

BCO Reporting

Reporting period: September 2006 to January 2007

Organisation: Association for Progressive Communications

Purpose of the BCO Alliance is to investigate, mobilise and support key ICT4D opportunities that impact poverty.

Outcomes	<i>This quarter's activity(ies) – short description</i>	<i>3 Key lessons and implications for the BCO work</i>	<i>3 key successes and implications for the BCO work</i>	<i>Collaborations in support of activity – with both BCO and non-BCO partners</i>	<i>Snapshot next quarter activity(ies)</i>
<p>① ICD has been mainstreamed in development sectors</p>	<p>GLOBAL ICT POLICY ADVOCACY, CAPACITY BUILDING AND MONITORING</p> <p>WSIS Implementation Activities Internet Governance Forum, Athens, Greece, November 2006:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 written contributions to the consultative process on development, capacity building and international internet connectivity on the first meeting of the IGF www.intgovforum.org/contributionsg.htm - organised 3 workshops at IGF on capacity building, ICTs and environmental sustainability and internet access - formed multi-stakeholder informal coalition on capacity building at IGF <p>Global Alliance for ICT and Development (GAID) Formation of a Community of Expertise on ICT Policy and Finance for Social, Community and Public Entrepreneurship within the Global Alliance on ICT and Development (GAID) http://www.un-gaid.org/ APC participates in two gender related CoEs.</p> <p>Communication for Development Participated in Panos workshop on stakeholder participation in large infrastructure projects at the World Congress on Communications for Development, Rome, October 2006</p> <p>NATIONAL National ICD advocacy within BCO framework: Uganda (WOUGNET), Bangladesh (BFES), India (IT for Change), Pakistan (Bytes for All) and Zimbabwe (Civil Society coalition)</p>	<p>The (IGF) Internet Governance Forum is in its early stages as a space for policy dialogue. It will require continuous engagement as a global policy space if it is to have a positive effect on internet governance and development over the next four years.</p> <p>The debate on communications for development throws up the question of trends in ICD. This requires a closer look at what we mean by ICT policy, development and ICTD/ICD. The relationship of the convergence of broadcasting and telecommunications policy and regulation and the issue of the mandates for universal access mechanisms in</p>	<p>APC policy activity at the IGF focused on the access theme, both at the level of running a multi-stakeholder internet access workshop and intervening from the floor and remotely through the internet during the plenary discussion on the broad theme of access. Access as a component of ICD can be said to have been mainstreamed into the IGF's agenda.</p> <p>APC has, through CATIA and BCO, tested an approach to supporting civil society approaches to advocacy on ICT policy at national level which has had some impact at the level of impact on policy at the level of process (multi-stakeholder participation) and on the content of the policy.</p> <p>APC has begun a process of working together with communications regulators in Africa, which may have a</p>	<p>WSIS Civil Society Internet Governance Caucus ITeM, DFID CIPACO Panos Institute West Africa - CIPESA, AfrISPA LINK Centre OSI and OSIWA UNDP ITU WOUGNET BFES, IT for Change, PANOS HIVOS IDRC IICD APC members AMARC LAC EED Ford Foundation SDC DGIS CRASA (Communications Regulatory Authority for Southern Africa)</p>	<p>Engagement in the consultative processes in preparation for the next IGF meeting in Brazil.</p> <p>Launch of IGF Capacity Building coalition activities at AFNOG in Abuja, Nigeria, April</p> <p>Presentation of the a Community of Expertise on ICT Policy and Finance for Social, Community and Public Entrepreneurship at the GAID meeting in Santa Clara, February 2007 (again, check the two gender COEs)</p> <p>Participation in ECOSOC/CSTD consultative sessions, May, on UN system wide integration of WSIS outcomes,</p>

