



**Joint UNCTAD – ITU – UNESCAP Regional Workshop on
Information Society Measurements in Asia-Pacific**

Bangkok, 26-28 July 2006

ESCAP, United Nations

Organized jointly by:

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP)

International Telecommunications Union (ITU)



1. Background

ICT statistics and indicators are crucial for formulating policies and strategies concerning ICT-driven or ICT-enabled growth, for social inclusion and cohesion, and for monitoring and evaluating ICT-related economic and social developments. They help companies take the right investment and business decisions and allow developing countries to benchmark their information economies against those of other countries, both developed and developing. They also contribute to documenting the impact of different technologies in achieving internationally agreed goals such as the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

But only few countries collect official statistics on the information society, and most of the available data and indicators are not internationally comparable. Some national statistical agencies have started to compile data on ICT use, but much remains to be done. Therefore, the international community has taken a number of steps to enhance the availability of comparable ICT data and indicators.

An international, multi-stakeholder *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development* was launched during UNCTAD XI in June 2004. Current partners include the ITU, the OECD, UNCTAD, UNESCO Institute for Statistics, the UN Regional Commissions (ECLAC, ESCWA, ESCAP, and ECA), the UN ICT Task Force, the World Bank, and EUROSTAT.

The Partnership aims at:

- Achieving a common set of core ICT indicators, to be harmonized and agreed upon internationally, which will constitute the basis for a database on ICT statistics.
- Enhancing the capacities of NSO in developing countries and building competence to develop statistical compilation programmes on the information society, based on internationally agreed upon indicators.
- Developing a global database on ICT indicators, available online.

The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Geneva Plan of Action called upon all countries and regions to develop tools so as to provide statistical information on the information society, with comparable basic indicators and analysis of its key dimensions. The WSIS Tunis Agenda for the Information Society calls for periodic evaluation based on appropriate indicators and benchmarking, and using an agreed methodology, including that developed by the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development*. It furthermore invites the international community to strengthen the ICT-related statistical capacity of developing countries.

A WSIS thematic meeting was held in Geneva in February 2005 under the umbrella of the *Partnership*, where the first set of core ICT indicators was adopted. The "*Core ICT Indicators*" publication, which presents the indicators, definitions, model questions and suggestions on data collection for developing countries, has been launched during WSIS Tunis, in November 2005, as well as the publication "*Measuring ICT: The Global Status of ICT Indicators*", which presents the results of a stocktaking of statistical measurement of ICT in all countries.

2. Objectives and expected outcome

The Joint UNCTAD – ITU – UNESCAP Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurements in Asia-Pacific builds on the work by the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development* and aims to advance the availability of comparable data on ICT in the region. The event will allow representatives of the national statistical system, as well as representatives of ministries and regulatory agencies who are producers and/or users of ICT statistics, to discuss the need for comparable data on information society developments, and share best practices in ICT measurement at the regional level.

To achieve its aim, the workshop will:

- Present and discuss the list of core ICT indicators that was agreed upon at the 2005 global meeting organized by the *Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development* and presented during the WSIS Tunis, along with definitions, methodologies and data collection issues.
- Address challenges related to information society measurements in the Asia-Pacific region, present possible solutions to overcome these challenges and identify technical assistance needs in this area.
- Increase awareness both at the political and technical level for the need to measure information society developments and for linking the national policy agenda with the e-measurement agenda, requiring effective cooperation between policymakers and national statistical systems.

The outcome of the meeting will provide practical suggestions on policies and programmes to develop and apply mechanisms for monitoring and measuring information society developments in Asia-Pacific countries. This will help countries in the region produce comparable ICT statistics and indicators for effective ICT policy making, through networks and statistical tools.

3. Documentation and methods of work

The documentation for the meeting will consist of information notices and background documentation supplied by countries and organizations. All participants are welcome to submit a supporting paper to any of the session. Documents should be submitted before **17 July 2006** in order to be considered during the meeting.

