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**Invitation for Submitting Sustainable Infrastructure Projects for Inclusion in the Updated Pipeline of ASEAN Infrastructure Projects (the “Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline”)**

(Information Note as of October 2024)

1. **Highlights**
2. ASEAN, through the Lead Implementing Body for Sustainable Infrastructure (LIB-SI), is updating the Initial Rolling Priority Pipeline of ASEAN Infrastructure Projects to accelerate investment into infrastructure, supporting the movement of people, services, goods and innovation, with due consideration to emerging trends and priorities on connectivity. With support from the Australia for ASEAN Futures Initiative, the Sumitomo Mitsui Banking Corporation (SMBC) Singapore Branchhas been engaged as consultant through a tender process to assist in this Pipeline updating process.
3. The ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline is a part of ASEAN's initiative to achieve the goal of developing and promoting sustainable infrastructure as set out in the Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025.[[1]](#footnote-1)
4. To propose inclusion of infrastructure projects in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline, LIB-SI Representatives and relevant national agencies / project ownersfrom ASEAN Member States may wish to fill out and submit a **Project Application Form** (the “Form”) for each additional project.[[2]](#footnote-2) Considering feedback received on the full Form being too long and tedious to complete, an abridged version of the Form has been prepared as appended below. Each Form should be completed in as much detail possible, with supporting information, studies, and documents attached thereto, where applicable. Relevant instruction and guide on completing the Form are integrated within the Form and its questions.
5. Each LIB-SI Representative is encouraged to closely coordinate and collaborate with their respective national agencies and project owners as well as external partners, as appropriate.[[3]](#footnote-3)

**B. Objectives**

1. The objectives in this updating exercise include:
   * Updating the project list in the Initial Pipeline with a focus on project bankability;
   * Bringing selected projects to the next stage of bankability;
   * Pursuing success through financial investment and/or financing, or through identifying practical financing plans, including through bringing technical assistance support for feasibility studies.

**C. Benefits**

1. The infrastructure projects included in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline will:

* Be promoted to boost the visibility and profile of the projects to wider public and private stakeholders at national, regional, and global levels;
* Receive wider access to potential providers of capital for funding/financing and capacity building. Stapled financing with potential lenders may be arranged for selected deals[[4]](#footnote-4); and
* Be part of a dynamic network of ASEAN infrastructure pipeline that is focused on connectivity, relevant to the region, and promotes sustainable infrastructure, post-pandemic recovery, and resilience. There will be opportunities to showcase projects at ASEAN level and beyond, supplementing individual ASEAN Member States’ efforts to tap international investment and financing for their priority infrastructure projects.

ASEAN Member States may also benefit from assistance from SMBC as consultant in this undertaking, such as for identifying ways to improve project bankability and bringing suitable financing partners as appropriate.

**D. Outputs**

1. It is expected that up to eight (8) infrastructure projects from ASEAN Member States would be shortlisted for inclusion in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline. A regional workshop will be conducted to promote the selected projects by bringing together investors, commercial lenders, development finance institutions (DFIs), multilateral development banks (MDBs), export credit agencies (ECAs), and other stakeholders, such as state-owned enterprises (SOEs), to raise awareness for the selected projects.
2. Further promotional activities, such as market-sounding events or investor forums may also be organised to garner more interest in the projects and to engage various investors, financiers and other market participants.
3. SMBC as the consultant in this undertaking, will work closely with selected projects to analyse and provide recommendations to improve bankability of the projects.

**E. Eligible Infrastructure Projects**

1. Each AMS may submit additional projects in the eligible priority sectors, which has been expanded to recognise a broader imperative for connectivity, which include, among others:

* Transportation (such as roads; bridges; rails; airports; ports; inland ports);
* Digital (such as Information and communications technology (ICT) (linear) e.g., subsea fibre networks, underground fibre optic cabling; data centres; telecommunication towers and wireless networks; power subsystems; and national broadband plans);
* Logistics (such as roads; rail; airports; ports; inland port/waterway; freight and logistics hubs; rail freight terminals; regional trade distribution centres; cold chain logistics; transloading facilities; cross-docking; trans modal (rail to rail) operations; satellite terminals; on-dock or near-dock rail facility);
* Energy (such as Power generation e.g., gas, oil; and transmission & distribution (T&D) e.g., electricity interconnectors);
* Urban (such as waste supply/water; smart infrastructure that are digitally enabled and linked to the Internet of Things (IoT) e.g., smart traffic systems featuring integrated transport systems (ITS) and smart sewage systems).

