

ASIA CLEAN ENERGY FORUM (ACEF 2021)

SOUTH ASIA SESSION ON DIGITALIZATION OF ELECTRICITY UTILITIES

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PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES ON DIGITALIZATION OF ELECTRICITY UTILITIES

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Digitalization of Utilities– Enabler for Energy Transition

- ✓ Digitalization of Utilities facilitates integration of **Distributed Energy Resources (DER)** and **Electric Vehicles** to achieve **Emission Reduction/NDC** targets
- ✓ Digital Utilities can **Optimize Asset and Operations** with Advanced Analytics supported by AI and ML leading to:
 - ✓ *Granular estimation of demand to avoid excess generation capacities*
 - ✓ *Visibility of power flows in real-time to avoid overloading and excess capacities*
 - ✓ *Defer costly system upgrades through efficient management of existing resources*
 - ✓ *Engaging customers through digital platforms for innovative programs*
- ✓ Digital Utilities can balance Demand and Supply in real-time through **Demand Response, ToU** and other programs
- ✓ Digital Utilities can Increase **Power System Flexibility** – Energy Storage Systems (ESS), Smart Microgrids, EV Integration, Virtual Power Plants (VPP)

Digitalization v/s Digitization

- **Digitalization** means using digital technologies to fundamentally change how we develop and operate the electricity network to deliver an economic and efficient service for customers: **USING DATA**
- **Digitization** is the process of collecting information about the electricity grid using sensors and control equipment - collecting some information for the first time and converting analogue information into digital data that can be processed by computers for digitalization: **COLLECTING DATA**
- All DATA are presumed to be **Open Data** unless proven otherwise for privacy, security, commercial or confidentiality reasons: **SHARING DATA**

Digital data and digitalized solutions help the Utilities understand where a generator or transformer is best placed on the network or how to integrate an EV charger

Digitalization - Objectives, Strategy and Roadmap (1/3)

OBJECTIVES

- SINGLE SOURCE of the TRUTH for the DATA that provide greater detail for ALL stakeholders
- Convert the DATA in to useful INFORMATION to benefit customers, deliver insight for network planning and launch new services

STRATEGY

- Digitalization Strategy to be aligned with the **Business Strategy, Innovation Strategy, Digital Strategy** and **IT Strategy**:
 - Using the Business Strategy as a foundation to develop solutions to meet the changing business and customer needs - **FORWARD RADAR**
 - Leveraging innovation programs to develop next level of data and digitalization solutions
 - Future IT developments are suitably aligned to the needs of future business operations
 - As the volume of data increases, the digital strategy is aligned to facilitate the changes
 - Present the information in the right format and timescales

Digitalization Objectives, Strategy and Roadmap (2/3)

ROADMAP

- Data Visibility
- Infrastructure and Asset Visibility – **FORWARD RADAR**
- IT-OT Integration and Operational Optimization
- Open Markets
- Agile Regulations

BUILDING BLOCKS

- Data Catalogues
- Single Registration Platforms
- Digital Systems Map

Digitalization Objectives, Strategy and Roadmap (3/3)

FACILITATORS

- IT Systems – to be rationalized and modernized
 - Replacing and upgrading ad-hoc legacy applications; embracing and investing in new technologies, integration tools and common data platforms. IT Systems will also need to be further integrated with operation technologies related to power delivery systems.
 - IT systems have traditionally been focused on the core principles of security, reliability and resilience; but now must move to a culture of open data and digitalisation - make systems more accessible, agile and adaptable to change, whilst continuing to enhance Cyber Security controls.
 - A **Hybrid Cloud Architecture**, utilising infrastructure, platform and software as a service solutions (**IaaS, PaaS and SaaS**)
- Telecommunication - modern, robust and secure telecoms systems
 - As the **numbers of assets and equipment connected to the network increase**, the cost and capability of managing the monitoring and control using **traditional radio telecoms will become restrictive**
 - The **radio infrastructure for future network need to be scalable for future network growth and data demands**, whilst ensuring efficiency, effectiveness in operation, resilient to power failure and to be at the point of need
 - **Coordination between digitalisation, innovation and telecoms** to ensure solutions meet the needs of today, tomorrow and beyond

Key Areas of Digitalization in Electric Utilities

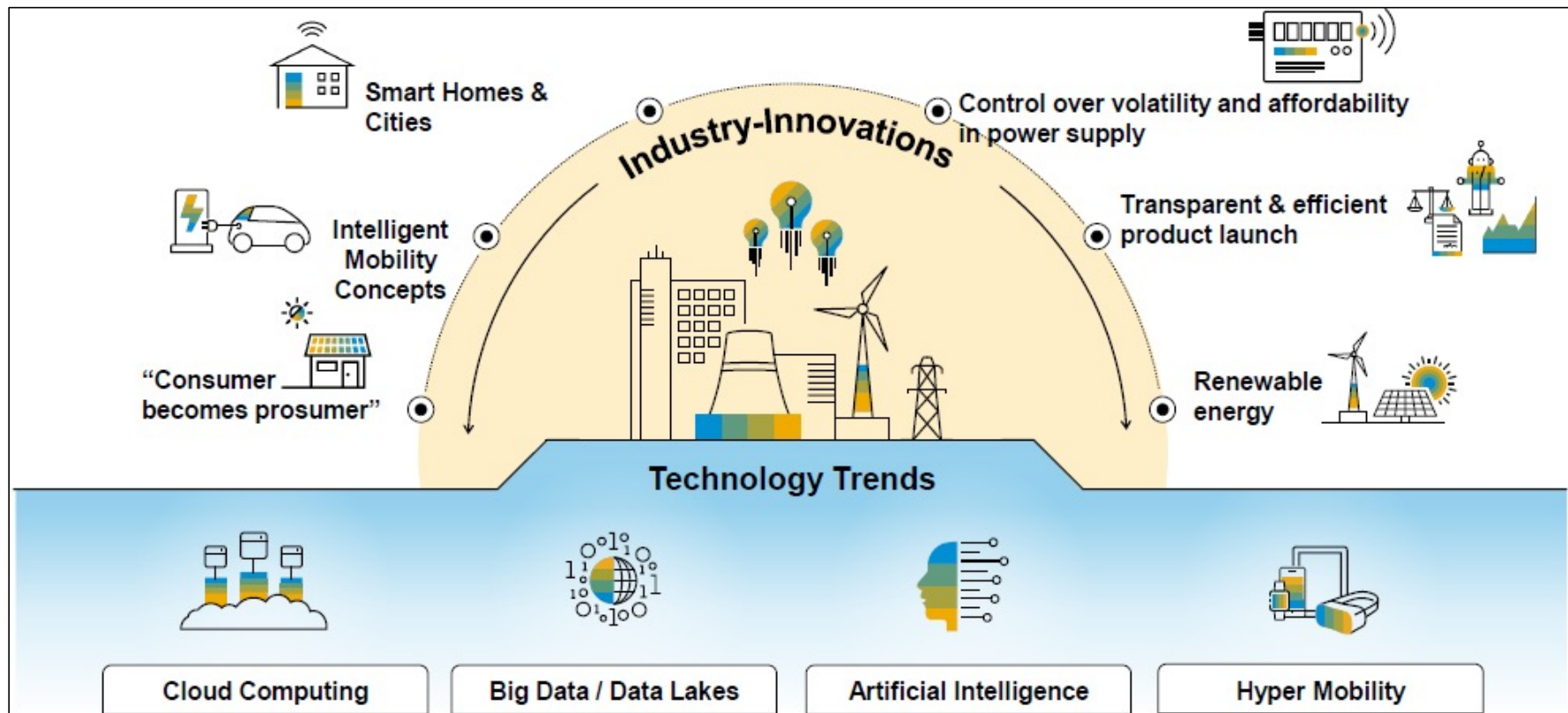
A. OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES (OT) SYSTEMS

