

THE ONLINE NATIONAL ICT SUMMIT 2021 POST EVENT REPORT
“Accelerating Government Digital Transformation in this Time of Crisis”

June 22-23, 2021
8:20 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

As the country and the whole world continue to grapple with the COVID-19 pandemic, the government is pressed to speed up the modernization and digital transformation of government operations and services. It was in this context that the theme for the Online NICT Summit 2021 “Accelerating Government Digital Transformation in this Time of Crisis” was formulated. The two-day event became the venue for sharing and exchanging of insights and solutions that deepened the appreciation on how the government and the industry are coping with the various confronting adversities and challenges, but nonetheless, ramping up solutions that are innovative, empowering, largely inclusive, and digitally-transforming, in this time of crisis.

The Summit highlighted the commitments of the government agencies and the support of the industry partners in achieving the Summit theme. DBM Secretary Wendell Avisado, in a keynote message delivered by DBM Assistant Secretary Kim Robert de Leon, reassured that DBM is one with the Chief Information Officers (CIOs) in building a digital future for government, and that he recognizes the CIOs’ vital role in harnessing the full potential of ICT in surviving and recovering from the pandemic. For his part, DICT Secretary Gregorio Honasan II emphasized DICT’s ongoing efforts to intensify digital transformation through its Connect, Harness, Innovate, and Protect (CHIP) Framework which is now bearing fruit in the continuing improvements in internet speed while DICT Undersecretary Emmanuel Rey Caintic elaborated on DICT’s “One Digital Government” initiatives through the CHIP Framework and its goals. He also mentioned DICT’s part in using ICT to respond to the pandemic through its Vaccine Information Management System (VIMS). DPWH Undersecretary Maria Catalina Cabral said that DPWH is committed to lead in continuous digital engagement with related and relevant public and private institutions, and provide leadership in terms of construction policy development toward more modernized laws and procedures, facilitative of digital transformation of all government agencies, all supporting the country’s new economy for the benefits of all Filipinos. Other key government officials talked about their agency initiatives, plans and policies to cope with the new work paradigms and demands of the new normal, like: modernizing the Philippine Civil Service, BIR ePayment upgrades, standardizing QR codes, project and contract management, and LGU-based online reservation system for vaccination process.

Several approaches were adopted to make the Summit more interesting and appealing. Pocket sessions were introduced for the presentations of the industry partners on the emerging technology solutions and best practices supportive of the government’s journey in becoming digitally transformed organization. Likewise, the parallel tracks provided a more in depth discussions on LGU citizen-centric services, eHealth services, and emerging technologies. Lastly, the panel discussion triggered exchanges of views and interactions among the panelists and participants on working in government in the new norm.

More than 300 CIOs, government officials and managers, electric cooperatives and ICT industries joined the online NICT Summit 2021 held on 22-23 June 2021 via Zoom platform hosted by DOF. The master of ceremony was Ms. Marylaine Viernes. The Summit was organized by the joint CIOF and CIOFF Project Management Team with generous support from the industry partners, namely: Darktrace, PayMaya, AMD, Globe, NSPH-Check Point, NSPH-Infoblox, Computrade and partners, Kollab-Google, and Eastern Communications Philippines, Inc.