

2013 ASEAN Regional Forum Workshop on  
Cyber Security, Beijing

# INFORMATIZATION OF ASIAN SOCIETIES: A CULTURAL PERSPECTIVE

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# Key Points:



1. Informatization is a global trend associated with globalization.
2. Societies have different adaptability to the reshaping of ICT due to the differences in size, education, tradition, value, phase of development, etc.
3. Western countries have a blind spot: any new technology emerges from a specific cultural background.
4. Keep balance between seeking a set of universal norms governing the cyberspace and respecting the cultural backgrounds of different countries.
5. What is our heritage to the new generation of netizens?  
Have we created new cyber-cultures for them?

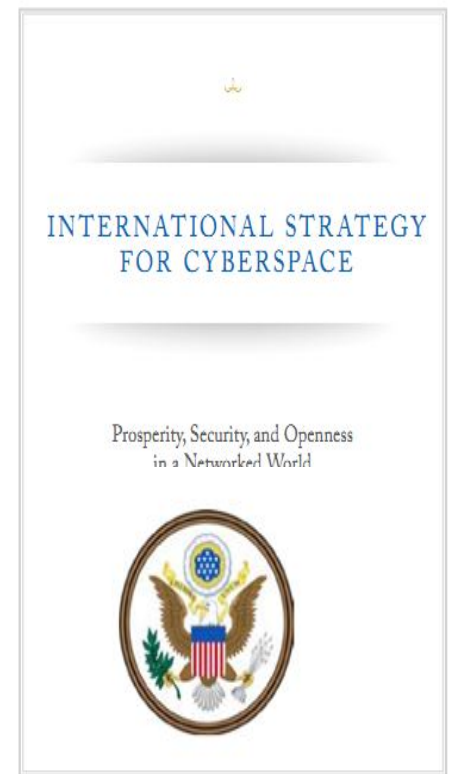
# Definition of the word “ Culture”

- *a* : the integrated pattern of human knowledge, belief, and behavior that depends upon the capacity for learning and transmitting knowledge to succeeding generations
- *b* : the customary beliefs, social forms of a social group; a way of life shared by people in a place or time.
- *c* : the set of shared attitudes, conventions, values, goals, and practices associated with a particular field, activity, or societal characteristic.



# Formulating a set of soft norms and rules for cyberspace: a kind of cultural promotion

- This strategy is a roadmap allowing the U.S. Government to define and coordinate its role in U.S.cyberspace policy.
- Call on the private sector, civil society, and end-users to reinforce these efforts.
- It invites other states and peoples to join U.S. in realizing this vision of prosperity, security, and openness in the networked world.
- A roadmap guiding other States to meet their international obligations in cyberspace that apply regardless of context.
- *Culture: The set of values, conventions, or social practices associated with a particular field, activity, or societal characteristics.*



# China's White Paper on the Internet: establishing cyber culture in China



- The State advocates strengthening Internet legal and ethical education. The level of legal and ethical education is closely connected with the construction of the Internet environment.
- The Chinese government encourages the active participation by various media and social organizations, and proactively pushes forward the inclusion of Internet legal and ethical education in the curriculums of primary and middle schools.
- The Chinese government actively explores channels and methods of scientific and effective Internet administration by law, and has formed a preliminary Internet administration model that is suitable for China's conditions and consistent with international practices.

