



ADB Digital Sector Office

Paolo Manunta
Senior Digital Technology Specialist (Earth Observation)

The views expressed in this presentation are the views of the author/s and do not necessarily reflect the views or policies of the Asian Development Bank, or its Board of Governors, or the governments they represent. ADB does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this presentation and accepts no responsibility for any consequence of their use. The countries listed in this presentation do not imply any view on ADB's part as to sovereignty or independent status or necessarily conform to ADB's terminology.



The Context

Challenges and Opportunities

A global challenge



A development opportunity



2.6bn

people still offline in 2023, including approx. 66% of population from developing ADB member countries



3.3bn

live in countries without official forms of digital identification to access digital services



428bn

in investment needed to achieve minimum quality universal broadband by 2030, digital infrastructure investment gap in APAC expected to reach 512bn by 2040



20%

reduction in emissions in energy, mobility, and manufacturing by 2050



3x

more people reached with cash transfers in countries that had digital ID and data systems during the pandemic



6x

Rate of job creation in digital sector compared to the rest of the economy between 2020-2022

Continuously enhance ADB value creation for clients and partners through digitally enabled whole-of-government and society, and whole-of-ADB approach to digital transformation



What is Digital Transformation

Digitization

“Analog to Digital”

Conversation Dialogues → Email, Excel, PDF & Words

Digitize paper workflow and physical office to digital workplace; and mitigate risks of low employer attractiveness and employee engagement.

Digitalization

“Business Process”

Data & Records, Information System & Workflow

Redesign and digitalize existing business processes to achieve more desired outcomes such as **optimizing process flows and removing frictions**.

Digital Transformation

“Platform Business Models Innovation”

Connected Services via Digital Platforms, Leading to **Network Effects**

Reskilling Staff - Scale and Speed with AI Augmentation and Automation

New ways to create value with a digital business offering **new business models and new revenue streams and scaling network out-reach to more clients and partners**.

AI Augmentation



ADB's Digital Transformation Vision

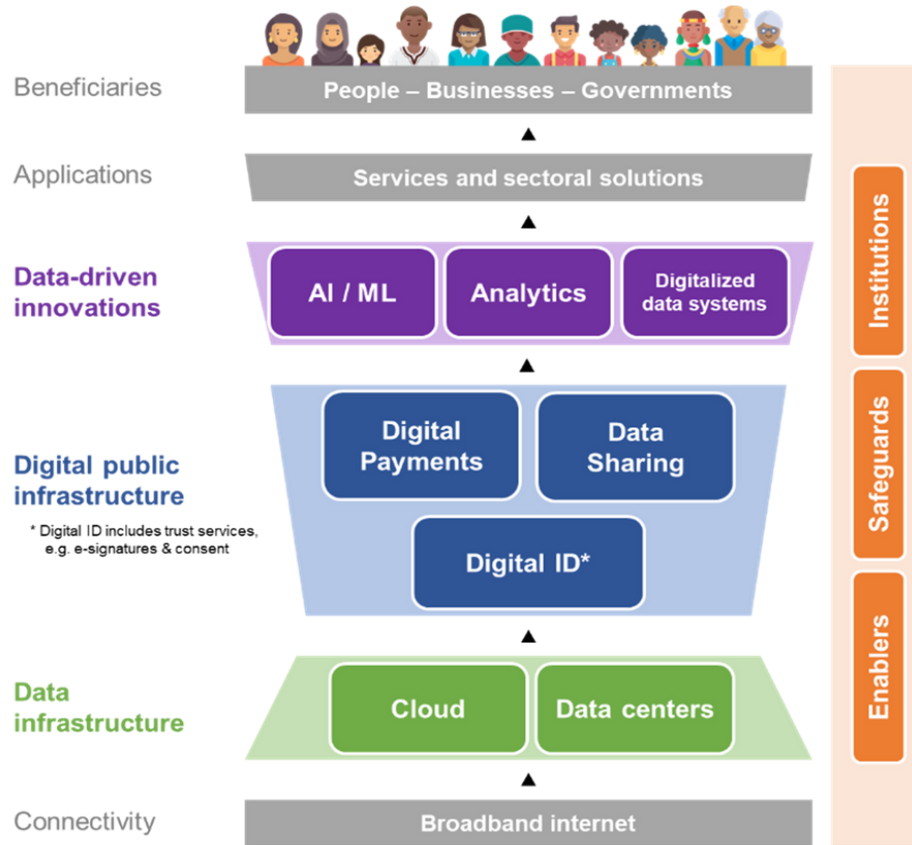
ADB envisions a digitally prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, where countries thrive through equitable access to digital infrastructure, skills, and innovation.