1. SCADA/EMS/DMS
2. Geographical Information System (GIS)
3. Distribution Automation (DA) and Substation Automation (SA)
4. Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI)
5. Wide Area Monitoring Systems (WAMS)
6. Demand Response (DR)
7. Robotics
8. DERMS

B. IT SYSTEMS

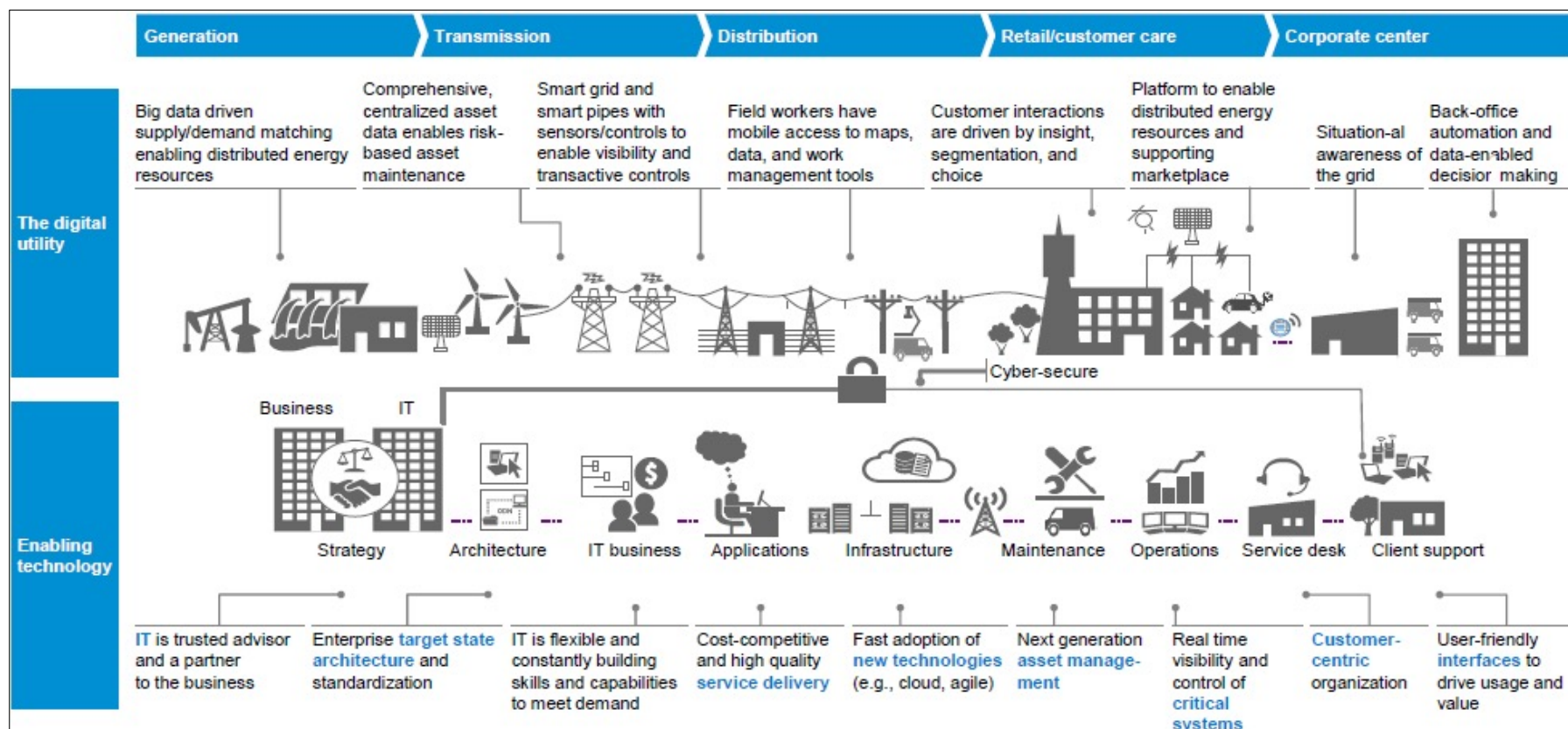
1. Enterprise IT Systems
2. Billing and Customer Care Systems
3. Customer Portal
4. Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)
5. Outage Management System (OMS)
6. Mobile Crew Management System
7. Call Centre – Chat Bots and Voice Bots
8. AI/ML/Advanced Analytics
9. Robotic Process Automation (RPA)
10. Blockchain Applications

