

# Chapter 14

## Towards a SDG Compliant Framework for the Open Learning Modules: Experiences From Thailand and Philippines

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The implement-ability of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) depend on effective Project Planning, Development & Management (PPD&M). This applied research bases on the extensive possibilities for open learning modules via distance education. The two-fold research gap addressed are content and delivery. Participants need a SDG-embedded Project Planning, Development and Management offering. This curriculum redesign initiative is in line with the book's aim to disseminate, sustain and continuously improve content and practice incorporating new tools, insights, methods, necessary for proper implementation of the SDGs. The re-designed content emphasizes the ability to inter-relate through appropriate tool-sets on challenges, priorities, themes, sectors in the project development management domain. Complex developmental concerns are best served when the participant deploys the right combination of tools. Need for re-look at the evaluation system is highlighted with an interesting proposal to engage PPD&M alumni for continuous improvement on SDG-led growth.*

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## INTRODUCTION

### The Basic Concept of PPD&M

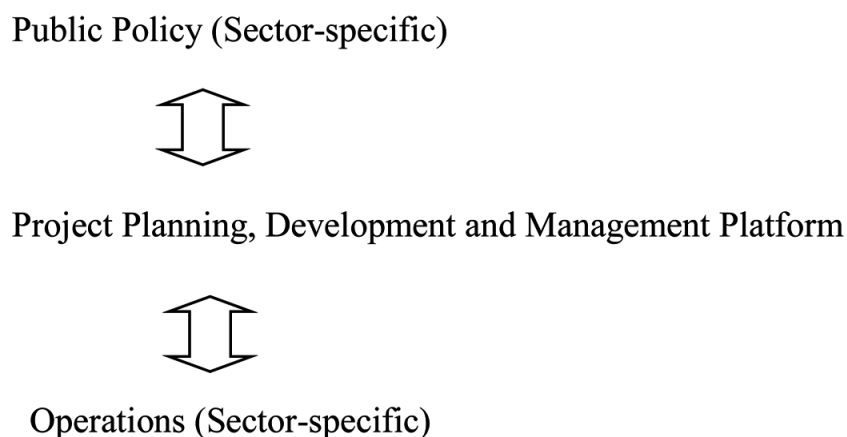
Open Learning Systems (OLS) may be more potent when plugged onto the implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Open Learning Systems can harness the benefits of proper planning, sustainable development as well as evaluative development, when integrated with Project, Planning, Development and Management (PPD&M). Information Systems and Communications Technology has attained disruptive proportions (Peppard, J. and Ward, J. 2016). Challenges arising out of climate change, environmental degradation and stresses on societies, have reset the focus on implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (Graves, 2016). The online content-set that served in the past, need ‘re-engineering’ for the future. The PPD&M linked OLS framework (Figure 1) initiates with appropriate, sector specific public policy domain. PPD&M is a basic link that deciphers public policy to sector specific operations. For instance private – public partnerships, skills-assessment for infrastructure, agriculture based vocations, among others.

## RATIONALE

Project Planning Development and Management (PPD&M) is core to the design of Open Learning modules, as it enables the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through applied research and capacity building (Figure 2). Policy, processes, academe plays a seminal role wherein, budgeting, planning and evaluation evolves into an integrated Paradigm 4.0 (Trairatanasirichai, December, 2016).

Figure 2 graphically articulates the linking framework Education drives Value-based economy that evokes innovation through Smart Farmer & Smart Startup man-power skill upgrade initiatives, that strengthens the foundation of a country’s on self-reliance, as well as inculcates spirit of sharing. Over-arching requirement for (i) human resource development, (ii) research for innovations, argues in favor of the concept of Universities 4.0. This chapter, probes into Thailand and Philippines, when the emerg-

*Figure 1. Project planning development and management (PPD&M) linked open learning systems (OLS) framework*



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