Reimagining Governance in the Age of AI

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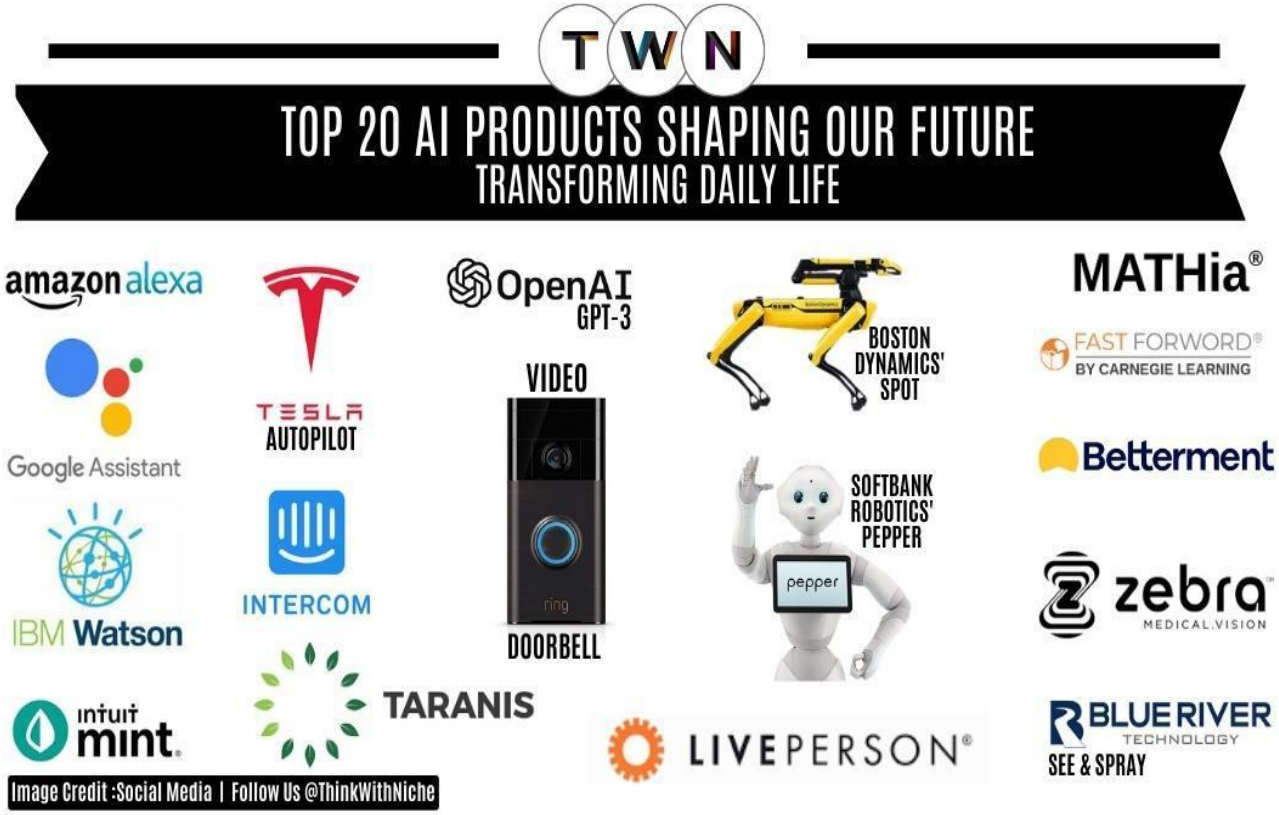
Background/Rationale

The Intelligent Age is transforming everything, everywhere, all at once… (WEF, 2025)

Since the release of OpenAI's ChatGPT in 2022, many new AI products and solutions have followed

AI has transformed numerous industries, government agencies, and personal aspects of modern life (UC Online, 2025)



Background/Rationale

- **Benefits:** AI is boosting efficiency, driving innovation, and solving complex problems
- AI shows up in everyday tools and services being used all the time. Voice assistants like Siri and Alexa, personalized Spotify or Netflix recommendations, online shopping suggestions, fraud alerts from the bank, and even features in self-driving cars - all rely on AI to work smarter and faster (UC Online, 2025).