Technology Trends Supporting Digitalization of Utilities



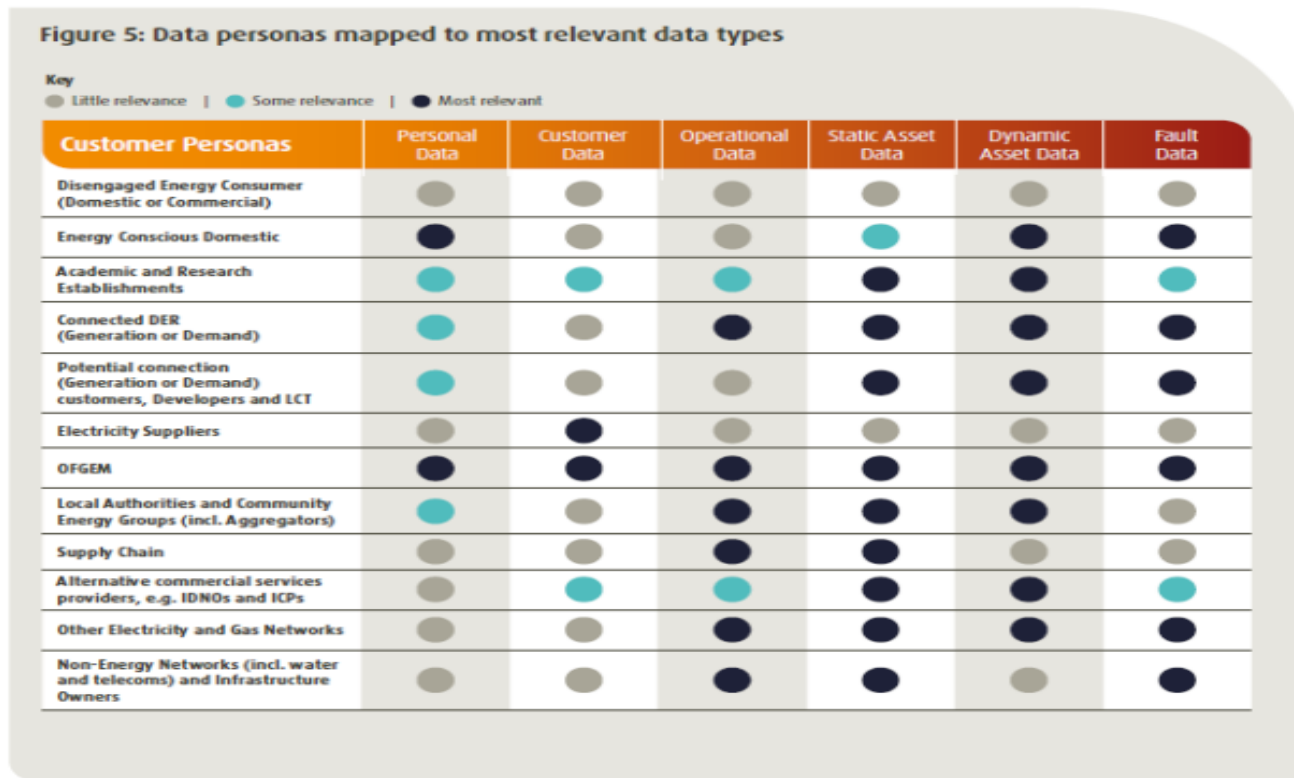
Source: SAP

Digital Utility – Innovations across the Value Chain



Source: SAP

Data and Data Users in the Utility Ecosystem



Source: UK Power Networks Digitalisation Strategy and Action Plan 2021

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

PHYSICAL ASSETS DEPRECIATE.....

1. Power Plants
2. Transmission and Distribution Network Equipment
3. Offices, Buildings, etc.
4. Computer and Communication Hardware

.....DIGITAL ASSETS APPRECIATE

1. Customer Data
2. Billing and Collection System
3. AMI Data and Energy Consumption Profile
4. GIS Map indexing Electrical Network and Customers – cover all buildings and roads
5. Automation Systems - SCADA/DMS, DA and SA, DR, DERMS...
6. Outage Management System and Mobile Workforce Management System
7. Call Centers and Call Data Archives

NEW REVENUE STREAMS POSSIBLE FROM THESE DIGITAL ASSETS (Details in the Backup slides)

Challenges of Digitalization

❖ **AWARENESS** – across the organization

- Understanding the **Benefits of Digital Technologies**
- Need for a **Smart Grid Roadmap** for Digital Utility Transformation
- **IT - OT Integration Architecture** and Business Process Realignment
- Global Practices – what worked well and what did not

❖ **POLICY AND REGULATORY SUPPORT**

- Strong **MANDATE** from Governments and Utility Management to undertake Digitalization in a well planned manner
- Regulatory support for pilot projects – **Regulatory Sandboxes**
- **Business Models** for Return on Investments in New Technologies

Challenges of Digitalization

❖ TECHNOLOGY

- **COTS v/s home grown or proprietary systems**
- **Legacy Systems** – retire or retain ?
- How to **integrate legacy systems** with proprietary protocols? In most cases APIs may not help end to end integration
- Integration of **OT-IT** systems
- **IT Architecture** – Service Oriented Architecture with micro-services and state-of-the-art middleware and data historians
- **Communication Systems** – ubiquitous and secure communication systems to connect different devices on the grid, customer premises, field offices, regional offices and HQ
- **Own Data Centre v/s Cloud Services v/s Hybrid Models**
- **Analytical Tools** - appropriate tools to analyze the humungous data generated from digitization
- **Cyber Security** – by design

Challenges of Digitalization

❖ SKILLED WORKFORCE

- **Training and Reskilling** of workforce across the organization on new systems
- **Retaining Trained Personnel** in respective functions – despite promotions/retirements until next in line are capable of maintaining the systems
- Adequate **Budget for Training** and capacity building to be provisioned in the project estimate
- For COTS software trained personnel available in the market

