

# REGIONAL CONNECTIVITY FOR SHARED PROSPERITY

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# PRELUDE

Connectivity is a cornerstone of regional economic cooperation and integration – and has become a major priority for the countries of Asia and the Pacific, especially in the context of efforts to find new drivers of regional economic growth, and to create additional domestic and aggregate regional demand.

To best unlock the potential of ever-more closely interlinked production networks and value chains, a broader perspective on connectivity will be key. This kind of connectivity should not be considered sector by sector, but rather as part of an integrated whole, encompassing the development of corridors of prosperity through networks of trade, transport, ICT, energy, people, and technology.

This 2014 ESCAP's annual *Theme Study: Regional Connectivity for Shared Prosperity* explores strategies for strengthening regional connectivity.

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# CONTENTS

	<i>Page</i>
<b>Prelude</b> .....	iii
<b>Acknowledgements</b> .....	iv
<b>Abbreviations</b> .....	xi
<b>Executive Summary</b> .....	xiii
 <b>Chapter 1. Regional connectivity for shared prosperity</b> .....	 1
<b>Introduction</b> .....	2
Connecting countries creates new opportunities for development .....	2
Understanding “regional connectivity” .....	3
<b>The role of regional connectivity in supporting growth and development</b> .....	3
Regional integration efforts drive initial trade growth .....	3
Emergence of regional production networks and value chains .....	4
Explaining differences in subregional performance .....	6
The role of trade and transport connectivity .....	7
Economies of scale in transport, competition and non-physical barriers to trade .....	8
<b>New drivers of growth shaping development patterns into the future</b> .....	9
Trade and transport connectivity remains a priority .....	9
ICT connectivity as an enabler and driver of growth .....	10
Expanding the region’s trade in services .....	12
Energy connectivity and security .....	13
Responding to population dynamics .....	15
Transitioning to knowledge-based economies .....	16
<b>Regional strategies for strengthening connectivity in the ESCAP region</b> .....	16
Annex I. Measuring the impact of broadband infrastructure on economic growth .....	 17
 <b>Chapter 2. Regional strategies for strengthening regional connectivity</b> .....	 23
<b>Trade and transport connectivity</b> .....	24
The status of trade and transport connectivity in the region .....	24
Upgrading and integration of regional transport networks .....	25
Enhancing cooperation at border crossings .....	26
Harnessing ICT connectivity for trade and transport facilitation .....	28
Developing competitive regional transport and logistics services .....	32
<b>Information and communications technology connectivity</b> .....	33
The evolution of the “digital divide” in Asia and the Pacific .....	33
Towards an Asia-Pacific information superhighway .....	34
Harnessing cross-sectoral synergies for infrastructure development .....	35
Strengthening the ICT connectivity of Pacific island economies .....	38
<b>Energy connectivity</b> .....	39

# CONTENTS *(Continued)*

	<i>Page</i>
Current status of energy connectivity in the region .....	39
Towards an Asian Energy Highway .....	42
The need for a strong institutional framework .....	44
<b>People-to-people connectivity</b> .....	45
Increasing mobility in the ESCAP region .....	45
Benefits and challenges of international labour migration .....	45
Cooperative approaches to managing international labour migrant flows .....	47
Strengthening knowledge networks of people and institutions .....	48
Strengthening business networks and associations .....	49
Putting individuals at the heart of people-to-people connectivity .....	51
<b>Chapter 3. Strengthening institutional coordination and regional cooperation</b> .....	57
<b>Strengthening institutional responses to regional connectivity</b> .....	58
Coordination at the regional level .....	60
<b>Statistical standards for strengthened accountability and better policymaking</b> .....	63
Strengthening statistical capacity in the Asian and Pacific region .....	66
<b>Regional solutions for financing regional infrastructure networks</b> .....	66
Regional projects as “regional public goods” .....	66
Regional infrastructure funds .....	67
Regional Project Preparatory Facility .....	67
Asian Multi-donor Platform .....	68
Public-Private Partnerships .....	68
<b>Chapter 4. Conclusions</b> .....	73
<b>References</b> .....	78

预览已结束，完整报告链接和二维码如下：

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