

# Bridging the digital divideGovernment's policy and practice

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### E-Readiness

**July 2004** 

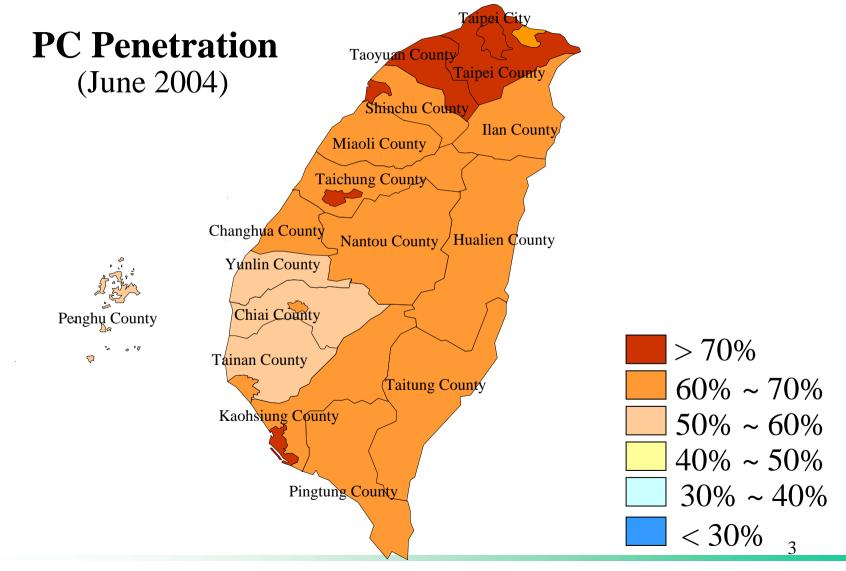
Items	Penetration Rate
Internet Population	56.49%
<b>Broadband Population</b>	48.99%
<b>Households Connected</b>	68.85%
<b>Broadband Households</b>	49.47%
Mobile Phone	106.45%
Cable TV	84.6%
* Total Population: 22.5 million *	Total Households: 5.5 million

Source: 1. Taiwan Network Information Center

2. Ministry of Transportation and Communications

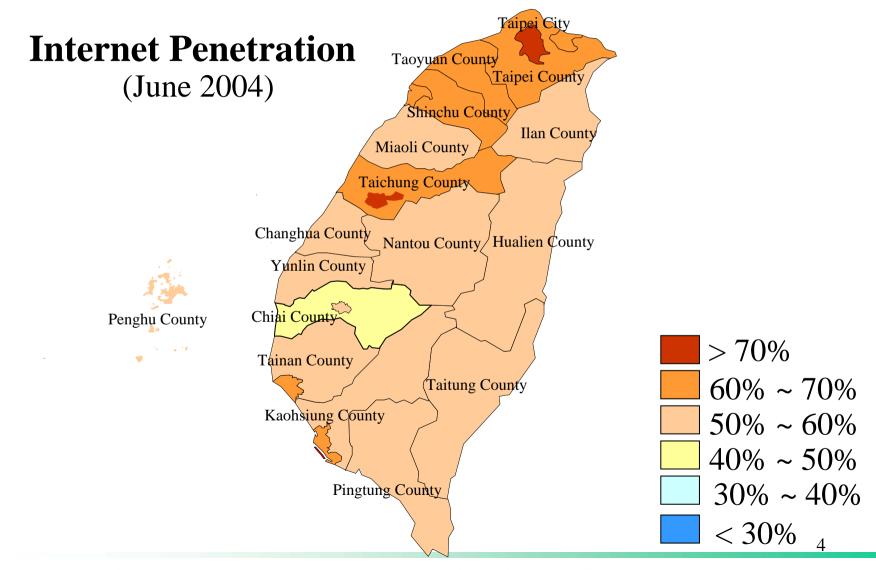


## The Gap in Geography





# The Gap in Geography





#### Citizens' Perspective

Items	Percentage
Citizens who had used government	45.9%
websites in last 12 months.	
Citizens who had submitted feedback	10.7%
or comments to government websites	
via email in last 12 months	
Citizens who had used e-government	22.1%
online services in last 12 months	

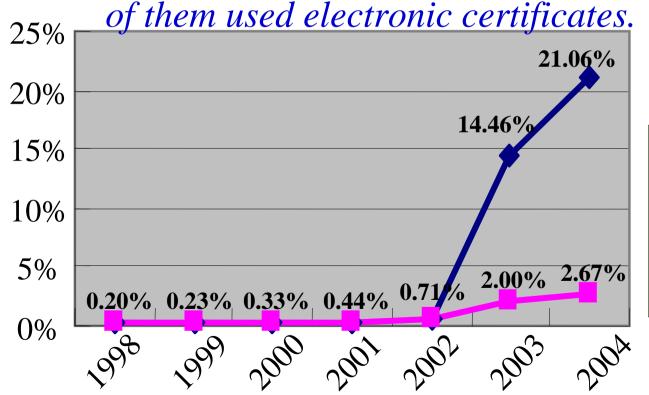
Source: A survey by Research, Development and Evaluation Commission in Jun. 2004



