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Towards a Malaysian Information -Rich Society in 2020 : Vision, National Strategies and Action Plans

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IT Deployment in Vietnam: National Policy and Role of International Investors

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Abstract

In the late 1980's, the Vietnamese government introduced important economic reforms toward a market economy. Since then, the economy has been growing at an unprecedented rate. Vietnam has joined a number of Asian countries which have identified IT as a key element for economic growth. As a developing country, IT deployment suffers however from a number of difficulties: insufficient financial resources, skilled but untrained workforce, and lack of business infrastructure to fully taking advantage of IT.

This presentation focuses on three national policies to alleviate these difficulties. First, the government seeks to attract foreign investments by creating an innovative form of business venture: the Business Co-operation Contract. Second, the government is working on a master plan for IT education and training. Third, it is promoting a number of fiscal, economic, and telecommunications policies to enable better deployment of IT. In addition, there are also consideration in the legal system, which will impact on foreign participation to the Vietnamese effort to deploy IT.

Towards Social Equity and Prosperity: Thailand IT Policy into the 21st Century

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Abstract

Thailand's stage of development is at a crossroads in many respects. The past decade has seen the country enjoying a relatively stable economic growth of double digit figure at times and eight percent on average. To accommodate growth of this magnitude; infrastructure expansion, human resource development, law and regulatory reform, to name a few, are instrumental to sustain the development as the country is moving toward the 21st century. IT plays an important role in the process of economic and social development in the domestic scene and plays an unquestionable role in the era of globalisation.

1995 has been declared "Thailand IT Year" by the government. With the announcement comes Thailand's first National Policy on IT. This paper highlights our vision and strategies in bringing the country toward a prosperous yet equitable society through IT.

Towards a Malaysian Information-Rich Society In 2020: Vision, National Strategies and Action Plans

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Abstract

In its Vision 2020 policy statement, the Government of Malaysia articulates the challenges that confront the nation in its attainment of the status of a developed country by the year 2020. One of the challenges is that of "...establishing a society that is innovative and forward looking, one that is not only a consumer of technology but also a contributor..." This forms the basis for rethinking the policy framework and approach to building an information-rich society in Malaysia.

The author will provide a brief account of IT policy, assess the current developments against the context of the changing social-economic-political conditions, and map the likely trajectory in the future. The development of IT policy in Malaysia can be divided into three phases. Beginning 1970, the first decade was characterised by a series of directives and procedures aimed at coordinating public sector computing. The post-1980 saw the emergence of a number of government agencies with an interest in specific areas of IT, and various ad-hoc attempts to formulate an integrated overall policy. In the 1990s, there emerge a concerted effort to coordinate IT issues at the national level through a high-level central body.