**--- Source: "*the Internet in China*" (A White Paper released by the State Council Information Office of China)**

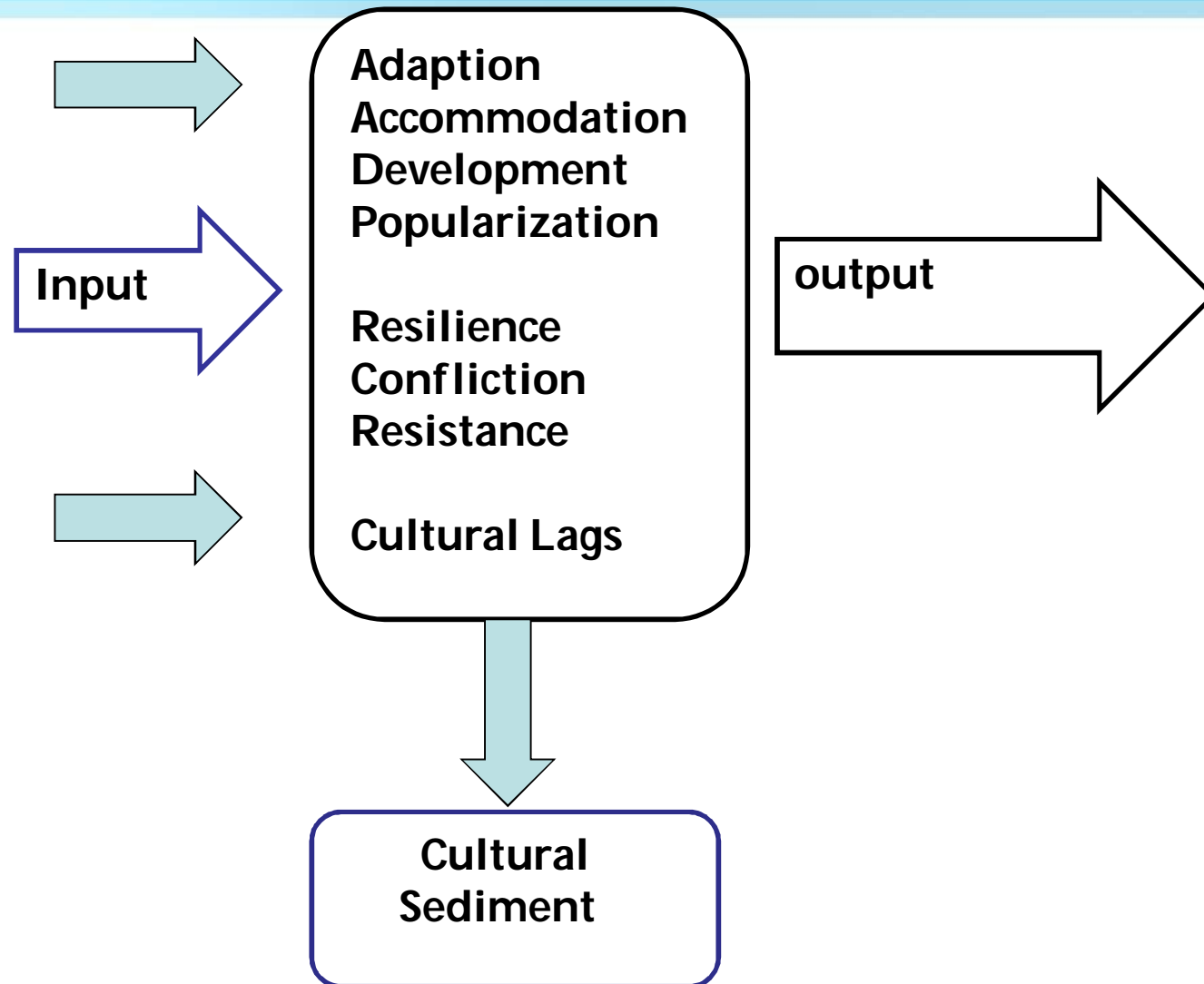
# A Comparison Study

The main difference between the policy of China and the U.S :

- the Chinese Government hopes to adopt the new culture suitable for China's conditions and consistent with international practices.