❖ CUSTOMER ENGAGEMENT

- Customers to be trained and engaged in using new systems and programs

Examples of Digitalization in Select Utilities

Digitalization Roadmap of Western Power Company, UK

Where we are and where we're going

As is
End ED-1
End ED-2

	Ad hoc	Foundational	Competitive	Differentiating	Breakaway
Digitalisation of the Energy System	No strategy of digitalisation, conflicting views within the organisation.	Basic high level data and digitalisation strategy outlined, often reactive to new data demands.	Strategy is continuously refined listening to the needs of multiple stakeholders, with defined use cases and output.	Strategy is driving continuous change with the use of data, exceeding the requirements of the regulator and others.	Whole organisation believes in the strategy, trailblazing change internally as well as externally.
Maximising the Value of Data	Limited use of data in the organisation, low visibility of data in the silos. Re-active data decisions.	Data is visible and understood in silos, with minimal cross silo interactions. Data is used to manage the business.	Data is driving operational improvements across multiple parts of the organisation.	Data is fully understood and feeds investment decisions. Common value standards are used across all parts of the organisation.	Extensive use of internal and external data, driving conscious value decisions across the whole organisation. Data is being used to drive new revenue streams that are not currently understood.
Visibility of Data	No visualisation of information, organisation struggles to identify datasets.	Limited understanding of data, basic metadata and data stored in silos.	Organisation has a view of large parts of its data, and the establishment of data governance and best practices. Organisation has a detailed understanding of the next steps needed.	Organisation has a common internal data catalogue with governance in place, has metadata standards and information management best practices.	Data is in a common data catalogue that allows for open data, enabling comparison of capabilities and performance with similar organisations. The organisation actively supports demand-based prioritisation for open data.
Coordination of Asset Registration	No Co-ordination of different assets within the organisation, no clear asset strategy.	Assets are registered in silos without coordination across some silos.	Assets are registered to a common register across the organisation, use of external asset data also takes place.	Assets are driving new value stream within the organisation, use of internal and external asset data.	Internal and external asset data is known and shared, driving value across different organisations. Coordinated asset strategy across the ecosystem.
Visibility of Infrastructure and Assets	No digital map of the organisation, some functions have basic digital mapping of assets.	Some mapping available for internal decision making and presented externally. Some minor investment decisions driven from this detail.	Digital system maps are used across the whole organisation and inform internal investment decisions.	Digital system mappings in coordination with similar organisations is used to create new markets and common investment decisions.	Sector leader in digital system mapping, driving sector benefits. Common sector visibility of infrastructure and assets.

Digitalization Strategy and Action Plan of UK Power Networks

	Q1			Q2			Q3			Q4		
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Data												
Openly publish and share more of our data, prioritising based on stakeholder needs and removing barriers to publication through effective mitigating controls												
Assess and openly publish our 'Open Data' maturity												
Publish a comprehensive Open Data Strategy												
Provide Cost Out Insight across the organisation												
Extracting information from Maps using Image Recognition												
Implement a transparent Data Trriage process												
Drive continued improvement in the quality of our data												
Play an active role in driving standardisation of data services and solutions across the sector												
Commence digitisation of our Geospatial Network Records												
Work towards delivering network data in an Interoperable format												
People												
Undertake an annual maturity assessment on our developing digital skills and attributes												
Enhance existing and add new (where required) training for all employees												
Recruit new capabilities where significant gaps exist												
Grow our Digital Group and extend spokes out into core business areas												
Optimise Health & Safety practices												
Expand Centre of Excellence to include analysts from all business areas												
2-sided engagement online portal												
Technology												
Improve access to our data for all consumers through our centralised data portals												
Process Automation												
Deliver cutting edge payment system												
Deliver industry leading learning platform												
Automate reporting and deliver self-serving analytics tools												
User Communities												
Provide complete transparency of the data we hold												
Online payments												
Robotic process automation												
Strategic Forecasting of load growth												

Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045

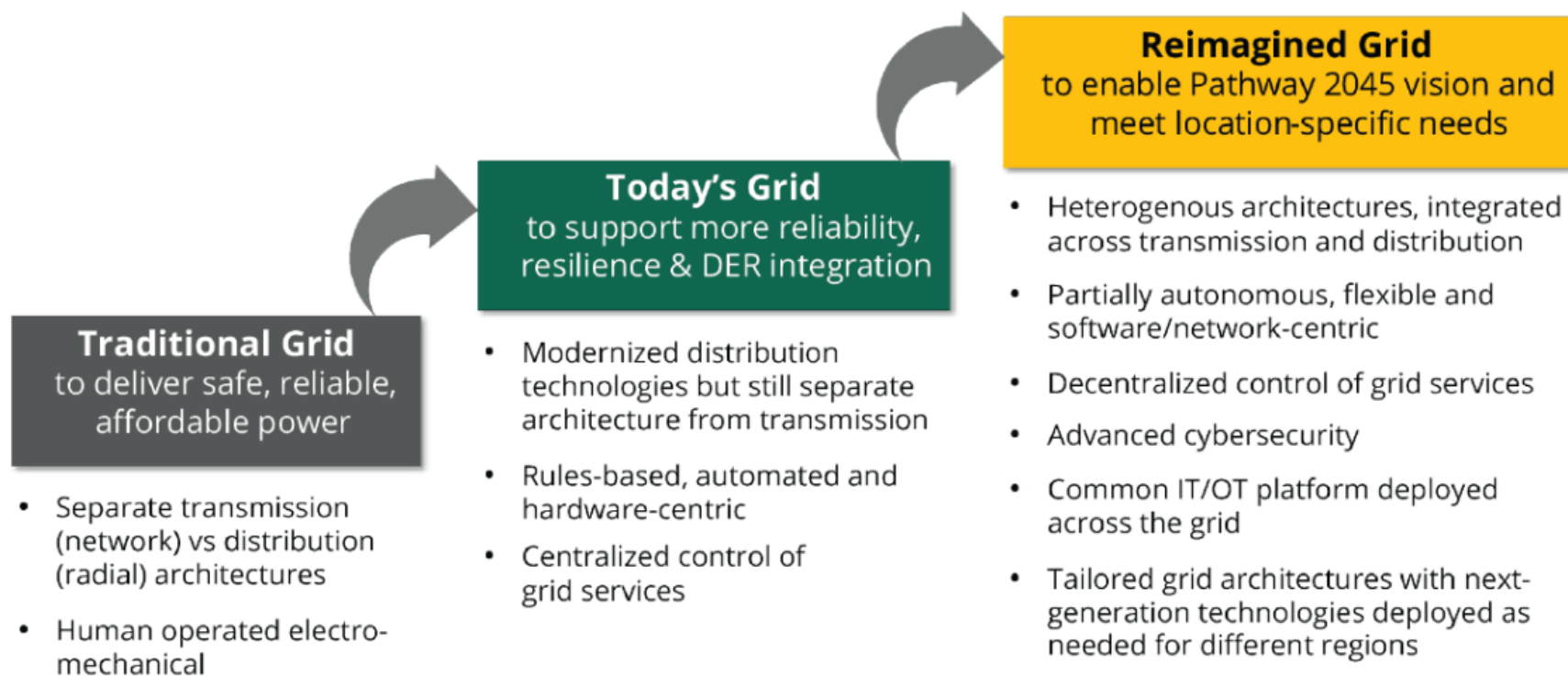
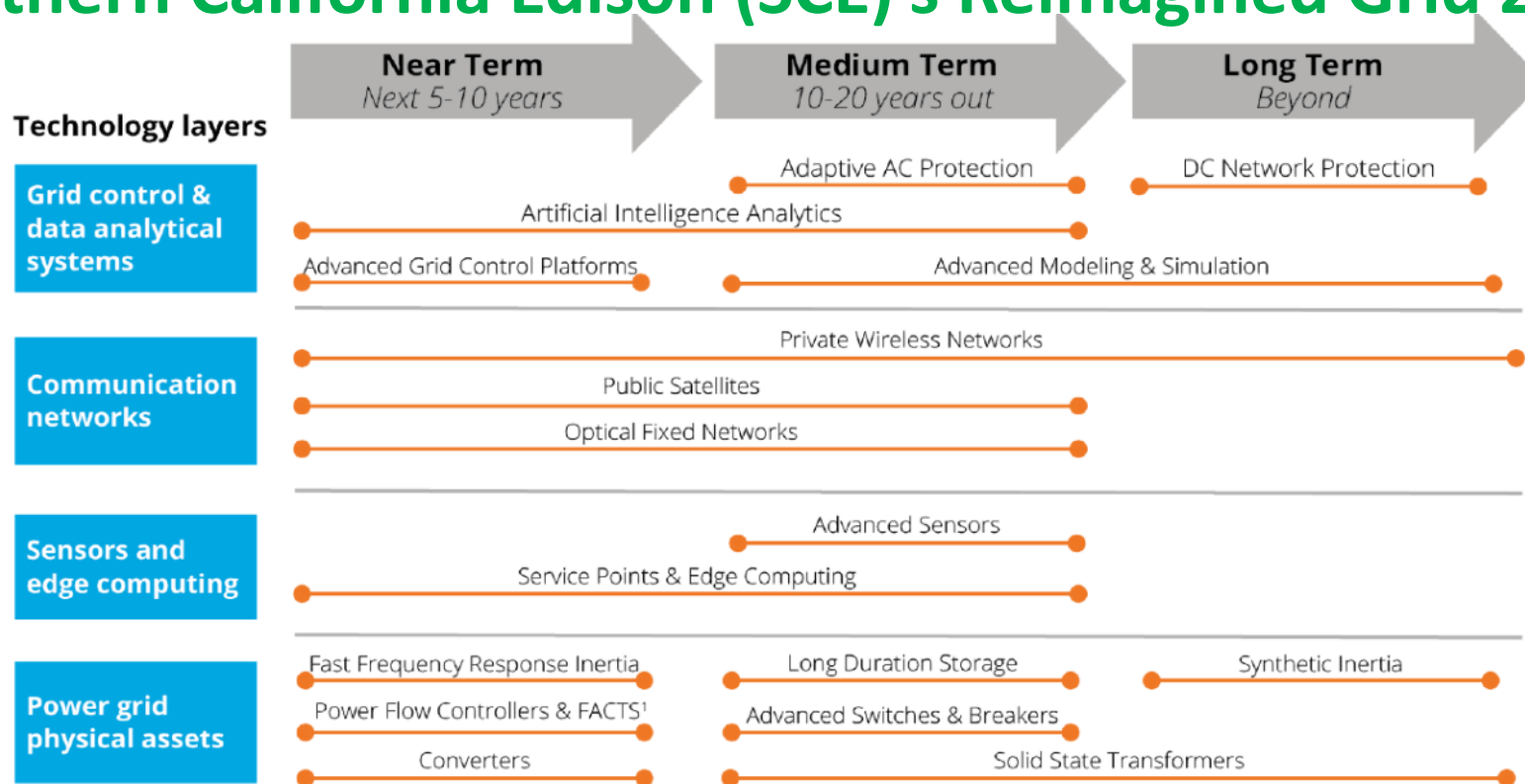


Figure 11: Evolutionary steps toward the reimagined grid

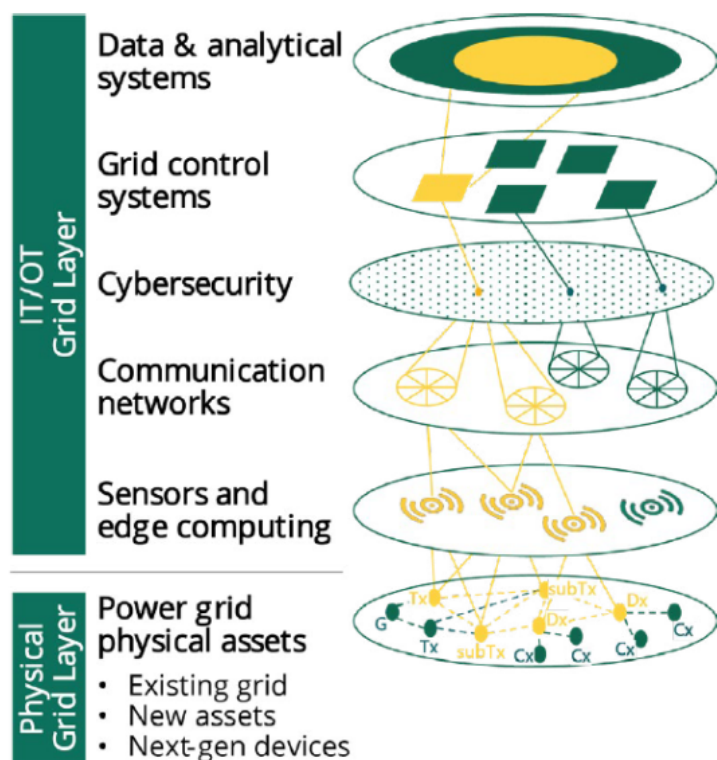
Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045