Mainstreaming Digital Transformation Implies Understanding the Digital Value Chain

There is no sustainable Digital Transformation without the following areas:

1. Policy and Regulatory Frameworks
2. Cybersecurity and data protection
3. Digital skills capacity building
4. Digital and data infrastructure
5. Earth Observation and satellite-based applications
6. e-Government and DPI
7. Artificial intelligence, emerging technology and digital solutions
8. Tech startup ecosystems





Digital Sector Office Workstreams

ADB can support the entire digital transformation journey.



Digital Government and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI)

Digital ID, Digital Payments, Data Sharing, Management Information Systems



Digital and Data Infrastructure

Last-mile to international connectivity including submarine and satellites, Data centers



Digital Solutions for more livable cities & countries

Artificial Intelligence, National Spatial Data Infrastructure and other digital tools

Digital Policy and Regulation, Cybersecurity and Data Protection, Digital Skills



What We Do

Lending and Financing

Technical Assistance

Advisory Services

Knowledge Work

Partnerships

Sovereign and Non-Sovereign Operations

Country Operations in Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Uzbekistan, and Nepal

Knowledge, expertise and skills transfer

Regional and country-specific technical assistance support

Digital Expertise

Cybersecurity, Digital Skills, Digital Policy, Digital and Data Infrastructure, eGovernment, DPI, AI, GIS

Products and Events

Flagship Publication
 Country Indexing
 Digital Tagging
 Digital Forums
 Capacity-building
 Outreach

Fund Manager

Build regional and international consensus to support digital development and transformation across the Asia Pacific region

59280-001 SRI LANKA: Advancing Digital Transformation

Objective

Support Sri Lanka's Digital Transformation

Outcome

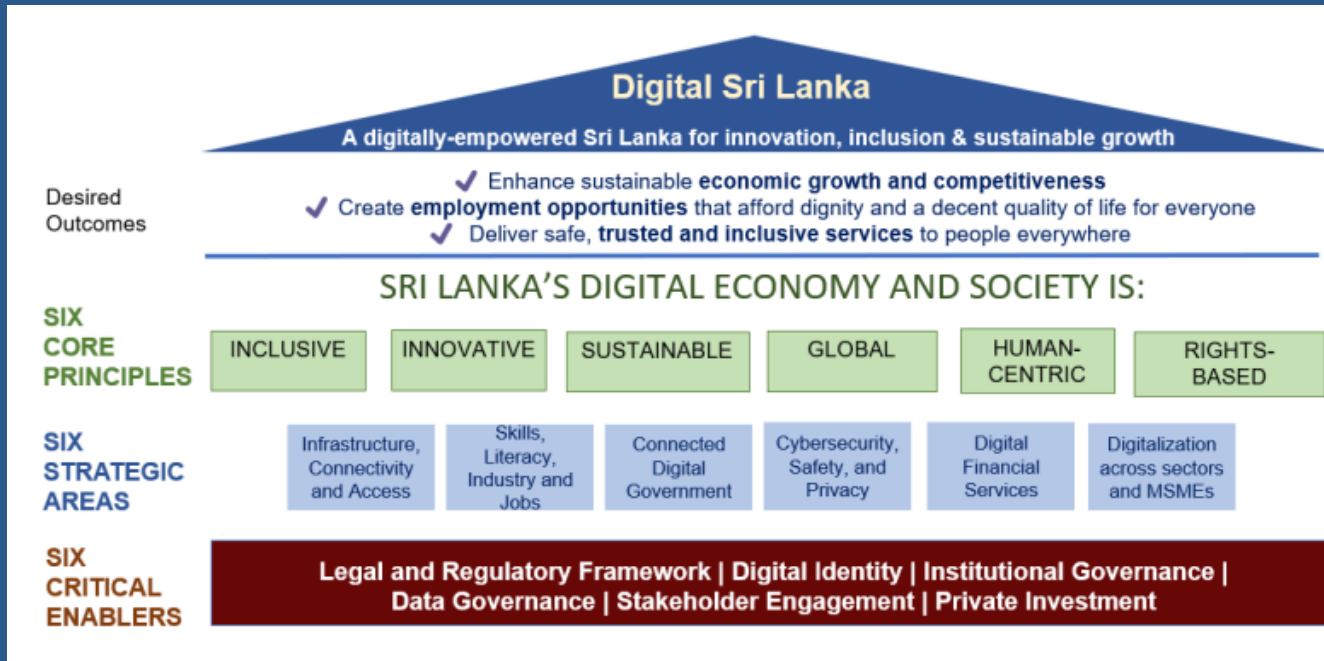
Sustainable economic growth and competitiveness enhanced (National Digital Economy Strategy 2030)

