

ICT as a Transformational Tool & the Information / Knowledge Society

A Sri Lankan Perspective

21st November 2012 CICT Meeting of UNESCAP, Bangkok, Thailand

Reshan Dewapura
CEO, ICT Agency of Sri Lanka



Information & Communication Technology

THEME:

- ☐ The transformational power of ICT and it's ever-increasing influence on the society
- ☐ The development of the Information / Knowledge Society
- ☐ How to sustain it while bridging (not widening) the Digital Divide





ICT as a Transformational Tool

2 Concepts:

□ICT as a Catalyst / Enabler for Socio-Economic Development in the country.

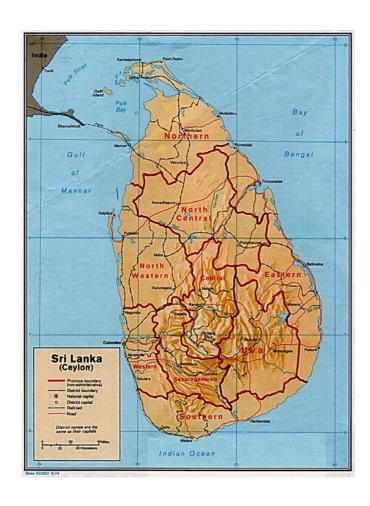
□ICT as growth industry, providing a boost and becoming a critical pillar in country's economy.

The development & growth and sustainability of the information/knowledge society is important for both these areas of ICT



Sri Lanka





Land Area: 65,610 Sq. Km

Population: 20,300,000

GDP/capita: **US\$ 2000** +

Currency: Sri Lankan Rupee

Time Zone: *GMT* +5:30

Languages: Sinhala, Tamil, English

Capital: Colombo (Commercial)

Sri Jayawardenepura (Admin)

Exports: Garments, Tea, Gems,

Rubber, Tourism, IT/BPO

Administration: 9 Provinces, 25 Districts,

325 Divisional Secretariats

Telephone: 114% penetration

Internet: 5 million users

Broadband: 1.25 million connections





Information / Knowledge Society

Key Requirements for the Development of the Information Society & Bridging the Digital Divide:

□ACCESS: To e-Content

□e-CONTENT: Information, Services & Applications





Information / Knowledge Society

Key Requirements for the Development of the Information Society & Bridging the Digital Divide:

□ACCESS: To e-Content

□e-CONTENT: Information, Services & Applications







Key Enablers for the provision of Access:

□NETWORK: *Broadband, Wireless, Mobile*

□ACCESS DEVICES / POINTS: PCs, Tablets, Mobile phones,

Internet Kiosks, Tele-Centers

□ICT LITERACY: Ability to use Computing / Mobile device

□LOCAL LANGUGAE COMPUTING: Availability to use

Computing devices in Local Languages





2-Content: Sri Lanka's Case

ers for the provision of Access:

: National Broadband Network (NBN), 3G ++

EVICES / POINTS: Nenasalas (local Tele-centres), 1obile penetration

CY: From 4% - 40% in the last decade, target of ext 5 years. Very High Mobile Device Literacy

NGUGAE COMPUTING: *Sinhala & Tamil Unicode s, Computing in Sinhala & Tamil*