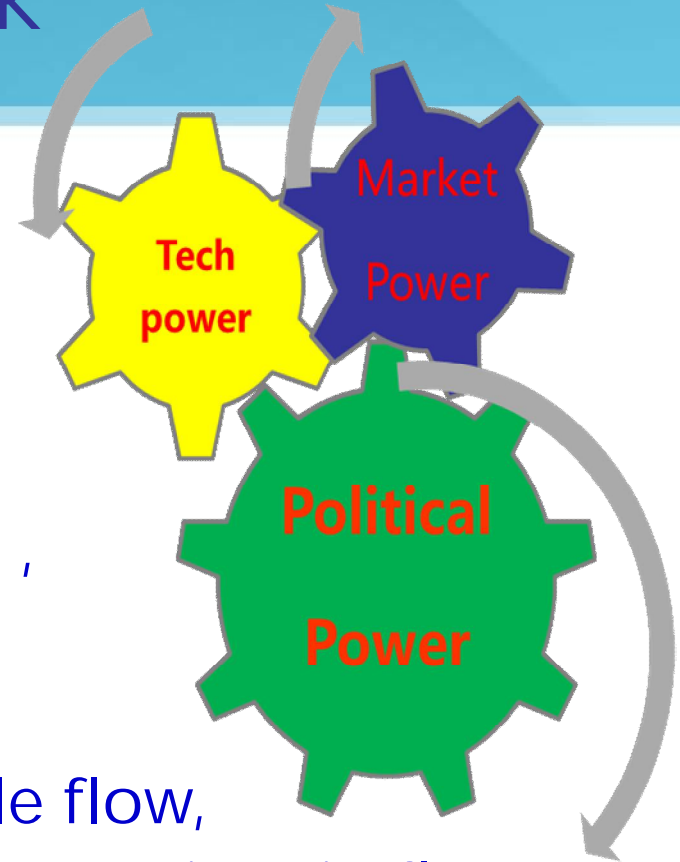
- the U.S. Government hopes to guide other States to meet their international obligations in cyberspace that apply regardless of context.

# The adapting process of new input culture in a given society



# Powers, Cultures and the Interactions in Cyberspace: Flow and Block

- Political Power—power culture
- Market Power--- capitalist culture
- Technical Power—engineer skill culture
- Flow of information, of attention , of technology, of wealth.....
- Game of Flow and Block
- For each actor--reduce unfavorable flow, --increase favorable flow,or seeking a win-win flow, to accumulate own advantage.
- Means of block: block by sovereignty, by law, by IPR,by code, by technical standard, etc. ....





# Non-Governmental driving forces for new cyber culture



open source



Code less.  
Create more.  
Deploy everywhere.

*A  
DECLARATION  
OF THE  
INDEPENDENCE  
OF  
CYBERSPACE*  
BY JOHN PERRY-BARLOW





## *A Declaration of the Independence of Cyberspace*

**Governments of the Industrial World:**

**Cyberspace does not lie within your borders. Do not think that you can build it, as though it were a public construction project.**

**You do not know our culture, our ethics, or the unwritten codes that already provide our society more order than could be obtained by any of your impositions.**

**Your legal concepts of property, expression, identity, movement, and context do not apply to us. They are all based on matter, and there is no matter here.**

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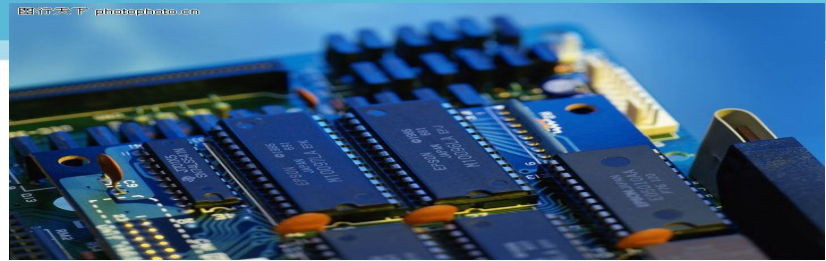


# We are disciplined by ICT, reshaped by ICT, cultured by ICT

- What is technology? Technology is the systematic application of science and other organized knowledge in the living space of mankind. Technology is a social system consisting of machine, knowledge, people and society.
- The new technology sets a series cultural regulations, which are accepted by different societies through the expansion of technology market and peoples are disciplined by the technology. Technical discipline is accomplished not by violence, but by technical management and knowledge learning, then our human behavior is reshaped.



