



## National Strategies to Harness Information Technology: Seeking Transformation in Singapore, Finland, the Philippines, and South Africa (Innovation, Technology, and Knowledge Management)

*From Springer*



### **National Strategies to Harness Information Technology: Seeking Transformation in Singapore, Finland, the Philippines, and South Africa (Innovation, Technology, and Knowledge Management)** From Springer

The ability to harness Information Communication Technologies (ICTs) is increasingly at the heart of competitiveness and sustainable growth. As countries engage in an increasingly competitive global economy, they are trying to weave ICT into their development strategies, in the same way enterprises have learned to use ICT to transform their business models and strategies. This integration offers a new path to development that is responsive to the challenges of our times.

In *National Strategies to Harness Information Technology*, Nagy Hanna and Peter Knight provide a framework for assessing the opportunities, challenges, and prospects for “e-transformation” and for analyzing the options and innovations adopted to manage the e-transformation process. They ask hard questions: what does it take to harness ICT to transform an economy? Why some countries accelerate their development journey with ICT while others fail? How did successful countries balance the need for strategic leadership with bottom up innovation? Can countries reduce the risks of digital divide? What have been the roles of government and private sectors? What lessons can be learned for countries at different levels of development?

Featuring contributions from country experts, the editors and authors provide in-depth case studies of ICT deployment in Singapore, Finland, the Philippines, and South Africa, and assess the progress of such efforts. The result is an essential resource for academic researchers, policy analysts, policymakers, and industry leaders interested in the role of ICT in national development, innovation, and economic growth.

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### **Editorial Review**

#### Review

From the reviews:

“This work examines the highly individual paths of development of information and communication technologies (ICT) in Singapore, Finland, South Africa, and the Philippines during the last two decades. The result is a valuable resource for all stakeholders ... ranging from academic researchers and policy analysts to policy makers, such as local politicians or transnational agencies, and industry leaders and lobbyists. ... this work enriches the research, learning, and development communities striving to help countries on their individual e-transformation journeys.” (Christoph F. Strnadl, ACM Computing Reviews, July, 2012)

#### From the Back Cover

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#### About the Author

**Nagy K. Hanna** is an author, international development strategist, and thought leader, with over 30 years of experience in advising countries and aid agencies on designing and implementing programs to leverage information and communication technology (ICT) in support of competitiveness, private sector development, and public sector reform. He has worked with stakeholders cutting across public, private and civil society leadership. From 1975 to 2005 he served in a variety of positions at the World Bank, most recently as senior advisor on e-strategies, where he established a global community of practice on e-development and chaired a seminar series to develop e-government and e-leadership. Currently, he advises countries on developing policies, institutions, and leadership capabilities for coordinating ICT for development programs, and has served as a Visiting Professor at Duke University and Senior Fellow at the University of Maryland. He has lectured and published extensively on e-development, strategic planning, change management, executive education, and institutional development. He holds a Ph.D. in Socio-Economic Planning from the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, and Masters degrees in Operations Research and Industrial Engineering.

**Peter T. Knight** is an economist, training strategist, and information age change agent with broad international experience in distance education, training strategy/evaluation, e-government, electronic media, telecommunications reform, international banking, foundation work, teaching, and research. He has worked extensively in Africa (especially South Africa), Latin America (especially Brazil), and Eastern Europe and Asia (especially Russia). He is a partner in Knight, Moore and President of Telemática e Desenvolvimento Ltda, advising such clients as the World Bank, Inter-American Development Bank, SRI International/National Science Foundation, US Department of State, United Nations Development Programme, Pakistan, and Rio de Janeiro State Research Foundation (FAPERJ). From 1976 to 1997 he served in a variety of positions at the World Bank. He holds a Ph.D. in Economics from Stanford University.

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