



GKP, UNDP, SDC

Invite you to an interactive roundtable

Enhancing access and the development impact of ICT: Policy Challenges, Options and Innovations

Wednesday, November 16, 2005, 2:00- 3:30 p.m.

Kairouan Room

Opening Remarks: Mr. Walter Fust, Director-General, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation; Chair, Global Knowledge Partnership, Executive Committee

Chair: Mr. Francis Dubois, UN Resident Coordinator & UNDP Resident Representative Tunisia

Moderator: David Souter, Managing Director, ICT Development Associates Ltd

Roundtable Participants

- ✚ Dr. Abdelwahab, Senior Advisor to the Minister of State for Administrative Development, Egypt.
- ✚ Ms. Namrata Bali, General Secretary, SEWA (Self-Employed Women's Association) India
- ✚ Ms. Anita Gurumurthy, Founder member, IT for Change, India
- ✚ Ms. Gilda Odera, Skyweb Technologies, Kenya & Finalist, Award for Top ICT Business Woman in Africa
- ✚ Mr. Russell Southwood, Founder, Balancing Act
- ✚ Mr. Ivar Tallo, head of E-governance Academy & former Member of Parliament, Estonia
- ✚ Time permitting: discussants from civil society, private sector & development cooperation

Realizing a development-rich and inclusive information society is a major objective at global fora such as WSIS as well as at the national level. To date, many countries have faced challenges in securing broad-based access and in deploying of ICT to achieve national development objectives, such as poverty reduction, service delivery and participatory development. However, emerging approaches to policy, organizing, and technology innovation that suggest that these challenges can be more effectively addressed, sooner rather than later. The objective of the panel is to foster an action-oriented focus, identify critical challenges and consider promising policy options and priorities as well to explore approaches for more effectively addressing the needs of bottom-of-the-pyramid populations.

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