# Three elements in cyber culture: hardware, software, people



- Hardware – materialized product.
- Software – technical knowledge, without software hardware is only a brick. software is a coded system that organizing the interactions of machine to machine, machine to people, and people to people by means of machine, soft is the law in cyberspace, or an element that can compete with the law.
- Mankind – mankind invented the ICT and its net, take the advantage of the ICT, trained by the tech knowledge, change the way of life, way of communication, way of the production, way of selling and buying, way of work, way of social governance driven by progress and expansion of ICT..

# The Cathedral and the Bazaar

- mobility
- quick adaptability
- Structurally flattening
- Systematically complication
- Open, networked
- No boundaries



- Ability to reconstruct with networked logic
- Ability to highly integrate a system
- Ability to reshape the society and member's behavior



# Are we ready for the ICT and the networked society?

The Networked Readiness Index 2013 (@2013 World Economy Forum: The global Information Technology Report 2013)

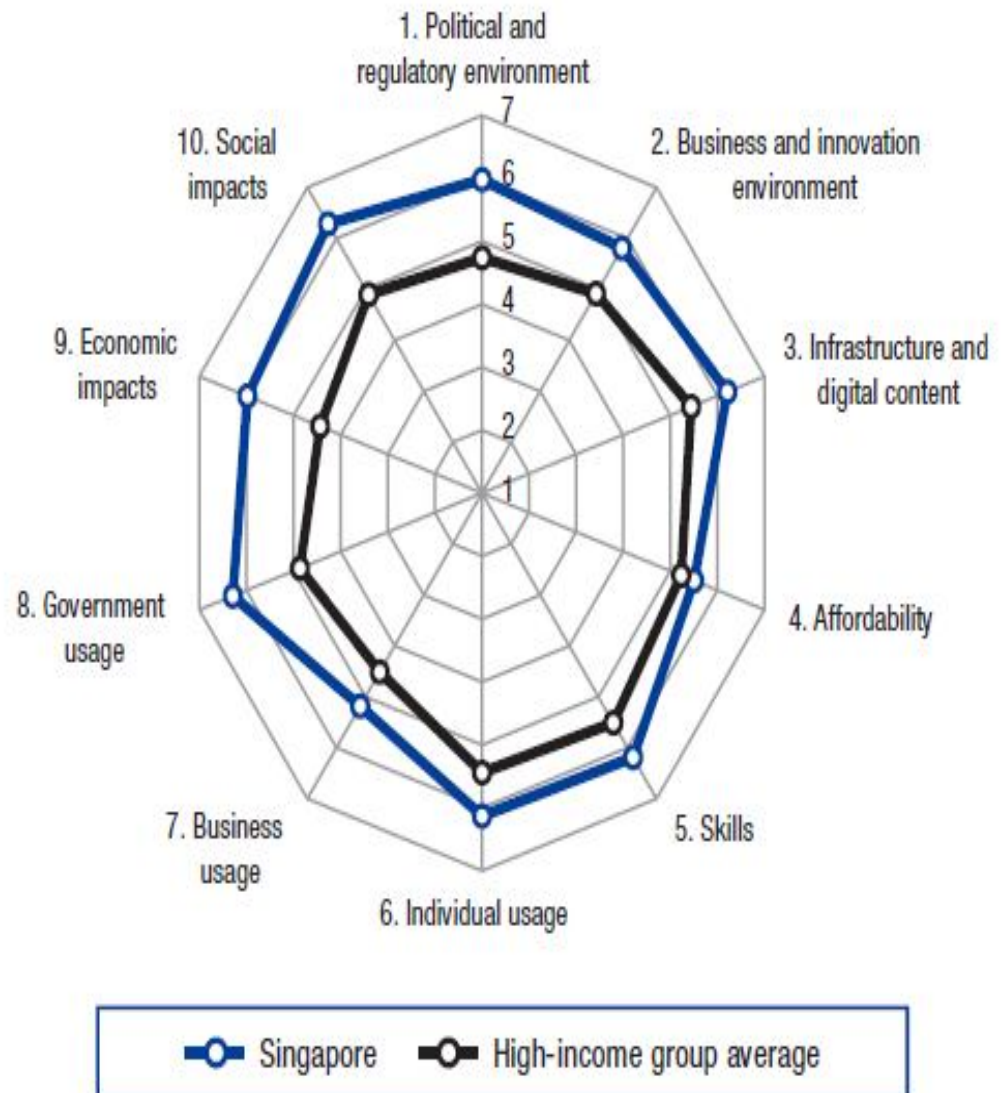
Rank	Country/Economy	Score
1	Finland	5.98
2	Singapore	5.91
9	U.S	5.57
11	Korea,S	5.46
12	Canada	5.44
18	Australia	5.26
20	New Zealand	5.25
21	Japan	5.24
30	Malaysia	
57	Brunei Darussalam	

