

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
LOANS			US\$ 27.8		
1.	Grameenphone Telecommunications Project (Investment No. 1603/7143)	Bangladesh	\$ 18.3M	20-janv-98	Completed
	OBJECTIVES: The Project will help redress the gap between supply and demand for telecommunications and thereby contribute to the economic development of Bangladesh. It will:				
	1. Improve the production system (agriculture, merchandising, manufacturing and financial services				
	2. Provide self-improvement to the rural poor and improve the economic and social conditions of rural villagers through access to improved communications				
	3. Be a role model of private sector investment contributing to poverty alleviation and improving access to essential Government and nongovernment services.				
2.	Information Technology Development Project (Loan 1882)	Maldives	\$ 9.5 M	17-déc-01	Ongoing
	OBJECTIVE: The main objective of the Project is to improve the efficiency, transparency, and accountability of public sector management, by networking government agencies and providing public service electronically.				
TAs/GRANTS			\$7,825,000		
1.	Preparing the Information and Communication Technology for Improved Financial Services Provision Project (Financed by the Japan Special Fund) [TA 3581]	Nepal	\$565,000.00	14-déc-00	Ongoing
	OBJECTIVES: The use of ICT for financial investments would increase competition in Nepal's financial sector by reducing transaction and information costs. This would lead to the provision of a wider range of financial sector products through electronic means for the higher-end customers. A growing number of lower-end customers would benefit from the increased outreach of financial services, in smaller towns, and semi-rural and rural areas. Moreover, reliable information infrastructure would increase service quality even at a lower price of provision.				
2.	Information Technology Development (TA 3597)	Maldives	\$150,000	19-déc-00	Completed
	OBJECTIVE: Same as in # 2 under Loans				
3.	SME Development and Export Expansion (PPTA BAN35225-01)	Bangladesh	US\$ 600,000 (JSF)	11-juin-02	Ongoing
	OBJECTIVES and SCOPE:				

NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
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The TA will help prepare a sector development program for the Small and Medium Enterprise Development and Export Expansion Project (SME-DEEP) to foster the growth and competitiveness of SMEs through support for an enabling environment conducive to the development of a sustainable SME sector, provision of business development and support services, and access to credit and financial services. The TA will assist in formulating a program, with focus on SMEs, for export promotion, diversification and expansion including trade finance and export credit insurance schemes. The TA will assist in identifying an agenda of reforms for promoting and developing a dynamic SME sector. The major components of the PPTA are (a) review of policies, legislation and governance structure and identification of a policy agenda to remove market distortions and improve efficiency in the finance, industry and trade sectors, with particular attention to SMEs, and building capacity in business associations for analytical work needed to effectively dialogue with policy makers on improving the enabling environment for SMEs; (b) institutional review and strategic analysis of selected institutions providing support services to private business, particularly SMEs, including registration and licensing, vocational training and skills development, investment promotion, industrial technological support, testing and standards certification, export promotion, and trade intelligence services; (c) support for SME business development and support services by the private sector in coordination with other multilateral and bilateral donors; and (d) study of alternative sources of finance for SME development and formulation of funding structures for long-term finance, working capital, trade finance and export credit guarantee.

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| <p>4. Grant Assistance for Supporting the Electronic Health Insurance Membership Card Project (Financed by the Japan Fund for Information and Communications Technology) [Approved # 9020]</p> | <p>Viet Nam</p> | <p>\$ 500,000 equivalent</p> | <p>12-sept-02</p> | <p>Ongoing</p> |
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OBJECTIVES:

The goal of the project is to support the Government's objective of achieving universal health insurance coverage by 2010. The objective is ambitious but is significantly more challenging to achieve in rural and poor communities. The purpose is to demonstrate the feasibility of introducing the E-HI cards to facilitate the expansion of health insurance coverage in rural and poor communities.

The Project through the introduction of E-HI card will seek to achieve (i) provision of more appropriate health services for rural poor families through more comprehensive patient and service reviews and by facilitating closer client and provider relationships.; (ii) improved administrative efficiency by reducing the time for reimbursement and payment processing; and (iii) reduced fraudulent claims by providing more timely and accurate client information for providers. The Project will provide policy relevant information on how the introduction of E-Hi cards in rural and poor communities will impact on increasing the coverage of health insurance in these areas.

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| <p>5. TA for Improving Basic Education in Underdeveloped Areas Through Information and Communication Technology (TA 3958)</p> | <p>People's Republic of China</p> | <p>\$ 500,000 equivalent</p> | <p>30-oct-02</p> | |
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OBJECTIVES:

The two objectives of the TA are to (i) undertake a broad assessment of and identify promising innovations and strategies for the applications of distance education and ICT in education with a particular focus on supporting access to quality UCE among disadvantaged populations including minorities, women, and remote communities; and (ii) support a very modest and targeted pilot testing of promising approaches and technologies with a tight pro-equity focus.

