

UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

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

a) Overall strategy

UNDP's strategy with respect to ICTs is to create an environment that enables the use of ICTs in all sectors of human activities, working if possible on five complementary and interacting areas: infrastructures, human capacity, content and applications, policy, and enterprise. At the national level, this should lead to the explicit use of ICTs for development goals, and facilitate an overall development dynamic.

b) Guiding principles for use of ICT for development

ICTs are tools of human networking that improve information sharing and knowledge building in any activity. This includes the pursuing of sustainable human development through all other activities in which UNDP is engaged, either through supporting ICTs as tools of knowledge per se, or by mainstreaming the use of ICTs within other activities undertaken by UNDP.

c) Objectives

Create an enabling environment for the use of ICTs in all field of sustainable human development and inherent in UNDP activities themselves.

d) Areas of application

The practices areas of UNDP, in addition to ICTs for Development, are democratic governance, poverty reduction, crisis prevention and recovery, energy and environment, and HIV-AIDS.

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

The main page of the ICTs for Development at UNDP: <http://sdnhq.undp.org/it4dev/>

The above strategy is detailed in the report "Creating a Development Dynamic: Final Report of the Digital Opportunity Initiative": <http://www.opt-init.org/>

The UNDP Office of Evaluation has published a synthesis of lessons learned in ICTs for Development as part of its Essentials series, number 5, September 2001: <http://www.undp.org/eo/Publication/essentials.htm>.

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

a) Modalities for ICT integration and programme delivery

The UNDP ICTs for Development Special Initiative serves Country Offices and other UNDP practices with policy advises and basic guidelines for programme and project formulation and implementation. Some of the UNDP regional programmes have also

established support projects to provide staff time and ad hoc activities to the country offices in their regions, notably for activities with cross-border relevance.

b) Partnership, including the private sector

UNDP has worked in partnership with a number of other UN and donor agencies, NGOs and private companies on specific projects, and has established broad cooperation memoranda of understanding with a number of them. These include the Markle Foundation, Accenture, the Global Internet Policy Initiative (GIPI), the Open Society Institute, Cisco and others.

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

Most projects by UNDP Country Offices involve several partners, notably UNFEM, UNOPS, UNDESA, UNV, ITU, ILO, several NGOs such as OSI, GIPI, IREX, and bilateral agencies. In addition, UNDP has been closely involved in global ICT initiative including the Digital Opportunity Task Force and the UN ICT Task Force.

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

The design and implementation of UNDP projects is largely decentralised to the Country Office level, with a few exceptions being managed at the regional or global levels. Furthermore, many of the ICTs for Development activities may be undertaken as components within activities primarily related to other practices of UNDP (democratic governance, poverty reduction, etc). It is therefore difficult to have a comprehensive picture of the budget of all activities relevant to ICTs for Development. Very roughly however, there are probably \$7 to \$10 million worth of projects annually and globally related to ICTD and funded or implemented by UNDP.

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

The scope of ICTD activities is broad, and institutional expertise is now widening with a number of NGOs, bilateral and multilateral organisations engaging in various projects to the Information Society. It has therefore become important for UNDP to focus its activities, making the best use of its comparative advantage as a global development network with a very wide coverage. It is also crucial to closely intersect UNDP's ICTD programming and mainstreaming with the other and well-established development practices for a maximum impact of ICTs on those knowledge activities.

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

SDNP	http://www.sdnf.undp.org/
APDIP	http://www.apdip.net/
PFnet	http://www.peoplefirst.net.sb/General/PFnet.htm

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)

Within UNDP, ICT for Development projects are mostly undertaken by Country Offices, with the policy and technical support of the ICTs for Development Special Initiative, under the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP). BDP staff is based in New York, with out-posted policy advisors in most regions (Latin America, Africa, Europe and CIS and the Arab States).

The Asia Regional Bureau also provides policy support from the APDIP programme in Kuala Lumpur.

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

While the UNDP Country Offices are responsible for the implementation of most projects (some are managed at the regional and global levels from Headquarter), the Bureau for Development Policy (BDP) is largely responsible for strategic and policy issues.

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

Mr. Stephen Browne, Head, ICT for Development Special Initiative:
stephen.browne@undp.org

With respect to the OECD March meeting, the main contact is François Fortier, Policy Advisor, Europe and CIS: francois.fortier@undp.org

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

a) General description of regional and country focus

UNDP has no regional or country focus. It operates in over 160 developing or transition countries, with 135 Country Offices and a number of liaison offices. ICTD programmes and projects can be initiated in any of those countries.

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

N/A