Rank	Country/Economy	Score
54	Russia	4.13
58	China	4.03
68	India	3.88
74	Thailand	3.84
84	Vietnam	3.74
86	Philippines	3.73
106	Combodia	3.34
134	Timor-Leste	2.72
	Lao and Burma are not in the list	

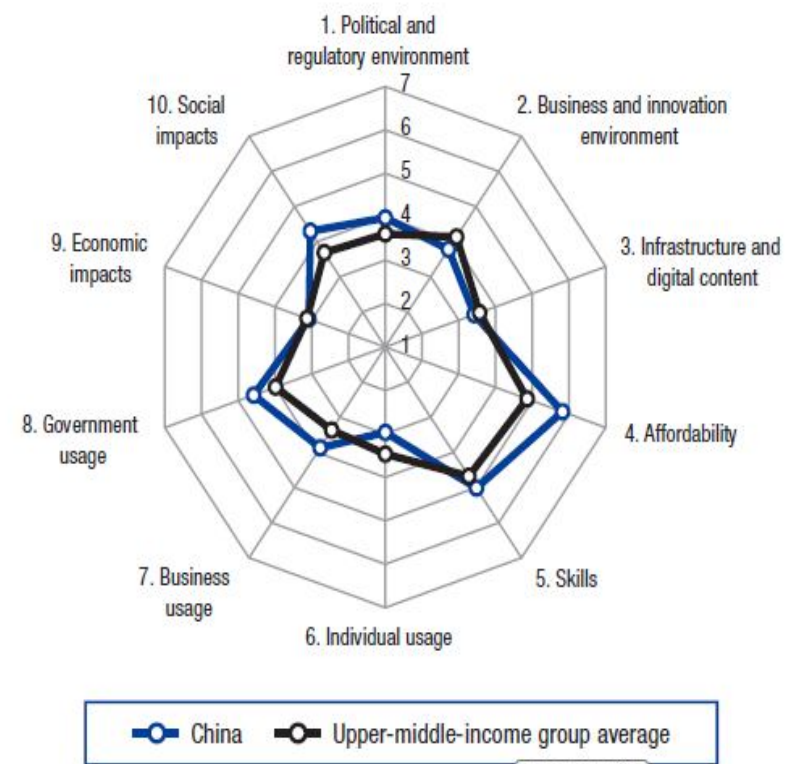
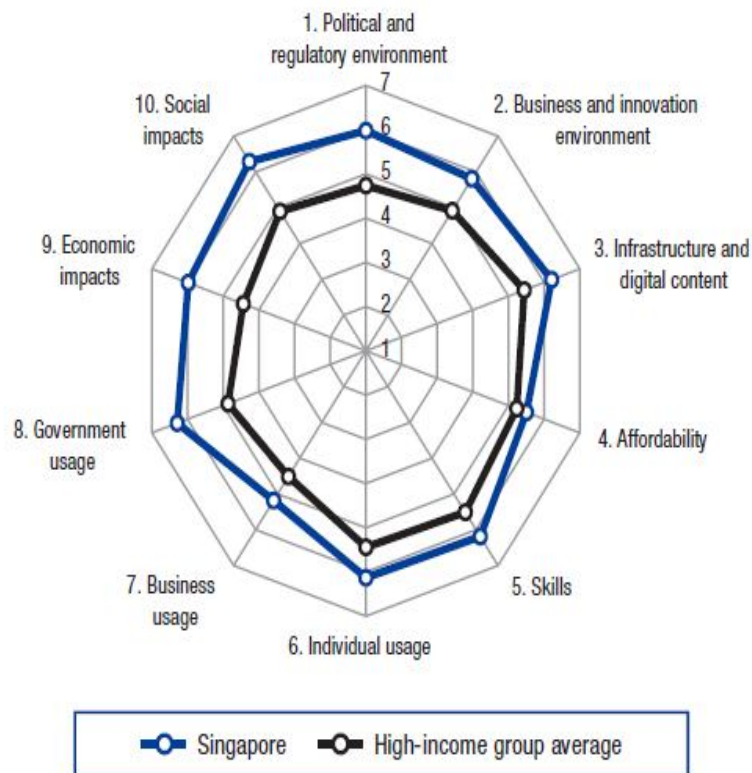
On the radar chart, the blue line plots a country's score on each of the ten pillars.

