



DICT
DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND
COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY

DICT's response in addressing the digital divide and online/ platform work

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Digital Divide and the Platform Economy: Looking for the Connection from the Asian Experience

Cumulative and recursive model of digital divide

Motivational Access

Material Access

Skills Access

Usage Access

Online Work in the Philippines: Some Lessons in the Asian Context

Moving Forward

Create skills and training systems

Design a social protection system

Strengthen infrastructure support

Explore the inclusion of platform economy as an area of cooperation among Asian nations

The government is able to advance platform/online work, by instituting mechanisms to address challenges on skills and social protection



The COVID-19 pandemic has reshaped work, as this has **accelerated the adoption of digital solutions** in implementing work-from-home, telecommuting, and virtual collaboration schemes

Online/platform work situated in the lower end of the value chain (e.g. creative/multimedia and sales/marketing support) have been adversely affected by the pandemic, thus, **reskilling/upskilling is necessary.**

Likewise, the COVID-19 pandemic magnified the issue on **social protection for platform/online workers**, such as security benefits and protection entitlements and sustainability, if the social protection mechanisms are in place.

The government may use these realizations in **developing new plans, policies, initiatives and cooperations** regarding reskilling/upskilling as well as the institutionalization of social protection mechanisms.

Digital divide is exacerbated by various factors such as:



Lack of prior digital experience/ education



Lack of trust/negative perception on the internet



Low income level



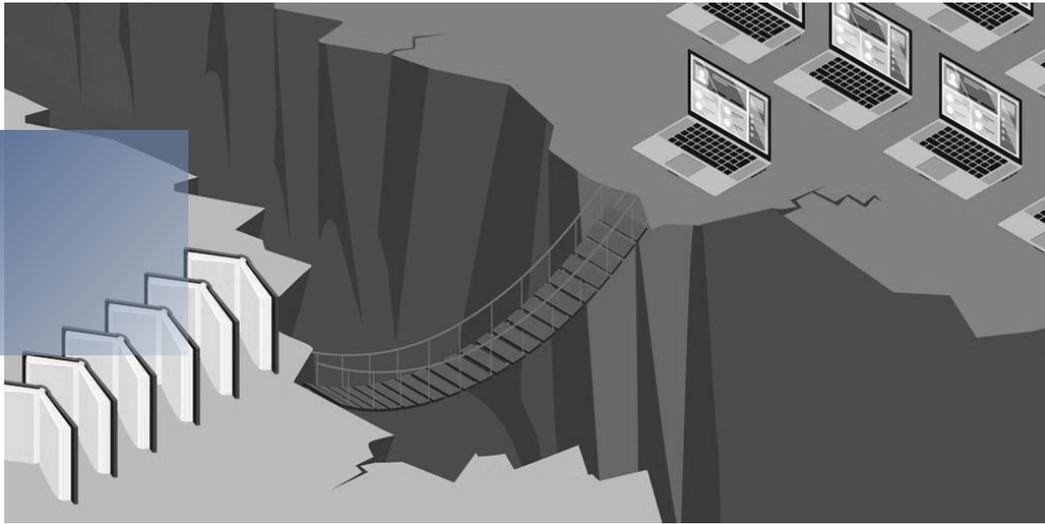
Cost of internet subscriptions and devices



Insufficient operational, informational and strategic skills



Varying levels of ICT utilization due to demographic characteristics and quality of the digital infrastructure



By bridging digital divide, the government can maximize the 'digital dividends' from digital platforms

- Improving the statistical systems by including indicators that will measure access and participation in digital platforms
- Addressing issues related to digital platform access such as cost of device and subscription as well as quality of the digital infrastructure
- Retooling/upskilling of digital platform users
- Promoting meaningful access to ICT in the disadvantaged segments of the society
- Infusing gender and development (GAD) in developing new plans, policies, initiatives and cooperations regarding the use of digital platforms
- Harnessing existing initiatives regarding digitalization, innovation and start-ups support
- Implementing cybersecurity and data privacy initiatives that will instill trust and assurance to online/platform users

DICT advances platform/online work and utilization of digital platforms through the implementation of the following initiatives:

ICT Capacity Development

Digital Workforce through ICT Academy

is composed of initiatives that support the overall talent development in the country in terms of digital skills in order to maintain and increase the Philippines' global competitiveness in this sector.

Target for 2021:

- Develop 10 Priority skills training developed for IT-BPM workers upskilling
- IT-BPM Upskilling Trainings to 3,000 trainees
- 200 CIO Cadetship Scholars

Scaled Upskilling for IT-BPM Workers

aims to support the IT-BPM Roadmap 2022, an overarching strategy for talent development in the IT-BPM industry to maintain and upgrade the Philippines' global competitiveness in this sector.