	<p>CATIA Activities: Ongoing national ICT policy advocacy processes in DRC, Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria, Senegal till February 2007</p> <p>National ICT policy portals in 17 countries within EED framework. rights.apc.org/policy_sites_list.shtml</p> <p>REGIONAL ICT POLICY ADVOCACY, CAPACITY BUILDING AND MONITORING/RESEARCH</p> <p>Africa</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Africa ICT Policy Monitor africa.rights.apc.org/ and Fibre for Africa www.fibreforafrica.net - Dialogue and exchange on critical issues for national policy on 'open access' at the local and national levels, convened by UNDP and APC, Johannesburg, 6-8 November 2006 - Regulators workshop on SAT3/WASC/SAFE cable on the West coast of Africa in Johannesburg from 24-25 July 2006, with CRASA, OSIWA, Balancing Act. www.apc.org/english/news/index.shtml?x=5039175 - CIPACO's ICT Governance and post WSIS strategies in West and Central Africa' regional workshop on 13-15 July, 2006, in Saly, Senegal. <p>LAC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - LAC policy site upgraded lac.derechos.apc.org/ - ICT Policy Workshop, Montevideo, November 06 - Advocacy on eLAC2007 Action Plan to open working groups to civil society and private sector participation (successful) - ICT policies for rural development / Analytical overview of digital radio / convergence radio-internet legislation and regulation in LAC. Partnership with AMARC in the framework of La Onda Rural (The Rural Vibe) 	<p>a broadband world also need to be reviewed in relation to ICD.</p> <p>Effective participation of developing countries and civil society in global and regional policy spaces needs additional focus and capacity building and information resources.</p>	<p>positive effect on creating an enabling policy environment with respect to the pricing of submarine cable bandwidth in the medium term. In LAC, APC successfully lobbied governments to open the eLAC2007 to civil society and private sector participation. Some countries like Ecuador have begun to include civil society in the eLAC2007 working groups while others like Mexico have not.</p>	<p>IGF Capacity Building coalition: BASIS (ICC), ISOC, NRO, DIPLO Foundation</p>	<p>Geneva, May</p> <p>Ongoing national advocacy work within the BCO, CATIA and EED supported projects.</p> <p>Participation and workshop presentations at the Communications Regulators Association of Southern Africa (CRASA) meeting, Namibia, March 2007</p> <p>Participation in the eLAC2007 working groups as civil society participants from Ecuador.</p> <p>The SAT3 implementation audit will be completed by mid-2007.</p>
	<p>GENDER and ICT POLICY ADVOCACY</p> <p>Global</p> <p>GenderIT.org information portal: Focus on gender and national ICT policies in Uruguay, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Chattisgrah State in India, Pakistan and the Philippines from November 2007 onwards.</p> <p>Paper on gender mainstreaming in ICT policy in the Philippines produced by APC member, FMA: www.genderit.org/en/index.shtml?w=r&x=95064</p> <p>Internet Governance Forum (IGF): Workshop on Content Regulation from gender and development</p>	<p>Documenting case studies of integrating gender in national and local ICT policy processes contributes to successful advocacy.</p> <p>Inclusion of stakeholders with varying views in the content regulation workshop produced deeper</p>	<p>GenderIT continued to expand its network of contributors to provide more diversity of content.</p> <p>Inclusion of gender perspectives in the discussions of internet governance themes which would not have happened without APC WNSP's interventions.</p>	<p>APC members, International Women's Tribune Center, Alternative Law Forum, private sector and academics.</p>	<p>GenderIT has identified themes for its 5 editions in 2007 including content regulation (as a follow up to IGF).</p> <p>Engaging more women's organisations in the internet governance process.</p>

	<p>perspectives during the IGF in Athens on October 31, 2006.</p> <p>Convened of Gender in WSIS Implementation Network at the IGF.</p>	<p>analysis, dialogue and debate.</p> <p>Ensuring participation of women in the IGF continues to be critical. Few women engage internet governance.</p>	<p>This is evident from the programme of workshops held at the IGF.</p>		
	<p>PUBLICATIONS AND RESEARCH French version of ICT Policy: A beginner's handbook.</p> <p>APC internet rights charter updated launched at IGF in English, French and Spanish. APC members have translated it into Romanian, Serb, Croatian and Bosnian for use in national advocacy.</p> <p>Egovonline.net (est. readership of 80,000 in Asia and the Middle East) solicited an article on the right to information from APC. Following publication, PANOS wrote to explore collaboration. www.egovonline.net/articles/article-details.asp?articleid=816&typ=Commentary</p> <p>Repackaging Assessment of key ICT policy issues in CEE by Valentina Pellizer of APC/OWSEE www.genderit.org/en/index.shtml?w=r&x=95113</p> <p>APCNews/Noticias special issue (70) on the Internet Governance Forum</p> <p>ICT4D information for the lusophone world: APC is beginning to build our capacity to work in international Portuguese rather than Brazilian-Portuguese. We have established a partnership with ICT information specialists RITS who will provide editorial support for our new Portuguese APC site in 2007.</p> <p>Issue papers printed on 'The Importance of Convergence in the ICT policy environment' by Kate Wild and 'Open Access: lowering the costs of international bandwidth in Africa' by Mike Jensen rights.apc.org/papers.shtml</p> <p>WSIS research by David Souter: WSIS – Phase 2: the involvement and impact of developing countries. Published summary as issue paper: 'Whose Information Society?' October/November 2006</p>	<p>Working in content partnership with other publications (as contributors) allows us to reach a broader and off-line audience</p>	<p>Key documents produced by APC were translated to support local ICT policy advocacies.</p>	<p>APC members in Romania and Bosnia</p> <p>Egovonline.net</p> <p>RITS</p> <p>Panos London</p> <p>One World South Eastern Europe</p> <p>HIVOS</p>	<p>Collecting other language versions of the APC internet charter (including Albanian and Macedonian)</p> <p>Publish complete edition of Souter research on WSIS phase 2.</p> <p>Launch of the Global Information Society Watch on World Information Society Day, 17 May 2007, Geneva and participation in meeting of WSIS action lines 2,4 and 6</p>

