

ICT4D

Global Views and Practices

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first question

If ICT is inherently transformative (i.e., it changes the way we live, work, and play) are all ICT projects in the developing world ICT4D initiatives?

Range of responses

□ Expansive view

- **YES!**

□ Restrictive view

- **Community-based projects**
- **Projects to improve ICT access & use by marginal groups/sectors**

□ Middle ground

- **Only those that lead to empowerment are ICT4D**
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the view of infodev

- ICT-for-development initiatives are part of the overall effort to foster sustainable development and combat poverty**
 - ICTs as a tool for combating poverty, fostering broad-based economic growth in developing countries**
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the view of infodev – types of projects

- **ICTs and Economic Growth**
 - **SMEs and ICTs**
 - **Increasing Capacities and Opportunities**
 - **ICTs in Teacher Training**
 - **Reducing Vulnerabilities**
 - **ICTs in Health**
 - **Increasing knowledge of health care providers, particularly in rural areas**
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the view of infodev – types of projects

□ Improving the Livelihood of the Poor

■ ICTs and Rural Development

- Providing information on crop varieties, pests, strategies to increase yield, markets, prices**

■ ICTs and the Urban Poor

- Increasing knowledge and skills of the urban poor**
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the view of infodev – types of projects

- **Environment and Natural Resource Management**
 - **cleaner technologies to reduce pollution**
 - **Enhancing Govt Capacity, Efficiency and Accountability**
 - **Increasing the volume and speed of information both within govt and between govt and the larger society**
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the view of infodev – types of projects

□ **Participation, Empowerment and the Strengthening of Civil Society**

- **“ICTs can add to the vibrancy of civil society institutions and networks as a check on government, a source of ideas and innovations, and an outlet for the interests, concerns and desires for solidarity of individuals and groups.”**
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cases – ict & economic growth

- ***Ley de Contrataciones y Adquisiciones of Peru***
 - **SMEs are favored in event of a tie in a public bidding process**
 - **Also mandates govt agencies to inform PROMPyme of every tender involving small amounts**
 - **PROMPyme website is the principal means entrepreneurs learn of existing opportunities**
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cases – improving capacities

- ***Todos en la red (TELAR)****
 - **Network of schools, teachers students in Argentina**
 - ***run by Fundacion Evolucion***
 - **Part of defunct government's Social Education Plan**
 - ***Includes Centro Provincial de Enseñanza Media No. 3 (CPM 3) in Patagonia and Instituto Provincial de Enseñanzas Media No. 84 (IPEM 84) in Cordoba***

*Everybody into the Net

cases – improving capacities

□ *Todos en la red (TELAR)*

- **Teachers views of benefits to their students from the use of technology:**
 - **91% - students felt more confident in their own abilities**
 - **86% - students work harder on their own, w/o teacher supervision**
 - **86% - students work harder at tasks when using computers**
 - **76% - students have a more thorough understanding of the concepts they encounter**
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cases – reducing vulnerabilities

- Electronic Immunisation Registry and Tracking System in Bangladesh**
 - Old system was based largely on manual record keeping, which led to problems.**
 - Computerization solved the following problems:**
 - First, there was the relatively limited ability to identify newborn children, since many births remained unregistered.**
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cases – reducing vulnerabilities

- Old system was also poor at tracking the 4 different vaccine doses that are required at 4 different points of time for each child.**
 - Drop-out rates were around 40% under the old system.**
 - There were particular problems for the fourth and final vaccination, which occurred nine months after the third, and which saw only 30-40% of children being vaccinated as parents and health workers simply lost track of what needed doing, and when.**
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cases - improving livelihood - rural

- **Loni-Shirdi area of western Maharashtra, India**
 - **over 200 villages have formed a cooperative and have set up nearly 50 WIFI `hotspots' so that villagers can get agricultural access systems right at their doorsteps**
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cases – managing the environment

□ *TXT USOK*

- **partnership between LTO and *Bantay Kalikasan* to implement Clean Air Act in Metro Manila**
 - **Anti Smoke Belching drive is a multichannel initiative but 87% of reports were sent via SMS**
 - **Between June 2002 to February 2004, *Bantay Kalikasan* received a total 315,435 reports**
 - **an average of 15,020 txt/month over a 21-month period**
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cases – local government

□ e-Gov in Tiruvarur, TamilNadu

- **“To bring transparency, efficiency and accountability in administration and to empower the common man.”**

□ e-Gov services include

- **Land record administration**
 - **Social welfare Administration**
 - **Old Age Pension, Widow Pension, Accident Relief Scheme, etc**
 - **Rural Dev Administration**
 - **Employment & Self employment schemes etc.),**
 - **Law Enforcement Administration**
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cases - empowerment

□ Women's Voices

- **project dedicated to improving communications skills of poor urban women in Kenya, Peru and Zimbabwe.**

□ The women receive brief training in video use before using it to reach, inform and influence those who have the power to affect their lives.

- **Video produced by these women have been shown on national TV**
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cases - empowerment

- The empowerment women within the groups has built the community's capacity to develop.**
 - In the future the whole community hope to have an information resource centre with access to tenure legislation, training details, AIDS/HIV information, even job opportunities.**
 - local authority officials now have credible and relevant information along with capable partners they can work with inside the slums.**
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Final Question

**What are we doing
in the Philippines?**

What is ICT4D.ph?

references

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 - <http://www.e-devexchange.org/eGov/banglaimmune.htm#title>
 - Roger Harris Information and Communications Technologies for Poverty Alleviation (Kuala Lumpur: UNDP-APDIP, 2004)
 - Emmanuel Lallana *SMS in Business and Government in the Philippines* (Manila:ICT4D.ph, 2004)
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End of Presentation

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