PMAC 2025: Harnessing Technologies to Achieve Equitable Health Outcomes

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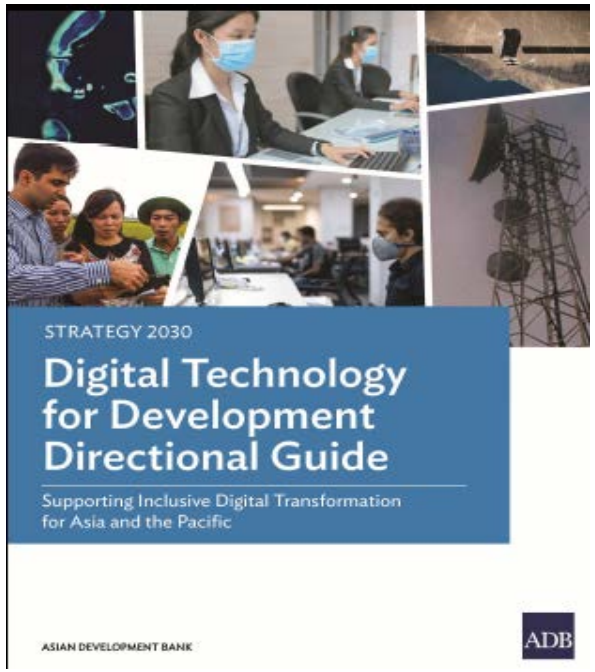
ADB Strategies for Digital Health



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Digital Technology Directional Guide: priority areas

Integrate Digital Strategies for Development in Operations

- **Develop digital strategies** in line with the operational plans of Strategy 2030.
- Undertake country-level digital development **readiness assessments** to identify and develop robust pipelines for digital interventions in operations.

Improve the Quality of Digital Development Interventions

- Develop the institutional and human **capacities of DMCs** to maximize the benefits of digital technologies and achieve development goals.
- Promote **knowledge sharing** on digital technology trends, options, projects, and policies to enhance DMCs' readiness for digital development.
- Explore innovative options to **mobilize public and private resources** in expanding the digital infrastructure to rural and remote areas and providing essential digital services. Promote and scale up innovative digital technologies in operations.
- Leverage ADB's technical assistance for digital development support in operations.
- Utilize **strategic knowledge partnerships** for learning, capacity building, and innovation, particularly in the use of frontier technologies such as artificial intelligence.

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Guidance Note on Digital Health

Provides **how-to manual** to invest in digital health projects
Rests on developing a **Digital Health Impact Framework** and weighing different options based on various dimensions.

- **Strategy**. Fit to the national and digital health strategy objectives; identify benefits in terms of quality, access, and efficiency (Appendix 2).
- **Socioeconomics**. Determine the estimated socioeconomic *impact* for each option that combines into the impact for the whole strategy, including the proposed digital health solutions, stakeholder types, ***costs, benefits***, net benefits, and ***VFM***, for all investment options and their ***timelines***, and for all stakeholder types.
- **Financial impact**. This includes additional ***extra capital and operational cash flows*** for all stakeholder types and income and expenditure, using the accruals methodology, compared with budgets, financial plans, and other sources of finance, to estimate affordability.
- **Human digital health capacity**. Requirements for leadership and management to ensure effective decision-making, stakeholder engagement, planning, development, risk mitigation, procurement, implementation and project management, operation and utilization, and changing management and benefits realization of the strategic goals.
- **Commercial implications**. Changes to health care pricing, relationships with partners and thirdparty payers.