1. Flexible Alternating Current Transmission Systems

Figure 8: Estimated commercialization timeframes for critical grid technologies

Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045



SCE will examine the different technology layers (see Figure 4) that the reimagined grid will need to address these challenges, grouping them into two categories:

1. A common digital platform of information and operational technologies (IT/OT) that includes communications, sensing, analytics, control and advanced cybersecurity
2. Physical assets and devices that enable use-specific solutions, built on top of the IT/OT platform and the existing grid infrastructure

SEC will then define a broad set of grid capabilities that leverage these technology layers, consisting of a cluster of *foundational* capabilities working together to enable systemwide integration and operation of grid technologies and a set of *situational* capabilities that will address location-specific challenges and planning.

Figure 4: Grid technology layers

Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045

Capabilities	Description
<div> <div>Ⓣ</div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> Ultra low-latency communications	Communications between grid and customer devices that are real time (milliseconds), high peak throughput (1+ GBps), high density (2M+ devices), high coverage and cybersecure
<div> <div>Ⓣ</div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> Ubiquitous situational awareness	Integrated, high-fidelity measurement and monitoring of grid state and assets (from generation to customer levels) with high spatial and temporal resolution
<div> <div>Ⓣ</div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> End-to-end advanced simulations and analytics	Prediction and optimization of grid systems and assets, leveraging virtual representation of the grid and its components with standardized data protocols
<div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> Localized & edge control	Hierarchical and distributed grid control, complementing centralized optimization of resources with delegation of local control decisions to edge devices through policy-based settings
<div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> Adaptive protection	Protection settings updated remotely to adapt to bidirectional power flow requirements and potential changes in grid topology to preserve safety of operations
<div> <div>Ⓣ</div> <div>ⓓ</div> </div> Transmission and Subtransmission Distribution	

Figure 5: Overview of foundational capabilities

Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045

Capabilities	Description
<div> <div>T</div> <div>D</div> </div> High capacity throughput (& protection)	Augmented power supply and delivery capacity to serve new demand from transportation electrification or other load while ensuring power system stability and safety
<div> <div>T</div> <div>D</div> </div> Islanding & reconfigurability	Control and operation of interconnected loads and DERs independently from bulk power system, dynamically adapting electrical boundaries (e.g., microgrids) to optimize economic performance and reliability
<div> <div>T</div> <div>D</div> </div> Energy buffering	Alternate energy sources, located as close to the load as possible to compensate variable/intermittent power output of renewables
<div> <div>T</div> <div>D</div> </div> Inertia substitution	Novel sources of inertia and other grid reliability services to ensure power system frequency response and stability, given rising level of renewable resources connected to the grid
<div> <div>D</div> </div> Seamless grid flexibility	Seamless adjustment of the grid to rapid changes in load and supply to ensure grid balancing (supply/demand), and economic and reliable performance
<div> <div>D</div> </div> Customer load flexibility	Controls/signals to interact with customer devices and harness the full potential of customer load flexibility
<div> <div>D</div> </div> Bidirectional power flow control	Management of power flow direction between DERs and the grid
<div> <div>T</div> <div>D</div> </div> Transmission and Subtransmission Distribution	