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
6.	TA for ICT and HIV/AIDS Preventive Education in the Cross-Border Areas of the GMS (TA 6083)	GMS	\$ 1M on grant basis	19-déc-02	Ongoing
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The project will seek to achieve increased awareness of and skills on how to prevent infection among the more vulnerable groups by: (i) training teachers in using ICT-based learning materials and preventive education efforts in schools; (ii) a strategy of decentralized educational radio programs and audio tapes; (iv) selectively collecting, storing, and repacking innovative education materials in an expanded clearing house of information and materials support; (v) establishing a geographic information system (GIS); and (vi) direct and targeted interventions among special and interstitial populations, in collaboration with community-based organizations and non-governmental organizations (NGOs)</p>				
7.	Proposed Grant Assistance for Supporting the Development of a Business Plan for a Center for Learning, Information, Communication, and Knowledge for Asia and the Pacific (Financed by the Japan Fund for ICT) [Grant: REG 36632-01]	Asia and the Pacific	\$ 180,000 on grant basis	19-déc-02	Processing
	<p>OBJECTIVE:</p> <p>The objective of the proposed JFICT project is the development of a sound and viable business plan, which is a prerequisite to establishing the CLICK. The plan will define the mission, role, goals, and objectives of the CLICK. The plan will thoroughly explore the feasibility of the two key components of the CLICK: (i) an ICT-based learning and information center to help the DMCs build human and institutional capacity, and (ii) advisory services to assist capacity building and business development in facilitating timely access to relevant information in development prospects in DMCs.</p>				
8.	Proposed Grant Assistance to Mongolia for Supporting the ICT for Innovating Rural Education Project (to be implemented in conjunction with Loan 1908-MON: Second Education Development Project). [Grant: MON 36245-01]	Mongolia	\$ 1.25 million equivalent	Initial listing: 28 January 2003	Processing
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The objective of the proposed Project is to promote the goal of increasing access to and achievement in high quality, locally responsive basic and non-formal education for disadvantaged rural population in Mongolia, the overall purpose of the IIREM is to establish a replicable model for using ICT to bring education content, modern pedagogy, and information to poor rural schools and communities. More directly, within target rural areas, the pilot will (i) empower rural teachers (principally in basic education grades 1-8) to innovate, improving teacher practice and fostering a pupil-centered, active learning environment; (ii) enhance school management and system equity, efficiency, and transparency; and (iii) increase opportunities for high-quality and locally relevant NFE, and build new school-community linkages.</p>				

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
9.	E-legal Challenges in Asia: Cyber Law Training Seminar (RETA: REG: 35157-01)	Regional	\$100,000	(Date of first listing: 9 May 2001)	Processing
	<p>OBJECTIVES & SCOPE:</p> <p>The objective of the TA is to introduce selected policymakers from Cambodia, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Myanmar, and Viet Nam - DMCs within the ASEAN region that are least developed in terms of 'e-readiness' - to (i) the major current policy, legal and regulatory reform issues in e-commerce and cyberlaw; and (ii) best practices in addressing such issues in leading 'e-readiness' jurisdictions, particularly within Asia such as Singapore and Hong Kong. The e-commerce and cyberlaw areas covered by the proposed training seminar will include (a) connectivity - the need to ensure widespread, reliable and inexpensive access to ICT goods and services, particularly effective ways in which to target use by poor and disadvantaged groups+B57; (b) convergence - the need to integrate existing separate regulatory regimes relating to broadcast media, telephone and telecommunications and computers in order to permit an integrated policy and regulatory approach to ICT issues; (c) security of information systems and protection of personal data and individual privacy; (d) protection of intellectual property; and (e) other related issues, including the need for particular infrastructural investment to enable interconnection of networks and interoperability of services, and to encourage open competition and industry self-regulation</p>				
10.	School Computerization and Computer Literacy (PPTA: SRI 35192-01)	Sri Lanka	\$500,000	(Date of first Listing: 16 August 2002)	Processing
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The TA will prepare an investment project to support the Government's strategy to improve the quality and efficiency of basic education to meet new labor market requirements. This will be done by improving computer literacy among teachers and students, establishing electronic libraries and developing multimedia computer courseware to overcome the problems of many unqualified teaching staff and lack of instructional materials. The project will target especially the poor and disadvantaged youths in rural areas (type 2 and 3 schools). The project will contribute in reducing the digital divide and in preparing for information technology-related jobs. The TA will prepare an investment project with the following outputs in mind: (i) it will establish at least 1,200 school information centers and the same number of electronic libraries; (ii) About 35 percent of primary and secondary students (1.5 million) will be able to use computers as a medium of instruction; (iii) About 50 percent of school administrators and teachers (100,000) will be able to use computers in improving the quality and efficiency of basic education; (iv) Multimedia computer courseware will be developed and distributed for all the subjects taught in primary and secondary schools to overcome low quality education; and (v) Ways of recovering operation and maintenance costs should be explored to make the project sustainable. The TA will have three components: (i) comprehensive study and survey for establishing school information centers, (ii) master plan to develop electronic library and multimedia computer courseware, and (iii) initial capacity building of school administrators and teachers in the use of information technology in education.</p>				
11.	Trade Policy and Legal Framework in Mongolia	Mongolia	\$150,000		
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The TA will assess the institutional, policy, and legal constraints to trade, producing a series of recommendations to strengthen capacity for trade policy formulation. It will also analyze the impact of large trading partners joining the World Trade Organization.</p>				

