2021
- (8) List of Experts
- (9) Strategic Plan of the APT for 2021-2023

To: All APT Developing Members and Associate Members

cc: All Affiliate Members of Developing Members and Associate Members, All Affiliate Members-Japan