

FINLAND

Ministry of Foreign Affairs, <http://global.finland.fi>

1. Describe your country's/agency's overall strategy or approach in using ICT for Development

a) Overall strategy

A key statement in the Finnish draft ICT–Information Society for development strategy is as follows: Information technology can be a powerful tool and needs to be used in development cooperation when it can be used to advance poverty alleviation, equity and other key objectives of development cooperation.

b) Guiding principles for use of ICT for development (see above)

c) Objectives (see above)

d) Areas of application

Only few ICT specific bilateral projects financed.

ICTs applied in a mainstreaming manner and much emphasis is given to the development of an inclusive information society (includes gender aspects, private sector, etc)

e) References and web-links to any relevant strategy documents or guidelines

2. Identify the main modalities for ICT integration in your overall development strategy

a) Modalities for ICT integration and programme delivery

ICT-related development financing is directed at three levels: global policy level (e.g. WSIS), global and regional implementation (e.g. multilateral bodies and support to UNECA's, IFC's and SADC's ICT activities) and national level (often in connection with other sectors, like education).

b) Partnership, including the private sector

Currently partnerships with international organizations, others under consideration

c) Participation, if any, in joint or multi-donor ICT for development programmes

WSIS, UN ICT Task Force, UNITEs, infoDev

d) Estimate of a global amount of funding with indications on the timeframe it covers

Not applicable, channelled through other sectors

e) Lessons learned from your country's/agency's experience

Not yet evaluated

f) Cases that are particularly illustrative/examples of best practices

3. Describe the institutional arrangements made by your country for mainstreaming ICT within its development strategy

a) Main agencies involved in ICT for development (e.g. development co-operation agency, ministries, research institutes)

The Ministry for Foreign Affairs is the main actor involved but partnerships between e.g. research institutions and other ministries (communication, education etc.) are also promoted.

b) The agencies' roles in the various stages (e.g. strategy, operations)

c) Contact details of your country's/agency's ICT for development focal point

Mr. Tuukka Castrén, Ministry for Foreign Affairs tuukka.castren@formin.fi

4. Country/regional focus of the ICT-enhanced development strategy

a) General description of regional and country focus

Global and partner countries in the Finnish development cooperation

b) More detailed information on main recipients of your ICT-enhanced development strategy

Currently regional and multilateral organizations (e.g. ECA, IFC)