ACD Blueprint 2017 - 2021

1. Connectivity

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
1a	- to achieve seamless, multidimensional, pan-Asian connectivity networks - to promote the development of socially and environmentally sustainable connectivity infrastructures	- establish a Working Group on Connectivity - fill missing links and upgrade land, sea and air transportation, capacity and frequency by synergizing efforts from existing sub-regional and regional transport connectivity frameworks in Central and West Asia (CAREC), in East Asia and South East Asia (GMS, IMT-GT, ASEAN), in South Asia (SASEC, BIMSTEC, SAARC), etc. [1] as a means to improve social equity, health, resilience of cities, urban-rural linkages, rural area productivity, etc. - develop telecommunication connectivity in order to reduce the digital divide and the cost of internet access - enhance capacity building and the use of best practices in infrastructure and development planning - establish a continent-wide platform that adopts multi-stakeholder deliberations on regional infrastructure development - establish effective mechanism to mobilize existing funds in the region in collaboration with Multilateral Development Banks and the private sector to support connectivity in infrastructure necessary for regional integration - seek engagement with UNESCAP whose work has been done extensively to promote implementation of pan-Asian transport and telecommunication connectivity

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[1] As proposed in Road Map for ACD Regional Connectivity as of 6 May 2015

| 1b | - to build institutional connectivity in the areas of transportation, trade and investment, finance, etc. | - examine existing rules, regulations and standards in ACD Member States related to transportation, trade and investment[2]
 - strive for the creation of an enabling business environment in ACD, reduce administrative and regulatory business roadblocks
 - promote the development and utilization of information and communications technology
 - engage the private sector in the effort to alleviate logistical chokeholds and supply-chain bottlenecks |

2. Science, Technology and Innovation (STI)

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
2a	- to enhance capacity on STI and cross-border talent mobility within ACD - to improve STI infrastructures	- establish a Working Group on STI - organize seminars, forums, symposiums, etc. for exchange and sharing of knowledge and expertise in STI as well as networking - promote STEM education and work-integrated learning, especially among the youth, by granting scholarships, organizing science camps and competitions, etc. - set up a platform to jointly conduct advanced scientific research, develop technology and innovation in ACD - provide sufficient and high-quality laboratories, STI demonstration and transfer centers, scientific parks, business incubators, etc.
2b	- to reinforce ACD economic competitiveness through STI - to realize digital economy in ACD	- promote STI start-ups to make ACD's environment dynamic - improve production capacity, doing business, education, public health, administration, as well as other socio-economic activities using information and communications technology

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[2] Idem

3. Education and Human Resource Development

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
3a	- to improve access to and quality of education and create opportunities for human resource development - forge a better perspective of the roles and responsibilities of the new generations as global citizens - to develop competitive workforce	- establish a Working Group on Education and Human Resource Development - encourage access to inclusive quality education and materials using technologies such as Internet-based distance learning, Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs), Open Educational Resources (OERs), mobile delivery systems, etc. - enhance capacity of educators and administrative personnel - encourage exchanges between schools, universities, vocational colleges, and research institutions in key areas such as medicine, agriculture, tourism, STI, etc. through various platforms[4] - Encourage cooperation and activities under the ACD University Network - provide standardized knowledge and professional skillsets necessary to meet the needs of the 21st Century marketplace
3b	- to improve knowledge dissemination to the ACD public and make ACD a knowledge-based region	- organize seminars, forums, roundtables, debates, etc. which invite public participation - improve financial and digital literacy in ACD [5]

4. Interrelation of Food, Energy and Water Security

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
4a	- to meet Asia's increasing needs of food, energy and water sustainably - to ensure a sustainable balance among the nexus of water, food and energy demand	- establish a Working Group on Food, Energy and Water Security - achieve food, energy and water security through diversification, development and conservation of resources - seek new opportunities to increase food production and improve food processing - enhance energy generation efficiency from both conventional and alternative sources, develop environmentally friendly energy technologies as well as

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[4] Idem
[5] Idem

		technology transfer within ACD, set up a secure energy infrastructure network and develop the pan-Asian energy market[6] - renew the ACD Energy Action Plan endorsed at the 12th ACD Ministerial Meeting - formulate a comprehensive water resource management scheme, including an integrated water management scheme for transboundary water resources - promote collaboration in research, institutional capacity building and human resource development - ensure that costs and benefits of the policy planning based on the interrelation approach are equitably distributed to avoid any possible disincentive to the development in the 3 sectors
4b	- to enhance a synergistic collaboration, coordination and communication between all stakeholders to promote public-private-people partnership	- establish an innovative mechanism of collaboration between government, private sector, academia and civil society for technology transfer through capacity building and knowledge sharing - raise awareness and sensitiveness of all stakeholders to various risks emerging from rapidly changing and often unpredictable environmental conditions - share, utilize and leverage public information, platforms and forums to encourage cooperation with businesses and peoples.

5. Culture and Tourism

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
5a	- to enhance mutual understanding across cultural diversity	- promote people-to-people contacts through cultural exchange, language learning, tourism, etc.
5b	- to make ACD a top tourist destination that is responsible, sustainable and safe	- establish a Working Group on Tourism - diversify and upgrade ACD tourism industry - intensify promotion and marketing through joint operation

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[6] Idem

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
		- facilitate travel for intra-Asian tourism - promote capacity building and human resource development in tourism sector - strengthen the safety and security of tourists

6. Promoting Approaches to Inclusive and Sustainable Development

No.	Objectives	Actions/ Strategies
6a	- to achieve self-reliance and independent sustainable development - to seek synergy between homegrown approaches to sustainable and inclusive development	- establish a Working Group on Sustainable Development - set up a platform where different approaches to sustainable and inclusive development can be shared and worked upon to generate synergy and best practices - share homegrown approach towards sustainable development in the ACD (Thailand will share with all ACD Member States its Sufficiency Economy Philosophy (SEP), a holistic approach towards sustainability centered on moderation and resiliency.) - establish a platform for policy consultation
6b	- to support Member Countries in implementing United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - to build or enhance poverty reduction capacity	- share knowledge and mobilize resources for the implementation of United Nations' 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development - organize trainings, mutual visits of experts, etc. to share expertise on poverty alleviation - to publicize successful poverty reduction models