

UNIVERSAL SERVICE OBLIGATION IN THE PHILIPPINES

Regulatory Structure

- Philippine carriers are privately-owned except for three (3) government-owned local exchange carriers
- telecommunications regulator – National Telecommunications Commission
- policy
 - Department of Transportation & Communications
 - Commission on ICT
 - Congress of the Philippines

Executive Order No. 109

- 12 July 1993
 - provision of local exchange service in unserved and underserved areas
 - CMTS operators required at least 400,000 lines
 - IGF operators required at least 300,000 lines
 - at least 1 rural exchange line for every 10 urban local exchange lines installed
 - Roll-out in 5 years

Republic Act No. 7925

- Telecommunications Policy Act of the Philippines
- 01 March 1995
 - = roll-out obligation shortened from 5 years to 3 years.

USO Programs

- ❑ Service Area Scheme (Basic Telephone Service)
- ❑ Telepono sa Barangay
- ❑ Community e-Center

Service Area Scheme

- ❑ IGF operators required to roll-out at least 300,000 lines
- ❑ CMTS operators required to roll-out
- ❑ administered by NTC
- ❑ problems
 - supply of fixed line did not match demand
 - oversupply in urban areas
 - basic telephone service overtaken by the mobile service

TELEPONO SA BARANGAY

- ❑ to provide basic telecommunications services to selected barangays in the provinces of Quezon, Negros Oriental, Lanao del Norte, Zamboanga del Norte, Zamboanga del Sur, Nueva Viscaya and Misamis Occidental
- ❑ implemented by the Telecommunications Office/DOTC
- ❑ problems
 - expiration of Municipal Telephone Act (RA 6849) in March 1999
 - resulting in dissolution of the MTPO
 - non-availability of peso allocation
 - expired loan agreement

Community e-Center (CeC)

- ❑ to provide the general public with affordable access to services such as internet, e-mail, fax, computer training, distance learning, online services
- ❑ implemented by the Telecommunications Office/DOTC

Thank you