#### The Gap in e-Gov Usage

-- The Case for e-Tax Filing Service (1)

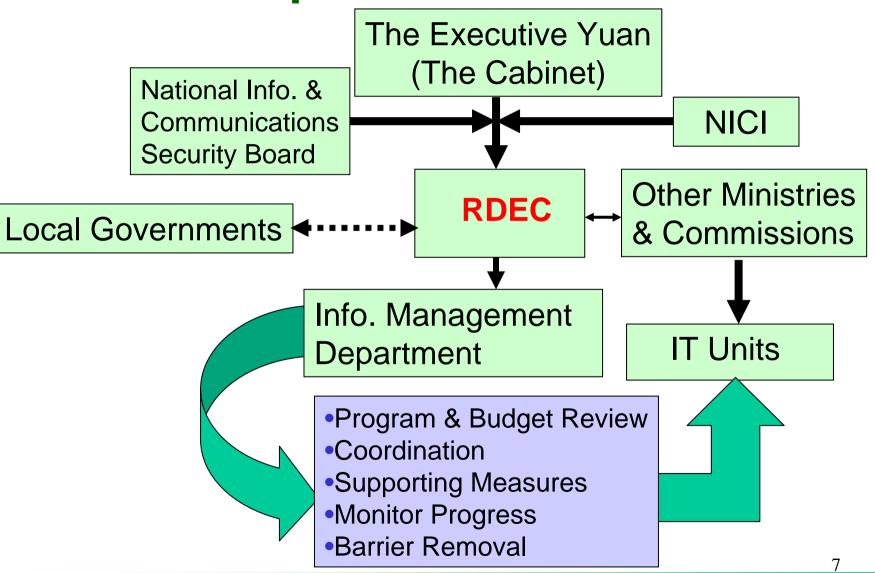
In 2004, 21.06% of 4.85 million taxpayers filed individual income tax via the Internet, and 13% of them used electronic certificates.



→ Percentage of
Online Tax
Filing (OLTF)
Percentage of
OLTF Using eCertificates



#### E-Gov Implementation Mechanism





# Bridging the Digital Divide -- Toward a Fair and Equitable Society (E-government perspective)

- Promote access to government information
- Make administrative procedures transparent
- Empower citizens
- Expand participation in public affairs
- Make government more accountable
- Promote fair competition
- Encourage community development



## Policies Adopted (1)

NII Promotion Program (1997 ~ 2001)

- Construction of fiber telecommunication backbone
- Building wide-spread public information centers
- Internet-connected in every elementary and juniorhigh school
- Promoting telecommunication universal services
- Enhancing information education and training
- Developing digital content industry
- Establishment of 141 telecenters in remote areas



# Policies Adopted (2)

Challenge 2008: National Development Plan.

- Strengthening information education for elementary and junior-high schools in remote areas
- Promoting information education and training programs for indigene
- Implementing information education and training programs for laborers, farmers, and senior citizens
- Establishing telecenters in remote areas



## Policies Adopted (2)

Challenge 2008: National Development Plan. --- continued

- Provide universal access service: broadband, TV for indigene, libraries in townships, telecenters
- Strengthen IT services for disabilities: remote areas, computer cycling, accessible websites, IT training for lowincome, senior citizens, housewives