Background/Rationale

Biggest Impact

Healthcare

Finance

Manufacturing

Transportation

Cybersecurity

Background/Rationale

Expanding in:

Education

Agriculture

Creative Fields

AI in policy-making

- Health policy → AI paves the way for novel analyses and innovative solutions for intelligent ***decision-making*** and ***data collection***, potentially enhancing policymaking capacities, particularly in the ***evaluation*** phase
- AI inclusion in the form of data in the ***agenda-setting*** stage has the potential to transform the extracted data into knowledge for policy formulation and decision adoption
- More research is needed → Ethical challenges such as transparency, fairness, and biases of AI

Background/Rationale

- **Disadvantages:**
  - Job losses and cuts (entry level) – mostly in the tech sector
  - Bias in decision-making (due to incomplete data)/ethical issues,
  - Privacy risks
- AI is also expensive to create. From 2013 through 2024, the U.S. private sector invested $470 billion in AI, U.S. public spending on AI-related contracts totaled $5.2 billion (2013-2023), with defense accounting for about 75% of that total. It is expected to get more expensive as operations advance and scale up
- The AI industry has not yet figured out how to be profitable, and possibly never will (Futurism.com article, 8/16/2025)

Background/Rationale

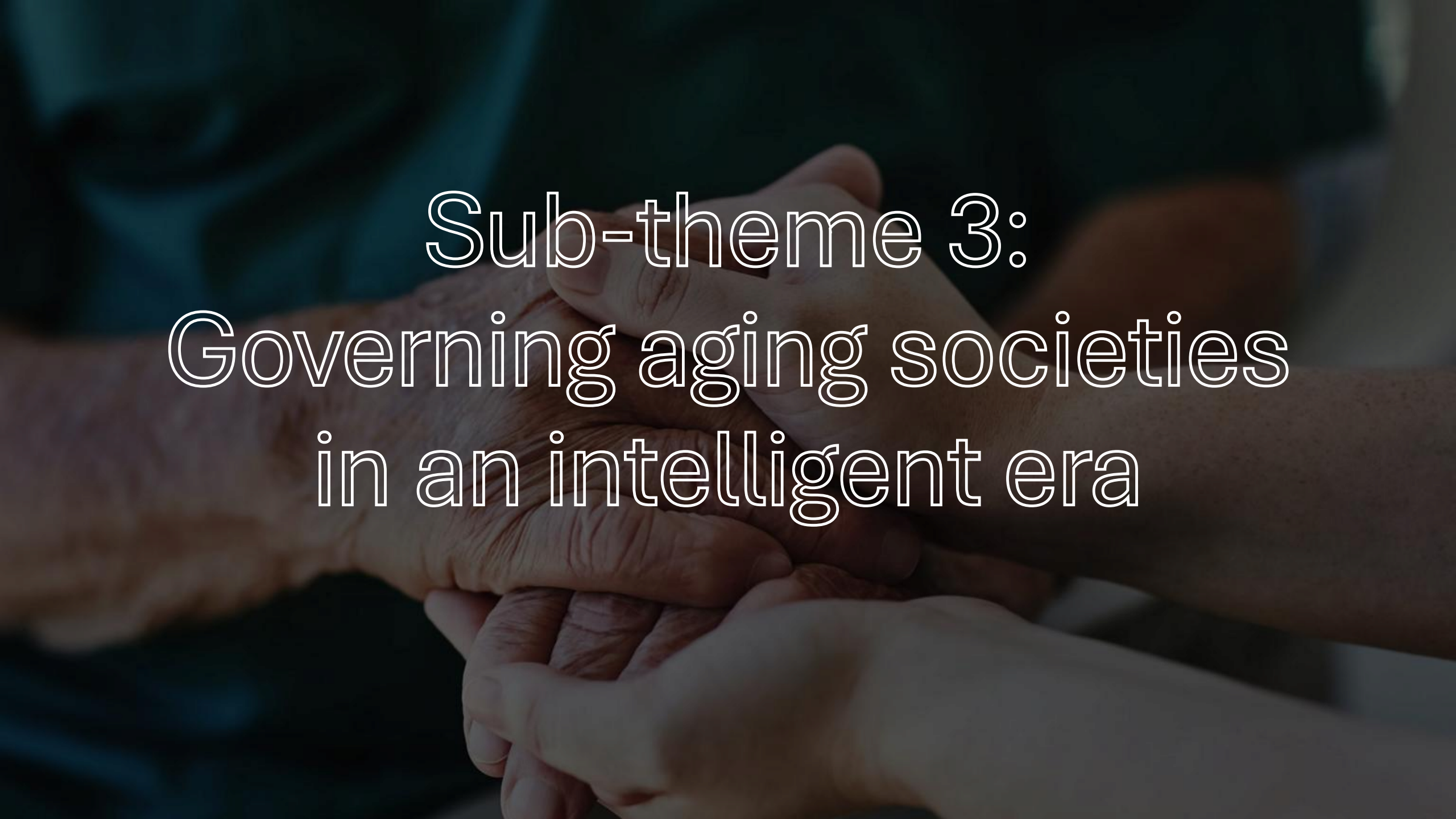
- **Disadvantages:**
- AI lacks mental ability, lacks common sense
- Risks associated with “hallucination”problem of AI (providing false, misleading and fabricated information) – *due to insufficient training data/statistical prediction*, *it is common in generative AI; hallucination gets worse as the technology becomes more advanced*
- Limitation of the user – there is still a lot of things we do not understand

