

The industry together with world leaders need to use ICTs well going forward, because used in the right way ICTs can reduce up to 15-20% of the CO₂ emission. An example given was the power meters in Europe, which can be monitored by radio access and people don't need to travel to check them, and this remote checking eliminates a lot of transport. If a person can talk from anywhere in the world, there is no more need to travel to the nearest town to communicate and a very large amount of carbon footprint can be prevented.

In addition, the industry enables not only connectivity through broadband, but also to help better control the energy consumption. All goods can be made intelligent, so they consume less power, e.g. they remain on only when needed.

In India, a completely linear GSM solution was designed, working with solar power and simple, easy to install technology. This is now operational in hundreds of villages, creating an opportunity for operators to go to those areas and make money as investors and shareholders. This survival business model is financially viable without any subsidy, and could be useful in other developing parts of the world as well.

Some participants expressed the view that in the future, public-private partnerships have to be arranged, comprising not just vendors, operators, governments or other stakeholders, but everyone together, to help promote the usage of renewable energy. Waiting for one person to solve it could mean it never happens. Each industry and each person can benefit by reducing the cost and enable flexibility and usability of solar, and in so doing, make a fast contribution to reduction in carbon emissions.

Summary of closing remarks

At the end of the session the moderator asked the panellists to state their case about what Copenhagen will have to say to the ICT industry that needs happen in order to cut carbon emissions. A number of points were raised in response to this: government leaders have to talk with the ICT industry, cross sector work needs to be started .