Loan: ~US\$105M (Modality: Investment loan)

Project timeline: 4 years

Executing Agency: Ministry of Digital Economy (MODE)

Implementing Agencies: MODE, GovTech, Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, Data Protection Authority, Sri Lanka Computer Emergency Response Team



Output 1: Foundational and national digital and data infrastructure strengthened

Output 2: Institutional capacity building to support the digital economy developed

59358-001 CAMBODIA: Building Resilience through Integrated Digital Governance and Efficiency (BRIDGE)

Objective

To unify government platforms and foster citizen-centered services through a whole-of-government approach

Outcome

Government service delivery efficiency and citizen trust enhanced through inclusive, resilient, and integrated digital transformation (Cambodia's Digital Economy and Society Policy Framework)

Loan: \$50 million (Modality: Sector Development Program with \$10 million policy and \$40 million investment components)

Project timeline: 3 Years

Executing Agency: Ministry of Economy and Finance

Implementing Agencies: Techo Startup Center, Cambodia Academy Digital Technology, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications, Ministry of Public Works and Transport

Output 1: CamDX and cybersecurity enhanced

Output 2: Digital skills, leadership and sectoral use cases implemented



59512-001 NEPAL: Nepal Digital Transformation Project (Cofinanced Under the Full Mutual Reliance Framework)

Objective

The project will improve the delivery and increase the use of inclusive and high-impact services for citizens and businesses across Nepal by strengthening digital public infrastructure (DPI) and modernizing priority government services.

Outcome

Digital government strengthened.

Loan: \$40 million (Modality: Project Loan)

Project timeline: 5 Years

Executing Agency: Ministry of Communication and Information Technology

Output 1: Secure data infrastructure enhanced

Output 2: Foundational digital public infrastructure developed

Output 3: High impact services digitalized

59492-001 Uzbekistan: Unleashing Potential for Growth through Research and Advanced Digital Technology Excellence (UPGRADE) Project

Objective

The project will establish an advanced digital tech R&D and industrial innovation cluster in the Tashkent region, combining research facilities, laboratories, and small-scale manufacturing to accelerate innovation, strengthen industry-academia collaboration, and support commercialization of new technologies.

Outcome

Uzbekistan's advanced digital technology R&D and innovation ecosystem strengthened, supporting growth in digital exports and the creation of high value digital jobs with enhanced women's participation in digital and deep-tech sectors.

Loan: \$200 million (Modality: Project Loan)

Project timeline: 2027–2031 (5 years)

Executing Agency: Ministry of Digital Technologies of Uzbekistan

Implementing Agency: IT Park Uzbekistan

Output 1: Advanced digital technology R&D and innovation infrastructure established.

Output 2: Specialized academic and training programs strengthened.

Output 3: Institutional capacity for commercialization, technology transfer, and investment promotion enhanced.

Other Digital Sector Office projects and operations

Indonesia

Armenia

Bangladesh

Fiji

Philippines

Azerbaijan

India

Samoa

Thailand

Pakistan

Nepal

Tonga

Tajikistan

Maldives

Uzbekistan

Let's work together for a digital future!

Scan the QR Code for our contact information



ADB