

Foresight Activities and Strategic Policies of Thailand

by

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Presentation Outlines

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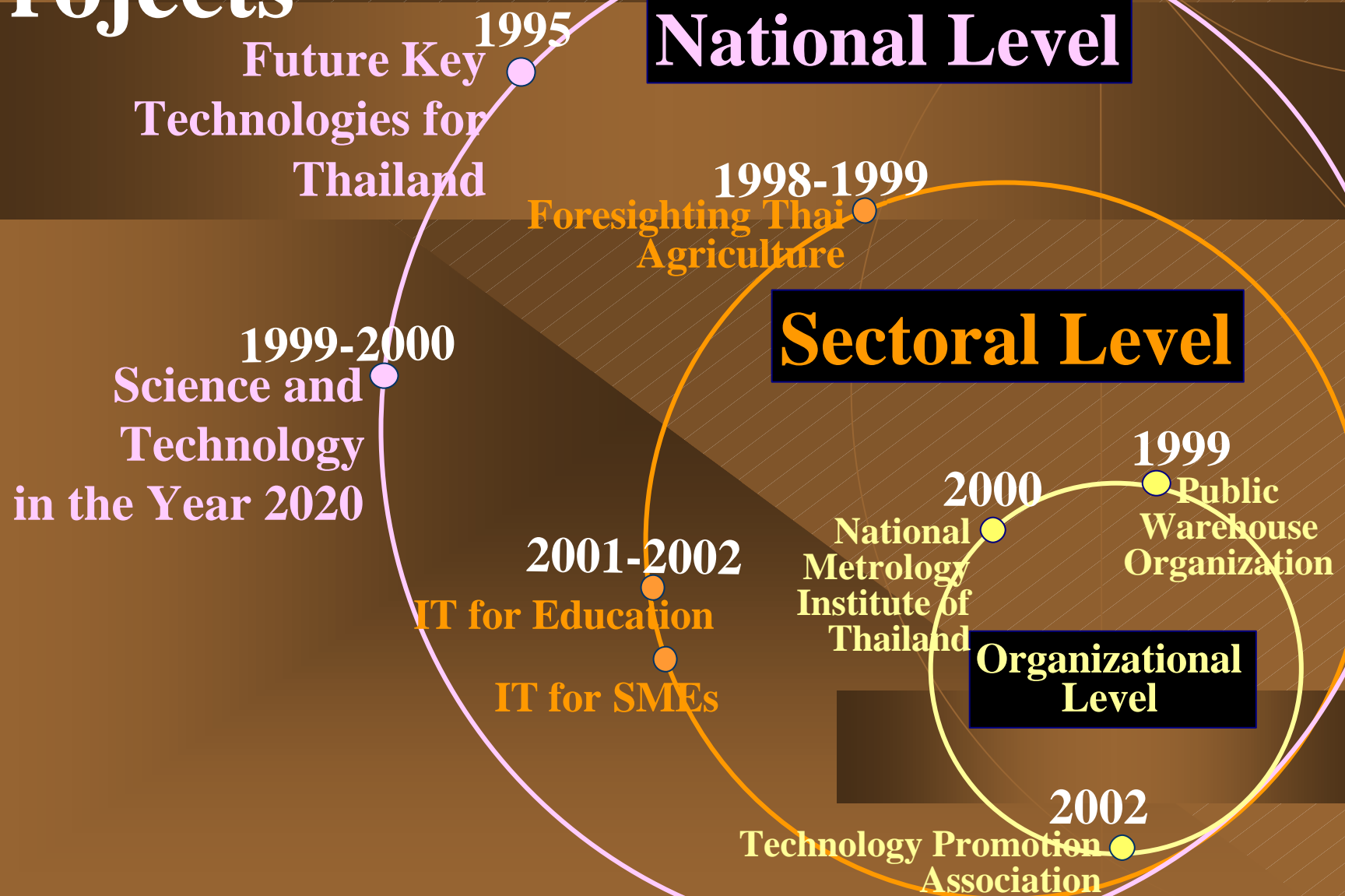
Background

- ◆ Thailand has no comprehensive national foresight project
- ◆ Several major foresight projects in Thailand have been conducted with APEC CTF and NSTDA's connection

Evolution of National Policy Process in Thailand

- ◆ Five-year national economic and social development plans since 1961
- ◆ National policy planning process has shifted:
 - ① from science push to demand pull
 - ① more participatory
 - ① more focussed
 - ① performance-based budgeting

