

## BCO Reporting

Reporting period: July – December 2006

Organisation: IICD

**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</p> <p><b>ICD has been mainstreamed in development sectors</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Burkina Faso IICD is assisting the Minister for ICT in elaborating six e-policies (e-education, E-agriculture, e-governance, e-health and e-regulation)</li> <li>➤ The first module of the ICT4D Policy Development Course was successfully organised in Jamaica. Among the participants were representatives of the Offices of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Industry, Technology, Energy &amp; Commerce and the Ministry for Education, Youth and Culture.</li> <li>➤ The top management of the Zambian Ministry of Education approved the ICT policy in which IICD played a consultation role. Next steps are finalising and publishing the ICT policy and development of an implantation plan.</li> <li>➤ The Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry of Uganda launched the implementation plan of the ICT policy, which was developed in consultation with IICD.</li> <li>➤ IICD has been asked to advise the Ministry on technology and sustainability in Bolivia. The advice is in the light of that the Minister of Education is implementing a national educational telecentre program.</li> <li>➤ In Bolivia the Ministry of Agriculture invited IICD to continue advice on the implementation of the ICT strategy and to formulate a national information system for land use.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Finalising the strategy for E-policy support (Burkina Faso) is hard when all involved donors want to be part of the discussion.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Tanzania, pioneering work for ICT strategy was documented in the pre-white paper. This paper was used to develop an IT for education strategy by the Ministry of Education.</li> <li>➤ In Mali the efforts to raise awareness on opportunities of uses of tele-medicine and/or continuous health education stirred attention at the political level. The minister of Health promised support to new initiatives.</li> <li>➤ In Uganda the project Improve Competence for Rural Micro and Small Scale Enterprises using ICT has been fully integrated in the operations of the Uganda Industrial Research Institute</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The e-policy support in Burkina Faso is shared with UNECA and CePRC (Industry Canada and Canada School).</li> <li>➤ In Ecuador collaboration is sought with a large scale telecentres program funded by the government and the World Bank. IICD and partners will bring in experiences with innovative connectivity solution, relevant content development and sustainability of telecentres.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤</li> </ul>
<p>③</p> <p><b>Stronger voice and debate enabled by ICT4D (ICD)</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Burkina Faso the Information Network is taking steps to decentralise the network and strengthen thematic groups in agriculture and education. An e-facilitation workshop intensified virtual discussions and knowledge exchange.</li> <li>➤ The indigenous organisation CIDOB</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Tanzania serious interruptions of electricity remain a major problem. It has halted the progress on the installation of a health management</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Three private telecentres in Mali managed to continue independently from IICD. This means a certain extent of sustainability was</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The Jamaica Collaborative for Universal Technology Education (J-CUTE), a Public-Private-Partnership, with three new partners (among</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤</li> </ul>

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	<p>(Bolivia) represented the Latin American countries at the WSCD in Rome. Here FAO invited CIDOB to present funding proposal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Tanzania a workshop was held on rural access and connectivity. It reflected on lessons learnt from different telecentres as well developments around connectivity, management approaches and the involvement of users. As a spin off an initiative is taken to establish the Association of Rural Telecentres.</li> <li>➤ The platform Acción Ecológica in Ecuador is informing the general public negative effects of FTA, which Ecuador did not sign yet. The project capacitates associated organisations and individuals (e.g. journalists) to access information and generate content.</li> <li>➤ In Ecuador Fundación Futuro Latina América involves local youth councils in good practices in local governance. Generation of leadership and interest among youth to foster transparency in implementation of a new La won Access to Public Information at municipalities is the goal.</li> <li>➤ Women's Organisations Information for Development Network and ZARD in Zambia opened the Women's IT Literacy Training Centre. Training is focused at elderly and younger women. A increase among users was recorded, focussing at search for jobs, schools and scholarships and at research.</li> <li>➤ A participatory e-facilitation workshop was held for the Knowledge Sharing Networks in Burkina Faso and Mali on Dgroups and web 2.0 tools.</li> <li>➤ The chairperson of the knowledge sharing network GINKS in Ghana was invited to speak at a conference in Nigeria on local content for development</li> </ul>	<p>system.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Training centres in ICT have to constantly keep up with changing technological realities in order to remain relevant to the market. The failure rate of training equipment is too much and too costly to keep in working order. Securing the infrastructure and equipment from theft and accidents is also very complex and costly.</li> <li>➤ Hierarchical structures within country Knowledge Sharing Networks can limit functioning when it is too heavily depending on a busy president. Putting in place strategic committees can combat power games and nurture participation.</li> </ul>	<p>reached. IICD will continue provide advice when asked for.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ The multimedia programme of Radio France Internationale invited the mali-ntic.com as a special guest in a broadcast on the state of ICT in Mali. Herein the country network Togunet was presented as the first real ICT civil society organisation.</li> <li>➤ The knowledge sharing network GINKS in Ghana had airtime in Ho and Koforidua to talk about ICT4D policy in Ghana and interact with public.</li> </ul>	<p>others United Way), is now counting 38 entities.</p>	
<p>③</p> <p><b>Poverty impact of ICT4D (ICD) evaluated and disseminated to key development audiences</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Zambia, through a focus group meeting and project node local partners had the opportunity to exchange lessons and knowledge for the enhancement of the project implementation.</li> <li>➤ The production of the video documentary on the teleradiology project IKON in Mali was successfully finalised, distributed and broadcasted on TV. The</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ During a focus group meeting in Zambia it became clear that man and women have different perspectives on gender imbalances within projects, however solutions are similar.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ An evaluation was done on three major models of telecentres in Mali, to collect lessons learned. The evaluation was visualised in a video, which was shared at the Benin conference of Telecentres.org</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ UNESCO and USAID both expressed their appreciation of the cross-model evaluation. IICD, UNESCO and USAID, each own one of the models.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Broadcasting on national tv and a debate with the main actors on three major models of telecentres</li> </ul>

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	<p>documentary contributed to increasing the project visibility and impact and it provided input for evaluation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ In Tanzania the final M&amp;E report on livelihoods was completed and distributed. A high percentage of more than 90% of the users is (partly) satisfied with the project.</li> <li>➤ In Uganda a community of expertise of IICD project partners is improving the quality of projects by sharing and discussing common issues as connectivity, staff turn-over, marketing and content development. Quarterly focus group meetings are held.</li> <li>➤ Through BCO and with APC an evaluation of the policy efforts of IICD in Uganda is taking place. Two projects are selected for quantitative and qualitative data collection.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A returning challenge is staff turnover within projects. A framework is needed to get hold of knowledge of former staff members</li> <li>➤ In Ghana it has been difficult to manage the relationship with the Ministry of Food and Agriculture as well as with individuals where information is being sourced for Knowledge Sharing in agriculture. People who offer information make demand for compensation which has not previously been budgeted for.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ A workshop on rural access and connectivity was held which included issues as management approaches and involvement of users. As spin-off an initiative is taken to establish the Association of Rural Telecentres</li> <li>➤ The M&amp;E partners in Bolivia analysed the results of IICD assistance. Satisfaction in support has increased significantly in all areas. This indicates that the new approach to capacity development and innovation through custom made training and technical advice per partner organisation is paying off.</li> </ul>		<p>in Mali.</p>