



# **Singapore's Strategy in Securing the Cyberspace**

Presented to ITU WSIS Thematic Meeting on Cybersecurity

29 June 05



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## **Who is Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA)?**

# Who is IDA?

- The Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA) is a single government agency responsible for planning, policy formulation, regulation and industry development of IT and telecoms sectors
- Roles of IDA
  - Formulation of national infocomm masterplans and policies
  - Architecting of e-government development plans and project management of infocomm systems deployment in government
  - Regulation of telecoms industry
  - Promotion and development of infocomm industries and manpower
  - Facilitation of infocomm adoption and usage in businesses and society

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# Agenda

- Cyber Security in Singapore
- Overview of Singapore's Infocomm Security Masterplan
- Strategies
- Outcomes
- Public-Private Collaboration
- Conclusion

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# Infocomm in Singapore

- Ranked #1 in Network Readiness Index by World Economic Forum
- Rated as one of top 7 Intelligent Communities by Intelligent Community Forum
- 88% used electronic means to transact with the government
- 83.1% of the businesses use infocomm technology in their business process
- 65% of the homes have Internet access

# Cyber-Threats

- Like other open economies, Singapore faces threat from all vectors
  - Epidemic
  - Terrorism
  - Threats to infocomm environment
- Challenges in protection of infocomm environment
  - Malware: worms, virus and trojan horses
  - Irresponsible hackers, cyber-criminals & cyber-terrorists
  - Ignorant users & system owners



# Proactive Efforts in Cyber-Security

## ➤ Legislation Level

### ➤ Examples:

- Computer Misuse Act in 1993
- Electronic Transactions Act in 1998

## ➤ Policies and Guidelines Level

### ➤ Examples:

- Infocomm Security Best Practices
- Internet Banking Technology Risks Management Guidelines in 2003

# Proactive Efforts in Cyber-Security

## ➤ Infrastructure Level

### ➤ Examples:

- Public Key Infrastructure in 1996
- SingCERT in 1997
- Infocomm security awareness programme for people, private and public sectors

## ➤ Strategic Level

### ➤ Examples:

- Infocomm Security Masterplan in 2005

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## Infocomm Security Masterplan

# Overview of Infocomm Security Masterplan

- Three year (FY2005-2007) strategic roadmap
- S\$38 million seed funds to bolster cyber security and build capabilities
- Objectives
  - Defend Singapore's critical infrastructure from cyber attacks
  - Maintain a secure infocomm environment for the government, businesses and individuals

