



ATENEO DE MANILA UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCES
Development Studies Program



UNIID-SEA
Universities and Councils Network on Innovation
for Inclusive Development in Southeast Asia

The IHOPE Project: Facilitating Deliberative Democracy through Enhanced Electoral Systems

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The IHOPE Project Proponents

King Prajadhipok's Institute (KPI)

<http://www.kpi.ac.th/en/>

An independent, academic, public organization under the supervision of Thailand's National Assembly. The Institute undertakes academic research, trainings, and seminars to disseminate information on the development of democracy and governance, and works with local, foreign, and international agencies to help promote and create sustainable democracies.

Ateneo Development Studies Program

<http://ateneo.edu/ls/soss/development-studies>

The undergraduate Development Studies Program of the Loyola Schools of Ateneo de Manila. Trains students in a variety of development approaches (including Social Innovation, Community Development, Social Change Management, Development Finance, Humanitarian Aid) to be able to tackle complex social issues, and manage development initiatives and interventions.

UNIID-SEA Inc. <http://uniid-sea.net>

A regional network organization of higher education and research institutions in ASEAN based in the Philippines. Partners with the public and private sectors to pioneer base of the pyramid (BOP)-centric intervention and innovation, and enable inclusive problem-solving and development in ASEAN communities.

THE IHOPE PROJECT:

A response to Democracies under Siege

CONTEXT: *“Democratic recession” around the world.*

A. Ideological/ structural backsliding

- Democratic institutions under attack: Dwindling public trust and approval. (e.g., SC Quo Warranto decision, ongoing electoral protest of Bongbong Marcos)
- Liberal democracy undermined: Rights and liberties that ensure freedom of thought and expression, protection of the rule of law, and all the protections for the substructure of civil society.
- Meritocratic authoritarianism as an alternative to Western-style democracy: Trade off between liberty/equality and effective governance. (e.g., Singapore, People’s Republic of China)

THE IHOPE PROJECT:

A response to Democracies under Siege

CONTEXT: *"Democratic recession" around the world.*

B. Rise of Populism due to growing public discontent

- Populism as backlash against political elites: Authenticity of public representation put in question. Unexpected election results turned in by disillusioned citizens. (e.g., Duterte, Trump)
- "Manufactured will" as by-product of political competition: Competitive elections and referenda increasingly depending on commercial advertising techniques and social media to manipulate public opinion and mobilize voters. (e.g., Brexit, Cambridge Analytica, Federalism campaign)

The IHOPE Project: Facilitating Deliberative Democracy

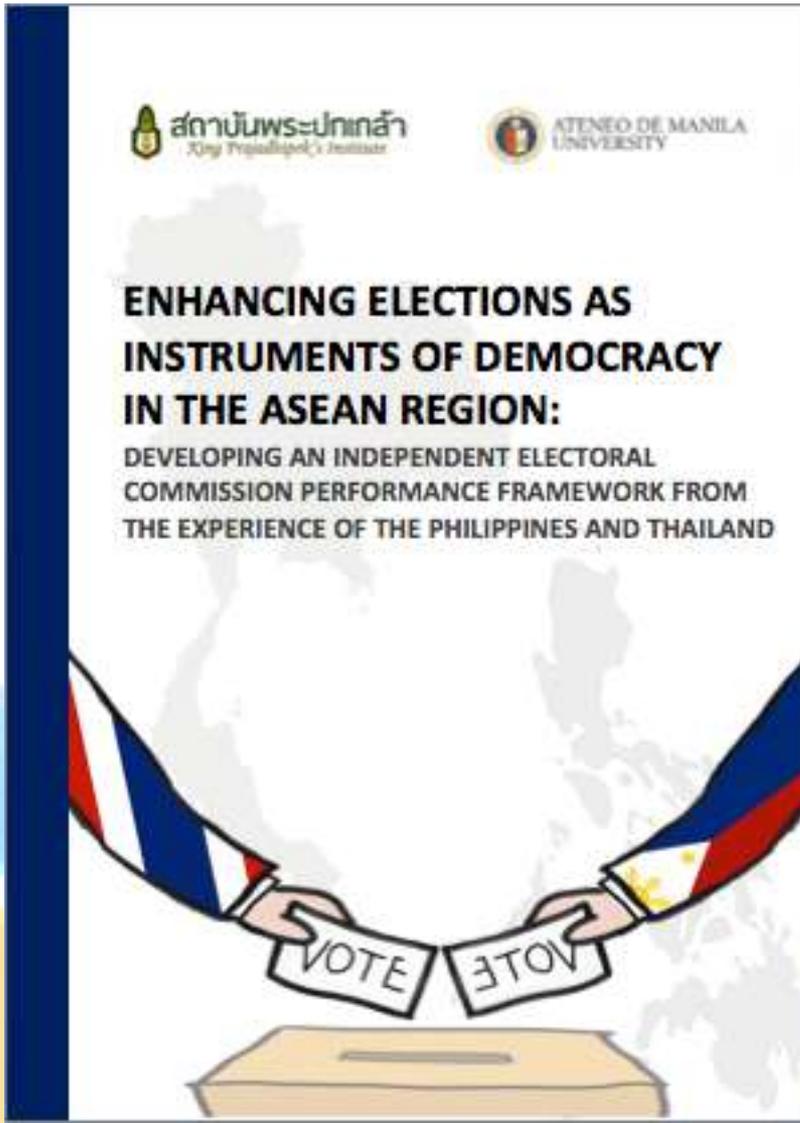
ARGUMENT: If current democracies cannot produce **meaningful processes of public will formation**, the claims of meritocratic autocracies will only become stronger.