Documents will be made available in the website of the Partnership <http://measuring-ict.unctad.org> in the language which they are received. The meeting will be held in English.

4. Participation

Representatives of the national statistical agency responsible for information society measurements in ESCAP member states are welcome to participate in this workshop, as well as representatives of Ministries and regulatory agencies who are producers and/or users of ICT statistics.

5. Financial assistance

UNCTAD and ITU will cover the cost of the participation of a limited number of representatives from developing countries. Requests for financing must be received not later than **26 June 2006**, and should be accompanied by curriculum vitae of the candidate, his/her address, telephone and fax numbers, and email address. Request should be addressed to the UNESCAP secretariat (see section 7 below).

6. Logistics

REGISTRATION AND IDENTIFICATION BADGES

Invitees who wish to participate in the meeting should complete the **registration form** and return it to no later than **14 July 2006**.

Participants are requested to register and obtain meeting badges at the Registration Counter, located on the ground floor, UNCC, between **9h00 to 9h30** on **26 July 2006**. Participants who are not able to register on the opening day are requested to do so on subsequent days, to ensure that their names appear on the list of participants. Without registration, names of participants will not be included in the list.

For identification and security reasons, all participants are requested to wear the meeting badges at all times during the meeting, at social functions and in the United Nations complex.

VENUE

The meeting will be held at UNESCAP secretariat, Conference Room 3 located at:

Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
The United Nations Building
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200
Thailand

Telephone numbers: +66 2 288 1234
Facsimile number: +66 2 288 1000

VISA

All participants are requested to have a valid passport, and, if required, to obtain appropriate entry visa from the Thai diplomatic or consular missions at the point of origin or en route prior to entering Thailand. Applications for visas should be made as soon as possible, with reference to the Joint UNCTAD – ITU – UNESCAP Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurements in Asia-Pacific.

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Meeting participants are expected to arrange for their own travel and accommodation. Participants should make their own transportation arrangements from Bangkok International

Airport (Don Muang Airport) to their respective hotels. Public metered-taxi, and bus services are readily available at the airport at the following prevailing rates:

- A. Thai Limousine Service: Baht 1,000-1,500 /per car (pre-pay at the counter and obtain a coupon)
- B. Public metered-taxi: Fare shown on meter, plus
Baht 50 surcharge for boarding at the airport
Toll way fee, if used for speedier driving, is charged separately
- C. Airport buses : Baht 100/per person
(Available between
0500 to 2300 hours,
dispatched at 15-minute
interval)

The following hotels are close to ESCAP and offer special rates. It will not be possible for ESCAP to provide transportation for participants between hotels and ESCAP. Metered-taxis are generally available.

Name and address	Driving distance to UNCC (minutes)	Daily room rates (Baht) The hotel room rates are subject to alteration without prior notice.	
		Single	Double
Grand China Princess Hotel 215 Yaowarat Road Bangkok Tel: (662) 224-9977, 224-7997 Fax: (662) 244-7999	15-20	1,700	1,900
Prince Palace Hotel 488/800 Bo Bae Tower Damrongrak Road, Klong Mahanak Bangkok Tel: (662) 628-1111 Fax: (662) 628-1000	10-15	1,400	1,600

Royal Princess Hotel 269 Larn Luang Road Bangkok Tel: (662) 281-3088 Fax: (662) 2801314	5-10	2,000	2,200
Siam City Hotel 477 Si Ayuthaya Road, Phayathai Bangkok Tel: (662) 247-0123 Fax: (662) 247-0165	15-25	2,400 (valid till Oct. 31, 2006)	2,600 (valid till Oct. 31, 2006)
Thai Hotel 78 Prajatipatai Road Bangkok Tel: (662) 282-2833, 629-2100-5 Fax: (662) 280-1299	5-10	950	1,250
Trang Hotel 99/1 Wisutkasat Road Bangkok Tel: (662) 282-2141-4 Fax: (662) 280-3610	5-10	1,000	1,200
Viengtai Hotel 42 Tanee Road Bangkok Tel: (662) 280-5434-5 Fax: (662) 281-8153	10-15	1,200	1,400

