
Smart Cities and Internet of Things

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- Currently, whole world is disrupted by digital economy. Bill Gates also said about “Economy of speed” about 20 – 30 years ago, now it is real, and we should find an opportunity from it.
- The goal is to transform our country into “Digital Thailand”.
- There are three pillars in order to escalate Digital Thailand.
 1. **Reduce Disparity:** To modernize rural areas in Thailand, the government introduces 3 A, including availability, accessibility, and affordability, making digital services disperse throughout country.
 2. **Better Income Distribution:** The government emphasizes wealth distribution and sustainability development.
 3. **Capacity Building:** This pillar focuses on how we can transform workforce today into workforce tomorrow, from legacy workforce to digital workforce. Human development, such as training, will play crucial role in this area.
- For Digital Agenda in 2018, it is consisted of 5 elements as follows:
 1. Digital Infrastructure
 2. Digital Manpower
 3. Digital Tech. Development
 4. Cyber Security
 5. Digital Government
- **Digital Infrastructure**
 - **Village Internet:** The goal is to provide internet accessibility throughout villages in Thailand, linked to all schools and local hospitals, and also community digital learning centers in those areas. Currently, 2/3 of villages are covered by high speed internet (30 Mbps/10 Mbps), and the rest about 15,000 villages will be covered in this year. TOT corporation also collaborates with the government by reducing internet cost in the rural areas.
 - **Village e-Commerce:** The government tackles the problem about how villages can sell their OTOP products globally. e-Commerce will resolve this issue in terms of platform for selling products via internet, various choices of e-payment platforms, and easy logistic services. There are about 200 villages which are pilots this year.
 - **International Submarine Cable Expansion:** AAE1 project is a submarine cable line which connects from Asia to Europe via Thailand.
 - **Digital Laws & Regulation:** The government issued many digital laws and regulations in order to support digital infrastructure, such as Electronic Transaction Law, Data Protection Law, and Cyber Security Law.
- **Digital Manpower**
 - **Digital Literacy Training:** The government collaborates with NFE to provide training so that we can transform legacy workforce into digital workforce.
 - **Coding Thai:** Kids in Thailand can learn coding by themselves via online coding lessons provided by the government.
 - **EEC Startup Hub:** Thai government will create an ecosystem for the startups, and also inject more funds in order to accelerate and incubate them. This will build our country competitiveness through the startup hub.
- **Digital Application**

- **Digital Park Thailand @ Sriracha** is one of critical projects in this aspect. The idea is to turn Sriracha into smart city with IoT. Embedding sensors in various objects, gathering data from different devices, and then analyzing those data with Big Data technology. Therefore, IoT Institute will be the first building in the blueprint. There will be an area for startup companies also.
- Another project is **Phuket Smart City**. In collaboration with CAT Telecom, the government plans to provide free wifi on every tourist attraction spots so that to leverage pleasant experience of tourists in Phuket. One instance benefit from the smart city is that we can use Big Data analytics to reduce traffic problem in Phuket and suggest the alternative route for transportation.
- In terms of **ASEAN Smart Cities**, Thailand sends three nominee cities, including Bangkok, Chonburi, and Phuket. The main objective is to be a hub which can connect to our neighbor's smart cities.
- **Cyber Security**
 - Thai government declares 6 industry sectors which should be the first priority in cyber security aspect as follows.
 1. Financial
 2. Telecommunication
 3. Transportation
 4. Energy and Public Utility
 5. Public Health
 6. Government
- **Digital Government**
 - One goal is to be paperless government.
 - One obvious example of cashless society is Prompt Pay.
 - We also have Big Data analytics service for government sector.
 - "Ease of Doing Business" ranking of Thailand is moved from 46 to 26.

In conclusion, if we can bring technologies and services to each province in Thailand and make people happy, this is the ultimate goal of Digital Thailand. When each province can move forward by themselves, so we can move together as a whole.
