



REGIONAL MEETING FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES

TOWARDS GRADUATION: A FOCUS ON BROADBAND CONNECTIVITY

PORT VILA, VANUATU

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26-27 OCTOBER 2017



Session 1: Case studies and discussion on how LDCs are leveraging investment in broadband infrastructure for national development

This session will set the scene for the meeting by emphasizing the importance of investing in broadband in LDCs. The presenters will also highlight initial findings of the case studies on how investment in broadband is contributing to national development in Vanuatu and Cambodia.

The case studies aimed to achieve the following:

1. Assess the context of the broadband penetration in Cambodia and Vanuatu. This was conducted through a review of the specific roles of government, the private sector and other actors in providing broadband infrastructure and services.

3. Analyse the barriers to increased, equitable broadband deployment and adoption. Where possible, these barriers are quantified, for example, the investment requirements for extending broadband networks.

2. Provide examples of how the countries have leveraged broadband expansion for enhancing national development. The analysis includes examples from firms on how access to broadband has fostered growth and competitiveness. Other types of assessments will include the impact of investing in broadband on GDP, job creation and service delivery.

4. Propose the most appropriate financing models for various rollout options e.g. urban/suburban rollouts as well as rollouts in rural areas, which might be hampered by lower numbers of potential broadband users.

Photo: Cambodia. Asian Development Bank/Flickr(Left); Vanuatu. Connor Ashleigh, AusAID/Flickr (Right)

