

# Project Objectives

PAN Localization project focuses on documenting the problems and researching the solutions to enable localization of ICTs.

These problems may be broadly divided into three categories. First, Asian languages are very different and in some aspects much more complex than English, e.g. some of the Asian languages have very complex writing systems. The current technology does not completely support the requirements of many Asian languages, as it was initially developed to support only English. Thus, current technology needs to be developed and improved to support these languages. Second, human resource in majority of these developing Asian countries is not skilled to enhance the existing technology to support these Asian languages. Finally, there are very few studies which look at local language problems to devise and recommend effective policy framework to address problems and devise short-term and long-term solutions.

The core general objectives of PAN Localization project are to address these issues. PAN Localization project will research into the following three fundamental dimensions of localization for Asian languages.

## General Objectives:

The project has the following objectives:

- to develop sustainable human resource capacity in the Asian region for R&D in local language technology
- to raise current levels of technological support for Asian languages
- to advance policy for local language content creation and access across Asia for development

## Specific Objectives:

Specifically the projects objectives are to look into the following:

- to develop baseline of the status of local language computing in Asia
- to monitor research and development trends in local language computing
- to conduct research into linguistics, computing and language processing for selected local languages
- to develop training material and provide training in local language computing
- to develop computer standards and software that enables local language computing
- to evolve a process framework for developing local language computing
- to experiment with marketing strategies to promote the use of local language tools for content development
- to develop a regional network of researchers, practitioners and policy-makers for collaborative learning in local language computing
- to consolidate a regional platform and voice on local language computing issues
- to contribute to the state-of-practice in local language computing through a rigorous research publication program
- to evolve a policy framework for local language computing and generation and usage of local language content for development

PAN Localization project is thus unique as it will be the first study of its kind which looks at these common problems faced by Asian region and research into a comprehensive solution.