RESTRUCTURING PAPER
ON A
PROPOSED PROJECT RESTRUCTURING
FOR
E-SRI LANKA DEVELOPMENT PROJECT
BOARD APPROVAL DATE SEPTEMBER 21, 2004
TO THE
DEMOCRATIC AND SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF SRI LANKA
December 2, 2011
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ICT  Information and Communication Technology
ISR  Implementation Status Report
NRI  Network Readiness Index
PDO  Project Development Objectives

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1. The closing date for E-Sri Lanka Development Project, Credit No. 39860-CE, will be extended from December 31, 2011 to March 31, 2012.

2. The project has achieved some major results over its lifetime. Over 620 telecenters have been established, used by over 72,000 citizens monthly, increasing the ICT literacy in rural areas and linking poor people around the country with markets and information essential to their livelihoods. It has improved access and use of ICT in target areas as measured by number of beneficiaries in target communities using telecentres on a regular basis to improve their communication opportunities and access to services in health, education, employment and government services. Currently 33,818 against a target of 5,000 are using telecenters for the above specific services while the remaining users go for ICT training, social networking, preparation of documents etc. There has been increase in utilization and satisfaction levels with applications developed under the e-society grants scheme, some of which had won international awards. Currently 5.78 million people are conducting transactions with and obtaining online information from government institutions against a target of 5 million people. Further over the past 6 years, over 35,000 private sector workers have been trained to incorporate ICT in their business. Several key laws were adopted, creating a much-needed ICT legal framework. The above improvements have resulted in the country achieving a 4.6 score on the business usage subscale of the Network Readiness index (NRI)\(^1\) from a baseline of 3.46.

3. As of December 1, 2011, 88.86% of project funds or US$ 41,087,236.80 had been disbursed, with a remaining undisbursed balance of US$ 5,151,933.58.

4. In the last Implementation Status Report (ISR), the Progress towards achievement of PDO is rated “Satisfactory”, while overall implementation progress is rated “Satisfactory”.

5. The proposed extension is necessary to complete activities and roll out successful applications developed under the project. This period will also allow the additional financing as requested by Government to be prepared. The Implementing Agency has provided a credible work plan, including a procurement plan to complete the project.

6. This will be the second extension of the project. The project had earlier been extended for a period of 24 months.

\(^1\) Measures ICT developments in a country.