



## **Announcement:**

### ***Intel to support ITU's Connect a School, Connect a Community Initiative***

On the occasion of the quadrennial *ITU World Telecommunication Development Conference* held from 24 May – 4 June 2010 in Hyderabad, India, and in response to an open call for partners by Mr Sami Al-Basheer, Director of the Telecommunication Development Bureau of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), Mr John Davies, Vice President of Sales and Marketing and General Manager of Intel World Ahead Program announced today that the company will provide 90 Intel-powered classmate PC design and up to 10,000 free licences for its [PC Basics courseware](#) to schools and their communities, including small businesses, participating in *Connect a School, Connect a Community* projects set to take place in three Sub-Saharan countries. The participating countries will be determined following expressions of interest over the coming few months.

Intel-powered classmate PCs are student-friendly netbooks with full PC functionality. Intel® PC Basics software helps users learn how to use basic computer applications. Intel is making available versions of PC Basics for students as well as small businesses.

*Connect a School, Connect a Community* is a public-private partnership launched by ITU to promote broadband Internet connectivity for schools in developing countries around the world. Why focus on schools? Because connected schools can provide ICT access and education both to children and youth as well as their communities, serving as community ICT centres for disadvantaged and vulnerable groups, including women and girls, indigenous peoples and persons with disabilities. Together with partners, these centres will leverage ICTs to improve the economic and social development of their communities by providing ICT-based training on basic life skills (language literacy, numeracy and basic ICT literacy) along with training that develops business and ICT-specialized skills.

The *Connect a School, Connect a Community* [online platform](#) provides a range of resources and promotes understanding and awareness among government decision makers, donors and partners on the need for coordinated policies, regulations and practices that promote school connectivity and community benefits. This includes assisting interested governments in developing their own national school connectivity plans.