

Executive Summary

National Information Technology Plan 2000 (NITP2000) of the Philippines

The **National Information Technology Plan 2000 (NITP2000)** documents an overall strategy to spur the country to global competitiveness through **Information Technology (IT)** diffusion. With its Vision of a **SMART PHILIPPINES**, the NITP2000 is designed to contribute to people empowerment and socio-economic development. It is anchored on the belief that the country can benefit from a shared national vision of harnessing IT in the same way that businesses and nations world-wide have, and to launch the Philippines as a **Newly Industrializing Country (NIC)**. It presents a strategy by which the government and the private sector will work together to optimize the use of IT.

The forging of NITP2000 has the benefit of previous proposals such as SPRINT85, PCS NITP1988 and NITP1989, and used substantial information from the Center for Research in Information Technology Organizations (CRITO), University of California in Irvine, study of national IT policies of Asia-Pacific countries. It is the product of extensive consultation with the private sector notably the key players in the IT industry, academe and government, and is intended to be a sectoral plan for IT in the **Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP)**.

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A. Overall Goal

The overall development goal is **IT Diffusion** where IT will be used pervasively in society. IT is globally fast becoming a major factor of productivity, efficiency and competitiveness -- changing conventional procedures and standards. IT facilitates transaction processes, produces efficient products and services, creates a borderless world and shrinks it, and makes entertainment more exciting, to say the least.

B. Strategies

NITP2000 is a comprehensive plan of action with the twin strategies of **IT Use** and **IT Production**. **IT Use** refers to the widespread use of IT in government for bureaucratic efficiency, and in public service-sensitive and mission-critical applications; in business for better service delivery and global competitiveness; in the educational system to raise the literacy standards of the general public; and in the home for entertainment, doing school work, keeping domestic records, and the like. Extensive use of IT literally makes information accessible at the fingertips enabling and empowering the people to have a choice or make decisions, and creates business opportunities. IT is a tool that enables us to do more with less thus, making it an indispensable commodity at work, at school and at home.

IT Production refers to the accelerated creation and provision of state-of-the-art IT products and services that are affordable and accessible as the demand for IT Use grows. IT production generally refers to the development and supply of common or specific software products that are relevant to government and business operations as well as specific software solutions for offshore contracts.

C. Structural Components

For effective implementation and management, the NITP2000 is structured (as defined below) into five (5) components with respective **Key Result Areas (KRAs)** that are achievable by **1998**.

T - [Telecommunications](#)

I - [Industry](#)

G - [Government](#)

E - [Education](#)

R - [Research](#)

Telecommunications Component

This component aims to accelerate the implementation of a data exchange and inquiry scheme through a **national information highway** that is capable of electronically networking the entire country. The **national information highway** will have the facility to transfer data from national to local field offices and vice-versa, and access/inquire about information from geographically dispersed sources.

- **KRAs**
 - Set up of a national telecommunications backbone that runs on top of commercial carrier facilities
 - Accelerated use of Value-Added Network/Value-Added Services (VAN/VAS) such as electronic trading, electronic mail, data transfer and fund transfer.
- **Development Programs**
 - Government Information Sharing Technology Network (GISTNET)
 - VAN/VAS Development Program

Industry Component

This component has two concerns: **IT in Industry** and **IT Industry**. **IT in Industry** refers to the extensive use of IT in various industries to enable them to take advantage of world business opportunities (by being currently posted and aware of products/services requirements, markets, prices, competitors, etc.), and essentially producing globally competitive products and services. **IT Industry** is the business of creating IT products and services such as software, possibly hardware, consulting, data preparation, and IT products dealership and distribution. **IT Industry** strives to provide quality niche products and services for local consumption and largely for export, and in the process endeavours to become a major export industry.

- **KRAs**
 - Widespread IT use (i.e., from 1 out of 100 in 1994 to 1 out of 50 SEC-registered businesses) in various industries
 - Increased IT export (i.e., from US\$60 million in 1994 to US\$300 million)
- **Development Programs**
 - Development Marketing

- Promote Personal and Home Computing
- IT Export Development
- IT Investment Promotion

Government Component

This includes all **national** and **local** government instrumentalities, and is aimed to improve the delivery of basic services to the people; provide transparency in government transactions; and increase government capability for planning, policy formulation and program implementation.