# Telecenter Establishment and relevant experiences



#### What telecenter?

- Internet access center in remote areas
- Information training/promotion center







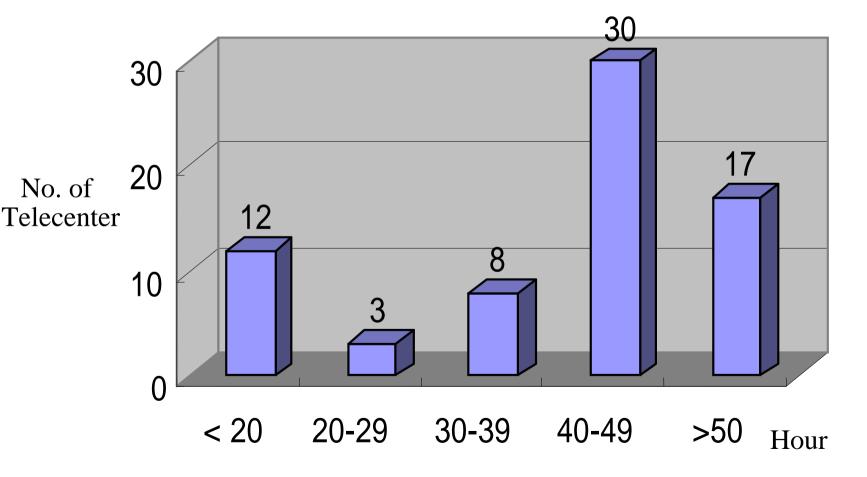


# Where and Who about telecenter?

- Rural/remote areas
- RDEC established 141 points for trial in 2001, 70 points in 2003, and 33 in 2004.
- Local government's efforts
- Private sectors' contribution

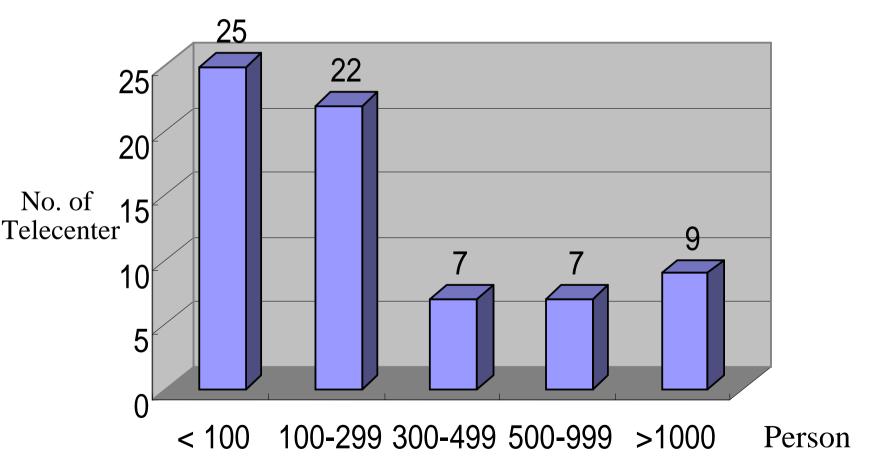


# Service Hours per Week



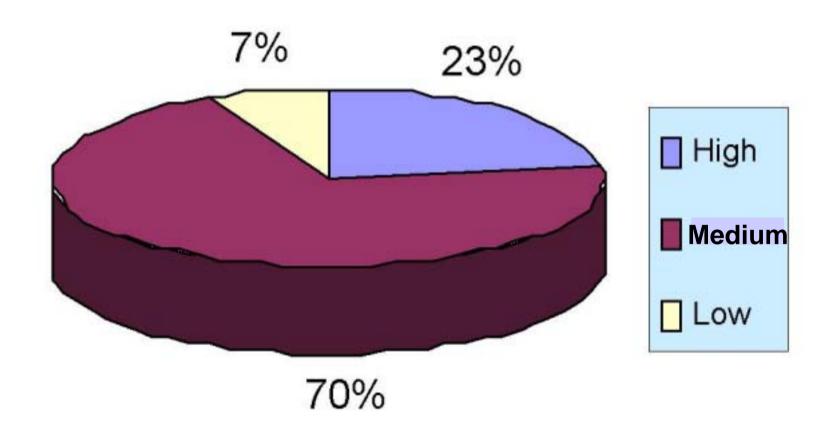


# No. of People Telecenters Served between Jan.-June 2004





#### User Satisfaction of Telecenters





#### Results and Lessons learned

- Few telecenters survived
- Maintenance cost underestimated
- Lack of local community support
- Lack of promotion and training
- Lack of qualified workforce
- Lack of content and services



### How telecenter (1)

- Strategies:
  - -Government support
  - Community involvement and ownership
  - –Partner with private sectors/NGOs



## How telecenter (2)

- Technical consideration:
  - –Telecommunication: dial-up?
    ADSL? Satellite? Microwave?
  - –Computer facilities: PC? Kiosk? Digital TV?





#### Multimedia Public Telephone

Handset

CCD Camera

10.4 inches
Touch-Screen

IC Card Reader

Instruction

Printer

Telecommunication: XDSL 512/512K



#### **Appearance of Main Screen**





#### When Used as a Telephone





#### Take a picture and sent it out.





## How telecenter (3)

- Training: cooperate with local schools, corporate donations
- Promotion and marketing: involved with local people's culture and life
- Content and services are key factors



# **Bridging the Digital Divide**-- International Cooperation

- Government's commitment and support
- Integrate resources from government and private sectors.
- Involvement of local communities
- E-government should take the lead.



# Thank you

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