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Digital 21

**IT Strategy of the
Hong Kong SAR**

**The Weekly Meeting of
Rotary Club of Tai Po**
7 June 1999

Chief Executive's 1998 Policy Address

IT to help us to retain our competitive edge and to drive our overall economic expansion.

Digital 21 IT Strategy

Strategy Objective

We will work to enhance and promote Hong Kong's information infrastructure and services so as to make Hong Kong a leading digital city in the globally connected world in the 21st century.

To achieve the above objective, the Information Technology and Broadcasting Bureau will work in partnership with the private sector, the community and other Government Bureaux and Departments.

The Information Age

World of tomorrow connected by digital networks

- **High-speed connections regardless of geographical distance**
- **Global competition and cooperation**
- **New business opportunities**
- **Optimum use of IT critical to competitiveness**

The Information Age

Obstacles that exist in the digital world

- **Difference in language**
- **Difference in culture**
- **Difference in institutional arrangement**

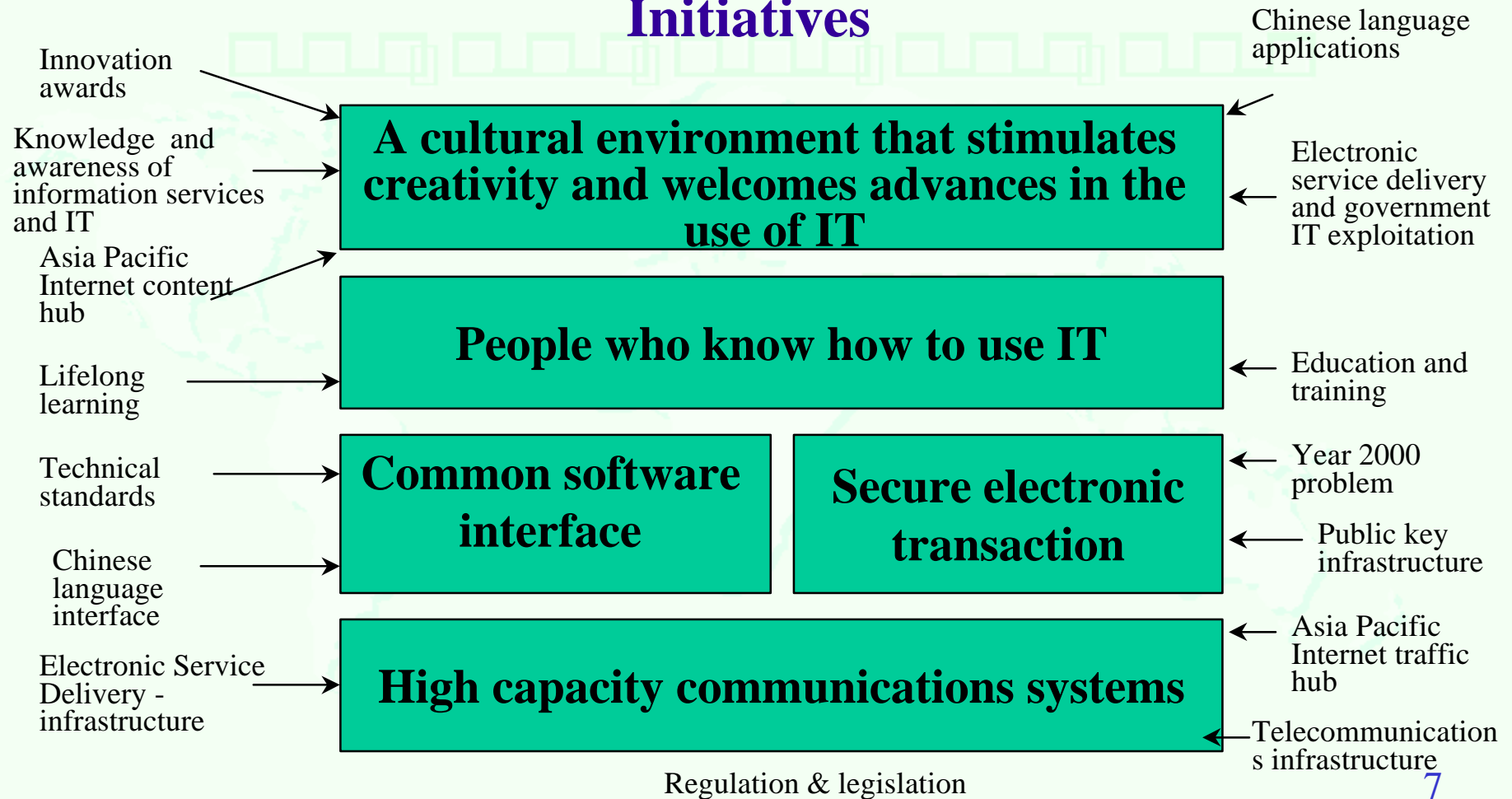
The Information Age

Hong Kong's advantages

- **Language : bilingual capability**
- **Culture : metropolitan**
- **Institutional arrangement : free economy**

Digital 21 - A Community Perspective

Initiatives



Digital 21 - High Capacity Communications Systems



Initiatives

- **Telecommunications Infrastructure**
- **ESD Infrastructure**
- **Asia Pacific Internet Traffic Hub**

Digital 21 - Common Software Interface for Secure Electronic Transactions



Initiatives

- **Chinese Language Interface**
- **Public Key Infrastructure**
- **Regulation and Legislation**
- **Year 2000 Problem**

Digital 21 - People Who Know How to Use IT



Initiatives

- **IT in Education**
- **IT Manpower Supply**

Digital 21 - Culture for New Technologies



Initiatives

- **Government IT Exploitation**
- **TV Market**
- **Asia Pacific Internet Content Hub**
- **Chinese Language Applications**
- **IT Industry Support**

Digital 21 - Culture for New Technologies (cont'd)



Initiatives

- **IT Investment**
- **IT Excellence**
- **Knowledge and Awareness**
- **IT in the Community**

Digital 21 - Benefits

For the community...

- **More effective provision of public services**
- **Enhanced personal and social life**

Digital 21 - Benefits

For businesses...

- **New ways of doing business to conquer new markets**
- **Attraction for international investors**
- **Maximised return on IT investment**
- **A competitive and healthy local IT market**

Digital 21 - Benefits

For Hong Kong's position in the world ...

- **Competitiveness in the Information Age**
- **An important hub for global electronic commerce**
- **Communication gateway to China**



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