



**Telecommunication  
Development Bureau (BDT)**

Ref.: BDT/DIR/ASP/DM/004

Geneva, 10 February 2026

To:  
Administration of ITU Member States  
from Asia and the Pacific

**Subject: Invitation to join the steering committee of the ITU-DITRDCA project “Enhancing the sustainability of Smart Villages and Smart Islands in the Asia-Pacific”**

Dear Sir/Madam,

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and the Department of Infrastructure, Transport, Regional Development, Communications, Sport and the Arts (Australia) have launched a project titled **“Enhancing the sustainability of Smart Villages and Smart Islands in the Asia-Pacific”**.

The two-year project (December 2025 – November 2027) builds on the ongoing Smart Villages and Smart Islands work in Asia and the Pacific with the specific objective: *“To enhance the sustainability of national Smart Villages and Smart Islands programmes in the Asia-Pacific for it to serve as a model for replication by governments to enhance digital skills and access to digital services in rural and remote communities of the country.”*

The expected outcome is for national Smart Villages and Smart Islands programmes to be sustained, and existing pilots replicated as national programmes and as part of digital transformation policies and strategies. The project also envisages constitution of a steering committee to guide its implementation.

Key expected outputs include:

- National strategies, roadmaps, policies and action plans for scaling out and enhancing the sustainability of Smart Villages and Smart Islands programme at national level.
- National Steering Committee and local level committee in Smart Villages and Smart Islands established and strengthened.
- Community digital skills enhanced on identified priority needs and access to new digital services enabled
- Enhanced exchange of knowledge and best practices shared.

I would like to invite interested Member States to express their interest to join the project by sending an email to [atsuko.okuda@itu.int](mailto:atsuko.okuda@itu.int) with copy to [bdtdirector@itu.int](mailto:bdtdirector@itu.int) before **20 February 2026**. Interested Member States are also invited to share their readiness and contribution and are requested to nominate a focal point for coordination from the country. Owing to limited resources, a selection criterion may need to be applied should there be more applicants based on level of development, geographical balance, readiness of the country, and contribution from the interested Member State.

I look forward to working closely with you in bringing the benefits of digital transformation to the rural and remote communities of Asia and the Pacific.

Yours faithfully,

*(signed)*

Cosmas Luckyson Zavazava  
Director