Figure 7: Overview of situational capabilities

Southern California Edison (SCE)'s Reimagined Grid 2045

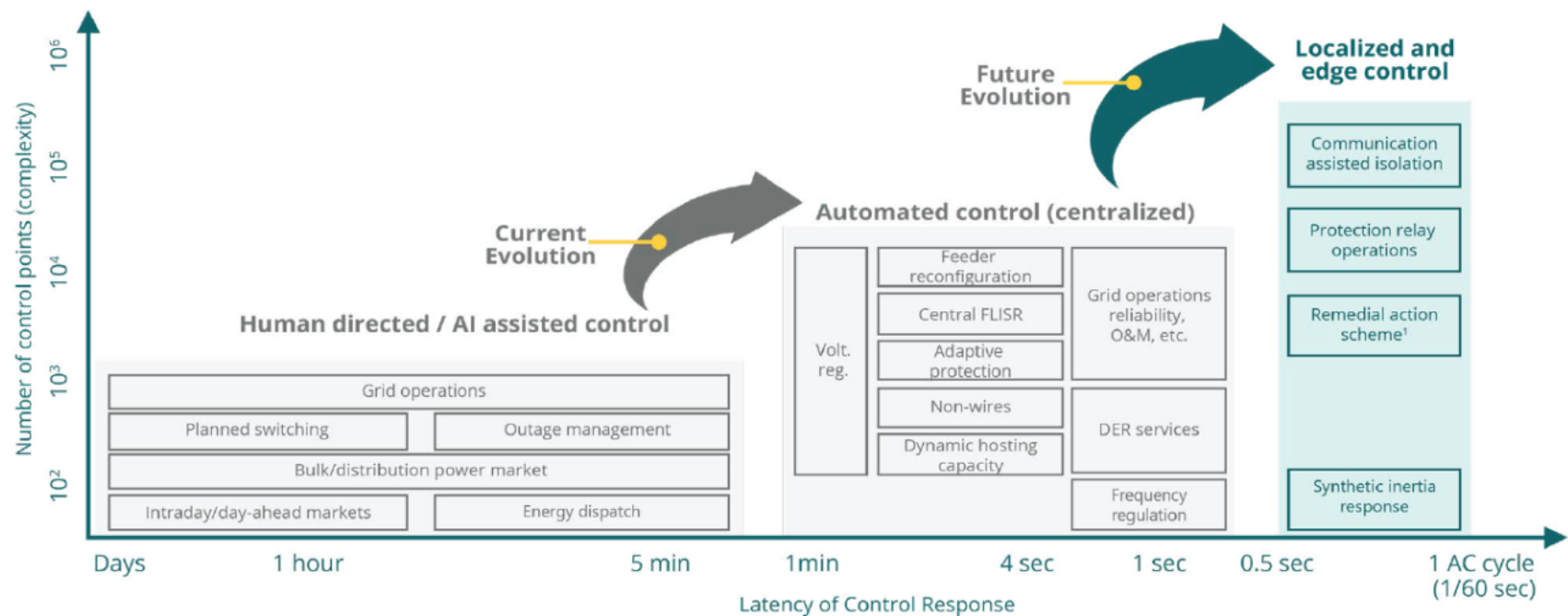



Figure 6: Evolution of grid control requirements

Smart Grid Roadmap of PT.PLN, Indonesia

			
		2021-2025	2026 →
Purposes		Reliability, efficiency, customer experience and grid productivity	Resiliency, customer engagement, sustainability and self healing
Main Initiatives		Power plant Digitalization for improving efficiency Sub-Station Automation and Digitalization selectively for improving power quality Distribution Grid Management for improving reliability and faster respond EV Charging Station and e-mobility for EV ecosystem development Smart Micro Grid for increasing RE penetration and decreasing LCOE at some isolated areas AMI implementation by clustering approach	Upgrading SCADA to Wide Area Monitoring, Protection and Controlling System (WAMPAC) for improving the system resiliency Interconnecting Distributed Energy Resources to the grid Integrating Energy Storage for VRE penetration and system stability Implementing Dynamic Line Rating for improving the system resiliency and self healing capability Demand response for customer engagement to increase the system efficiency

Smart Grid Roadmap of PT.PLN, Indonesia



Initiative 1: Power plant Digitalization

Program	Sub-Program	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Roll out Advanced Analytics	Plant Heat Balance Monitoring dashboard	16	16	10	10	10
	Performance Index & Forecast dashboard	16	16	13	13	13
	Combustion Optimization Monitoring dashboard	9	9	7	7	7
	Plant Heat Balance & Combustion Optimization	10	10	7	7	7
Digital Control Room	-	18	17	1	1	1
Digitized O&M Procedure	-	18	17	7	7	7
Productivity through IoT/Automation	-	13	12	7	7	7
Predictive / Proactive Maintenance	-	13	10	7	7	7

Source: PLN (2020)

Smart Grid Roadmap of PT.PLN, Indonesia



Initiative 3: Grid Distribution Management

Program	Indicator	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Distribution Automation for Zero Down Time Program	Unit PLN	5	15	20	25	25
Real-Time Losses Monitoring	Power plant	23	120	120	120	120
	Sub-Station	41	511	512	512	512
	Feeder	320	1885	1885	1885	1885
	Distribution Transformer	15.225	142.150	142.150	142.150	142.150
Fault Detection and Automation	Unit PLN		10	27	39	50

Digital Transformation Roadmap for CEB

The key elements of digital transformation roadmap of CEB includes

- **Development and implementation of Information Technology Roadmap of CEB**
- Development and Implementation of Enterprise Resource Planning System for the CEB.
- Upgrading of the existing Grid as a Smart Grid in CEB



Upgrading of the existing Grid as a Smart Grid in CEB

- Upgrading of Distribution Grid as Smart Grid
- Upgrading of Transmission Grid as Smart Grid



Upgrading Distribution Grid as a Smart Grid

- Roadmap for Advanced Metering Infrastructure (Smart Metering)
- Roadmap for Implementation of Advanced Distribution Management System with Outage Management Systems (ADMS - DMS)
- Roadmap for Implementation of Geographical Information System
- Implementation Plan for Home Area Network
- Implementation Plan for V to G and G to V



Roadmap for deployment of Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) for CEB

- AMI Projects for Areas
- AMI Project for Bulk Supplies in the CEB
- AMI Project for Power Quality Management
- AMI for Distribution Transformer Monitoring System



Advanced Distribution Management System with SCADA and DMS

- From a SCADA Control Center, operators can control the distribution network efficiently and effectively. DMS is a collection of application design to monitor and control entire distribution network efficiently and reliably.
- DMS functions are:
 - Network Visualization and Support Tools
 - Applications for Analytical and Remedial Actions
 - Utility Planning Tools
 - System Protection Schemes



ADMS current status

- **DD1**
- Colombo City has commissioned a SCADA operated ADMS in the year 2009
- Another three Control Centers are established and operated at present in North Western Province (at Kuliyaipitiya), North Central Province (at Anuradhapura) and Northern Province (at Chunnakam) to monitor and control the overhead distribution network.
- **DD2**
- Western North
- Central / Eastern
- **DD3**
- All 03 Provinces
- **DD4**
- Not at present

