

# Problems to be settled down in IT field in PALAU

## 1. Organization and systems in government administration in IT field

We don't need to follow the organization style of such big scale nations as US and Japan.

We can reform them into small scale one manageable with limited budget and limited human resources.

## 2. Palauan human resources with professional IT skills

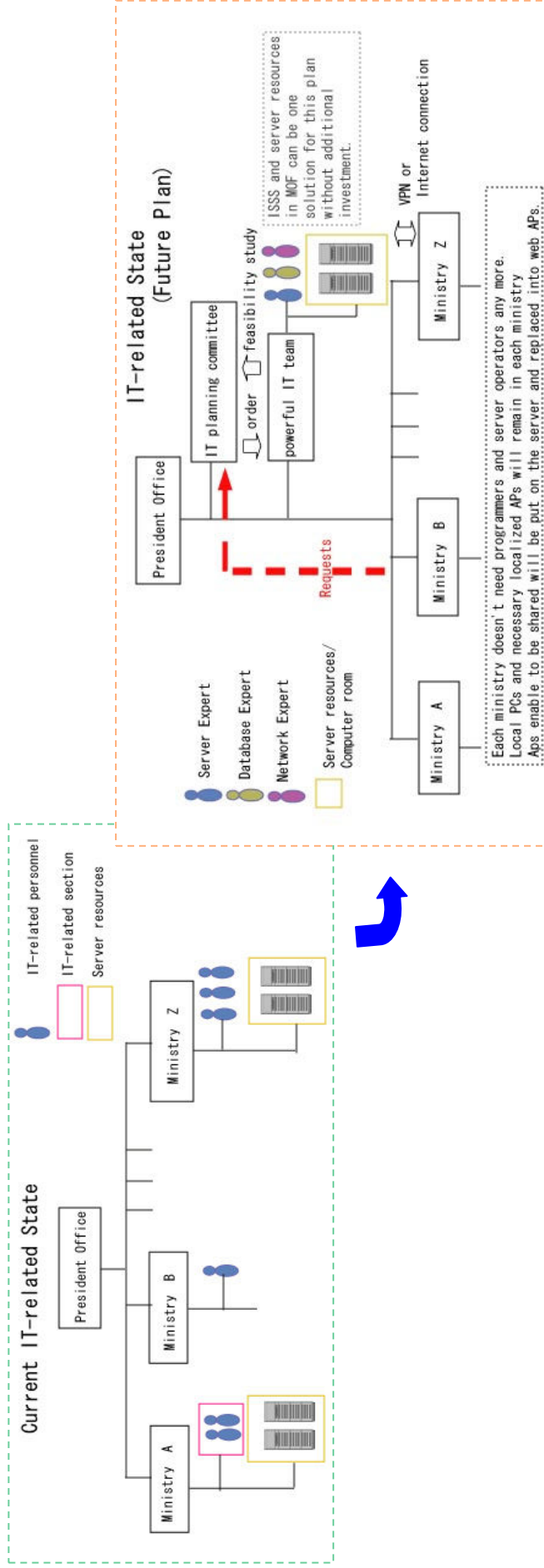
Palau must raise up Palauan IT professionals in order to prepare when we can't expect any aids from developed countries. IT fields can have possibility to be key industries in Palau with comparatively a little natural resources and capital investment.

## Organization and systems in government administration in IT field

As for the first problem, we don't need to have IT section in each ministry in government sector.

If we may have a team with skillful IT professionals, 5 to 10 members with specialized skill in IT fields such as DB specialist, Network specialist and so on, then we can expect to respond to all requests from ministries in Palau, and each ministry may not need to have IT section and be free from IT related investment to develop ministry's own application systems.

This IT team may not belong to any ministry but can accept any request from ministries through one committee shown below.

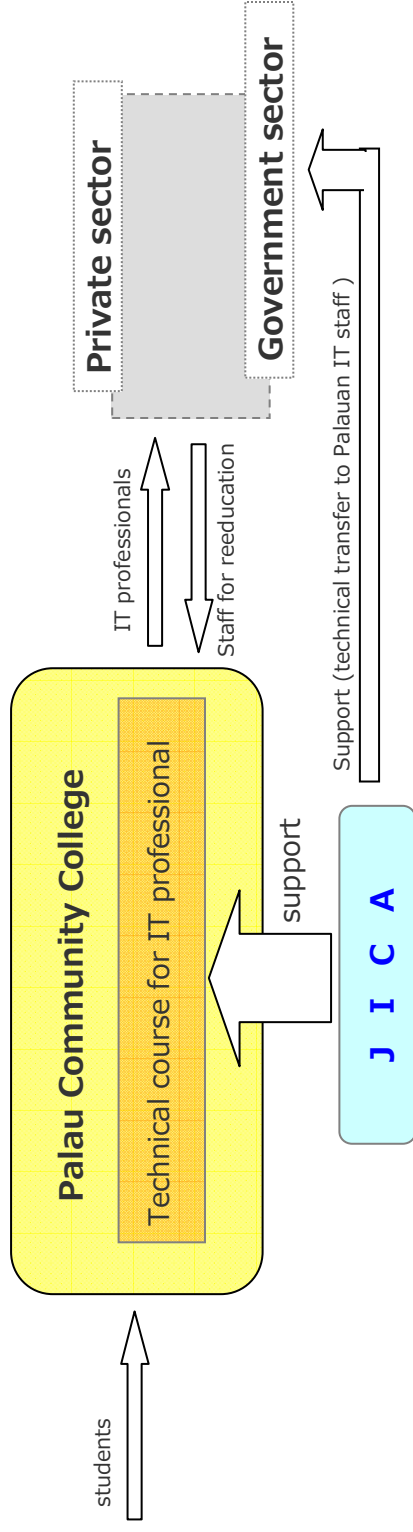


## Palauan human resources with professional IT skills

In Palau, JICA volunteers in IT fields are assigned to ministries and have common problem now, that is, they can't find any target personnel for technical transfer. We can point out two reasons for it. One is that IT related cost is always indirect cost, so with limited budget in Palau each ministry can't have enough budget for IT related matters. And other is that there are very few personnel with IT basic skill suitable for technical transfer.

Several ministries have their own IT resources such as servers, client PCs and application systems on them. Now, in almost all cases, each ministry doesn't care how to keep these IT resources in good condition. But, in several years, we may need much more effort to keep and maintain them. And we may not expect other developed countries of enough financial and human support.

For preparing for such situation shown above, we need our own IT professionals, which means Palauan IT professionals. And Palau Community College (PCC) is only one institution in Palau available for this purpose.



JICA and JICA volunteers in IT fields are willing to support to accomplish this purpose. JICA may suggest that PCC can found a technical course for raising up Palauan IT professionals with JICA volunteers' support. Not only young students but highly motivated staffs in government or private sector can join this course to get knowledge and experience to bring them back to their jobs.

With reform in government organization style shown in previous page, this technical course must be the best supplier of Palauan IT professionals. In addition, this course can be a cradle for Palauan entrepreneur in IT venture business. IT fields can be a key industry in such country as Palau where we don't have natural resources and can't invest enough in plant and equipment.