

- Report : **Cyber Maturity in the Asia Pacific Region 2017**
- Release Date : December 2017
- Countries Covered : 25 countries in the Asia-Pacific region (2017)
- Frequency : Annual (this is the 4th report issued)
- Producer : Australian Strategic Policy Institute
- Description : The [Cyber Maturity in the Asia–Pacific Region Report](#) is the flagship annual publication of the Australian Strategic Policy Institute (ASPI) International Cyber Policy Centre. This report assesses the national approach of Asia–Pacific countries to the challenges and opportunities of cyberspace, taking a holistic approach that assesses governance and legislation, law enforcement, military capacity and policy involvement, and business and social engagement in cyber policy and security issues.
- Highlights : In the 2017 report, the Philippines improved its score/value from 41.6 in 2016 to 49.9 in 2017, however its ranking decreased from rank 14 to rank 15 (down by one rank). This may be due to other countries’ performance surpassing the Philippines.
- According to the 2017 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report¹, the number of participating countries were updated from 23 in 2016 to 25 in 2017 (with the addition of Vanuatu and Taiwan)². The United States of America takes the top spot followed by Australia in 2017 with a score of 90.8 and 88.0 respectively.

Table 1. 2017 Cyber Maturity Ranking and its Weighted Scores

Rank	Country	Weighted score
1	United States of America	90.8
2	Australia	88.0
2	Japan	88.0
4	Singapore	87.7
5	South Korea	86.8
6	New Zealand	82.0
7	Malaysia	73.2

¹https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/2017-12/ASPI%20Cyber%20Maturity%202017_AccPDF_FA_opt.pdf?hDv5_AxfVWgwCA_q8it1_H1wkH_HwZjb

²https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/2017-12/ASPI%20Cyber%20Maturity%202017_AccPDF_FA_opt.pdf?hDv5_AxfVWgwCA_q8it1_H1wkH_HwZjb, p. 11

8	China	70.2
9	Taiwan	56.9
10	India	55.8
11	Brunei	54.7
12	Indonesia	54.3
13	Thailand	54.0
14	Vietnam	53.6
15	Philippines	49.9
16	Cambodia	36.2
17	Vanuatu	35.2
18	Bangladesh	33.1
19	Laos	30.3
19	Pakistan	30.3
21	Myanmar	29.9
22	Fiji	28.5
23	Papua New Guinea	23.6
24	North Korea	17.3
25	Solomon Islands	13.8

Figure 1. Philippine Cyber Maturity Ranking



: Comparison to ASEAN

Among the ASEAN member states, Singapore was the leading country in 2017, followed by Malaysia and Brunei Darussalam. Although the Global ranking of the Philippines went down by 1 spot, its ASEAN ranking remained at rank 7 outperforming Cambodia, Laos, and Myanmar for both years.

Table 2. ASEAN Cyber Maturity Ranking

Economy	ASEAN Rank 2016	Score 2016	ASEAN Rank 2017	Score 2017
Singapore	1	80.2	1	87.7
Malaysia	2	67.7	2	73.2
Brunei Darussalam	6	42.8	3	54.7
Indonesia	5	47.4	4	54.3
Thailand	3	52.7	5	54.0
Viet Nam	4	48.1	6	53.6
Philippines	7	41.6	7	49.9
Cambodia	8	30.0	8	36.2
Laos	10	21.3	9	30.3

Myanmar	9	28.1	10	29.9
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The Philippines improved its score in the indicators on: Organisational structure, International engagement and CERTs. For the other key indicators the score remained the same for both years. (2017 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report page 66-68).

There is room to improve the country's score of "3" in implementing the cyber maturity engagement in the military sector. The relative low score is attributed to the lack of policy available from the AFP and the lack of workforce. On the other hand, there have been announcements from the military sector that a Cyberspace Strategic Plan is being developed, which will be available in late 2017. (2017 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report page 66-68).

Table 2. Philippine Cyber Maturity Key Indicators

Topics	Key Indicators	2016 Score	2017 Score	2017 Engagement Opportunities
Governance	Organisational structure	5	6	Engagement and Development - Government exhibits some organisational structure, suggesting clear concern about cyber issues.
	Legislation / regulation	6	6	Engagement and Development - Country has legislative or regulatory planning, but faces clear challenges in implementation, enforcement, or both.
	International engagement	5	6	Engagement and Development - Some opportunity for mainly bilateral engagement on cyber issues on a political level.
	CERTs	0	3	Engagement and Development - Non-engaged national CERT team present
Cybercrime	Financial crime	6	6	Engagement and Development - Financial crime laws are partially enforced, or enforced

				domestically with limited international engagement.
Military	Military role in cyberspace	3	3	Mature Engagement - Clear military engagement with cyber issues.
Digital economy and business	Govt–business dialogue	4	4	Development - Little or no government– business dialogue.
	Digital economy	5	5	Engagement and Development - Digital economy is a growth area.
Social engagement	Public awareness	6	6	Engagement and Development - Some awareness of cyber issues, mainly limited to new media (blogs, social media).
	Fixed Internet connectivity	1	5	Engagement and Development - Some internet infrastructure available, often limited to urban areas.
	Mobile Internet connectivity	5		

Conclusion : Despite the decreased ranking of the Philippines from rank 14 to 15, the report cites that “[t]he Philippines has had a positive year of cybersecurity engagement” with specific mention of the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT), the Department of Justice Office of Cybercrime and the Philippines National Police Anti Cybercrime Group as the three entities “pursuing a more secure internet.” The Philippines has also re-established a CERT in late 2016 and has signed a trilateral agreement with Malaysia and Indonesia as a means “to stop the spread of online terrorist propaganda.” Further, the report cites the Philippines as having made efforts to increase its education programs on cybersecurity and is recognized as having a promising digital economy.

The report also recognizes the National Cybersecurity Plan 2022, focusing on critical infrastructure, cyber resilience and law enforcement coordination, and the National Broadband Plan, as important milestones in the country’s initiatives towards cybersecurity. The report also cites international collaborative efforts of the Office of Cybercrime to prevent and prosecute cybercrime. (2017 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report page 66-68)

Sources:

2014 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report -

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/import/ASPI_cyber_maturity_2014.pdf?mG42nqbEVxM07RM8eXG.NWDH1zswV_x5

2015 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report -

<https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/import/Cyber-Maturity-2015.pdf?8LREB4d2DiwQJ9ImxgwVVHuSr9c0473P>

2016 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report -

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/import/ASPI-Cyber-Maturity-2016.pdf?rL6DRSNr06xET_00EycZuhHj_54SLbC1

2017 Cyber Maturity in the Asia-Pacific Region Report -

https://s3-ap-southeast-2.amazonaws.com/ad-aspi/2017-12/ASPI%20Cyber%20Maturity%202017_AccPDF_FA_opt.pdf?hDv5_AxfVWgwCA_q8it1_H1wkH_HwZjb