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
ICT PROJECTS IN THE PACIFIC					
1.	Financial Management System (TA 3240) OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE: The general objective of the project is to establish a strong financial management infrastructure, that will provide an effective basis for broader economic, governance,	Papua New	\$500,000	09-août-99	Completed
2.	Capacity Building of the Native Land Trust Board in Preparing Land Maps and Establishing Land Boundaries (TA 3424) OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE: The Native Land Trust Board is required to keep the Native Land Management System (NLMS) updated to respond to the need for better defined boundaries and thereby address the concerns of landowners and tenants. To speed up data updates and regularly update the data at a reduced cost, NLMS employs new technologies in land management: global positioning system (GPS) tools and technologies, geographic information system (GIS), and data from satellite imagery. The improved information will reduce business uncertainty and improve the general investment climate to positively influence projects, including hotel and tourism complexes.	Fiji Islands	\$140,000	31-mars-00	Completed
3.	Rehabilitation of the Telecommunications Sector (TA 3428) OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE: The objective of Phase 1 was to develop strategy and planning recommendations for rehabilitation and management of the telecommunications sector in East Timor during the transitional period of UN administration, taking into account longer-term requirements. The TA examined and made recommendations on the viability of private sector operation of telecommunications in East Timor, the appropriate role for government, and mechanisms to address physical reconstruction and funding requirements. The objective of Phase 2 is to focus on the preparation, structuring, and implementation of an international bidding process for the equipment and/or operation of the telecommunications sector in Timor-Leste. Phase 2, based on the findings of Phase 1, will also provide guidance to the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) on the setting up of a legal and regulatory framework for the telecommunications sector in which the public and/or private sector will operate.	East Timor	Phase I: \$ 150,000 Phase II: \$ 150,000	17-avr-00 26-sept-00	For closing For closing
4.	National and State Legislation on the Web (TA 3510) OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE: This project assisted the national and state governments to improve the efficiency and responsiveness of the legal system by making existing and future laws more available to the public and by advancing public understanding of the system. The TA created a legal information system as well as a program of community education on basic aspects of the legal system. The project created an electronic database containing sources and statements of law such as statutes, regulations, court rules and forms, court decisions, and attorney general opinions. The database will be located on an Internet website to facilitate widespread access and frequent updating. It will permit entire chapters or cases to be downloaded at a time, browsing that follows the structural framework of the codes, and key word searching.	Federated States of Micronesia	\$300,000	29-sept-00	Completed

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
5.	Reviewing the Health Management Information System (HMIS) [TA 3611I]	Marshall Islands	\$100,000	21-déc-00	For closing

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE:

The HMIS was developed to support the goals of the Health and Population Project, particularly the expanded role of primary health care. However, the system failed to achieve its potential due to system problems in areas such as flexibility, data collection, program modification, and difficulty of use. The proposed project will review the existing system, identify improvements in matching user requirements, improve user friendliness, and assist the Ministry of Health and Environment in developing an overall action plan for a more comprehensive and user-friendly information gathering and management system that it can sustain.

The overall objective is to improve access to basic information in the outer islands of Kiribati by improving connectivity and—through it— education, governance, social inclusion, health, access to the Internet, and disaster mitigation and control.

The project will assist the Government in defining needs and possible markets in the outer islands. It will develop several scenarios, including the involvement of villagers as customers and as service providers, to improve sustainability. Part of the project will include experimenting with different uses of ICT commensurate with the users' capacity to pay for such activities, and where it may provide business opportunities in the outer islands, by going beyond the usual or established business models. The project will train local staff in technology applications, economics of telecommunications, and policy and regulatory processes. The main outputs of the project will be: identification of communication needs, design and installation of the system, and capacity building and monitoring.

