

# The Strategist

## Role playing software to challenge your students

A simulation, a game, a program designed for education, designed to be used in schools.

- *Strategic Planning - You plan, choose and make decisions*
- *A simulation – Events and decisions outside of your control are generated based on real world calculations*
- *A game – It's competitive you can better your own results or compete with others individually or as a team.*

Useful for **Economics, Social Science, Government & History**

*How do countries develop?*

*What decisions can be made?*

*What decisions have to be made?*

*What effects those decisions?*



The Strategist is a decision making simulation where players choose and implement a range of development strategies for a hypothetical country called BAGAMIE. The strategies are grouped into 4 categories; Agriculture, Industry, Population Planning and Infrastructure.

The game is played over a 10 year time period with annual budgets. Development budgets after the first

year are based on the success of previous strategies. A random series of news events influences each year's success. A timer is constantly running reminding the player that funds have to be spent on time. You can change your mind during the year but not after a new year has begun.

Success is measured on a development index which takes into account material and non-material improvements in living standards. This development index is updated at the end of each year. A summary and rating of performance is provided at the end of the game.

Characteristics and features of developing countries are discussed in texts on Economic Development, some understanding of these factors will assist in your decision making while developing BAGAMIE.

You should also consider the type of government that is in power and make decisions based on that assumption. There is no option that relates to the type of government but the decisions you make would be quite different if you assumed a dictatorial government that would back any decision you were to make, versus a closely elected democracy where you have to consider election backlashes.

### **Background Information**

Size: 228,000 sq kilometres - about the size of Victoria, Australia. Bagamie is larger than Nicaragua, Greece, Nepal, Tajikistan, Bangladesh, Tunisia, Uruguay, Cambodia, Syria or Oman but slightly smaller than Uganda, Laos, Romania, Ghana, New Zealand, Philippines, Italy or Poland.

Population: 21 million.

A large proportion of the population live close to or below the poverty line. Basic infrastructure is in place and pockets of development have been successful and there are known untapped resources. The capital city is overloaded. The newcomers cannot find employment and live in shanty type housing on the edge of the city. Most land still lies in the hands of a few wealthy landholders so that



most workers are tenants and earn limited wages while the profits go to the landholders. A lack of capital has prevented extensive development of industry. The market system is poorly regulated.

This program provides you with an opportunity to get students thinking and is a program you can use from Year 8 to Year 12 .

To purchase, email a

purchase order to [orders@cottonsoft.com.au](mailto:orders@cottonsoft.com.au)

Purchase includes a site licence for one campus at your school. It includes the right to install the program on all computers at your school and for students to install the program on their personal computers to use at home.

**Cost \$595** (Invoice is sent with program)