I. Outline of the Project	
Country: The Republic of the Philippines	Project title: Information Technology Human
	Resource Development Project
Issue/Sector: Information and Communication	Cooperation scheme: Technical Cooperation Project
Technology	
Division in charge: Transportation & ICT Team	Total cost:
II, Group III, Social Development Dept.	
<b>Period</b> of (R/D): 20/07/2004 – 19/07/2008	Partner Country's Implementing Organization:
Cooperation	University of the Philippines at Diliman Campus

# 1 Background of the Project

These days the world has been facing a rapid development of the IT industry, thus there is a pressing need to promote the IT industry and to foster the human resources in the field of IT engineering.

In the Republic of the Philippines, the Information Technology and Electronic Commerce Council (ITECC) has formulated the "Strategic Roadmap for IT in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" as one of the components of the Philippines' National Development Plan. The Roadmap presents the visions for the IT industry's future and the recommendations for IT programs and business activities.

The University of the Philippines (UP) aims to promote the implementation of the Roadmap by formulating an establishment plan of the University of the Philippines IT Training Center (UP-ITTC). UP-ITTC would constitute a part of the UP's own project to establish a science and technology park for nurturing IT professionals.

In April 2001, the government of the Philippines requested Japan to cooperate for the establishment of UP-ITTC. The contents of the request included both grant aid and technical cooperation. The former would be used for the construction of a training center, which was planned to offer IT technical programs for 400 university/college graduates annually. The latter would be applied for the technical transfer for and the capacity development of the professors and counterparts in the IT sector in order for them to efficiently operate the training center. UP-ITTC would ideally provide employment service with its students by offering on-the-job training and Japanese language training.

In response to this request, the technical cooperation project "Information Technology Human Resource Development Project" was adopted in 2004 with an expectation that it would promote human resource development and partnership with business community in the IT sector of the Philippines. The projected term of cooperation was four years beginning 20/07/2004.

In June 2004 after its official adoption, JICA and UP signed the Record of Discussion (R/D) to start the dispatch of JICA experts in July 2004. The mid-term evaluation was conducted from June to July 2006 to discuss and confirm the activity plans for the remaining period of cooperation. Additionally, the final evaluation study was implemented between 24/02/2008 and 08/03/2008.

# 2 Project Overview

# (1) Overall Goal

UP-ITTC will continuously produce such skilled IT engineers as can establish professional careers in the business field.

### (2) Project Purpose

UP-ITTC will be capable of efficiently providing university/college graduates and IT engineers with IT training which suites the needs of IT industry in the Philippines.

#### (3) Outputs

- 0) Organization and operational function of the project and UP-ITTC will be established and strengthened.
- 1) Teaching skills and knowledge of UP-ITTC lecturers will be improved on the subjects of IT core course, applications development, embedded systems, and network systems.

- 2) Management capacity of UP-ITTC will be enhanced to provide IT training in a sustainable manner with satisfying quality meeting the needs of IT industry for planning training courses and developing and revising curriculums, training materials, and teaching methods.
- 3) Strong partnership with IT industry will be established and maintained for curriculum development, sponsorship, job offer, and so on.
- 4) The project and UP-ITCC will be acknowledged as an IT training center.

### (4) Inputs

#### Japanese side:

**Long-term Expert** 7 in total **Short-term Expert** 20 in total **Trainees received** 13 in total

**Equipment** <u>244,668,000</u> **Yen** (provisional value as of March 2008)

# Philippine's Side:

Counterpart 40

Others provision of buildings, facilities, equipments and budget

#### II. Evaluation Team

Members	of	Leader: Tomoyuki NAITO (Director, Transportation & ICT Team II, Group III, Social		
Evaluation		Development Dept., JICA)		
Team		Cooperation Planning: Takahiro GOTO (Transportation & ICT Team II, Group III, Social		
		Development Dept., JICA)		
		Evaluation Analysis: Kimihiro KONNO (VSOC Co., Ltd.)		
Period	of	24/02/2008 ~ 08/03/2008	Type of Evaluation: Final Evaluation	
Evaluation				