1. Reflecting on the many early-stage projects submitted in the first iteration of the Initial Pipeline prioritisation, for this updating, there is a merit for AMS to also consider submitting later-stage projects as well as infrastructure asset recycling to attract more private sector’s interests.
2. Projects may be submitted for potential inclusion in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline regardless of the projects’ source of funding / financing which may include public sector funding, private finance, or combination thereof, including public-private partnerships.

**F. Project Selection Process**

1. All submissions should be made via e-mail through the ASEAN Secretariat at connectivity@asean.org**,** with a copy to satya\_ramamurthy@sg.smbc.co.jp, junxian\_shi@sg.smbc.co.jp, and tint\_tel\_may@sg.smbc.co.jp, **by 30 November 2024**. If the total size of your files may be larger than 7 MB, do feel free to share the files through clouds/online storage where appropriate. Please reach out to the same email addresses for any queries at your earliest convenience.
2. SMBC will assist in completing the application process, including the screening and scoring of the submitted projects. ASEAN Secretariat will also facilitate as appropriate.
3. Submitted projects will be screened to select up to top 20 projects. These projects will then be further evaluated to select the eight (8) final additional projects to be shortlisted in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline.

**G. Financing Options Analysis**

1. Submission of detailed information in the Project Application Form is critical for better evaluation of the project and allow the SMBC team to provide targeted advice on improving the bankability of the project.
2. Upon evaluating the submitted projects, the SMBC team would assist selected projects to explore financing options depending on the stage of the project and suitability of the financing options.

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## **B.** **Project Application Form (Abridged Version)**

### **Instructions for completing this updated Application Form**

1. This **Abridged Project Application Form** has three sections: **Section 0 (Basic Information)**, **Section 1 (Screening Criteria)**, and **Section 2 (Scoring Criteria)**.
   * + **Section 0** contains 4 basic information questions. **Section 1** contains a set of 5 questions of which the **3 listed below** must be **satisfactorily passed** before proceeding to Section 2.

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| **Question 5**: The project must be from an eligible sector.  **Question 7**: “Yes” box must be ticked;  **Question 8**: Please ensure that the level of information provided is sufficiently detailed for a proper assessment of the project to be conducted. |

If **all** conditions are met,please complete the question under “additional information” and proceed to Section 2.

If **not all** conditions are met,please stop here and do not proceed to complete the rest of the application for this project until all of the above conditions have been met.

* + - **Section 2** contains 13 questions, which should all be completed with supporting pages and documents attached where requested. Please note that an incomplete application may not have sufficient information to allow the project to be properly assessed.

1. Please complete **one** Application Form for **each** project proposed for inclusion in the Updated ASEAN Infrastructure Pipeline.

**Additional Information and Supporting Documents**

1. If more space is required to answer a question, please attach additional pages with a reference to which question is being answered.
2. Supporting documents should be attached in English (where possible).

**Submitting Applications**

1. Completed applications with supporting documents attached should be sent in electronic format to [connectivity@asean.org](mailto:connectivity@asean.org) with a copy to project consultants: [satya\_ramamurthy@sg.smbc.co.jp](mailto:satya_ramamurthy@sg.smbc.co.jp), [junxian\_shi@sg.smbc.co.jp](mailto:junxian_shi@sg.smbc.co.jp), and [tint\_tel\_may@sg.smbc.co.jp](mailto:tint_tel_may@sg.smbc.co.jp). Please indicate on the subject line: “ASEAN Rolling Pipeline Application: [*insert country name*]”.[[5]](#footnote-5)

**SECTION 0 / Basic Information**

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| 1 | Name of project: |  |
| Name of agency/project owner: |  |
| Project location (including country and provinces/areas, if any) |  |

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| 2 | Description of project (tick all that apply): |  | Greenfield  *(newly built project)* |  | Brownfield *(expansion or rehabilitation of an existing project)* |

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| 3 | Project costs and expected capacity: | | | | |
| Estimated total project costs: | US$: |  | Year of cost estimate: |  |
| Expected capacity added by the project (kilometres of road, megawatts (MW), etc): |  | | | |

