



**Asia-Pacific
Economic Cooperation**

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Policy and Regulatory Update – Philippines

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REGULATORY AND POLICY UPDATE
PHILIPPINES

1.0 Recent Activities

1.1 Implementing Rules on Republic Act No. 10639 (Mandating Telecommunications Service Providers to Send Mobile Alerts in the Event of Natural and Man-Made Disasters and Calamities)

The Act mandating telecommunications service providers to send mobile alerts in the event of natural and man-made disasters and calamities was enacted into law in 20 June 2014. Public consultations and hearings are being conducted for the purpose of promulgating the rules and regulations to implement RA10639.

1.2 Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012 (Republic Act No. 10175)

The Implementing Rules and Regulations of the Cybercrime Prevention Act are currently being finalized. Review of the Budapest Convention of Cybercrime is being done in order to ensure that the final IRR would be in consonance with the aforementioned convention.

2.0 ICT Development Activities

2.1 TV White Space (TVWS)

Under the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between DOST-ICTO and NITYO Infotech, both parties agreed to engage in mutually beneficial cooperation for the provision and use of the necessary equipment, training and support for the success of the pilot project in Bohol. This pilot project involves technology trial and evaluation and the eventual adoption and implementation of the TV White Space Technology Program in the Philippines. Under the agreement, three (3) TVWS Base Stations will be installed in the municipalities of 1) Tubigon, 2) Tallibon and 3) Ubay in the province of Bohol with a total of 100 Customer Premises Equipment (CPEs) to be deployed in nearby schools, rural health units and government centers.

Post testing reports show that the nine (9) master/channel Base Station operated with an aggregate capacity of 48 Mbps (~12 Mbps per channel) installed in sixteen (16) local sites. The team was also able to connect up to 6 mbps with an aerial distance ranging from 1 to 5 kilometers from the base stations.

2.2 Technology for Economic Development

To make use of current technological innovations to derive Cost Savings on Deployment and create Sustainability of the centers, the Community eCenters (CeC) project was enhanced and named Tech4ED Centres (Tech4ED). The Tech4ED will serve

as the knowledge hubs and delivery channels of government services, digital literacy trainings, alternative learning for basic education, skills training for livelihood and employment, job portals and online market place. In this project, there will be added technology partnerships with other government agencies that will strengthen content provision to enhance the mandate of providing front line government services. This is likewise envisioned as the delivery channel, by which the content for each segment will be coursed through.

The roll-out will involve piloting multi-faceted content under a unified Tech4ED ICT Platform. Under the enhanced CeC Program, there are six (6) segments, namely:

- 1) e-Agri, content from the FITS programs and other programs from Department of Agriculture and other food production and aquaculture development systems
- 2) e-EduSkills, - Department of Education - Alternative Learning System – eSkwela Learning Modules and other Education and training programs that are available, as well as integration with eTESDA.
- 3) e-Economy, a portal to reach markets beyond the communities for exponential growth by using Business to Business and Business to Consumers methodologies. To create a job portal for seeker to job matching.
- 4) e-Assist, with a focus on micro-business and financial security for out-of-school adults and OFW families. Life-long education through online courses to attain new competencies for higher level employment and career shifting.
- 5) e-Health, access to the programs of DOH and its attached agencies to health information as well as provide a feedback mechanism to inform DOH of the health needs of the communities.
- 6) e-GovServe, to assist the communities to access National and Local Government services such as SSS, GSIS, Pag-Ibig to be able to communicate with them the concerns of the members of their respective communities. Also to provide front line government services such as appointments for passport processing, NBI clearances and other online government services.

To date, several consultative meetings have been conducted among different CeCs in the cities of Zamboanga and Davao. These meetings will continue throughout the year with the other clusters nationwide. A knowledge Exchange Conference was also conducted last July 2014 in furtherance of the project's advocacy campaign.