

BCO Reporting // HIVOS

Reporting period: September 2004 to December 2004, **limited to two major activities**

Organisation: Hivos

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>
<p>①</p> <p>ICD has been mainstreamed in development sectors (PRSPs, SWAps)</p>	<p>Evaluation of Policy and Action Programme Hivos & ICT 2000 – 2004 “Access for All” presented and discussed internally .</p> <p>Decision made to continue new programme as one of the Hivos sectors (including both a sector focus and mainstreaming objectives)</p>	<p>Shift from access to using ICTs strategically is essential pillar in new programme, but access still remains a major problem in many rural areas and poor urban environments and deserves continued attention.</p> <p>ICT' efforts should be integrated with knowledge sharing strategies to increase different forms of south-south and north-south exchange of knowledge.</p> <p>E-commerce activities have developed less rapidly and successfully than was expected in original Hivos-programme (in tune with general development e-commerce). Complicated access, capacitybuilding, infrastructural, financial en legal barriers are to be dealt with.</p>	<p>Overall conclusion of the evaluation is very positive. The programme had a concrete impact on development opportunities and this is achieved with relatively limited means, according to the evaluators.</p> <p>Partners expressed that Access-for-all programme had empowered them in their work and had given hem a feeling of being included.</p> <p>Evaluation-results and recommendations have been used to formulate new programme Making Civil Voices Heard in which a strong focus is included on information, communication, knowledge sharing and new media.</p>	<p>Acces-for all programme was implemented from the start in collaboration with OneWorld, IICD and APC.</p> <p>This will be continued in the framework of the new Hivos programme. New strategic partners are currently identified</p>
<p>②</p> <p>Stronger voice and debate have been enabled through ICD</p>	<p>End 2004 Hivos and ISS (International Institute for Social Studies) joined forces to create a Knowledge Network Civil Society Building in an attempt to bridge the gap between development practitioners and academia in the field of Civil Society Building in developing countries. ISS is one of the world's largest academic institutes for development studies. The collaboration includes research, training, capacitybuilding, annual seminars and a website as backbone of the network. See civilsocietybuilding.net. General goal is to mprove the performance of actors in South and North in their efforts to strengthen civil society.</p>	<p>It takes two to tango. It took more than a year to bridge the first gap between two institutions having much in common but working from different perspectives and with sometimes conflicting expectations.</p> <p>ICTs are just tools in this project, but nevertheless important and really enabling the creation of an international network. But to create a real lived and fruitfull knowledge network much more is needed (committed individuals, organisations, clear focus, face-to-face meetings, trust, etc)</p>	<p>The mere fact of the creation of this network and the intensive and structural collaboration between a respected academic institution and a development agency is considered as a key success in development circles. The challenge is of course to turn these promises into reality.</p>	<p>Institute for Social Studies</p>