In the final stages of MOA with Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) for the provision of Upskilling and Reskilling capacity development activities

digitaljobsPH

The digitaljobsPH Training aims to help address unemployment in the country and support more Filipinos in the countryside in gaining employment through the online freelancing industry.

60 RIS/digitaljobsPH Trainings with:

- 1,527 trained individuals
- 65 MSMEs trained

ICT Capacity Development in the Countryside

primarily aims to implement the Digital Philippines' capacity-building strategies through the Digital Education and Digital Workforce

- Conduct of 125 Free Webinars for Teachers with 135,310 participants
- 102 Diagnostic Examination administered to 1,837 exam takers

DICT advances platform/online work and utilization of digital platforms through the implementation of the following initiatives:

Digital Connectivity

National Broadband Program

The NBP is the national government's strategy in providing faster, efficient, and equitable broadband connectivity to the country, especially for the geographically isolated and disadvantaged areas (GIDAs).

Luzon Bypass Infrastructure

- 100% completion of construction, testing and acceptance of the following:
 - 2 Cable Landing Stations
 - 4 Repeater Stations
 - 250km Terrestrial Roadwork

DICT is also targets to update the National Broadband Plan through the issuance of the **Digital Infrastructure Plan**, a comprehensive national strategy that will address gaps in digital connectivity.

Free WiFi for All Program

The Free WiFi for All in Public Places and State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) Program is one of the key strategies in building and enhancing the existing digital infrastructure in the country.

As of 28 December 2020, a total of 7,556 live sites were established in 17 regions, 79 provinces, 933 municipalities and 120 cities

Digital Transformation Centers / Tech4ED

Serves as a conduit for efficient delivery of government and other services and a potent tool for the empowerment and participation of the unserved and underserved communities in development.

Total of 4,544 Tech4ED Centers established to date.

DICT advances platform/online work and utilization of digital platforms through the implementation of the following initiatives:

ICT Data Collection/Generation

National ICT Household Survey

aims to provide statistical information deemed essential in monitoring relevant dimensions of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) usage in household and by individuals.

- Interviews for the survey were conducted in late 2019, wherein 43,838 households were sampled using the 2013 Master Sample of the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA).
- NICTHS was able to generate national and regional estimates of ICT indicators, covering areas such as ICT use by individuals, Digital Economy/E-commerce, Infrastructure and Gender Dimension of ICT.

Women and ICT Development Index Survey

aims to provide data to help the DICT in identifying strategies/interventions that will strengthen women's access to ICTs and promote efficient use of technology for women's livelihood and employment.

- Ongoing procurement
- Ongoing finalization of the MOA with PSA

IT-BPM Baseline Survey

to provide government and the private sector more current data, planning tools, and core indicators that are representative of the emerging technology and business trends in the IT-BPM sector.

Ongoing procurement

DICT advances platform/online work and utilization of digital platforms through the implementation of the following initiatives:

Trust and Security

National Cybersecurity Plan

is able to institutionalize the adoption and implementation of Information Security Governance and Risk Management approaches.

Establishment of the National Computer Emergency Response Team (NCERT) for the government's quick response and recovery

Digitalization and Innovation

Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Migration Plan

is a comprehensive plan, which addresses policy, regulatory, and technical issues involved in the country's migration to Digital TV.

Ongoing development of the Executive Order for the Comprehensive Nationwide Implementation of the DTTB Migration Plan

Ongoing development of the Department Order for the Creation of a Joint Working Group for the Utilization of DTTB as an Alternative Learning Modality

Key Takeaways

01

The COVID-19 pandemic has changed the way we work and use digital platforms.

02

To advance online/platform work and promote the meaningful use of digital platforms, initiatives such as Digital Workforce through ICT Academy, IT-BPM Upskilling and Re-skilling, digitaljobsPH, and ICT Capacity Development in the Countryside should be capitalized and harnessed.

03

Support the promotion of digital/platform economy by implementing digital connectivity initiatives such as National Broadband Program, Digital Infrastructure Plan and Free WiFi for All Program, Digital Transformation Centers and Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting Migration Plan.

04

Continue the implementation of the National Cybersecurity Plan to provide motivation and instill trust and assurance to online/platform users

05

Build data for digital and platform economies by leveraging existing data collection/generation mechanisms such as National ICT Household Survey (NICTHS) and by automating statistical systems.

06

Strong local, national and international cooperation and collaboration is necessary to ensure the advancement of online/platform work as well as realization of 'digital dividends'.

National data on the household access and individual usage of ICT in the Philippines



17.7%

Households have their own internet access at home, majority of which use the internet for social media and communication



43%

Individuals have used the internet and many of them have used a cellphone to connect to the internet



23.8%

Households have computer at home



29.7%

Individuals are using a computer



1.6%

Individuals are running softwares



1.4%

Conducting Data Management Analysis



0.7%

Using Modeling and Simulation Softwares

Thank You!

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