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| 4 | Anticipated project schedule: | | | |
| Project/phase title | Year of start of construction works:  (MM/YYYY) | Year of start of operations / services:  (MM/YYYY) | Overall capacity added: |
| [insert project name] |  |  |  |
| *Please add more rows if needed* | | | | |

### **SECTION 1 / Screening Criteria**

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| **Key required questions (screening questions)** |

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| 5 | Type of project: (Projects could fall under one or more categories) |  | Digital:  *e.g. Information and communications technology (ICT) (linear) e.g., subsea fibre networks, underground fibre optic cabling; data centres; telecommunication towers and wireless networks; power subsystems; and national broadband plans* |  | Special economic zones (SEZs) |
|  | Transportation:  *e.g. Roads; rail; airport; ports; inland port* |  | Undeveloped land:  *e.g. Forests, water* |
|  | Logistics:  *e.g. Roads; rail; airports; ports; inland port/waterway; freight and logistics hubs; rail freight terminals; regional trade distribution centres; cold chain logistics; transloading facilities; cross-docking; trans modal (rail to rail) operations; satellite terminals; on-dock or near-dock rail facility* |  | Social:  *e.g. Education; health and other public facilities* |
|  | Energy:  *e.g. Power generation e.g., gas, oil; and transmission & distribution (T&D) e.g., electricity interconnectors* |  | Urban:  *e.g. Waste supply/water; smart infrastructure that are digitally enabled and linked to the Internet of Things (IoT) e.g., smart traffic systems featuring integrated transport systems (ITS) and smart sewage systems* |
|  | Other (please specify): | | |
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| 6 | Project status: |  | Early concept |
|  | Pre-Feasibility, Preliminary/Outline Business Case |
|  | Feasibility Stage |
|  | Funding/Financing for project costs identified and procurement approach finalized |
|  | Tender process completed and project awarded |
|  | Financial close |

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| 7 | Will the project increase the movement of goods, services, people and/or information flows between ASEAN Member States? |  | Yes |  | No |

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| 8 | Which of the following documents are available for assessment? (tick all that apply)  *Please include a preliminary gender equality and inclusion analysis as part of the environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) and a broad costing in the preliminary**design, if any.* |  | Detailed project description |
|  | Pre-feasibility (FS) studies / preliminary or outline business case |
|  | Cost-benefit analysis |
|  | Environment/social impact study |
|  | Financial model |
|  | Preliminary design |
|  | Other: please specify: |
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| **Additional information** |

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| 9 | Please elaborate on the types of support required for the project where relevant:  *Examples include technical assistance such as capacity building and training, conducting pre-FS, gender equality and inclusion analysis and strategic environmental assessment (SEA), etc.* |
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**Thank you for completing Section 1.**

### **SECTION 2 / Scoring Criteria**

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| 10 | Please provide a detailed project description which includes major components of the capital expenditure, existing capacity, capacity added, proposed infrastructure, route alignment, outline of the construction work and resulting infrastructure and services to be delivered, as applicable: |
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| 11 | Please identify plan(s) where the project is included: | |
| 1. AMS endorsed regional plan, e.g., Master Plan on ASEAN Connectivity (MPAC) 2025, ASEAN sectoral initiative |  |
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| 1. Government master plans and/or national priorities |  |
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| 12 | Please provide an outline of the need for the project:  Any supporting evidence such as surveys, demand forecast models, outline business case (OBC), robust pre-feasibility /feasibility studies and/or reliable historical data would be helpful. |
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| 13a | Does the project have a development strategy to address ESG, build resiliency and/or factor(s) related to climate adaptation/natural disasters/pandemic or other health crisis into the design, construction, and/or maintenance aspects? |  | Yes |  | No |

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| 13b | If **yes**, please explain how these will be factored into project design and development: |
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| 14 | Please explain how land will be allocated and/or acquired for the project, as well as any foreseeable risks related to land acquisition, resettlement, or economic displacement and how these risks will be managed:  *Please include the results of any relevant studies or assessments.* |
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| 15a | Does the project have in place the necessary resources and contingency arrangements for disaster risk reduction (mitigation, prevention, response, and recovery) in the planning and design stage? |  | Yes |  | No |

