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Alternatives

#DIGITALTRADEPH

LATEST NEWS & UPDATES ABOUT THE DIGITAL
TRADE IN THE PHILIPPINES

NOVEMBER 2022



DTI bats for mandatory gov't local procurement

DTI is set to launch in the next few months the still unnamed e-commerce platform for all local micro small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) from which government agencies must source their supplies.

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New Philippine Export Development Plan ready by next month

The next Philippine Export Development Plan is more aggressive, highlighting technology and stronger collaborations towards innovation, skills upgrading, and integration to help counter the negative impacts of issues such as red tape, supply chain disruptions, increasing business costs, climate change, and other challenges.

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Mobile users turn to telehealth in PH

KonsultaMD, Globe's subscription-based 24/7 telemedicine service, reached more than one million members in 2021 while telehealth and medicine delivery provider, HealthNow, processed 20,000 medicine delivery orders daily and administered over one million COVID-19 vaccines.

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Could blockchain-based insurance solve agricultural pains in the Philippines?

A regional insurtech firm with a mission to make insurance accessible and affordable for all through technology. It facilitates digital insurance underwritten by partner insurance companies and offered in partner distribution channels such as e-commerce platforms and mobile wallets.

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Establish a digital enablement strategy for workers and MSMEs, group urges gov't

The national government must craft and implement a digital enablement strategy in order to strengthen the knowledge and skills of Filipino workers and even the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in the country.

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WTO-GPA accession paramount for PHL's Asia Pacific digital integration

THE Philippines's accession to the World Trade Organization's (WTO) Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) and strengthening copyright enforcement are deemed to be "imperative," as the country is poised for digital-trade integration with its Asia-Pacific neighbors.

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Government must address its digital skills gaps

The pandemic presents a great opportunity for digital transformation. And we have seen a lot of organizations take advantage of it. For most businesses, it was the only option they saw to keep them afloat. For some, it was a matter of getting ahead of the competition. The lockdowns and the resulting business lull offered a way to finally get those long-postponed digitalization plans started. How did governments fare? What kept them from moving forward with their digitalization journey?

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Congress to ramp up efforts for PHL's digital transformation

SPEAKER Martin Romualdez on Friday assured the House of Representatives' commitment to intensify efforts on providing legal framework for the country's digital transformation necessary to foster economic recovery and spur growth.

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More Thai investments await PH

Thai industries, particularly food and infrastructure, vowed to pour in more investments in the Philippines. [READ MORE](#)

Harris' visit to focus on various areas of cooperation between PH, US

United States Vice President Kamala Harris will spend her first-ever Philippine visit with activities expected to formalize areas of cooperation both mulled by President Joe Biden and President Marcos and their officials. These areas focused on climate action and energy security, military and defense alliance, food security, digital economy and human rights. [READ MORE](#)

PH among the leaders in digitalization of financial sector

For one, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) is aiming for a 50 percent share of digital payments to total transactions by 2023. [READ MORE](#)

PH to join first IPEF negotiation meeting

The Philippines will join in the first negotiating meeting of the US-led Indo Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) in Brisbane, Australia in December this year and its intention to tap grants and support for industry developments under the initiative, Trade and Industry Secretary Alfredo E. Pascual announced.

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PH, New Zealand bolster cooperation for OFWs, trade, security

President Ferdinand R. Marcos Jr. and New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern on Saturday agreed to bolster their cooperation in protecting the welfare of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), as well as improving trade and security. [READ MORE](#)

APEC can be part of solution to global economic crisis: minister

APEC's member economies represent more than 60 percent of the global gross domestic product and 48 percent of the global economy, he said at the APEC Leaders' Retreat Session 2, which constituted the closing agenda of the APEC Economic Leaders' Meeting (AELM). [READ MORE](#)

Philippines' first cooperative summit launched at the Philippine Fintech Festival

The first-ever digital cooperative summit, aimed at empowering cooperatives through technology, was launched at the inaugural Philippine FinTech Festival (PFF), the regional conference where key technology enablers gathered to discuss the issues, challenges, and best practices in creating an innovative digital system for the cooperative sector. [READ MORE](#)

ASEAN and UK Trade Ministers endorse Work Plan on Future Economic Cooperation

The Work Plan is expected to further strengthen and set the direction of ASEAN and the UK's economic relations. It builds on existing initiatives and possible cooperation programmes between ASEAN and the UK in the areas of sustainable growth, infrastructure development, and digital transformation, which are important areas for ASEAN's economic integration and post-pandemic recovery efforts. [READ MORE](#)

Digital services tax measure to target large foreign companies

The planned tax measure for digital service providers will target mainly large foreign companies, a senior legislator said, calling it a means of leveling the playing field for domestic media companies. [READ MORE](#)

ASEAN must promote people-centered recovery beyond pandemic: PBBM

Citing efforts in the Philippines to facilitate socioeconomic recovery, Marcos presented his administration's Medium-Term Fiscal Program and the upcoming Philippine Development Plan (PDP) 2023-2028, which contains targets and strategic actions of government agencies in the next six years.

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PH, UK explore tie-ups

The Philippines and the United Kingdom expressed interest in further developing the two countries' partnerships in renewable energy, creative industry, and digitalization. [READ MORE](#)

These Ifugao weaves will soon be available as NFTs

Philippines-based social enterprise Kandama wishes to share the masterpieces of Ifugao women weavers in the metaverse. [READ MORE](#)

Trade deficit shrinks to \$4.8B in September

In a report released Friday, PSA said the deficit, which happens when a country has more imports than exports, reached \$4.8 billion in September, lower than August's \$6 billion. [READ MORE](#)

DOF, DICT agree to fully implement TradeNet

The Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) and the Department of Finance (DOF) are signing an agreement that had been pending for two years already to finally fully implement TradeNet, an online one-stop shop that streamlines export and import procedures. [READ MORE](#)

Reshaping Trade: The Rise of Asia and Next Generation Challenges

A new Asia Society Policy Institute (ASPI) report, The Evolution of the Global Trading System: How the Rise of Asia and Next Generation Challenges Will Shape the Future Economy, from ASPI's Shay Wester and Wendy Cutler, examines the past and future trade landscape with a focus on developments in Asia.

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PH jumps in global ICT readiness ranking

The Philippines is the biggest mover in the Network Readiness Index (NRI) 2022 ranking 71st from 85th last year out of the 131 economies that highlighted impact as the country's main strength and technology as its biggest concern for improvement. [READ MORE](#)