The black line represents the average score of all economies in the income group to which the economy under review belongs.

The country classification by income group is defined by the World Bank and reflects the situation as of November 2012.

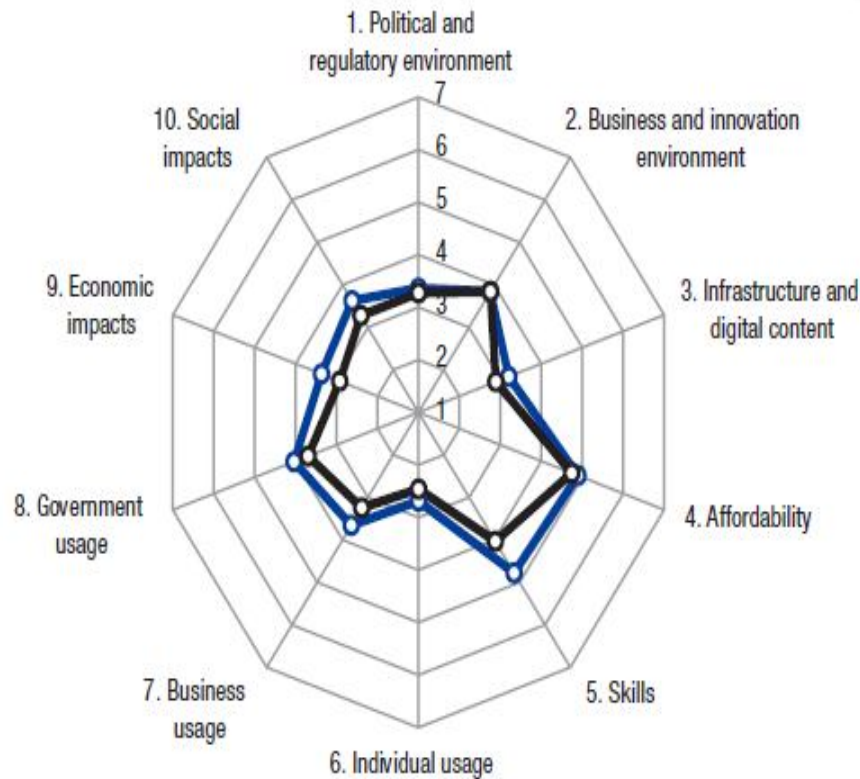


# The Readiness of Singapore and China

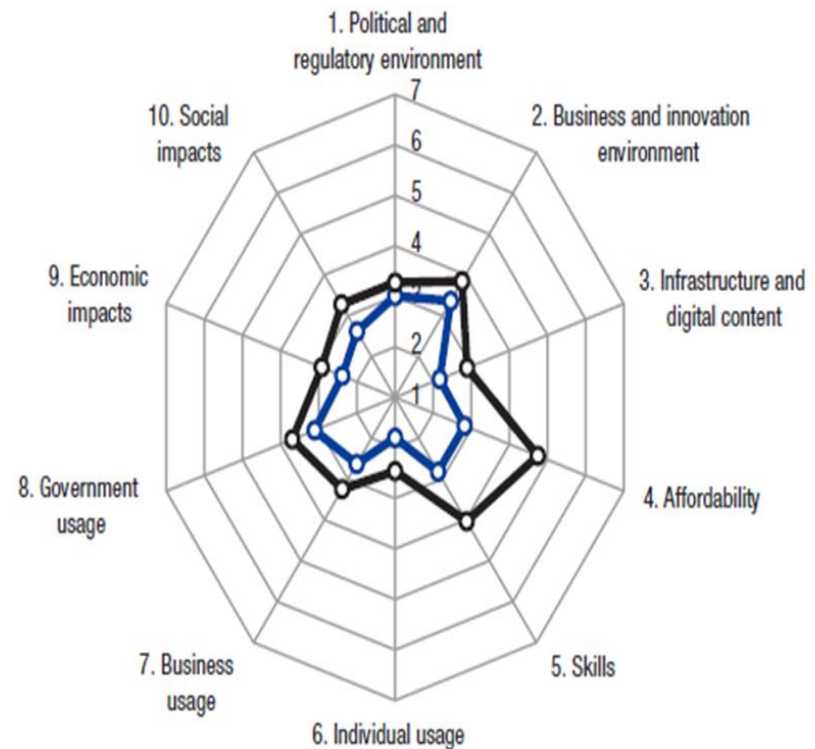




# The readiness of Philippines and Timor-Leste

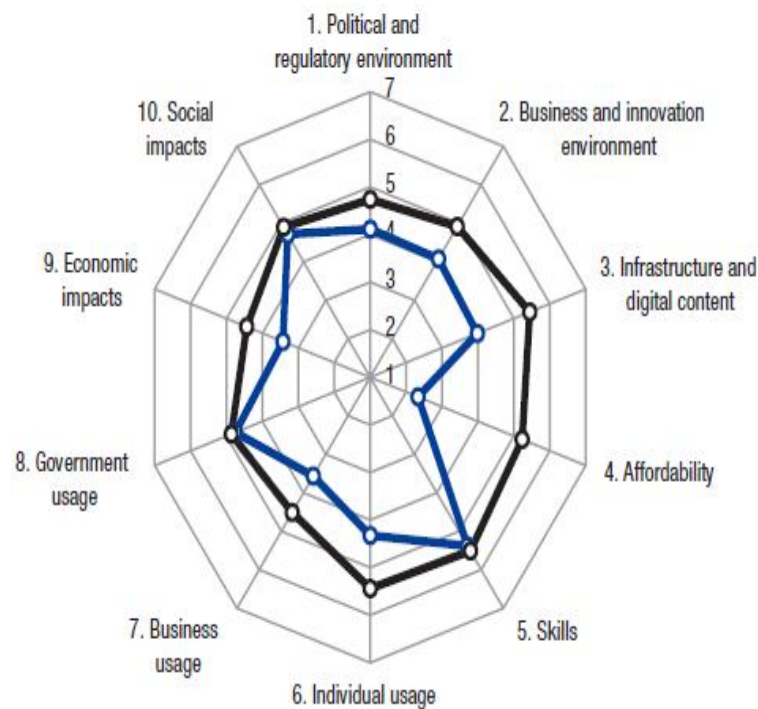


Philippines Lower-middle-income group average

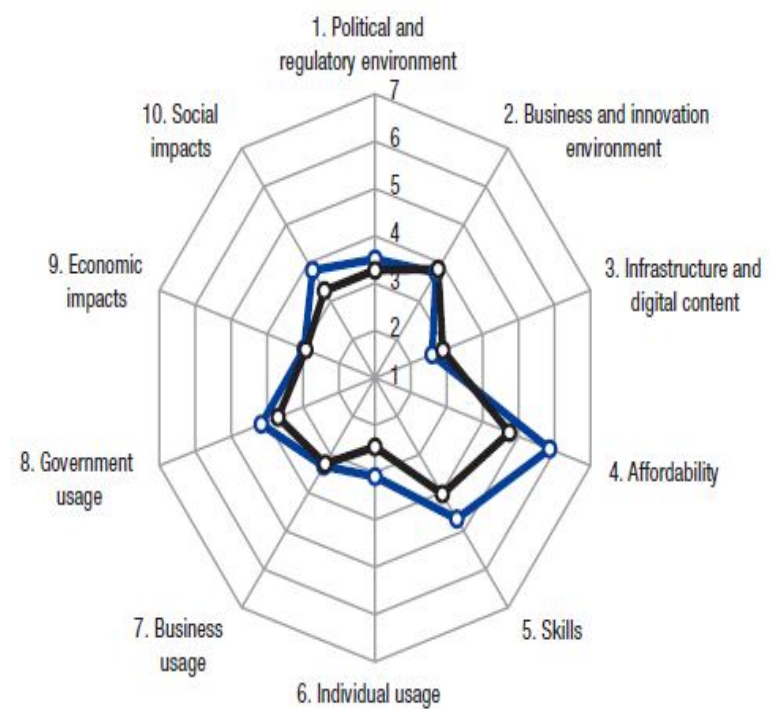


Timor-Leste Lower-middle-income group average

# Are we ready for the ICT and the networked society?



—●— Brunei Darussalam    —●— High-income group average



—●— Vietnam    —●— Lower-middle-income group average

# Fast-expanded technology and cultural lag

- The networking and communicating features enable the culture of the new technologies significantly challenge original institutions and cultures within societies.
- But culture is culture.
- Culture takes time to catch up with technological innovations, and that social problems and conflicts are caused by this lag. It helps by identifying and explaining social problems and also to predict future problems.