- **KRAs**
 - Widespread IT use in mission-critical applications in all major national agencies
 - Widespread IT use (i.e., from 1% to 50%) in the Local Government Units
- **Development Programs**
 - National Government Computerization Program (NGCP)
 - Local Government Computerization Program (LGCP)

Education Component

This component has two major concerns: **IT literacy** and **IT manpower development**. **IT literacy** is a major concern of the educational system and IT solutions (hardware, software, and consulting) providers with a lot of help from the mass media. **IT manpower development** is a major responsibility of the educational system in strategic alliance with technology sources for the academic aspect and with the various industries for the practical training aspect.

The underlying objective of this component is to promote extensive IT use, and thus, it intends to educate government and business leaders and executives on the importance and use of IT in the technology-based contemporary setting for enterprise and nation building; produce an adequate number of competent IT workers; improve the technical capability of R&D and IT education and training institutions; promote the country as an alternative IT education center; and expand general IT awareness.

- **KRAs**
 - Development of a critical mass (i.e., from 30,000 in 1994 to 50,000) of competent IT workers for domestic requirements

- Offering of IT degree programs in universities and colleges (i.e., from 10% to 50%)
- Increased IT literacy (to 60%)
- **Development Programs**
 - IT Literacy Program
 - IT Manpower Development Program

Research Component

- **KRAs**
- This component focuses on R&D activities to IT products (software/hardware) development engage in by government and private entities. It is not particularly concerned with basic R&D. IT R&D aims to identify IT R&D niches; provide R&D support to develop or enhance IT products that will raise government, business, agricultural, and industrial productivity and efficiency; and develop and upgrade local IT R&D resources.
 - Development of 10 niche products
- **Development Programs**
 - Promote Industry-Academe Alliance for R&D
 - Network R&D Centers
 - Network R&D Specialists

D. Support Programs

- Policy Development
- Certification Program
- IT Industry Statistics and Registry (IT-STAR) Data bank Program

E. NITP2000 Integration to MTPDP

The NITP2000 is structurally integrated into the **Medium-Term Philippine Development Plan (MTPDP)** in consonance with the directive of the President, and is, therefore considered a Sectoral Plan of the MTPDP. This being the case, the structural components have been incorporated in the MTPDP as presented below:

NITP2000
Structural

MTPDP

	Components	Chapters
Chapter	Telecommunications	Infrastructure
& Devt	Industry	Macroeconomy
and		Financing
Chapters		Agri-Industrial
	Government	Devt
Administration and		Macroeconomy
& Devt Financing		Chapters
	Education	Human
Devt and		Infrastructure
Devt Chapters		
	Research	Infrastructure
Chapter		

F. Management of the Plan

Existing institutions, resources and facilities will be used to manage the Plan. It is not necessary to create new structures, rather, strong strategic alliances between government and the private sector must be forged to carry out the Plan.

The Plan recommends the reconstitution into the **National IT Council (NITC)** of the **IT Coordinating Council (ITCC)** – the body created by Executive Order 356 in 1989 to oversee the implementation and update of the NITP2000. The NITC shall be chaired by the **Executive Secretary of the Office of the President (OP)** and co-chaired by the **Director General, National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA)**. The members shall be composed of:

- Six (6) duly designated Undersecretaries of the following agencies:
 - Department of Science and Technology (**DOST**)
 - Department of Trade and Industry (**DTI**)
 - Department of Transportation and Communications (**DOTC**)
 - Department of Education, Culture, and Sports (**DECS**)
 - Department of Foreign Affairs (**DFA**)

- Department of Budget and Management (**DBM**)
- Managing Director, National Computer Center (**NCC**) and Head, Presidential Management Staff (**PMS**)
- Two (2) private sector representatives from the IT industry to be appointed by the Chairmen
- One (1) Non-Government Organization (**NGO**) representative involved in the social and/or economic development to be appointed by the Chairmen.

The basic functions of the **NITC** are policy establishment, and promotion of strategic programs and activities in the country. It will manage the Plan through the component oversight committees which in turn will manage the working committees that are created for specific programs.

NITC funding shall be course and administered through **NCC**.