

Topic: Increased capacity, networking and influence (i.e. Voice) of poverty focused southern based civil society organisations, through their strategic use of ICT4D

A. Successes [challenges, learning, other commentary]

Panos: 4 areas of work:

i) AIDS program

- Social Movements (looking at the use of communication within such movements) - significant interest expressed by orgs involved with HIV/AIDS
- UN general assembly special session on AIDS - Panos partnered with other organisations using a citizen monitoring process of UNGAS systems

ii) Poverty Reduction Strategy program

- helped to identify gaps between CSOs, media and governments and address them through workshops and other events

iii) non program-specific

- supporting southern journalists to report on global meetings, from participation to use of innovative tools [how can we measure the development impact of such interventions?]

iv) Oral Testimonies

- taking oral testimonies
- community mobilised around action for local bauxite mine

[Challenge - taking evaluations through to their final points]

SDC

Linking local experiences with global processes

- World Press Freedom Day - highlighted the role of local media in conflict situations. Brought a number of different stakeholders together
 - re: learning from this. Linking the local media activity with national and global policy dialogue: K4D and C4D (and media4D) cannot be totally separated. There is convergence of the two. e.g., community radio...you may have listeners' groups who influence programming
- [challenge/failure: how do you scale up such activities?] [innovation: linking traditional and non-traditional technologies, e.g., print, blogs, etc.]

Hivos

- activity around new media at WSIS-Tunis, esp blogging and the role of citizen journalism. Not only in West, but also in China, India, Iran, other countries. Was a publicity event, but also training on anonymous surfing, publishing, etc. [success in terms of numbers, enthusiasm, learning]
- replicated this in event in Europe

[Challenge: finding a good balance between partner ownership and not just waiting as donor for initiatives to come up. Balance between being proactive and responsive]

IICD

3 indicators of success

- number and variety of workshops held
- number and range of stakeholders reached through IICD advisory svcs
- number and range of resources disseminated and produced

In every country there are sector networks. Each mtg has 10-20 attendees. There were approx 120 meetings over a dozen countries

[Challenges: difficulties within networks...IICD is not seen as a partner of the network, seen as a donor]

[Innovation: working together with the private sector, where strengths of each partner are taken advantage of]

OW South Asia - harnessing voices from communities Strategy - harness voices, build ICT capacities, linking grassroots media with mainstream media

Media Advocacy Centres - provide not only training (eg., using ICT tools) and access to infrastructure but networking among community based organisations

- CBOs are linked to government

[Learning: CBOs that have not been recognized earlier bring wisdom to the table. CBOs have also learned about value of MSPs]

[Challenges: hard to work with CBOs, to convince them there is value added to multio-media technology advocated by OWSA. There are also language issues]

OWSA trainees have produced around 30 stories published in mainstream media. Community radio programs are also getting more broad airplay. 78 programs have been aired through mainstream media.]

APC

Strategic Use & Capacity Building Program

- developing curriculum, e.g., Itrainonline. There is very good material and good collaboration

[Challenges: tracking the use of these materials. Keeping materials up to date]

- identifying specific capacity building areas for it to be involved with such as wireless networking capacity. Reaching and knowing the key constituencies for such interventions has been a success another area of training is FOSS. Not to have separate workshops on FOSS, but to have training integrated with other ongoing activities.

There is an advocacy component around APC training. Also there is a conscious effort to ensure women's participation in such training.

- M & E capacity building. With the GEMethodology, there is a real demand being expressed and being met. This is an effective way of understanding how to develop a program (in this case integration of gender with ICT4D)

[Challenge: upscalability of pilot project. This is always a difficult process]

More general observations:

[gen reflections] the tension between use of quantitative vs. qualitative indicators.

Comments on OVIs for Output 2:

Groups would like to see consistent use of terms such as outputs and outcomes in document

Having three indicators linked to the three strategic outputs is a difficult limit. Each partner has many activities