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National IT Policies and Strategies II: The Growing Tigers

Panel Chair: Margaret Tan, National University of Singapore, Singapore

Panelists: Jong Uk Choi, Sangmyung Women's University, Korea
To-yat Cheung, CRCOST, City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
TP Liang, National Sun Yat-sen University, Taiwan
Hooi Ling Foo, National Computer Board, Singapore
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Strategic Development of Information Super-Highway in Korea

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Abstract

Korea is strategically pursuing the information super-highway project as a national long-term project which requires investment of around 57 billion US dollars. Important consideration of the project is that it will be pursued in two parts: government information super-highway and public information super-highway.

The government super-highway system plays a leading role in stimulating potential demands of information super-highway in public sectors such as business firms and taxpayers by experimenting the technology and network environments in the infrastructure. The justification of the direct investment of the government is that, the information and communication technology and social infrastructure is behind the systems of advanced countries and that market demands of information super-highway are too low to invoke private communication sectors' initial investment into physical infrastructure. Besides, the government super-highway plays an important role in inducing private sectors' investment into research and technology and in changing related laws and social systems.

The author will discuss the justification and level of the government's direct investment in the information super-highway project, expected effects of the infrastructure and social changes.

Some Government Policies on the Development of IT in Hong Kong

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Abstract

It is difficult for the Hong Kong Government to impose a clear and firm policy for controlling or directing the adoption or development of international standards for technologies. However, the Government of Hong Kong has provided abundant financial support and taken many actions in assisting the industry, business and tertiary institutes for advancing information technology.

After a general introduction of several Government-supported activities, the author will describe the Cooperative Research Centre for Open Systems Technology, which is directly funded by the Government and some business. The projects carried out in the Centre are intended to assist Hong Kong in keeping abreast with the Asian countries and Western Societies in open systems technology.