Background/Rationale

- **Main questions:**
  - How can we maximize the benefits and minimize the risks and disadvantages of AI?
  - What governance mechanisms and policies must be put in place? Or simply, how to govern in this era of AI?
- In this year's DPRM – we want us to reimagine our policies and governance mechanisms to address challenges and harness the benefits of AI;
- In addition, we must be vigilant to anticipate the negative consequences of AI (job losses, inability of entry level workers to find jobs) and other ill effects of the technology
- AI-relevant governance would need to encompass a broader policy framework – focusing first on raising awareness and level of education, improving capacities, and building data-driven systems

DPRM & APPC Theme: 3 sub-themes

	ENERGY ISSUES AND AI	AI-AUGMENTED FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION	GOVERNING AGING SOCIETIES IN AN INTELLIGENT ERA
Some policy questions	AI can revolutionize the energy sector but what are the policy solutions to create balance between AI's advantages and its energy needs?	What are the opportunities and challenges in developing and using AI-driven systems in the fight against corruption and for ensuring integrity in government transactions?	How to effectively govern and set proactive institutions to tackle the challenges faced by aging societies within the context of digital transformation and AI augmentation?
Objectives/goals /strategies	balance, regulation, collaboration, best practices	effective tools, risks, policy reforms	lifelong skills, flexible work, AI-assisted care, productivity improvement



Sub-theme 3: Governing aging societies in an intelligent era

Sub-theme 3: Governing aging societies in an intelligent era

- The Philippines is expected to be an aging society in 2030 – 5 years from now.
- Aging societies bring challenges associated with care provision of the growing elderly population amidst the constraints presented by fewer young and healthy workers who can provide support (due to our declining fertility rate)
- Older people are also more prone to the ill effects of the technology (having limited understanding) – e.g. OP are vulnerable to financial scams due to AI voice cloning created by generative AI
- AI technologies are promising in 2 areas of healthcare of OP (aka “gerontechnology”, WHO, 2022)
    - Community care and long-term care via remote monitoring
    - Drug development related to ageing

Sub-theme 3: Governing aging societies in an intelligent era

- As ‘gerontechnology’ and other AI tech become available – we need to understand both risks and benefits
- Data sets used to train AI models often exclude older people, who are frequently within a “minority” data set for AI technologies that are not explicitly classified as gerontechnology (WHO, 2022)
- What is the regulatory framework that facilitates improvement of understanding and adoption of reliable AI solutions? What policies to implement so that as many OP as possible can benefit from it? What guardrails are needed to ensure ethical, responsible and relevant use of AI?
- What about policies on lifelong learning, on enhancing productivity in an aging world, ensuring inclusion of all segments?
- Job losses associated with AI exacerbates the challenges of an aging society

Some recommendations

- **Establish AI governance frameworks** - to provide clarity on its use; there must be guardrails to ensure its trustworthy, safe, responsible and accountable use (e.g. global agreement on the ethics of AI, UNESCO member states)
- **Enhance digital ecosystems** - data serve as critical inputs for AI-based analysis, need good quality data (unbiased)
- **Build trust on AI adoption and use** - policymakers must ensure that AI use remains human-centric, transparency is crucial; education/awareness is the key, need to invest in knowing AI/manpower development
- **Promote partnerships and collaborations** – leverage the strengths of various other stakeholders, form advisory councils
- **Leverage regional cooperation** -economies must come together to share experiences and best practices; cooperation important for data flow, access to AI-related goods and services

Source: APEC Policy Support Unit, 2022

Thank you!
Maraming salamat!
Dios ti agngina kadakayo, Apo!