

**FACT SHEET
(November 2013)****MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE ASEAN ICT MASTERPLAN 2015 (AIM2015)****ASEAN**

The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprises Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam. It was formed on 8 August 1967 with the aim of promoting regional peace and stability, and accelerating economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region.¹

ASEAN TELMIN²

The ASEAN Telecommunications and Information Technology Ministers Meeting (TELMIN), which was first held in Kuala Lumpur in 2001, is the main platform to enhance regional cooperation in the area of Information and Communications Technology (ICT). The ASEAN ICT Ministers meet annually to deliberate the strategic direction of regional cooperation in order to make ICT a key engine of growth for the region. They also meet with the Ministers of Dialogue Partners, namely, the People's Republic of China, Japan, Republic of Korea and India, as well as the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to strengthen extra-ASEAN relations and identify areas of collaboration.

Singapore will host the 13th ASEAN TELMIN from 14 to 15 November 2013. The hosting is rotated among ASEAN Member States in alphabetical order.

ASEAN ICT Masterplan (AIM 2015)³

The AIM2015 is a five-year masterplan which was launched in January 2011 at the 11th ASEAN TELMIN in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. It seeks to work towards an empowering and transformational ICT in order to help create an inclusive, vibrant and integrated ASEAN. The AIM2015 consists of six strategic thrusts:

- Economic Transformation
- People Empowerment and Engagement
- Innovation
- Infrastructure Development
- Human Capital Development
- Bridging the Digital Divide

¹ For more information on ASEAN, please go to www.asean.org.

² For more information on ASEAN TELMIN, please go to <http://www.asean.org/communities/asean-economic-community/category/overview-18>

³ For more information on AIM2015, please go to <http://www.asean.org/images/2012/Economic/TELMIN/ASEAN%20ICT%20Masterplan%202015.pdf>

Since the launch of the AIM2015, it has served as the regional guiding document to strengthen ICT cooperation and development. Numerous initiatives were undertaken among ASEAN Member States as well as between ASEAN and Dialogue Partners to implement the masterplan.

Mid-Term Review of the AIM2015

With the AIM2015 reaching its halfway mark in 2013, an independent study was commissioned to take stock of its progress and identify any areas for improvement so as to ensure that it remains relevant and achieve the goals of the masterplan. The study was conducted by a technology research firm, TRPC Pte Ltd, which is based in Singapore.

Overall, the study found that the AIM2015 is progressing well and on track for completion by 2015. About two-thirds of the AIM2015 has been completed thus far. Since the launch of the AIM2015, as many as 60 projects were undertaken by ASEAN TELMIN. These projects range from capacity building and training workshops to development of regional frameworks for cooperation and coordination in areas such as electronic government, cyber security and policy and regulations.

Highlights of AIM2015 Achievements

- i. **ASEAN ICT Awards** – The Awards, an initiative led by Brunei Darussalam aim to recognise outstanding ICT companies in ASEAN in six categories, namely Public Sector, Private Sector, Digital Content, Corporate Social Responsibility, Start-up, and Research and Development. The first ASEAN ICT Awards was held in 2012, with the second to be held in Singapore on 14 November 2013.
- ii. **ASEAN Broadband Corridor** – This aims to increase broadband development and connectivity in ASEAN by focusing in the three areas of broadband penetration, broadband affordability and universal access. The findings of a study were endorsed by ASEAN TELMIN in late 2012 which comprised customised recommendations for ASEAN Member States to adopt and improve their domestic broadband situation. The implementation of the study would be monitored to ensure that ASEAN stays on track to enhance broadband connectivity for the benefit of businesses and citizens in the region. Singapore is the lead for this initiative.
- iii. **ASEAN Cyberkids Camp** – This is a one-week camp that aims to raise awareness and develop ICT skills among young children in ASEAN. Children between the ages of 13 to 17 from all ASEAN Member States are eligible to participate in this annual camp which is held in Malaysia. Thus far, more than 400 children have participated in the camp. The 5th ASEAN Cyberkids Camp will be held in end November 2013.

- iv. **ASEAN Chief Information Officer (CIO) Forum** – This forum, led by Brunei Darussalam aims to create a platform for ASEAN CIOs to exchange idea and best practices, network and engage one another on ICT issues. The first CIO Forum was held in Thailand in April 2012 with the theme “*Your Country, Our ASEAN: Sustainable ICT Community*”. The second CIO Forum with the theme “*Shaping ASEAN’s Future Through e-Leadership and Collaboration*” was held in June 2013 in Indonesia.

Publication of Mid-Term Review of the AIM2015

The report of the Mid-Term Review of the AIM2015 will be made available at the Media Conference of the 13th ASEAN TELMIN to be held on 15 November 2013. The report will also be made available on the ASEAN website subsequently.

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