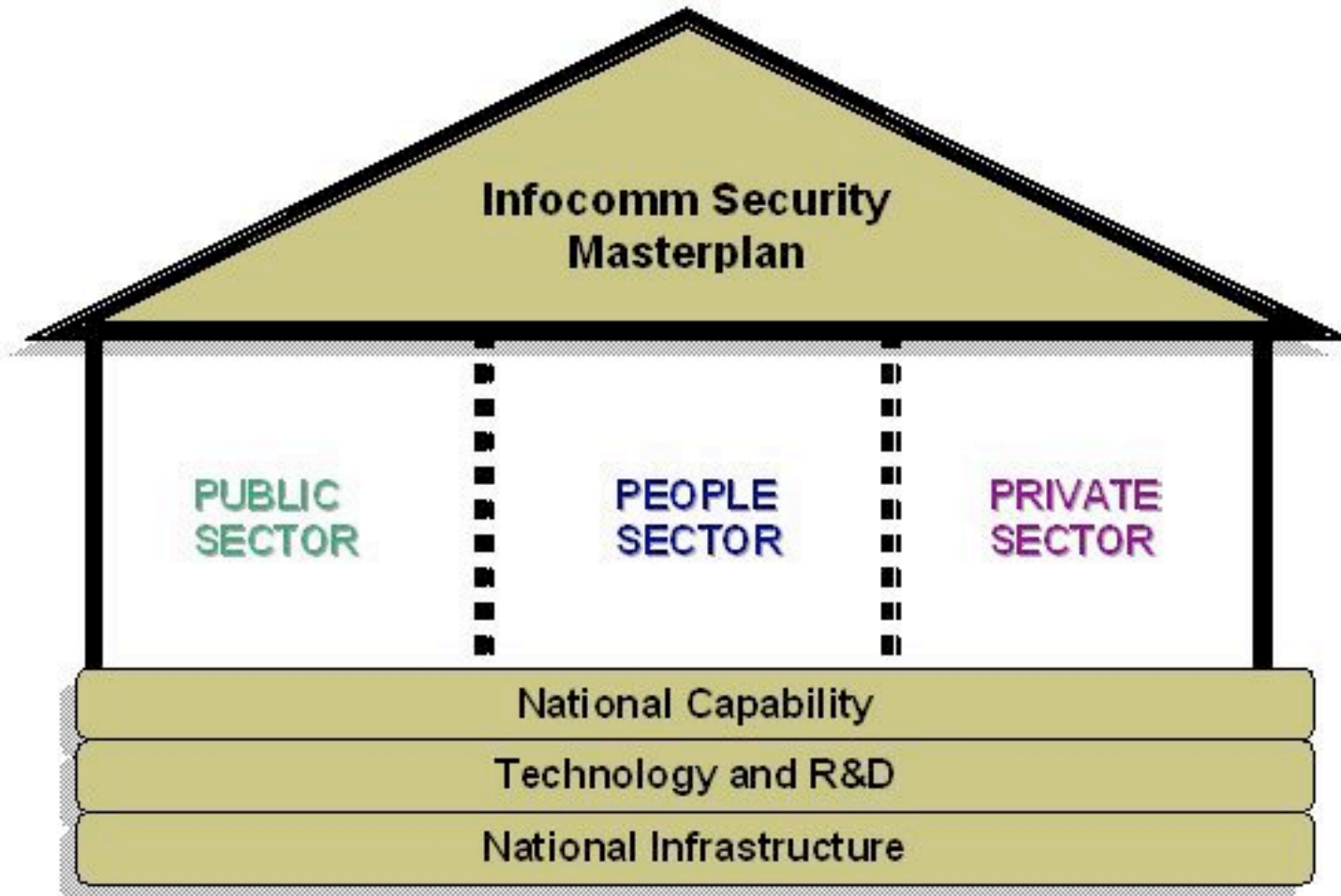
# Development of the Masterplan

- Multi-agency effort led by Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore (IDA)
- Driven by a high-level steering committee
- Inputs from businesses & government agencies

# Strategies

- Six strategies:
  - Securing the People Sector
  - Securing the Private Sector
  - Securing the Public Sector
  - Developing National Capabilities
  - Cultivating Technology and R&D
  - Securing National Infrastructure
- Projects will build upon existing initiatives

# Strategies



Pictorial Representation of the Masterplan Framework

# Key Outcomes

1. Enhanced situational awareness and contingency planning assurance
2. Information protection assurance and risk mitigation measures
3. Human and intellectual capital development



# Enhanced Situational Awareness & Contingency Assurance

- Technical controls and processes are not enough
- Need to know what is going on in real-time.
  - Ability to detect when an incident happened
  - React fast enough to prevent harm to our infrastructures and systems or to limit the damage
  - Ability to restore the system to its original state
- Example of initiatives
  - Cyber threat monitoring

# Information Protection Assurance & Risk Mitigation Measures

- Risk Assessment
- Vulnerability analysis and reduction
- Technology assessment
- Example of initiatives
  - Vulnerability Assessment
  - Security Testing
  - Critical Infrastructure Protection
  - Security Health Scorecard

# Human and Intellectual Capital Development

- Security Awareness
- Development of professional skills
- Promotion of research & development
- Example of initiatives:
  - Awareness Outreach
  - Certification of Infocomm Security Practitioners

# Public-Private Collaborations

- In implementing some of the Masterplan projects, there will be a need for the government to engage the private sectors
- Businesses were consulted during the planning of the Masterplan
- Expertise from solution providers needed in implementation

# Conclusion

- It encourages change of mindset to treat cyber security with priority
- The infocomm environment and the threats that it faces are ever changing
- Enhancing the infocomm security, resilience and preparedness of the nation is a journey without end



**Thank you**  
**[www.ida.gov.sg](http://www.ida.gov.sg)**