Our Achievements

ITU’s E-Strategy team currently oversees a broad range of initiatives focused on addressing problems in the world’s most disadvantaged countries and regions.

Examples include a diverse range of e-Services initiatives in UN-designated Least Developed Countries (LDCs) in Africa and elsewhere, a project to build e-Commerce infrastructure in Venezuela, training in e-Security technologies in Pakistan, a project to address regional e-Applications policies in Egypt, initiatives to enhance the effectiveness of public services through e-Government infrastructure in Bulgaria, pan-regional efforts to foster development of e-Legislation in Latin America, the establishment of a new community Internet centre in Mauritania, regional and national telemedicine and MCT projects, and the establishment of e-Business platforms capable of meeting the needs of enterprises worldwide.

Other achievements to date include:

- Operational e-Application projects (e-Health, e-Commerce, e-Education and e-Government) in countries in Africa, Asia, Central America and Europe
- Policy guidance in the use of Internet protocol and e-Applications for Africa, the Arab region, Asia, Europe and Latin America
- A new e-Agriculture project in Kyrgyzstan comprising online access to commodity prices, collection and dissemination of agricultural information and a village telecentre
- Ongoing development and deployment of advanced online security systems, including digital authentication and biometrics systems, in several developing nations
- New legislation supporting ICT deployment in countries in Africa and Asia
- An extensive and ongoing global programme of hands-on training workshops and local and regional seminars designed to empower communities to take full advantage of the potential of new technologies

E-Strategy’s visionary approach, whereby the most modern technological solutions are deployed to address some of the longest-standing social and economic problems in chronically under-developed regions, earned the programme a Global Bangemann Challenge award and has attracted extensive media coverage.

Our Alliances

E-Strategy’s key partnerships include agreements and alliances with industry partners, funding organizations, governments and international organizations.

The programme is also actively supported by a growing number of players from the public and private sectors, who have directly assisted in the implementation of numerous projects and generously offered cash and in-kind contributions totalling multi-millions of dollars.

With a view to fostering further non-exclusive alliances, E-Strategy recently established the World e-Trust MoU, an inclusive, multi-lateral self-regulatory framework which has already gained the support of governments and industry in a large number of countries worldwide.

For more information on becoming an E-Strategy partner, sponsor or participating organization, please visit the E-Strategy website at www.itu.int/ITU-D/e-strategy.

Our Aims

E-Strategy is about bringing sustainable, affordable improvements to the daily lives of ordinary people. Using ICTs as a cost-effective distribution channel for a wide range of services, the programme targets concrete goals such as more efficient trading networks, more accessible communications, support for small business initiatives, good governance and better access to health and education.

E-Strategy is effective because it harnesses the power of new technologies to local communities’ own commitment to building a better future. By empowering individuals through ICTs, E-Strategy is providing a solid and sustainable platform for real social and economic development, ensuring people all around the world have the chance to take their place as fully-fledged citizens of the Information Society.

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E-Strategy empowers communities to develop their own ICT capacity and resources according to their individual needs.

ITU’s E-Strategy team is working closely with project coordinators in Africa, the Arab region, Asia, Eastern Europe and Latin America, offering technical and policy advice; developing shared MCT facilities, new ICT applications and ICT-friendly legal frameworks; fostering online trust and security; and promoting ICT literacy initiatives and public education programmes.

Using primarily in-house ITU expertise, the programme seeks to link the roll-out costs of new IP infrastructure with cost-effective, useful and affordable new e-Services to create a sustainable platform that not only empowers government, business and key sectors like health and education, but encourages their participation in developing new ICT resources.

E-Strategy projects are founded on four basic pillars:

- **Technology implementation**: fostering development of a wide range of technologies, from leading-edge IP infrastructure and MCTs to new applications in the areas of commerce, health, education, agriculture, government and online security
- **Capacity building**: enabling local people to develop and manage their own projects through effective human resources development
- **Policies and strategies**: helping governments draw up and implement policies and legislation conducive to stimulating ICT deployment and uptake
- **Partnerships/alliances**: bringing public and private sector partners together to develop projects that benefit all stakeholders, including the community at large

In consultation with governments, regional authorities and local communities throughout the developing world, ITU E-Strategy identified a number of target areas most able to benefit from the advantages offered by ICTs – agriculture, commerce, education, government and public administration, health services and online security. Priority activities in these areas include:

- Developing IP networks – both technical and policy assistance
- Implementing projects involving a wide range of ICT applications
- Improving access through shared community facilities and multipurpose platforms
- Enhancing knowledge through ICT literacy training and campaigns to promote awareness of the benefits of ICTs in day-to-day life
- Safeguarding online security and building confidence via advanced security and trust systems
- Formulating new legislation to break down current barriers to ICT penetration