Foresight Projects



National Level

- ◆ Future Key Technologies for Thailand -
1995
- ◆ Science and Technology in the Year 2020
– 1999-2000

National Level

Future Key Technologies for Thailand - 1995

- ◆ 2-round Delphi survey
- ◆ 400 scientists & engineers
- ◆ technologies in 3 five-year periods (1996-2010)
- ◆ list of technologies similar to developed economies

Science and Technology in the Year 2020 – 1999-2000

- ◆ Consultation in 2 science congresses and 3 workshops
- ◆ 1,400 people from all social sectors
- ◆ 13 papers of S&T demand and strategies
- ◆ Inputs into the 9th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2002-2006)

Sectoral Level

- ◆ Foresight Thai Agriculture 1998-1999
- ◆ IT for Education 2001-2002
- ◆ IT for SMEs 2001-2002

Sectoral Foresight

Foresighting Thai Agriculture - 1998-9

- ◆ **Objective:** To plan the development of science and technology in Thai agriculture
- ◆ **Main Players:** Thai Foresight Unit, NSTDA
- ◆ **Methods:**
 - 33 experts interviewed
 - 1070 Delphi Q, 19.4% success rate
 - 36 in scenario workshop
- ◆ **Time Frame:** 10 years
- ◆ **Outputs:** Good governance, R&D on local knowledge, database, grass root org.

Sectoral Foresight

IT for Education - 2001-2

- ◆ **Objective:** To examine the applications of IT for Learning in the dimensions of equity, quality, and efficiency
- ◆ **Main Players:** King Mongkut's University of Technology
- ◆ **Methods:** Scenario, Consultation
- ◆ **Time Frame:** 10 years
- ◆ **Outputs:** Good governance and management key to community learning

Sectoral Foresight

IT for SMEs - 2001-2

- ◆ **Objective:** To promote the role of IT among SMEs in automobiles, electronics, and food industries
- ◆ **Main Players:** Department of Industrial Promotion, Ministry of Industry
- ◆ **Method:** 2-round Delphi Survey
- ◆ **Time Frame:** 5 years
- ◆ **Outputs:** Needs of SMEs for IT training and low cost software

Organization Level

- ◆ Public Warehouse Organization - 1999
- ◆ National Metrology Institute of Thailand 2000
- ◆ Technology Promotion Association (Thailand-Japan) - 2002

Public Warehouse Organization - 1999

◆ Rationale and objective:

Facing the threat of privatization, PWO looked for an alternative way to set its future directions.

◆ Key Questions: What is the scenario for PWO in 10 years?

◆ Method: Scenario

◆ Participants: 32 top executives and department heads

◆ Time Frame: 1999-2009 (10 years)

◆ Outputs: 5-year action plan

National Metrology Institute of Thailand - 2000

◆ **Rationale and Objective:**

Having worked under various limitations, NMIT initiated a foresight exercise to engage key staff to review its master plan and to develop effective strategies

◆ **Key Questions:**

What should the goals of the organization be?

◆ **Method:** Scenario

◆ **Participants:** Top Executives and core staff

◆ **Time Frame:** 2000-2010 (10 years)

◆ **Outputs:** draft vision and core strategies

Technology Promotion Association (Thailand - Japan) - 2002

◆ Rationale and Objective:

Being aware of changing environments, foresight was used to develop their strategic plan

◆ Key Questions: What should be the next stage of development?

◆ **Methods:** Scenario, SWOT, Balanced Score Card

◆ **Participants:** Governing board, top executives, core staff, and clients

◆ **Time Frame:** 10-year vision, 5-year strategic plan

◆ **Outputs:** Vision, mission, core strategy, strategic plan

Discussion

- ◆ Breath and depth of participation in planning
- ◆ Concept of 'futures' and uncertainties not widely accepted
- ◆ Importance of ownership
- ◆ Scenarios as backdrop help making strategic decisions
- ◆ Foresight should be a continuous process
- ◆ Delphi has the advantage of breadth, returned questionnaire contain a wealth of valuable information

The Way Forward

- ◆ Demand for foresight in Thailand is on the rise
- ◆ Movement to revitalize the Thai foresight Unit
- ◆ Is there a need for a comprehensive national foresight exercise in Thailand?

Thank you for your attention