

EXPAND THE U.S.-INDIA TECHNOLOGY PARTNERSHIP FOR DEVELOPING ASIAN ECONOMIES

<p>ISSUE</p>	<p>Developing economies in Asia need access to digital and emerging technologies for their economic development and sustainability goals. The existing multilateral institutions have limited competence and mandate to provide this support. While major Western powers are only present through their private enterprises for commercial purposes, China is pulling more countries into its orbit through its trade and investment in technology supply chains.</p>
<p>SIGNIFICANCE</p>	<p>The growing U.S.-India technology partnership presents a strategic opportunity to support Asia's developing economies. By building on initiatives including the U.S.-India Global Digital Development Partnership and the U.S.-India Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) collaboration, the two nations can foster investment and innovation and provide support in areas such as digital public infrastructure, sustainable tech, and high-value sectors such as space and biotechnology.</p>
<p>EXPECTATIONS IN THE REGION</p>	<p>Asia's developing economies are seeking high-technology collaboration and could be encouraged to embrace viable alternatives to China's offerings. The U.S.-India partnership is well positioned to support these aspirations.</p>
<p>DOMESTIC CONSTRAINTS/ CONSIDERATIONS</p>	<p>Such a partnership would not only leverage India's growing prowess in technology and its potential as a geoeconomic partner but also its position as a bridge to the developing world, in line with Washington's push to maintain competitiveness in emerging sectors. Also, the incoming administration is likely to prioritize countering China's influence in setting global technology standards and norms and limiting Chinese products, technology, and infrastructure in the region.</p>
<p>RECOMMENDED COURSE OF ACTION</p>	<p>Establish a U.S.-India Consultative Mechanism as a high-level platform to align objectives, share insights, and target priority economies and sectors. Key actions include (a) creating a joint working group with government officials alongside stakeholders from tech companies, entrepreneurs, and financial institutions; and (b) launching a U.S.-India Technology Development Fund, modeled on the Overseas Private Investment Corporation, to provide risk capital to developing economies for scalable and accessible initiatives in digital public infrastructure, clean energy, e-governance, and high-tech public projects.</p>