

UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANISATION

1. Describe your country's/agency's overall strategy or approach in using ICT for Development

a) Overall strategy

Through the Information for All Programme (IFAP), UNESCO has developed a strategy to ensure access to information and knowledge in the key areas of education, science, culture and communication as the foundation to enhancing human capacity development, knowledge creation and empowerment as basic human rights.

b) Guiding principles for use of ICT for development

UNESCO seeks to reduce the digital divide by building an equitable information society based on a better understanding of the ethical, legal and societal consequences of ICTs and improved access to information for sustainable development.

c) Objectives

The goals of IFAP are to promote international reflection and debate on the ethical, legal and societal challenges of the information society; promote and widen access to information in the public domain through the organization, digitization and preservation of information; support training, continuing education and lifelong learning in the fields of communication, information and informatics; support the production of local content and foster the availability of indigenous knowledge through basic literacy and ICT literacy training; promote the use of international standards and best practices in communication, information and informatics in UNESCO's fields of competence; promote information and knowledge networking at local, national, regional and international levels.

d) Areas of application

- Development of international, regional and national information policies;
- Development of human resources and capabilities for the information age;
- Strengthening institutions as gateways for information access;
- Development of information processing and management tools and systems;
- Enhanced use of ICTs for education, science, culture and communication.

e) References and web-links to any relevant strategy documents or guidelines

IFAP :

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=1627&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1045494414

ICTs and Education:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=2929&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=-465&reload=1045494753

Community initiatives:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=5341&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1045494753

World Summit on the Information Society:

http://portal.unesco.org/ci/ev.php?URL_ID=1543&URL_DO=DO_TOPIC&URL_SECTION=201&reload=1034079963

2. Identify the main modalities for ICT integration in your overall development strategy

a) Modalities for ICT integration and programme delivery

These are achieved through several modalities ranging from: the organization of conferences, workshops and expert group meetings; provision of advisory services, equipment and software including the creation of data bases, websites and virtual universities and toolkits; training programmes and training kits, local content development; networking of institutions and peoples; institutional capacity building; needs assessment surveys.

b) Partnership, including the private sector

These include but are not limited to UN specialized agencies, Members States, Non-governmental Organizations, donor agencies, Civil Society and a burgeoning cooperation with the private sector.

c) Participation, if any, in joint or multi-donor ICT for development programmes

UNESCO participates in the UN ICT Task Force designed to build universal interconnectivity and spread the benefits of the digital revolution through training, education and national capacity building. It also cooperates with national and international funding bodies through Funds-in-Trust agreements or other partnerships to achieve its goals.

d) Estimate of a global amount of funding with indications on the timeframe it covers

Biennial programme consisting of approximately US \$8,000,000 provided from the Organization's budget and US \$3,000,000 from external sources.

e) Lessons learned from your country's/agency's experience

f) Cases that are particularly illustrative/examples of best practices

Projects such as the 'Regional Academy for Advanced Network Administration and Design' (RAANAD) in Kiev and 'Regional Academy for Online Network Governance and System Administration (RAONGSA) have contributed to reinforcing capacities for the management and administration of research systems by providing a large number of participants from Central Asia and Eastern Europe with tailor-made training ICT courses. Special mention should also be made of initiatives for youth and rural communities through training in ICTs and increased access to information through collaborative participation in projects promoting sustainable development.

3. Describe the institutional arrangements made by your country/agency for mainstreaming ICT within its development strategy

a) Main agencies involved in ICT for development (e.g. development co-operation agency, ministries, research institutes)

UNESCO cooperates with a variety of partners such as UN agencies, governmental and Ministerial departments, information centres (libraries, archives), research institutions, universities.

b) The agencies' roles in the various stages (e.g. strategy, operations), development of policies and strategic planning, project implementation, funding

c) Contact details of your country's/agency's ICT for development focal point

4. Country/regional focus of the ICT-enhanced development strategy

a) General description of regional and country focus

UNESCO operates at the global level to build a knowledge society with emphasis on:

- Development of ICT strategies and content for the empowerment of rural and marginalized communities, with emphasis on youth where appropriate, to meet their own information, knowledge and communication requirements.
- gender and youth mainstreaming through discussion and project design and implementation to ensure a gender and youth perspective in policies.
- Use of ICTs for more equitable and pluralistic development in education, aiming to accelerate progress towards education for all and throughout life.

b) More detailed information on main recipients of your ICT-enhanced development strategy

The key priority areas are LDCs, Africa, youth and women to create an inclusive society. Special attention is paid to developing countries and marginalized groups.