	<p>Began Africa Research project "SAT-3/WASC Post-Implementation Audit: Country Case Studies – Angola, Ghana, Cameroon, Senegal</p> <p>Global Information Society Watch report for 2006 in development with IteM and exploring partnership with HIVOS for 2007 report.</p>				
<p>③ Stronger voice and debate enabled by ICT4D (ICD)</p>	<p>APC News/Noticias: broader coverage of issues related to ICT's enabling voice Story features on Betinho Prize 2005 winners / finalists who use ICT for economic development. Stories on Brazilian recyclers, Colombian peace activists, Chilean (foss-based) telecentres and Brazilian radio/telecentres for women published in English and Spanish.</p> <p>Stories on LIRNe study on mobile phones and the Asian poor; localisation in India, ICTs and rural areas in Bangladesh (APCNews 66 -67)</p> <p>Broad coverage of SAT3, Eassy and the Asian cable situation and campaigns.</p> <p>BLOGGING Blogging coverage of premier African press event Highway Africa in English and French focusing on women's voices. //blog.apc.org/en/events-list.shtml?conds[]=5040301</p>		<p>We will set up our international writers pool of freelance journalists skilled in ICT4D and other relevant fields, based on the successful improvement of our multilingual translators/ editors pool and GenderIT's recent writers selection experience.</p>	<p>Betinho winners IPO, Colombia Metarecyclagem, Brazil</p> <p>IDRC</p> <p>Eassy Campaign partners including Balancing Act</p>	<p>Technical and content development to set up new APC websites developed in English, Spanish and for the first time French and (limited version) Portuguese</p> <p>Five editions of APCNews and APCNoticias Setting up of international writers pool of freelance journalists skilled in ICT4D and other relevant fields, based on our success</p>
	<p>Itrainonline Partner meeting in Rome, hosted by FAO, Oct/November 2006</p> <p>Wireless for Development APC hosted largest ever African wireless for development meeting in London in December 2007 to assess needs and opportunities and plan future action.</p> <p>Hosted workshop at AMARC 9 in Jordan</p>			<p>FAO, IICD, OneWorld, UNESCO, Bellanet</p> <p>OSI, IDRC, Cisco</p> <p>AMARC</p>	
	<p>Capacity building Burmese Refugee organisations: We supported a Burma Technology Skills (BTS) Training Workshop held in August in Thailand, to enhance the ICT skills of self-taught Burmese techies who provide technical support to the Burmese refugee</p>	<p>Tailoring capacity building support to specific contexts is an effective strategy in building strategic use</p>		<p>OSI, Tactical Tech, CREA, AWID, Radio Fire, Isis International Manila, Center for Digital</p>	<p>Following up with AWID and other organisations to develop a long term ICT capacity building</p>

	<p>movement/s. We are also providing support for a capacity building project for Burmese women's refugee organisations.</p> <p>Communications strategies and strategic use of ICTs for women's organisations: workshops on communications strategies and technology planning at the AWID Money and Movements Conference held in October 2006 in Mexico City (70 participants) and with an international women's network working on sexuality and reproductive rights issues based in India (CREA).</p> <p>Campaigning Take Back the Tech Campaign during the "Global 16 Days of Activism Against Violence Against Women" in December. www.takebackthetech.org</p> <p>GEM workshops India: 18 women and men from ICT4D organisations (telecenter networks, etc) from South India were trained in using the Gender Evaluation Methodology in December.</p> <p>AMARC 9, Jordan</p>	<p>of ICTs among women's organisations.</p> <p>The success of the Take Back the Tech campaign was due to the participation of women bloggers and women's organisations who contributed specific online actions such as making electronic cards, publishing digital stories, etc.</p>		<p>Storytelling, WomensNet, G2G</p> <p>AMARC</p>	<p>strategy for the women's movement.</p> <p>Localising Take Back the Tech Campaign with organisations who participated in 16 Days of Activism.</p>
<p>③ Poverty impact of ICT4D (ICD) evaluated and disseminated to key development audiences</p>	<p>GENDER FOCUSED ACTIVITIES GENARDIS Evaluation: Evaluation of GENARDIS Grants Program from 2002-4 and 2004-6.</p>	<p>GENARDIS grants served as a catalyst for innovative programming around agriculture and gender issues.</p>	<p>Consider more programs to support to organisations working with women in agriculture</p>	<p>IDRC, IICD, HIVOS and CTA</p>	<p>Decision making for the next phase.</p>
	<p>APC MONITORING AND EVALUATION Completed first phase of mid term assessment of progress in implementing APC's strategic plan. The process includes assessment of progress relevant to BCO outcomes.</p> <p>BCO IMPACT WORK Completed research component of 3-country study into stakeholder participation in national ICT policy processes.</p>			<p>IICD DFID</p>	<p>Workshop in Cape Town to bring together APC and IICD national ICT policy researchers and partners for 3-country study.</p>