Based on *greater deliberation among the public and its representatives both in and outside of government*,

providing **facilitative, context-sensitive venues and platforms for Deliberative Democracy (i.e., mini-publics)** has the potential to address today's challenges:

- *Induce "democratic deepening".*
- *Provide for more authentic public will formation and representation.*
- *Provide real links between public will, officeholders,*
 - *and public policy.*

PHASE 1, Development of Performance Indicators for Independent Electoral Commissions (IECs)

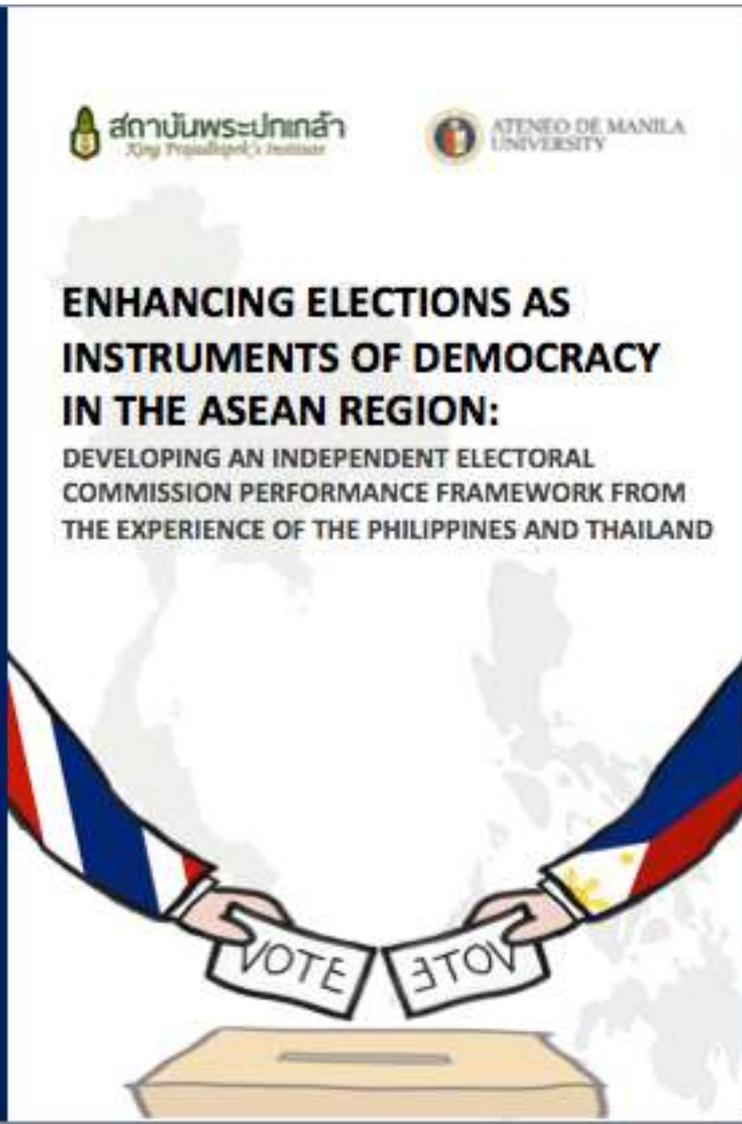


The IHOPE Performance Assessment Model was an enhancement and expansion of Comelec's internal performance assessment framework (COMSTRAT 2011-2016).

PHASE 1, Development of Performance Indicators for Independent Electoral Commissions (IECs)

GENERAL FINDINGS:

- 1) Comelec's assessment framework was designed for assess internal admin processes and targets only.
- 2) Electoral performance is not an exclusive responsibility of Comelec.
- 3) Need to engage external actors, especially registered voters, in efforts to assess and also improve electoral performance.



Phase 2, The IHOPE Project: Modeling of a General Electoral Assessment Methodology and Tool

Deliberation is the *"talk-centric"* aspect of democracy based on the ability of those subject to collective decisions (i.e. citizens) to engage in **AUTHENTIC, INCLUSIVE** and **CONSEQUENTIAL DELIBERATION** of sociopolitical decisions.

The prototype IHOPE model of electoral assessment was designed to be a first step towards facilitating **INDIVIDUAL AND COLLECTIVE ASSESSMENTS, face-to-face and online**, of:

- a) The overall political context in which the electoral system is embedded, and different electoral/political actors operate (Macro Level)
- b) The electoral system, overseen by a national electoral commission (COMELEC), involving other key agencies and citizen groups.

The IHOPE Assessment Model

Ten Pillars of Inclusive, Honest, Orderly, and Peaceful Elections

Pillar 1: Electoral Climate

Pillar 2: Electoral Process Management

Pillar 3: Fair Officiating

Pillar 4: Voters and Voting

Pillar 5: Electoral Results

Pillar 6: Election Monitoring and Evaluation

Pillar 7: Mass Media, Academe, and Think Tanks

Pillar 8: Political Parties and Candidates

Pillar 9: Programs of Government

Pillar 10: Campaign Resources

The IHOPE Assessment Model

Current design of the IHOPE Assessment Tool:

- 1) Intended for **simple, qualitative public assessment** of the electoral system, its context, and elements.
- 2) Requires **organizational resources, facilitation capacities** (for FGDs), and **data management** (for online data gathering).
- 3) Still a **prototype tool** that needs further public testing, and can be customized based on the intended users/respondents.



Thank you.