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| 15b | If **yes**, please provide additional information where appropriate: |
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| 16 | Is the project expected to generate positive socio-economic benefits to the region? Please elaborate where appropriate.  *Benefits could include, for example, increased economic output/production, jobs created, economic rate of return (EIRR), cost benefit assessment (CBA), increasing service access levels, demonstrating multiplier effects etc.* |
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| 17 | Is there a preferred funding/financing structure for the project? (tick one box): |  | Fully public[[6]](#footnote-6) (please specify source of finance if available: \_\_\_\_\_\_) |
|  | Fully private[[7]](#footnote-7) (please specify source of finance if available: \_\_\_\_\_\_) |
|  | Public Private Partnership (PPP)[[8]](#footnote-8) |
|  | Other (please specify): |
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| 18 | If PPP is considered, what type of government support is expected to be required for the project (if any)? |  | Viability gap funding (VGF)[[9]](#footnote-9) |
|  | Minimum revenue guarantee[[10]](#footnote-10) |
|  | Credit/loan guarantee[[11]](#footnote-11) |
|  | Availability payment[[12]](#footnote-12) |
|  | Not applicable |
|  | Government support is not expected to be required for this project |
|  | Other (please specify): |
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| 19a | Have any of the following parties expressed interest in the project? | | | | |
| 1. Funders/financiers (national, regional, international, private, Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) etc.) |  | Yes |  | No |
| 1. National, regional, or international investors or developers |  | Yes |  | No |

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| 19b | If **yes**, please identify the institutions, level of interest, potential amount, and status of discussions. Evidence of funding can be provided through Memorandum of Understanding (MOUs), Letters of Interest (LOI) or support etc. |
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| 20 | List all expected revenue sources (tick all that apply):  If an estimate of the expected cash flows from the project has been produced, please provide the project cash flow model: |  | User fee payments[[13]](#footnote-13) |
|  | ODA grants[[14]](#footnote-14) |
|  | Land leases[[15]](#footnote-15) |
|  | Commercial revenues |
|  | Other (please specify): |
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| 21 | Where applicable, is it the intention for the project to be competitively procured? e.g., competitive bidding, competitive negotiation. |  | Yes |  | No |

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| 22 | What are the challenges to project viability and what is being done to manage and/or mitigate these challenges: |
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**Thank you for completing Section 2.**

**This is the end of the Abridged Project Application Form.**

Please submit your completed Form (with all attachments) to the contact persons listed above on page 1 (**Submitting Applications**).

1. <https://asean.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/Master-Plan-on-ASEAN-Connectivity-20251.pdf> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. The Project Application Form is an updated version of a similar form developed by the World Bank (through consultations with LIB-SI and relevant national agencies/project owners of ASEAN Member States) for the prioritisation of projects in the first iteration of the Initial Pipeline of ASEAN Infrastructure Projects announced in 2019. With recent developments, trends, priorities, and challenges related to issues such as COVID-19 and climate change, LIB-SI engaged Ernst & Young (EY) to update the Form, resulting in the version approved by LIB-SI in September 2022. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. External partners referred to in this process may include governments/agencies from non-ASEAN countries or any private sector operating within or outside ASEAN. While a project may receive support from one partner, it does not preclude additional support from other partners. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. Subject to customary financing requirements, internal procedure, and risk appetite by the potential lenders. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. If you happen to receive this document in hard copy, please email [connectivity@asean.org](mailto:connectivity@asean.org) for the soft copy. [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. No private sector participation involved in the funding/financing of the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. No Government support involved in the funding/financing of the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. The project has the potential for private sector participation in partnership with the public sector. [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. A capital expenditure subsidy that is phased over the construction period based on achieving milestones or against equity investments. [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. An agreement to compensate the private sector party for loss of revenue should a particular revenue stream fall under the specified minimum level. [↑](#footnote-ref-10)
11. A commitment to repay part or all of the debt used to finance the project. [↑](#footnote-ref-11)
12. A regular payment or subsidy over the lifetime of the project, usually conditional on the service or asset being made available or defined service levels. [↑](#footnote-ref-12)
13. A sum of money paid by the general public (users) to access a particular a service/facility, such as road tolls and parking charges. [↑](#footnote-ref-13)
14. ODA grants are a form of financial assistance provided by multilateral development banks or countries in recipient countries for which there is typically no obligation for repayment. These grants are usually used to support construction work or procure related equipment and materials for development projects. [↑](#footnote-ref-14)
15. An arrangement to rent out a piece of land on a leasehold or freehold basis to a tenant/lessee. [↑](#footnote-ref-15)