DIGITAL NATION & INNOVATIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM IN TAIWAN

Calvin Zhou-Peng LIAO
zpliao1@gmail.com
National Open University, Taiwan (R.O.C),
Deputy Director, Taiwan eGovernance Research Center, Taiwan(R.O.C)

1. NEW DIGITAL TRANSFORMATION INITIATIVES

Aligning with the national policy directory "Digital Nation, Smart Island," Taiwan government has promoted the "Digital Nation & Innovative Economic Development Program (DIGI+) 2017-2025," which is intended to enhance a digital infrastructure, re-construct a service-based digital government, and realize a fair and active internet society with equal digital rights. In addition, innovative cross-boundary digital applications can be initialized with solid digital infrastructures, not only to further drive industry to adopt digital development, but also to promote the smart city concept and bridge the digital divide in rural areas. DIGI+ program includes subordinate key action plans as follows:
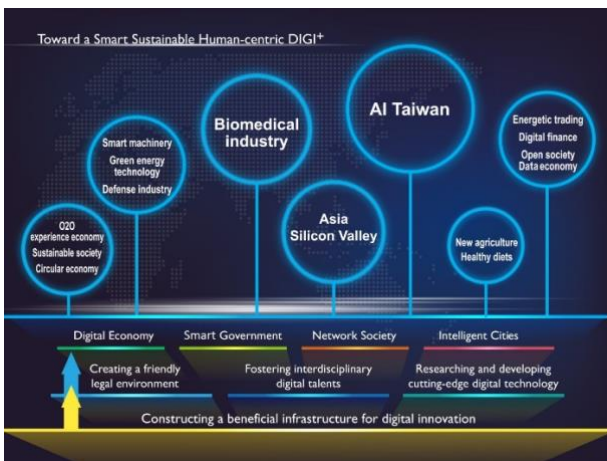
2. NEW LEGISLATION ON CYBERSECURITY

Taiwan's Legislative Yuan recently in May 2018 passed the Cybersecurity Management Act, and the effective date will be in January 2019. It can be leveraged to facilitate the completeness of national cyber security regulatory foundations and ensure that the agencies implement cyber security protection measures such as security protection auditing, security information sharing, emergent events report and response.

In addition to government agencies, the Act also requires Providers of Critical Infrastructures to establish and maintain a safe, stable and secure cyber environment. The regulated industries include the sectors of Energy, Water, Information Technology and Telecommunications, Transport and Traffic, Banks and Finance, Emergency Rescue and Hospitals, Central and Local authorities, High Technology Parks. In general, Providers of Critical Infrastructures will need to (a) implement a Cybersecurity Maintenance Plan and (b) notify the central competent authority for its business of any incidents of cybersecurity.

Like many Taiwanese laws, the Cyber Security Act sets out broad principles and leaves many of the key details to regulations issued by the regulator. As of this writing, the Executive Yuan's Department of Cyber Security has drafted six regulations under the Act. Of these, top four are relevant to designated critical infrastructure operators:

1. The Cyber Security Act Enforcement Rules,

2. The Regulations for Classification of Cyber Security Responsibility,

3. The Regulations for Reporting and Responding to Cyber Security Incidents,

4. The Regulations for Inspecting Implementation Status of Special Non-official Agencies' Cyber Security Maintenance Programs,

5. The Regulations for Security Information Sharing, and

6. The Regulations for the awards and punishments for public sectors in terms of Cyber Security.