6.	Information and Communication Technology Assessment in the Pacific (TA 5990)	Pacific Developing Member Countries (PDMCs)	\$ 300,000 equivalent	18-juil-01	Completed
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OBJECTIVES:

The main objectives of the TA are to help the PDMC governments address their ICT readiness, prepare the framework for future development in the sector, and identify bankable projects for such. Wider and increased use of ICT will contribute to a more effective and equitable economy and society.

7.	Assistance to Develop the Fiji Islands ICT Strategy (TA 4100)	Fiji	\$150,000	28-avr-03	Ongoing
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OBJECTIVES:

The project will produce a strategy paper on interventions for ICT development and support public debate of this strategy paper to formalize it into a document that can be used by the Government in its planning exercises.

The implementation of this project will be in two stages: Phase I will identify the country's strategic directions based on the Strategic Development Plan and, discussions with the Government, and determine how and where ICT can help make a difference. This first phase will also include a review of procedures and complementary ICT systems that may help Fiji Islands officials tasked with monitoring medium-term plans and projects at their level. Phase II will identify and scope the above ICT application areas, then study and identify areas where the Government may gain additional benefits by integrating or consolidating some or all of them.

	NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
8.	Subregional E-Government Project in the Pacific (TA 6107)	Regional	\$290,000	23-mai-03	
	The objectives of this project include assisting PDMCs in the following areas: (i) assessment of e-government demand and supply; (ii) enhancement of e-government implementation capacity; (iii) review of best practices and lessons learned; (iv) preparation of a feasibility study for a subregional e-government project for external financing; and (v) recommendations for making the project sustainable and beneficial to the poor.				
9.	Human Resources Development in the Health Sector (TA 3762)	Papua New Guinea	\$250,000	06-nov-01	Ongoing
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The project will establish a human resources development system for the health sector that will ensure that adequate quality and quantity of human resources are available to respond to the health needs of the population. The project will also improve the quality of the performance of community health workers (CHWs) through an integrated approach to their pre-service training, in-service training, and supervision. At the national level, support will be provided for key aspects of human resources development planning, production and management. At the regional level, capacity will be developed to support provincial in-service training and supervision. Each province will be provided support to establish and operate an integrated in-service training and supervision function. This support will be directed mainly towards the CHWs who provide care to the largest proportion of the community.</p> <p>The proposed project will have equity, institutional, and economic benefits. The direct beneficiaries of the project will be approximately 3,000 practicing CHWs and approximately 1,000 CHWs who will be trained during the life of the project. Indirect beneficiaries of the project will be the rural population of approximately 3 million, who will benefit from the improved productivity and quality of CHW performance.</p>				
10.	Samoa School Net and Community Access Project (TA 36513-01)	Samoa			Processing (under JFICT)
	<p>OBJECTIVES:</p> <p>The objective of the project is to improve the quality of education and teacher support by interconnecting local schools and creating community access facilities. This will assist the Government in reducing poverty in the rural areas by improving connectivity and—through it—education, social inclusion, and health.</p> <p>The project would initially provide connectivity, software, and appliances for up to five schools, supported by members of a stakeholder group (e.g., women) and leaders within each local community. Following intensive and specialized teacher training in the use of ICT in the classroom, and the development and use of multimedia learning materials, the teachers in each school will become comfortable and competent in a computerized environment over a 6 to 8 month period.</p>				
11.	Outer Islands ICT Network (TA 36519-01)	Kiribati			Processing (under JFICT)
	<p>The overall objective is to improve access to basic information in the outer islands of Kiribati by improving connectivity and—through it— education, governance, social inclusion, health, access to the Internet, and disaster mitigation and control.</p> <p>The project will assist the Government in defining needs and possible markets in the outer islands. It will develop several scenarios, including the involvement of villagers as customers and as service providers, to improve sustainability. Part of the project will include experimenting with different uses of ICT commensurate with the users' capacity to pay for such activities, and where it may provide business opportunities in the outer islands, by going beyond the usual or established business models. The project will train local staff in technology applications, economics of telecommunications, and policy and regulatory processes. The main outputs of the project will be: identification of communication needs, design and installation of the system, and capacity building and monitoring.</p>				

NAME	COUNTRY	AMOUNT	DATE APPROVED	STATUS
12. Expanding the Reach of Distance Learning in the Pacific (TA 36513-01)	Regional (University of the South Pacific)			Processing (under JFICT)

OBJECTIVES AND SCOPE:

The University of the South Pacific provides distance education services using very small aperture terminal (VSAT) satellite communications. From its campuses and center, students and teachers can access course materials and submit assignments, search the web for information, and even attend distance learning courses from each institutions. In addition, students and teachers may also access the system from their homes and Internet cafe's anywhere through limited dial-up facilities in the Laucala Campus in the Fiji Islands.