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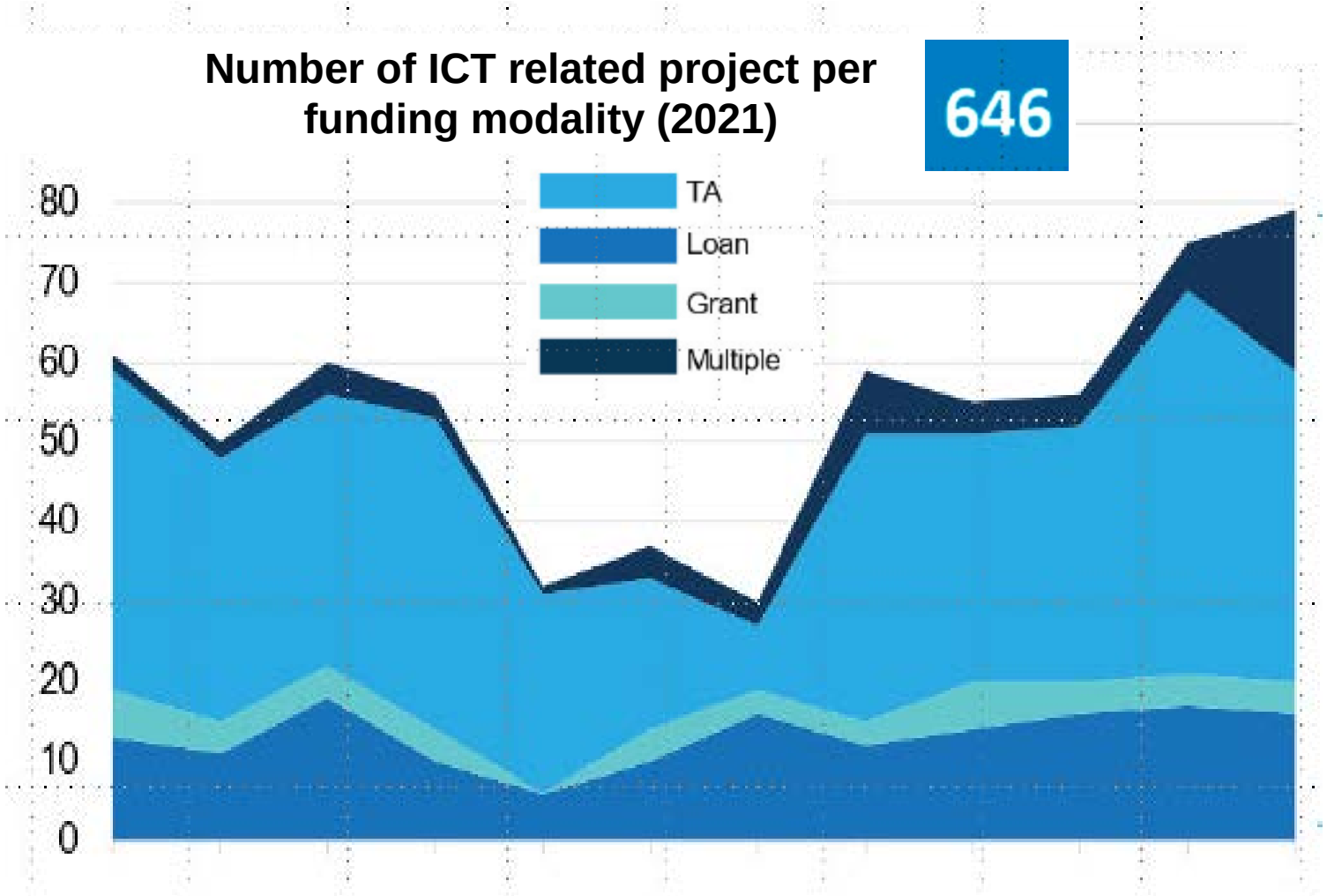
ADB Funding modality for ICT related projects



Source: ADB (2021). Digital Technology for Development Directional Guide. Manila
https://www.adb.org/documents/strategy-2030-digital-technology-directional-guide

Funding sources for Digital Health

- ADB Core Funding
- Japan High Level Technology Fund (HLT)
- Japan Fund for Prosperous and Resilient (JFPR)
- North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD)
- U.S Department of State (PEPFAR)
- U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID)
- Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ)
- Global Fund
- World Bank
- Co-financing with private sectors

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ADB Supported Investment Projects in Asia and the Pacific

Investment Projects

Hubei Yichang Comprehensive Elderly Care Demonstration

- People's Republic of China
- Loan ($150 million)
- 2018- 2022

Introducing eGovernment through Digital Health

- Tonga
- Grant ($7.5 million)
- 2019- 2023

Themes and outputs

- Developed an elderly care ICT platform to
  - ➢ Exchange of information
  - ➢ Monitor elderly care services
  - ➢ Link elderly care and health services
- Scale up training institutions to apply digital elderly ICT platform.

- Reviewed ICT legislation and regulatory framework Setup e-Health governance mechanism
- Developed gender sensitive digital health strategy
- Established interoperable digital Health Information System (HIS)
  - ➢ Registries (patients, facilities, workforces)
  - ➢ Health informatics standards & disease classification
  - ➢ Web PAS using electronic health records

Equitable outcomes

- ICT platform linked elderly cares system between home-based, community, primary health care services and geriatric hospitals
- The ICT platform improved:
  - ➢ 10% of service providers skills,
  - ➢ 25% of elderly care training,
  - ➢ 20% of elderly service utilization

- Designed and implemented cost-effective digital HIS
- Improve utilization of digital health data in enabling legal, regulatory and policy environment.
- Improved gender equity in health service delivery through digital HIS and eGovernment initiatives.