# Attention to Cultural Lag Phenomenon

- Cultural lag is a common societal phenomenon due to the tendency of material culture to evolve and change rapidly and voluminously while non-material culture tends to resist change and remain fixed for a far longer period of time.
- Cultural lag is seen as a critical ethical issue because failure to develop broad social consensus on appropriate applications of modern technology may lead to breakdowns in social solidarity and the rise of social conflict.



# The cultural traces of tech invention: Taking it as granted or taking it as a cultural gap

## Macintosh

パーソナルコンピュータの革命児……マッキントッシュ





# Find an Asian way to mitigate the cultural conflicts and cultural lag

1. Realizing the industrialization and informatization in a short period of time and narrowing the digital divides in Asia.
2. Maintaining the stability while reshaping the society, maintain the consistency and stability in culture on line and off line.
3. Strengthening Internet legal and ethical education. formed a model that is suitable for local conditions and consistent with international practices. And narrow the gap between the two. To coordinate new technology social norms with specific national social culture.
4. making Asian contribution for world governance on cyberspace while seeking and defending our own rights and interests in cyberspace.

# How to mitigate the cultural conflicts and cultural lag

- The primary task is to coordinate new technology social norms with specific national social culture and institutions.
- More exchange between the West and the east, between high income countries and low income countries, especially the experience exchange among Asian countries. and south
- More time should be given to the countries that are less developed, low-income, with strong religions value, etc. and encourage them to adopt actively the modernization policy.



# What should States do to form a new culture and ethics in Cyberspace?



- Acknowledge that the cyberspace is the shared platform for prosperity and development.
- Promise to use the internet peacefully, respect the sovereign, and political independence. not taking the advantage of the tech superiority to act against other states.
- Enhance the international cooperation to build world wide governance mechanisms, and to decrease the crime in cyberspace.





THANK YOU