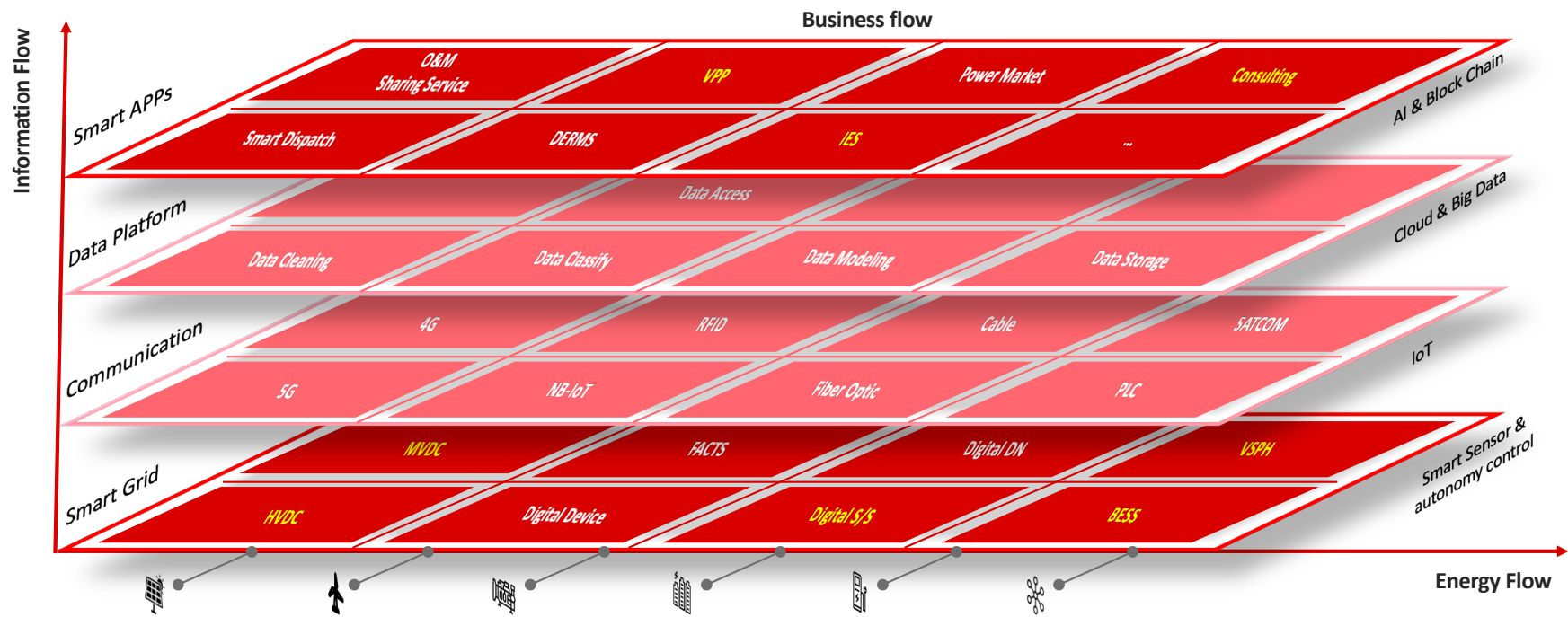


Digitalization Initiatives in Utilities in Bangladesh

- 1) Implementation of ERP in the Utilities
- 2) Online Applications for Electricity Connections
- 3) Online and Mobile Payment for Electricity Bills
- 4) Online Complaint Management System
- 5) Electronic File Management and Approval (e-Nothi)
- 6) Annual Development Program Monitoring
- 7) e-Learning Platform
- 8) Personnel Management Information System(PMIS)
- 9) Video Conferencing for Meetings
- 10) e-Tendering System
- 11) Audit Management
- 12) Law Suit Case Management System
- 13) Conversion of Power Sector Offices into Paperless Offices

ABB Digital Power Grid Strategy

Highly integrated flow of energy, information & business app. for a
Green, Reliable, Efficient and Economical Energy Eco-System



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Backup Slides

Market Opportunities enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

1. Customer Data

- Digital data can be shared easily: removes spatial and inter-domain barriers
- Cross-pollination over several sectors

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ Share with Service Providers in other Domains: Water and City Gas Distribution, Municipal Agencies, Renewable Energy Development Agencies
- ✓ Large aggregation allows for better and more integration of renewables into the grid on the supply side and more effective Demand Response tools on the demand side
- ✓ **Big data analytics** can use power system data for various cross sectoral themes - environment, lifestyles, wealth, health, etc
- ✓ Analytics **both real-time and non real-time from remote - equipment, systems, O&M**
- ✓ The use of **AI** and **m2m** communications to determine optimal energy use, lifestyle comfort, energy efficiency

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

2. Billing and Collection System

- State of the art Billing and Collection Systems deployed in utilities cover all customers (residents in the service area) and are capable of extending to other smart city domains
- Customers would love to settle all utility services (electricity, water, gas) in one bill

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ Extension of the billing and collection system to water and city gas distribution, house tax collection, other municipal/city taxes
- ✓ Can even be extended to other service providers such as cable TV, internet, telephone, etc in semi-urban and rural areas
- ✓ Considerable savings in **cost of doing business** to other domain owners
- ✓ Additional **revenue stream** for electric utilities

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

3. AMI Data and Energy Consumption Profile

- AMI data is an invaluable resource on energy consumption profile of millions of customers
- Could help better estimation of demand leading to savings in power purchase cost

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ Sharing of AMI data with a variety of Industry players for development of innovative applications and services
- ✓ Authentic load research for many stakeholders in the sector
- ✓ New revenue stream for distribution utilities

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

4. GIS Maps

- All electrical assets (medium voltage and low voltage lines, substations) and consumers are mapped on a digital map and the Utilities update this system on regular basis to capture changes/addition to the electrical network as well as new consumers/buildings
- This digital map can be effectively used by other infrastructure services providers for planning as well as operation and maintenance of their systems
- Very useful for planning the laying of water supply and sewerage lines, telecom cables, gas pipe lines etc; also useful for planning of road networks

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ Share the maps with other stakeholders in a city for a modest fee

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

5. Automation Systems - SCADA/DMS, DA and SA, DR, DERMS

- Field infrastructure and dedicated communication bandwidth of automation systems can be shared with other infrastructure domains
- Latest trend is building own communication networks by utilities

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ **Common SCADA** with water and gas distribution utilities
- ✓ Sharing the **communication infrastructure** for security cameras, traffic cameras and other smart city applications
- ✓ Communication network can be leased to telecom operators

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

6. Outage Management System (OMS) and Mobile Workforce Management System (MWFM)

- OMS and MWFM are very powerful platforms that can be shared with other infrastructure and services providers

The Market Opportunities

- ✓ Revenue from sharing the OMS and MWFM with water and gas distribution agencies, white goods services agencies, other city service providers

New Market Opportunities Enabled by Digitalization of Utilities

7. Call Centers and Call Data Archives

- Customer Care Centers, Call Centers, Chatbots and Voice Bots of electric utilities are very valuable assets in a city/country
- In India electric utilities have 4 digit common numbers (1912) all across the country
- The incoming calls (on single number) can be diverted to the respective teams responsible for each domain and their crew
- The IT and communication infrastructure and cost can be optimized to a great extent

The Market Opportunities

- Revenue from sharing the Customer Care Centers, Call Centers, Chatbots and Voice Bots with other stakeholders
- **Analytics of data** from the customer calls and interactions with Chatbots and Voice Bots can be useful tools for different stakeholders to optimize their business operations
- Call Centers of electric utilities can be made **City Command and Control Centers** at marginal cost