7. Further information and contact details

1. LOGISTICAL MATTERS (Including requests for financial assistance and registration form)

Mr. Shigeru Mochida
Deputy Executive Secretary and
Officer-in-Charge, a.i. of ICSTD
Information, Communication and Space Technology Division,
ESCAP, United Nations Building
Rajadamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel: (66 2) 288 1601, 288 1384
Fax: (66-2) 288 1085, e-mail: escap-ictps@un.org

2. SUBSTANTIVE MATTERS (Including agenda, presentations, documents, speakers)

Ms. Muriel Guigue

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www.unctad.org/ecommerce
[measuring-ict.unctad.org](http://www.unctad.org/measuring-ict)

Ms. Esperanza Magpantay

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Information Society Measurements in Asia-Pacific**

Bangkok, 26-28 July 2006
ESCAP, United Nations

Wednesday, 26 July 2006

09:00 - 09:30	Participants' registration
09:30 - 10:00	Opening session Welcome, introduction and workshop objectives
10:00 - 10:30	Evidence-based policymaking: Linking the ICT policy and ICT measurement agendas
10:30 - 10:45	<i>Coffee break</i>
10:45 - 11:30	Partnership on Measuring ICT for Development Presentation of core ICT indicators, results of ICT metadata survey, link to WSIS outcome Discussion
11:30 - 12:30	ICT household statistics Country and regional experiences
12:30 - 14:00	<i>Lunch</i>
14:00 - 15:00	ICT household statistics Presentation of country and regional experiences
15:00 - 16:00	ICT household statistics Definitions, model questions, response categories Discussion
16:00 - 16:15	<i>Coffee break</i>
16:15 - 17:45	Continuation of discussion: ICT household statistics

Thursday, 27 July 2006

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| 09:30 – 11:00 | ICT business statistics and ICT sector
Country and regional experiences
Discussion |
| <i>11:00 – 11:30</i> | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 11:30 – 12:30 | ICT business statistics and ICT sector
Definitions, model questions, response categories
Discussion |
| <i>12:30 - 14:00</i> | <i>Lunch</i> |
| 14:00 – 16:00 | Continuation of discussion: ICT business statistics and ICT sector
Country experiences |
| <i>16:00 - 16:15</i> | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 16:15 - 17:30 | Other ICT indicators; international data collection |

Friday, 28 July 2006

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|----------------------|--|
| 9:30 – 11:30 | Questionnaire design, data collection, analysis and dissemination
Roundtable discussion on capacity building needs and technical assistance |
| <i>11:30 – 12:00</i> | <i>Coffee break</i> |
| 12:00 – 12:30 | Conclusions, recommendations and next milestones
Closing ceremony |

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE TYPE OR PRINT

**Regional Workshop on Information Society Measurements in Asia-Pacific
26-28 July 2006
Bangkok, Thailand**

IMPORTANT: Please complete this form (type or print) in full and submit to the ESCAP secretariat **not later than 14 July 2006**, to:

Mr. Shigeru Mochida, Deputy Executive Secretary and Officer-in-Charge, a.i. of ICSTD, Information, Communication and Space Technology Division, ESCAP, United Nations Building, Rajadamnern Nok Avenue, Bangkok 10200, Thailand, Fax: (66-2) 288 1085, e-mail: escap-ictps@un.org

Delegation/Participant of Country, Organization or Agency

Full Name: (Dr/Mr./Ms)

(Family name/Surname/ Last name)

(First name)

1. Title of present official position

2. Office mailing address

Tel: (office) _____ (residence) _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

3. Personal and passport details

Date of birth _____ Place of birth _____

Nationality _____ Passport No _____

Valid from _____ To _____ Place of issue _____

(Date)

(Signature)