#### III. Results of Evaluation

### 1 Summary of Evaluation Results

# (1) Relevance

Relevance was highly recognized. At the national level of the Republic of the Philippines, "Strategic Roadmap for IT in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century" was provided under the "National Science and Technology Plan" to present the visions for the IT industry's future and the recommendations for IT programs and business activities. The University of the Philippines (UP) aimed to promote the implementation of this Roadmap by formulating an establishment plan of the University of the Philippines IT Training Center (UP-ITTC). UP-ITTC would constitute a part of the UP's own project targeting university/college graduates in engineering and technology to nurture highly and practically skilled IT technical experts. The purpose of this project is consistent with these plans, and additionally with the program for development of IT and software human resources under Japan's "Asia IT Initiatives". Furthermore, it also has consistency with the program for promoting information and communication technology under the priority area of development of human resources and institutions in JICA's Country-Specific Program for the Republic of the Philippines 2007.

#### (2) Effectiveness

High level of effectiveness was recognized. All the indicators showed the attainment of Project Purpose and Outputs.

Important factors contributing to the achievement of Project Purpose include the following; positive attitude of UP-ITTC staff, assistance from the administration and the engineering department, name recognition of JICA and UP for successful recruitment of new students, and assistance of Japanese and other IT companies.

Since the outputs of the project were conducive to the achievement of the Project Purpose, the outputs established for attaining the Purpose are considered to have been adequate.

#### (3) Efficiency

The project was deemed to be high in efficiency. Implemented activities were enough to produce

supposed outputs and all the inputs were adequately put to practical use for the project implementation. Timely and appropriate infusion of experts became possible by clarifying the process of curriculum development, which reflected the suggestion made in the Mid-Term Evaluation. As for the partnership with IT industry, various activities such as "Career Talk", a lecture given by IT companies, and scholarships were conducted to help produce outputs including provided employment opportunities by IT companies for the UP-ITTC students.

## (4) Impact

There was a constant increase in the number of application of students to UP-ITTC and also a steady increase in impacts on the society of the Philippines. The number of participants in Y4IT was about 12,000 in 2006 and around 16,800 in 2007. What is more, UP-ITTC was seeing an increasing number of visits from vocational schools and universities/colleges and an expanding area where entrance exams were administered. These increases in application and visitors to UP-ITTC brought about a stronger partnership with IT industry. In addition, Y4IT promoted the spread of IT knowledge among young people in the Philippines and at the same time strengthened the financial basis of UP-ITTC.

There found some challenges in bringing about more impacts, one of which was the following; it is assumed that UP-ITTC would assure permanent spaces for the course to produce 400 graduates annually with a limited number of participants admitted to the full-time course, 100 per year. This assumption, however, is not expected to become reality at this point, thus the objective of producing 400 graduates is not feasible. Satisfying this condition is essential for the achievement of the overall goal.

## (5) Sustainability

The project is estimated to have average or high sustainability.

### 1) Institutional Sustainability

The Government of the Philippines was supposed to keep a priority on the development of human resources in the IT sector. Along this policy, UP-ITTC would be positioned under the UP's engineering department as National Engineering Center (NEC) after the termination of this project. A full-time course was degreeless in the project, however, was proposed to become a master's course or a degree program. Therefore, an increased number of applicants who prefer to receive a degree.

# 2) Technical Sustainability

The knowledge and technical capabilities of counterparts (C/Ps) had been promoted through technical transfer by the Japanese and local experts. Even after the termination of the project, C/P will continue to improve their skills and capacities as necessary by participating the internal training programs and short-term courses.

# 3) Sustainability in the Administration Department

There were continuing efforts to maintain the close partnership between UP-ITTC and Japan's IT industry. However, Japanese experts had been playing an important role in establishing the partnership because the C/Ps at UP-ITTC and the staff of the Japanese IT companies faced the differences in languages and business customs. After the end of the project, there would be a remaining challenge of how to conduct and develop marketing activities targeting Japanese IT companies.

#### 4) Financial Sustainability

According to the financial analysis, the operating cost for UP-ITTC would be covered by attendance fee of training programs/courses, donation, and fund raised in several events. However, it was continuously essential to secure a budget for renewing the equipments and expanding the activities.