



The Philippines' AI Agenda: Building Capability, Access & Resilience



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The Philippines is addressing several of the practical requirements for AI at the same time — data, compute, investment, skills, and access. Recent moves also show where these capabilities are being applied, from semiconductor development to disaster forecasting and public services.

Sovereignty is Being Built Through Infrastructure, not Restriction

The Philippines is approaching AI sovereignty through domestic infrastructure investment and differentiated controls over data based on sensitivity.

1.

DATA SOVEREIGNTY

Executive Order 119 classifies government data into Restricted Access and Open Access, keeping more sensitive data within national jurisdiction.

2.

DOMESTIC AI INFRASTRUCTURE

DOST plans to expand AI data centre and GPU capacity 26-fold by 2028, strengthening local capacity to develop and run AI applications.

AI & Semiconductors are Being Positioned as Export Opportunities

The Philippines is positioning AI an opportunity to move into higher-value technology activities and expand its role in the global technology value chain.

The government has fast-tracked an [incentive package targeting USD 110 billion in AI and semiconductor exports](#) by 2030.

The ambition is supported by investment in data centres, semiconductor facilities, engineering talent, AI infrastructure, and supporting services.

Fragmented AI Initiatives are Moving Towards a Common Strategy

The Private Sector Advisory Council (PSAC) has proposed a National AI Implementation Taskforce to bring together AI efforts across government, industry, and academia. Recommendations cover workforce development, infrastructure, and policy.

This includes a proposal to release approximately USD 11.2 million from the Higher Education Development Fund for AI upskilling programmes in 2026.



Government AI is Being Directed Towards Disaster Resilience

Some of the most visible government AI applications in the Philippines are being directed towards disaster preparedness and resilience.



Project NOAH has received USD 16.4 million for AI-powered flood forecasting and real-time hazard assessment.



DepEd's LIGTAS+ monitors storm, heat, and volcanic risks across 47,000+ public schools.



DICT and Google Cloud are deploying Gemini Enterprise to help citizens navigate government services, including disaster-related information in local languages.

AI Access is Extending Beyond Large Organisations & Major Cities

Around one million public school [teachers are being given access to Microsoft Copilot](#) for lesson planning, assessment, and administrative work.

DICT is combining [connectivity and AI training for students and MSMEs](#) in regions such as Ilocos, with partnerships involving AWS, Google, and Microsoft.

A [new National Cybersecurity Council](#) is intended to strengthen the cybersecurity foundations supporting wider digital development.

Ecosystm Opinion

The Philippines is building its AI agenda across infrastructure, industrial development, public-sector resilience, workforce capability, access, and governance.

The key test will be coordination and implementation — whether these individual investments develop into connected capabilities that strengthen the country's AI ecosystem.

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