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ADB Supported Investment Projects in Asia and the Pacific (Ongoing)

Loan Projects (Ongoing)

- **Supporting Essential Health Actions and Transformation Program (Indonesia)**
- Loan ($300 million) 2023-2027

- **Greater Mekong Subregion Border Health (Lao PDR)**
- Loan ($25 million) 2024- 2028

Themes and outputs

- Develop integrated health information system in primary care facilities for data collection, compilation and analysis.
- Integrate primary health care data to public health laboratory services

- Developed electronic medical record (EMR) and unique health identifier (UHI)
- Deliver training and digital literacy on EMR and UHI.

Equitable outcomes

- Digital platform will link primary health care databased to the MOH's digital health platform to support Goal 3 of SDG

- The first EMR and UHI which will link patient information to UHC and quality health care services

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ADB Supported Technical Assistance Projects

Technical Assistance	Themes and output	Equitable outcomes
Digital Technology to Improve National Health Insurance (NHI) in Asia and the Pacific (Regional TA) • Armenia, Lao PDR, Nepal, Mongolia, Bangladesh, Philippines, and Viet Nam	• Landscape analysis for digitalization of National Heath Insurance (NHI) • Develop digital NHI Information Management System • Digital reporting system for resource allocation and drug utilization	• Improve NHI coverage to households in vulnerable population • Cost-efficient resource allocation to improve quality health care

High Level Technology • Lao PDR • Philippine • Cambodia	• **Lao PDR:** Establish electronic procurement system interoperable to DHIS-2 • **Philippine:** Develop digital tools to enhance electronic procurement system and national health repository • **Cambodia:** Develop mobile apps for early warning rapid alert response and hospital information system	• Improve electronic procurement system by integrating national health information system • Improve pandemic preparedness and response system at provincial and border hospitals

COVID-19 Remote and Offsite Monitoring Application Systems • (CROMA) Thailand	• Monitored vital signs remotely by AI. (ECG, Heartrate, SPO2, Temperature) • Analyzed, process stored data at cloud and transmitted to health care providers	• Improve health services and reduce the risk of COVID-19

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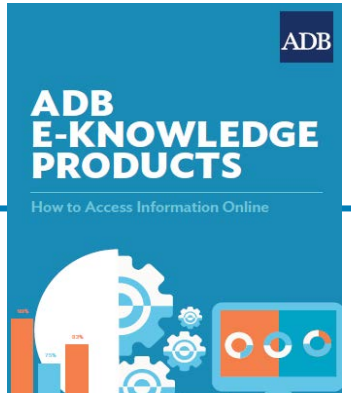
Digital Knowledge Products

https://www.adb.org/what-we-do/topics/digital-technology/knowledge

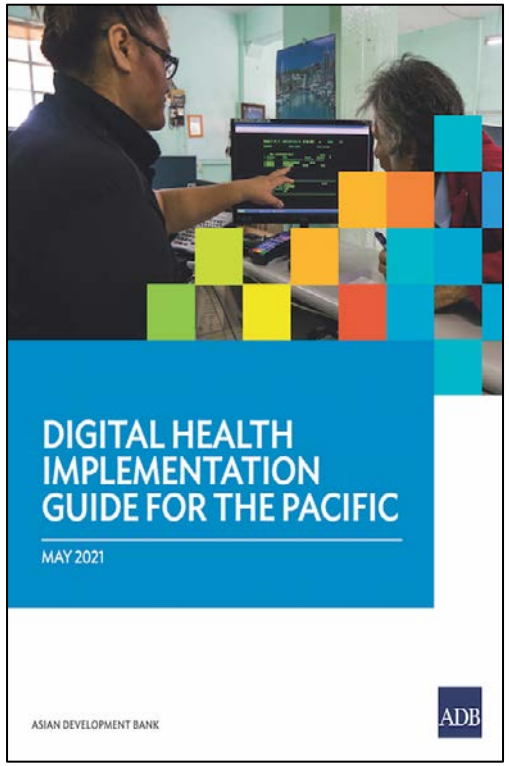


https://www.adb.org/publications/digital-transformation-sustainable-development-goals

https://www.adb.org/publications/digital-health-convergence-meeting-tool-kit

https://www.adb.org/publications/digital-technologies-health-financing-systems

https://www.adb.org/publications/fintech-digital-health-indonesia-philippines-singapore



https://www.adb.org/publications/implementing-digital-health-pacific-guide

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